



Minutes

Town of Cairo

Monday October 3rd, 2022

Town Board Meeting @ 7:00 pm

Location: Town Hall Meeting Room

DRAFT

The Town Board of the Town of Cairo met for a Town Board Meeting on Monday, October 3rd, 2022, at the Town Hall, Main Street, Cairo, New York. Supervisor Watts called the meeting to order @ 7:00pm and asked the attendees to Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Approval of the Minutes:

September 22nd, 2022:

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

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

New Business:

- Public Hearing – Override Tax Levy Limits
 - Opened @ 7:03pm

Offered by Supervisor Watts and Council Member Cords

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

- As of right now there are no definite numbers for the budget, a lot of important stuff has increased; workman's comp insurance and utility companies are anticipating increases. This PH is strictly for budget purposes, nothing will be voted on tonight for this decision.
- Earl asks why workman's comp has gone up so much since there has been a large turnover of employees. Supervisor Watts states that this is determined throughout past years and that within the next 2 year it will hopefully decrease. Asks about the separate dept. budget meetings and if they are open to the public and if anything is posted in the paper. *'Yes and yes. Will be posted on website too.'*
- Leon asks if the public gets to vote on the decision to go over the 2% gap. *'The 5 people on the board decide this vote, this is why the public is hear tonight to voice their thoughts and opinions.'* Leon then states that the Town should not own so much property and to get rid of some of it. Says that money used for buying property should be used to assist the elderly and their taxes.

- Supervisor Watts states that the next meeting there would be number on the budget; during the Nov. meeting. This can be discussed further, this is for in time sensitive purposes to be able to vote on it next meeting.
- Bebe Tobin goes on to address how Greene County is one of the few counties that didn't take advantage of the tax relief on gasoline, stating that they are going to keep it where it is now so that they do not have to raise taxes. She goes on to compliment the park that was updated. Questions the direction of the park; Supervisor Watts says the goal was to make Mountain Avenue the only exit.
- Gentleman asks if the town has any green energy initiatives. Supervisor Watts states that they are trying to address the heating in the building using possible grants. Along with looking at solar panels in the old Cairo Dump.
- Some people asks about if this can be put on a ballot. Tal then addresses that certain laws and regulations do not allow this in NYS compared to California and other possible states. States legislature determines these laws and regulations on what can be put on a ballot.
- How much money is actually coming in due to more/new construction and development? Supervisor Watts goes on to say yes that is possible, but the number won't be available until next month's meeting. Tal goes on to state that the Town has to have this public hearing strictly for time restrictions only for budget and state purposes, so the budget can be voted on in a timely manner.
- PJ asks if the board does go over the cap would the Town lose anything from the State since the State has a cap of its own. *'Not to his knowledge, most that it can be raised is 2% according to the law.'*
- Chris Keff asks if the budget can be posted on the website 24 hours before the meeting. *'Yes it will be'*
- Woman addresses how she voted for Jason so he could bring more business to the Town and lower taxes, where is that?
- Rich Lorenz asks how much money was rolled over from last year's budget to this years. *'Not sure on the numbers, will have exact numbers at the next meeting'* COVID money is then addressed, some of this money was used for the park, walking path, A/C and heating in the Town Hall and some of it will be used for the ambulance building. Discussion of the NY Forward grant, Council Member Cords said that it had to be in by Sept. 23 and you needed to show interest by Aug. 10. Council Member Cords had contacted them multiple times about the possible extension, no one ever got back to her on it.
- Woman addresses the parking lot that was made instead of focusing on the equipment in the park for the kids. *'Supervisor Watts said that the parking was necessary for court days and that the park items will be worked on.'* Council Member Powers asks Highway Art Evans how much it took for the parking lot to be completed. *'Labor was the biggest thing but less than \$10,000, took more to take down the building'*
- There is no set number that the board is looking to achieve.
- Council Member Powers says that the residents will be greatly impacted if this tax gap does get exceeded. Questions why the Board is not cutting spending on things that are not needed; like recycling center, library money, etc. Supervisor Watts goes on the say that the library was cooperative with the last year during budget time and that the Highway and the library took the 2 largest cuts last years in the budget.
- Council Member Cords goes to the library meetings each month for the library and sees the bills and invoices. Council Member Powers asks why the board does not see them.

