

1 **REGULAR MEETING, TOWN OF DANUBE, February 14, 2007**
2 **POSTPONED TO FEBRUARY 16th DUE TO THE SNOWSTORM**
3

4 **A postponed regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Danube, County of**
5 **Herkimer and the State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 438 Creek Road,**
6 **Little Falls, NY on the 16th day of February 2007.**
7

8 **PRESENT:** Charles Welden ---- Supervisor
9 Allan G. Edmunds ---- Councilman
10 Patricia Jodway ---- Councilwoman
11 Lee Ann Stock ---- Councilwoman
12

13 **ABSENT:** Mary Herringshaw ---- Clerk
14 James Lasher ---- Councilman
15 Leonard Pross ---- Superintendent of Highways
16

17 Supervisor Welden called the meeting to order at 6:53 P.M. with the Pledge of
18 Allegiance.
19

20 **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/PUBLIC CONCERNS**
21

22 No member of the Public was in attendance
23

24 **RESOLUTION # 27**

25 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

26 **On a motion made by Councilwoman Jodway, seconded by Councilman Edmunds,**
27 **the following resolution was**

28 **ADOPTED Ayes 5 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway**
29 **Nays 0**
30

31 **Resolved that the agenda for the meeting be approved with the understanding that**
32 **various items will be tabled until the March 14th Regular Meeting and so noted.**
33

34
35 **RESOLUTION # 28**

36 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

37 **On a motion made by Councilwoman Stock, seconded by Councilman Edmunds, the**
38 **following resolution was**

39 **ADOPTED Ayes 5 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway**
40 **Nays 0**
41

42 **Resolved that the approval of the minutes from January 16, 2007 be tabled until the**
43 **March 14th Regular Meeting.**
44

45 **REPORT OF TOWN OFFICIALS**
46

47 **ASSESSOR REPORT**

48 Supervisor Welden said that Assessor Denise Reska had informed him that she and
49 the revaluation group would be conducting a field review on February 20th if the
50 weather permits. The notice was given so that if board members are contacted by

51 residents regarding some kind of activity, they can explain it. The following three
52 resolutions were adopted:

53
54 **RESOLUTION # 29**

55 **APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW MEMBER**

56 **On a motion made by Councilman Edmunds, seconded by Supervisor Welden**

57 **ADOPTED Ayes 4 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway**

58 **Nays 0**

59 **Resolved that Lois R. Miklich be appointed to the vacancy on the Board of**
60 **Assessment Review to complete the unexpired term of Kevin Lasher who has moved**
61 **outside the Town.**

62
63 **RESOLUTION # 30**

64 **CHANGING THE DATE OF BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW**

65
66 **On a motion made by Councilwoman Jodway, seconded by Councilman Edmunds,**
67 **the following resolution was**

68 **ADOPTED Ayes 4 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway**

69 **Nays 0**

70
71 **Resolved that the hearing for Local Law #1 of 2007 that changes the date of the**
72 **meeting of the Board of Assessment Review to May 29th be set for March 14th at**
73 **7 P.M.**

74
75 **RESOLUTION # 31**

76 **ADOPTION OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE ASSESSMENT SERVICES**
77 **CONTRACT WITH HERKIMER COUNTY**

78
79 **On a motion made by Councilwoman Jodway, seconded by Councilman Edmunds,**
80 **the following resolution was**

81 **ADOPTED Ayes 4 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway**

82 **Nays 0**

83
84 **Resolved that the continuation of the contract with Herkimer County be approved.**
85 **The contract extension represents no changes in cost or services.**

86
87 **CODES REPORT**

88
89 **RESOLUTION # 32**

90 **APPOINTMENT OF CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

91 **On a motion made by Councilwoman Jodway, seconded by Councilwoman Stock**
92 **the following resolution was**

93 **ADOPTED Ayes 4 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway**

94
95 **Resolved that Gregory J. Lynch be appointed, retroactive to February 1st, as codes**
96 **enforcer for the remainder of the year 2007.**

