

**Town of Deerfield  
Town Board Meeting Minutes  
November 10<sup>th</sup> 2025**



The Deerfield Town Board held its regular monthly meeting on November 10th, 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.

**Audio Minutes are filed on the Town Website :**

[Meeting Minutes | Government | Town of Deerfield NY](#)

**MINUTES:** Motion called to approve the Town Board minutes from the last board meeting. Councilperson Jones motioned and Councilperson Kolek seconded. **All approved – Motion carried**

Attendance – 27 Signed in

**EARLY PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR** – Linda Hajdasz - Chairperson of the annual Snowfest, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Snow sculpture contest, Winter Olympics theme, Linda will be retiring after this year; new volunteers are needed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Ron Beasock – Email, Subject PathStone – presented to the board through Planning Board Chairperson Pati Goldsmith.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

Resolution 52 – 2025 – Preliminary General Budget Including Special Districts and Improvement district budget. - **majority approved**

Resolution 53 – 2025 – Local law # 3 Unsafe Buildings - **majority approved**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – none

**OFFICIAL REPORTS**

**County Legislator Buck:** absent - Report attached,

Oneida Co taking steps to ensure residents in need of Snap fund can feed their families. Oneida Co. passed local law to extend the County's 5 Percent room occupancy, tax to short-term rentals, including those on Airbnb and Vrbo.

Working with Deckard Technologies to create and maintain short-term rental registry.

**Supervisor Gregory Sacco –**

- The Board will address the Pathstone issue at the December Board meeting

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**Councilperson - Philip Sacco report attached**

- Quotes submitted by highway Superintendent for 84" Snow Blower
- Unsafe Building Local Law #3

**Councilperson Daphne Jones** Report attached

- Information on changing the domain name and work that is needed to be done on login.gov
- Website recordings
- Newsletter for digital copies

**Councilperson Kolek –** nothing to report

**Councilperson Daniel Fusco –**

- Report from a resident having trouble with neighbor's dogs
- Pleased to hear that Councilperson Jones researching the .Gov.
- Discussed personal FB page -

**Town Clerk - Karen Day** - report attached

- Clerk office phone issues
- Tax Seasons arrival

**Highway Superintendant Sam Arcuri Jr** - Report attached

- Last paving project – Hedgewood Place
- F550 truck is rotted and roof leaking, vehicle used for Park's work – The Board may want to sell it and purchase something newer.
- MS4 permit process that was passed in 2024 – perhaps our Engineer.
- Finished hauling sand, mixed and piled sand with Westmoreland's screener and stacker.
- Installing plow equipment and spreaders. Trucks are being serviced and NYS Inspected for the season.
- Cycon equipment Company repaired leaf equipment – computer download problem on leaf vacuum.
- Maintenance projects at the Highway Garage that need to be done.
- Waiting on estimates to come back on park projects

- Completing remaining driveway culvert replacements.
- New Freightliner Chassis is being upfitted with equipment and will be done early November.
- Received updated estimates on the snow blower for the Town's skid-steer.
- CHIPS reimbursement paperwork is turned into the State, checks will be coming out in December.
- Received and update on Firehouse Road Bridge replacement under the Bridge NY grant from JMT Engineering. Costs have gone up 210%

## COMMITTEE REPORTS-

**Building Inspector:** Jim Maxwell – absent - Report attached

- **72 permits issued**
- Issues on Prescott Rd and Pauline Ave taken care of.
- If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on 680-213-0832

**Assessors Office – Matt Pawlusik – absent - Report attached**

- Sending out exemption renewal letters
- Recording new “builds” from building permits, drive by inspections, property transfers
- Closed Veteran's Day
- 

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

- Month meeting dates for Planning Board 2026
- Motion to Town Board to extend Gabe Greco as appointed secretary.
- Review of the draft Energy Storage and Electric Vehicle Charging regulations.

**Zoning Board of Appeals** Lura Raymo – Absent - Report Attached

- Public hearings held – both variances were approved.
- 4 members of ZBA are attending the training session at MVCC 11/10/25

**Town Historian- Jon Facci** absent – Report Attached

- History report Celebrate 250 years of America with NYAOT

**Senior Citizen Director Lura Raymo-** absent - no report

**Youth Director – Karen Day** report attached

- Youth Program Schedule



**Parks Committee – Deborah Burke -**

- Adult snowshoe event – January 31<sup>st</sup> 2026 Full Moon
- Offer to take over the Snowfest next year.

