

**TOWN OF DELHI
BOARD MEETING
August 11, 2025
6:00PM**

Supervisor Boukai called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Those present:

Councilmember's: Margaret Baldwin, Matt Krzyston, Josh Morgan, Christina Viafore
Highway Superintendent Daren Evans

Residents:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Boukai.

Privilege of the Floor:

Marianne Greenfield, Town Historian, provided a report for the council, she discussed an overabundance of postcards she has found as now being appointed to the Village Historian position. She is cleaning up their historical records. She also discussed "Find a Grave" a website to help find where loved ones are buried.

Approval of July 14, 2025 Minutes:

Councilmember Baldwin made the motion to accept both minutes as presented with Councilmember Morgan seconding. Motion carried.

Old Business:

N/A

New Business:

Supervisor Boukai presented the following resolution, this is a continuation of what we discussed last month, directly contracting with attorney Gina Middleton. Boukai said the rates will stay the same. With this resolution, roll call was done as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 0013 OF 2025
TOWN OF DELHI
AUTHORIZING LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT
WITH GINA MIDDLETON**

The Town Board of the Town of Delhi, duly convened in Regular Session, August 11, 2025, does hereby RESOLVE as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Board has received and reviewed a proposal dated July 7, 2025, a copy of which is incorporated herein, from Gina Middleton for legal services to be provided to the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds it in the best interest of the Town to enter into a legal services agreement with Gina Middleton and any law firm with which she may be affiliated as outlined in said proposal;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor's execution of the legal services agreement with Gina Middleton is hereby ratified and authorized, with an effective date of legal services beginning July 19, 2025; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the agreement for legal services with Coughlin & Gerhart, LLP is terminated as of July 19, 2025; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call:

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT
Supervisor Maya Boukai	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Councilman Matthew Krzyston	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Councilman Josh Morgan	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Councilman Margaret Baldwin	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Councilman Christina Viafore	<u> X </u>	_____	_____

Boukai then stated we have three assessments that are being contested, and because NIMR doesn't cover that, in talking with our attorney, she suggested we go with a company that is experienced in handling assessed value lawsuits. Whitman, Osterman and Hannah do, she talked to Dylan, he seems to think that we can rectify this by the end of the year. Also, Joe and Jim, our assessors, have reached out to Sherie at Real Property, who sent a resolution. Boukai doesn't know what year it's from through the county, but it denotes a procedure that as long as we meet certain criteria, which the two lawsuits would. Saputo and the Price Chopper Plaza has to be an assessed value of over half a million dollars, and they have to be requesting a reduction in those assessed values by over 10% which these two fall into that criteria that we can submit to the county to help offset some of the costs that we would be paying. Boukai noted as she gets more word on that, and if there's a formal application, she will be filling it out, or if she's just sending them the information, it sounds like there's a whole procedure denoted in this resolution, but she will definitely be doing that to see if we can get some help with these fees.

Boukai has already discussed the ability to put clauses into a future agreement saying you cannot contest within X number of years. Or if you do contest, they will have to provide us with the appraisal things that are more high ticket. A commercial appraiser can easily cost \$2,500 especially for some of these really niche I mean, how do you appraise a dairy, it's not like it's a commercial building or something. He and Boukai will work together on coming up with some things to at least help this from becoming a routine situation. Councilmember Krzyston said there's three of them, to which Boukai stated one is residential. That one, he'll still handle, but it won't fall into the county, potential for them to help us, they only do the commercial stuff, but we have one residential and then the two commercial. Krzyston then asked did one of the commercial protest their assessment within the past two years, Boukai said no, both of them are at the three-year threshold. We can put whatever year amount we want. He said, as long as they're willing to agree to it. We will defer to him, and it sounds like a lot of the firms that do this kind of thing, both on behalf of the municipalities or on behalf of the businesses. It's a small niche group of lawyers so they know each other, and so I think that will help with communication and expediting the process. Boukai then requested a motion to enter into this agreement with Whitman Osterman and Hannah for the three assessment issues that we have. Councilmember Baldwin made the motion for Boukai to sign all documents with Councilmember Viafore seconding; motion carried.

Boukai then stated we need to reappoint Joe Gifford as Assessor for the six-year term starting September 1, 2025. A motion was then made by Councilmember Morgan and then seconded by Councilmember Viafore for the reappointment of Joseph Gifford as Sole-Assessor for the six-year term effective September 1, 2025.

