

Town of Denmark Regular Monthly Meeting January 17, 2022

Pledge – Led by Deputy Supervisor Fred Wadsworth
Role Call – Clerk Prudence Greene
Public Comment – Supervisor
Approval of tonight’s agenda

Board Presentation to Former Justice Raymond Taylor for his years of service.

We need a motion to approve December 20, 2021 meeting minutes, prepared by Deputy Town Clerk Sue Kirch-Corey

We need a motion to approve January 1, 2022 Organizational Meeting Minutes prepared by Town Clerk Prudence Greene

Abstract of Bills

Resolution ____ Of 2022: Town of Denmark Town Board approves payments of General Fund Abstract # 651, dated January 17, 2022, claim #'s 1-26, Total of all claims \$17,128.81

Resolution ____ Of 2022: Town of Denmark Town Board approves payments of Water District 1 Abstract #76, dated January 17, 2022, claim # 1, Total of all claims \$25.00.

Resolution ____ Of 2022: Town of Denmark Town Board approves payments Highway Department Abstract #693, dated January 17, 2022, claim #'s 1-26, total of all claims \$34,714.53.

Reports of Departments

I. Dog Control Office – Nick Astafan, Report of December 2021, Year End Report 2021
a. Discussion of Lewis County Humane Society Contract

II. Zoning Report for December 2021 & Planning Meeting Minutes for January 4, 2022

III. Assessor – William Vargalick

a. Follow up letter from Naturally Lewis (IDA) on Uniform Tax Exemption Policy Supervisor Doyle & Councilperson Rowsam

IV. Town Clerk – Prudence Greene’s Town Clerk Report for December 2021

- a. Correspondence
 - i. Missing Link Snowmobile Club Insurance Policy
 - ii. Mortgage Tax Report 2021, Town received \$64,823.82
 - iii. RACOG Report for January 2022 submitted by Mickey Dietrich.
- b. Update on Town of Denmark RACOG website upgrade
- c. Discussion of scanner vision program (server needed)

V. Superintendent of Highways – Patrick Mahar

- a. Update of department activity
- b. Voucher Report

- c. Budget Report
- d. Gradall Follow Up

VI. Supervisor’s Report

- a. RACOG representatives (we need two)
- b. AUD Worksheet Submission (added Water System on Infrastructure Line)
- c. Select Financial Information from December 31, 2021
- d. Reconciliation Report December 2021 to amend 2021 Final Budget
- e. National School Choice Week Letter requesting proclamation
- f. Discussion of year end overages
- g. Discussion of Building Construction Bond, possible early payoff

Resolution ____ of 2022: Town of Denmark Town Board approves the budget transfers listed below to balance the 2021 budget.

From	To Budget Code	Amount to transfer	Description
Fund Balance	A1910.4	24,449.04	Insurance (was paid in January 2021 for 2021 and December 2021 for 2022)
Fund Balance	A3510.4	8.21	Contractual – Dog Control
Fund Balance	A5010.4	125.79	Contractual – Highway Super
B2770	B8020.4	9,181.45	Solar Development Agreement
SW18310	SW19030.8	11.56	Social Security

VII. Justice Court Discussion – Justice Kiernan

- Number of justices discussion
- Discussion with Justice Kiernan on plans for board meeting broadcast as well as serving the court. Video capabilities would be in meeting room. ie: 55” tv in front so attendees can see, 55” tv in rear so board and judge can see, (each without having to turn their back to see a screen) camera/broadcast capabilities for board members/court. Seek Justice Kiernan input on ability/legality to zoom in DA and others
- Scheduling of 2022 audit of Justice Kiernan 2021 Financial Report

VIII. Discussion of Town Attorney – The law firm: Kendall, Walton & Burrows has been established. They currently have our files. Concerns over conflict of interests were discussed. Their rate structure was also discussed, Attorney Burrows fee is \$185.00/hour and Paralegal Wilcox fee is \$135.00 hr

Resolution ____ Of 2022 to authorize the Town of Denmark’s hiring of Law Firm Kendall, Walton & Burrows to handle the Towns legal matters.

