

The Regular Meeting of the Town of Dickinson Town Board was called to order with the pledge of allegiance by Supervisor Michael A. Marinaccio at 6:00 PM on Monday, November 13, 2023, in the Town Hall, 531 Old Front Street, Binghamton, New York.

The members of the Town Board present were:

**Michael A. Marinaccio, Supervisor
Stephen M. Gardner, Councilperson
Sharon M. Exley, Councilperson
Danny F. Morabito, Councilperson
Thomas J. Burns, Councilperson**

Also in attendance:

**Keegan Coughlin, Esq., Attorney for the Town
Wendi Evans, Town Clerk
Public Works Commissioner Joel Kie, Code Enforcement Officer
Kyle Doyle, Town Engineer Ronald Lake, and 3 guests.**

November 2023 Town Board Meeting Supervisor's Report

1. I reviewed the credit card monthly charges and found no issues.
2. 2024 TOWN OF DICKINSON BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Expenses:

- We completed a large project on Sunrise Drive in 2023 to replace sewer laterals, secure water pipes, pave and replace street curbs.
- The cost of health insurance was increased by 6%
- For 2024 there will be an overall 5% salary increase for appointed employees and elected officials, with pay adjustments made for the Town Supervisor, Highway Superintendent, Code Officer, and Water & Sewer Public Works Manager.
- We've seen the cost of materials increase over the past year, along with our Health Insurance.

Our Appropriations are up \$231,291 in 2024, however our Estimated Revenue is up \$924,689 in 2024.

Revenue:

- Small increase in property tax for the general fund at 1.29% which keeps us well within the 2% Tax Cap Limit.
- Sales tax budget is projected to increase by 5% in 2024
- We've streamlined our Water and Sewer billing costs to help keep the cost and expenses sustainable.

The bottom line is that the Town of Dickinson remains one of the lowest taxed towns in Broome County while continuing to offer many great services that our residents expect from their town. We will continue to seek out ways of saving money through shared services, more efficient operations and increasing our tax base through new developments, both residential and commercial. Our staff is to be congratulated for their hard work and dedication to the town and its residents. Our town board continues to do a great job in maintaining our town in an efficient and effective manner while keeping our spending as low as possible.

3. The walk bridge has been successfully removed.
4. Had a discussion with the owner of the EcoNo Lodge informing him that children staying at the hotel have caused damage to our fencing around the pump station and at several times have been seen climbing into the pump station. The sheriff has been notified. The owner stated that they will watch the children more closely and inform the hotel occupants of what has been taking place at the park.
5. I want to congratulate Councilwoman Exley on the nice article about her in the SUNY Broome Alumni Magazine.
6. We received our third quarter sales tax distribution check for the amount of \$306,991.35 which brings us to a total of 882,269.86. We estimated \$900,000 for 2023 so we are on target to meet or exceed that amount.
7. I participated in a ZOOM meeting with Congressman Molinaro on November 2.

8. Code Violations/Appearance Tickets

Violations	
Property	Type
20 Republic St	No Building Permit
30 Adams St	Tall Grass & Weeds
28 Adams St	Debris & Tall Grass
50 Pulaski St	Trash & Debris
39 Pulaski St	Trash & Debris
74 Old State Rd	Debris
20 N Broad St	Tall Grass & Weeds
24 N Ely St	Multiple Structure Issues
213 Bevier St	Multiple Unlicensed Vehicles
112 Iris Dr.	Trash & Debris
54 Sunrise Dr	Tall Grass & Weeds & Debris
31 Pulaski St	Trash & Debris
35 Pulaski St	Trash & Debris

Permits Issued	
Property	Type
1 N Moeller St	Addition
36 Forest Hill Blvd	Deck
22 Jameson Rd	Addition
10 Linda Dr	Roof
557 Old Front St	Fence
315 Ferndale Dr	Shed
60 Sowden St	Roof
193 Lower Stella Ireland Rd	Roof
19 Rosedale Dr	Roof
51 N Ely St	Deck
8 Maiden Ln	Roof
Appearance Tickets	
Property	Type
20 N Broad St	

Dog Control Officer Reports:

Town Of Dickinson/Port Dickinson Dog Control Summary: October 2023, 2 Stray Dog Calls, 1 dog transported to the shelter. 12 Miles on Fenton DCO Van. 5 Calls pertaining to other animals. 5 Calls for other towns to be redirected. 9 Phone calls Received. 56 Phone calls Made (including past due Reminder calls) 15 E-mails Received. 15 E-mails Returned. 8 Tickets issued. 2 court appearances

NYSEG Utility Shutoff Notices:

No notices received.