Committee Reports:

Highway/Machinery: (Councilmember's Baldwin & Morgan) Written report from Superintendent Evans provided to councilmembers. Evans stated it has been a productive month of road work because it didn't rain, a much-needed relief for us. It has been road work as usual, obviously, the oil and stone that we have, 14

plus miles that we have set is still now scheduled for the end of August, last week in August, and one week in September. Hopefully it's certainly been delayed because of the weather, and that's what we're set for at this point.

Councilmember Baldwin complimented Evans on his job; the understanding of how you have to coordinate and how you it's weather, and then it's the roadway prep, and then you've got to synchronize with the big guys, the big contractors, and it's all got to fall in place, and one raindrop will throw it all off. Evans thanked her.

Councilmembers had copies of the "Municipal Lease Agreement" for the two trucks expected to arrive at the end of the year to be ready for payment in January, the new budget season. Councilmember Baldwin asked if there were any surplus vehicles we will be getting rid of. Evans stated service, one of them will be surplus, probably prior to arrival, because we took the dump box off one truck that is going on a new cab-chassis, new hydraulics, and new plow wing and everything that way, because the box was decent. So that saved us money on these, on the initial cost of these two, the other truck will initially be surplus, but we will give the new one a few months to work, just to make sure there are no warranty issues on new vehicles. We'll keep that one around until probably springtime and keep it around just as a backup for wintertime.

Baldwin then asked about the new time clock for the highway department. Boukai stated she was meeting with Evans and Deputy Highway Superintendent Atkinson, and we will launch it this week with Atkinson using it only so we can work any kinks out. Boukai then explained the app and how it will work.

Councilmember Morgan asked Evans what make and model the trucks were; Evans stated the ten-wheeler is a Western Star with Henderson outfitted equipment with hydraulics and the plow dump body. The other one is a Freightliner; it's all wheel drive because there were only two manufacturers making the all-wheel drives at that point when we ordered them. Morgan asked if the Western Star is like our other one; Evans said yes. Adding and the Freightliner, will have the repurposed box on it that we took off the old truck.

Councilmember Baldwin asked about the paving of the parking lots; Evans it's just going to take some coordination. Obviously, we're going to know closer when the date comes of the actual oil and stone to do it. Just going to take some coordination to do the work as we can't do it with the parking lot full.

Councilmember Morgan asked the clerk if the gutters were all set to be installed. There was some confusion in the email, and the clerk will call tomorrow and schedule the work. She will email him and the supervisor with the information.

Councilmember Krzyston asked Evans what his general feeling about our trucks was, our equipment was overall? Evans stated pretty good compared to seven years ago. By municipal leasing the two that we just paid off was a huge step. Because those were two new trucks, and now they're five years old, both are still in good mechanical condition, not many signs of any serious rust or rot or anything like that. And now by starting over again with two other trucks that's replacing a 2007 and a 2002 model. With machinery that's always a battle. A grader is a 1996 model, it's still a good machine, but it's just showing its age. The other problem is the manufacturer has been bought out three times since that machine was built, so parts are getting harder to get. We've been able to send some parts out and have them rebuilt. But as far as finding new parts for them, that's getting hard to do. He has started to look into options on that, most likely used because, because of the cost of a brand new one. Krzyston asked the cost for new, Evans stated \$350,000 or so. Evans went on to say there's good units out there, there's options to rent to own, and then obviously a municipal lease program, again. He has been starting to look but obviously nothing serious yet. Supervisor Boukai asked if he would have this for budget time; Evans said he will have some proposals, so they can talk it over for this budget season, as far as starting to make payments or rent to own payments or whatever the council chooses. If we can find decent machines the grader obviously gets used significantly in the summer, but it does, luckily, get to sit all winter long, so catches a break there. Our gravel roads aren't as many as we have had, because we've been able to pave throughout the past couple years and get rid of some of them, so that saves it a little bit, but still, it's a machine we can't get away from, and we definitely need, and this one will have to be updated when no parts are available anymore.

Councilmember Krzyston stated he felt like we've done well with equipment and wanted to get Evans' opinion on it, because there were when he first came on the council it wasn't unusual that every month it was like we need to spend \$5,000 or \$10,000 on repairs. It was just the way it was, and that's not so common anymore. Evans stated getting the trucks has certainly helped us eliminate a lot of those costs for repairs. Adding we've been battling with our backhoe, which is an old unit, which also has a refurbished transmission on it, that we sent away, and there's still issues with it, so it's taken back out and sent back for warranty, and hopefully it can be resolved. We've been without it for most of the summer, it's a 2007. Before that we had an excavator that did everything.