- Many people in the public disagree with Council Member Powers and believe the library is essential and the workers are needed along with everything in their budget. People need the library and the tools and resources that it provides to its residents.
- Susan True says the library provides a great service and the Town only gives a portion of the money that the library receives through other grants. They pay their bills and there are always people using the library. She then questions the \$2,400.00 dollars that was spent in the last board that was used looking into the library.
- Aniston Keff discusses how someone can use the library if some individuals are working multiple jobs, going to school and paying their own way. Should be discussing the hours of the library.
- Library meetings are the second Tuesday of the month @ 11am.
- Marc Gorelic does go on to say that when the library submits it budget it's broken down and not just one line item.

○ Closed @ 7:36pm

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

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

- Public Hearing – Amend Opt. Out Law #4 of 2021 – For Cannabis

○ Opened @ 7:37pm

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Powers

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

- Council Member Powers states marijuana is still illegal through federal law.
- Gentleman claims that it is not illegal to smoke marijuana for medical purposes, believes it should be available to help people with their injuries. Wants to know why it is being denied if the public agree it should be approved. *'This discussion is about medical marijuana'*
- Woman says that instead of a cannabis store for some people that may want to abuse the substance why doesn't the Town look into a hemp store, just a suggestion. *'Hemp is legal and can be done, but this not what this is about.'*
- Another gentleman that is fairly educated on this subject along with being involved with some retail cannabis and alcohol sales starts the discussion about who he works with and how far retail marijuana really goes within the US and Canada. He says that is the not the point of discussion about the concern of abuse of medical marijuana, he understands her point. But the point of this is for recreational marijuana and store fronts, which then creates possible tourism, business, and money; which is what other areas and states are taking advantage of. Explains that a lot of these stores are very secure, compared to a bank, people need to have the right paperwork and ID's, it's not just a walk in and walk out thing, it's very detail oriented; included in this is no felons or anyone who has a case against them are allowed in the building more less purchase it. Also mention that you can only buy a certain amount and only for yourself and no one else, no children can be with you or in your vehicle at the time of purchase. There is also a lot of security, cameras and recordings. Massive tax gain/relief for the Town.
- Another woman states that when people are going through the Town on their way to possibly Windham or up the mountain, they stop at the grocery store, fast food and liquor, what's another stop for them to buy marijuana to help give more tax money to the Town.
- Scott Yates says that NYS has yet to give you the complete set of rules and regulations, if the Town does agree to do it, chances are that the Town will likely not get it. The State of New York is giving out 1 license to every 150,000 people in the Hudson Valley. They are giving out 17

licenses to a handful of counties between both upstate and downstate NY on the east side of the State. He's not saying not to do it just wait until you know what it's going to cost. Due to the fact that once you're in, you cannot get out. He agrees not to just give it up on it, but have some patience with it, do not refuse it, get as much info as you can get before opting in. The state then can come and decide where the dispensary would go, it doesn't matter where you live or where you want it necessarily, they can put you anywhere they want, depending on your choices, you may not always get your top option; similar to a lottery.

- Bebe Tobin addresses that there is a website that does mention everything that the 2 gentlemen have been discussing, make sure to look it up and educate yourself on both ends. Continues saying that the Town can always regulate where it goes as well, if they don't want it on Main St.
- A woman asks what the negative sides of this? Are there places that have been created that people can come together and share the negative effects? *'Supervisor Watts states that the negatives things that he has heard is mostly the smell, which is why there are some rules about where this can be smoked and/or consumed.'*
- The State of New York says you can have 3oz on you and 80oz in your home, but if someone is caught selling you only get a \$250.00 fine and a violation.
- Monica asks Scott about the zones and if someone in the State gets a license that they don't necessarily have to be a resident or a part of the county/town, they can just come in if there chosen for that zone. *'Yes, also the NYS Dormitory rents many of these store fronts and can decide some of where these people can have spaces since the State rents them themselves.'*
- A gentleman, has a friend who is involved with the DMV, he discussed a report about the State of Colorado that stated the amount of accidents and DWI that increased tenfold after the legalization of marijuana. He questions Officer Plank how they would determine if someone is under the influence of marijuana. *'It would a blood test and combination of things, need a reason to stop the car in the first place, engage them in conversation and observe their behavior, then do a field sobriety test if needed, then determine why they are acting the way they are and what they may be on.'*
- Karen Gallo states as a business person, were crazy not to take the tax dollars from this. She agrees about the security, it's not as easy to get in as they think.
- Another woman says on behalf of disabled personnel who take opioids, medical marijuana is great thing to have in substitute of these prescriptions.

