



## Minutes

Town of Cairo

Wednesday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Town Board Meeting @ 7:00 pm

Location: Town Hall Meeting Room

The Town Board of the Town of Cairo met for a Town Board Meeting on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at the Town Hall, Main Street, Cairo, New York.

Supervisor Watts called the meeting to order @ 7:02PM and asked the attendees to Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Attendance: Supervisor Watts, Council Member Bogins, Council Member Cords, Council Member Powers.

Absent: Council Member Flaherty

### **Approval of the Minutes:**

#### **April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022:**

Offered by Council Member Cords and seconded by Supervisor Watts.

*Supervisor Watts – Aye, Council Member Bogins – Aye, Council Member Cords – Aye, Council Member Flaherty – Absent, Council Member Powers – Aye. Motion Carried.*

#### **May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022:**

Offered by Council Member Cords and seconded by Council Member Powers.

*Supervisor Watts – Aye, Council Member Bogins – Aye, Council Member Cords – Aye, Council Member Flaherty – Absent, Council Member Powers – Aye. Motion Carried.*

### **New Business:**

- Fishing Hole at the Town Park – Donated by Cairo Rod & Gun
  - Les from the Cairo Rod and Gun Club presents a fishing hole to the Board that the club would like to propose and give a donation towards within the Town Park with their remaining funds. Goes on to discuss the club and when it started and who is within the club and says there is a decline in membership and interest over the years during the pandemic, the club will soon be dissolving and this is what they would like to do with the last of their funds. Les has spoken with Cornell Cooperative, DEC, Soil & Water and Hudson River Estuaries on what regulations needs to be followed along with possibly getting a grant for more financial help. Since Cairo is the middle of Greene County Les believes that the Town Park is a great place for a fishing hole.

Seeking the Towns approval since it is the Town property being requested, would like to give back whatever they can to the Town.

- Powers mentions if it is possible to have help from the Highway Dept. as an in-kind service.
- Secure Network Proposal Highway and Ambulance
  - Quote from the IT Dept. for the Town, it states that the Town is not in compliance with HIPPA regulations with their current network. IT suggests updating the system, not doing wireless, wireless just happens to be more expensive. Mid-Hudson will still be the carrier; bill came to about \$5,000.00.

***Resolution No. 2022-133***

- 911 Local Law
  - Janice the Assessor explains the reasoning for the request in the shortening of time that someone should get a 911 number on their property. She states that the original law in 2007 stated that someone must get there 911 sign within 6 months of having the property. She feels that this is too long of a wait, she would like this number to be posted quicker due to a number of factors, including construction. Also less likely to mix up of other properties that may not have numbers at this time. The property owners can easily buy the numbers, whether it is from the Town or simply purchasing numbers from the store.
  - Watts says he can talk with Tal to have a local law made up for a better time frame; 30 days should be sufficient with a possible 30 day extension. 30 days from notification to home/property owners to get a 911 sign.

**Correspondence:**

- Fossil Forrest News10 Story Airing on June 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Supervisor Watts mentions that Channel 10 News wants to air a video about the Fossil Forest in Cairo on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 with the people who have been involved in this project. This is located right behind the Town Highway Dept., stated to be the 'Oldest Fossil Forrest in the World'.

**Public Comment:**

- Leon, representing the highway dept. employees starts by asking the board why they wanted to be elected to the board, they state they do this job for the love of their Town. The gentleman does not believe this due to the recent 2% raises that were received by non-union members after contract negotiations did not go as planned.  
Then says that if the board believes this raise is not a good enough raise then the board shouldn't take a salary cut and use that money to give these town employees a better raise. Believes the highway superintendent should have a higher budget, it's causing problems, states the librarian makes too much money.  
Then compares Town employee rates to Supervisor Watts employees pay, Watts employees make more per hour but it is mentioned that the Town offers benefits and his business does not.  
Leon says that the Town owns too much property, says to sell some of the vacant land that the Town owns and make some money for the Town.  
Council Member Bogins then goes on to asks the employees who are present when the last time they got raises before the 2% that was just given; some say within the last 2 years. One employee goes on to say that he has been here for a while and can get another job with his experience but this position is convenient for him as a part timer and states that his 2%, 36 cent raise is an insult.  
The Town can't continue to lose or not hire employees because the pay is so low that there are no applicants or other people decide to move on to other positions.

Leon then goes on and discusses the raise that the bookkeeper just got, while the highway dept. budget is restricted and the raises are small. The bookkeeper writes the check while the highway dept. move the roads and the traffic.

Another gentleman goes on to show the Town Board the truck he was in that could have severely hurt him, goes on to say these cuts are causing safety issues.

Leon questions why certain things were done during contract negotiations and why the head of parks and grounds was representing the highway contract negotiations, the board says that was not decided by them that is up the highway dept. to pick who represents them. Watts states that a lot of issues were also due to the budget cuts that were approved last year, which the public agreed.

Leon continues and says that Main Street needs to be worked on, yes we have some new businesses but over the last 20 years there has not been a lot of change compared to other towns; Catskill, Hudson. Agrees the park is now a great park, in the past not so much. Says we need to put more money into the Town to move the Town, but the Board is not approving the money.

Safety needs to be priority within the highway dept., due to the budget cut these are the problems that arise. Safety costs needs to be there within the budget.

Watts says that budget will be addressed and changed next year, mentions that other things are also effecting the budget; lawsuits, etc. Could not give a raise this year in negotiations but the next 2 years there should be raises within the budget.

