

**Town of Deerfield  
Town Board Meeting Minutes  
February 10th 2025**

The Deerfield Town Board held its regular monthly meeting on February 10th 2025. Present were Councilpersons Phil Sacco, Daphne Jones, Daniel Fusco, 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 Jones moved and Councilperson Kolek seconded the motion to accept the January regular town Board meeting minutes.

EARLY PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – None

CORRESPONDENCE:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION – none

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 17 – 2025 Wilderness Pavilion Rental Fee – approved

Resolution 18 – 2025 Appointment of Youth Leader – Gennaro Spina - Approved

**OFFICIAL REPORTS**

County Legislator Buck: absent –

**Supervisor Gregory Sacco** - No report – Verbal, I received an application from a Resident who is interested in the position of Town Historian. I am reviewing his application and will interview him in the upcoming week.

**Councilperson** - Philip Sacco - Report attached

**Councilperson Daphney Jones** – Thank you and recognition of the Winterfest Crew. It was a terrific time, Children loved it.

**Councilperson Kolek** – Nothing to report.

**Councilperson Daniel Fusco** – *Report Given and attached*

**Town Clerk Karen Day** – *report attached*

**Highway Superintendant Sam Arcuri Jr** *report attached*

Highway Superintendent  
Town Board Meeting 2/10/25

- 1) Received a call from Tracy Road Equipment, the new single axle Freightliner chassis is in Syracuse and ready to go to Henderson in Watertown for equipment installation.

- 2) Met with Oneida County and JMT engineering on Firehouse Road (Bridge NY Project) for an update. Project is still on track for a spring 2027 start.
- 3) F550 is rotted out and the roof is leaking. We use this truck for the parks in the summer months. Should we be thinking about another vehicle?
- 4) NYS salt contract, problems getting road salt going to a county meeting tomorrow.
- 5) Schuyler water project is moving forward, sent the project plans to us for comment.
- 6) Getting son reports of roads getting narrow going to be working on removing some snowbanks. Going to push back the high banks.
- 7) Working on 284 agreement costs for 2025.
- 8) Working on Transfer Station annual report, report was sent in to DEC for 2024 reporting year.
- 9) Electronic recycling report due in March, finished report and emailed to DEC for 2024 reporting year.
- 10) MS4 annual report is due in March going to be working on completing the report.
- 11) Been having a few questions on trail grooming, we have a lot of residents using the trails. Talked with the groomer operators and was told can't see out of the cab and no heat. Getting some information on a UTV with a cab and heat.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS-

**Building Inspector:** Jim Maxwell provided a report. Attached.

Building permits – 2

I have received a call about housing near the Bank of America. I am waiting to get more info so I can talk to the Planning board and Town Board. Once I have more info I will keep Supervisor Sacco informed of our next step. I have received a couple of calls for possible new homes in the spring. Come spring I will be working on some properties that need to be cleaned up. I have spoken with Mr. Fusco on this issue. I will be going to my annual recertification in April and will let you know when I have the date. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 680-213-0832

**Board of Assessors George Haskell:** Taking applications for changes and all must be submitted before the month of March 2025. I have several resident requests to investigate ways to lower their taxes, STAR, Enhanced STAR and Senior Citizens discounts. Office hours Tuesday evenings 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

**Planning Board – Pati Goldsmith** – report given and attached

The Board members reviewed and edited a draft of a proposed Local Law regarding AirBnB properties in the town. We anticipate finalizing the draft in March and will hopefully submit it to the Town Board at their March Meeting.

**Zoning Board of Appeals** Lura Raymo, absent – No report

**Town Historian** - Application has been submitted for the position, Town Supervisor will review and contact the interested party.

**Senior Citizen Director Lura Raymo**- No report Absent

## **Parks Committee - Debbie Burke**

Parks Committee Report by Deb Burke

1. MVCC's trades program performs building projects for municipalities. Students are directed and supervised by the program's professor with no labor fees to the Town. The Town is only responsible for providing approved drawings and materials. Deb spoke to and met with the MVCC professor at the ball field near Wilderness Park regarding building dugouts. A softball coach/parent with construction background attended the meeting at the park too. The Professor stated they would be interested in the project and has an old set of drawings for a dugout they built previously. Deb then spoke to the Town engineer who stated he does not do project design nor create drawings. Deb requested permission from the Board to obtain a quote from an engineer to design the dugouts. The quote will be provided to Supervisor Greg Sacco for approval, prior to any work being done.
2. Deb and Stephanie Monescalchi have been researching grants for the revitalization of Brazie and Youlan Parks. Representative Buttenschon's office asked for a proposal of the projects. Deb and Stephanie have written a proposal that is being reviewed by a grant writer. Once the proposal is finalized Deb will share the proposal with Greg Sacco for review and approval.
3. Trail grooming has been done more regularly with all the snow this year. Several days the extreme cold made grooming difficult as the side-x-side has no heat and, the plastic windshield is worn making it difficult to see. On several occasions Hal Brown and Deb had to cut and remove tree limbs and branches that block the trail.  
  
