

**October 10, 2022**

Supervisor Wilcox called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led in the flag salute at the advertised meeting of the Worcester Town Board, held in the Town of Worcester Municipal Building.

**Present:** Jeff Wilcox ---- Supervisor  
 Brendon Ralph ---- Councilman  
 Dave Miller ---- Councilman  
 Harold Ridgeway ---- Councilman (arrived at 7:05pm)  
 Tim Lehenbauer ---- Councilman

**Others Present:** Richard Evans (Highway Superintendent), Rita Tetenes, Leo Tetenes, Agnes Terrell, Marilyn Dufresne and Ellie Hill (bookkeeper), Herb Fiederer and Judge William Fisher.

**Minutes:** Councilman Lehenbauer moved to accept the September 26, 2022 meeting minutes as presented and the October 5, 2022 budget workshop minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ralph . VOTE: Ayes: 4 (Wilcox, Lehenbauer, Miller, Ralph) Noes: 0

**Public Input:** Judge Fisher spoke about the tables, filing cabinets, and podium in the court. Judge Fisher has offered to sell these items to the Town of Worcester but wanted the board to be aware that he paid for these items years ago and was not reimbursed by the Town.

*Councilman Ridgeway arrived at 7:05pm.*

Herb Fiederer spoke about how the local laws use land use and building permits interchangeably, which is confusing since the Town of Worcester only deals with land use and Otsego County Code Enforcement handles the building permits. Mr. Fiederer feels that these regulations were not followed for the solar farm project and urged that the town highway department project follow the proper procedures.

**Highway Superintendent:** Nothing new to report.

**Financial:** The Supervisor's monthly statement, Town Clerk's report and the Town and HUD's financial statements are on file at the Town Clerk's office.

**Resolution #87: Audit of Claims:**

Offered by Councilman Ralph, second by Councilman Lehenbauer: Be it resolved that the Worcester Town Board approves payment of the bills listed on abstract 10:

General Fund:	claims: 200-208	\$2,316.03
Highway Fund:	claims: 183-193	\$82,868.03
Worcester Water #2	claims: 49-52	\$1,236.17
East Worcester Water #1	claims: 34-35	\$1,136.36
Street Lights	claims: 14-15	\$2,183.39
Escrow	claims: 6	\$1,472.50

VOTE: Ayes: 5 (Wilcox, Miller, Ridgeway, Ralph, Lehenbauer) Noes: 0

**Resolution #88: Adoption of Preliminary Budget**

Offered by Councilman Ridgeway, second by Councilman Miller: Be it resolved the the Worcester Town

Board adopts the 2023 tentative budget as the 2023 preliminary budget and schedules the public hearing for Monday, October 24, 2022 at 6:30pm. VOTE: Ayes: 5 (Wilcox, Miller, Ridgeway, Ralph, Lehenbauer) Noes: 0

**Old Business:** The bond resolution for the highway department project was reviewed by the board but was

tabled until the next meeting to give some more time to look it over.

The pay for the cleaning position was discussed.

**Resolution #89: Appointing Ellie Hill as cleaner for the 19 Katie Lane Building**

Offered by Councilman Miller, second by Councilman Ridgeway: Be it resolved that the Worcester Town Board appoints Ellie Hill as cleaner for the 19 Katie Lane Municipal building at a salary of \$200 a month.

VOTE: Ayes: 5 (Wilcox, Lehenbauer, Miller, Ralph, Ridgeway) Noes: 0

Councilman Lehenbauer will reach out to the Town of Decatur's dog control officer to see if he would be interested in taking the position in Worcester.

Supervisor Wilcox anticipates receiving \$50,000 from Otsego County as part of the American Rescue Plan Act. Of that money, \$10,000 will go to the Wieting Theater, \$4,000 to the Library and \$23,000 for sidewalks from the post office to the Little League field.

The East Worcester water district loans have been paid off and the rates for the East Worcester Water District were discussed.

**Resolution #101: East Worcester Water Rates**

Offered by Councilman Ralph, second by Councilman Lehenbauer: Be it resolved that the Worcester Town Board sets the following rates for the East Worcester Water District #1 now that the loans are paid off:

\$46.00 bi-annually for basic service regardless of water usages and an additional \$51.00 for those with active water usage. VOTE: Ayes: 5 (Wilcox, Lehenbauer, Miller, Ralph, Ridgeway) Noes: 0

Reclamation at the mine was discussed. Supervisor Wilcox will contact the DEC to get more information on exactly what needs to be done and then Seward Sand and Gravel can be contacted to prepare the site for reclamation.

**New Business:** A new deputy crossing guard will need to be hired for when the regular crossing guard is unable to be there. The crossing guard will try to find someone through the school to take the position.

Supervisor Wilcox reported on a resolution adopted by Otsego County recognizing October 11, 2022 through Veteran's Day as Veteran's awareness month and asks that green bulbs be displayed on porch lights.

**Executive session:** Councilman Ridgeway moved to enter executive session at 8:03 to discuss union negotiations. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lehenbauer. VOTE: Ayes: 5 (Wilcox, Lehenbauer, Miller, Ralph, Ridgeway) Noes: 0

Councilman Ridgeway moved to leave executive session and resume regular session at 8:35pm. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller. VOTE: Ayes: 5 (Wilcox, Lehenbauer, Miller, Ralph, Ridgeway) Noes: 0

**Adjournment:** Councilman Ralph moved, second by Councilman Lehenbauer to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Ann Beverland  
Worcester Town Clerk