○ Closed @ 8:11pm

Offered by Council Member Cords and seconded by Supervisor Watts

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

Resolution No. 2022-203 “Authorize Pop Warner to Repair Concession Stand”

Offered by Council Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Cords.

WHEREAS, the Park Concession Stand that Greene County Pop Warner Football uses has been closed and not in use since COVID restrictions.

WHEREAS, there is a need to repair the concession stand due to non-use. Rodents had damaged the structure. Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize the Pop Warner Football organization to make the needed repairs and pest control in the concession stand.

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

Resolution No. 2022-204 “Authorizing Use of the Angelo Canna Town Park”

Offered by Council Member Powers and Council Member Cords.

WHEREAS, the Zerbini Family Circus has once again requested use of the Angelo Canna Town Park to hold a family circus on Sunday, July 13th, 2023. They are requesting use of the park from 7:00am through 10:00pm.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cairo Town Board does hereby approve the request to use the Angelo Canna Town Park with a fee of \$750.00.

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

Resolution No. 2022-205 “Approve to Create and Advertise for a Water/Sewer/Ambulance Clerk”

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Cords.

WHEREAS, there is a need to create a part-time position for a water/sewer/ambulance clerk to perform administrative tasks and bill payments.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board does hereby approve to create and advertise for a part-time Water/Sewer/Ambulance Clerk with a salary of \$15.00 per hour not to exceed 20 hours per pay period.

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

Resolution No. 2022-206 “Appoint Full-Time Parks, Building & Grounds Supervisor”

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

WHEREAS, Hunter Sprague is currently a full-time employee of the Town of Cairo in the Parks, Buildings and Grounds Department at a rate of pay of \$16.00 per hour.

WHEREAS, there is currently a need for a full-time Parks, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor. Therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cairo appoints Hunter Sprague as Parks, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor and a change of salary from \$16.00 to \$20.00 per hour not to exceed 40 hours per week effective October 5th, 2022.

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

Resolution No. 2022-207 “Receipt of Monthly Supervisor’s Report – September 2022”

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

WHEREAS, Town Law, Section 125 commands a detailed statement from the Supervisor’s office to be rendered to the Town Board of all money received and disbursed and a copy filed in the office of the Town Clerk; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board Members accept the monthly Supervisor’s Report for 1-30 September 2022.

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

Resolution No. 2022-208 “Authorizing Public Hearing”

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Cords.

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo is required to hold a Public Hearing introducing the preliminary Budget to the Town of Cairo Residents. Therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED that on November 7th, 2022 at 7:00pm, at the Cairo Town Hall, the Cairo Town Board shall hold a Public Hearing to present the Preliminary Budget to the residents of the Town of Cairo.

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

Resolution No. 2022-209 “Approve the Adoption of Local Law #3 of 2022”

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Bogins.

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo is proposing to partially repeal the Local Law #4 of 2021 to only Opt out of On-Site Cannabis Consumption Establishments within the Town of Cairo and establish a new Local Law to Opt-in to allow licensing and establishing of cannabis retail dispensaries.

WHEREAS, that on October 3rd, 2022 at 7:00pm, at the Cairo Town Hall, the Town Board held a Public Hearing. Therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Cairo approves to partially repeal Local Law #4 of 2021 which will continue to Opt-out of Licensing and On-Site Cannabis Consumption Establishments. Furthermore;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Cairo hereby approved Local Law #3 of 2022 to Opt-In to allow the licensing and establishing of cannabis retail dispensaries within its boundaries.

ROLL CALL:

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

Resolution No. 2022-210 “Accept Water Billing”

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

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Water Billing be authorized by the Town Board and documented in the minutes; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board does hereby accept the Water Billing from the Water Administrator in the amount of \$51,210.42 dated October 1st, 2022.

