

Town of
Denmark

Minutes**September 11, 2017: September 11, 2017 Regular Meeting****Body:**

A regular monthly meeting of the Town of Denmark Town Board was held on Monday, September 11, 2017. Supervisor Fleming opened the meeting at 6:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were:

Councilman Der
Councilman Fazio
Supervisor Fleming
Councilman Jones
Clerk Prudence Greene
Budget Officer Sharon Fleming (exits at 6:46pm returns at 6:50pm)
Highway Supt. Patrick Mahar
Assessor William Vargulick

Others present included Matt Cooper of Barton and Loguidice, Judy Colton, Ben Colton, Fred Wadsworth, Sandy Jones, Jerry Wichelns, Dan Hirschey and Scott Doyle.

Councilman Fazio made a motion to accept the amended agenda. His motion was seconded by Councilman Jones.

Vote recoded as:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Councilman Fazio made a motion to approve the minutes of August 14, 2017. His motion was seconded by Councilman Der.

Vote recoded as:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Councilman Fazio made a motion to approve the minutes of August 21, 2017. His motion was seconded by Councilman Jones.

Vote recoded as:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Councilman Fazio made a motion to approve the minutes of August 30, 2017. His motion was seconded by Supervisor Fleming.

Vote recoded as:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Fleming asked Matt Cooper of Barton & Loguidice for an update on Water District #1. Mr. Cooper provided the following information to the Town Board:



Discussion was held on the impacts of Hurricane Harvey on Texas and its ability to produce the resin for HDPE. Mr. Cooper suggested that waiting until prices stabilize may be in the projects financial interest. After discussion Councilman Fazio made a motion that Barton & Loguidice notify all bidders for the expansion of Town of Denmark Water District #1 that the bid has been cancelled. His motion was seconded by Councilman Jones.

Vote recoded as:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Mr. Cooper will draft a letter to bidders.

Discussion was held on the continuing issue with flooding of the lower level of the building. Supervisor Fleming asked Matt Cooper to "take a look" at the lower level.

Discussion was held on the Budget Officers bank privileges. Supervisor Fleming would like the Town Board to consider writing a letter to allow Budget Officer Sharon Fleming to make inquiries about the Town Accounts that are the responsibility of the Supervisor. She would like to make inquiries about electronic deposits and cleared checks to allow her to address issues when balancing accounts. The letter should clearly state that she has no signing authority. Discussion was held. Councilman Jones made a motion to allow Budget Officer Sharon Fleming to make inquiries about the Town Accounts that are the responsibility of the Supervisor. His motion was seconded by Councilman Fazio.

Vote recoded as:

Councilman Der	Aye
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Councilman Fazio Aye
Supervisor Fleming Abstains
Councilman Jones Aye

Discussion was held on a possible external audit. Supervisor Fleming thinks the Town Board should request that the State Comptroller's Office conduct an audit in 2018.

Abstracts:

Highway Abstract 642, Claims 145-160, Total \$90,189.79 + paid prior G&K \$1594.49 Total of \$91784.28 (copy provided in Board Packet) was discussed. Councilman Der asked if claim 156 was for paving. Supt. Mahar reported that it was. Councilman Der made a motion to pay the abstract as submitted. His motion was seconded by Councilman Fazio.

Vote recoded as:

Councilman Der Aye
Councilman Fazio Aye
Supervisor Fleming Aye
Councilman Jones Aye

General Abstract 599, Claims 156-176, total \$3558.45, paid prior \$451.03, total with paid prior \$4009.48 (copy provided in Board Packet) was presented. Councilman Fazio made a motion to pay the abstract as presented. His motion was seconded by Supervisor Fleming.

Vote recoded as:

Councilman Der Aye
Councilman Fazio Aye
Supervisor Fleming Aye
Councilman Jones Aye

Water District Capital Fund Abstract #5, Claims 8-9 Total \$1,375.32(copy provided in Board Packet) was reviewed. Councilman Fazio made a motion to pay the abstract as presented. His motion was seconded by Councilman Jones.

Vote recoded as:

Councilman Der Aye
Councilman Fazio Aye
Supervisor Fleming Aye
Councilman Jones Aye

Budget Officer Report:

Mrs. Fleming provided the Town Board with her August 2017 Report, a copy of a settlement check from Verizon Wireless for \$0.60 and the August 2017 Financial Report. Discussion was held on the Water District Capital Fund Abstract #5, Claims 8-9 Total \$1,375.32 that the Town Board approved for payment. She noted that there are not enough funds in the account to pay the bills as directed by the Town Board.

Councilman Fazio offered a Resolution as follows:

Resolution 42-2017: Inter fund Transfer

It is hereby resolved by the Town of Denmark Town Board that authorization be given to Supervisor Fleming to make the following budget transfer:

From: A0911 Unaprop-Unreserved To: H5031 Capital Fund Water Amount of \$1380.00
Interfund Transfer

The resolution was seconded by Supervisor Fleming.

Vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Der Aye
Councilman Fazio Aye
Supervisor Fleming Aye
Councilman Jones Aye

Resolution 42-2017 adopted 9/11/2017

Discussion was briefly held on the check the Town received in the amount of \$93,710.30 for the reimbursement of Water District #1 expenses. Councilman Der noted that the check should be deposited into the Water District Expansion account.

