

State of New York
County of Lewis
Town of Watson

The Public Hearing/Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Watson was called to order at 6:28pm on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 by Supervisor Gerald Crowell.

Town Officials Present:

Supervisor: Gerald Crowell
Councilmen: Mike Hanno, Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Jim Freeman
Town Clerk: Christina Merry
Hwy Superintendent: Robert Dosztan – Absent
Code Enforcement Officer: Robert O'Brian
Citizens Present: Virgil Tayler, Jeff Lyng, Judi Houppert, Vicki Roy, Ann Pominville, Kevin Feuka.
Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Crowell.

Motion was made by Councilman Hoch, seconded by Councilman Hanno to accept the August 12th minutes with a few minor spelling corrections.

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

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Public Hearing for Local Law Number Two of 2020 “A Local Law Opting Out of the Enforcement and Administration of the New York State Uniform Building and Fire Code Pursuant to Section 381 of the New York State Executive Law” was opened at 6:30pm.

Kevin Feuka was given the floor. Kevin has no problems with the changes that were made to the Water Fee Schedule. Questions regarding meters/meter pits after construction is done. This is the residents responsibility, and Kevin gave two ways to handle the meter, as the meter has to be one that is compatible with our software. Also, question regarding pipeline going down one side of the road, and properties on the other side are not considered in the district. Kevin explained that this was due to the fact no one on the opposite side wanted water at the time the surveys were sent.

Billing for the EDU's will begin January, 2021 for our debt service as recommended by our Bonding Attorneys. Kevin went over the Project Budget/cost Certification, Form E for Rural Development. There are some changes that need to be made, in regards to current Contract agreements with Attorney and Bonding Attorney's. An amendment needs to be made to these Contracts.

Resolution #10 of 2020 – To Adjust Budget Item Water District #4 Extension #1.

Motion was made by Councilman Freeman, seconded by Councilman Hanno to make the necessary adjustments regarding Lands & Rights-of-way Budget from \$78,300.00 to \$86,016.50 which will cover expenses already paid.

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

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Went on to explain the land series class 910 - This could be conservation land, or land to be left as wooded forest land, and currently they are classified as 0 EDU's. Regarding questions about our 2 trailer parks, the first trailer is one full EDU, and the remaining trailers are to be charged ½ an EDU. Supervisor Crowell asked about the discussion at the construction meeting in regards to C2ae's payments. Kevin stated he has not been able to work on that yet, but we will have to pass a resolution to amend their Contract, and hoping to have it done by our next meeting.

Public Hearing closed at 7:15pm

Motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Hoch to pass Local Law Number Two.

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

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Resolution #9, 2020 - Inter municipal Agreements with the County to assume the functions of enforcing and administering the New York State Uniform Building and Fire Code, Zoning and Land Use, and Flood Prevention.

A motion was made by Councilman Freeman, seconded by Councilman Hanno giving Supervisor Crowell authorization to sign these agreements.

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

Nays: None

Motion so carried

Kevin Feuka asked about the lettering on the Water Tank. It was decided that the lettering should be placed on the upper side of the tank, where it will be seen as drivers come down the Number Four Road as it will be hidden from view coming up the road.

Lowville Fire Dept. - received a letter stating their budget is increased, due to insurance increases.

Also, there was discussion regarding a letter about 2% foreign fire tax-Virgil Tayler explained what it was and where it comes from. Scott Lawrence, the Town's CPA came up with an amount of \$3,3346.66 for 3 years, and should be paid to the Lowville Fire Dept. Chris will look further in the files to see if and when we received this money.

Motion made by Councilman Pominville, seconded by Councilman Hanno to pay this to the Fire Dept.

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

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Supervisor Crowell explained the quote for the Lighting. Only received one other than the one from James Buono at Potenia Management. Potenia was lowest bid of \$1,301.00. The other bid came in at \$2,456.56.

Motion by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Hoch to accept Potenia's bid.

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

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Supervisor Crowell also went over the quote from Brown's that had the labor added, Chris explained the quotes we received from Creg Systems and Pixamation regarding fixing the internet problem at the Barn. Pixamation had the lowest bid, and Supervisor Crowell said to go with him, as he is our IT person anyway, and it was an IT issue.

Supervisor Crowell discussed how much the decrease of 20% would affect the Chips money that we get, and the PaveNY and EWR.

Search & Rescue has an increase of 2%, which will be \$6,576.45 for the Town in 2021.

Supervisor Crowell read a letter commending Assessor Erin Gratch on keeping our assessments at 100%, and for her hard work.

Chris discussed a new revised Retention Schedule. Instead of it being a MU-1, it is LGS-1 with some changes. But it needs to be adopted before January 1, 2021, or we cannot use it.

Motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Hoch to adopt this Retention Schedule.

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

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Lowville Water Contracts: We now have the new contracts from the Village of Lowville, with amendments made to Contracts #3 & 4, that we will not have to pay any penalties to opt out of these 2 Contracts when our water system is up and running.

Motion made by Councilman Freeman, seconded by Councilman Pominville to accept these contracts.

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

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Monthly bills:

BAN – Vouchers # 30-34 - \$530,723.97

Water Fund – Vouchers # 18 – 21 - \$374.27

General Fund – Vouchers # 181 – 207 - \$12,676.92

Highway Fund – Vouchers # 110 – 122 - \$38,547.02

Some discussion followed.

Motion made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Hoch to pay the bills with the exclusion of Voucher # 119 of the Highway Fund,

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

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Planning Board: Would like to change the 5 day notice to 10 days to be put on the agenda.

Robert O'Brian stated he would like to be reappointed to the ZBA Board when his current position is abolished. Further discussion regarding combining the Planning Board and ZBA Board, and we are going to run an ad in the paper for new members to both Boards.

Monthly Reports: Town Clerk, Justice, Code Enforcement Officer were passed for audit and approval.

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

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

Nays: None

Motion so carried. Per the CPA's Office, they didn't have the Supervisor's reports done due to reconciling.

Motion to adjourn at 8:45pm was made by Councilman Freeman, seconded by Councilman Hoch.

All in favor.

Next meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Watson will be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 9:00am. This will be a Special Meeting/Budget Meeting. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 6:30pm at the Town Offices.

Christina M. Merry, Town Clerk