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

Resolution No. 2022-211 “Budget Amendments and Payment of Bills on Abstract #310 for September Payables & Prepays”

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

WHEREAS, payment of bills should be properly authorized and documented in the minutes; therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize that Abstract #310 Payables and Prepays, consisting of 2022 V2 #00763 through V2 #00859 in the amount of \$ 608,940.26 is approved for payment;

The total amount to be paid from the:

General Fund - \$ 208,930.13	Hydrant – \$ -0-
Highway Fund - \$ 355,032.67	Capital Water- \$ -0-
Street Lighting - \$ 4,974.55	Sidewalk - \$ 24,695.81
Sewer Fund - \$ 5,333.95	Trust & Agency - \$ 4,850.90
Water Fund - \$ 5,122.25	Special Fire - \$ -0-

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

Resolution No. 2022-212 “Authorize Parks Department to Purchase a Trailer”

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Flaherty.

WHEREAS, the Parks Department is responsible for the upkeep of the cemeteries and grounds around the Town of Cairo.

WHEREAS, there is a need to purchase a new trailer and hitch to move equipment. The current trailer is falling apart, too small and not safe. The new trailer can hold two lawn mowers. Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize the expenditures listed in the quote from Trailer LLC not to exceed \$3,300.00.

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

Resolution No. 2022-213 “Hiring Full Time Highway Mechanic”

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Bogins.

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo Highway Department has a vacancy and is in need of a Mechanic with a CDL.

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo Highway Department authorizes to pay Michael Maderic at an hourly rate of \$20.34 per hour effective October 5th, 2022. Therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, that Cairo Town Board does hereby approve the hiring of Michael Maderic effective October 5th, 2022.

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

Resolution No. 2022-214 “Approve to Hiring Part Time Highway Laborer”

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Cords.

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo Highway Department has a vacancy and is in need of a Laborer.

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo Highway Department has hired James Bogins at an hourly rate of \$17.00 per hour effective October 5th, 2022. Therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, that Cairo Town Board does hereby approve the hiring of James Bogins.

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

Public Comment:

- Marc Gorelic does address that the library is extending it hours, 2 extra hours for the library to be open. With a library card you have access to the online library 24 hours, 365 days access to all the online information. Open till 7 on Thursday and 2 other days are now extending from 2 to 3.
- Bebe wants to state that you can still use the library Wi-Fi even when there closed.

Committee Reports:

- Ambulance:
 - 78 Calls/48 Transported Calls
- Animal Control:
 - 20 Calls
- Police Dept.:
 - Total Mileage for cars 574/575/576/577: 1,958
 - 10 Criminal complaints / 118 incident reports / 677 aid citizens/requests/services
 - 6 accident reports / 5 arrests / 0 felony / 2 misdemeanors / 8 violations / 9 traffic tickets
- Building and Code:
 - 18 Building Permits / 21 Municipal Searches
 - 5 Certificates of Occupancy / 17 Certificates of Compliance
 - 1 Court Case for Trial / 2 Cases in Court
 - 36 Inspections
- Highway:

- 2 International CV's were ordered May 2021 and have a build date of October 2022, delivery expected Spring of 2023.
 - Crews working on culvert replacement and tree limb cutting
 - Shoulder work is underway
 - Preparations for winter plowing has begun
 - Resurfacing of Maple lawn Road and Bald Hill Road South is complete
 - Salt and Sand shed are 75% full for winter
 - Repairs to sand shed are complete
 - Masks, Sanitizer and gloves still available to still available to all employees
 - 2023 budget proposal submitted to Town Hall
 - Sign placed in front of Highway looking for FT/PT workers
 - Beers Road and Middlefield Road will be resurfaced in October, Woodstock will get seal coated
 - Yellow line painting with commence in October
 - Looking into getting retired truck or two from Greene County Highway
- Library:
 - 450+ Wi-Fi users / 2,117 items circulated / 1,131 in attendance / community room used 10 times / computer use at 255 / 203 reference questions / 8 new library cards
 - Extending Friday and Saturday hours till 3pm / Qigong on Saturdays @ 11am
 - Yoga on Tuesday and Thursdays / Storytime ages 2-4 / book club for homeschools on Wednesdays / book club for adults in person and virtual
 - Assistance with computer and cellphone by walk in or appointments
 - Children's painting classes / adult painting classes

Adjourn Town Board Meeting @ 8:23PM

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

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

Respectfully Submitted

Kayla L. McAlister
Town Clerk