**MVWA Representative – Deborah Burke –**

**Town Attorney: William Schmitt:** nothing to report

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MEDIA TIME - NONE

LATE PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR - Referring to the Audio Version on the website for your listening pleasure.

**MOTION TO PAY BILLS**

**Sewer Fund** 10 & 11 bills Moved by Councilperson Jones and seconded by Councilperson Kolek

**Highway Fund** 205-232 bills number moved by Councilperson Kolek and Councilperson Jones seconded, was approved.

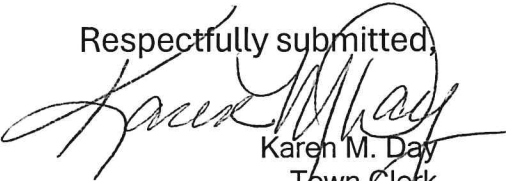
**General Fund** 342 - 377 bills number moved by Councilperson Jones and Councilperson Kolek voted yes, and the motion was approved.

Capital Fund 0

ADJOURN : Councilperson Sacco made the motion and Councilperson Jones

**Motion approved**

Respectfully submitted,



Karen M. Day  
Town Clerk  
Town of Deerfield



**Dave Buck**  
**Oneida County Legislator**  
District #9: Deerfield, Floyd & Trenton  
315-601-0445  
Dbuck@ocgov.net



**Board Report for November 10, 2025\*\***

**Unfortunately, I am unable to attend tonight's Board Meeting because we have a public hearing in Rome regarding the budget.**

**I want to thank everyone for their support during the recent election. I will continue to work hard to make Oneida County the best place to live, work, play, and stay.**

**In light of the recent government shutdown, Oneida County has taken steps to ensure that residents who depend on SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) can feed their families. We are ready to implement measures to alleviate the strain on our community if this manufactured crisis continues for an extended period.**

**Additionally, we have approved a local law that extends the county's 5 percent room occupancy tax to short-term rentals, including those on Airbnb and Vrbo. This law establishes a registry system for short-term rentals, helping to create a level playing field for local taxes, including sales and occupancy taxes, for both short-term rentals and hotels/motels.**

**Later in the meeting, the legislators approved a contract with Deckard Technologies to create and maintain this short-term rental registry.**

**Thank you,**

**Dave Buck**

**Dave Buck**  
**Oneida County Legislator**  
District #9: Deerfield, Floyd & Trenton  
315-601-0445  
Dbuck@ocgov.net



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Dave Buck

## November 11<sup>th</sup> 2025 Report

### Councilperson Phil Sacco:

- Highway Superintendent submitted 3 written quotes on a 84” snowblower that would be utilized on our Skid-loader:  
The Quotes are -

Evan’s Equipment	\$16,000.00
Admar Construction Co.	\$12,618.00
Whites Farm Supply	\$12,818.75

How does the board feel about purchasing this at the December 8<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting by resolution.

- **Unsafe Building Local Law #3** – The Codes officer provides a report to the Town Board outlining the violations of the NYS Property Maintenance Code. A hearing is then scheduled before the Town Board. If the owner fails to appear the Town can take direct action to address the violations and add the cost to the property’s Tax Bill. If the owner appears for the hearing the Town Board can discuss with the property owner their intentions for a timetable to clean -up.



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Daphne Jones  
November 2025  
Official Report

Website recordings – two different options now. Before, most options were to download only which may have led to the confusion and loss of access that residents had mentioned. Now, recordings can either be downloaded and saved to a device to listen to afterwards OR you can play it through the website by hitting the triangle play button.

Newsletters – reached out to PJGreen contact from Karen to ask for an emailed digital copy of the newsletters when they've been approved by Karen to upload to the site rather than them email it to Karen and Karen forward it to me. Received the Fall 2025 Newsletter in the afternoon of October 24<sup>th</sup> and uploaded to the site by Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup> before I had received my newsletter in the mail.

Website domain change from .org to .gov

On October 29<sup>th</sup>, Quadsimia emailed me regarding changing the domain name and the process necessary to do so. Only a town official can submit a request so upon approval via email with Supervisor Sacco and verified with Karen, I submitted the request for the town. Problem is, no requests are being processed due to the government shut down so hopefully it can be resolved before the deadline by the 21<sup>st</sup> of December. As of the morning of this board meeting there were no updates on this.

