

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 on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 6:29pm by Supervisor Gerald Crowell.

Town Officials Present:

Supervisor: Gerald Crowell
Councilmen: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Ronald Pominville, Mike Hanno – Absent
Town Clerk: Christina Merry
Hwy Superintendent: Absent
CPA: Scott Lawrence

Citizens Present: Vicki Roy, Judi Houppert, Bill Houppert, Ann Pominville, Mary Misek, Bill Hunt.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Crowell.

Motion was made by Councilman Lyng, seconded by Councilman Hoch to accept the Minutes of the October Meeting, October 22 Budget Meeting, and November 3 Budget Meeting.

Ayes: Ronald Pominville, Jeff Lyng, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Scott Lawrence, CPA was given the floor to run through the Financial Report. Hit the highlights, and stated things are looking good. There are a few accounts that need transfers done, but overall the Town is doing well.

Public Hearing: To finalize the 2022 Budget was opened at 6:50pm by Supervisor Crowell. He explained the Board met for 5 meetings to work on the Budget with Scott. Kept everything as low as possible. There was some fund balance used from last year to help keep the Budget below the 2% Tax Cap. Also, able to put some money away in the Capital Reserve towards machinery. Scott gave a quick rundown of different areas in the Budget. Public Hearing will stay open for questions until 7:30pm.

Open Bid(s): For interior work at the Town Office Building. Tabled until the December meeting as Councilman Hanno wanted to be present. No objections to tabling.

December Meeting: It has come to the attention of the Supervisor that there is a discrepancy in the Local Law #1 for 2019 regarding the Water Rules & Regulations, and it will need to be amended as well as changes that will be made to the current Water Fee Schedule, due to the interest rate the Town received their loan is lower that anticipated at the beginning of the Water Project. So there will be a Public Hearing regarding these issues at the December Meeting. Supervisor Crowell has written a letter that will go out right after the December meeting, once Fee Schedule has been Amended.

Superintendent of Highways Report: Supervisor Crowell passed his report, as he was absent. Approximately \$222,000 coming back from CHIPS, the new Plow Truck will be delivered later in the month of December to Viking, Superintendent spoke with Nortz & Virkler and the new pickup will be 2 to 3 months out.

Supervisor Crowell discussed his conversation with Robin Ware with Community Bank regarding the financing,

Bill Houppert brought up the subject of getting a Report from the Fire Depts. (Lowville & Croghan) as to how many calls they responded to in the Town. Supervisor will contact Joe Austin and Mr. Monnat and set up a presentation for the January Meeting.

Also, in January, we will be having a GIS Web-based presentation.

Water: Construction has been completed, punch lists are almost completed. We have received the remaining \$750,000 from the WIIA Grant. Scott's office is looking into verification of payment of expenditures prior to the start of the Project.

Public Hearing resumed at 7:30pm. No further questions.

Motion was made by Councilman Hoch, seconded by Councilman Lyng to Finalize the 2022 Budget.

Ayes: Ronald Pominville, Jeff Lyng, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Supervisor Crowell discussed his plan for moving forward in regards to his work schedule, and asked for the Board's support and interaction.

Monthly Bills:

BAN – Voucher #53 - \$1,519.79

Water Fund – Vouchers # 23-24 - \$12,821.51

Water O&M – Vouchers # 29-34 - \$714.96

General Fund – Vouchers # 244-265 - \$56,599.71

Highway Fund – Vouchers # 134-141 - \$12,227.63

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

Ayes: Ronald Pominville, Jeff Lyng, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Monthly reports of the Justice, Town Clerk and Supervisor were passed for audit and approval.

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

Ayes: Ronald Pominville, Jeff Lyng, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Hoch, seconded by Councilman Pominville to close the Public Hearing at 7:50pm.

Ayes: Ronald Pominville, Jeff Lyng, Jeff Hoch, Gerald Crowell.

Nays: None

Motion so carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Lyng, seconded by Councilman Pominville to adjourn at 7:51pm.

All in favor.

The next meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Watson will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 6:30pm, and this meeting will include a Public Hearing.

Christina M. Merry, Town Clerk