Supervisor Boukai asked if the council had any problem moving forward with authorizing her to sign the contract for the municipal lease for the two trucks discussed last budget season for the highway department. Councilmember Krzyston wanted to know if everything was as discussed last budget season and there were no changes; Evans stated this was as discussed. Councilmember Krzyston then made the motion authorizing Boukai to sign the agreement/contracts with Councilmember Morgan seconding. Motion carried. The cost of both trucks is \$594,487.00 which will be \$136,334.68 yearly for 5 years.

Personnel: (Councilmember's Viafore & Baldwin): Councilmember Baldwin stated she and Councilmember Viafore met with the gentleman from AFLAC regarding secondary coverage for employees. This is elective coverage and is not covered by the town. The employee must cover the costs although the town will deduct from their pay should they elect to have added health coverage. They discussed having a virtual and in-person meeting with all employees to see if they are interested and the coverage. There is a required minimum of three employees to participate. They then discussed a date and time for the meeting for employees. Evans stated between noon to 2:30pm late September as the highway department will be doing road work during August.

Baldwin asked Justice Burkert if he had anything to share. He stated they are working on the JCAP grant for this upcoming year. Burkert added there's a big push on the state of going digital, to be able to do virtual appearances and things to present evidence. They are looking at putting that into their grant this year, and also the other particulars they usually put in for paper and also new tables.

Baldwin asked Clerk Schmitz how her office was going. Schmitz stated the new deputy is doing great, she has learned very well and is picking up on the facets of the office. She is a very quick learner and is doing fantastic.

Baldwin then said this is a good time to bring up Facebook because we asked Elsa to do a little research about what the other communities were doing. Schmitz stated she had reached out to a couple of associations that she was part of, and she reached out to the Association of Towns also. And the biggest thing is not allowing comments and the towns that have them, they use them to promote information, like for the highway garage, for meetings or things like that. But again, the biggest thing is and even association of town said, no commenting. You have to make sure that it's informational purposes only. And she reached out to a couple of different towns; they sent her the policies that they have. And the Association of Towns sent her a sample one that they suggest, we follow some of the rules in there. We don't want people to comment, because you open the door to a lot of different issues. She stated if she posts for the highway garage, now posts through her personal Facebook account, but she turns off commenting. If people have questions, she noted that a lot of these town websites state go any questions, contact the office. It's a great way to get information out. Councilmember Krzyston asked if any of her colleagues, like other town clerks, tell you what they feel about it, if they don't like doing it. Schmitz said no, it's not something you do daily, you're posting when there's a meeting, if there's information regarding the highway department doing road work. Anything that incorporates highway, pool town, council meetings, whatever type of information you want out there to the public and again, commenting should be disabled.

Councilmember Baldwin said she liked the idea, because she knew the history of Facebook with the swimming pool. She knew how all came about, but she's always believed that it needs to be in in the office, and it needs to be where the all the information is filtered into one Facebook, and that it is managed by the town clerk, instead of the council, one of us who come and go and that of the pool level. She thinks it should all be

centralized with Facebook, without commenting. Supervisor Boukai asked Councilmember Viafore if we could turn the pool Facebook page to a town page, just renaming it. Viafore stated she believed we renamed it to add West Branch, so she thought we could rename it. Baldwin said she felt we should let that page go; Boukai said we have over 1200 people already subscribed to the pool Facebook page. Schmitz said if we combine the page, we can automatically put it on the header that any questions contact the office, that way there is no liability there with commenting. Baldwin added there was some information that was occurring at the pool, the clerk wasn't aware of, but she received phone calls, it really would be better if it started at the town with all of the issues and how it's posted. Boukai said we need a policy, Schmitz said she had three that she was looking at. Viafore added that you can't turn off commenting for a page, you have to do it for each post. Schmitz said yes, each post you need to disable commenting, but on the page, you state that and give the number to call for questions. Baldwin said recently on the pool page, comments weren't disabled, and the comments were not pleasant, yeah, and that started her really thinking. Boukai added she thinks that's the only hesitation she has although she isn't against this, but she thinks you just get the bottom of the barrel on Facebook, and it just brings out the worst sometimes. Baldwin asked Boukai, would we want to eliminate the pool Facebook for that reason? Boukai answered no, because she thinks that's one of the main ways we get out information, she thinks it's a necessary evil. Baldwin added she just wants it in capable, legal hands, without issues. Boukai added she thinks with something like the pool itself, maybe we can figure out how, someone could generate a post and then it gets approved by Schmitz, or something like that. This way it's not just falling on Schmitz to do, because she knows the pictures get taken when they do their drills and things at the pool. The council discussed ways to incorporate the pool page to the town's official governmental page. Councilmember Viafore said we want to convert the pool page to the Town of Delhi page. Boukai thought that would be great so we don't lose the followers of the pool page, if we can't, then create a new page, and then just tag the pool page whenever we do something pool related.

