

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 5:32pm on Wednesday, November 13, 2019 by Deputy Supervisor Mike Hanno.

Town Officials Present:

Deputy Supervisor:	Mike Hanno
Councilmen:	Ronald Pominville, Jeff Hoch, Jim Freeman
Town Clerk:	Christina Merry
Hwy Superintendent:	Robert Dosztan
Code Enforcement Officer:	Tim Lee
Water Clerk:	Joann Mostyn

Citizens Present: Andrea Moroughan, Bill & Judi Houppert, Vicki Roy, Ann Pominville, Kevin Feuka, Attorney Ray Meier.

Deputy Supervisor Hanno congratulated Gerald Crowell on his winning at the November 5<sup>th</sup> election and asked for a motion to appoint Mr. Crowell as Supervisor for the remainder of the year.

Motion was made to appoint Mr. Crowell by Councilman Freeman, seconded by Councilman Hoch.

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

Nays: None

Motion so moved. Mr. Crowell took over the meeting at this time as Supervisor after signing his Oath of Office.

**Public Hearing** on the Fire Contracts with Lowville and Croghan and the Ambulance Contract with Search & Rescue was opened at 5:40pm. Some discussion followed. Croghan Fire Contract was approved last year for a 5 year Contract. Public Hearing remained open.

The minutes to the October meeting were approved as read by a motion made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Pominville.

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

Nays: None

Scott Lawrence, CPA was given the floor to review the financials for the Town. Financials look better than they did a year ago, and are running a little below the average, which is good. Discussion followed.

The Public Hearing on the Fire Contracts and Ambulance Contract was closed at 6:25pm.

A motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Hoch to accept these contracts.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

**Public Hearing** on Finalizing the Preliminary Budget was opened at 6:30pm. Went over the Preliminary Budget. There were questions and answers during discussion. There were some changes to be made: Fire District #1 – should be \$47,389.15 instead of \$40,000.00, Fire District #2 should be \$3,100.00 instead of \$4,000.00 ( this is according to the Contracts), the anticipated CHIPS reimbursement should be lowered by \$6,000.00 from \$215,000.00 to \$209,000.00, the Garage Contractual was reduced to \$98,575.00 from \$104,575.00, and the Ambulance Fund was reduced from \$6,700.00 to \$6,447.50.

Supervisor Crowell asked if there was anymore questions or discussion regarding the Preliminary Budget.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:50pm by motion made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Hoch.

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

Nays: None  
Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Pominville, seconded by Councilman Hoch to approve the Preliminary Budget with changes.

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

Nays: None

Preliminary Budget so passed.

A motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Freeman to accept the Proposed Final Budget.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Ray Meier discussed the Campground Rules & Regulations, and stated there were some changes to be made, and discussed the process that needs to be followed. He suggested extending the Moratorium for a few months, which has to be done by Local Law. He will get the final draft completed, and we will have to have a Public Hearing at the next meeting.

#### **Local Law #1, 2019 – Water Rules & Regulations**

A motion was made by Councilman Hoch, seconded by Councilman Hanno to approve the Water Rules & Regulations. There was a public hearing at the October meeting covering this Local Law.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried, Local Law # 1 approved.

Councilman Hoch brought up the email Chris had sent to the Board regarding a Church group asking if they could rent the Town Offices for Bible Study one day a week. Attorney Meier gave his input on this and the Board was all opposed to letting outside groups use the building. Chris will contact the person and let them know.

Kevin Feuka was given the floor to discuss the Revised Water Rates. Mr. Feuka explained the process he used to calculate the rates. He also had a Revenue Analysis attached. Was asked if our Grant had been submitted and he said yes, and should hear something back in December.

A motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Pominville to accept the Revised Water Rates.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Councilman Hanno made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:25pm, seconded by Councilman Hoch. Executive Session ended at 9:12pm. No minutes to report.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Code Enforcement** – Nothing to Report.

**Planning Board** - Campgrounds – as was discussed earlier in the meeting.

**Zoning:** Not Present

**Dog Control:** Not Present

Councilman Hanno read the letter received from the NYS DOT regarding the request for extending the Speed Limit on the Snell Road. No extension will be enacted.

Chris reported that Larry Mellnitz, D. C. O. would like a live trap, large enough for dogs as he has run into issues where he cannot get close enough to some dogs to catch them.

**Legislator:** Andrea Moroughan commented that the County was accepting applications for Director of the Office of the Aging, and would be beginning interviews, also the County Garage will be getting new fuel tanks. Nothing new regarding the Hodge Road intersection timeframe.

A lease agreement from the County was sent to the Town regarding the repeater & equipment to be placed on Erie Canal Road Tower. Chris is to check with Bill Schaab regarding Liability Coverage.

Motion was made by Councilman Hanno, seconded by Councilman Hoch to sign this lease with the County.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Monthly bills were passed for audit and approval.

Water Fund: Voucher # 19 - \$22.03

General Fund: Vouchers # 246 – 268 - \$6,904.98

Highway Fund: Vouchers # 125 – 137 (Voucher # 135 omitted, should have been under Bond)\$10,606.23.

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

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The monthly reports of the Town Clerk, Town Justice, Code Enforcement Officer, and reports from the Town Supervisor for April, August, September & October were passed for audit and approval.

Motion was made by Councilman Pominville, seconded by Councilman Hoch to accept these reports.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Freeman, seconded by Councilman Hanno to adjourn at 10:05pm.

All in favor.

Next meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Watson will be held on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 5:30pm, beginning with a Public Hearing.

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Christina M. Merry, Town Clerk