



Town of Deerfield Town Board Meeting Minutes August 11th 2025

The Deerfield Town Board held its regular monthly meeting on August 11th 2025. Present were Councilpersons Phil Sacco, Daphne Jones, Dave Kolek, Daniel Fusco, Town Clerk Karen Day, Attorney for the Town William Schmitt & Highway Superintendant Sam Arcuri Jr. Supervisor Gregory Sacco was excused. Deputy supervisor Philip Sacco called the meeting to order at 6:30PM with the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Town Clerk took roll call.

Attendance: 22 people signed in.

MINUTES : Councilperson Jones moved and Councilperson Kolek seconded the motion to accept the July 2025 regular town Board meeting minutes.

EARLY PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – none

CORRESPONDENCE:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTIONS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION – none

OFFICIAL REPORTS

County Legislator Buck: Verbal Report

The County has been out making repairs and striping roads, if you noticed anything we missed please let us know. So we can get back out to take care of it before winter.

The County has place the traffic monitors on Cosby Manor Rd, however Mary Brumbaugh has asked up to put them in her driveway, to get those heading East. These monitors record speeds, times, and days of the week, so a traffic study can be done. This could help with Road patrols during the most effective times.

2 resident complaints one on mowing, of which the Highway Department is taking care of, and the other is the Speed of Cosby Manor Rd. The resident wants to have the speed lowered on Cosby Manor Rd. It was explained that that must start at the Town's level.

Supervisor Gregory Sacco - absent

Councilperson - Philip Sacco

We may have to amend the Highway budget next month for a little bit more money for the road improvements. So, we may have a resolution pertaining to that, next month.

Councilperson Daphne Jones Nothing to report

Councilperson Kolek –

Follow up on the estimate of a camera system for the park. We submitted 2 more baseline estimates by two different vendors. One rejected because they have to be competitive and the other is still working on. So we must find another vendor to submit too.

The other issue was from a resident asking about the ditches on Roberts road not be mowed on the first cut – I contacted the Highway Superintendent about this - Sam Can you speak to this?

“Yes, in the past we had 2 tractors out at the same time, however we still have the two tractors, but now we only have one employee to do the job. The other employee retired. We have not filled that spot, we are mowing just a little slower than usual.

Councilperson Daniel Fusco –

As reported in July 2025 regarding the proposed Horatio Street Subsidized Housing Project I would find it much more advantageous if the developers laid out their entire project plan involving all acreage controlled by ARCN Land Development, LLC and Horatio Arterial, LLC, including land area proposed for development by Path Stone Corp. I find it critical that the Town is presented within an over-all comprehensive project proposal, including timelines and

sources of guaranteed funding. Currently the Federal HUD program is potentially facing a 27 billion Dollar reduction in federal programs that provide rental assistance and project development funding. This is a 43% cut in these programs creating uncertainty and stalling affordable subsidized housing project throughout the USA. To date, the landowners, through the aforementioned LLCs, are meeting requirements to qualify for the 12.1 million dollars state grant. I feel it is in the interest of our Town to ensure that this money is used for agreed upon planned development and not just an exchange of private money into private hands via land acquisition. My handout in July drafts the logistics of this. Nuisance complaint on Crooked Brook Rd. Near the conjunction with Trenton Rd. pertaining to two eighteen-wheel track trainers parked on edge of road in public access zone. It appears these trailers are being used for storage and have been there for an extended period. Complaints include, visibility safety issues driving south onto Trenton, Rd., road maintenance obstruction, and unsightliness, as expressed to me. The highway department may have more insight into the issue as well. Wilderness Park trail system. I walked the trails with a concerned resident who uses and enjoys the trail system regularly. A recent fall and injury prompted this resident to bring to my attention existing hazards along the entire trail. Our Parks Committee Chairperson has been involved in the discussion and is expected to give a report. Boarded up house on Marnie Rd. Residents' concerns addresses. I am happy to see mention of the Dark Sky Initiative, which I presented previously in the current newsletter. This can at first appear to be a trivial issue but in no way is it. It is gaining country-wide attention and has been implemented in upscale communities for decades. I would suggest we pursue this further and perhaps involve a committee to explore the topic. Previously this year I suggested we put together a committee of folks qualified in specific areas such as: Environmental, Civic Planning, Real Estate, Civil Engineering, Agriculture, to be utilized for the redrafting of the Town's Comprehensive Master Plan. This same committee of qualified individuals can be called upon to help with this issue as well. Where do we stand with the CMP re-drafting? Boralex project termination letter on website. I've been asked many times what is up with this letter? Why no mention of the one who brought it to the board's attention (and all of your's), and fought tirelessly for three years, stuck his neck out on TV, Radio, and newspaper when town officials did not. At first I was met with indifference and