97
98 **Supervisor Welden reported that former codes enforcer Pat Kelly had met with**
99 **Lynch to show him the system he used in 2006.**

101 **TOWN JUSTICE**

102 Justice Broderick turned in a check to the Town for \$12,820 for January, 2007. She
103 accompanied it with a detailed listing of the court's income transactions for
104 January. Supervisor Welden mentioned that he had received all the rest of the
105 invoices of 2006, from the OSC and the court now was current with respect to the
106 State and the Town. The notice for the second justice position has run in the paper
107 and the deadline for submitting applications is 5 PM on Wednesday, February 28th.
108 A meeting of the Town Board will be held shortly after that to conduct interviews
109 with the applicants. If possible an appointment will be made at the March 14th
110 Regular Meeting.

111
112 Supervisor Welden also referred the Board to the information regarding justice
113 court reform in New York State. He said that the Justice Court Action Plan
114 information from the Unified Court System indicates that there is help available for
115 both planning improvements to the local court facility and financing from the State
116 to cover the cost of the improvements. After looking over the publication from the
117 UCS the following resolution was adopted:

118
119 **RESOLUTION # 33**

120 **INVITE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE JUSTICE COURT ACTION PLAN TO**
121 **MEET WITH THE TOWN BOARD AND COURT**

122 On a motion made by Councilwoman Stock, seconded by Councilwoman Jodway,
123 the following resolution was

124 **ADOPTED Ayes 4 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway**
125 **Nays 0**
126

127 Resolved that the Town request an onsite meeting with the representatives of the
128 JCAP to assess the court facilities in the Town of Danube.

129
130 **DOG CONTROL OFFICER**

131 The DCO submitted her report that showed no activity for the month of January.
132 Supervisor Welden noted that the DCO had submitted the bill for the dog damage
133 to her personal belongings and it was included on the February abstract. The point
134 had come up as a matter of discussion at the January meeting.

135
136 **TOWN CLERK**

137 Supervisor Welden accepted the monthly report submitted from Clerk Herringshaw
138 for the month of January 2007.

139
140 **CEMETERY BOARD**

141 Rick Mosher left a report for the board to read. The date for the yearly cemetery
142 board meeting will be March 27th at 7:00 PM at 438 Creek Road. The meeting is
143 open to anyone interested in the cemeteries and the public in general. Supervisor
144 Welden noted that he has still not received the two cemetery donations that Mosher
145 has. Welden also noted that although the cemetery board continues to ask about a
146 special higher interest account for the cemetery funds, the underlying rule for
147 investing money is that it cannot be put in something where there is any possibility
148 of losing part of the principal. This limits the options for investment.

149
150 **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

RESOLUTION # 34

SUPERVISOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

On a motion made by Councilman Edmunds, seconded by Councilwoman Stock, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway
Nays 0

Resolved to approve the January 2007 monthly report from Supervisor Welden.

The board then discussed the advertised Wind Energy Conference at HCCC on February 24 from 1 PM to 4 PM. It was decided that all the board members would attend.

OLD BUSINESS

17a. Welden said that Councilman Lasher told him recently that he still hadn't heard any more from Surveyor Duane Sprague regarding his preliminary work on the Lovers' Leap and Lane Roads surveying project. Sprague will submit a cost estimate to the board before he begins detailed work.

17b. Welden said the Wind Turbine Law will need to be developed soon due to an expressed interest in the Fiery Hill section of the Town. Community Energy, the same company that is working on a project in the Towns of Stark and Warren, has expressed an interest to at least one of the property owners in that area of the Town. The law will need to be in place before anything else is done. It is hoped that the HCCC conference will be of some aid in developing the law. He also suggested that the Town Board arrange a meeting with the Town Board, the Town Planning Board, and the representative from Community Energy

17e. Highway turn-around agreements still were not complete. Welden said that the map that Superintendent Pross submitted, was not in enough detail.

