

At the Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Elmira, Chemung County, New York held Wednesday October 25, 2023 at 7:00pm at 1255 West Water Street, Elmira, NY, there were present:

Supervisor: Ann Gerould
Deputy Supervisor Ron Allison
Councilmember: Scott Bush
Councilmember: Albert Lucarelli
Councilmember Thomas Milliken

Others present
Town Clerk- Tammy Stein
Town Attorney- Scott Moore
Police Chief- Bob Richards
Traffic Officer- Tom Holden

Supervisor Gerould called the workshop to order at 7:00pm and lead attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion

Supervisor Gerould stated that the Traffic District has recently lost 2 officers to other agencies and fears that the Town may loose more. She called this special meeting to discuss current practices, gather more information, discuss the current agreement, and look into options for future situations.

Chief Richards explained to the board that nationally there is a record low supply of people wanting to be officers and a record high demand for agencies needing them. He stated there is lots of vacancies in agencies and that they are all scrambling to fill these positions. Most agencies are increasing salaries, giving sign on bonuses and offer a 20-year retirement to attract potential hires. Chief Richards also expressed to the board that the Town of Elmira is the only agency in this area that the part time officers are competitive through Civil Service. He stated that if it was non competitive that they may have a chance to get part time officers from other agencies to also work here part time.

The Town Board discussed:
Part time Officers
Hardship waiver
Police union contract

Motion was made by Councilmember Lucarelli at 7:51pm and seconded by Councilmember Allison to enter into an executive session to discuss a personnel matter. All in favor, motion carried

Supervisor Gerould invited Chief Richards to attend the executive session with the board.

Motion was made by Councilmember Milliken at 8:58pm and seconded by Councilmember Allison to exit executive session and reconvene the Town Board meeting. All in favor, motion

carried

Motion was made by Councilmember Milliken at 9:02 pm and seconded by Councilmember Bush to adjourn the special meeting. All in favor, Motion Carried

Tammy Stein, Town Clerk