

Town of DeKalb Board Meeting

At a regular meeting of the Town Board, of the Town of DeKalb, St. Lawrence County, New York, held on the 19th day of July 2023, at the Town Hall in DeKalb Junction NY, there were present:

John Frary	Supervisor	Michael Livingston	Council Member
Ed Newcombe	Council Member	Connie Elen	Council Member
Andrew Fenton	Council Member	Barbara Creazzo	Town Clerk
Bill Chambers	Building & Codes	Charles B Nash	Town Attorney

Wayne Holland, Highway Superintendent, was unable to attend the meeting.

Members of the community present: Janice Brabaw, Eric Yager, Larry Denesha, SLC Legislator

Members of the community attending via ZOOM: There was no one in attendance

Supervisor Frary opened the regular meeting at 7:00PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Frary, followed by a moment of silent prayer and/or reflection.

Michael Livingston moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town Board, held on June 21, 2023, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be and hereby approved. Seconded by Constance Elen and adopted unanimously.

Andrew Fenton moved that the minutes from the Informational Meeting held on July 13, 2023, regarding the ditching in the hamlet of De Kalb, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be and hereby approved. Seconded by Constance Elen and adopted unanimously.

Actions

1. Send notice of drainage meeting to newspaper, town's webpage, postcard. **Completed 6/26/2023.**
2. Send a copy of the proposed roadwork to Donald Chambers. **Completed 06/27/2023.**
3. Purchase Bobcat Skid Steer Loader. **Has been ordered.**
4. Send signed copy of 3-year Snow & Ice Removal Agreement to county. **Completed 06/27/2023.**
5. Notify Brooks Washburn to send out bid quotes for the pavilion. **Completed.**
6. Send a copy of Resolution #4 preventing use of SUNY campuses for housing of migrants. **Completed 06/27/23.**
7. Follow up with surrounding towns regarding dog licensing. **Completed 07/19/2023.**
8. Continue gathering information regarding town sign.

Public Forum:

Larry Denesha, SLC Legislator

-During a recent full board meeting, the Legislators adopted the County's Health and Safety Manual. This manual was a six (6) year process, which will be helpful for all departments.

-Passed a resolution opposing the All-Electric Building Act. New York State is the first state to ban the use of natural gas and other nonrenewable fuels in new constructions less than seven (7) stories tall. This bill is not feasible for all parts of the state, especially for those living in the north country, where there can be extended power outages during the winter months.

-Passed a resolution calling for the Governor to veto the Act that moves all state and local elections to occur in even years only.

-The declaration declaring the State of Emergency pertaining to the potential of an influx of immigrants, is set to expire on August 9, 2023. The Legislators have voted to extend the State of Emergency for the time being.

Financials:

Andrew Fenton made the motion to accept the Justice Clerk Audit as presented, seconded by Ed Newcombe. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

Constance Elen made the motion to accept the Town Clerk Audit for the Clerk's water & sewer accounts, seconded by Michael Livingston. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

Town Clerk Report: Barbara A Creazzo

Clerk – a total of \$1820.40 was collected for the month of June, with the town retaining \$345.03 of the collection. The breakdown is as follows: NYS DEC \$1435.87, town \$26.13, NYS Ag & Markets \$17, town \$59, NYS DOH \$22.50, town \$17.50, and the town also retained \$158 for building permit(s), \$10 Certified Marriage, \$10 Certified Birth, \$61.40 for copies, and \$3 for faxes sent.

Deputy Clerk, Wand Law, worked five (5) hours during the month of June.

Water & Sewer Collections – water collected \$9,291.48 and sewer collected \$12,976.39 for June.

Supervisor Frary distributed the Year-to-Date Financial Report for review. The three (3) lines that are over budget are Records Management, Unclassified, and Veteran Services.

Supervisor Frary suggested to the board that an audit of the Supervisor's Records be conducted, as he will be concluding his term at the end of December of this year. Members of the board agree to his recommendation for the audit. Supervisor Frary will work with Nick Eels to obtain quotes for an audit.

Water & Sewer Reports:

DANC – Water, a total of 673,600 gallons of water were metered in the month of June, with an average of 22,453 gallons per day. A total of 4 gallons of sodium hypochlorite were used in the treatment of the water produced. All daily flow charts are included in the report. All daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and maintenance were completed as scheduled. One random distribution sample for bacteriological testing was completed with a satisfactory report. Sewer, a total of 1,111,000 gallons of wastewater were treated in the month of June, with an average daily flow of 37,033 gallons. There were no SPDES permit violations for the month. All daily flow charts are included in the report. All daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and maintenance were completed as scheduled. RBCs continue to be reversed for one (1) hour per day. Two (2) buckets have been ordered to replace the two (2) broken buckets.

Supervisor Frary informed the board that the town was not chosen to receive a grant for the Lead Survey that must be conducted. DANC had applied for the grant on behalf of the town. The survey will be planned to be completed as new meters are being installed. The survey must be completed in 2024.