There were certain rules and guidelines that had to be followed in order to process our request for domain change. I copied them and they are attached to my report.

Most important points from the guidelines – unless Town name is UNIQUE and does not exist anywhere else, then state initials are added to the end of the requested domain name.

With that, there is a town of Deerfield in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Wisconsin, to name a few...

I was allowed to provide two preferences in domain name using their requirements: The domain name requests I submitted on behalf of the Town of Deerfield are

1. Townofdeerfieldny.gov
2. Townofdeerfieldnys.gov

(This is the case for most town websites in the area that have completed the change, e.g. townofnewhartfordny.gov; townofschuylerny.gov; townofparisny.gov; etc.

Marcy, Whitesboro, Utica, and many others have not completed this change yet at this time either)

Once our domain change has been successful, there are some things that are absolutely NOT allowed on a government website. Notably some are: political campaigning, commercial advertising, illegal content, and malicious cyber activity.

Reminder, this is to be in compliance with the DOTGOV Act, in particular the 21<sup>st</sup> Century IDEA (Integrated Digital Experience Act) and implementation guidance, M-23-22. Delivering a Digital-First Public Experience.

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Councilperson Daphne Jones  
November Report  
Domain Change Report

Information on changing the domain name and work that needed to be done on login.gov

#### **.gov domain**

Before requesting a .gov domain, please make sure it meets the [naming requirements](#). Your domain name must:

- Be available
- Relate to your organization's name, location, and/or services
- Be unlikely to mislead or confuse the general public (even if your domain is only intended for a specific audience)

Names that *uniquely apply to your organization* are likely to be approved over names that could also apply to other organizations. In most instances, this requires including your state's two-letter abbreviation.

Requests for your organization's initials or an abbreviated name might not be approved, but we encourage you to request the name you want.

#### **Domain examples for your type of organization**

Most city domains must include the two-letter state abbreviation or clearly spell out the state name. Using phrases like "City of" or "Town of" is optional.

Cities that meet one of the criteria below don't have to refer to their state in their domain name.

- The city name is not shared by any other U.S. city, town, village, or county. We use the [Census Bureau's National Places Gazetteer Files](#) to determine if names are unique.
- The city is so well known that it doesn't need a state reference to communicate location. We use the list of U.S. "dateline cities" in the Associated Press Stylebook as part of our decision.
- It's one of the 150 largest cities by population, [according to the Census Bureau](#).

#### **Examples:**

- CityofEudoraKS.gov
- WallaWallaWA.gov
- Pocatello.gov

With that, there is a town of Deerfield in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Wisconsin, to name a few

The domain name requests I submitted on behalf of the Town of Deerfield are

1. Townofdeerfieldny.gov
2. Townofdeerfieldnys.gov

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## **Compliance with the 21st Century IDEA is required**

As required by the DOTGOV Act, agencies must ensure that any website or digital service that uses a .gov domain name is in compliance with the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act and implementation guidance, M-23-22, Delivering a Digital-First Public Experience.

## **Requirements for operating a .gov domain**

Please read this page. Check the box at the bottom to show that you agree to the requirements for operating a .gov domain.

The .gov domain space exists to support a broad diversity of government missions. Generally, we don't review or audit how government organizations use their registered domains. However, misuse of a .gov domain can reflect upon the integrity of the entire .gov space. There are categories of misuse that are statutorily prohibited or abusive in nature.

### **What you can't do with a .gov domain**

#### **Commercial purposes**

A .gov domain must not be used for commercial purposes, such as advertising that benefits private individuals or entities.

#### **Political campaigns**

A .gov domain must not be used for political campaign purposes, such as the website for a candidate seeking elected office.

#### **Illegal content**

A .gov domain must not be used to distribute or promote material whose distribution violates applicable law.

#### **Malicious cyber activity**

A .gov domain must not distribute malware, host open redirects, or engage in malicious cyber activity.

## **What .gov domain registrants must do**

### **Keep your contact information updated**

.Gov domain registrants must maintain accurate contact information in the .gov registrar. You will be asked to verify it as part of the renewal process.

### **Be responsive if we contact you**

.Gov domain registrants must respond promptly to communications about potential violations to these requirements.