17j. There was discussion regarding a higher speed internet connection and an additional computer for the Town. It was decided to move forward with this project. Concurrently there will be an internet/email policy developed that will govern the internet usage by the ALL the computers in the Town. It is understood that all aspects of the Town Government will have access to the higher speed internet connection. The policy will be in place before the system is operational. As a result of the discussion the following resolutions were adopted:

RESOLUTION # 35

PURCHASE ANOTHER COMPUTER

On a motion made by Councilwoman Stock, seconded by Councilman Edmunds, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway
Nays 0

Resolved that the Town purchase a computer similar to the one purchased last year for the indexing grant, but with a RAM of at least 1024 megabytes, and a flat panel monitor at a price not to exceed \$800.

RESOLUTION # 36

ACQUIRE A SATELLITE INTERNET CONNECTION

On a motion made by Councilwoman Stock, seconded by Councilman Edmunds, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway
Nays 0

Resolved that the Town approach both Otsego Electric Cooperative and Ladd Electronics to get prices from each for the WildBlue satellite internet service. Both of those companies handle the product and both have good service records with either the Town directly or with Board members and other residents of the Town. The one that can give the better price and closest installation date will be the one to be chosen for the service. The price is expected to be very close to \$300 for the equipment and its installation. The monthly charge will be very close to \$50.

RESOLUTION # 37

TOWN OF DANUBE INTERNET CONNECTION USE POLICY

On a motion made by Councilwoman Jodway, seconded by Councilman Edmunds, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway
Nays 0

Resolved that the Town requires that the new internet connection will be for use by all parts of the Town Government. Since it will have a router setup it will be possible for multiple parties to access the internet at the same time. All usage will conform to the rules set forth in the Internet/Email policy developed by the Town.

17k. An Electrical Inspection of Wiring in the Town Garage and Meeting Room has been done and electrician Joe Polnak will begin to remedy the problems in the near future. A detailed report will follow as to the changes that were made to correct the problem.

17l. Welden stated that Councilwoman Jodway had given him a sample copy of the employee discipline form used in the City of Little Falls. He provided a copy for each of the Board members. After some discussion the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION # 38

TOWN OF DANUBE EMPLOYEE EVALUATION AND DISCIPLINE FORMS

On a motion made by Councilwoman Jodway, seconded by Councilman Edmunds, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway
Nays 0

Resolved that the Supervisor order the minimum number of the employee evaluation form and the employee discipline form from Amsterdam Printing for use by the Town Superintendent of Highways with Highway Employees, and the Town Supervisor for use with General Fund Employees.

Also discussed was the item of safety shoes that Highway Superintendent Pross has had on his list of items for consideration. There was concern expressed that the

employees would not wear the shoes even if the Town purchased them. There followed a discussion of the necessity of a safety policy for the Town of Danube employees and government members.

17m. Supervisor Welden stated that he would contact the Chiefs of the two fire companies with which the Town contracts for fire protection and schedule a meeting with them and the Town Board to discuss the placement of dry hydrants. The idea was enthusiastically endorsed by St. Johnsville Chief Jamie at an earlier meeting with Welden. The Supervisor had not contacted Little Falls Chief Rob Parese yet at the time of the February Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

20. Warrants

RESOLUTION # 39

PAY ABSTRACTS FOR MONTH

On a motion made by Councilman Edmunds, seconded by Councilwoman Jodway, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes 4	Welden, Edmunds, Stock, Jodway
	Nays 0	

Be it hereby resolved that the town board members audit both the general and highway warrants and abstracts for the month and approve for payment voucher #'s 0201 through 0211 for general warrants totaling \$10,491.58 and voucher #'s 0201 through 0215 for highway warrants totaling \$4,109.73

Finally there was a heartfelt discussion of the outstanding job the entire Highway Department had done during the snowstorm. Their efforts and dedication are truly worthy of recognition and gratitude on the part of the Town of Danube Town Board and the residents of the Town. On this matter there was only positive discussion.

On a motion made by Councilman Edmunds, seconded by Councilwoman Jodway Councilman Edmunds, the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 P.M. Carried unanimously.

Mary Lou Herringshaw, Town Clerk
Based on notes written by
Supervisor Charles M. Welden