Supervisor Boukai continued personnel with the code officer position, she had forwarded the council the county job description. Councilmember Morgan gave her a little bit of feedback in his email, but if the three other council members could tweak the job description that the county sent us to tailor it to what we need and our needs, and work with Councilmember Morgan on that, and Code Enforcement Officer Dale Downin, She is asked that we could have an advertisement ready to go before the next meeting. Boukai felt timeline wise, she'd like to have someone hired by the October meeting so they can start shadowing, getting their feet wet that'll give them two months. Councilmember Morgan said the problem that we're going to have is whether they're certified or uncertified. To get certified is going to take almost a year, and that's just the basis. And then it's dependent on how much training they have. Morgan added he is always training and always growing and everything. And you got floodplain management, you got so many different things, so it could vary so much. And he thinks we just need to base it on who's applying and everything. Adding that's going to be tough, because the pay scale is so wide when you're talking like that. Morgan added he can help with classes for the person; there are only a handful that are certified. Boukai added if the municipality has to pay for classes, Morgan said no the state pays for it. Boukai asked if it is reasonable to have a job description by the September meeting, and then we'll give the clerk permission to advertise September, October, and we will just do rolling interviews, and probably close it at the end of September, a month is plenty of time for people that are interested, and we can do rolling interviews. And then maybe at our October meeting, along with budget things we can discuss candidates. Baldwin said she thought it was great. Boukai then added so by the September meeting, we'll have a description for the clerk to advertise, and we can put our next alert out, and just at least try and get it out there. She believes those that are interested are already aware of it, but this will open up kind of like the formal interview process. Baldwin then said we will have the description and feedback to you prior to the September meeting. Boukai said yes, to get her something by September 2, and that way she'll have four days before the meeting to go over everything and tweak anything. Baldwin added we can then pass it by the county personnel office.

Recreation/Health/Youth: (Councilmember's Krzyston & Supervisor Boukai): Councilmember Krzyston announced we had the movie night at the pool which went well. Amy Randall and he both agreed it was

probably around 50 people that came. Some people didn't get into the pool at all, but some people just came and sat on the edge. We hired Sarah Cisco to do the whole thing. And that was a good plan, it'll happen again at the end of this month adding he thought that the date was the 22nd.

Krzyston added the Rotary Club was there and they gave away snacks, popcorn and drinks. So for minimal investment, which was paid by grants. It was pretty cool thing. It would be cool if the sun went down earlier, because that's the big problem. We couldn't start the movie till almost 9pm. Baldwin asked if pictures were taken Boukai said a few, she will have more the next movie night. She is sending them to the Community Foundation, because they're the ones that gave us the grant. Baldwin said it's pretty cool. Boukai added she thinks we should, based on the success of this one, do this at least twice a year, and maybe potentially have sponsors for the night or, like, it's a pretty fixed cost to have Sarah do it.

Councilmember Viafore asked how the arts and crafts have done; Krzyston said there were three events. Boukai added on the first one, there were like five or six kids. Second one, around eight to 10. She did not hear about Saturdays yet. That was the last one, but we'll get feedback and see if there was a better time. Last year we tried it in the mornings. This year it's more in the afternoon. So maybe we need to figure out a better time for it or expand our advertising and stuff. She added she thinks the hard thing too is there's so many other events going on that kind of can only do so much.