### **Failure to comply could result in domain suspension or termination**

We may need to suspend or terminate a domain registration for violations of these requirements. When we discover a violation, we'll make reasonable efforts to contact a registrant, including emails or phone calls to:

- Domain contacts
- The senior official
- The government organization, a parent organization, or affiliated entities

We understand the critical importance of availability for a .gov domain. Suspending or terminating a .gov domain is reserved for prolonged, unresolved, serious violations where the registrant is non-responsive. We'll make extensive efforts to contact registrants and to



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identify potential solutions. We'll make reasonable accommodations for remediation timelines based on the severity of the issue.

#### **Domain renewal**

.Gov domains are registered for a one-year period. To renew the domain, you'll be asked to verify your contact information and some details about the domain.

Though a domain may expire, it will not automatically be put on hold or deleted. We'll make extensive efforts to contact your organization before holding or deleting a domain.

#### **Thanks for your domain request!**

We'll email a copy of your request to you.

#### **Next steps in this process**

We'll review your request. This review period usually takes around 10 business days.

During our review, we'll verify that:

- Your organization is eligible for a .gov domain.
- You work at the organization and/or can make requests on its behalf.
- Your requested domain meets our naming requirements.

We'll email you if we have questions. We'll also email you as soon as we complete our review. You can [check the status](#) of your request at any time on the registrar.

[Contact us](#) if you need help during this process.

Here is a copy of my confirmation email for the record:

Hi, DAPHNE.

We received your .gov domain request.

DOMAIN REQUESTED: [townofdeerfieldny.gov](http://townofdeerfieldny.gov)

REQUESTED BY: [goodenough.daphne@gmail.com](mailto:goodenough.daphne@gmail.com)

REQUEST RECEIVED ON: Oct. 29, 2025

STATUS: Submitted

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#### **NEXT STEPS**

We'll review your request. This review period can take 10 business days.

During our review, we'll verify that:

- Your organization is eligible for a .gov domain
- You work at the organization and/or can make requests on its behalf
- Your requested domain meets our naming requirements





We'll email you if we have questions. We'll also email you as soon as we complete our review. You can check the status of your request at any time on the registrar.  
<<https://manage.get.gov>>.

#### NEED TO MAKE CHANGES?

To make changes to your domain request, you have to withdraw it first. Withdrawing your request may extend the time it takes for the .gov team to complete their review.

Learn more about withdrawing your request <<https://get.gov/help/domain-requests/#withdraw-your-domain-request>>.

#### THANK YOU

.Gov helps the public identify official, trusted information. Thank you for requesting a .gov domain.

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#### SUMMARY OF YOUR DOMAIN REQUEST

Type of organization:

City

Election office:

No

Organization:

None

Town of Deerfield

6329 Walker Rd

Deerfield, NY

13502

Senior official:

Gregory Sacco

Supervisor

[gregorysacco@gmail.com](mailto:gregorysacco@gmail.com)

Current websites:

<https://www.townofdeerfield.org/>

.gov domain:



[townofdeerfieldny.gov](http://townofdeerfieldny.gov)

**Alternative domains:**

[townofdeerfieldnys.gov](http://townofdeerfieldnys.gov)

**Purpose of your domain:**

The domain will be used for the town's website where meetings, minutes, budgets, announcements, local community events, and other pertinent town information is posted regularly. The town currently has a web developer that will aid in this transitional period. The domain name may also include emails depending on archival ability of the current .org emails that town officials have.

**Your contact information:**

DAPHNE JONES

Councilperson

**Other employees from your organization:**

Gregory Sacco

Supervisor

Karen Day

Town Clerk

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**The .gov team**

Contact us: <<https://get.gov/contact/>>

Learn about .gov <<https://get.gov>>

The .gov registry is a part of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

<<https://cisa.gov/>>



11/10/2025

## **Clerk's Report**

**Had some issues with the Clerk's phone cutting out during conversations. Called Northland and it appeared to be a wiring issue. However I was told that the phone system is over 15 years old and with all the new advancements, we might want to consider upgrading, which could make the whole system less expensive in the long run.**

**Starting to see signs of Tax season's arrival, Mortgage Co. starting to contact my office and the County is looking for info.**

## **Youth Program Report**

**The Program is going well. We have 3 events under our belts and are looking forward to approximately 2 a month for the rest of 2025.**



