

State of New York
County of Lewis
Town of Watson

October 8, 2025

The regular meeting was called to order on October 8, 2025 at 6:30pm by Supervisor Jeff Hoch.

Town Officials present:

Supervisor: Jeffrey Hoch

Councilpersons present: Jeff Lyng, Vicki Roy, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman

Town Clerk: Michelle Ward

HWY Superintendent: Steve Skiff - Absent

Citizens present: Bill Hunt, Mary Misek, Bill and Judi Houppert, Shelena Endy

CPA: Scott Lawrence

Meeting was started by the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by Supervisor Jeff Hoch.

Public Hearing

Public hearing for Proposed Local Law #5 – Dangerous Dog Law for the Town of Watson.

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by Jeff Lyng to open the public hearing at 6:31PM.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Proposed dangerous dog law was reviewed by the board. Multiple changes to proposed law will be made and revised proposed law will be available at next board meeting for acceptance.

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Shawn Freeman to close the public hearing at 7:24PM.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from September 10, 2025 – Town Board Regular Meeting & September 25, 2025 – Special Meeting minutes were submitted for approval.

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept the meeting minutes with amendments.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Privilege of the floor opened

B.W. Hunt addressed the Town Board with a suggestion about the JCAP grant. He suggested that the Town consider new signage for the Town office.

Financials

Scott Lawrence from the CPA office was present to review the financials with the Town Board.

Resolution #36-2025 – Budget Transfer/Adjustment of Funds

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to transfer of \$50,327.00 from DA 4960 – Emergency Disaster Revenue (FEMA) to DA 5110.41 – Contractual – Maintenance of Roads (FEMA).

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Supervisors Report

September 2025

Total in Community Bank - \$147,479.63

Total in NYCLASS - \$2,207,851.69

Petty Cash - \$144.50

Total Amount - \$2,355,475.82

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Vicki Roy to accept the Supervisor's Report for September 2025.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy, Jeff Lyng

Nays: None

Motion Carried

RACOG

To see monthly RACOG newsletter go to <http://racog.org>

New Business

Board of Assessment Review

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Shawn Freeman to re-appoint Cathy Dosztan as a member of the BAR for a term of 10/01/2025-9/30/2030.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Resolution #37 of 2025 - Data Collector

Inter Municipal Agreement with Lewis County's Real Property Tax Service that would provide a data collector for the Town of Watson was brought to the Board.

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to accept the Inter Municipal Agreement.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Resolution #38 of 2025 Budget Transfer/Adjustment of Funds

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Jeff Lyng to transfer funds from A1355.2 – Assessor Equipment - \$500.00 And A1420.4 – Attorney – Contractual - \$1,000.00 to A1355.4 – Assessor Contractual to total the amount of \$1,500.00 was proposed.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Preliminary Budget 2026 Public Hearing

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to hold a Public Hearing for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 for the Town of Watson. The hearing will be scheduled for November 12, 2025 at 7:00PM at the Town of Watson Municipal building.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence

HYDROSTOR/Local Law #6-2025 Public Hearing

Public Hearing will be November 12, 2025 at 6:30PM at the Town of Watson Municipal Office located at 6971 Number Four Rd. Lowville for discussion of Local Law #6-2025 which is a law Amending and Supplementing the Town of Watson Zoning Law to Establish Regulations for Compressed Air Energy Storage Systems.

Highway

Highway Department will be switching to winter hours (5 days a week 7:00am-3:30PM) starting October 20.

Sand hauling has been completed for the year.

Started getting ready for the upcoming winter.

Truck #22 is back and currently in working order. Problem was the injectors which cost \$10,000 to fix.

Water

The water leak was found on a vacant parcel of property on the River Road. It has been fixed. Water output is now back to normal.

The water department has purchased a used correlator to aid in finding any future leaks.

Hydrant Flushing will be the week of October 13-17. You may experience low water pressure during this time. Once the flushing is complete normal water pressure will resume.

Town Justice

Judge Regetz has submitted the JCAP grant. He has requested state mandated equipment for electronic upgrades, misc. office supplies, drop box and offices chairs. He will await to hear what has been approved.

Planning Board

Meeting held first Wednesday of each month. Meeting minutes posted to the town website:

www.townofwatsonny.com Quick Links, Departments, Planning Board

Zoning Board

Meeting held the second Monday of each month. Meeting minutes posted to the town website:

www.townofwatsonny.com Quick Links, Departments, Zoning Board

Zoning Advisory Committee

Updating current Town of Watson zoning laws.

Next meeting October 20, 2025 at the Town of Watson Municipal Office located at 6971 Number Four Rd Lowville, NY.

Park

Beyer painting has painted the pavilion roof.

Monthly Abstract

Abstracts: September 2025

General Fund – Voucher – 32, 250-268 - \$14,726.77

Highway – Voucher – 120-136 - \$149,649.69

Water District – Voucher – 16 - \$25.56

Watson Water O & M – Voucher – 68 – 75 - \$7,205.37

Bond – Voucher 3 - \$26,881.25

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to pay September 2025 abstracts.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy, Jeff Lyng

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Monthly Reports

Monthly report for September 2025 for Town Clerk & Dog Fund was submitted by Michelle Ward, Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

Monthly Justice report for September 2025 was submitted by Donald Regetz, Town Justice.

Assessor Monthly Report was submitted by Allan Mace, Assessor.

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by Vicki Roy to accept reports.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy, Jeff Lyng

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Executive Session

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by Jeff Lyng to go into executive session at 8:19PM to discuss personnel.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy, Jeff Lyng

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Shawn Freeman to come out of executive session at 9:45PM.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy, Jeff Lyng

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Adjourn

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Jeff Lyng to adjourn meeting at 9:46 PM.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, Vicki Roy, Jeff Lyng

Nays: None

Motion Carried



Michelle Ward, Town Clerk

Next Regular Meeting: November 12, 2025