



Minutes

Town of Cairo

Wednesday July 19th, 2023

Cairo Town Workshop @ 7:00pm

Location: Town Hall Meeting Room

The Town Board of the Town of Cairo met for a Town Board Meeting Workshop on Wednesday, July 19th, 2023, at the Town Hall, Main Street, Cairo, New York. Supervisor Watts called the meeting to order @ 7:03PM 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:

June 5th, 2023

Offered by Council Member Bogins 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.

New Business:

1. Pow Wow Event in the Cairo Town Park in September 1-3. The Pow Wow will be opened to the public. There will be traditional dance and vendors. Asked that the public bathrooms be opened. They will have a fire pit and will make sure that the fire will be out. The board all agreed that it will agreed.
2. Mid-Hudson Cable- wants to switch to the Fiber Optics. The speaker did not show up to explain.
3. Building on the corner of Main St. and Bross St. which burned in December 2022. Code Officer Stacy Sprague explained that she met with the Engineer. The Engineer said the build will have to be demolished. Stacy said there will be a process to go through first a letter will be sent to owners. Supervisor Watts believes it is going to cost 70,000 plus. Supervisor has talked to the Legislators and they will be helping out with most of the cost. Stacy has talked to Zoning about the on the old dump about putting up the solar panels. Supervisor Watts said to talk to Zoning Officer Fritz on it and get in touch with the solar businesses to get started.
4. Public Hearing: Amend Zoning Law and Maps:
Opened meeting to the Public about 7:20 PM

Supervisor Watts opened the Meeting and explained about Delaware Engineering having to amending the Laws.

Opened to public: Richard Lorenz member of the Planning Board asked questions on the change since he did not know about them.

Supervisor Watts said the Joseph Hasenkopff it was ok. Richard Lorenz had not heard anything about it. The whole Planning Board will have to look it over and ok it before it is past.

Supervisor Watts said for call from a member to hold off until August 16, 2023 Workshop.

Council Member Cords called off the passing of the Amended Zoning Law and Maps.

Closed Public Hearing at 7:30 PM

Old Business:

1. Budget/Salaries for 2023/2024. Supervisor Watts has started working on the budget. Supervisor Watts is trying to put the salaries rates up for everyone. Discussed with the rest of the board members to look it over.
2. William Dinger Road: The Lee's Therapy is asking for help with the water line. Supervisor Watts and the board members discussed. They have talked about the 6 in. pipe to help with that to help out. All agreed.

Resolution No. 2023-157 "Approve Greene County Panthers AYF to Use Town Park"

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Flaherty.

WHEREAS, Greene County Panthers Pop Warner Football is changing to Greene County Panthers AYF (American Youth Football) which accommodates age and weight divisions which improves safety of the children; and

WHEREAS, the Greene County Panthers AYF would like permission to use the green shed for equipment storage; and

WHEREAS, the Greene County Panthers AYF would like permission to use the football fields for practices and games from July 20, 2023 through October 31, 2023; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cairo Town Board approved Greene County Panthers AYF to use the green shed and the football field effective July 20, 2023.

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

Resolution No. 2023-158 "Approve to Hire Full Time Police Officer"

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

WHEREAS, The Town of Cairo Police Department is in need of employees to properly staff police patrols, and

WHEREAS, William Pine has applied for a position as a full time Police Officer requesting to be selected from the eligible Greene County Civil Service list; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Cairo Town Board does hereby approve to hire William Pine as a full time Police Officer for the Town of Cairo Police Department effective July 20, 2023. Starting pay rate will be \$26.22 per hour based on the union contract and board resolutions for 2023.

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

Resolution No. 2023-159 "Approve Temporary Mechanic Pay for James Gilmore"

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.

WHEREAS, the town of Cairo

Cairo Highway Department has assigned James Gilmore as a temporary mechanic at an hourly rate of \$22.04 per hour effective July 12, 2023. Therefore;

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

Resolution No. 2023-160 “Authourize Supervisor to sign NYMIR Policy”

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

WHEREAS, the current New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR) Policy expires August 3, 2023. Therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cairo Town Board does hereby authorize the Supervisor to accept and sign the Municipal Insurance Proposal with NYMIR not to exceed the amount of \$90,278.14 (**Quote may change if the board chooses optional deductible increases**) for the Term of August 4, 2023 to August 4, 2024.

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

Resolution No. 2023-161 “Approve to Hire Part-Time Parks, Building & Grounds Employee”

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Cords.

WHEREAS, is currently a part-time employment vacancy in the Town of Cairo in the Parks, Buildings and Grounds Department at a rate of pay of \$16.57 per hour; Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cairo approves to hire Paul Koenigsamen for part-time employment in the Parks, Buildings and Grounds Department at a pay rate of \$16.57 per hour effective July 19, 2023.

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

Resolution No. 2023-162 “Approve to Cancel Town Board Meeting for August 7, 2023.”