Public Comment: Judy and Ben Colton of the Volunteer Transportation Center, Inc spoke to the Town Board about that organization and the work they do. The group has requested that the Town allocate budget monies in 2018 to support the agency.

Jerry Wichelns reported that the construction of the Copenhagen Wind has begun. Supt. Mahar noted that he has met with the developer but has not yet received the project schedule.

Dan Hirschey asked the Town Board about the resurfacing of Ridge Road. Supt. Mahar reported that if funds are available it will be crack sealed this year. Mr. Hirschey also inquired as to the procedure to reduce the speed limit on the Ridge Road. Supt. Mahar explained that a letter must be submitted to the Town Board who then asks Lewis County who in turn would request the State conduct a study.

Jerry Wichelns exited the meeting at 7:08pm.

Assessor's Report: Mr. Vargulick plans to do a town wide revaluation next year. He will be replacing his laptop this year. Discussion was held on breaking the CAP agreement with the Town of Champion. Mr. Vargulick will be attending the State conference in October. Councilman Jones asked about the WGS lawsuit. Mr. Vargulick explained that Attorney Gebo has requested more information from WGS.

Councilman Fazio made a motion to accept the Budget Officers Report. His motion was seconded by Councilman Jones.

Vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Clerk Report: Clerk Greene provided a copy of her August report in the Town Board packet. She asked if the Town Board was satisfied with the Fire Contract that she rewrote at their request and the Town Board did not have any changes they would like made.

Zoning and Planning: Town Board members received copies of the August Zoning Report and Planning Board minutes of September 5, 2017 in their Board Packet prior to the meeting.

New Business: DCO Schantz asked the Town Board to consider a cap on expenses that the Town will pay for an injured dog taken to the vet for emergency services by DCO Schantz. Discussion was held. Councilman Der made a motion to limit the expenses that the Town will pay for an injured dog taken to the vet for emergency services by DCO Schantz to \$200.00 per animal. His motion was seconded by Councilman Fazio.

Vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Clerk Greene provided the Town Board with copies of a proposed local law she was asked to prepare for a possible Tax Cap Override. Councilman Fazio made a motion that a Public Hearing be held the proposed local law 6-2017 at the October 9, 2017 Town Board meeting at 7:00pm. His motion was seconded by Councilman Der.

Vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Councilman Fazio made a motion to hold a Public Hearing of the proposed 2018 Fire Contracts with the Villages of Castorland, Copenhagen and West Carthage concurrently with the Public Hearing for proposed local law 6-2017. His motion was seconded by Councilman Der.

Vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Councilman Fazio exited the meeting at 7:21pm, returns at 7:24pm.

Discussion was held on the bill that the Town of Denmark has received from Lewis County for the 2018 Workman’s Compensation program. Lewis County has informed the Town of a 1962 opinion of the NYS Comptroller (#63-755) that concludes a Town is responsible for coverage of firefighters within the town, including members of a village fire department. Based on that the Town of Denmark would pay as follows:

20% Property Valuation	\$ 8,554.00	
30% Payroll	\$ 3,162.00	
50% Experience	\$13,526.00	Copenhagen Firefighter portion
	\$ 30.00	Castorland Firefighter protection
	\$ <u>1,290.00</u>	Town Highway portion
Total	\$26,562.00	

This is a very significant increase due to the inclusion of the firefighters. The Villages have been paying this, the departments are Village Departments not Town Departments. Discussion was held. Supervisor Fleming will contact other Lewis County Towns to see how they are responding.

Highway Report: Supt. Mahar reported that shoulders and chip sealing will be the next projects undertaken. He also brought to the Town Board’s attention that they may want to consider changing the name of Old State Road. Concern over the use of common names in addresses has developed. There are several Old State Roads all over the county and confusion in the 911 system and in mail are becoming more common. Discussion was held.

Supt. Mahar will be attending the fall highway school in Ellicottville, NY.

Supervisor Fleming made a motion to pay for the expenses of Supt. Mahar conference. His motion was seconded by Councilman Der.

Vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Discussion was held on the 2018 preliminary budget.

Discussion was held on Judge Kiernan’s plan to apply for JCAP funding. Councilman Fazio offered the following Resolution which was seconded for adoption by Councilman Der:

Resolution 43-2017 Dated September 11, 2017

At a Regular Meeting of the Town of Denmark Board held on the 11th day of September 2017, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Town of Denmark Town Board that the Town of Denmark Justice, Thomas Kiernan, be allowed to apply for a Unified Justice Court Grant (JCAP) for 2018.

Vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Resolution 43-2017 adopted 9/11/2017

Town Board members were supplied with a letter from Riverside Cemetery Association dated 9/11/2017, thanking the Town for its contribution.

Brief discussion was held on possible Bond Payoff for the monies borrowed when the highway garage and municipal buildings were built. Councilman Der made a motion to table this discussion to the October 9, 2017 meeting. His motion was seconded by Councilman Fazio.

Vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Being as there was no more business before the Board Councilman Fazio made a motion to adjourn the meeting. His motion was seconded by Councilman Jones.

Vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Der	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Supervisor Fleming	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye

Meeting adjourned at 9:37pm.

Prudence Greene
Town of Denmark Town Clerk

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