

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, May 11, 2015 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

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

Also Present: Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, Robert Dalton, Highway Superintendent, Wendy Smith, Leila Thurston, Lorry Bass, Phillip Ashley, Edith Ashley, Marilyn Burrill, E. Jane Layo, Mark Scott, James Pipher, and Kerri O'Bryan.

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

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

Citizen's Comment:

Jane Layo asked the board if the Town had any plans to address abandoned trailers in the Township. She has noticed two in particular. One on SH 345 and the other on CR 28. Supv Wright stated that this would be a question for Code Enforcement. She would relay it to Tony.

Lorry Bass spoke to the Board concerning the termination of the contract the Town has with Maple Ridge Kennels. This is where any stray dogs picked up are taken. She stated that she has sent the Board emails to consider contracting with a humane society such as Potsdam or Massena. She requested that she be given permission to obtain quotes from these shelters.

Marilyn Burrill asked the Board if they had considered an alternative to a caretaker cottage at the beach such as video surveillance. She stated that this would also help out during the months when there is no caretaker and the problem at the dam. Supv. Wright stated that they have considered this as well.

Mark Scott asked if there were final numbers on the cottage. Supv Wright stated that she would report this as we get to it on the agenda.

Mark also stated that some people would like to come to the meeting but can't. Would the town consider posting videos on the internet.

Mark asked about the problem with the Morning Reading program. Supv Wright stated that the Recreation Committee was holding a special meeting this evening to work out the details. The two teachers that originally were going to do it have declined since the Town has asked for a longer program at the same pay.

Phillip Ashley asked what can be done about an accumulation of rubbish at a home in his neighborhood. The Clerk asked if it was in Chase Mills. He stated that it was. She told him that Code Enforcement is working on violation letters at this time. He also stated that they were burning trash. The Clerk noted that she would make Code Enforcement aware of this situation.

Committee Reports:

Recreation: C. Robinson reported that there was a meeting of the Recreation Committee on April 27th @ 6PM. The committee agreed to 3 weeks at \$4,000 for the Summer Reading Program starting July 6th. Since then there was another meeting in which Supv Wright attended where the committee had requested a four week reading program. The committee is holding a special meeting this evening @ 6:30PM to discuss the teacher's rejection of the Town's proposal for the summer reading program and how they will proceed from here.

Library: C. Robinson reported that she attended the Library meeting as a citizen to hear Emily Owen speak. Emily is the Library Director at Canton library and she was with NCLS for 5 years. Emily wanted to speak last so she stayed for the meeting.

Emily gave the Library Board information on how their budget would work through the school. They also discussed the municipal ballot. The Board may check with the Madrid Library Board to see if they also would approach the School Board for the next ballot.

They asked Emily about the bookkeeping. She said they may have to hire their own bookkeeper and accountant.

Marilyn Burrill stated that she also told the Board that most towns continue the way that they have been going. She also noted that the Library Board is just in the beginning stages and has a lot of work that needs to be done.

Rescue Squad: C. VanPatten reported that she was unable to attend the meeting but got the following report from the Squad. The Squad has two new members. They are getting their boats ready for the water. The purchase of the Cardiac Pulse Machine has been made and they will have a donation jug at the Bass Tournament to help with the cost. Claxton-Hepburn Hospital has Okayed a medical tent for their use during the tournament. The squad will be working with Pam Dalton on a blood drive at her gym. The date has not been set. Their banquet will be held on May 30th @ the Copper Still & Steakhouse in Massena. RSVP by May 18th.

Tourism: C. VanPatten is working on the canoe race and Bass Tournament. There is a meat raffle that will be drawn on May 20th. The Bass committee will be holding a garage sale during the Town's garage sale weekend. They are looking for items to sell. Contact June Dumas or Jackie Brooks for pickup.

Cemeteries: C. McKnight reported that he is working with Supt Dalton to set the stone for the Haggett memorial at the cemetery. Witherbee & Whalen will pin the plaque to the stone as soon as it is set. The dedication will be held on Saturday, May 24th @ 10AM. Paul Haggett is putting together a program and will get it to Travis.

Highway: Supt Dalton reported that Steve has been working at the old town hall in his spare time. The exterior wall has been patched and is ready for paint, the ceilings have been painted, light fixtures in place, and some sheet rock is ready for spackle. The auditorium floor has been cleaned in anticipation of the prom later this month. They attended a safety meeting with the Towns of Madrid, and the Village of Waddington.

Bill Barkley, Madrid Hwy Supt and Supt Dalton attended a meeting with the state DOT engineer to learn about shared services and how road work should be handled when it comes off a town road to a state highway.

They hauled the trash from the roof of the fire pit at the four corners. They have cleaned the plastic containers and trash from New Brookside Cemetery. Have been working on grave openings and concrete footers.

The gravel roads have been graded, rolled, and mag flakes put down on the. On rainy days they have built bollards to protect the invertors for the solar panels and will be placing stone in between the rows of the panels to make maintenance easier.

The water has been turned on at the beach. They have repaired any leaks. The Power Authority is paying to have the parking lot and paved walkways sealed. They have helped the Village install the docks and hauled some sludge. As they go to Ogdensburg with sludge they come back with a load of gravel so it isn't just a wasted trip. The screens and air conditioners have been installed at the library.

Chamber of Commerce: Jane reported that the chamber has been working on packets for the fishing derby, having a membership drive, and preparing brochures for disbursement.