IX. Old Business

1. Copenhagen Wind Farm – Follow up with Joon Lee on resident issues. No record of complaints mentioned last month by Supervisor Der.
2. Technology Upgrade Update – Councilman Wadsworth
3. ARPA funding

On January 7th the federal government changed the rules for ARPA Funds. Towns our size may now elect the **Standard Allowance**, instead of itemizing.

*Recipients must choose one of the two options and cannot switch between these approaches after an election is made. **Recipients may elect a “Standard Allowance” of \$10 Million to spend on government services through the period of performance. Under this option, which is newly offered in the final rule. Treasury presumes that up to \$10 Million in revenue has been lost to the public lost health emergency and recipients are permitted to use that amount (not to exceed the award amount) to fund “government services. The standard allowance provides an estimate of revenue loss that is based on an extensive analysis of average revenue loss across states and localities, and offers a simple, convenient way to determine revenue loss, particularly for SLFRF’s smallest recipients. All recipients may elect to use this standard allowance instead of calculating lost revenue using the formula, including those with total allocations of \$10 million or less. Electing the standard allowance does not increase or decrease a recipient’s total allocation. (Recipients must choose one of the two options and cannot switch between these approaches after an election is made)***

Definition: Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)

Scott Lawrence and I have discussed how to resolve this problem. He is in agreement that this would be a satisfactory solution.

- For this to happen, Castorland Fire Company will have to return the \$10,200 in funds we administered from ARPA Account ending in 4777, we will deposit those funds back into that account. I have discussed with Chief Ashline and Village Clerk Grunert, (who assists with Castorland’s Accounting) They both understand the reason and have agreed to return the funds. In a minute I will ask you for resolution to correct.
- We will also need to rescind a resolution authorizing transfer from ARPA account ending in 4777 to the General Fund, even though that transfer was never made.

Resolution ____ Of 2022 to rescind resolution 105-2021 (adopted October 18, 2021) that directed a check be issued to the Castorland Fire Department in the amount of \$10,200 for the purchase of a Tate Radio system for their newly purchased ladder truck and four (4) handheld radio units. Further directing the returned \$10,200 be deposited back in ARPA Account ending in 4777.

Resolution ____ Of 2022 to rescind resolution 104- 2021 (made in October 2021) that directed Supervisor Jim Der to transfer of \$14563.00 to the General Fund 0048 from the ARPA Fund 4777 to offset lost revenue. (That transfer was never made)

Resolution ____ Of 2022 authorizing the Town of Denmark to issue a check in the amount of \$10,200 from the General Fund 0048 for Fire Radio Equipment to the Castorland Fire Company after the funds are received and deposited from the Castorland Fire Company. (CPA Firm will categorize funding under Fire Protection 3410.4). This will result in a change in February of our 2021 final budget.

Resolution ____ Of 2022 authorizing Supervisor Scott M Doyle to select the “Standard Allowance” on the American Rescue Plan Act for The Town of Denmark, transferring the initial payment of the main

allocation of \$85,591.75 and the second allocation \$348.02 to the General Fund. This selection cannot be changed for any additional funding received.

New Business

- I. Funding Use Ideas
 - Handicap Access Ramp in front, including engineering, heated ramp, railings
 - Items listed under Justice heading
- II. Discussion on sending letter to County Buildings & Codes regarding junk yard follow up.
- III. I'd like to reach out to NYSERDA regarding design, availability of grant funding and payback analysis to go (stand alone) solar on town property. Energy prices at every level continue to rise. Many businesses and Governments are moving towards solar to offset costs. This will go good with the first item on ARPA discussion.
- IV. AES Energy reached out to me regarding large solar interest in Denmark. I would recommend based on direction from Naturally Lewis this point of contact be turned over to them.
- V. Ethics Board: Do we have anything other than the code of ethics policy. Councilwoman Rowsam requested a description of the duties for board members. I've never seen one, should we develop outline of duties prior to appointment of members?
- VI. Long Term Capital Planning – Highway Department & Town Facility
- VII. PFAS Representation? Attorney Burrows input.

Closing Public Comments

Motion to adjourn