

Town of Deerfield Town Board Meeting Minutes July 14th 2025

The Deerfield Town Board held its regular monthly meeting on July 14th 2025. Present were Councilpersons Phil Sacco, Daphne Jones, Dave Kolek, Daniel Fusco, Supervisor Sacco, Town Clerk Karen Day, Attorney for the Town William Schmitt & Highway Superintendant Sam Arcuri Jr. Supervisor Gregory Sacco called the meeting to order at 6:30PM with the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Town Clerk took roll call.

Attendance: 19 people signed in.

MINUTES : Councilperson Jones moved and Councilperson Kolek seconded the motion to accept the May regular town Board meeting minutes.

EARLY PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – none

CORRESPONDENCE:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTIONS:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Res – 36 – 2025 | 2025 Permits Fee Schedule - approved (5) |
| Res – 37 – 2025 | Replacement of Damaged Condensing Unit – approved (5) |
| Res – 38 – 2025 | Dog Enumeration – changed dates – approved (5) |
| Res – 39 - 2025 | Whitesboro Cross Country use of Trail System - approved (5) |
| Res – 40 – 2025 | Municipal Insurance Renewal - approved (5) |
| Res – 41 - 2025 | Municipal Building Cleaner Mr. Edward St. Louis – approved (5) |
| Res – 42 – 2025 | Sale of 2022 Ford F350 XL – approved – (5) |
| Res – 43 – 2025 | Settling Claim of Edward Cox – approved – (5) |

EXECUTIVE SESSION – none

OFFICIAL REPORTS

County Legislator Buck: No in attendance

Supervisor Gregory Sacco -

Councilperson - Philip Sacco

1 -Working with Building and Codes officer Jim Maxwell on updating out Building Fees, I obtained Fee schedules from the Town of Trenton and The Town of Marcy to make sure we are in line with Fees.

2 -Hedgewood Stormwater Project - we are still waiting for a quote to complete the cost to apply for the stormwater Grant from Oneida County Flood Mitigation Fund. The Town will have bonding if the grant for the County doesn't work out.

3 - Working on Two codes issues with Codes officer Jim Maxwell on Cosby manor Road and One on Bell Hill and we are making progress on Both.

4 - Working with NYSERDA and MVEDD on out \$50,000 roof top Solar at the Highway Garage. Solar Liberty will be doing the installation. The Town will front \$12,500 to start the job and \$37,500 upon completion. NYSERDA will re-imburse the Town for a total of \$50,000 within 14 days. We will also be receiving a spare inverter as part of the project. Savings are estimated at \$4,000.00 per year in energy costs.

5 -Getting quotes for the damaged Central Air unit in the back of the Municipal Building caused by falling Ice this spring. Unit was covered by heavy duty TEE -PEE design which was also broken. Will probably have to file on Insurance claim depending on Replacement cost.

Councilperson Daphne Jones has report attached

Councilperson Kolek –

Councilperson Sacco and I met with Tony Caruso Jr. from Deerfield Electric, at the town park. We discussed what we needed for Camera coverage and he put together an estimate with specs sheet, which we will use as a baseline for 2 other estimates

Councilperson Daniel Fusco – Provided written report -attached

- Two of the previously identified “junk” properties on Upper Walker Road (Rte 8) have begun clean-up of outdoor clutter and are looking good
- Property complaint on Trenton Rd. regarding a previous nuisance property which since sold and is now considering an addition to have additional rental units. Neighbors are concerned of codes violations. Mr. Maxwell has been informed
- I have received complaints pertaining to Town Board Meeting not getting posted in the newsletter • I’ve been on the Town Board for seven months now and remain dissatisfied with how the board does not function as a whole, or is fully engaged in discussion before decisions are made..I have seen hiring, spending and other important decisions made without proper vetting by the board. Resolutions are presented and passed without proper input from the entire board. I reiterate the need for more thorough board review of important matters
- The joint planning board and town board meeting on June 18, 2025 I found to be very disappointing. My reason for saying this was the lack of mutual discussion amongst the board members. Rather the focus was on reviewing the “play book” presented by the developers, rather than the board members presenting their own unique investigation into this project. The developers are controlling the process. Further, it was clear to me that the boards appear to be representing the interest of the developers more than the residents **Town Clerk’s Report** My office is planning on doing Dog enumeration in the Town of Deerfield, as it has not been done since prior to 2012. We have homeowners living in the Town who have not licensed their Dogs. Licensing your dog is a state law in NYS. Having a dog license provides proof that your dog has its rabies vaccinations, and if your dog, is running free, and found by Animal Control, it makes it so much easier to return your dog, without incurring large fees and penalties. I have been working with PJ Green Printing to produce an affordable way to print and mail, a mailer to all residents in the Town.
- The recent child assault incident at our town park needs to be taken very seriously. At the June meeting I made comment on the hiring of staff working at the town park. I expressed that the board should have an opportunity to have input into hiring. When I brought this up I was met with opposition and told, “this is how we have always done it and we are not changing”. The next day a young child was assaulted on town property. I am not implying that any individual recently hired had anything to do with the incident but we must look very closely at all personnel working with youth in our town. There is training which every

volunteer and coach should have. Additionally, parents who attend should be engaged and made aware of potential dangers. Deerfield needs to set our own standards for safety, in addition to what is currently available

Highway Superintendant Sam Arcuri Jr

- 1) The bridge in Wilderness Park is completed. We will touch up the groundwork when the area dries up.
- 2) Millings we had stored at broad acres are screened and piled.
- 3) F550 is rotted out and the roof is leaking. We use this truck for the parks in the summer months. I am going to investigate replacing the cab, we installed a new engine a few years ago.
- 4) The town submitted tonnage for NYS salt contract for 2025- 2026. Going forward Oneida County Highway Superintendents Association and the cities met with Oneida County DPW on a plan for the 2026 season. NYS is looking for salt tonnage from the towns by May 1st. Rumor in the industry is the major players are not interested in bidding state contracts for 2026. Oneida county may try and bid their own contract for winter salt. Cost will be up
- 5) 2025 Kubota RTV for the park was received today 6/9/25
- 6) Looking into possibly buying a snow blower for the skid-steer. Received cost estimates on a Kubota snow blower for the skid steer, approximately 10,000
- 7) Working on 284 agreement costs for 2025. Meeting with paving companies on estimates for paving projects.
- 8) Went to highway school in Ithaca on 6/2-6/4.
- 9) Turned all the water on in Wilderness Park, repaired two toilets in the lady's room and one toilet in men's room.
- 10) Working on Smith hill (Seasonal section) ditching and going to regrade.
- 11)The Section of Crooked Brook Road is falling apart after the first rain. Going to be getting prices to repair the road.
- 12) Graded gravel roads.
- 13) Trying to get quotes together for Hedgewood place drainage and paving work.
- 14) Signed up to attend Highway School in Ithica on June 2-4th.

15)Went to a sewer meeting at wastewater Treatment plant on 4/30/2025 with Phil Sacco. Meeting was on updates to Town of Deerfield sanitary sewer manhole inspections. Looking to get quotes for the major repairs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Building Inspector: Jim Maxwell provided a report. Attached.
47 building permits written.

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

Assessors Office – Assessor’s Assistant Matt Pawlusik –

- Turned in Final Tax Roll for 2025 in June
- Reported sales, level of assessment form, and assessment balance reports
- Database is currently frozen; I have been working on the back-log office cleaning/filing and permit organization.

Planning Board – Pati Goldsmith – report attached

Zoning Board of Appeals Lura Raymo, Nothing to report at this time.

Town Historian- Jon Facci Absent

Senior Citizen Director Lura Raymo- Seniors are meeting regularly and we are preparing for our 4th of July picnic party celebration.

Parks Committee – Deborah Burke - reported that the Brazie park is in critical shape, via Nexis Representative. Pea Stone no longer meets codes, and is a liability to the town. She mentioned that there needs to be better communication between the Board and herself and the Highway Superintendent.

MVWA Representative – Deborah Burke –

Karen Day Youth Director – Summer program has begun and we have a full schedule of trips and activities for the next number of weeks.

Town Attorney: William Schmitt: nothing to report

MEDIA TIME - NONE

LATE PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Many spoke - during this period, many in random order with their own issues or town issues.

Not all gave their names and addresses when adding to on going conversations.

Pathstone Subject

Larry Giglio – is interested in the Pathstone project, concerned about possible Section 8, “ STOP IT – Condemn it”

Ryan Orourke – Clearpath’s communication and old projects should be investigated.

