

## Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, November 2, 2015 @ 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, Kevin Kitzman, Richard & Kathy Lenz, Alison Charles, Benny Fairchild, Kim Robertson, E. Jane Layo, Jan Simmons, Dana & Louise Smith, Cheryl Carr-Dominy, Edith Ashley, Cathy Shoen, Tom & Denise Tomlins, Gail Thew, Jackie Hodges, Marilyn Burrill, Christina Baldwin, Linda Jones, Barbara Evans, Don Finen, Tom Nelson, Mark Scott, Daniel J. Andress, William P Tiernan, and David Putney.

**Call to order:** Supv Wright 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 Robinson to approve the minutes as submitted. Ayes: All

### **Citizen Comments:**

Louise Smith told the Board that Island View Park will be unavailable for the 2016 summer concert series. She requested that the Town allow her to reserve the pavilion at the beach on Friday nights when the concerts would be in session. The Clerk checked the 2015 calendar and noted that there were only three Fridays in which someone booked the pavilion. A motion was made by McKnight, seconded by Robinson to allow Louise Smith book the pavilion at the beach for the dates of the 2016 summer concert series. The clerk will post them on the calendar when the 2016 one arrives.

### **Public Hearing:**

Supv Wright opened the public hearing with the clerk reading the legal notice that was published in the Courier Observer. Supv Wright noted that due to the large crowd that was in attendance she was limiting individual comments to 3 minutes per person.

Mark Scott noted that he appreciated the board keeping the levy flat and that it has become more and more difficult but he thought there were a couple of items that the board could do to allocate more money to the library. He asked about the decision that the town made to borrow money from the general fund for the plow truck. He also noted that the solar project should be producing savings that could be used. C. Prentice stated that the system is coming up on its one year anniversary and a detailed report on the savings and production will be generated.

Tom Tomlins asked the board how they arrived at the \$10,000 figure to cut from the library. Supv Wright noted that we will have to learn to do more with less. Further discussion went on.

David Putney asked if the \$10,000 removal helped the town stay under the tax cap and if it were left in would the taxes go up. Supv Wright stated yes to both questions.

C. VanPatten asked how the library determines their book sale and how much they charged for the books. She was told that the Library Manager uses the guidelines for weeding the books from NCLS(North Country Library Systems)which goes by circulation over five years and that they are sold for anywhere from .50 to \$2.00 depending on the book. C. VanPatten asked if there was a way for them to increase their prices to make additional money. They stated that they could not.

Linda Jones spoke in favor of the library stating that she was a teacher for many years and it is a wonderful place to see the kids get a story read to them and do a craft in conjunction. To some kids involved in custody battles or bad home life it is a safe haven. She also stated that it would be a disservice to the community to lose the library.

Kathy Lenz spoke and stated that she and her husband moved to Waddington about 1 ½ years ago and that she has met a lot of people in the community through the library. She asked the board how the \$10,000 reduction will affect the library. Supv Wright noted that she couldn't answer that it will be up to the library board.

Benny Fairchild noted that he was not familiar with the Town or library budget but he felt that \$10,000 cut on a \$60,000 budget was quite significant. He noted that from what he has heard tonight that the Town Board challenged the library to find further funding at the public hearing last November. He noted that by the sounds they have found some other avenues and need another year to implement them. He asked the board to work with them to allow them to get their funding in place.

Dan Andress stated that the library should be run like a business. It is all about dollars and cents. If you don't have the money needed to run it like you want you need to make some changes. He stated that his kids go to the library and enjoy it but when it starts costing more money than allotted it affects everyone.

Larry Blakemore spoke and stated that he, his wife and son are new to the community. The library helped him find their new home. They have used the computers and fax machine. Their son has met some wonderful friends there. It has become a regular routine for them to go to the library on Saturday mornings.

Supv. Wright asked if there was anyone else who wished to have a chance to speak. None offered she closed the public hearing @ 7:40PM.

C. McKnight stated that he does support the library and it bothers him to cut funding. It is a very tough decision but he had done some homework before the meeting. He noted that he had called and stopped at houses of 47 people. He asked the same questions to all. His final tally was 1 person stated that the funding should remain the same, 20 people felt it should be reduced as proposed, and 26 noted that it shouldn't be funded or closed because we have a library at the school and the power of the internet. He stated he doesn't agree with closing it but he does know that people do not want their taxes to go up. NNY has the highest takes in the State and the Nation. He also noted how many people lost their jobs this evening with the closing of ALCOA. The town is trying to do more by sharing equipment and manpower whenever possible.

C Prentice noted that the board will be looking at line items a little tighter after tonight's news. He doesn't see things getting better. C. McKnight stated that the County has informed their highway crew that there will be no overtime. Times are hard.

Bill Tiernan asked how many part time employees the Highway Department has and how much do they pay? Supt Dalton stated that they use three part time employees and are paid \$18 per hour. Bill also asked how much the town has saved by hiring the cemetery mowing out. Supv Wright stated that they did not have those figures.