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## Town Board Meeting 11/10/25

- 1) Working on last paving project on Hedgewood place. Paving is projected to be completed on Wednesday 10/15/25. The rest of the paving is complete shoulders repaired, and sealants have been installed. We are still waiting for guide rail repairs and installation work. I was told this would happen this week.
- 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. We have put the spreader for sale on auctions international with no luck, the town might want to sell the truck as a complete unit. Truck, Plow, Spreader together we would need something to replace it for the parks.
- 3) Looking for some help with the new MS4 permit that was passed in 2024. I have been attending some training when it is available. The reporting has a lot more to it than in the past. We are required to have some new policies in place by year Two, year Three and year Five. Reached out to Al Swierczek to see if this is something he could help the town with the new process.
- 4) We finished hauling sand on the last day of October. We tried something new this year. We mixed and piled our sand with Town of Westmoreland's screener and stacker this year. This was a much safer way to put up sand.
- 5) Working on installing plow equipment and spreaders on the trucks. Getting trucks serviced and NYS inspected for the season.
- 6) Cycon equipment company repaired leaf equipment. Repaired the computer download problem on the leaf vacuum. We have been out collecting leaves; we are on the third time around town.
- 7) There are several maintenance projects at the Highway Garage the need to be done: Older colder storage building needs to have the metal roof replaced from wind damage and rotted metal on the sides to keep the birds out. This building is where the dumpsters are stored. After the Transfer station inspection in 2025 it was brought to our attention about the birds in the building and we need to repair the problem. Building needs sliding door repairs. Fuel building needs entrance door replaced, and upper light panels

replaced. Highway Garage needs driveway repairs and driveway resealed it also needs winter weatherization repairs. I would like to see the town add the half wall on the south side of salt building to keep rain from getting on the salt and making hard chunks.

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

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9) We will also be working on some remaining driveway culvert replacements residents have.

10) New Freightliner chassis is being upfitted with equipment and scheduled to be completed in early November. New chassis is back from upfitting and in Syracuse.

11) Received updated estimates on a snow blower for the towns skid-steer. Prices are coming back at around 12,700 for a 84" blower incase we have problems in our development areas of town again this winter season. I would like to order.

12) CHIPS reimbursement paperwork is turned into the state. Checks will be coming out in early December.

13) In October I received an update on Firehouse Road bridge replacement under the bridge NY grant from JMT Engineering. Concrete and steel costs have gone up 210%.

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



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

**November 10, 2025**

## **October Code Report**

### **Building Permits72**

**The issues with 5444 Prescott and 623 Pauline Ave. From last month have been taken care of.**

**I am still getting a lot of building permit applications.**

**I will be working on inspections and other issues as we go through the next few months.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Maxwell".

**James Maxwell**

**Building Inspector/Codes Officer**

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## **Assessor Report – Matthew Pawlusik**

### **November meeting report 2025**

I'll be sending out exemption renewal letters at the end of the month. I'll also have exemption information that I'd like to disseminate in the next newsletter.

I've just been recording on the new "builds" from the building permits, doing drive-by inspections of those properties, inputting new property transfers, and putting out the small fires that come my way.

My office will be closed on Veteran's Day.

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# **Town of Deerfield Planning Board**

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

**Department Chairperson:** Patie Goldsmith

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

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

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

The regular monthly meeting dates of the Planning Board for 2026 are as follows:

January 7th	July 8th
February 4th	August 5th
March 4th	September 9th
April 8th	October 7th
May 6th	November 4th
June 3rd	December 9th

A motion was made to accept the 2026 Planning Board regular meeting dates. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made to recommend to the Town Board that Planning Board member Gabe Greco be appointed as secretary for the Planning Board in 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Review of the draft Battery Energy Storage and Electric Vehicle Charging Regulations began. Board members were satisfied with Sections I-V. Review will continue at the December 3, 2025 meeting.

Privilege of the floor was held. Ron Beasock asked that the Planning Board address his concerns regarding sewage capacity as it relates to the Bank of America facility. Mr Beasock will send an email outlining his concerns to the Planning Board so that it may be presented to the Town Board at the November 10, 2025 meeting. (See attached copy)

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Those in attendance:

Herb and Laura Inman, Rick Gassner, Nancy Zornich, Deb Burke, Roman Voytovich, Ron Beasock

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**Re: [EXTERNAL] Pathstone**

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**From :** ron beasock <ronbeasock@gmail.com>  
**Subject :** Re: [EXTERNAL] Pathstone  
**To :** Planningboard  
<planningboard@townofdeerfield.org>

Sun, Nov 09, 2025 08:54 PM

Thank you!