Mary Brumbaugh – When future meetings are scheduled - a playbook should be made prior to meeting.

Roman Voytovich – Can the Town Board decide who rents apartments at the Pathstone housing?

Tammy Boehlert – asks if the Deerfield Supervisor will be attending the North Utica Meeting p Supervisor responds he spoke to Utica Councilperson Boden, and said the Developer will be there and he also spoke to Maryann Buttonschon.

Dan Fusco inquired about using a Executive meeting to discuss Pathstone, Attorney Schmitt stated that is not allowed.

Then perhaps a public meeting can be held with Us in Charge.

Ken Roser, days that a data base can be made that can be created for all.

Cameras to cover the Wilderness Park

John Booth – spoke to cameras and increase of Law enforcement Also mentioned that he is pleased to see that specific properties are being cleaned up in his neighborhood. (RTE 8 areas)

Deborah Burke – What about Cell Towers?

Mr. Giglio – Star Link?

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

Sewer Fund #6 bill moved by Councilperson Kolek and seconded by Jones

Highway Fund bills number 121 - 137 moved by Councilperson Jones and Councilperson Kolek seconded, voted yes, and the motion was approved.


General Fund bill number 213 -245 moved by Councilperson Jones and Councilperson Kolek voted yes, and the motion was approved.

Capital Fund #2 moved by councilperson Jones and councilperson Kolek seconded by Jones – approved.

ADJOURN : Councilperson Jones made the motion and Councilperson Kolek

Motion approved

Respectfully submitted,



Karen M. Day
Town Clerk
Town of Deerfield

Councilperson Daphne Jones
July 2025 Report

Addressed major concerns with the website:

- Karen contacted PJ Green for digital copies of the newsletters to update the newsletter section of website
- PJ Green sent Karen a dropbox of appropriate files needed to get site up to date
- Karen forwarded me the drop box and I added each to the site

Recordings for the website

- Using town iPad that has been recording the meetings since April for ease of file use, recordings from April to present have been added to the site
- THERE IS NO NAVIGATION YET (meaning you cannot access this portion of the site by navigating the tabs at the top of the site, you have to access it by link
- Link for recordings:
<https://www.townofdeerfield.org/government/recordings/>
- OR click on the link on the homepage of the website (reminder .org not .gov)
- Transcriptions are next, working on currently/in progress

Storm of June 22nd

- Helped multiple different residents in the Northern portion of town report storm and property damage to the National Weather Service, as well as for myself and my family and directed to the county for storm assistance
- Thank you to Donna Kolwaite for assisting me with residents who had been affected and needed to report
- Was contacted by NOAA Federal meteorologist Mark Pellerito and had him explain the process so residents can understand what happens with reports and how/why they are helpful. Email and information is attached.
- Future reference: Email storm or property damage to bgm.stormreport@noaa.gov after ANY storm related issue (flooding, fallen trees, property damage, etc.)

A HUGE shout out to the Highway Department, Superintendent Sam and his crew for providing necessary aid to residents after the storm, like myself and my family, and helping to keep Harris Road, my road and Councilperson Fusco's road, SAFE during the clean up process. And a personal thank you from me and my family for helping us when it was clear that we had been hugely and negatively impacted from the storm. I'd also like to thank Poland Fire Dept and Chief Galluzzo for checking on my family the morning after to make sure that we were all okay, including our very young daughters, and to help us through the next steps in the process, as well as personally reporting to National Grid that a family with young children were essentially trapped in their home with no power and no way to leave after a tree had fallen onto our home and vehicle. So, THANK YOU. & to Sam and the Amish Community for checking on us as well.

Good afternoon Daphne,

Thanks so much for your report and photos. With Oneida County's weather events the last few years - from multiple tornadoes including the very damaging Rome Tornado, to the structure collapses from heavy snow this past winter - I know it's been quite a ride.

The line of severe thunderstorms that dropped across the county contained widespread damaging 50-70 mph winds, with corridors even beyond that such as NWS Buffalo's storm survey just across the county line in Lewis County where they found 80-90 mph winds. Embedded in all of that, we confirmed the 2 tornado paths which were associated with strong rotation on radar.