Boukai then stated for the past two days, which aren't really like busy days, but today and yesterday, Amy wanted to make sure that the council were aware the pool's been at capacity, because she has that little clicker. She also said that the majority of people were not from Delhi, so we have to monetize this like we're just leaving money on the table. Boukai said she had talked with the bookkeeper about creating a town Venmo that is only used for collecting on site money from the pool. Again, we're not going to do this this year, so we can table this for a little while. But the bookkeeper was okay with that, and Boukai is assuming most other bookkeepers would be, because it would only be for the pool, where, if you're having a town wide one that could be used for different things, that's when it gets really hairy to the accounting. But if it's only the pool, then it could be something a lot simpler. Although Boukai did say she does have some concerns about security on Venmo, but making sure that people know it's legit, and they're scanning the QR code, as opposed to trying to find the town on phase or on Venmo. But it's something she would like to consider, unless we can come up with a better way to monetize it and not deal with cash at the pool. Adding the bookkeeper is on board, and we can do it. Another thought was, nonresident passes, obviously residents, they can get a pass, but it would be for free. That's all labor-intensive work; it's something she can do a little research after the seasons over.

Supervisor Boukai then announced she had turned in Environmental Protection Fund grant two weeks ago, that went well. She had really great letters of recommendation from community members, especially people that have been doing water aerobics. She is hopeful, and honestly, that the feedback has been really good about the pool this year. She then stated they had a hiccup with some chlorine, but it was just a pump not pumping, so the chlorine was getting lower and lower. There are three weeks left, we might run into some staffing issues at the end but we're going to try. We have to do water aerobics till the 29th we've committed to that, but there might be some modifications in pool hours, because half the kids are leaving for college on the 18th, and sports has started.

Economic Development/Shared Services: (Councilmember Morgan & Viafore): Viafore stated she didn't really have anything. She has a climate smart community meeting in the next couple of weeks.

Councilmember Baldwin asked when we were having the joint meeting with the village; Morgan said it was in September; Boukai said the 23rd.

Buildings/Codes: (Councilmember Morgan & Krzyston): Supervisor Boukai stated we had to resubmit our Pro Housing maps, Spencer from County Planning provided us with new maps. Everything is up and running now.

Councilmember Baldwin stated she wanted to discuss something about buildings. She wishes we could somehow start taking care of this building, whatever we need to do, but we're kind of stuck because we're band-aiding it, trying to figure out what to do collectively. But she doesn't want to neglect the building, and a couple years still be in the same. Boukai asked, is there something specific that has triggered this? Baldwin said, other

than the transitional needs of the courts and clerk's offices. The narrow hallways and disabled people this morning that she had seen, getting in the door in the first place was extremely difficult for them. Boukai stated she and the clerk discussed this and we'll discuss it at the meeting in September with the village, and then we might need to kind of change trajectories based on what's going on. But there is money (grants) out there, it's just a matter of knowing how to get it. If it was as simple as writing grants, we would have money by now. Further stating we definitely should be maintaining it.

Boukai then announced Chris is no longer at ISD, and neither is Matt. Justice Burkert is trying to get pricing on outfitting the court out with all of what they need for virtual or virtual proceeds like proceedings. Burkert added it was hard for the defense on their own projector, and it'd be nice if we had that equipment so that both sides could use it, and they were well enough let the people use it, but if we could have that stuff in the court system as a big push on having those things available with the grant program. Burkert added he thinks it's a smart bet to try to put in for it, because we should be able to get that type of equipment. His email was sent 2 weeks ago with no response. Boukai said ISD is still working on getting us a new representative, Burkert may reach out to another company. The clerk stated her laptop is from 2014 and can't be updated, Boukai said she could have the one donated to the town.

IT: (Councilmember Viafore & Krzyston): Councilmember Viafore stated she was able to figure out how to get the historian story in as a "department" so it shows up as one of those things. She also put dog control there too. Further stating then we have that cyber security, "EDM" that's free through the Association of Towns and whoever else it is. Viafore wanted to know if we wanted to move forward with it. Boukai said she reached out to ISD and NYMIR and they said do it. Baldwin asked, it's an additional layer do we really need it, it's like now we're getting into government, big government. Boukai said ISD checked it from their perspective, they said they know what this program is, and that they encouraged us to participate in it, whether it's going to result in a discount for us on reducing services that we're already paying for, that's something that we have not discussed. Boukai then asked for a motion to enter into the contract with Councilmember Krzyston made the motion with Councilmember Viafore seconding. Baldwin said "discussion", from what she's reading, we can cancel at any time. And do we have anybody looking over our shoulders all the time? Boukai said no, because that was one of the clerk's questions, the way that it's encrypted. And she forwarded the response to the clerk. The program is like; they're not looking at emails the way it's encrypted. They're not even seeing words. It's some computer language or something, and that's how they're able to check if there's issues based on how things are coded, and it has nothing to do with like reading actual emails, because she had concerns about some of the sensitive information that she processes for the public. Baldwin said it was a tough one. Motion was then carried.

