

State of New York
County of Lewis
Town of Watson

August 9, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order on August 9, 2023 at 6:28pm by Supervisor Jeff Hoch.

Town Officials present:

Supervisor: Jeffrey Hoch

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

Town Clerk: Michelle Ward

Deputy Town Clerk: Christina Merry

HWY Superintendent: Steve Skiff

CPA: Scott Lawrence

Citizens present: Mary Misek, Brook Ward, Bill Meuller

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

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Gerry Crowell to accept the July minutes.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Bill Meuller introduced himself to the town board. He stated that he is the representative for the Town of Watson on the Beaver River Advisory Council. He stated that there is a grant through Erie that he would be willing to help with for possible playground equipment or boat launches. He left his contact information with Jeff Hoch.

Shawn Freeman addressed the Town with the update regarding the bulk water dispenser. He stated that he left a message with a distributor regarding prices for parts with no return call back yet. Will continue to research if the Town is considering it.

Financials

Scott Lawrence was here and reviewed the financials for July 2023. He showed the town the new format, which will make them easier to read.

Town Budget

Town Budget meeting is to be held on Monday August 21,2023 at 6:00pm.

Highway

Steve addressed the board with what DANC does and how it is beneficial for him and the town. He demonstrated the online GIS mapping system through DANC. He stated that culverts with size and length can also be added. He will look into if there will be an extra cost for that.

Steve updated the board on the increase flooding issues with the Bailey Bridge and road. He stated that the water is 3ft from the bottom of the bridge. Opposite side of the bridge road is completely gone. There was a major wash out. May be able to claim FEMA. Can also declare a State of Emergency on a local level. He has spoken with Lewis County Soil & Water, DEC and the County.

CHIPS sealing Thursday 8/10/2023 as long as the rain holds off.

Next month he will have prices for possible replacement of a plow truck. According to the replacement schedule the next one is due to be replaced in 2025. Currently there is a 2 year wait for a new plow truck.

The 2012 pickup truck w/plow is to be put under surplus and to go through Auction International.

Motion made by Vicki Roy and seconded by Shawn Freeman to surplus truck.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Steve will take care of putting it on Auctions International site.

Public Hearing

Motion made to open public hearing for charter communications renewal at 7:27pm by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Jeff Lyng.

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 8:32pm by Gerry Crowell and seconded by Shawn Freeman.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Water

There was a water leak across from the town barn that was found to be holes in the copper pipes between the curb stop and the residents. It was fixed by the water department.

Zoning Board

New zoning forms were sent from Cathy Dosztan, ZBA chairperson, for the town board to approve.

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Vicki Roy to use updated forms.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Monthly Reports

Abstracts:

General Fund – Voucher 196-210 - \$4,350.57

Highway – Voucher 68-82 - \$207,523.00

Water District – Voucher – 10 - \$21.82

Watson Water O & M – Voucher 38-46 - \$6,625.24

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Gerry Crowell to accept abstracts.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Monthly Reports

Monthly reports for June 2023 & July 2023 for Town Clerk were submitted by Christina Merry, Deputy Clerk.

Monthly Justice report for June 2023 & July 2023 submitted by Justice Donald Regetz.

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

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Executive Session

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Jeff Lyng to go into executive session for personnel discussion at 8:54pm.

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 10:09pm.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Motion made by Gerry Crowell and seconded by Vicki Roy to adjourn meeting at 10:10pm.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Christina Merry, Deputy Town Clerk

Next Regular Meeting: September 13, 2023