

**Watson town Borough  
Council Meeting  
October 15, 2024**

**OPENING:** The October 15, 2024 Watson town Borough Council Meeting began at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers at 318 Main Street, Watson town. Mayor Russell McClintock began with an opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Greg Miller, Vice President Dan Folk, Todd Moyer, Roy Smedley, Tom Hetherington, Fred Merrill, Mayor Russell McClintock, Chief of Police Chris Snyder, Borough Manager Jay Jarrett and Secretary/Treasurer Brendi Brooke. Solicitor DeWald had a prior commitment.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Janet Rump, Ralph Young and Brent Frey

**APPROVAL Of MINUTES:** Fred Merrill made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk approving the minutes from the September 9, 2024 Council Meeting and the September 23, 2024 Committee Workshop. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Merrill	- yes	Smedley	- yes
Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**BILLS & TRANSFERS:** Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Roy Smedley to approve October's bills and transfers in the amount of \$688,975.59. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes
Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**VISITORS:** none

**COMMITTEES:**

**FINANCE:** nothing at this time

**EMA:** nothing at this time

**CEMETERY:** nothing at this time

**ELECTRIC:** nothing at this time

**INSURANCE:** nothing at this time

**PARKS &  
RECREATION:** nothing at this time

**PERSONNEL:** nothing at this time

**PROTECTION  
To PERSONS &  
PROPERTY:** nothing at this time

**STREETS &  
HIGHWAYS:** nothing at this time

**REFUSE:** nothing at this time

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**BACKHOE  
PURCHASE:** The purchase of a new backhoe was tabled. Jay said he is going to apply for a grant/loan. The grant would be up to \$50,000.00 with a low interest loan for the balance through the USDA Rural Development but we cannot enter into a lease agreement prior to submitting the application. He said the application will be approved or denied by the end of the year and in the event of an emergency, we will rent one.

**RESOLUTION  
2024-04:** Fred Merrill made a motion, seconded by Dan Folk to approve Resolution 2024-04 eliminating police pension contributions for 2025. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Moyer	- yes	Miller	- yes
Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**PELRAS  
CONFERENCE:** Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Todd Moyer to approve Jay's attendance at the 2025 PELRAS Conference from February 26<sup>th</sup> to February 28<sup>th</sup> for \$350.00 plus lodging. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Smedley	- yes	Merrill	- yes
Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**LIGHT THE NIGHT-KINGDOM KIDZ:**

Dan Folk made a motion, seconded by Fred Merrill to approve the closing a portion of East Third Street on Halloween, October 31<sup>st</sup>, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm for their Annual Light the Night Event. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Folk	- yes	Hetherington	- yes
Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Smedley	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**WAIVE OPEN CONTAINER – HAUNTED HAUNT:**

Tom Hetherington made a motion, seconded by Fred Merrill to waive the open container law in the park for the Watsontown Haunted Haunt on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Miller	- yes	Moyer	- yes
Merrill	- yes	Smedley	- yes
Hetherington	- yes	Folk	- yes

All in favor; motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

**MAYOR:** nothing to add

**POLICE:** written; nothing to add

**FIRE & AMBULANCE:** written; the Mayor said the Head of EMS from Wellspan (formerly Evangelical Hospital) recently met with the fire department’s EMS. Chief Snyder spoke regarding the LSA Radio Grant for the fire department that includes (3) new radios for our police department.

**EMERGENCY MGMNT:** nothing to add

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** written

**SOLICITOR:** absent

**BOROUGH**

**MANAGER:** written; nothing to add

**PUBLIC WORKS:** written; nothing to add

**SECRETARY:** Brendi read (3) thank you cards.

**PIZZA:** Tom Hetherington said he would provide pizza prior to the Budget Meeting on Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.

**SIDEWALKS:** Tom Hetherington asked Council if they would consider a sidewalk ordinance; trees are impeding sidewalks; he feels the Borough needs to improve on making all sidewalks ADA accessible. Tom said he would bring a plan for Council's consideration/review in 2025.

**FYI's:**

- Leaf pick-up as needed throughout the Borough including Spruce & Hemlock Alleys
- WHA Casino Night – Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 pm - Watson Inn
- Eagle Scout Ribbon Cutting – Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm
- Committee Workshop – Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm–Budget Meeting 6:15 pm
- Halloween Parade & Trick or Treating, Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6 to 8 pm
- Legislative Breakfast – Watson Inn - Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30 am
- Borough Office & Public Works is closed on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, for Veteran's Day
- Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm–Budget Meeting @ 6:15 pm

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendi L. Brooke  
Secretary/Treasurer