complacency before the town stepped up with a committee and drafted a law. I was responsible for the establishment of the OC County Adhoc committee, got 3 federal representatives involved, including their DC offices etc. I never sought popularity from this or recognition. My only interest is to save our town. But this letter is now embarrassing to our town. Whatever motivated it has now passed. Please move on! I'm tired of trying to explain to people when they ask what is up with this. Take it down and replace it with something more useful on the website's prime front page

Town Clerk – Karen Day –

In preparation of the July minutes this month, I read the report from Council person Fusco which was submitted after the board meeting.

I must say I was deeply upset and offended at the way his thoughts were consolidated pertaining to the Deerfield Park Program

Yes, we did have a horrible assault happen in the Town of Deerfield, taking place one evening during a Whitestown Girls softball game. And I do agree that all municipalities could enlighten the public to the safety issues.

However, to partner this statement in the same breath as the Deerfield Youth Program's - Summer Park Program is very deceiving and confusing to the public. It could be construed that this happened while the program was in progress.

I am not sure why, when something works so well, it must be questioned and put under scrutiny. I have run the Program for over 25 years. I have followed the County regulations, I bring in professionals, such as police, fire companies, and we hold clinics about bullying.

The Program exists because of the change in society over the years. With Families with need to have 2 incomes, many children would be left at home, (latch key kids) or with little or no supervision. Deerfield's Youth Program provides her residents with the opportunity to allow their children to play with friends outside, do arts and crafts, and stay physically and mentally active. Deerfield's Park Program provides counselors to supervise and assist children

in their everyday play time. Our counselors are 16 – 20, with 2 Youth adult Leaders, both current teachers, who have passed such vetting in the school districts they are employed in, as the County recommends. As far as hiring counselors is concerned, it has always been my position to choose and recommend for appointment by the board for hire. I have them complete the County application, I hold an interview, I explain, what is expected of the counselor, how to supervise, protect and interact with the children. As Director of the Program, and with 25 years of experience, I believe I am the best to judge the qualifications of the candidate.

I am open to conversations of possible improvements and new ideas; however, it does not need to be held during a board meeting to impress an audience. Just come to my office, find out the details and procedures and we can work from there. You might even find that the program is a positive example of area Youth Programs.

Dog numeration project has begun, shortly all town residents will receive a flyer, with instructions on licensing their dogs and the ramifications if they do not. Not only is this a state law requirement, but it assists in locating the owners of get- away -dogs. Saving the Town for more than \$800 dollars per dog, released to the Anita Steven Swann Humane Society.

The IT department has enlightened me that many of the current computers in the building will be unable to download and use Microsoft 11. We should begin to consider replacements for computers in need.

Superintendent Sam Arcuri Jr

- 1) August green waste is complete
- 2) 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.
- 3)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

4) We are in the process of updating the 284 agreement to spend highway money. I want to ask the town board to adjust the budget to complete the projects for 2025 construction season. We will need 116,000 from Highway fund balance to complete road projects.

5) Working with Phil on getting installation quotes for the drainage on Hedgewood Place.

6) Met with Chuck Humphreville Paving in Brazee park on Pauline Ave. for quote on paving work. Are we going to be replacing the fence around the park. There are three dead trees at the back of the park behind the fence.

7) After the last windstorm, as I was going around the town looking at damage there are lots of dead trees around the town that are going to need to be taken down.

8) Completed the ditching work on Brayton Road, moving to Coombs Road East next to get ready for chip sealing work.

9) The Section of Crooked Brook Road is falling apart after the first rain. Going to be getting prices to repair the road.

10) Plan is to move to Pauline Ave. to get drainage work done and get ready for paving the Street the last week of July.

