

Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, April 10, 2017 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

**Present were:** Supervisor Sandra Wright and Councilmembers: Travis McKnight, Shirley Robinson, Patricia VanPatten, and Shaun Prentice.

**Also Present:** Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, Robert Dalton, Highway Superintendent, Charlie Nash, Town Attorney, Lowell McAllister, Judy Boyer, Deb Christy, Brent & Annette Taylor, Ryne Martin for Assemblywoman Jenne, Scott & Mary Loomis, Mark Scott, Amy Morgan, Lisa Barkley, Kathy Doe, Kristen & James LeFleur, Scott Loomis, Bill Tiernan, and Edith Ashley.

**Call to Order:** Supv Wright called the meeting to order @ 7PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Executive Session:** A motion was made by VanPatten, seconded by McKnight to enter into executive session @ 7:02PM to discuss the employment history of a particular person. A motion was made by VanPatten, seconded by McKnight to return to regular session @ 7:25PM. No action was taken during executive session.

Attorney Nash addressed everyone in the room stating that the executive session had to do with a legal proceeding between the Town and a highway department employee. There were hearings scheduled between the Town and the employee. These have been cancelled due to a proposed agreement from the Teamster’s Attorney between the employee and the Town. The employee will receive his accrued benefits. The amicable solution will result in the employee’s retirement. Once the agreement is signed there is a confidentiality clause in it stating that the Town can’t discuss the situation but because the Town is a government they are subject to the freedom of information law makes documents a matter of public record. Anyone can obtain a copy through the process if they so desire.

Resolution #33

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Robinson

WHEREAS, the Town of Waddington and Teamsters Local 687 have negotiated a document entitled “Agreement” with regard to Town Highway Department employee, Gary Morgan, and; WHEREAS, Teamsters Local 687 has been represented by the Satter Law Firm, PLLC, and the Town of Waddington has been represented by Town Attorney, Charles B. Nash, Esq; and WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Waddington has had an opportunity to review the agreement prior to April 10, 2017;

Now, on motion of McKnight, and seconded by Robinson,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Waddington adopts said Agreement and by this Resolution, gives authority to the Town Supervisor to sign said Agreement on behalf of the Town.

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Wright:	Aye	Councilor McKnight:	Aye
Councilor Robinson:	Aye	Councilor VanPatten:	Aye
Councilor Prentice:	Naye		

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Prentice, seconded by Robinson to approve the minutes as submitted. Ayes: All

**Citizen Comments:**

Jim Thew approached the board requesting support for an RVRDA grant for the Clark House Preservation group. He stated that the Preservation Group was requesting \$50,000 towards their project total of \$62,000. The project through the RVRDA is for the mechanicals needed (plumbing, heating, electrical) They currently have a member item coming down the pike from Assemblywoman Jenne’s office in the amount of \$125,000 that will repair the roof and begin the mechanicals needed. They will be working on the first floor for studio space. The Christmas

in Waddington event was great and there will be a summer pop up in Waddington. Questions were answered and the following resolution was passed.

Resolution #34

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Robinson

WHEREAS: The Clark House Preservation project is a continuing restoration of the historic structure, and

WHEREAS: The Clark House is a critical component of revitalizing Waddington's Main Street, and

WHEREAS: The Clark House was a main focal point for the month long event "Christmas in Waddington, and

WHEREAS: There is growing excitement about the Clark House becoming the focal point for Northern New York's artist community, and

WHEREAS: Funding from the RVRDA will allow Clark House to begin performing the necessary building renovations to allow our artisan community to utilize the building on a regular basis, and continue the revitalization of Waddington's Main Street, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Village of Waddington, does hereby support the efforts put forth by the Clark House Preservation Group to secure funding from the RVRDA toward the restoration project.

Supv Wright, Councilors: McKnight, Robinson, and VanPatten: Aye

Councilor Prentice: Abstain

Mark Scott told the board that articles for the Waddington Recorder need to be in by April 24<sup>th</sup>. He also thanked the board for their support of the Clarke House.

**Equestrian Park:** Lowell McAllister spoke to the board about the proposed equestrian park at Whitehouse Bay. He stated that there is a steering committee for the project consisting of himself, Mary Loomis, Vice Chairman, Gehrig Putney, Judy Boyer, Annette Taylor and Richard VanKirk. He stated that the Board members had received a letter and a map from him prior to the meeting. The total budget for the project is \$40,060. They are requesting \$32,640 through the RVRDA grant.

A well and hand pump will be installed: \$3,900

Solar light to light the kiosk : 1,700

Porta toilets (3 years) : 2,200

10 hitching rails : 500

150' x 100' 15' deep gravel parking lot 18,000

Trail maps/brochures 460

Liability insurance 3,000

They currently have 2,000 in-kind services, 2,000 cash donations, and 4,000 from the State.

They are requesting that the Town become the conduit for the RVRDA grant because they are not a non for profit group. Question and answer period ensued.

Resolution #35

Motioned by: VanPatten

Seconded by: McKnight

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby support the concept of the Equestrian Park at Whitehouse Bay for a period of three years;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board agrees to be the conduit under which the group can write an RVRDA grant request; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board can modify its insurance policy for liability which will be paid for by the Equestrian Group.

Supv Wright and Councilors: McKnight, Robinson, and VanPatten: Aye

Councilor Prentice: Abstain

**Committee Reports:**

**Recreation:** C VanPatten reported that the Recreation Committee received 6 applications for beach caretaker. They are looking into pickle ball courts and teams. Waddington Minor Baseball held sign ups. The Reading Program will be held the same weeks as last year.

**Tourism:** C VanPatten reported that there will be a Bass Master Fundraiser event to take place May 6<sup>th</sup> at the St Law Valley Sportsman's Club Ogdensburg. The show starts at 7 with Dance Party after at 10:30. The Dragon Boat Races will be held July 15<sup>th</sup> with around 21 teams.

**Highway:** The Highway Dept has plowed and sanded numerous times and hauled snow from Main Street. They modified the road broom in order to mount it to the front of the tractor. They hauled boulders to the dam gate and placed them along the roadway, installed a smaller gasoline storage tank and containment and attended an eight hour refresher course for MSHA safety. The Town of Madrid hauled the County's bulldozer to our backyard. They are in the process of cleaning up years of debris. They are in the process of cleaning the truck bays from a long winter.

**Rescue Squad:** C. Prentice reported that the Rescue Squad held its meeting last Monday. They have several letters to be sent to the Waddington Recorder. Their call numbers are up. They are having a problem with homeowners who don't have their house numbers on their houses. It makes it difficult to find an address when on a call. They had discussion on homecoming. There are no changes with coverage for the BASS tournament. The BASS committee did decide to wave the \$500 fee for the Auxiliary to sell at the BASS tournament. They have talked about staffing the building during the hours of the event should they need to go out on a call. They will be having an Easter egg hunt on Saturday.

**Library:** C. Robinson reported that the library met on April 4<sup>th</sup>. The library was closed March 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> due to the weather. Maitland's flooring will replace the kitchen floor on April 20<sup>th</sup>. There were 25 parents and children that attended the cooking class with Canton Co-op on March 8<sup>th</sup>. The board received three inquiries about the painting in the community room. Once was from Ohio. Children will be working on Easter Crafts April 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 11:00. Duffy will check prices for digital equipment to be used to convert 8 mm reels to CD's. The next meeting is May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Cemeteries:** C. McKnight reported that the fence at Chamberlain Corners cemetery will be installed before Memorial Day. The McKnight family is contributing the materials and installation of the fence. Supv Wright thanked the McKnight family for their generosity.

**Old Town Hall:** Supv Wright reported that the Board should have received an email from Vicki MacDonald concerning the heating system at the old town hall. They noted that they had. The Clerk reported that she had been in touch with SHPO concerning the project. She must send a letter with plans for the heating system, type of insulation etc. They will respond within 30 days with their comments/concerns. Further discussion ensued.

Resolution #36

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Prentice

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the plans and recommendations for a hydronic system at the old town hall as submitted by Smith Civil Engineering. Ayes: All

**Iroquois Dam Gate:** The Board discussed the Iroquois Dam gate. The gate will remain locked and action will be tabled until they hear back from the Town Attorney.

**LENS Program:** The LENS program is up and running. The Town will now be notified if there are any changes, tickets etc. placed on an employee's driving record.

**Surplus Property:** Supv Wright stated that she had spoken with Sean Doyle from NYPA concerning the easements on the property to be sold. He stated that it is progressing. He is estimating September. The Town Attorney has recommended that the Board wait for the easements to be finalized before trying to sell the property. Bill Tiernan asked the Board if the wetlands will be marked on the property. Supv Wright will call the DEC to request this. Bill Tiernan also asked about the procedure for the auction. He stated that he has not seen any auction like Kent is proposing. Discussion was held concerning this. Supv Wright will contact

Josh Kent to ask him to come back and do a possible mock auction so that everyone will be on the same page.

**Cintas Contract:** Supv Wright reported that she had received the revised contract from Cintas for the highway department's uniforms. She requested permission to sign.

Resolution #37

Motioned by: VanPatten

Seconded by: Prentice

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby authorize Supv Wright to sign the uniform contract with Cintas. Ayes: All

**Hardscrabble Rd:** Supv Wright reported that Al Odendahl had contacted her about the condition of the Hardscrabble Rd. She met with him to hear his concerns. Discussion was held as to the work that has been done to the road and will continue to be done. It is not something that can be done all at once. Supt Dalton stated that they are out there right now working on it.

**Homecoming Policy:** Supv Wright reported that she, the Town Clerk, and Sue Caswell, Treasurer for Homecoming had sat down to produce a policy for the responsibility for homecoming/celebration monies.

Resolution #38

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: VanPatten

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby implement the following policy for Homecoming/Celebration funds:

Homecoming Celebrations Financial Advisory Board

**Background:** In 2002 a special savings account was opened with a deposit of \$10,000 from the New York Power Authority. This savings account is called "Celebrations" and was intended to be used in conjunction with the Homecoming committee for events and or/celebrations. Homecoming weekend was originally a Chamber of Commerce event until there had been an insurance problem making the weekend too expensive for the Chamber to continue. The Town of Waddington took the event over so that the volunteers involved could be covered under their insurance. Thus the weekend became a Town sponsored event. The weekend is still run by volunteers and a "homecoming committee" consisting of a chairman, secretary, and treasurer. All monies raised by the homecoming committee is turned into the Town of Waddington to be deposited into a savings account called "Homecoming". The Homecoming account is completely funded by the efforts of the Homecoming event itself. No Town funds are deposited into this account. All bills are approved by the homecoming committee and turned into the Town of Waddington for review and disbursement by the Town Bookkeeper.

**Purpose:** The Homecoming Celebrations Financial Advisory Board was established in 2015 by the Waddington Town Board for the purpose to oversee the spending of the Celebrations and Homecoming savings accounts.

**Authority:** The Homecoming Celebrations Financial Advisory Board has been set up to insure Homecoming and Celebrations funds are being spent in the manner in which they have been intended and to insure continuity with the Homecoming event itself.

**Members:** Village Board Representative

Town Board Representative

Homecoming Chairman and/or Co-Chair

Homecoming Treasurer

## Waddington Chamber Chair

**Meetings:** The Homecoming Celebrations Financial Advisory Board will meet at least twice a year to review the financial status of the two accounts. Once before the homecoming weekend and then after the weekend has ended and all expenditures have been submitted.

**Ag Permits Liability Insurance:** It has been brought to the Supervisor's attention that anyone who leases Ag lands from the town should be submitting a certificate of liability insurance naming the Town of Waddington as additionally insured. The Board agreed and the Clerk will contact the Town's insurance agent to do this.

**St Lawrence County Planning:** Supv Wright received a letter from the St. Lawrence County Planning Office requesting the Town's input on contributing to the Pictometry program used by Assessors, law enforcement, and Planning office. It has been paid for by the Sheriff's office in recent years but they can no longer do so. They have asked towns to respond if they would be interested in investing in the program either by charging through their budgets or through County Chargebacks. The Town board noted that they needed more information about the program before they can discuss this.

**Homecoming Stage:** Supt Dalton reported that the highway department has the stage torn apart. The cross members are rotted out. He is getting an estimate for steel crossmembers vs. pressure treated.

**Bills:** A motion was made by Robinson, seconded by Prentice to pay bills # - in the amount of \$.  
Ayes: All

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by McKnight, seconded by Robinson to adjourn the meeting @ 9:05PM. Ayes: All

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk