

State of New York
County of Lewis
Town of Watson

February 14, 2024

The regular meeting was called to order on February 14, 2024 at 6:30pm by Supervisor Jeff Hoch.

Town Officials present:

Supervisor: Jeffrey Hoch

Councilpersons present: Jeff Lyng, Vicki Roy, Shawn Freeman

Town Clerk: Michelle Ward

HWY Superintendent: Steve Skiff

CPA: Scott Lawrence

Citizens present: Bill and Judi Houppert, William Hunt, Mary Misek

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

Town Supervisor, Jeff Hoch stated that Gerald Crowell will be missed. He was an asset to the Town Board.

Town Supervisor, Jeff Hoch appointed Jeff Lyng as the Deputy Town Supervisor.

Financials

Scott Lawrence was here and reviewed the financials for January 2024. Any questions voiced were answered.

Town Board Member, Vicki Roy stated that the Town Board requests to be notified if there is any salary/payrate changes. She states that it needs to be approved by the Town Board.

Resolution # 3 – 2024 – Budget Transfers for close of 2023.

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept Resolution #3-2024 – Budget Transfers for close of 2023.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Vicki Roy to accept January 10, 2024 meeting minutes.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

New Business

Resolution #2-2024 – Town of Watson and Lewis County Consolidated Boundary and Annexation Survey (CBAS) Survey whereas the Town of Watson agrees to allow Lewis County to respond to BAS on their behalf.

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Jeff Lyng to accept Resolution #2-2024.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Mary Misek gave a letter to the Town Board that she had written and sent in regards to the Bailey Road Bridge. The Town of Watson has now joined RACOG.

Highway

Steve was notified by the State that the Bailey Road Bridge is CLOSED indefinitely due to not passing weight requirement of 3 tons. The town has put up a barricade to stop all traffic. No walking, riding horses or driving any vehicle across it. The engineering firm is working on a solution/fix for the bridge. The engineering firm stated that they will potentially have a solution by May 2024.

Steve stated that the Highway Superintendents have a meeting with Ken Blankenbush in regards to CHIPS monies.

Steve gave an update on what he has been looking at for a new plow truck. He also stated that the wait time for a new plow truck is 18-24 months. He gave the board the specifications and price. This is a 2026 International. It will replace the 2013, which will be used as a spare.

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and Seconded by Vicki Roy to order the plow truck.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Planning Board

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: February 2024

General Fund – Voucher – 36-62 - \$15,881.76

Highway – Voucher – 6-21 - \$102,400.27

Water District – Voucher – 3-6 - \$956.19

Watson Water O & M – Voucher – 11-16 - \$2,289.15

Bond Anticipation Note – Voucher – 5-6 - \$3,185.43

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept February abstracts.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Monthly Reports

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

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

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

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Executive Session

Executive Session for personnel concerns.

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Shawn Freeman to go into executive session at 8:13pm.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Jeff Lyng to come out of executive session at 8:42pm

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Adjourn

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Vicki Roy to adjourn meeting at 8:43pm.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried



Michelle Ward, Town Clerk

Next Regular Meeting: March 13, 2024

Resolution #3 – 2024 – Budget Transfers for close of 2023

General Fund

Account Code and Name	Account Type	Decrease	Increase
1420.4 – Contractual – Attorney	Expenditure	5,104.34	
1355.1 – Payroll Assessor	Expenditure		710.70
1410.11 – Payroll – Town Clerk	Expenditure		365.30
1410.12 – Payroll – Deputy Town Clerk	Expenditure		81.50
1410.4 – Contractual – Town Clerk	Expenditure		188.66
4020.1 – Payroll – Registrar	Expenditure		105.60
8010.4 – Contractual – Zoning	Expenditure		1,289.25
9010.8 – State Retirement	Expenditure		1,885.00
9030.8 – Social Security & Medicare	Expenditure		478.33

Highway

Account Code and Name	Account Type	Decrease	Increase
3505 – State Aid Bridge Project	Revenue		31,868.00
5120.21 – Capital Outlay - State	Expenditure		31,868.00
5142.4 – Contractual – Snow Removal	Fund Balance	10,225.15	
5110.4 – Contractual – Maint. Roads	Expenditure		4,347.72
5120.21 – Capital Outlay – State	Expenditure		1,675.43
9010.8 – State Retirement	Expenditure		4,202.00

Street Lighting

599N – Appropriated Fd Bal (Budgetary)	Fund Balance	200.50	
5182.4 – Contractual – Street Lighting			200.50

Lowville Water

2140.2 – Metered Water Sales	Fund Balance	1,254.04	
8320.4 – Contractual	Expenditure		1,090.04
9010.8 – State Retirement	Expenditure		164.00

Watson Water

599N - Appropriated Fd. Bal (Budgetary)	Fund Balance	22,803.40	
8340.4 – Contractual	Expenditure		22,803.40

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept Resolution #3-2024 – Budget Transfers for close of 2023.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Michelle Ward

Michelle Ward, Town Clerk

2/14/2024

Resolution 2-2024 Town of Watson and Lewis County Consolidated BAS (CBAS) Survey

WHEREAS, the U.S Census Bureau is conducting the 2024 Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS); and

WHEREAS, part of this process is the response of municipalities to the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) to ensure that the Census Bureau has current and accurate boundary, legal name, and status information for your government; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Watson is located within the County of Lewis, State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis has the ability to complete the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) on behalf of the Town of Watson as part of a Consolidated Boundary and Annexation Survey (CBAS); and

WHEREAS, a consolidated effort will reduce the burden on the Town of Watson and lead to less duplication of efforts;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Watson enters into an agreement with Lewis County to allow Lewis County to respond to the BAS on behalf of the Town of Watson for the purpose of providing the U.S. Census Bureau with the information necessary to complete the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS).

Councilperson Shawn Freeman offered the Resolution # 2/2024 and it was seconded for adoption by Councilperson Jeff Lyng

Vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Lyng: Aye

Councilwoman Roy: Aye

Councilman Freeman: Aye

Supervisor Hoch: Aye

Vote recorded as 4-0 Resolution 2 is adopted 2/14/2024.

Certification of Town of Watson Clerk Michelle Ward

I, Michelle Ward, Town Clerk of the Town of Watson certify that this is a true and correct copy of Resolution # 2-2024 adopted by the Town of Watson Town Board at a Meeting held on 2/14/2024.

Michelle Ward
Michelle Ward

2/14/2024
Date