Dogs: A discussion was held concerning the handling of any stray dogs in the Town of Waddington. Currently the Town takes the dogs to a private kennel until the owner is found and they are redeemed. If the owner is not found after the 5 day period the dog has been brought to nonprofit group called Friends 4 Pound Paws, Inc. of Gouverneur. They foster the dogs into their group until a new owner can be found. In all of Jim's towns there has only been two dogs taken to the kennel. Jim has suggested a state certified kennel run by Dan Moyer. Dan is a dog control officer in other towns and covers for Jim when out of town. Again this

would be on an as needed basis. Lorry Bass asked the Board if she could get quotes from the other shelters for the Town before a decision is made. Further discussion ensued.

Resolution #41

Motioned by: Prentice

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby agree to keep the dog control process as is. The Town will now bring any stray dogs to Dan Moyer's kennels until the owner can be found. Ayes: All

Beach Cottage: Supv Wright reported that there will be engineered plans for the cottage by Wednesday as per NYPA regulations. New prices will be obtained if need be. The caretaker will be back on May 15th.

Iroquois Dam/Leishman Point: Supv Wright reported that David Putney who leases a property from the town came to see her regarding the damage done to the fields by pickup trucks mud bogging. There has been damage on Whitehouse Bay, Leishman Point, and the Old River Rd. Supv Wright took pictures of the damage. The Ogdensburg Troopers Barracks are investigating the damage and have a few leads.

Supv Wright stated that she had been in contact with Bryant Bullard concerning the gate at Iroquois Dam. She said that she has to meet with Mark Slade concerning the road being improved before they will give permission. C. McKnight stated that we need to do something before the property is damaged beyond use. He suggested that he, Supt Dalton, and C. Prentice go to the dam to see if there is a way to install a gate on our property to keep them out and bypass the Power Authority property. They will look into this.

NYPA Review: Supv Wright reported that the review document has been signed. The Alcoa Preservation Power agreement took effect May 1st. She asked how many people took advantage of the power agreement. She was told that there were 12 people @ 12,500 per month or \$150,000 per year.

The McKinsey Group has been talking with people in the area trying to get a feel of what is important to our region. C. McKnight stated that they were at his farm and also visited with the Akins and Acres farms in the region.

Supv Wright stated that there will be a recreation plan meeting scheduled. She asked if there were anything else the board would like to send to this committee. C. Prentice stated that the most important asset that we have is the river and our lack of commercial ventures such as restaurants along there. He feels that this should be a priority in order to bring more tourism to the area.

Surplus property: Supv Wright stated that she had spoken with Joel Howie and was told he was waiting on a friend with a boat to get to the one property that is land locked. We should have the appraisal in June.

Leishman Point: Supv Wright stated that the Clerk had contacted the Border Patrol Agency to tell them we were not interested in having a surveillance camera on Leishman Point. They asked if there were another place they could look at. The Board did not have any suggestions for them.

Assessor: Supv Wright reported that the new 2015 tax maps have been posted in the building. The assessor had his first day sitting with the roll today. No one came in to see him. He told her that there were 6 new homes in town last year with an assessment of \$800,000.

Computer Software: The Clerk reported that she had received word from EOS the Town's current software company that they will only be supporting the program until the end of June. We had been aware that this was coming but received no notification until now. The Clerk, Bookkeeper, Deputy Clerk, and Supervisor watched demonstrations from other companies. They are Enhanced Business Systems, Business Automated Systems (BAS), and KVS/Springbrook the company that took over EOS. The following quotes were received.

Enhanced Business Systems: \$8,287.00
Business Automated Systems (BAS): \$15,840
KVS/Springbrook: Cloud Based 4-year cost of ownership: \$56,961.60
On premise Licensed 4 year cost of ownership: \$41,260.00

The Clerk read a letter from the Bookkeeper stating that she felt that the best program was the BAS. The Clerk also reported that she has her Clerk program through BAS and the Code Enforcement also has his through them. Their service has been excellent. The Deputy Clerk also spoke in favor of the BAS program. BAS has also offered a two year no interest payment plan. The Supervisor has budgeted \$8,000 in the 2015 budget in anticipation of this.

Resolution #42

Motioned by: VanPatten

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the purchase of the bookkeeping program from Business Automated Systems (BAS) in the amount of \$15,840 to be paid over a two year no interest program.

Roll Call Vote:

C. McKnight: Aye

C. Prentice: Aye

C. Robinson: Aye

C. VanPatten: Aye

Supv Wright: Aye

Justice Annual Report:

Resolution #43

Motioned by: Prentice

Seconded by: McKnight

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the justice annual audit report as conducted and submitted by Councilors Robinson and VanPatten. Ayes: All

BASS Tourney: Supv Wright stated that she has been attending the BASS committee meetings and it was asked if the Town could make the camping spaces available on Leishman Point that they did for the first BASS tournament. The Board discussed this and stated that there would be too much work to get it ready. The last time they spent all the time, got the permits, hauled the water etc and didn't have anyone use the spaces.

Memorial: Supv Wright stated that there is a committee that has been working on a memorial for Nancy Putney Ferency in memory of her dedication to the Town Hall and the Town of Waddington. The donor has given them a budget of \$2,000. They would like to have a rock with a plaque installed by the town hall behind the big chamber sign as you open the door.

Resolution #44

Motioned by: VanPatten

Seconded by: McKnight

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby give permission for Supv Wright to have the memorial stone set by the old town hall in memory of Nancy Putney Ferency. Ayes: All

Executive Session: A motion was made by VanPatten, seconded by Robinson to enter into executive session @ 8:50PM to discuss Teamster's Contract negotiations. A motion was made by McKnight, seconded by Robinson to return to executive session @ 9:10PM Ayes: All No action was taken during executive session.

Bills: A motion was made by Robinson, seconded by Prentice to pay bills #270 – 335 in the amount of \$240,096.24. Ayes: All

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk

