

The regular monthly meeting of the Town of Denmark Town Board was held February 18, 2025, at 6:00 pm, at the Town of Denmark Municipal Building.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Supervisor Doyle. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Deputy Clerk Kirch-Corey completed a roll call of the Town Board as follows:

Councilmember Wadsworth, present

Councilmember Fazio, present

Councilmember Jones, present

Councilmember Rowsam, present

Supervisor Doyle, present

Also present:

Deputy Clerk, Susan Kirch-Corey

Deputy Superintendent, James Der

Jennifer Harvill – Tug Hill Commission, enters at 6:04 pm

Jessica Moser – Lewis County Legislator, enters at 6:06 pm

Motion to table the January Meeting Minutes made by Supervisor Doyle, seconded by Councilmember Wadsworth, until the March meeting. Councilmember Rowsam wants a conversation she had to be included in the minutes, Clerk Greene is not present to confirm or defend her transcript of the minutes.

Councilmember Wadsworth made a motion to accept tonight's Agenda, seconded by Councilmember Fazio. Motion carried.

Supervisor Doyle explained ongoing problems he has been experiencing with his laptop, adding he has received an updated quote of \$1,510.00 for a new laptop. The cost includes a three-year warranty, setup, and transfer of files. Councilmembers reminded Supervisor Doyle that they had previously approved the purchase of a new laptop. Supervisor Doyle advised that he will order it and payment should be made from the Supervisor's Contractual (A1220.4).

At 6:05 pm, Councilmember Wadsworth made a motion to open the Public Hearing for the proposed Local Law 1 of 2025; Repeal & Replace Article 3, Section 1a of Local Law 4 of 2017, Related to Issuance of Bills, seconded by Councilmember Jones. Motion carried.

Being as there is no public present yet for the hearing, Supervisor Doyle suggested waiting for anyone that may have been delayed by weather or road conditions.

Privilege of the Floor – Supervisor Doyle opened the floor to the public. No comments.

Report of Departments

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Doyle reported that the NYCLASS interest income for November 2024 was \$3,209, which was down from the previous year. He also reported that the interest earned for the Salt Barn is at a 'break-even' point with the budgeted costs. Noting that there is one remaining invoice he is expecting for the final one-quarter of the cost of the building which is due when the building is completed, per the agreement.

Supervisor Doyle reported he has completed his work on the Annual Filing Report (AFR), and it is now at the CPAs for completion. Advising that the AFR is much more involved than previous years due to capital improvements, and BOND for the Salt Barn.

Supervisor Doyle reported the heating boiler for the municipal building had a break down, though was only without heat for about 3 hours due to the Town Board following a recommendation from Munn Mechanical of keeping two spare pump parts on hand 'just in case'. These spare pump parts have since been reordered, 'just in case.'

Councilmember Rowsam inquired about the Justice Audit. Supervisor Doyle reported the audit scheduled was rescheduled due to weather conditions. It is currently scheduled for Thursday the 20th.

Supervisor Doyle announced that anyone interested in any of the elected positions that will be up at the end of this year will need to contact the respective party or the board of elections by the end of February. Those positions are, Town Supervisor, Superintendent of Highways, Town Clerk and two (2) seats at the Town Board.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Greene provided copies of the Clerk's Report for Year End 2024 and January 2025, as well as the report from DCO Hess for January, Planning Board minutes of 1/07/2025 & 2/04/2025, and the RACOG February report, a resignation letter from a Court Bailiff to the Town Board prior to this meeting. Deputy Clerk Kirch-Corey asked if all members of the Town Board had received the reports, and if they had any questions. All acknowledged receiving the reports, there were no questions.

Councilmember Rowsam offered a slate of resolutions, seconded by Councilmember Jones as follows: Resolution 21 of 2025: Water District #1 Abstract 113, Dated February 18, 2025

The Town of Denmark Town Board approves payments of Water District Abstract 113, Dated **February 18, 2025**. Claims # 1 – 1, Abstract total \$ 32.00.

Resolution 22 of 2025: General Fund Abstract 688, Dated February 18, 2025

The Town of Denmark Town Board approves payments of General Fund Abstract 688, Dated **February 18, 2025**. Claims # 29 – 51, Abstract Total \$171,251.25.

Resolution 23 of 2025: Highway Fund Abstract 731, Dated February 18, 2025

The Town of Denmark Town Board approves payments of Highway Fund Abstract 731, Dated **February 18, 2025**.

Claims # , Abstract total \$.

Roll call vote.

Councilmember Wadsworth Aye

Councilmember Fazio Aye

Councilmember Jones Aye

Councilmember Rowsam Aye

Resolutions 21 – 23 are adopted 02.18.2025.

Deputy Clerk Kirch-Corey explained that DCO Hess had a quiet January, having no mileage turned in. Discussion held about the need for a new Deputy DCO.

Councilmember Wadsworth made a motion to appoint Hannah Murphy-Bruce as Deputy DCO, seconded by Councilmember Jones. The effective term will be 2/18/2025 – 12/31/2025.