11) Waiting for estimates to come back on park projects, Paving and Replacing the fence on Pauline Avenue park

12) We will also be working on driveway culvert replacements residents have permits for.

13) 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 Report attached.

Building permits – 52

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

Assessors Office – Excused

Planning Board – Pati Goldsmith – report attached

Zoning Board of Appeals Lura Raymo - excused

Town Historian- Jon Facci Absent

Senior Citizen Director Lura Raymo- excused

Parks Committee – Deborah Burke I received the grant work on Tuesday evening, and was given until Thursday to complete, I spent 6 hours working on it to get it done. I did not have all the information that they wanted, such as financing from the town. It's a State Grant so they approve the work, however the Town must finance it and once it is done the State will reimburse the town. I put up a lot of TBD and will contact woman at the state level and see what she says, I personally do not hold much hope.

I came up and met with Mr. Aceto and Councilperson Fusco at the park to discuss issues, a lot of what we found in the park report from a couple of years ago.

The Parks committee is basically just me and Mrs. Monascalchi, the rest do not care about attending meetings but will come when called to do the work needed.

So, I am working on getting that committee restarted with new volunteers and ideas. Then I would like the committee to sit down with Sam to discuss, that can be done and what is wishes are and what the reality is. Put it together so that it can put in the budget for next year. I do understand the difficulty as I am a member of the Olmstead and we have done the renovations in Proctor Park. I understand that communities just do not have money for parks.

At the softball field, I must get together with the guy who gave us the quote for the Dug Out, once I have those materials, I will get it into the Waddas Association.

Fortunately, the Waddas Association is year-round and I will get on with that.

Karen Contacted me about a broken piece of play equipment at Wilderness Park, I went up there and couldn't find a problem, Sam Arcuri – also mentioned that he went as well and could not find an issue. After some discussion it was determined that perhaps some of the stones had gotten in between and were causing the odd sound as the equipment was being used.

MVWA Representative – Deborah Burke – no report

Karen Day Youth Director – Youth Program –

The successful 6-week Park Program is coming to an end this summer, with one week left. I want to thank our Staff for the long hot days, with the average of 70+ of kids. Children aging between 5 – 13 years old, keeping them safe, entertained, and safe. This team has been wonderful and are very appreciated by the Parents and youth that attend.

We have visited the Movie Theater, Boonville Fair, and the Children's Museum, and energy zone. We have done Tye Dye, a color run, we have taken hikes on the wilderness trail. We played kick ball, volleyball, basketball, and played on the playground equipment. We have had clinics with NYS Police Canine unit, USA Karate antibullying clinic, competed in the Boonville Fair art contest, to which one of our Youth took first place. We did plenty of arts and crafts and learned and played board games.

Can you imagine if this program did not exist?

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 –

Planning Board – Pati Goldsmith – report attached

The Town Received a letter from ABUNDANT solar Power Inc. addressed to the Town Park at 6329 Walker Rd. to let the Town know that our Town Park has been identified as a potential site for solar development and they would like to express their interest in solar development (full letter attached) Chairperson Goldsmith said that she had been approached last year and wonders if this is a follow up. She said that there is so much red tape involved in such a project having to do with a park and solar. That she would address this Co.

Zoning Board of Appeals excused

Town Historian- Jon Facci Absent

Senior Citizen Director Lura Raymo- excused

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 – nothing to report

Karen Day Youth Director – Summer program

Town Attorney: William Schmitt: nothing to report

MEDIA TIME - NONE

LATE PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Kathlene Fusco – northern Walker Rd would like to start a conversation about mowing – I am extremely passionate about monarch butterflies – they have declined drastically since we were children. Part of the problem is the mowing on the sides of the roads – I would like to converse with the Highway Department to see if we could somehow coordinate the mowing with their mating season, The first -second week of July is when full matting season, the larva only will grow on the milkweed plant until they are read to become butterflies.my passion has led me to walk the roadsides collecting larva eggs to save until they become butterflies - I call this “operation road side” I have colleagues, who assist, I am hoping that we can talk more about the timing of the mowing to protect them.

Another thing we can do is to become a butterfly weigh station, there is a national organization where you become a Butterfly weigh station. You do not need a large area, must plant certain Milkweeds, coneflowers,

Wouldn't that be a beautiful thing for Deerfield, to have a national Butterfly Weigh Station in our Town. Could we work together to perhaps create something like this for next year.