Hal and Deb spoke to Town in previous years about the need for a new side-x-side; this has become a necessity. As mentioned, visibility through the plastic windshield is a safety concern and without heat it is near impossible to drive the side-x-side for very long on days when the temperature dips below 20. We'd like to propose using Park budget funds to purchase a new side-x-side while understanding the vehicle is for the Highway department use as well.  
  
Ed Kirstien called the Town to offer his help with trail grooming. Ed rode a couple of times with Hal who showed Ed how the machine operated and technics for grooming. Thank you to Ed for offering his help.
4. Deb Burke proposed the Town host a Full Moon Snowshoe event for adults at Wilderness Park. The next full moon is the weekend of March 15<sup>th</sup>. The Park committee is requesting money to supply hot drinks and snacks. We would also like to have a bon fire at the event.

Deborah Burke

315-525-2855 *mobile*

[dburke@roadrunner.com](mailto:dburke@roadrunner.com)

**Karen Day Youth Director** – written report attached.

Schedule is in the works.

**Celebration Committee**- Report given

Was a HUGE Success

**Town Attorney: William Schmitt:** Spoke to the Utica/Deerfield water contract, He is concerned about the some of the wording in the contract. He would like to further review this contract before any further progress is made.

MEDIA TIME - NONE

#### LATE PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Roman Voytovich spoke about a new trend of investors of multiple housing, that is becoming popular among small towns and cities and that the Town of Deerfield should update and prepare for this. He has spoken to investors from NYC and was told that they are looking in Syracuse.

He also spoke to bringing in more business's and changing the Zoning Laws to accommodate. Attny Schmitt brought to conversation that that would be a task for the Planning board, and Councilperson Sacco mentioned that these investors would have to present their idea and plans before the boards.

Councilperson Fusco Spoke to the positive opinions of our Town and how many people would be likely to move to our Town, knowing someone from Florida he spoke to would consider moving into Deerfield. He mentioned bringing more development into the town in the future and wants to consider updating our Comprehensive plan and zoning to avoid Variances by those who want to develop.

Deborah Burke Spoke to the need to vet and research these investors as she knows of new multiple housing developments that have been built and advertised as luxury apartments and shortly after are found to be falling apart and now unrentable and are now being used as sub luxury apartments.

Councilperson Fusco feel we should have resident committees forming to assist in this.

A Woman (did not state her name) asked that we do a better job of advertising dates and times of Board meetings. Mentioned putting it in the newsletter, on the Website. The Council mentioned that the meetings are recorded by legal notice in the Rome Sentinel in January 2025, The Website does have it listed and the Newsletter also has posted it in the January Newsletter.

It was asked if it could be posted on the front page of Website, and in every newsletter. Councilperson Jones and Town Clerk Day stated that they would look into both those requests.

Council person Fusco mentioned having yard signs made up to post dates of every board meeting.

The Council feels that there are plenty of ways to find out the times and dates of each board meeting, including calling the Town Clerk. Parks Chairperson asked to have the website updated with The Parks individual address. Councilperson Jones said she would take care of this.

Resident Dennis Piacentino, questioned the board as to when the Water pipelines put in place to provide water, will be paid off. Council person Sacco suggested that he check with our Building and Codes Department. But his guess at this point he feels it was a 38 year process. Mohawk Valley water authority is in charge of any and all repairs.

#### MOTION TO PAY BILLS

##### **Sewer Fund**

Bill Number 2 moved by Councilperson Jones and Councilperson Kolek voted yes and the motion **was approved**

**Highway Fund** bills number 14 - 32 - moved by Councilperson Kolek and Councilperson Jones voted yes, and the motion **was approved**.

**General Fund** bill number 27 -69 moved by Councilperson Kolek and Councilperson Jones voted yes, and the motion **was approved**.

