

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 17st day of November 2021, at the Town Hall in DeKalb Junction NY, there were present:

John Frary	Supervisor	Michael Livingston	Board Member
Connie Elen	Board Member	Andrew Fenton	Board Member
Wayne Holland	Highway Superintendent	Barbara Creazzo	Town Clerk/Collector
Bill Chambers	Building & Codes	Charles Nash	Attorney

Absent: Ed Newcombe, Board Member, away for work.

Members of the community present: Larry D Denesha, SLC Legislator

Members of the community attending via ZOOM: No one attended via ZOOM

Supervisor Frary opened the meeting at 7:07 PM

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

Connie Elen moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting, of the Town Board, held on October 20, 2021, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be and hereby approved. Seconded by Michael Livingston and adopted unanimously.

Actions

1. Supervisor Frary to sign and dated *Part 3 – Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts and Determination of Significance form*. **Completed 10/20/21**
2. Supervisor Frary to sign and date Resolution to Declare Lead Agency and Issue a Negative Declaration under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). **Completed 10/20/21**
3. Clerk to certify the SEQRA document as well as the Resolution. **Completed 10/20/21**
4. Supervisor Frary to sign agreement with Barclay and Damon. **Completed 10/20/21**
5. Supervisor Frary to contact an outside attorney regarding upcoming wastewater project. **Completed 11/20/2021**
6. Clerk to submit water & sewer re-levy to County.

Public Forum:

Larry D Denesha

-COVID, today's count is 101 new cases with 23 people in the hospital. Deaths remain at 141. The percentage of people fully vaccinated in the County is 55.6%. The positivity rate is 6.6%, which is the fourth highest in the state.

-Studies show a 120-day duration when a surge occurs, and this is like a bell curve. The surge begins an upward trend, plateaus at the peak for a time, and then begins its downward trend. This current trend began near the end of October.

-Discussion of removing the sales tax from heating fuels has been discussed by the legislators. If the tax were to be removed, it would cause a \$4,000,000 loss in tax revenue for the county. Will continue to explore options, as it may be possible to eliminate during the colder months.

-There will be a Hearing December 6, 2021, beginning at 5:50PM regarding the redistricting that will be occurring with the County Legislators.

-The bridge in Degrasse is nearing completion.

-The Lazy River bridge is now in the design phase, as it is slated to be replaced.

-In the past, Court Ordered Treatments were financed 50% by the County and 50% by the State of New York. This has recently changed, and now the County is responsible for 100% of the cost. This is causing an unexpected cost of \$506,000 for the County for this year.

-The County has been notified that DANC will be increasing its tipping fee \$3 per ton, starting January 1, 2022. This will cause an increase for SLC Solid Waste tipping fees.

-The Legislators passed a resolution requesting the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility not be closed as scheduled.

-The Department of Social Services will be undergoing a requested audit. The auditing group will be providing the Legislators with a report of their findings every two (2) weeks. The audit is expected to last for six (6) months.

-There is a survey on the SLC Website regarding how constituents would like to see the American Recovery Money spent. This is COVID Recovery money that the County will be receiving.

-The 2022 Budget is down \$67,800.00 from this current year. The tax rate per \$1000 for 2021 is \$8.19 and for 2022, it will be \$8.02. This is the sixth year in a row there has been a decrease of the tax rate.

Mr. Denesha will provide Supervisor Frary with a copy of the letter the legislators have written in support of the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility remaining open.

Financials:

Connie Elen made the motion to accept the Town Clerk Audit for the water account and sewer account, seconded by Michael Livingston. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

Town Clerk's Report – Barbara Creazzo

-The clerk collected a total of \$12,579.48 for the month of October. The town retained \$11,803.07 of the collections. The breakdown is as follows: DEC received \$751.41 while the town received \$44.59, Ag & Markets, \$25 and the town, \$77.50, the town received \$11,624.18 for building permits, \$20 for Certified Death Certificates, \$20.80 for copies made and \$16 for faxes sent.

-Deputy Clerk, Wanda Law, worked 28 hours during October.

-Water and Sewer collections: Water received \$2,885.31, and Sewer received \$3,032.50, for a total of \$5,917.81 collected during October.

-Clerk Creazzo informed those in attendance of the upcoming training that will be available for the newly elected officials, Through the Association of Towns. If interested in attending, further information is available.

The contact person for Sexual Harassment filings needs to be filled. Supervisor Frary asked if there was anyone who would be willing to fill this need. Andy Fenton said he would be willing to be the contact person.

Supervisor Frary distributed the monthly budget report for review and comments. All areas continue to look good except for water and sewer.

DANC Report:

Water: there was a total of 693,200 gallons of water metered in the month of October, with an average daily flow of 22,361 gallons. A total of 9 gallons of sodium hypochlorite were used in the treatment of the water produced. The complete report includes all daily flow charts. All daily, weekly, and monthly, inspections and maintenances were completed as scheduled. There was one random sample for bacteriological testing completed and the result was satisfactory.

Sewer: there was a total of 946,000 gallons of wastewater treated in the month of October, with an average daily flow of 30,516 gallons. There were no SPDES permit violations. The complete report includes all daily flow charts. All daily, weekly, and monthly, inspections and maintenances were completed as scheduled. Rotation of RBCs continues daily.

As part of the proposed upgrades for the Wastewater Treatment Plant system, there is a request for; **A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a 2021 New York State Revolving Fund Finance Application.** This will allow the Town of De Kalb to prepare and submit the application for short-and long-term funding up to \$6,000,000, to assist with the funding of the treatment plant improvement project. The approval of this motion will also authorize the Town Supervisor submit the said application on or before November 22, 2021.

