State of New York
County of Lewis
Town of Watson

April 8, 2026

Town Officials present:
Supervisor: Jeffrey Hoch
Councilpersons present: James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freemen
Councilman absent: Jeff Lyng
Town Clerk: Michelle Ward
HWY Superintendent: Steve Skiff
Citizens present: Bill and Judi Houppert, Mary Misek, Bill Hunt, Wyatt Phelps

The regular meeting was called to order on April 8, 2026 at 6:28pm by Supervisor Jeff Hoch.

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

Public Hearing

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by Jim Blackwell to open the Public Hearing for **LOCAL LAW NO. [1] OF 2026 – A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM ON UTILITY-SCALE ENERGY SYSTEMS (EXCLUDING ACAESS),** the Town of Watson wishes to enact a twelve-month (12 m) moratorium on utility-scale energy storage systems(excluding ACAESS) to allow time to develop, review, and update the Town Code was presented to the Town Board at 6:30PM.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion carried.

No questions about Local Law #1-2026 from the audience.

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by Shawn Freeman to close the public hearing at 6:55PM.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion carried.

Local Law #1 of 2026

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to accept Local Law #1 of 2026 - A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM ON UTILITY-SCALE ENERGY SYSTEMS (EXCLUDING ACAESS).
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion carried.

It will be sent to the State for approval.

Minutes

Meeting minutes for March 11, 2026 were submitted by Michelle Ward, Town Clerk for approval.
Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to accept the minutes.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman

Nyes: None
Motion carried.

Privilege of the floor
No public comments.

Town Assessor
Assessor, Allan Mace, submitted a report for April 2026. Reminder: He will be sitting with the roll on May 19, 2026 – 9:00AM-1:00PM & May 20, 2026 – 4:00PM-8:00PM here at the Town of Watson.

Town Accountant
March financials were reviewed/discussed amongst the Town Board.

Supervisor Report
March 2026
Total in Community Bank - $84,953.52
Total in NYCLASS - $3,249,680.20
Petty Cash - $144.50
Total Amount - $3,334,778.22

Supervisor report for March 2026 submitted by the CPA office.
Motion made by Jim Blackwell and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept Supervisor Report for March 2026.
Ayes: James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Abstain: Jeffrey Hoch
Motion Carried.

RACOG
Wyatt was here for an update about RACOG. He stated that more towns are interested in joining. Next meeting is May 28 at the Castorland Fire Hall.

NEW BUSINESS
Town Clerk addressed with the Town Board about considering changing the Dog License Fees and the Late Notice Tax Fees due to the increase in postage prices.

Resolution #17 – NYS – Standard Work Day
Motion made by Jim Blackwell and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to accept the completed New York State and Local Retirement System Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill
Nyes: None
Abstain: Shawn Freeman
Motion Carried.

Correspondence
Jeff discussed with the Town Board about a meeting that was had with Community Bank. He is awaiting some documents from them, as to what they can offer for the Town of Watson.

Croghan Fire Department will be celebrating 150 years of service this summer. There will be events planned for mid-August for the public.

Highway Department

Highway department will be going to their summer hours starting Monday April 13. They will be Monday-Thursday 6:00am-4:30pm.

They have started sweeping the Watson roads.

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to move the 8 old overhead garage doors into surplus.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Jim Blackwell to move the 2023 F350 into surplus.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Jim Blackwell to accept the bid of $800.00 for #1- Insulated Overhead Door No. 1; 12ftx16ft. Lot includes door, opener, track and springs.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Jim Blackwell and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to accept the bid of $600.00 for #2 - Insulated Overhead Door No. 2; 12ftx16ft. Lot includes door, opener, track and springs.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept the bid of $1,550.00 for #3 - Insulated Overhead Door No. 3; 12ftx12ft. Lot includes door, opener, track and springs.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Jim Blackwell and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept the bid of $1,550.00 for #4 - Insulated Overhead Door No. 4; 12ftx12ft. Lot includes door, opener, track and springs.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by Jim Blackwell to accept the bid of $650.00 for #5 – Insulated Overhead Door No. 5; 12ftx16ft. Lot includes door, opener, track and springs.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to accept the bid of $700.00 for #6 – Insulated Overhead Door No. 6; 12ftx16ft. Lot includes door, opener, track and springs.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Jim Blackwell and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept the bid of $600.00 for #7 – Insulated Overhead Door No. 7; 12ftx16ft. Lot includes door, opener, track and springs.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to accept the bid of $600.00 for #8 – Insulated Overhead Door No. 8; 10ftx12ft. Lot includes door, opener, track and springs.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Bid notice for heating

