** Town of Deerfield**

**Town Board Meeting Minutes**

**October 14th 2024**

The Deerfield Town Board held its regular monthly meeting on October 14th 2024. Present were Councilpersons Phil Sacco, Daphne Jones, Scott Mahardy, Dave Kolek, Supervisor Greg Sacco, Town Clerk Karen Day, Attorney for the Town William Schmitt & Highway Superintendant Sam Arcuri Jr. Supervisor Sacco called the meeting to order at 6:30PM with the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Town Clerk took roll call.

MINUTES for Councilperson Mahardy moved and Councilperson Jones seconded the motion to accept the September regular town Board meeting minutes.

EARLY PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – None

CORRESPONDENCE:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: Councilperson Sacco invited the board and anyone interested into the Community Room to see maps and discuss preliminary Plans to address the water issue on Croissant Circle.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – none

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 66 2024 budget public hearing set for 11/07/24 - 6pm- approved

Resolution 67 2024 wilderness pavilion rental fee raised for non-residents -approved

Resolution 68 2024 Advertisement of Highway Equipment - approved

OFFICIAL REPORTS

County Legislator Buck: verbal report – a Couple of things as a follow up report from the meeting with the City of Utica, and Deerfield and Oneida Co about the flood mitigation.

I did find that there is some flood mitigation money available to help us, and we just have to get some figures together and pull the project together.

Oneida Co passed a Cannabis Law to help regulate and license the business’s selling the product. Working with the County Health Board they will be able to investigate those pop-up stores and be sure they are legal and following the correct regulations.

Supervisor Gregory Sacco - No report

Councilperson - Philip Sacco Report given

I received a call from a resident on Cosby Manor Rd and referred to Codes Office James Maxwell. Jim Maxwell followed through on the resident’s concern.

A resident on Fairview Place called on a road issue and I reported it to Highway Superintendent Arcuri, who followed up on it.

The Highway Superintendent Sam Arcuri, Mr. Nick Bridenbecker to the city of Utica Engineering Department and myself walked the drainage area from Elmdale Place in Utica to Croissant Circler in the Town of Deerfield. It is part of the plan to address the Water issues that have plagued Croissant Circle. It appears that this route for Stormwater will have no effect at the City’s drain on Elmdale Place.

So going forward we will begin planning for (4) manholes and piping to the drainage area. Two easements need to be addressed, we have a verbal OK from one already. Over the winter months we hope to know the cost and will be able to proceed in 2025. Also noted that our Grant check was received by the Town for the Lighting Project.

Councilperson Daphney Jones – No Report.

Councilperson Scott Mahardy – Nothing to report

Councilperson Kolek – report given

On October 5th 2024 Whitesboro Cross Country had their Invitational at the Wilderness Park, it was a perfect day for the event, with sunny blue skies. A total of 30 High schools attended with 785 runners. Coach Brian Holtsad was very satisfied with the condition of the part and trails.

On October 13 the Deerfield Skeleton Run was held, with Rob Kapfer Director and the Utica Road Runners at the Town Park. 300 registered runners along with more than 90 runners participating in the Kids ¼ Run. The weather was Cold and wet. Going forward the is a consideration to change the date to another weekend due to conflict with other local runs.

**Rob Kapfer (Director)** stopped by to share a flier and photos of the event. Attached flier to minutes.

Town Clerk Karen Day – report

This is our last month of Pavilion rentals. The Highway Superintendent has been notified of the last event, 1 last XC event is on October 15th, for New York Mills High School.

The Skeleton Run was held Yesterday Sunday October 13th, 2024. The Director Robert Kapfer, a Town Resident, said it was a terrific event, with over 95 children signed up for the Kids’ run, despite the nasty weather. Robert did mention that the lock on the storage garage is very difficult to open and fears that at some time, a key will be broken off while trying to open it. He feels it might be better to change it now before it happens. He also noted that the door lock on the back of the pavilion seems to be beginning to do the same, as there is no door handle and he feels that the people may be using the inserted key is being used to open the door once unlocked.

He and the Utica Road Runners, who sponsor the Deerfield Skeleton Run, want to extend their appreciation for the use of our facility. The pumpkin décor was donated by the Skeleton Run here at the Municipal Building.

All is going well in the Clerk’s office.