Next Town Board Meetings

Work session December 4, 5:30 PM, and Regular town board meeting December 11, 6:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **PUBLIC WORKS**

- Councilperson Morabito commented that Adams St. project is now completed/repared. May need to do more work in a couple of years. They were able to complete it less than estimated.
- The crews have been out collecting the leaves as brush pick up is now completed.

FINANCE

- **JUSTICE COURT REPORT**
Councilperson Gardner made a motion to accept the **September 2023 Monthly Financial Report** for the **Town Court** in the amount of **\$16,281.00** and **October 2023 Monthly Financial Report** in the amount of **\$35,476.00** seconded by Councilperson Exley.
All in favor.
- **TOWN CLERK MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT**
Councilperson Gardner made a motion to accept the **October 2023 Monthly Financial Report** for the **Town Clerk** in the amount of **\$1,535.14**. On a motion by Councilperson Gardner seconded by Councilperson Morabito. All in favor.
- **SUPERVISOR’S REPORT**
Councilperson Gardner made a motion to accept the **September 2023 Monthly Financial Report** for the **Town Supervisor** in the amount of **\$1,757,492.82** seconded by Councilperson Exley. All in favor.
- **ABSTRACTS FOR APPROVAL**

On Motion from Councilperson Gardner, seconded by Councilperson Burns to approve **abstract # 11**, dated **November 13, 2023**, in the amount of **\$292,851.46**. Vote Ayes-5, Nays-0, Absent-0.

Supervisor Marinaccio voting Aye
Councilperson Gardner voting Aye
Councilperson Exley voting Aye
Councilperson Morabito voting Aye
Councilperson Burns voting Aye

Unanimously passed and noted as duly adopted.

Abstract Summary of Audited Vouchers for Funds respectively in the amount(s) of \$247,464.94:

Voucher #11 for November 13, 2023, in the amount of \$292,851.46.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>\$57,958.19</u>
<u>Part Town</u>	<u>\$3,250.00</u>
<u>Highway</u>	<u>\$113,295.94</u>
<u>Highway Project HP 23</u>	<u>\$9,000.00</u>
<u>Light Districts</u>	<u>\$4,538.70</u>
<u>Sewer Operating Dist.</u>	<u>\$3840.52</u>
<u>Water Operating Dist.</u>	<u>\$100,968.11</u>

- **PERSONNEL**
 - Councilperson Gardner commented that Supervisor Marinaccio, Admin. Assistant Darrell Dennison and himself will be reviewing the Employee Handbook to see if

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there needs to be any updates. Will be reaching out to all the head of the departments to see if they have any changes. Early 2024 there will be a new Employee Handbook for everyone to review and get approval on the changes. It has been 12 years since it has been updated.

○ **PLANNING**

None received.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Councilperson Exley seconded by Councilperson Morabito to approve the **October 2, 2023, Work Session Meeting Minutes, October 10, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes and Oct 18, 2023, Special Meeting**. All in favor.

Vote- Ayes-5, Nays-0, Absent-0.

Supervisor Marinaccio voting Aye
Councilperson Gardner voting Aye
Councilperson Exley voting Aye
Councilperson Morabito Aye
Councilperson Burns voting Aye

All in favor.

ATTORNEY

RESOLUTION 2023-30

Supervisor Marinaccio commented that we held the Public Hearing on the 2024 Budget last week.

The following Resolution was offered by Councilperson Morabito, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilperson Exley to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Dickinson, Broome County, New York as follows:

RESOLUTION: ADOPTING THE 2024 BUDGET

The question of adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows: All in favor. Vote Ayes-5, Nays-0, Absent-0.

Supervisor Marinaccio voting Aye
Councilperson Gardner voting Aye
Councilperson Exley voting Aye
Councilperson Morabito voting Aye
Councilperson Burns voting Aye

All in favor.

RESOLUTION 2023 – 31

The following Resolution was offered by Councilperson Gardner, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilperson Morabito to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Dickinson, Broome County, New York as follows:

**RESOLUTION: AUTHORIZING THE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES
AGREEMENT OF DISTRICT NO. 1 FOR THE YEARS 2024-2028**

The question of adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows: All in favor. Vote Ayes-5, Nays-0, Absent-0.

Supervisor Marinaccio voting Aye
Councilperson Gardner voting Aye
Councilperson Exley voting Aye
Councilperson Morabito Aye
Councilperson Burns voting Aye

All in favor.

