

The Town of Denmark regular monthly meeting was held 07.17.2023 at the Town of Denmark municipal building. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Supervisor Scott Doyle. Councilman Fazio then led those in attendance in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

Clerk Greene completed a roll call of the Town Board as follows:

Councilmember Fred Wadsworth	present
Councilmember Frank Fazio	present
Councilmember Peter Jones	present
Councilmember Darlene Rowsam	present
Supervisor Scott Doyle	present

Also present were the following:

Town Clerk Prudence Greene  
Supt. Of Highways Pat Mahar  
Dep Supt. Of Highways James Der

Councilman Fazio made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wadsworth to accept the minutes of 06.20.2023 prepared by Deputy Clerk Susan Kirch-Corey. Vote recorded as 5 aye and 0 no.

Councilman Fazio made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jones, to accept the agenda for tonight's meeting. Vote recorded as 5 aye and 0 no.

### REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS

#### **Supervisor's Report:**

North Country CPA/NYCLASS – Financials were provided to the Town Board prior to the meeting for review. Supervisor Doyle noted that the interest income earned YTD \$27,774.77 on the money invested with NYCLASS.

Supervisor Doyle has begun working on information for the 2024 budget. Department budget worksheets will be forwarded to the department August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Discussion was held on the remaining green waste pile. Supt. Mahar will be borrowing a bulldozer from Lowville to bury the remaining green waste. Supervisor Doyle has been contacted by an employee of Fort Drum and they may be interested in green waste up to 6 inches in diameter for chipping in the future.

Supt. Mahar spoke to the Town Board about the contract with NYS DOT for use of the highway garage in exchange for road salt. The contracts are currently 2 years in arrears. The most recent contract provided for "payment" from the NYS DOT as 550 tons of road salt at the current price when the contract is signed. Supt. Mahar suggested that the Town Board ask for the language to be 550 tons of salt and not include the "current price" language in future contracts. Due to Supt. Mahar's intention to retire Supervisor Doyle will work on the contracts when NYS DOT decides to move forward.

Supt. Mahar also noted that damage to a wall of the highway garage caused by a NYS DOT employee 5 years ago has still not been repaired. A local vendor, Mike Lyndaker, was asked to order the materials but no further action has been taken.

Discussion was held about a potential reserve account for highway department equipment. The reserve must be requested by the Highway Supt and after establishment of the reserve the Town Board can fund it for future expenditures.

**Town Clerk's Report:** Clerk Greene provided a copy of her monthly report for June to the Town Board prior to the meeting.

A letter dated 6.16.2023 from Accessibility Solutions was provided to the Town Board. The letter is for renewal of the elevator maintenance and inspection contract.

Clerk Greene asked the Town Board to consider a Declaration of Surplus Equipment for a Gestetner copier model 2302Z that was in use prior to 2006 and an Acer Veriton Model 275 computer that was replaced in the clerk's office 4 years ago.

Clerk Greene provided a records management update. She plans to destroy dog license records that are no longer required to be retained per the NYS Retention Schedule adopted by the Town in 2020.

A copy of the RACOG Report for July 2023, the June Zoning Report, and the July Dog Control Officer Report were also provided to the Town Board.

### **Assessor's Report**

Supervisor Doyle and Assessor Vargulick have continued to review data related to taxable value in the fire districts within the town.

### **Superintendent of Highways & Special Districts Report**

Supt. Mahar provided his monthly Budget Report and Voucher Report for the Town Board's information. He updated them on his department's activities including paving the Halifax Road, roadside mowing and working with other municipalities.

Discussion was held on a HYBRID Building Solutions – salt barn proposal. Grant money may be available to fund 75% of the project, leaving the town with approximately \$147,000.00 as its cost. Discussion was held.

Councilman Wadsworth offered a resolution, seconded for adoption by Councilman Fazio as follows:

#### **Resolution 84 of 2023: Salt Storage Building Grant Application**

The Town of Denmark Town Board hereby authorizes Supervisor Scott Doyle to work with Megan Krokowski from Lewis County Planning and Community Development to pursue a grant for a salt storage building.

Roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Wadsworth	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye
Councilwoman Rowsam	Aye
Supervisor Doyle	Aye

**Resolution 84 of 2023 adopted 7.17.2023.**

### **Old Business**

Supervisor Doyle reported that the Solar Project – Inner Connection Study is complete. At this time, the town has not been billed so the check in the amount of \$750.00 authorized last month has not been sent.

Discussion was held on the RFP's opened at the 6.20.2023 meeting for the replacement of the current Water Treatment, Water Softener, Chemical Treatment System for the municipal building and garage. Two (2) RFPs were received as follows:

- |                                    |                      |                    |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Bidder: Pinnacle Piping Corp.   | Received 06.14.2023  | Amount: \$9,982.00 |
| 2. Bidder: Water Systems Unlimited | Received: 06.15.2023 | Amount: \$8,580.00 |

Supt. Mahar noted that Jeff Schwan of Water Systems Unlimited installed and maintained the original system and Mr. Schwan has been very responsive when contacted for issues with the system.

Discussion was held. Councilwoman Rowsam suggested that the town place work logs in the mechanical room to be completed whenever the system is serviced or tested. It was noted that the Water Systems Unlimited proposal includes a 5-year warranty.