To include supply and installation of a new heating system. The project shall include installation of 4 150,000 BTU Modine propane unit heaters, or equivalent, including plumbing of gas supply lines. Install one Daikin 2 Ton condensing unit with two evaporators, or equivalent for office and breakroom areas. As well as Install a second Daikin 2-ton condensing unit, or equivalent to heat and cool the meeting room. Bidders must be able to provide proof of insurance at the time of the bid being awarded. NYS labor laws must be followed, i.e. NYS prevailing wage, certified payroll, etc.

Heating Bids were opened at the meeting …..
Bid #1 – Munn Mechanical - $45,600
Bid #2 – Hyde-Stone - $67,397.00
Bid #3 – Old Mill Heating & Cooling, LLC - $48,528.77
Bid #4 – CM. Lee Mechanical - $42,454.98

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept the bid #4 from CM. Lee Mechanical for $42,454.98.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Steve submitted a quote for the electrical work for this project from Nytric Electrical for $11,245.00.
Motion made by Jim Blackwell and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to accept the quote from Nytric.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman

Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Resolution #18 of 2026 – Transfer of Funds – Subject to Permissive Referendum

Transferring of Highway Funds from 962N – Equipment Reserve to increase DA 5130.2 – Machinery – Equipment in the amount of $56,906.79 for the purchase of 2026 New FORD Grey F350 from Van Bortel Ford, INC., **Subject to permissive referendum.**

Motion made by James Blackwell and seconded by Shawn Freeman to accept resolution #18 **subject to permissive referendum.**
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion Carried.

Pursuant to Town Law 90 and 91, within ten (10) days from the date of this resolution, the Town Clerk, in the same manner as provided for notice of a special election, shall post and publish a notice which shall set forth the date of adoption of this resolution, shall contain an abstract of such resolution concisely setting forth the purpose and effect thereof, shall specify that this resolution was adopted subject to permissive referendum; and shall publish such notice in the official Town newspaper having general circulation in the Town, and in addition thereto that the Town Clerk shall post or cause to be posted on the sign-board of the Town and the Town website, a copy of such notice within 10 (ten) days after the date of the adoption of this resolution.

Newspaper posting to be 04/10/2026.

Watson Water

Hydrant Flushing will take place April 20-24.

Planning Board

April meeting held for review of paperwork.

Zoning Board

April meeting scheduled for April 13, 2025 at 6:30pm.

Town Park

Highway department has started remodeling the Town Park bathrooms.
They will be installing more outlets under the pavilion.
Steve Stogsdill will be getting the lumber and hardware to assemble picnic tables. Anyone wanting to help assemble these contact Steve.

Monthly Bills

April Abstracts 2026
General Fund - #4, 63-87 - $74,172.86
Highway Fund - #29-38 -$92,851.99
Water District - #7 - $22.76
Watson Water O & M - #21-24 - $1,037.74

Motion made by James Blackwell and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to pay the April 2026 abstracts.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion carried

Monthly Reports

Tax Collection Report for March 2026 was submitted by Michelle Ward, Tax Collector.
Town Clerk and Dog Reports for March 2026 were submitted by Michelle Ward, Town Clerk.
Justice Report for March 2026 was submitted by Don Regetz, Town Justice.

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by James Blackwell to accept all reports.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion carried

Adjournment

As there was no further business per Town Supervisor, Jeff Hoch, a motion was made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by Shawn Freeman to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 PM.
Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman
Nyes: None
Motion carried

Michelle Ward

---------- April 8, 2026

Michelle Ward, Town Clerk

Next Meeting

May 13, 2026