On Sun, Nov 9, 2025, 8:39 PM Planningboard <planningboard@townofdeerfield.org> wrote:

Hi Ron,

Thank you for bringing this aspect of the issue of sewage capacity to our attention at the planning board meeting. I will include your concerns in my report to the Town Board on November 10, 2025.

Best Regards,  
Patie Goldsmith

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**From:** "ron beasock" <ronbeasock@gmail.com>  
**To:** planningboard@townofdeerfield.org  
**Cc:** "townclerk" <townclerk@townofdeerfield.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 9, 2025 8:23:56 PM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Pathstone

Hi Patricia,

Thank you for agreeing to mention my concern at the Town Board meeting as I cannot attend.

I am concerned that Bank of America located at 5701 Horatio St will have impacts to their sewage out flow if this project moves forward. The bank at one time had over 600 employees working there, if they should decide to ramp up their work force or sublet space to another company this could be a potential problem.

Respectfully,  
Ron Beasock



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# Town of Deerfield

## Department/Committee Monthly Update to the Town Board

Department Heads/Committee Chairpersons/County Legislator/Key Speakers – Please complete and submit this update prior to, or at the beginning of the Town Board Meeting. Do your best to keep this update to just one page. Simple bullets for the updates are fine. This document will assist in reporting the Board Meeting minutes, fully and accurately. Thank you.

Description	Information/Update
Department/Committee:	ZBA
Department Head:	Lura Raymond
Date of Report:	11/10/25
Requests for Town Board Decisions:	
Key Points/Updates:	<p>The ZBA held two public hearings. Both were for Area Variances and were approved.</p>
Routine Updates:	<p>Four members of the ZBA are attending the training session at MVCC this evening.</p>

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## Town of Deerfield: Celebrate 250 Years of America with NYAOT

Christian Reall, Mark Damuth, and George Weaver pioneered the wilderness of Deerfield, New York. German settlers, allied with the Oneidas, sought to farm the land and seek their own prosperity. Their story was made famous in literature and film by author, Walter D. Edmonds, and iconic director John Ford, respectively, in "Drums Along the Mohawk," published in 1937. The Oneida and the Tuscarora tribes sided with the Americans in their war against the British. The other Iroquois tribes remained loyal to England. The Oneidas warned the early settlers of Deerfield that British and Seneca forces were approaching from the west. As they retreated to a small fort in Schuyler to the east, the Deerfield pioneers hid furniture throughout the forest. Their houses and crops were burned, and their future was uncertain.

The men of Deerfield would muster with the Tryon County Militia under General Nicholas Herkimer at the Battle of Oriskany in defense of Fort Stanwix. The battle was won. Independence would be secured, and, by 1784, George J. Weaver, taken prisoner to England, returned to Deerfield before moving to Utica. Captain Mark Damuth settled on Cosby Manor Road, and Christian Reall resettled on a tributary to the Mohawk River now named Reall Creek.

In 1792, a bridge over the Mohawk River was built. On March 15, 1798, the Town of Deerfield was incorporated. Industries such as brick-making, glass, and dairy thrived. By 1817, the Erie Canal project would begin in Rome, New York. Deerfield citizens such as David M. Roberts worked on the canal. The Erie Canal, completed by 1825, marked the birth of civil engineering in the United States. Irish immigrant, Patrick Condon came to America and would purchase 25 acres in Deerfield in 1834. He farmed his land and would work on the enlarged Erie Canal in 1837. Condon's letters to Ireland in his native Irish language are now the subject of scholarship as a rare surviving example of the old written Irish language and was celebrated at the Irish Cultural Center in Utica, New York in early spring of 2025. By 1847, New York State would provide for the incorporation of private companies to construct and improve plank roads and turnpikes. Soon, horse-drawn trolleys, and railroads revolutionized travel through the Deerfield terrain.