Discussion was held on RPTL 466a. Supervisor Doyle is unsure whether the Villages of Castorland and Copenhagen will adopt the exemption. If adopted the exemption is up to 10 percent of the assessed value of the primary residence owned by an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or ambulance service if the property owner has been a member for a minimum of two to five years.

### **New Business**

NYMIR has recommended an update to the Policy on Discrimination and Harassment. At this time, the consensus of the Town Board was to leave the current policy in place and adopt the new language in 2024.

Discussion was held on the potential Highway Superintendent retirement. The Town Board is developing an advertisement to seek individuals who are interested in being appointed if/when Supt. Mahar retires. Whomever is appointed will have to be elected next fall (2024) to finish out the term of Supt. Mahar which ends 12.31.2025 and then run for a 4-year term in the fall of 2025.

Discussion was also held on Supt. Mahar's duties as Supt of Special Districts. That position requires a NYS Certified Operator.

Councilman Wadsworth, during a discussion with Lewis County Highway Supt. Tim Hunt about the condition of Station Road, also discussed the construction beyond the railroad tracks on Station Road. An Amish family purchased the land and built a barn and house. ZEO Kevin Gaines has been to the site several times advising them that they need to complete zoning applications with the Town and contact Lewis County Building & Codes as well. At this time, no permits have been received in the Clerk's office. Discussion was held. Supervisor Doyle will contact ZEO Gaines and Lewis County Building & Codes.

Councilman Wadsworth offered a resolution, seconded for adoption by Councilman Fazio as follows:

**Resolution 85 of 2023: RFP Water system**

The Town of Denmark Town Board does hereby accept the RFP submitted by Water Systems Unlimited in the amount of \$8,580.00 for labor and materials to replace the Water Treatment, Water Softener, Chemical Treatment System to treat on average 500 gallons per/day at 6 GPM and all interconnected piping.

Roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Wadsworth       Aye  
Councilman Fazio             Aye  
Councilman Jones            recuses  
Councilwoman Rowsam       Aye  
Supervisor Doyle            recuses

**Resolution 85 of 2023 adopted 7.17.2023.**

**Slate of Resolutions:** The slate of resolutions was reviewed by the Town Board.

**Councilman Wadsworth offered a slate of resolutions 86 – 92 of 2023, seconded for adoption by Supervisor Doyle, as follows:**

**Resolution 86 of 2023: General Fund Abstract July 17, 2023**

The Town of Denmark Town Board approves payments of General Fund Abstract #669 dated **July 17, 2023**, new claims # 152 - 169, Total of Abstract \$6,702.80.

**Resolution 87 of 2023: Water District 1 Abstract July 17, 2023**

The Town of Denmark Town Board approves payments of Water District Abstract #93, dated **July 17, 2023**, Paid Prior claim #12, Paid Prior claims total \$17,370.00, New claims #13 – 14, New claims totaling \$539.21, Total of Abstract \$17,909.21.

**Resolution 88 of 2023: Highway Abstract July 17, 2023**

The Town of Denmark Town Board approves payments of Highway Department, Abstract #711, dated **July 17, 2023**, new claims # 78 - 88, Total of Abstract \$5,595.38.

**Resolution 89 of 2023: Water District 1 transfer of funds**

The Town of Denmark Town Board does hereby authorize the following budget adjustments:

From	To Budget Code	Amount to transfer
SW8310.4 – Contractual	SW9790.6 – State Loan Principal	\$80.00

**Resolution 90 of 2023: Accessibility Solutions, Inc. – Contract for Elevator Inspection**

The Town Board of the Town of Denmark does hereby authorize Town Clerk Prudence Greene to sign and enter a contract with Accessibility Solutions, Inc. for semiannual inspections and maintenance of the elevator for \$190.00 per visit.

**Resolution 91 of 2023: Declaration of Surplus Equipment**

The Town Board of the Town of Denmark does hereby declare one (1) - Gestetner copier and one (1) Acer Veriton M275 computer both formerly used in the Town Clerk’s office as surplus equipment and further authorizes Town Clerk Greene to dispose of the devices as they have no resale value and are inoperable.

**Resolution 92 of 2023: Declaration of Destruction of Non-retainable Dog Control Records**

The Town Board of the Town of Denmark does hereby authorize Retention Clerk Prudence Greene to destroy outdated Dog Control Licensing documents from that meet the set criteria of the NYS Retention Schedule adopted by the Town of Denmark in 2020.

Roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Wadsworth	Aye
Councilman Fazio	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye
Councilwoman Rowsam	Aye
Supervisor Doyle	Aye

**Resolutions 86 - 92 of 2023 adopted 7.17.2023.**

Supervisor Doyle made a motion to enter an Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. Councilman Jones seconded his motion. Vote recorded as 5 aye and 0 no.

At 6:57pm Clerk Greene, Supt. Mahar and Deputy Supt. Der exited the meeting.

At 7:22pm Councilwoman Rowsam made a motion to exit the Executive Session. Supervisor Doyle seconded her motion. Vote recorded as 5 aye and 0 no.

Being as there was no further business before the Board Councilman Fazio made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Doyle seconded his motion. Vote recorded as 5 aye and 0 no.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22pm.

Prudence L. Greene  
Town of Denmark Town Clerk