Supervisor Doyle reported that the DCO Hess has been using the Town's Attorney, and their fees have reached \$2,000. Supervisor Doyle has advised DCO Hess that she can also utilize the Association of Towns legal representative for these issues where it would not cost the Town any additional fees. DCO Hess was previously unaware of the service.

Supervisor Doyle reported the IMA (Inter-Municipal Agreement) for DCO, has not yet been located. He had asked Deputy Clerk Kirch-Corey to see if she could find it, she has not been able to locate, noting that he had not had time to research it himself.

Jennifer Harvill, Tug Hill Commission reported on some points of interest in the RACOG report. Reminding all the Tug Hill Commission sponsored 34th Annual Local Government Conference being held 04.01.2025, the pre-registration deadline has been set for February 28th.

Jennifer also reminded, all interested in attending The River Area Council of Governments 4th Annual Economic Visioning Summit (Round Table), will be held April 30, 2025. Please pre-register for this free event with lunch being served.

The Town Board acknowledged receipt of a letter of resignation from Bailiff Greene.

Supervisor Doyle discussed the process for submission of payment requests for the DEC grant.

At 6:20 pm, Councilmember Wadsworth made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Councilmember Fazio. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Hearing for Local Law 1 of 2025 closed at 6:20 pm.

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

RESOLUTION# 24 OF 2025 REPEAL AND REPLACE SECTION 1a of LOCAL LAW 4 of 2017: To establish definitions and rules and regulations for the day-to-day operation of Town of Denmark Water District #1 including matters of billing, payment, and penalties.

WHEREAS, the Town Board for the Town of Denmark, New York has devoted considerable time and attention to the day-to-day operation of Town of Denmark Water District #1; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that an amendment to Local Law 4 of 2017 is appropriate and will promote more efficient administration of the district and the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the New York Environmental Quality Review Act, this Board has determined that the action is properly characterized as Type II under SEQRA, and no further environmental review is required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Denmark, New York as follows:

1. The forgoing recitations are incorporated herein and made a part hereof as if set forth herein.
2. The Town Board hereby enacts the amendment to Local Law 4 of 2017 as being in the best interests of the Town of Denmark.
3. The Supervisor for the Town of Denmark, and the Town Clerk, their respective agents and employees are hereby authorized to sign all documents and take all steps necessary to enact this legislation.

RESOLUTION -Enact Local Law- Amending LL 4 of 2017.

1. This Legislation shall be filed with the New York State Department of State and with the Town Clerk of the Town of Denmark and shall become effective thereafter.
2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll call vote.

Councilmember Wadsworth	Aye	
Councilmember Fazio	Aye	
Councilmember Jones	Aye	
Councilmember Rowsam	Aye	
Supervisor Doyle	Aye	Resolution 24 of 2025 is adopted, 02.18.2025.

Supervisor Doyle offered a resolution, seconded by Fred Wadsworth as follows:

Resolution 25 of 2024: Tug Hill Commission Local Government Conference (April 1, 2025)

The Town of Denmark Town Board does hereby authorize payment of conference registrations for any elected or appointed official of the Town of Denmark who plans to attend the Local Government conference sponsored by the Tug Hill Commission on 04.01.2025 and further directs that those who attend may be reimbursed for mileage after submitting proper documentation to the Town Clerk.

Roll call vote.

Councilmember Wadsworth	Aye	
Councilmember Fazio	Aye	
Councilmember Jones	Aye	
Councilmember Rowsam	Aye	Resolution 25 of 2025 is adopted, 02.18.2025.

Superintendent of Highways & Special Districts Report

Deputy Superintendent Der updated the Town Board on the Highway department's activities.

Snow removal and equipment repairs have kept the highway department busy.

Dep. Supt. Der informed that one of the plows had suffered a broken wing cable and partially broken wing, both have been repaired.

Old Business

Dep. Clerk Kirch-Corey advised the Town Board that Clerk Greene and Village Clerk Aubertine have not been able to meet regarding the billing for Water District 1, citing conflicts with their schedules. They continue to work out their schedules in hopes to discuss the water billing.

Supervisor Doyle addressed a concern that the Town Board raised about confidence in billing being ready for the next water billing in April. Supervisor Doyle assured his confidence that all would be ready before the April invoicing.

Supervisor Doyle updated the Town Board that the Lewis County Comprehensive Plan will be wrapping up soon. Ms. Moser said the county is expecting it to be completed in June or July of this year.

New Business

Supervisor Doyle asked Ms. Harvill if RACOG would be assisting with the .gov websites that are going to be a requirement of all government websites by 2027. Ms. Harvill advised that each local government who is a part of RACOG will need to apply for the .gov website independently. Mr. Phelps is looking into what is involved with registering and how RACOG can assist its members. Supervisor Doyle added that there is still plenty of time before implementation is required and suggests waiting until after the elections, in January of 2026 when the new Town Board is seated.

Supervisor Doyle advised that there is new legislation out to make EMS an essential service, which could mean adding a new budget line for next year. Discussion held.

Being as there is no further business before the Town Board, Councilmember Fazio made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Jones.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm

Susan Kirch-Corey
Town of Denmark Deputy Town Clerk