Original letters from the front from our Civil War hero, John Cober, were recently provided by a local woman whose family found these letters written in German in her grandmother's sewing basket and had some translated to English. John Cober, 21, enlisted on August 8, 1862 in Deerfield to the 117<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Company H. He was Killed in Action on January 15, 1865 at the assault on Fort Fisher in North Carolina. This battle cut the supply chain from Europe as Fort Fisher was a vital port to protect the cotton trade required for the Confederate States to be recognized as an independent nation by foreign governments. This victory over the Confederates would end slavery in our nation. At 10:00 pm, January 15, 1865, Colonel Albert Blackman. Brevet Brigadier General of the U.S.C.T. 27<sup>th</sup> Infantry accepted surrender of the fort.

On a lighter note, The Sage of Deerfield, New York State Governor Horatio Seymour was the Democrat Party Nominee for President in 1868, but lost to Ulysses S. Grant. As dairy farming would thrive, several cheese factories would emerge. Cornelius Schermerhorn would travel as a consultant for cheese manufacturing to England and Holland. The Deerfield Ravine cut by Reall Creek emerged as a base camp for early iterations of youth scouting in America. In March of 1929, a Deerfield farmer on Trenton Road provided a corn field for a soft emergency landing for ~~Amelia Earhardt who would drop in to visit her sister in Utica and dine at the Fort Schuyler Club.~~ In 1951, Dick Clark, New Year's Eve icon, and popular music television pioneer launched his television career on Smith Hill Road in Deerfield for WKTV of Utica.

Generations of children raised in Deerfield fondly enjoy the summertime Deerfield Park program at the Wilderness Park on Walker Road, the Fireman's Field Days, and the Deerfield Sno-Much Fun Winter Festival. Lenten Fish-Fry on Fridays in the Spring as well as a special early visit from Santa each Christmas Season are many of the fun community traditions that we all enjoy in Deerfield. The Whitesboro XC Invitational is a High School Cross Country meet held annually at the Deerfield Wilderness Park. We are proud of our hometown! You would be too, if you lived here.

Town of Deerfield Historian

Jon Facci



## SNOWFEST BUDGET ESTIMATES 2026

ITEM	2026 EST
Port a John	\$ 140.00
Sleigh/horses	1500.00
Food & Paper	300.00
Décor	150.00
Goodies & games	200.00
Entertainment	600.00
Snow Sculpture	175.00
TOTAL	\$3,065.00

Our theme this year will be the Olympics to coincide with the "Winter Olympics". We have had a rise in attendance ever since the inception in 2014. It is widely received by the residents and the children have a wonderful time outdoors. We hope to have similar entertainment as in the past years, and still stay within our budget. We do keep a tight rein on the spending and have always come in under budget.

The date of the Snowfest is February 7, 2026 at the Wilderness Park from 1-4pm. Hope to see you there.

As a side note, this will be my last year as chairperson of this event. We began in 2014 and this will be our 13<sup>th</sup> year. I can't speak for the rest of the committee, but we do hope someone much younger will step into taking it over and keep this special town event going.

Thank you for always making my job a bit easier by approving my request. It has been fun for me every year, but age is creeping in and this old body is rejecting the cold.

Respectfully,

Linda Hajdasz

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# Deerfield Town Board Meeting

DATE: 11/10/2025 Regular ☒ Public Hearing Special ☐

Name	Address	Phone
Karen Day		
Deborah Burke	Tarleton Rd	
Mary Rose Moon		
Rick Casner	142 Forrest St	
Lynn Calcaagno	Evergreen	
Mike Calcaagno	"	
Chris Kearney		
Stephanie Manscalchi		
Tom Aceto	W ALMER RD	
MICHAEL NASSAR	504 WOODHAVEN ROAD NORTH UTICA 315	
MARY BREMBACH		
CARL CLARK		
Beth Schielefeldt	Day's Road	
Mary Shukky	State Rt 8	
Brida Haydariz	Miller Rd	
DM King		
SP King		
Jason Schmitt		
Kathleen Russo	State Rt 8 Utica	
Erin Eller	35 Foster Street	
Maddux Thompson	5683 Trenton Rd	
June Comstock	5683 Trenton Rd	
Mark Comstock	5688 Trenton Rd	
Luke Benjamin	10510 Cosby Manor Rd	
Ben Ross	Cotnam Rd	
Gary Albright	Bell Hill Rd	
John E. Booth	N. GAGE	

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