Highway Superintendant Sam Arcuri Jr

Paving and drainage work done on Fairview Drive.

1. Met with Oneida County and JMT engineering on Firehouse Road (Bridge NY Project) for an update. Contract was slow getting to JMT from the county and put the project off until 2027 for construction. Some of the sub engineering people are starting to work on soil borings and survey work. Looking to possibly straighten the bridge out moving the road toward the north.
2. Chip sealed Bell Hill / Smith Hill from Bell Hill to seasonal part.
3. Sweep Chip sealed roads for loose stone
4. Going to start hauling sand soon
5. All paving projects done for the year
6. Company completed Doyle road pavement repairs
7. Quote received for installing GPS on our trucks. Hope to move on this for 2025.

9)Plowing contract sent in to Oneida County for2024-2025 and 2025-2026 Season

COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Building Inspector: Jim Maxwell provided a report. Attached.

Building permits – 52

Discussion held with Supervisor Sacco about Advocacy Center building. I will be reaching out to the new owners to find out what their plans are and I will keep the planning board and Supervisor Sacco informed.

I have a couple of letters going out this week for properties to be cleaned up. One on Bell Hill Rd and one on Carver St.

Most of my time this month has been spent on inspections from building permits and marking out Udig.

Board of Assessors George Haskell: stated that he is asking that all update to STAR and SENIOR TAX discounts until the 2nd week in February 2025.

Planning Board – attached report

Department Chairperson: Patie Goldsmith Date of Report: October 12, 2024 Requests for Town Board Decisions: None Key Points/ Updates: Planning board members discuss the regulation of Airbnb properties in the town. Board members reviewed regulations from the Town of Inlet and Saratoga. Both documents contained good examples that could apply to the Town of Deerfield. A list of the most pertinent sections from these two ordinances will be compiled. None of the platforms that short term rentals advertise on offer any type of screening, notification or portal for town officials to monitor the rental properties in their town. Local codes enforcement officers must track rentals through the primary advertiser’s platform. Those in attendance none.

Zoning Board of Appeals Lura Raymo, verbal report

Have one public hearing held on October 3 2024 for a rebuild of Garage Variance to add 176’ to garage. Variance was approved.

Town Historian- position still open

The Family of Virginia Loin past Deerfield Historian donated boxes of research and her books to archive and use at will.

Senior Citizen Director Lura Raymo- no report submitted.

The Seniors meet regularly. We held our Octoberfest on Thursday Oct 10th, with our German potato salad, bratwurst, and hot dogs, sauerkraut and other wonderful German food. It was a terrific luncheon. We hope before October ends to enjoy donuts and cider for our Halloween Celebration.

Parks Committee - no report given

Karen Day Youth Director – written report attached.

The Schedule has been completed for October – December with approx. 2 events a month.

Paul Zaleski, who has been our Youth Leader for almost 12 years, is retiring from the program at the end of the year. He has dedicated many years and time to the program and has been quite an asset over those years, in growing our Town Youth Program into a Program which is the envy of other towns.

Going forward Gino Spina, a town resident and local teacher, has been working with our program, for a few years. He joined us as a small child and has climbed the ranks, from child to counselor to this year being the Youth Leader of the Summer Program. I highly would recommend Gino to replace Paul, in the Program. He is more than capable and will do an awesome job.

Next week we will be at the Utica Zoo, Spooktacular.

Town Attorney: William Schmitt: Nothing to Report

MEDIA TIME - NONE

LATE PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR Roman Voytovich, Smith Hill Rd. - directed his question to Highway Superintendent Arcuri, if it would be possible to have the ditches dug and cleaned out on the south side of Smith Hill Rd. They are filled in with the sand from past winters of snow and ice control. Highway Superintendent Arcuri said that it is on the list to complete before winter comes this year. He thanked him for his patience.

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

**Sewer Fund** No sewer bills from National Grid due to an error on their part.

**Highway Fund** bills number 183 - 205 moved by Councilperson Kolek and Councilperson Jones voted yes, and the motion **was approved**.

**General Fund** bill number 327 - 369 moved by Councilpersons Kolek and Councilperson Jones voted yes, and the motion **was approved**.

ADJOURN : Councilperson P. Sacco made the motion and Councilperson Jones

**Motion approved**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Day

Town Clerk

Town of Deerfield