Supervisor Frary, Constance Elen, Wayne Holland, Barbara Creazzo, and Steven Willard, met with representatives from Neptune, Sensus, and Master Meters on July 13, 2023, for presentations. Of the three (3), Master Meters is the preferred company. Each has been asked to provide a quote for replacing water meters within the hamlet's water district.

Highway Report: Wayne Holland 6/21 - 7/19/23

- Mowing roadsides
- Installed 80 feet of culvert pipe
- Ditching
- Prepping roads for blacktopping
- Cold patching
- Shared services with Canton
- Ordered Skid-steer from LeBerge & Curtis
- Haven't heard anything on the new truck that is still at Viking
- Plan to blacktop the last week of the month
- Doing prep work for the new generator at the town barn. (This will allow the building to become an emergency center for the town.)
- Putting cost quotes together for electrifying the storage building

Code Officer Report: Bill Chambers

A total of nine (9) permits have been issued since the last meeting for a fee amount of \$496.95 and project cost of \$51,500. To date, twenty-seven (27) permits have been issued for a fee

amount of \$3,497.75 and a project cost of \$544,500. Permits issued were for the following: 1 garage, 1 deck, 1 storage shed, 1 addition, 1 septic with new construction, 1 alteration, 1 single family, and 1 certificate of occupancy was issued

There has been no movement with the three new solar projects as all are waiting to be connected to the Grid.

Dog Control Report: Dan Moyer

- Black lab picked up on 5-15-23 was transported to Watertown SPCA on 6-2-23 and had nine (9) puppies five (5) days later.
- Black lab male picked up at the same time was transported to Watertown SPCA on 6-30-23.
- Responded to a call of dogs on neighbors' property on Depot Street in Richville. Spoke with the owner of the dogs.
- Assisted State Troopers with removing a dog from a vehicle. The dog was held overnight and retrieved by the owner the next day.
- Dog enumeration has not had a lot accomplished, as people are refusing to answer their door or provide any information regarding the owning of dogs. Will have more at next months meeting.

A Municipal Shelter Inspection was completed with one demerit issued. The floor had been washed down, but due to unevenness of the floor, some water remained. The inspector discussed options for addressing with the shelter manager and will inspect the facility again in approximately thirty (30) days.

Clerk Creazzo conducted a survey of surrounding municipalities regarding their pricing for altered and non-altered dogs. De Kalb is currently at \$5 for altered and \$10.50 for non-altered. The average of the other twelve (12) towns was \$6.50 for altered and \$14.63 for non-altered.

The board would like the town included in the average for next month, along with a report on the number of dogs currently licensed. This report should also include the number that is altered and non-altered.

Communications:

Pavilion, only two (2) bids were received from the five (5) bid packets that were sent out. The two (2) received were a bid of \$205,000 from Northern Tier Contracting Inc. and \$206,388 from Continental Construction Inc.

Northern Tier Contracting, Inc., also included a bid of an additional \$102,000 for installing additional lighting for the basketball/pickleball courts. Continental Construction, Inc.'s additional bid for this was \$108,990.

After discussion, a motion was made by Constance Elen and seconded by Andrew Fenton, to approve via roll call vote to accept the bid of \$205,000 from Northern Tier Contracting, Inc. ARPA funds in the amount of \$145,000 and \$60,000 from Capitol Reserve will be used for the construction of the pavilion at Pipeline Park. Roll Call Vote: Livingston, yes, Newcombe, yes, Elen, yes, Fenton, yes, and Frary, yes.

Drainage, Supervisor Frary has been in Contact with Donald Chambers, Superintendent of Highways for St. Lawrence County, regarding culverts that cross under County Route 17. Mr. Chambers has also been in contact with EDR regarding the culverts.

Supervisor Frary will be contacting EDR to ask if ponding is possible prior to Josephine Street. He will also contact DANC to contract with them to clean out culverts with their Vacuum truck.

Pole outlets – Supervisor Frary will contact National Grid to request the installation of five (5) new outlets on poles. He will also ask them to replace the one (1) outlet that does not work.

Supervisor Frary would like to have a group of volunteers to assist with the upcoming 250-Year Celebration. They will be working in conjunction with the County's plans.

After reviewing all bills presented, and signing all bills over \$500.00, a motion was made by Michael Livingston and seconded by Andrew Fenton, to approve payment of the bills as entered

on Abstract #7-2023. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

A motion was made by Constance Elen and seconded by Andrew Fenton, to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48PM

Respectfully submitted by

Barbara A. Creazzo
Town Clerk

Actions

1. Obtain quotes for an audit regarding the supervisor's financial records.
2. Clerk to determine the number of dogs licensed within the township and how many are altered versus non-altered. **Completed 08/02/23.**
3. Continue to address hamlet ditching.
4. Contact National Grid regarding pole outlets. **Completed 08/02/23.**
5. Volunteers for 250-Year Celebration.