

Deputy Supervisor/Councilman William Johnson opened a Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pawling at 9:00 AM September 24, 2020 at the Pawling Town Hall, 160 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling, New York. Present were Councilmen McCarthy, DeRosa, Councilwoman Snow and Town Attorney Nancy Tagliafierro. Supervisor Schmitt was absent. Due to Covid 19 restrictions, there was a limited capacity of 15 persons maximum allowed in the building. Social distancing and masks were required. Registration to attend the meeting was required. No one from the public was present.

Councilman Johnson said the purpose of this special meeting is to assist the Town Clerk in the daunting task of running the special election that has been forced upon us.

Councilman Johnson made a motion to authorize the Town Clerk to hire as needed personnel to assist in running the special election safely and efficiently in order to run the special election, at a rate not to exceed \$20.00 per hour, seconded by Councilwoman Snow.

Councilman DeRosa wanted to add legally. He said this is a lot of work and the Town Clerk is going to definitely need a lot of help and is under a tight schedule. He offered any help he could give.

Councilwoman Snow said she echoed that and again, this is the first time we have to do something like this so we are learning as we go. This is a good start certainly to get the help for our clerk because we are on a time line that we have to follow by law. It is really important to have this extra help at this time.

Councilman McCarthy agreed, saying whatever he can do to help, he will.

Councilman Johnson said this is a public election and this is an elected Board. Everything we do will follow proper procedure. As the Board can see by the documents they received, this is a daunting schedule of what is needed. Ongoing will be discussions of polling places and what is needed. He hoped that the Clerk, with the new help, will be able to biweekly or as needed, update the Board so that when members of the public ask Board members questions, they will have answers.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Councilman Johnson – “AYE”

Councilman DeRosa – “AYE”

Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”

Councilwoman Snow - “AYE”

Supervisor Schmitt – “ABSENT”

Councilman DeRosa said regarding the locations of the election, we were assuming there would be one at Whaley Lake and one here. But reading this document and the cost of everything, just to have the election in one location, the cost will probably be somewhere around \$20,000.00.

Councilman Johnson said he was guessing it would be more than that. Whenever there is a primary or the school board election, it is all in one location. The key will be notification. He will start trying to draft a letter and then official information can be added so people can make an educated decision.

Councilman DeRosa felt that everyone was agreeing to hold the election in one location.

Councilman Johnson said the Board is not sure yet, and that decision has not been made yet.

Councilwoman Snow asked that the schedule be put on the website.

Town Clerk Cathy Giordano said the documents could be placed on the website.

The motion to adjourn was made by Councilman DeRosa at 9:10 AM, seconded by Councilman McCarthy, motion passed unanimously.

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Town Clerk