

Supervisors Report

If things had gone as expected, the Copake Town Board would have conducted a ceremony at our January 2022 meeting honoring Larry Proper for over four decades of service to the Town of Copake. We would have invited former Supervisors Jeff Nayer, Reggie Crowley and Angelo Valentino, and Highway Superintendent Bill Gregory, and past Town Clerk Vana Hotaling, and current Town Clerk Lynn Connolly, each to say a few words expressing our gratitude and congratulations to a man who was the consummate public servant.

But things did not go as expected. On November 23, Reggie passed away. And on November 29, the Town heard the news that Larry had died.

On this Monday, we stood in front of Town Hall as a funeral procession for Larry rolled by. First a Copake firetruck, then two Copake Highway trucks- one with a plow, both gleaming. Then a long black hearse which paused at the driveway to Town Hall, and then moved on. Followed by the family, and over 30 cars of friends. Followed then by more Copake Highway Department trucks, and then trucks from the Highway Departments of 10 towns and the County, and fire trucks from 3 towns. Ancram, Hillsdale, Canaan, Ghent, Taghkanic. They all rolled by to show their love and respect to this man who was a friend to all.

Last night, the Columbia County Board of Supervisors closed their meeting with a moment of silence to honor Reggie Crowley. We will close our meeting tonight with a moment of silence to honor former Copake Judge and Supervisor Reggie Crowley and former Town Clerk, former Park Superintendent and Highway Superintendent, Lawrence O. Proper.