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

**Motion approved**

**Meeting ended 7:25 PM**

**10 people in attendance**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Day  
Town Clerk  
Town of Deerfield









## Councilman Fusco – Report Feb. 10, 2025

### Old Business:

1. Website suggestion regarding NYS Law Chapter 24, Article 13-E, Section 300 requires all incorporated municipalities websites to use suffix .gov. Will we comply?
2. Is our website mobile optimized? I had trouble viewing on an iPhone.
3. I have been unable to locate our solar law on the website.
4. I suggest we create audio links on the minutes page to post audio recordings of meetings.

### NYS Junk Law:

I think it is time to review our local law to align with NYS Junk Law, being careful not to impede agriculture operations with consideration of the following, as stated in the NYS Junk Law: *Municipalities typically term "junk" to include litter, waste paper, rags, used tires, discarded materials, appliances, household furniture, used metal, construction debris, unoccupied mobile homes, inoperable farm implements, and unlicensed inoperable "junked" vehicles.*

We have multiple properties in violation of this law. I have been in communication with Mr. Maxwell regarding several properties I have received complaints about, as mentioned in January. We will be visiting these properties as soon as the snow begins to melt. I feel it should be the position of the town to aid and facilitate those who are willing to be in compliance of this law.

### Comprehensive Master Plan:


When will the town be required to update our Comprehensive Master Plan?

Townships are facing challenges imposed by developers seeking variance permits for multi-unit housing and renewable energy projects. It will be wise for Deerfield to prepare for this now. This may best be done through the use of Citizen Action Groups.

### Wilderness Park Trail Markers:

I have been contacted by a resident who is offering to provide hand-made wildlife-themed markers to be used within the Wilderness Trail System. I have referred to our Parks Committee Chairperson.

### Public Notices:

I am getting quotes for the creation of yard signs which can be placed throughout the community announcing the next day and time of board meetings.   
Is the Trenton Rd. Firehouse illuminate sign available for this purpose as well?

### Open Meetings Law:

In July 2024 I asked Clerk Day if she records the meetings for transcription to the minutes and publication. She said this is intended but we are waiting on audio equipment. Last month I recorded the meeting and supplied her with a copy for her use. She commented that she forwarded it to the Supervisor and that there was push-back.

I have received many requests for these meetings to be recorded, both audio and video, and published online, either on the town website or social media.

I would like to point out that the NYS Open Meetings Law allows for the recording and publication of any official government meeting.



## **Town Clerk's Report**

### **February Town Board meeting**

**It has been a very busy month, between normal Clerk Duties and collecting of Town and County property Taxes.**

**Contracts for the Town Park Pavilion Rentals will be going out at the end of the month. Most weekends have been booked fully beginning in June through August.**

**A few Residents have taken advantage of the XC ski and Snowshoe equipment.**

**The Town trails have been groomed regularly and the trails have seen heavy use. People love our trails, commenting that they are better cared for than some other Towns.**

**Newsletter Articles are due no later than March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Enclosed in February's vouchers is a submission for payment for officials or committee members who have planned to attend the Tug Hill Conference in April. Anyone who still plans to attend will have to self-register and pay for that registration and wait for reimbursement at the March meeting after submitting their voucher. The Clerk's office has been reminding since December.**

## **Youth Director Report**

**We want to welcome Gino Spina to the Program as our year-round Youth Leader. Thank you to the Town Board for their Support in his appointment.**

**The Youth Program Schedule has been put together and will be posted shortly on both our Youth Program Facebook page as well as our Website.**



Highway Superintendent  
Town Board Meeting 2/10/25

- 1) Received a call from Tracy Road Equipment, the new single axle Freightliner chassis is in Syracuse and ready to go to Henderson in Watertown for equipment installation.
- 2) Met with Oneida County and JMT engineering on Firehouse Road (Bridge NY Project) for an update. Project is still on track for a spring 2027 start.
- 3) F550 is rotted out and the roof is leaking. We use this truck for the parks in the summer months. Should we be thinking about another vehicle?
- 4) NYS salt contract, problems getting road salt going to a county meeting tomorrow.
- 5) Schuyler water project is moving forward, sent the project plans to us for comment.
- 6) Getting son reports of roads getting narrow going to be working on removing some snowbanks. Going to push back the high banks.
- 7) Working on 284 agreement costs for 2025.
- 8) Working on Transfer Station annual report, report was sent in to DEC for 2024 reporting year.
- 9) Electronic recycling report due in March, finished report and emailed to DEC for 2024 reporting year.
- 10) MS4 annual report is due in March going to be working on completing the report.
- 11) Been having a few questions on trail grooming, we have a lot of residents using the trails. Talked with the groomer operators and was told can't see out of the cab and no heat. Getting some information on a UTV with a cab and heat.



