

Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, February 10, 2020 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

Present were: Supervisor Alex Hammond and Councilmembers: Travis McKnight, David McBath, Scott Loomis, and Shaun Prentice.

Also Present: Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, David Putney, Highway Superintendent, Patty VanPatten, James Miller, Edith Ashley, Julie McBath, Mark Scott and Jim Chestnut and Mark Denner with St Lawrence County Emergency Services.

Call To order: Supv Hammond called the meeting to order @ 7PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Citizen's Comments: Patty VanPatten requested that the snow at the four corners be pushed back. It is difficult to see when you come to the intersection. Supt Putney stated it would be taken care of.

Emergency Services: Matthew Denner and Jim Chestnut addressed the board concerning the proposed emergency services tower to be built on town property behind the town barn. The tower will be a 270' free standing tower that will fill the gap for radio communications between the Massena tower and the tower on the Wagner Rd in Lisbon. They explained that the tower will house radio communications for Fire, Rescue, Sheriff's and any other emergency services that need to have space. There will also be a space for the town highway department to have a repeater to upgrade their radio communications. At this time there are no leases for commercial companies on the tower. This leads into a whole different scenario. They noted that that had given the town a generic lease agreement which will need to be modified if necessary and signed before they can begin. They are hoping to begin by April. The board told them that they would look at the lease and get it back to them as soon as possible.

Committee Reports:

Recreation: C Loomis reported that the ice has been sporadic depending on the temperatures. They have set up an outside rink to play pond hockey on. They have been selling food inside. If anyone has skates they would like to donate to the arena they will accept them.

Rescue Squad: C Prentice reported that the Squad held their meeting on Monday. There is a group of members that are going to go to Hammond and Alex Bay to look at new rigs. They are going to submit a grant application to help pay for it. They had an issue with a battery in a rig that was at the end of its useful life. They are working on isolating devices to see what needs power to maintain. Dan Evans is working with them on that. Julie attended a BASS meeting. They have come up with a fee structure to be used to man these types of profit oriented events. \$100 per hour for rig + 2 people. Any additional personnel will be charged @ \$25 per hour. They are looking at banquet dates in March. Julie McBath reported that they squad has two new EMT's who are seniors in high school. They are the 1st EMT's to test out at the age of 17. She is very proud of their accomplishments and hopes that once they go off to college they will still come back to help out when they are in the area.

Library: C McBath reported that the Library Board met on February 4th. They have canvassed three quotes for central air conditioning. They will be applying for a grant to pay for this. They have also noted that the maintenance for this will be the library's responsibility. They were told by NCLS representative that it is mandatory that they increase the substitute's salaries to minimum wage. This will raise them to \$11.80 & \$11.90 respectively. The library board questioned why the Town needs to approve their request to move money between line items.

It is because they are funded and owned by the Town. The town collects the taxes and does all the bookkeeping as the municipality. Comptroller's office requires board approval for budget adjustments. It is basically a formality. The Town hasn't ever denied a request as long as they have the funds to do it.

Campground committee: C McBath reported that he rescheduled the meeting for this Wednesday evening due to the weather last week. He will share the information received at the Local Government Task Force and begin work on footprints for the cabins to recommend to the Town Board.

Cemeteries/Safety: C McKnight had nothing to report. C Loomis asked if there were still concerns about people driving through the cemetery to get to the river for ice fishing. Supt Putney stated that he has put a barricade at the entrance to Old Brookside. The Catholic cemetery has also been barricaded off.

Highway: During the month of January the highway department plowed and sanded 28 times, did maintenance on the trucks, took the Christmas decorations down and put them away, and removed snow piles off the Village streets.

Supt Putney asked who was in charge of the churches that are put at the four corners. It was noted that at one time each church constructed their models and were given to the town for the four corners. He stated that they are in really rough shape and need to be repaired or replaced. The board discussed and a motion was made by Loomis, seconded by McKnight to send letters to each of the four churches stating that they are in disrepair and that if they are not repaired or replaced they will not be put back out next year. Ayes: All The clerk will send a letter to the churches.

The clerk received a letter from National Grid stating that the Town Barn's electric usage has been reviewed and it indicates that we may meet the criterial for demand rate if our usage continues over 2000 KWh for the next two billing cycles. C Prentice explained that this is based on the how much electricity is used at one time during peak time. He will look at our recent bills and check into it. He will report at the next meeting.