CODES Monthly Report:

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldwin to accept the Code's report for July 2025. Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Justice Court Report:

Councilmember Baldwin made the motion to accept the Justice Court Report for July 2025. Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion, motion carried.

Clerk's Monthly Report & Tax Report:

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldwin to accept the July 2025 Clerk Report, seconded by Councilmember Morgan. Motion carried.

Supervisor's Financial Report:

Supervisor Boukai stated the July reports are all on the shared drive. She passed around the NYCLAS interest. Further stating she did renew all of the CDs with Delaware National, they're ranging between one and three months, most of them are going to be through the end of September. In terms of interest, we earned \$75,000 year to date, from NYCLASS through the end of July and through the end of September, it will be

about \$27,000 with Delaware National. The accounts at Delaware National are still earning interest, but roughly it's like point 1.3%, it's nothing like you're getting \$1.00 a day.

Supervisor's County Report:

Boukai stated she emailed the council today, but she printed it out as well. She has been getting questions on these 730 competency hearings. She is on that mental health committee, and the 730 hearings are restoring competency for felons, and it's before they go to trial, making sure they understand and are able to participate in their own defense. She emailed information from New York Association of Counties, it breaks it down, she recommends the council reading it. And it kind of gives a little bit of a history of how the state used to pay for it now, how it's now on the county and what services are offered. She recommended reading both of these. The mental health meeting isn't until the third Monday in September, the 15th, any questions that come about from this, please feel free to ask them. She thinks the big thing is, what are people doing there for 6,7,8,9, months? What kind of treatment are they getting and why is it taking so long to determine they're competent now or they're never going to be. Most of her questions are financially related; at what point do counties just say we'll pay for the first 90 days, or we'll be generous and pay for the first 120 but if you guys can't get your act together as the state, because why do you need to? Those are the kind of questions she has.

Councilmember Krzyston asked how do we pay for it now, what fund does it come out of. Boukai said they only budgeted \$50,000 in years past, from what she has been told is you might have no one participating in a 730 hearing. They budget \$50,000 and you may use it; you may not use it. One of the things, from what she understands; how we have pool stuff, and we have a pool reserve, so any money we might not use could go into a reserve account for a rainy-day type thing. The county doesn't work that way because we've asked about that for social services, if social services come under budget can some of that money they save go into a reserve account so that, for example, how we're dealing with Head Start and childcare right now, and how that budget has been blown because there's so many more people that qualify for childcare, we would have had this reserve fund that could have offset it. That doesn't happen. They budget, which is for this past year, was \$50,000 which was blown in January, because the first bill was \$49,000, this last bill in June that we just paid was \$101,000 and then July's was \$66,000. She thinks there might be a third person in there now, because that math doesn't quite match if at \$1,650 a day, it's just coming out of, she believes contingency so, because they didn't want to blow the budget and charge the taxpayers more for something that may or may not happen. But we did go into last year knowing that we have and last year at the end, we paid \$50,000 in December and \$70,000 in October of last year as well. It's the same two people. Krzyston asked if they were residents of Delaware County, Boukai said they don't have to be residents of Delaware County. You could be here on vacation, committed, if you've committed a felony, and then are deemed that you can't support your own defense. It's the county taxpayers, whether, regardless of where they live, it's where the crime is committed. She again told the council to read the emailed information and get back to her if they have any questions. She'll probably put together the questions she has and run them by the council to see if it triggers any further questions they might have. Krzyston said this is a terrible thing, Boukai added she can't comprehend what \$1,650 is buying exactly. Baldwin added and maybe it's luxury enough that, hey, why not stick around.