RESOLUTION 2023-32

The following Resolution was offered by Councilperson Gardner, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilperson Burns to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Dickinson, Broome County, New York as follows:

**RESOLUTION: APPROVING THE WATER AGREEMENT WITH THE
TOWN OF CHENANGO**

The question of adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows: All in favor. Vote Ayes-5, Nays-0, Absent-0.

Supervisor Marinaccio voting Aye
Councilperson Gardner voting Aye
Councilperson Exley voting Aye
Councilperson Morabito Aye
Councilperson Burns voting Aye

All in favor.

RESOLUTION 2023 – 33

The following Resolution was offered by Councilperson Exley, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilperson Morabito to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Dickinson, Broome County, New York as follows:

RESOLUTION: SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR DECEMBER 4, 2023 WORK SESSION AT 5:30 PM INTRODUCING A PROPOSED “LOCAL LAW AFFECTING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM WITHIN THE TOWN OF DICKINSON ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS.”

The question of adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows: All in favor. Vote Ayes-5, Nays-0, Absent-0.

Supervisor Marinaccio voting Aye
Councilperson Gardner voting Aye
Councilperson Exley voting Aye
Councilperson Morabito Aye
Councilperson Burns voting Aye

All in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Commissioner Kie explained that we have a water/sewer connection application that requires a fee but in code there is no set fee, and it reads that the fee is to be set by the town board. In discussing it with the water department there are many components that should be included in the fee. An example would be if someone is building a new house and they do not have any connections set up. This fee would apply to them.

\$180.00- Meter
\$160.00- Head
\$140.00- Pressure Valve
\$50.00 – Administration Fee

Total - \$530.00

RESOLUTION 2023 – 34

The following Resolution was offered by Councilperson Morabito, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilperson Exley to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Dickinson, Broome County, New York as follows:

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL TO APPLY A WATER AND SEWER APPLICATION FEE TO CODE

The question of adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows: All in favor. Vote Ayes-5, Nays-0, Absent-0.

Supervisor Marinaccio voting Aye

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Councilperson Gardner voting Aye
Councilperson Exley voting Aye
Councilperson Morabito Aye
Councilperson Burns voting Aye

All in favor.

- Commissioner Kie commented that Adams St is all completed. The water main is the worst in the town. It should be put on the schedule to be replaced. At least 1,000 feet of it. The services are steel not copper. Next year we will look to replace 3 of the services in that area. Being proactive has been good. The town has been hesitant to make reductions to water bills as we have had so many replacements.

CODE

- Code Officer Doyle explained that Chenango Fire Department was dispatched on Sunday morning to 929 Upper Front for a chimney fire. He went to the scene and a little bit later as the fire dept was locking up the details with the homeowner till it got serviced and repaired they found that the form that we currently have with code is outdated. A new draft of that form was created, and Attorney Coughlin has reviewed it and will be issued to the homeowner.
- Code officer Doyle will be attending a county training class on Nov. 14th.
- The Broome County Health Department reached out and he will be working with them on doing inspections for the 3 hotels in our town.
- St. Stan school's engineer contacted Code Officer Doyle to tell him they have hired an engineer, and they will be moving forward with a draft copy for us to review on their improvements as they are trying to stabilize it.

ZONING

Nothing to report.

DISCUSSION:

- Councilperson Exley questioned about the BOCES expansion where the property was that they would be taking. Code Officer Doyle answered that it would be the stone house.
- Supervisor Marinaccio has not received any updates with what may have been going on with the Broome Developmental Center. Last month he had reported that some officials were coming in to look at some things and a lot of rumors and guessing as to why officials from Albany would be going there. One thing that happens every year is the state goes out looking for sheltering places for people that need sheltering on a temporary basis. The building is quite full.
- Commissioner Kie explained that on Glenwood Rd. there is a section that should have "No Parking" signs. Where it starts to split into 2 lanes there is a resident that

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continuously parks their vehicle right at that place and it has gotten hit and yet they continue to park there. We do not have any jurisdiction with that, but we could pass to have “No Parking” and provide the county the signs, but they would have to put up the signs. A public hearing would be involved and will be looking to do that in the near future.

- Councilperson Gardner explained that Linda Jackson has not had the time to work on the Association of Towns and Villages for Broome County. He received a call that her assistant in training will be taking it over. They are looking to do a Christmas themed meeting on Thursday, December 7th.

The meeting was adjourned on motion of Councilperson Morabito and seconded by Councilperson Burns at 6:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendi Evans
Town Clerk