

State of New York
County of Lewis
Town of Watson

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Watson was called to order at 6:35pm on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 by Supervisor Gerald Crowell.

Town Officials Present:

Supervisor: Gerald Crowell
Councilmen: Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Jim Freeman, Mike Hanno – Absent
Town Clerk: Christina Merry
Code Enforcement Officer: Tim Lee
Hwy Superintendent: Robert Dosztan – Absent

Citizens present: Vicki Roy, Virgil Taylor, Ann Pominville

Guests: Scott Lawrence, CPA

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Crowell.

TA motion was made by Councilman Pominville, seconded by Councilman Hoch to approve the May Minutes as read.

Ayes: Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Jim Freeman, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Scott Lawrence, CPA was given the floor to go over the Town's Financials. To date, totals are lower than at this same time last year. There were a couple of deposits, that the CPA's haven't received notice of that are not reflected in the financials. No word on the CHIPS money either. Scott stated everything looks good compared to last year, expenses are down.

Supervisor Crowell discussed the WIII Grant. So far, no further word on this, as to when it will be coming. Rural Development has stated that if this Grant is rescinded, we can go for a loan or a grant through the Rural Development. Discussion followed, regarding financials and WIII Grant. Scott said anytime after July 15, 2020 can be set up for budget workshops, as things for him will be slowed down some by then. These workshops will be advertised in the Journal and open to the public.

Supervisor Crowell passed a draft of Local Law for Regulating Ownership & Use of Horses for Private Purposes within the Town. Discussion followed and Chris stated that Nettie said she needed to talk with Ray about this, because they are not trying to say people cannot own horses, they just want to be sure they have enough area for the horse(s). Suggested Nettie and Ray get together to discuss possible changes.

DANC – Supervisor Crowell passed out a Technical Services Agreement for the Board to review. The County is willing to pay \$2,100 towards DANC helping with the Town's Comprehensive Plan. They should be able to start around September. The price started at \$3,500, but then went up. But because JCC has already done the surveys and analysis part, the price may still be around \$4,000.

Chris read the Inter-municipal Agreement for Dog Control. Stated that Supervisor Crowell told her that Attorney Ray Meier had no issues with the agreement. These agreements are with Greig, West Turin and Town of Croghan.

A motion was made by Councilman Hoch, seconded by Councilman Freeman to accept these Inter-municipal Agreements.

Ayes: Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Jim Freeman, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Councilman Hoch asked if Ray had said anything more regarding combining the Zoning Board and the Planning Board. Discussion followed.

Highway: Supervisor Crowell stated that Superintendent Dosztan stated a swivel head for the mower would be better for safety and for mowing. It would allow the tractor to be closer to the edge of the road, and would give

the operator better visual. Approximate cost would be around \$3,000.

Motion was made by Councilman Freeman, seconded by Councilman Pominville to approve purchasing the swivel head.

Ayes: Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Jim Freeman, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Code Enforcement: Nothing to report. Work is picking up. Councilman Hoch asked about the discussion last month regarding increase in fees and if they had passed it. Discussion followed.

Supervisor Crowell passed out papers he received from Fred Bickford regarding the Water Project. The BAN went through smoothly, just need to sign papers when they come and return them. Pre-construction meeting will be held, then possible first part of July construction starts.

Final testing of the wells shows small trace of E-Col i. Claude Curley from the DOH sent an email that was a little confusing, suggesting retesting after production pumps are installed. Supervisor Crowell didn't agree entirely with that, he would rather retest first, before spending the money on the pumps. It was also suggested to contact O-Rourke to see if he would do the retesting, as he would also be less expensive than having HydroSource come back. Asked Virgil Taylor's opinion, and also asked the Board for their input. Supervisor Crowell said he is waiting for a response from Mr. Curley and Fred Bickford, and depending on their response will determine if we should go ahead with project or get retesting done first.

Question was put to Virgil Taylor regarding cemeteries and the water. If the Town owns cemetery, it is exempt, but a privately owned cemetery is listed as property within the Town. Privately owned cemeteries would still be required to pay the EDU.

Chris discussed the Water Fee Schedule and some of the charges that were listed. Received input from three other water districts as to their charges. Would like the Board to review and see if there should be changes made.

Monthly Bills:

Water Ban: Vouchers # 22-23 - \$4,943.60

Water Fund – Vouchers # 9 -14 - \$1,334.01

General Fund – Vouchers # 108 -131 - \$10,052.64

Highway Fund – Vouchers # 64-80 - \$12,018.65

Motion was made by Councilman Pominville, seconded by Councilman Freeman to pay the bills.

Ayes: Ronald Pominville, Jim Freeman, Gerald Crowell

Nays: None

Abstained: Jeff Hoch – didn't receive the abstracts through email.

Motion so carried.

Monthly Reports of the Town Clerk, Supervisor, Code Enforcement Officer were passed for audit/approval.

Motion by Councilman Hoch, seconded by Councilman Freeman to accept these reports.

Ayes: Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Jim Freeman, Gerald Crowell

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Motion made by Councilman Pominville, seconded by Councilman Freeman to adjourn at 9:28pm.

All in favor. Motion so carried.

Next meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Watson will be held on Wednesday, July 8th, 2020 at 6:30pm at the Town Offices.

Christina M. Merry, Town Clerk