Boukai said the other thing too is like, if the burden is not on the state, these are all state facilities, meaning the state's doing the hiring, the state's doing the recruit like, if they're short psychologists and psychiatrists, then you're now spreading, you all these clients out over a reduced number of professionals that can evaluate these people, what's the motivation for them to hire more people when it's not their dime that's footing the bill either? She is discovering that with this state, it seems like there's an idea, and then the pendulum swings one direction, way too far, and then it like, swings the other way too far. Krzyston said he remembered the report about all the funds being transferred was like a million dollars or something. Is that for this; adding the report said it was for the pharmacy benefits. Boukai responded that she reached out to Kara, who gave her some information, she's still not fully understanding, because the town doesn't function this way, like you pay your insurance premium, and that's that there's no other bills that come. The county is self-insured, she believes it's a way that they can hedge things, and because everyone's on these expensive drugs

now that they're left holding the bag. What they budgeted for exceeded, and a lot of it was related to diabetes drugs and that is what was coming out of sales tax moneys. Krzyston said he remembers the quote; "we've got plenty of sales tax so we can cover it." He's not opposed to them covering it. It's just like, there's been discussions about you having plenty of sales tax before.

Krzyston then asked about the building that was auctioned; Boukai said that it closed Friday, and it was sold for \$262,500. It's hard to know if that's good or bad, because I don't know how much cleanup needs to be done.

Krzyston then asked what about sales tax sharing; Boukai said her optimism is no longer there for sharing it, she doesn't see it happening. Mr. Cetta (Walton Town Supervisor) had brought up needing a million dollars of sales tax for prescription benefits. And she thinks there's also the mental health issues that's eating up a lot of extra funding. That is what we've been kind of led to believe based on that meeting, but she doesn't know if it will even be coming to a vote internally in finance, but she'll try and remain optimistic. Adding, she thinks she's to the point, which she did mention this to the village mayor, it would be nice to have people on the record voting like, let's stop hypotheticaling all of these things, and let's just bring it to a vote. If it gets out of committee; great. If it doesn't, it doesn't, but then at least everyone knows where everyone stands, and we can just put this to bed. And then come up with some other things to work on, because it's not like, there's aren't plenty of other things that we can be doing. This would be, her hope, is that it actually comes to a vote before budget season, and it isn't just kicked down. Councilmember Morgan said he thinks there's a chance of it happening, maybe not directly sharing of the sales tax, but in another way, he thinks they're looking at definitely helping our villages out. Adding he would hold on to it a little bit. Baldwin added she supposes it could be childcare issues and that the institutional issue could have really impacted this year a lot. Krzyston added he would like to be optimistic, but at this point isn't. Adding, because this is now years, without an answer, although, to be honest, maybe the Finance Committee believes they have made a decision. We're just not accepting it.

Krzyston then asked Boukai if there was any update on the lawsuit the county versus free press, how much money has the county spent. The reason he's asking is because he believes we're in a really precarious situation as a county. He further stated because there's, he believes an "unlimited fund." Meaning that the people who are in jeopardy of who are being sued, said, "We agree that we'll spend as much of the taxpayer money as we want to protect or to defend what we did, which he believes was wrong. Boukai answered she thinks if she remembers the resolution correctly, yes, it was carte blanche in terms of spending, but she thought it was specific only to electronic discovery. Forensic examinations of the computers and things like that, she'd have to look back at the specific resolution to see the language, which she voted no on it, but she thinks it would have triggered more of a memory for her if it was carte blanche for everything. She can ask and see, although she did inquire to see if this was, like a coverable expense or something that NYMIR covers in terms of their litigation. this part of what Niner covers in terms of their litigation. The NYMIR rep seemed to believe that everything should be covered, but she can reach out and ask what has been spent year to date. She personally would like to get more clarification on what insurance is covering versus not covering. She told Krzyston all of the court transcripts are public, he can go to a website, you register, and you can download them. They're 10 cents a page, she's been doing that, she thinks that helps put things into context, too. And in one of those transcripts, the county attorney is saying insurance will not cover the forensic examinations. She doesn't know if that situation has changed as that was a year ago. She remembers reading, and it stood out to her, which is why she then reached out to NYMIR. Further stating we're to the point now where we just need it directly from the horse's mouth, what is and what isn't coverable. She will ask for information. Krzyston then stated he's just concerned that there's no end in sight, these things don't end quickly. Boukai added we're going into the third year coming up, so she will likely have updates later on in the week. If she can share anything, she will.

Abstracts:

Councilmember Krzyston made the motion to approve Abstract #008 – 2025 Accounts "A-SF"

Voucher No. 00344 – 00392 totaling \$157,434.42, Account “TA” Voucher No. 0038 = \$17,904.71. Total vouchers \$175,339.13. Councilmember Morgan seconded. Motion carried.

Adjourn:

Councilmember Viafore made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:18pm, Councilmember Morgan seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Elsa Schmitz

Elsa Schmitz, Town Clerk
Town of Delhi