Town of Deerfield  
6329 Walker Road  
Deerfield, NY 13502  
P (315) 724-0413  
F (315) 793-3032



10603

Supervisor: Gregory Sacco  
Councilperson: David Kolek  
Councilperson: Daniel Fusco  
Councilperson: Daphne Jones  
Councilperson: Phil Sacco  
Town Clerk: Karen Day  
Highway Supt: Sam Arcuri Jr.

**February 10, 2025**

**January Code Report**

**Building Permits: 2**

**I have received a call about housing by bank of America. I am waiting to get more info so I can talk to the planning board and town board. Once I have more info I will keep Greg informed of our next step.**

**I have received a couple of calls for possible new homes in the spring. Come spring I will be working on some properties that need to be cleaned up. I have spoke with Mr. Fusco on this issue.**

**I will be going to my annual recertification in April and will let you know when I have the dates.**

**If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 680-213-0832.**

  
James Maxwell

**Building Inspector/Codes Officer**





# **Town of Deerfield Planning Board**

## **Monthly Update to the Town Board**

**Department Chairperson:** Patie Goldsmith

**Date of Report:** February 10, 2025

### **Requests for Town Board Decisions:**

None

### **Key Points/ Updates:**

The board members reviewed and edited a draft of a proposed Local Law regarding AirBandB properties in the town. We anticipate finalizing the draft in March and will hopefully submit it to the Town Board at their March meeting.

Those in attendance:

None



## Parks Committee Report by Deb Burke

1. MVCC's trades program performs building projects for municipalities. Students are directed and supervised by the program's professor with no labor fees to the Town. The Town is only responsible for providing approved drawings and materials. Deb spoke to and met with the MVCC professor at the ball field near Wilderness Park regarding building dugouts. A softball coach/parent with construction background attended the meeting at the park too. The Professor stated they would be interested in the project and has an old set of drawings for a dugout they built previously. Deb then spoke to the Town engineer who stated he does not do project design nor create drawings. Deb requested permission from the Board to obtain a quote from an engineer to design the dugouts. The quote will be provided to Supervisor Greg Sacco for approval, prior to any work being done.
2. Deb and Stephanie Monescalchi have been researching grants for the revitalization of Brazie and Youlan Parks. Representative Buttenschon's office asked for a proposal of the projects. Deb and Stephanie have written a proposal that is being reviewed by a grant writer. Once the proposal is finalized Deb will share the proposal with Greg Sacco for review and approval.
3. Trail grooming has been done more regularly with all the snow this year. Several days the extreme cold made grooming difficult as the side-x-side has no heat and, the plastic windshield is worn making it difficult to see. On several occasions Hal Brown and Deb had to cut and remove tree limbs and branches that block the trail.

Hal and Deb spoke to Town in previous years about the need for a new side-x-side; this has become a necessity. As mentioned, visibility through the plastic windshield is a safety concern and without heat it is near impossible to drive the side-x-side for very long on days when the temperature dips below 20. We'd like to propose using Park budget funds to purchase a new side-x-side while understanding the vehicle is for the Highway department use as well.

Ed Kirstien called the Town to offer his help with trail grooming. Ed rode a couple of times with Hal who showed Ed how the machine operated and technics for grooming. Thank you to Ed for offering his help.

4. Deb Burke proposed the Town host a Full Moon Snowshoe event for adults at Wilderness Park. The next full moon is the weekend of March 15<sup>th</sup>. The Park committee is requesting money to supply hot drinks and snacks. We would also like to have a bon fire at the event.

**Deborah Burke**

315-525-2855 *mobile*

[dburke@roadrunner.com](mailto:dburke@roadrunner.com)



*Deerfield Winterfest*

*February 8<sup>th</sup> 2025*

*February 8<sup>th</sup> 2025 was a huge success. We had the largest number of people we have ever had to join in the fun, with over 125 people.*

*The ball field hill, was groomed and full of children and adults.*

*We enjoyed an hour-long Magic Show by Magic Matt, he was greatly welcomed by the folks.*

*Many enjoyed the food and fun and games.*

*Out of the Ten snow sculptures the guests chose the first, second and third place winners.*

*1<sup>st</sup> – The Bear on the Log*

*2<sup>nd</sup> – Birthday Cake*

*3<sup>rd</sup> - Classic Snowman*

*The current Committee has faithfully hosted this Winterfest for 11 years, We are all aging out. So we are seriously looking for volunteers to work with us and eventually take over.*

*We hope that it wont just fall to the wayside, it has become something many look forward to and we are very proud of what it has become.*

*Thank you*

*Snowfest Committee*

---

