

State of New York  
County of Lewis  
Town of Watson

September 13, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order on September 13, 2023 at 6:35pm by Supervisor Jeff Hoch.

Town Officials present:

Supervisor: Jeffrey Hoch

Councilpersons present: Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Gerry Crowell & Vicki Roy

Town Clerk: Michelle Ward

HWY Superintendent: Steve Skiff - Absent

CPA: Scott Lawrence

Citizens present: Mary Misek & Bill Hunt

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

#### New Business

##### Public Hearing/Local Law #1-2023/Resolution # 4-2023

Motion made to open public hearing at 6:37pm for Local Law #1 of the year 2023, A local law to override the tax levy limit for fiscal year 2024 by Gerry Crowell and seconded by Shawn Freeman.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

No questions or concerns voiced during hearing.

Motion made to close public hearing at 7:45pm by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Vicki Roy.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Motion made by Gerry Crowell and seconded by Shawn Freeman to ADOPT Local Law #1 of the year 2023, A local law to override the tax levy limit for fiscal year 2024.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Local Law #1-2023 ADOPTED. Effective 9/13/2023

Resolution # 4-2023 ADOPTED. Effective 9/13/2023

#### Financials

Scott Lawrence was here and reviewed the financials for August 2023. Any questions voiced were answered.

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Gerry Crowell to accept:

Resolution #5 – To accept General Fund Budget Transfers from May 2023-August 2023. Attached to minutes is the transfer list.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Resolution #5-2023 ADOPTED. Effective 9/13/2023

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Gerry Crowell to accept:

Resolution #6 - To accept Highway Fund Budget Transfers from May 2023-August 2023. Attached to minutes is the transfer list.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Resolution #6-2023 ADOPTED. Effective 9/13/2023

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Gerry Crowell to accept:

Resolution #7 - To accept Watson O & M Water Fund Budget Transfers from May 2023-August 2023. Attached to minutes is the transfer list.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Resolution #7-2023 ADOPTED. Effective 9/13/2023

### Minutes

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept the August 9, 2023 – Town Meeting minutes, August 21, 2023, August 30, 2023 and September 12 2023 – Budget Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

### Town Budget

Summary of Tentative Town of Watson Budget for 2024 was presented to the Town Board. Each board member was given a copy for review.

### Highway

The 2012 pickup truck w/plow was on the auction site. Steve is asking for approval to sell it for \$5,600.00.

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Gerry Crowell to sell surplus truck.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

There was discussion about abandonment of part of the Bradish Road. At this time there will be a public hearing set for the Town October 11, 2023 meeting for further discussion. Letters will be sent to persons of interest requesting said abandonment.

The Bailey Road hydraulic survey has been completed. No information to date. More discussion will be to follow.

The Bailey Road has been fixed and roadwork is much improved.

### Water

Hydrant Flushing will be in the month of October 2023. The tentative dates will be provided on your October water bill.

The Town will need to purchase a new water billing program. Michelle has a Zoom meeting with Edmunds Gov.Tech this coming week to review what they have to offer.

### Zoning Board

New Zoning Board forms posted to the website. There are paper copies available in the office for pick up as well.

Zoning Board Meeting – September 11, 2023 – Minutes posted to the website.

### Monthly Reports

Abstracts:

General Fund – Voucher 212-240 - \$14,090.78

Highway – Voucher 83-99 - \$89,302.87

Water District – Voucher – 11-12 - \$143.65

Watson Water O & M – Voucher 47-51 - \$801.72

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

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

### Monthly Reports

Monthly report for August 2023 for Town Clerk was submitted by Michelle Ward, Town Clerk.

Monthly Justice report for August 2023 was submitted by Justice Donald Regetz.

Motion made by Gerry Crowell and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept reports.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

### Dog Control

The dog control officer had an issue with a dangerous dog this past week. He was provided with the paperwork to give to the party to complete to further deal with this matter.

### Town Park

The town is looking for suggestions on what improvements to do to the Watson Town Park. All suggestions will be reviewed. They can be submitted by sending a written letter to the: Town of Watson 6971 Number Four Road Lowville NY 13367 or sending an E-Mail to: [michelle\\_ward@townofwatsonny.com](mailto:michelle_ward@townofwatsonny.com).

### Open Floor Discussion

There was discussion about road signage of the Number Four Road and the Loson Road – This is a County issue.

There was a question asked about some past dog licensing tickets that were issued – Situation was rectified.

Petries Corner Cemetery faucet was addressed as it appears to need replacing. It will be looked into.

The town website will be updated with more information.

Executive Session

Motion made by Gerry Crowell and seconded by Shawn Freeman to go into executive session for personnel discussion at 8:10pm.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Shawn Freeman to come out of executive session at 9:18pm.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Motion made by Gerry Crowell and seconded by Jeff Lyng to adjourn meeting at 9:19pm.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Gerry Crowell, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman and Vicki Roy

Nays: None

Motion Carried

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Michelle Ward, Town Clerk

Next Regular Meeting: October 11, 2023