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Cords.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Cairo Town Board Meeting scheduled to be held on August 7, 2023 shall be cancelled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the cancellation of the August 7, 2023 Board meeting

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

Resolution No. 2023- 163” Approve the Hiring Part Time Water/Sewer/Ambulance Clerk”

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo has a vacancy and is in need of a Part Time Water/Sewer/Ambulance Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo has received only one employment application for the position. Therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, that Cairo Town Board does hereby approve the hiring of Marrienne Baldwin at \$15.00 per hour, not to exceed 20 hours per pay period, effective immediately

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

Resolution No. 2023 -164 “Approve Contractor for Paving the Upper Parking Lot”

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WHEREAS, the Cairo Town Hall is in need of paving the upper parking lot, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo advertised for contractors to provide sealed bids for the upper parking lot paving; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cairo does hereby approve _____ for the paving of the upper parking lot for the Town Hall in the amount of \$ _____.

Resolution No. 2023- 165” Approve Contractor for Paving Police Annex Parking Lot”

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

WHEREAS, the Cairo Town Hall is in need of paving the Police Annex parking lot, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo advertised for contractors to provide sealed bids for the Police Annex parking lot paving; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cairo does hereby approve **Best Paving and Seal Coating** for the paving of the Police Annex parking lot for the Town Hall in the amount of \$ **15, 120.00.**

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

Resolution No. 2023- 166” Approve Contractor for Repairing the Catch Basin”

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

WHEREAS, the Cairo Town Hall is in need of repairing he Catch Basin in the Town Hall parking lot, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo advertised for contractors to provide sealed bids for repairing the Catch Basin in the Town Hall parking lot; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cairo does hereby approve **Holbrooks Services** for the repair of the Catch Basin in the parking lot for the Town Hall in the amount of \$ **2,400.00.**

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

Resolution No. 2023-167 “Opposition to NYS Senate Bill S-00139B”

Offered by Supervisor Watts and seconded by Council Member Bogins.

WHEREAS, New York Senate Bill number S-00139B has been passed which, if adopted by the NYS Assembly (A 1358-B) and signed by the Governor, would require all Judges presiding in the 100 largest Town and Village Courts to be licensed to practice law in the State and to have been admitted to the NYS Bar for at least five years; and

WHEREAS, The Town and Village Courts in Greene County are among the nearly 1,200 Justice Courts in the State of New York that collectively handle close to 1 million cases each year; and

WHEREAS, The Town and Village Courts are known as the “Courts Closest to the People” and have broad jurisdiction, presiding over civil and criminal matters, thereby performing a vital role in the New York State Unified Court System; and

WHEREAS, The Town Court of Cairo is a vital service to our residents and the Greene County community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, The Justices in Greene County’s Town and Village Courts have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, and render equal justice to all, while continually adhering to judicial rules of ethics and pronouncements of the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct; and

WHEREAS, The Justices are required to be on-call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to review/sign arrest and search warrants, perform arraignments, and issue orders of protection; and

WHEREAS, The Justices of Town and Village Courts ensure that the rights afforded to defendants by the Constitutions of the United States and the State of New York are provided and protected; and

WHEREAS, The Justices of Town and Village Courts preside over trials involving misdemeanor and violation level offenses, thereby ensuring that the victims of those offenses can be heard; and

WHEREAS, The Town and Village Courts provide a venue for Citizens to pursue a low-cost and efficient procedure for individuals to resolve civil disputes and landlord/tenant matters; and

WHEREAS, the Justices also preside nightly and on weekends and holidays, ensuring that arrested citizens are promptly afforded legal representation, the opportunity to plead to alleged charges, and to be considered for release, bail, or incarceration; and

WHEREAS, The Justices continually strive to improve the administration of justice through participation in mandatory education programs, seminars, meetings of the Greene County Magistrates Association and the New York State Magistrates Association; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Office of Court Administration must certify all as having successfully completed mandatory training both following election and in each subsequent year; and

WHEREAS, The New York State’s Commission on Judicial Conduct’s most recent annual report (2023) identifies that only 13% of the complaints filed against the judiciary were against Town and Village judges while the remaining complaints were against either “State-paid” judges, (constituting approximately 40% of the judiciary) who accounted for approximately 67% of the complaints received, or against non-judicial entities (20%); and

WHEREAS, This Bill attempts to usurp the right of voters to elect those in their communities that they believe to be fair and impartial, and who would best serve that community, whether they be attorneys or non-attorneys; and

WHEREAS, This Bill implicitly suggests that members of a community are incapable of making informed decisions about who should sit in judgment of matters from the straight-forward to the highly complex as may arise in their local courts; and

WHEREAS, this legislative body views the intention of this Bill is not to actually improve the courts, but a blatant and unconscionable attempt by the New York State Bar Association, an organization that represents approximately only fifteen percent (15%) of the State’s attorneys, to generate increased opportunities for its members, and to dictate who voters may choose to serve in our local governments; Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Governing board of the Town of Cairo strongly, and in unequivocal terms, calls on both the leadership in the Senate and Assembly, and the Governor to reject this poorly conceived and hastily fashioned seizure of voters’ rights to determine, for themselves, who they would choose to sit as their judges as has been the case for almost two hundred years.

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

Resolution No. 2023- 168” Approve Hiring Full Time Highway Mechanic”

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

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Cairo Highway Department has hired John Yanni at an hourly rate of \$21.30 per hour

Effective August 7, 2023. Therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, that Cairo Town Board does hereby approve the hiring of John Yanni at a pay rate of \$21.30 per hour effective August 7, 2023.

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

Adjourn Town Board Meeting @ 8:25PM

Offered by Council Member Powers 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

Kathy Rockefeller
Deputy Clerk