To answer your questions about reports:

- In real-time (such as hearing of downed trees/powerlines from trained spotters, pictures of damage sent to bgm.stormreport@noaa.gov or to our social media, or heard on county dispatch feeds), reports help us put out better warnings. That is, we can update a warning with statements such as "this storm has a history of wind damage" and also put a new warning ahead of time where the storm is headed, with more confidence.
- After-the-fact: Reports help us assess if our warnings were warranted/went out with lead time, or if we missed damaging winds that should've been warned so we can evaluate our performance/what the radar looked like/if there was something we missed.
- Also: Storm impacts eventually get published into the NOAA Storm Events Database, as part of the climatological record. For example, here are all known 371 Oneida County damaging thunderstorm wind events that we have on record for 2000 up through May of this year.

We will add your report to our documentation for this event. Severe thunderstorms of this magnitude can and do cause tornado-like damage. The key is if the damage converges to a common path as occurs with a tornado (as well as lofting of debris and some of it sticking into the ground), or if instead the damage is laying in mostly the same direction or even diverging, such as this June 22nd example from drone footage in Lewis County that was provided to NWS Buffalo.



People are often surprised when we tell them that severe thunderstorm winds can actually be even more damaging than a tornado, because instead of a narrow short path you can get a large area with swaths of damage and a lot of uprooted or snapped trees/blowdown. In this case in Oneida County, you had both the damaging severe winds with more widespread damage throughout much of the county including Deerfield, and the couple of embedded tornadoes associated with very strong rotation on the radar.

We are often asked what determines if we do a detailed storm survey. We cannot possibly survey every case of downed trees and damage. When there is so much damage from an entire line of storms, for example, we could honestly spend weeks doing that if we had endless resources. However, here are times we do consider doing storm surveys:

- At request of County or State Emergency Management. We have 24 counties of responsibility, and thus when things are routed directly through Oneida County Emergency Services, we are better able to determine the need for a formal survey.
- Significant impact including fatalities/injuries

- Strong reason to suspect tornado, such as a tornadic debris signature (TDS) on radar - itself a confirmation, but still need to assess details - or numerous instances of credible tornadic photo/video evidence with known damage

Thanks much and take care,

-Mark Pellerito/NWS Binghamton Warning Coordination Meteorologist

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Mark Pellerito - Warning Coordination Meteorologist

National Weather Service - Binghamton, NY Forecast Office

32 Dawes Drive, Johnson City, NY 13790 <http://www.weather.gov/bgm>

Work Number 607-770-9531 x223 / Personal Cell 304-767-0881



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

July 14, 2025

June Code Report

Building Permits: 47

The letters that I sent out for cleaning up the property some are working on cleaning up the property. A couple of the letters I sent to people that no longer own the property I am working on finding out who owns them now. The property that Mr. Kolek sent me info on has said he would clean up the property this week

10603 Cosby Manor Rd. has been auctioned off. I will find out who bought the property and get them to clean it up. The Bell Hill property Phil Sacco helped me find out who owns that property and we are working on getting a letter sent to them. They live in California.

I am working on a lot of building permit inspections now plus other issues that I am receiving. There has been a lot of issues I have already taken care of.

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: July 14, 2025

Requests for Town Board Decisions:

None

Key Points/ Updates:

June 18, 2025:

A joint workshop meeting with the Town Board was held regarding the PathStone Apartments site plan review. Members discuss comments submitted by Al Swierczek, PE, who represents Deerfield in the site plan review process. Recommendations from the Deerfield Fire Department were addressed. A draft copy of the access road easement agreement was reviewed. Updated plans for the storm water detention area and the associated maintenance agreement were discussed. Other topics that were mentioned included the traffic study submitted by GTS Consulting, which is for the entire proposed ARCN Development project and a separate traffic study that has been done for the PathStone Apartments, impacts on the Whitesboro School District, residency requirements and possible development of additional recreational areas for the apartment residents.

Those in attendance: Becky Maier, Jerome Bochlert, Mary Brumbaugh, Jason Sackett, Joshua Fraass, Fran Barres, Michele Ward and John L.?

July 9, 2025:

Al Swierczek reviewed his third set of recommendations for the site plans for the PathStone Apartments. There are minor adjustments that need to be done before the Planning Board can formally become the lead agency in the