Monica then goes on to defend the last administration and lawsuits that are currently going on.

Cords goes on to say that if nothing had been decided with the last budget that the Town would have to go to another budget from the year before which may have been less money.

Watts brings up the fossil forest again, some believe that the Town should sell the property and some believe it should not be sold.

A woman asks if the board could possibly have a policy for people to identify their names and who they are before speaking. This helps the newspaper report the news better.

The Board moves onto resolutions....

**Resolution No. 2022-126 “Accept Water Penalties”**

Offered by Council Member Cords and seconded by Council Member Bogins.

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the Water Penalties be authorized by the Town Board and documented in the minutes; Therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board does hereby accept the Water Penalties from the Water Administrator in the amount of \$1,519.14 dated May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

*Supervisor Watts – Aye, Council Member Bogins – Aye, Council Member Cords – Aye, Council Member Flaherty – Absent, Council Member Powers – Aye. Motion Carried.*

**Resolution No. 2022-127 “Accept Sewer Use Billing”**

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Cords.

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the Sewer Use Billing be authorized by the Town Board and documented in the minutes; Therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board does hereby accept the Sewer Use Billing from the Sewer Administrator in the amount of \$33,632.15 dated May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

*Supervisor Watts – Aye, Council Member Bogins – Aye, Council Member Cords – Aye, Council Member Flaherty – Absent, Council Member Powers – Aye. Motion Carried.*

**Resolution No. 2022-128 “Appoint Secretary of the Board of Assessment Review”**

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Powers.

**WHEREAS**, Town Board approval for the appointment of Kathleen Rockefeller as Secretary of the Board of Assessment Review; Therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town Board does hereby authorize the appointment of Kathleen Rockefeller, as Secretary to the Board of Assessment Review @ \$75.00 grievance meeting fee for grievance day, fourth Tuesday of May, including minute recording/transcription.

*Supervisor Watts – Aye, Council Member Bogins – Aye, Council Member Cords – Aye, Council Member Flaherty – Absent, Council Member Powers – Aye. Motion Carried.*

**Resolution No. 2022-129 “Cairo Town Clean-Up Day”**

Offered by Council Member Powers and seconded by Council Member Bogins.

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Cairo will be holding a Town Clean-Up Day on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 8:00AM-3:00PM, where the residents of the town can bring their recycling items to the Town Highway Department facilities; Therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Cairo Town Board does hereby approve the advertisement for the Town Clean-up day by the Town Highway Department facilities, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that residents will have to show proof of residency, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that residents may recycle general demolition items, furniture, up to a maximum of four tires and metal. No raw garbage will be allowed.

*Supervisor Watts – Aye, Council Member Bogins – Aye, Council Member Cords – Aye, Council Member Flaherty – Absent, Council Member Powers – Aye. Motion Carried.*

**Resolution No. 2022-130 “Appointment for Zoning Board of Appeals”**

**WHEREAS**, there is an opening on the Zoning Board of Appeals and a need to complete that Board in order to move forward with requests that have been received; Therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cairo Town Board does hereby appoint Oliver Hull to complete the term for the opening on the Zoning Board of Appeals to conclude on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

**TABLED**

**Resolution No. 2022-131 “Authorize Highway Department to Purchase Tires”**

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Bogins.

**WHEREAS**, the Highway Department is in need of new tires for the Fork Lift. Tires are \$1,586.81 per tire, plus a service call of \$600.00; Therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town Board does hereby authorize the purchase of 4 tires in the amount of \$6,947.24.

*Supervisor Watts – Aye, Council Member Bogins – Aye, Council Member Cords – Aye, Council Member Flaherty – Absent, Council Member Powers – Aye. Motion Carried.*

**Resolution No. 2022-132 “Authorization to Hire a Part Time AEMT”**

Offered by Council Member Cords and seconded by Supervisor Watts.

**WHEREAS**, there is an operational need, and an employment need to fill an AEMT position; Therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town Board does hereby authorize to hire Keith Barksdale as a part time employee at a rate of pay of \$19.86 an hour.

*Supervisor Watts – Aye, Council Member Bogins – Aye, Council Member Cords – Aye, Council Member Flaherty – Absent, Council Member Powers – Aye. Motion Carried.*

**Resolution No. 2022-133 “Authorize Highway and Ambulance New Secure Network”**

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Cords.

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Cairo has received a quote from Intelligent Technology Solutions, Inc. for the Highway Garage and Ambulance buildings to install/update a new physical network. Both operate independently and each have their own MHCable Accounts and equipment. Neither is setup in a secure manner including the Ambulance buildings which are not following prescribed HIPAA requirement with their network; Therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the contract with Intelligent Technology Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$5,776.89, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, to pay the monthly service fee of \$65.00 per month.

*Supervisor Watts – Aye, Council Member Bogins – Aye, Council Member Cords – Aye, Council Member Flaherty – Absent, Council Member Powers – Aye. Motion Carried.*

**Adjourn Town Board Meeting @ 7:58PM**

Offered by Council Member Cords and seconded by Council Member Powers.

*Supervisor Watts – Aye, Council Member Bogins – Aye, Council Member Cords – Aye, Council Member Flaherty – Absent, Council Member Powers – Aye. Motion Carried.*

Respectfully Submitted

Kayla L. McAlister  
Town Clerk