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A 2021
NEW YORK STATE REVOLVING FUND FINACE APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, the Town of DeKalb desires to prepare and submit a New York State Revolving Fund Finance Application for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements and;

WHEREAS, the Town is eligible to apply for short and long term funding of up to \$6,000,000 to fund the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the DeKalb Town Board authorizes the submission of a New York State Revolving Fund Finance Application seeking maximum funds not to exceed a total request of \$6,000,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor or their assigned designee, is hereby authorized to submit a New York State Revolving Fund Finance Application on or before November 22, 2021.



A motion was made by Michael Livingston and seconded by Connie Elen to authorize the Town Supervisor to submit the said application on or before November 22, 2021. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

As part of the proposed upgrades for the Wastewater Treatment Plant system, there is also a request for; **A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of NYS Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) Grant Application.** The Town of De Kalb desires to prepare the said grant to assist with the wastewater treatment plant improvements project. The NYS Water Infrastructure has been identified as an eligible funding source for this project. There is a request for the Town Board to authorize the submission of said WIIA Application seeking maximum funds available. As well as authorize the Town Supervisor to submit the WIIA grant application on or before November 22, 2021, and if received, to enter into any necessary contracts to administer said grants. This also authorizes the Town Supervisor's assigned designee to authorize necessary contracts to administer said grants.

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A NYS WATER
INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT ACT (WIIA) GRANT
APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, the Town of DeKalb desires to prepare a New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) Grant Application for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements project and;

WHEREAS, the New York State Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (i.e. WIIA) program has been identified as an eligible funding source for this project; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the DeKalb Town Board authorizes the submission of a WIIA Application seeking maximum funds available

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor or their assigned designee, is hereby authorized to submit a WIIA grant application on or before November 22, 2021, and if received, to enter into any necessary contracts to administer said grants.



A motion was made by Andy Fenton and seconded by Michael Livingston to authorize the Town Supervisor and/or assigned designee, to submit the WIIA grant application and to enter into any necessary contracts to administer said grants if the funds become available. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

Highway Report: Wayne Holland 10/21-11/17/21

- Chipping brush.
- Working in and around the shop.
- Trucks are harnessed and ready to go for the winter.
- Cold patching when needed.
- Got three (3) loads of wood chips from the school and put at the old town barn.
- Been working on department safety compliance audit.
- Called and spoke with Safety Joe regarding the annual inspection of the Town Barn.
- Purchased a new 60-inch Husky lawn mower.
- The excavator's hydraulic motor has burned up. This will be a costly repair, but much cheaper than a total replacement of the excavator.

Dog Control Report:

NYS Ag & Markets conducted an inspection on 10/27/2021 of the Dog Control Officer and the Municipal Shelter, that is maintained by the Dog Control Officer. Both reports are satisfactory.

Code Officer Report: Bill Chambers

-Three permits have been issued since the last report. The fee amounts for the permits is \$363.60 and the project cost for the three is \$150,500.00. The three projects consist of a new mobile home, a re-roofing project, as well as a project for siding and new fascia. Year to date, a total of 53 permits have been issued for a total fee amount of \$60,150.78 and a project cost total of \$22,591,508.00

Code Officer Training will again occur this coming year in Lake Placid. The classes will begin on February 27, 2022. The class cost is \$380, lodging is \$120 per day and \$25 for Association dues. Total cost is approximately \$1020, and Mr. Chambers will be attending, as this training is mandatory by the State of New York.

Communications:

- LWRP nothing new at this time.
- Solar projects are expected to begin in early spring.
- Street light project is finally beginning to move forward, and all paperwork needs to be completed by April.
- COVID Fund money spending ideas is on-going.
- Marijuana Law, a public hearing is scheduled for November 22, 2021, at 6:30 PM here at the Town Hall.
- Attorney Nash has researched if the Town of De Kalb can permit the property owned by the Town of Hermon, within the township of De Kalb, to become tax exempt. This was a request by the Town of Hermon at last month's Town of De Kalb Board Meeting. The research indicates the landlocked parcel cannot become tax exempt; therefore, it must remain on the tax roll.
- The Richville Fire Department has asked the Town Board of De Kalb, for their approval for the fire department to move forward with their application to obtain 501c3 status.

A motion was made by Andy Fenton and seconded by Connie Elen to give approval for the Richville Fire Department to move forward with their application for 501c3 status. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

A motion was made by Connie Elen and seconded by Michael Livingston, for Supervisor Frary to send a letter to New York State, stating the town's opposition to the closing of the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

All members of the Board were given a copy of the Local Law #1 of the year 2022, along with the SEQR. These two documents are to be read before the January regular meeting. This proposed law is for regulating the accumulation and disposal of rubbish and garbage.

After reviewing all bills presented, and signing all bills over \$500.00, a motion was made by Michael Livingston and seconded by Andy Fenton to approve payment of the bills as entered on Abstract #11-2021. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

A motion was made by Connie Elen and seconded by Andy Fenton, to adjourn. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by

Barbara A. Creazzo
Town Clerk

Actions

1. Submit, A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a 2021 New York State Revolving Fund Finance Application. **Completed**
2. Submit, A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of NYS Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) Grant Application. **Completed**
3. Supervisor to send letter of opposition to the NYS regarding the closure of the Ogdensburg prison. **Completed**