

State of New York  
County of Lewis  
Town of Watson

The Organizational Meeting of January 13, 2021 was called to order at 6:30pm by Supervisor Gerald Crowell.

Town Officials Present:

Supervisor: Gerald Crowell  
Councilmen: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch  
Town Clerk: Christina Merry  
Hwy Superintendent: Stephen Skiff, Jr.  
Citizens Present: Vicki Roy, Bill & Judi Houppert, Jeff Lyng.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Crowell.

A motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Pominville to accept the December Minutes as read.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

**Organizational:**

Deputy Supervisor: Mike Hanno  
Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar/Water Clerk: Lori Darling-Johnson  
Deputy Highway Superintendent: Neil Mahoney  
Building Committee: Mike Hanno, Jeff Lyng  
Equipment Committee: Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch  
Meeting Night: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month at 6:30pm  
Town Newspaper(s): Journal & Watertown Times  
Town Bank: Community Bank  
Town Attorney: Ray Meier  
Town CPA's: North Country CPA's

A motion was made by Councilman Hoch, seconded by Councilman Hoch to appoint Christina Merry as Registrar and Records Manager, and also to issue a check from the Water Funds one time, in June for Chris's duties as Water Clerk.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

**Ambulance Contract:** This was already passed, but Supervisor Crowell asked for permission to pay the first installment.

Motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Pominville to go ahead and pay.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Supervisor Crowell announced that the Interviewing Committee for Councilman decided on Jeffrey Lyng. A motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Hoch to appoint Jeffrey Lyng as Councilman.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Supervisor Crowell abstained.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Received only one application for Dog Control Officer, Edward Johnson. Councilman Hoch and Supervisor Crowell met with him on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Motion was made by Councilman Pominville, seconded by Councilman Hoch to appoint Mr. Johnson as Dog Control Officer.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Supervisor Crowell had a request from Justice Greg Burkner for a \$1.00 raise for Court Clerk, Erin Murphy. This would bring her wages up to \$15.50 per hour. Supervisor Crowell discussed this with Scott Lawrence, CPA because the budget has already been finalized.

Motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Hoch to approve this raise.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

**Position for Town Justice:** Donald Regetz has applied, but needs to take the Bench Course before beginning duties.

Motion was made by Councilman Hoch, seconded by Councilman Hanno to appoint Donald Regetz as Town Justice.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Supervisor Crowell discussed a Resolution to suspend Requirements of renewal applications as a condition to granting Exemptions under Sections 459-C and 467 of the Real Property Tax Law.

A motion was made by Councilman Pominville, seconded by Councilman Hanno to adopt this Resolution.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

**Highway:** Superintendent explained Rotation schedule for the men. Plow Pickup was ordered on Dec. 10, 2020. Radio Communications- Stephen has talked with Midstate Communications, going to try a couple radios and do a survey. Another option is to sign on to the County Radio system – very costly radios.

Has a maintenance agreement for the large doors, right now there are remotes not working, and some of them need repairs. Discussion followed, and the agreement was approved and signed.

The V-plow has been delivered and is being used on one of the trucks now, until the new truck arrives.

Steve also discussed ordering just under 900ft of various sizes of culverts, so he has them available when doing paving, or replacement when needed. The cost would be about \$11,298.80.

Motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Hoch to approve the purchase of the culvert pipes.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Discussion on the purchase of a big Plow Truck, Steve had some Specs. About \$128,000.00 plus \$82,000.00 for Plow. Total \$211,000.00 including an extended warranty. Also, discussion of leasing, as Croghan did.

Letter of Resignation was presented by Supervisor Crowell from Gregory Burkner, Town Justice, effective as of December 31, 2020.

Motion made by Councilman Pominville, seconded by Councilman Hoch to accept his resignation.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Invoice from DANC for \$6,000.00 which is more than originally stated. Supervisor sent it on to Casandra Buell, has to go through the Attorney to see if the County is willing to pay the extra from what was originally stated.

Motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Pominville to go ahead and pay the bill to DANC.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

**Monthly Bills:**

Bond Anticipation Note – Vouchers # 1 – 5 - \$6,222.16

Water Fund – Vouchers # 1 – 2 - \$103.24

General Fund – Vouchers #1 – 32 - \$34,629.65

Highway Fund – Vouchers# 1 – 10 - \$18,329.47

Motion made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Hoch to pay the bills.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Monthly reports of Justice, Town Clerk, & Supervisor were passed for audit and approval. Motion was made by Councilman Pominville, seconded by Councilman Hanno to accept the monthly reports.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Year-End Reports were passed for audit and approval of the Justice, Town Clerk and Supervisor.

Motion was made by Councilman Pominville, seconded by Councilman Hanno to approve the year-end reports.

Ayes: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Councilman Hanno discussed some painting and repair to be done on some of the buildings to improve them.

Motion was made by Councilman Hoch, seconded by Councilman Hanno to adjourn at 7:40pm.

All in favor.

Next regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Watson will be held on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:30pm at the Town Offices.

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Christina M. Merry, Town Clerk