

State of New York
County of Lewis
Town of Watson

April 10, 2024

The regular meeting was called to order on April 10, 2024 at 6:29pm by Supervisor Jeff Hoch.

Town Officials present:

Supervisor: Jeffrey Hoch

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

Town Clerk: Michelle Ward

HWY Superintendent: Steve Skiff

Citizens present: Bill and Judi Houppert, William Hunt, Mary Misek, James Pawloski, Matt Fuller

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

Meeting Minutes

Amendments made to meeting minutes for March 13, 2024 (under RACOG).

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept March 13, 2024 meeting minutes.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Highway Building

Matt Fuller from Barton and Loguidice was here to discuss the written draft proposal that they completed for the highway garage building. The draft proposal included price estimates to renovate the current building and bring it to code. Such things as handicap accessibility, drainage, heating, lighting and others. Current proposal was estimated cost to renovate and add an addition for \$3.1 million. There was an estimated cost for a new building of \$3.8 million, which would include removal of old building, increase circulation, drive thru option, and other upgrades. Approximate life of new building could be 30-40 years. Next step with this is to discuss any changes to drawing plan of structure. Comprise a list of changes and then send to Barton & Loguidice to change plans. This is still in the discussion phase of this project. Further discussion will follow.

Financials

The Board discussed the financials.

Supervisors Report

March 2024

Total in Community Bank - \$83,434.70

Total in NYCLASS - \$2,660,660.23

Petty Cash - \$144.50

Total Amount - \$2,744,239.43

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Jeff Lyng to accept the Supervisor's Report for March 2024.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Dog Control Officer

Edward Johnson has submitted his resignation to the Town Board effective April 15, 2024. A job posting will be made to linkinglewiscounty and on the town website.

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Vicki Roy to accept the resignation.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Lowville Summer Rec Program

Jeff Hoch was requested to attend a meeting in regards to the cost of the summer rec program that is offered by the Lowville Academy and Central School District. It was brought to his attention how many children attend this program from Watson. The cost of this program has been the responsibility of Lewis County, Town of Lowville and the Village of Lowville. They are requesting that the Town of Watson pick up some of the cost accumulated by sending the town's children to the program. It was explained to them at this meeting that the Town budget has already been completed for the year of 2024 and this was not something that was budgeted, however it will be discussed for the year of 2025.

Board of Assessment Review

A Town of Watson resident expressed willingness to join the BAR. Chairperson Ronny Gingerich was contacted and he stated that they have 3 current members and that is all that is needed at this time.

Pre-Approval to pay bills

* Resolution #7 – 2024 – The Town Clerk, Michelle Ward, proposed to the Town Board the paying of the list of monthly bills prior to the Town Board's meeting to avoid late charges being added to the bills.

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to pay bills listed.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Highway

Highway Department has begun sweeping the Town of Watson roads. They have also done some and will continue doing ditch maintenance on the Olmstead Road. The highway department has started their summer work schedule, which is 4 day/week 10hours.

Bailey Road bridge has been re-opened. New supports and signage have been installed.

Steve have ordered the 2024 Ford F-250 XLT Crew Cab 4X4 6.75' Box 160WB, Iconic Silver Metallic from Van Bortel. Approximate delivery time 4-6 months.

Steve has worked out a deal for the mulching head for \$25,000. Jones' Machine Shop will be making an attachment for it at a cost of \$800.00.

Bradish Road maintenance has not yet been determined for 2024. Steve has been evaluating the Town roads for paving this year. Plans to pave #4 to Glen Road are on the agenda.

Bailey Road Bridge Project is waiting to hear about the boring results that were previously completed.

There was also a survey done on the Kotel Road about culvert replacement.

Steve will be attending highway school from June 3-5 in Ithaca, NY.

Highway contract negotiations are ongoing. Currently waiting to hear back from Ray Meier.

Water

Annual Quality Water Report was sent with the water bills at the beginning of April. It has also been posted to the website.

Spring Hydrant Flushing will be the week of April 22-26. At this time, you may experience a decrease in water pressure.

Town Park

The Watson Town park has been opened for the year. Anyone wishing to reserve it should contact Michelle Ward, Town Clerk for availability. There is \$50.00 deposit fee and a \$25.00 use fee that are both due upon reservation contract completion and submission to reserve date requested. Park application and rules are posted at www.townofwatsonny.com. Go to Quick Links, All Boards and Watson Town Park.

Planning Board

Meeting was cancelled for April 2024.

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

www.townofwatsonny.com

Zoning Board

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

www.townofwatsonny.com

Monthly Abstract

Abstracts: April 2024

General Fund – Voucher – 91-115 - \$7,377.17

Highway – Voucher – 30-35 - \$10,003.93

Water District – Voucher – 8 - \$23.15

Watson Water O & M – Voucher – 26-32 - \$1,851.22

Watson Water EDU – 1-2 \$123,201.25

Bond Anticipation Note – Voucher – 8 - \$2,320.53

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept April abstracts.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Monthly Reports

Monthly report for March 2024 for Town Clerk, Dog Fund and Tax Collector was submitted by Michelle Ward, Town Clerk.

Monthly Justice report for March 2024 was submitted by Donald Regetz, Town Justice.

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

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Adjourn

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Shawn Freeman to adjourn meeting at 8:26pm.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried



Michelle Ward, Town Clerk

Next Regular Meeting: May 8, 2024

*To see the full resolution go to townofwatsonny.com, Quick Links, All Boards, Town Board, scroll down below Town Meeting Minutes and see Resolutions.