Highway Superintendant says he has no problem working together if you know that I have certain regulations he must follow.

Kathleen said that working together is highway could let her know what and when the ditches in a certain area are planned for mowing, she and her team will go out and harvest all the milkweeds holding butterfly larva – Highway superintendent says he has no problem with any of this.

Bill Sutton – Prescott Rd – he wants to know what is being done with the property at Prescott and Cosby manor rd. The house has gone to shambles again, tall grass and weeds – broken fences – pool full of green water. Yes, it was mowed last year after many complaints and this year we are right back to the same thing. The Place was foreclosed on, so who owns it now. And how do we get new owners or banks to clean up and care for this place.

Councilperson Fusco asked the board what can be done to take care of this. Councilperson Sacco gave him the steps to follow and Councilperson Fusco said he would get with Mr. Maxwell and take care of it.

Ron Beasock – Path stone, asking what the board has done is seeking the studies of the effect it would have on our fire Dept, law enforcement coverage, schools. Have you talked to any other housing facilities to see what the problems are? I don't think that you did, and I think that you should.

Ken Roser spoke to the median income of these renters. He is concerned about what this facility will do to the quality of life for those who live in that area. (best to understand by listening to his conversation and statistics in the Audio version of the August minutes)

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

ADJOURN : Councilperson Kolek made the motion and Councilperson Jones

Motion approved

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Day
Town Clerk
Town of Deerfield

Clerk Report

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Youth Program – Karen Day Director

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Town of Deerfield Planning Board

Monthly Update to the Town Board

Department Chairperson: Patie Goldsmith

Date of Report: August 11, 2025

Requests for Town Board Decisions:

None

Key Points/ Updates:

August 6, 2025

After reviewing the Town of Deerfield Zoning Ordinance, Article 16.04 Site Plan Review, the Preliminary Site Plan Review Application submitted from PathStone Development for their proposed 65 unit apartment building and adjoining day care center has been accepted as complete. A motion to accept the PathStone Development Site Plan Review Application was made. All board members were in favor. Motion carried.

A draft resolution deeming the PathStone Development Site Plan Review Application complete and establishing the Town of Deerfield Planning Board as Lead Agency was read. No changes to the draft resolution were made. A motion to accept the resolution as written was made. All board members were in favor. Motion carried.

The criteria for the designation of SEQRA type action was reviewed. After discussion, the Planning Board determined that the PathStone Development Site Plan Review Application meets the criteria for an Unlisted Action under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act. A motion to identify the PathStone Development Site Plan Review Application as an Unlisted Action was made. All in favor. Motion carried.

The short Environmental Assessment Form, Part 1, submitted by SWBR Engineering was reviewed. The planning board then filled out Parts 2 and 3 of the short Environmental Assessment Form. The results indicated that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts. These findings will be sent to the following interested agencies for their comments:

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Department of Transportation, the City of Utica, the Town of Marcy, the Mohawk Valley Water Authority, Oneida County Planning Department, Oneida County Soil and Water, Whitesboro Central School District and Oneida County Department of Public Works.

Those in attendance:

Ron Beasock, Paul Ciccolella, Dennis Piacentino, Kevin Yerdon, Lauren Paparella, Ben Wolfing (SWBR) Joe Gibbons (SWBR) and Besty Brugg.

Town of Deerfield
6329 Walker Rd
Deerfield, NY 13502
Phone # (315) 724-0413
Fax # (315) 793-3032

Town Clerk - Karen Day

August 11, 2025

July Code Report

Building Permits: 52

This has been a busy month with inspections and issues but over all things are going well. As we will never be done with complaints and property maintenance problems most have been worked out. But there are some that take a little more work and more time to resolve.

There have been some new building permits and a lot of inspections that will continue through the rest of the year.

I have sent out a notice to the property owners of the Bell Hill property that live in California and hopefully we will get a response soon. Will keep you posted.

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



James Maxwell
Building Inspector/Codes Officer



Supervisor Gregory Sacco
Councilperson David Kolek
Councilperson Daphne Jones
Councilperson Philip Sacco
Councilperson Daniel Fusco
Highway Supt. Sam Arcuri Jr.

Building & Codes Office:
James Maxwell