USDA Grant: The USDA has sent the Town an offer for funding of the new plow truck. It is an offer for \$217,921 and consists of \$32,000 Grant, \$185,000 as a loan for 15 years @ 2.75% interest and an applicant contribution of \$921.00. The loan includes \$4,000 for special bond counsel fee. Discussion ensued. Supt Putney told the board that we should accept this offer. In the last three years he has put \$12,381 into the oldest truck we have. When do we decide enough is enough? C McKnight figured if we take the loan for 15 years it will be an annual payment of \$14,926. 10 years would be \$20,986. We can also make principle payments at any time and there is no penalty for early pay off.

Resolution #25

Motioned by: Loomis

Seconded by: Prentice

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the USDA's proposal to purchase a new snowplow as submitted. \$217,921 project broken down as \$185,000 15 year loan @ 2.75%, \$32,000 grant, and applicant contribution of \$921. Ayes: All

Loader Tires: Supt Putney reported that he has to replace two tires on the loader. Seaway Tire is \$1700 each and Visser Tire is \$2,700 each. The total exceeds his permitted limit to spend without board permission. Supt Putney also noted that in two years the town should consider purchasing a new loader.

C McKnight told him to hold off for a couple days. He wanted to make some calls.

Resolution #26

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Loomis

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the purchase of two tires for the front end loader not to exceed a total of \$3,400. Ayes: All

Gallery /Clarke House: Mark Scott reported that the gallery will have a busy summer. There is an ongoing exhibit by Mark Snider. They will be looking to do an exhibit called “Spring into Art”. They are looking for artists who would like to display their work in this. The Laurentian singers will be at the old town hall on March 7th. The Clarke House will be open this weekend for Valentine’s Day. They are opening one weekend per month in the winter.

Watercross: Supv Hammond reported that he his intent for the lease agreement was to talk to Chris who is the head of the Watercross association and then send it to Charlie for approval. Chris sent it to his attorney for review and if they are good with the wording we will send it on to Charlie. Supv Hammond will contact Chris tomorrow to see where he is at with it.

Local Government Task Force: Supv Hammond reported that they brought a packet to the Local Government Task Force showing what the Town is proposing for Little Sucker Brook, Brandy Brook, and Leishman Point. They will take it to NYPA for the next step. The next task force meeting is February 20th.

Sidewalk: The sidewalk project is completed. It is nice and dry. The boiler and hot water heater are installed. Frank had to go with a bigger circulation pump to get it to the furthest end of the sidewalk. He is adjusting the mixing valves. It is currently at 118 degrees. He may cut it down one more time. They system is fully charged with glycol. There is no water in the system. There is a switch in the highway department that can be turned off when it is not needed.

Iroquois Land Sale: C McBath noted that he had requested this item to be on the agenda. He has been looking at the property west of the Iroquois Dam and wanted to start a discussion about the possibility of selling some property in that area. The board discussed the NYPA road, easement, and subdivision regulations. Information will be gathered before the next meeting for further discussion.

Supv Hammond reported that Bill Tiernan has come to him concerning the last property that the Town sold to him that encompasses the old river road. According to Tiernan the easements that the Town has with the Power Authority to cross their property doesn’t transfer with the sale of the property. Supv Hammond was told by NYPA that the town can enter into an MOU with Tiernan whereby we allow him to maintain the easement for the Town. Discussion was held. There are too many questions to be answered to make a decision at this meeting. A motion was made by McKnight, seconded by Loomis to table the easement discussion above the beach until the next meeting. Ayes: All

Chase Mills properties: C Loomis reported that he will be attending a meeting with the Town Attorney, the Supreme Court Judge, and the Plaintiffs in Canton on February 14th. This will be a mediation session which is the beginning of the process.

Grievance Board of Assessment Review:

Resolution #27

Motioned by: Loomis

Seconded by: McKnight

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby reappoint Mark Brouillette to the Grievance Board of Assessment Review for a 5 year term ending 9/30/24. Ayes: All

Town Clerk/Code Enforcement Annual Reports.

Resolution #28

Motioned by: Prentice

Seconded by: Loomis

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the annual reports from the Town Clerk and Code Enforcement Officer’s annual report. Ayes: All

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT TO THE TOWN BOARD
JANUARY 1, 2019 TO DECEMBER 31, 2019

Conservation Licenses	8390.00
Dog Licenses	4004.50
SPCA Redemption	.00
Marriage Licenses	440.00
Certified Copies	370.00
Misc. Sales	19.11
Building Permits	3606.75
Cemetery Funds	5200.00
Ag Permits (PA lease)	4499.90
Beach Pavilion Rental	<u>2355.00</u>
Total Collected	28885.26

Paid to Town Supervisor	20023.52
Paid to DEC	7977.24
Paid to Ags & Markets (dogs)	637.00
Paid to Dept. of Health (marriage)	<u>247.50</u>
Total Paid out	28885.26

Taxes Collected & paid to Town Supervisor	324004.00
Interest collected & paid to Town Supervisor	2937.73
Taxes collected & paid to County Treasurer	<u>1268131.03</u>
Total Taxes collected	1595072.76

There were 34 building permits issued in 2019. There were 7 permits issued for new dwellings, 1 of which was a manufactured home. Their estimated assessed value is \$820,000 up \$500,000 from 2018. The remaining 27 permits were issued for alterations, additions, yard barns, barn, garages, deck and swimming pools.

There was an increase of 20 building permits from 2018.

The building permit fees collected in 2019 were \$3,606.75 an increase of \$1898 from 2018.

The annual Census Bureau report does not include manufactured houses. For the year 2018 only 6 houses can be reported.

Anthony McManaman

Code Enforcement Officer

Hold Harmless Agreement:

Resolution #29

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Loomis

HOLDING HARMLESS THE COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE FOR PROVIDING SERVICE FOR 2020

By: Town Board, Town of Waddington

WHEREAS, the Town of Waddington is desirous of St. Lawrence County Department of Highways providing shared services such as paving, signage, road stripping, blasting, and other routine maintenance activities to the Town, and

WHEREAS, both the Town of Waddington and the County of St. Lawrence are desirous of promoting partnering efforts for the safety of the traveling public in St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, in this joint cooperative endeavor the Town of Waddington and the County of St. Lawrence desires to be reimbursed for their expenditures, and

WHEREAS, the Town is aware that the County may incur liability in the providing of the services and wishes to indemnify the County in this regard,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that to the fullest extent permitted by law, the Town of Waddington will indemnify and hold harmless the County, their officers, directors, partners, representatives, agents and employees from and against any and all claims, suits, liens, judgments, damages, losses and expenses, including legal fees and all court costs and liability (including statutory liability) arising in whole or in part and in any manner from injury and/or death of person or damage to or loss of any property relating to or arising out of any negligent or intentional acts and/or omissions of the Town of Waddington or any of its directors, officers, employees, contractors, representatives, or agents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following request for General Liability (GL) coverage is as follows:

General Liability Insurance

On an "Occurrence" basis, with the following limits:

\$1,000,000 Each Occurrence

\$3,000,000 General Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Products Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Personal Injury

\$ 50,000 Fire Damage Legal Liability

\$ 5,000 Medical Payment Expense

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that St. Lawrence County shall be an additional insured on the GL Policy, via ISO endorsement CG 2026. Ayes: all

Property Purchase: Supv Hammond reported that he had spoken with the Village at their regular meeting about the possibility of purchasing the property across from the Municipal Building. The house is owned by a bank and the property goes over to the Fire Department Property line. It is currently on the market for \$26,600. The Village has appointed a representative to look at it along with Supv Hammond and the Town Assessor. It might be an opportunity to own the large backyard area should the Town need it for a parking lot or the fire department needs to expand. The Board discussed and noted that it can be looked into.

Fire Alarm System: C McBath reported that the Town Barns and Clerk's Office area of the building has no fire detection installed. With the recent municipalities that have lost their highway department equipment due to fire he feels it is something we should look into. We should at least have battery operated alarms in the clerk's area and the office and breakroom in the highway department. Discussion ensued. C Prentice will contact some alarm companies and get some quotes. Supv Putney will install some battery operated alarms.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Loomis, seconded by McKnight to enter into executive session @ 8:50PM to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. A motion was made by McKnight, seconded by Prentice to return to regular session @ 9:10PM. Ayes: All. No action was taken during executive session.

Bills: A motion was made by McKnight, seconded by Loomis to pay bills #13186 -13254 in the amount of \$143,536.11. Ayes: All

Adjournment: A motion was made by Prentice, seconded by McKnight to adjourn the meeting @ 9:15PM. Ayes: All

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk