

The regular meeting of the DeRuyter Town Board was held at 7:30PM on the above date in the Genevieve D. Staley Civic Center. Present were Supervisor Degear, Clerk Wightman, Highway Superintendent Cook, Councilman Coon, Councilman Jones, Councilman Barnes, and Code Enforcement Officer Roger Cook. Also present were Joe Yankowski, Steve King, Austin Wood, Gordon Curtis, Warren Babcock, Carol Babcock. Councilman Coon was called out to an emergency part way through the meeting and Councilman Hathaway was absent.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

- The written monthly report was presented.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- Normal seasonal activities.
- Looking at used equipment for liquid application.
- No major breakdowns.
- Working on estimates for summer road work for 284 Agreement.
- Advocacy Day is March 4th.
- Rental fees for mowers have been investigated.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- The monthly highway statement was presented.
- The monthly Supervisor's statement and Supervisor's Report were presented.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- DEC permits for Eileen Hills property and Almon Pickerd property were reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Code Enforcement Officer Cook reviewed the Standardized Solar Permit process. The state is offering a \$2,500 incentive for going forward with this process. Supervisor Degear suggested that the \$2,500 be used for the Madison County solar project. Motion by Councilmen Barnes and Jones to adopt:

#46 RESOLVED: WHEREAS, the Town of DeRuyter has recognized the importance of renewable sources of energy for the benefit of all its citizens and for various applications in the community; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, the NY-Sun Initiative, a public-private partnership fostered by the State of New York, in an effort to drive the growth of the use of affordable solar power and solar technology for State residents has been established; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) is offering financial incentives and assistance to municipalities who demonstrate a willingness to adopt a user friendly and streamlined process for the installation of solar energy equipment to particular parcels in those municipalities; and

WHEREAS, participation in the NYSERDA program requires the adoption of the New York State Unified Solar Permit Process; and

WHEREAS, the Town of DeRuyter Code Enforcement Officer has advised the Town Board that the proposed New York State Unified Solar Permit Process is consistent and compatible with the Town’s Zoning Code and other permitting practices; and

WHEREAS, The Town of DeRuyter desires to participate in the support of the use of solar energy as a renewable energy source in the Town; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of a standardized residential/small business solar permit process for the Town is a Type II action under State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR),

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of DeRuyter hereby adopts the New York State Unified Solar Permit Process from NY-Sun Solar Powering New York, as more fully set forth Schedule “A” (on file in the Town Clerk’s Office); and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town of DeRuyter establishes a non-refundable permit fee for such permits in the amount of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per permit.

The roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Degear	Aye
Councilman Jones	Aye
Councilman Hathaway	Absent
Councilman Barnes	Aye
Councilman Coon	aye

The Clerk declared the foregoing duly carried.

- Code Enforcement Officer Cook explained that a Comprehensive Plan is basically a blueprint for Zoning regulations. Many grants and other funding sources require that a Town have a Comprehensive Plan in place to be considered for funding. CEO Cook suggested that a local committee could be formed to work with the Madison County Planning Department. The process could take up to a year to implement. It is the consensus of this Board to move forward.
- CEO Cook presented an update on the Compressor Station. Dominion requested a citizens’ committee be formed to address local preferences if/when the station is approved. Madison County is gearing up for health studies if FERC approves the construction of the compressor station.
- Phone system update – waiting on Madison County.
- Equipment replacement. Village of DeRuyter 2014 truck log totals presented. Will wait for full board presence to address equipment replacement further.
- FEMA update – “training” session in Utica.
- Website – Supervisor Degear has been updating the Town’s website and sees no need to further explore changing to a new company.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Joe Yankowski and Steve King presented a plan by Ruritan to hold a Farmer’s Market on the Civic Center grounds. Concerns were voiced regarding the repair of the grounds if they are damaged and possible parking issues. The market would be held for possibly 4 hours every Saturday during the season. Ruritan members would oversee the event.

- Proposed Income Tax Credit – Supervisor Degear explained that municipalities must meet tax cap requirements for residents to qualify. He presented charts and examples of what the proposed credit would mean to Town of DeRuyter residents.
- Electric Supply contract – a review of Town of DeRuyter buildings electricity usage was reviewed. Motion by Councilmen Barnes and Jones to enter into a contract with Blue Rock Energy to provide (supply) electricity to Town of DeRuyter buildings for a term of one year. All in favor and carried.
- Supervisor Degear prepared and presented an Emergency After- Action report regarding a recent local hostage situation. A local emergency preparedness meeting was held on February 12, 2015.
- Health Insurance – options for a Town employee who will soon be Medicare eligible.
- Completion of Town Justice Court audit.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Joe Yankowski likes the implementation of a Comprehensive Plan. Opposes hydro-fracking and compressor station. Has concerns regarding the Town’s road use plan.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Councilmen Barnes and Jones to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular Town of DeRuyter employee. All in favor and carried.

Motion by Councilmen Barnes and Jones to return to the regular meeting. All in favor and carried.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

Motion by Councilmen Jones and Barnes to pay the following claims as audited:

Abstract #1001	\$153,385.71
Abstract #1002	\$37,093.26

All in favor and carried.

Motion by Councilmen Barnes and Jones to accept the Supervisor’s statement. All in favor and carried.

Motion by Councilmen Jones and Barnes to adjourn. All in favor and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Wightman, Town Clerk