#### Resolution #73

Motioned by: Prentice

Seconded by: Robinson

WHEREAS, the Waddington Town Board has met at the time and place specified in the public notice on the preliminary budget and heard all persons desiring to be heard thereon;  
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the preliminary budget as revised is hereby adopted as the annual budget for this town beginning January 1, 2016. Such budget as so adopted will be entered in detail or physically placed therein the minute proceedings of the Town board and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk of this Town shall prepare a certified copy to the Clerk of the County Board of Legislators.

Roll Call Vote:      Supv Wright: Aye                      C. McKnight: Aye  
                                 C. Robinson: Aye                      C. VanPatten: Aye  
                                 C. Prentice: Aye

**Committee Reports:**

**Recreation:** C Robinson reported that there was no meeting held. They will meet in November.

**Rescue Squad:** C VanPatten stated that the Rescue Squad was meeting this evening.

**Tourism:** C. VanPatten reported that the committee for the Winter Chill will meet the third week of November. C. Prentice asked who was in charge of the event. C VanPatten told him Bob Giordano, Mike Gonyeau, and Larry LeGault.

**Library:** C Prentice reported that the Library meeting is tomorrow evening.

**Cemeteries:** C McKnight reported that he received a letter stating that his grant request was received and a decision should be made sometime this month.

**Chamber of Commerce:** C VanPatten reported that the Chamber is doing away with their phone, internet, printers and computers. There will be one person working on the website and the contact phone numbers will be on the site. She asked the clerk about the printer that was purchased through the Town. The clerk will look into it and get back to them.

**Highway:** Supt Dalton reported that the department has hauled sand for us and Madrid. They worked with Norfolk last week. The ramp to the sand screen has been finished. They brought the stage to the four corners for the lighted pumpkin contest. Signs have been erected for the sale of the surplus property. The key club was painting the cottage. They were working with the Village crew doing cold patching. They will finish this on Wednesday. They have been working on the trucks and harnessing for plowing.

Supt Dalton reported that the Town was successful in purchasing a used excavator through Auctions International. This will be split three ways with the Town of Madrid and Village of Waddington.

Resolution #74

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby authorize the purchase of one 1994 Caterpillar 214B Excavator through Auctions International in the amount of \$15,510.00 to be divided between the Towns of Waddington and Madrid and the Village of Waddington;  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby authorize the bookkeeper to make a budget adjustment to increase the equipment line by \$10,510 to reflect the payment made by the other two municipalities. Ayes: All

**Old Business:**

**Surplus Properties:** Supv Wright reported that she has spoken with the Town's Attorney about the auction for the two surplus properties on McGinnis Rd and across the creek. He stated that the public auction will be on December 10<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM in the Old Town Hall. He will be drawing up the necessary paperwork to make an informational packet for interested parties. C Prentice noted that the Town should include something from the Code Enforcement Officer concerning the building regulations and setbacks for the property. Supv Wright noted that she would have him do something up.

**New Business:**

**Planning Board Resignation/Appointment:** Supv Wright reported that Randy Ball has sent a letter of resignation from the Planning Board. It has been suggested that Dan Kent be appointed to fill the vacant seat.

Resolution #75

Motioned by: Robinson

Seconded by: McKnight

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the resignation of Randy Ball from the Town Planning Board;  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby appoint Dan Kent to fill the unexpired term of Randy Ball to expire on December 31, 2018. Ayes: All

**Iroquois Dam:** Supv Wright reported that she met last week with Mark Slade and Bryant Bullard from NYPA. They have suggested that the Town request an easement on their road into Iroquois Dam and that they also request permission to erect a gate on that road.

Resolution #76

Motioned by: VanPatten

Seconded by: Robinson

WHEREAS, the New York Power Authority declared 450 Acres of property at the Iroquois Dam as surplus; and

WHEREAS, the property was transferred to the Town of Waddington in 2002; and

WHEREAS, the only access into the property is a roadway maintained by the New York Power Authority;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby request the New York Power Authority grant them a legal right of way on their road to gain access to the property.

Roll Call Vote:

Supv Wright: Aye

C VanPatten: Aye

C. McKnight: Aye

C. Prentice: Abstain

C. Robinson: Aye

Resolution #77

Motioned by: Robinson

Seconded by: VanPatten

WHEREAS, the Town of Waddington owns 450 acres located at the Iroquois dam; and

WHEREAS, the Town has had trouble with vandalism including mud bogging and trash disposal; and

WHEREAS, the Town has tried other avenues of control such as signage and public awareness articles in newspapers;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board is hereby requesting the installation of a gate at the entrance to the Iroquois Dam on the roadway maintained by NYPA;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the gate will have a dual lock system to allow access by both parties and paid for out of conveyance funds held for the Town of Waddington by NYPA.

Roll call vote:

Supv Wright: Aye

C. VanPatten: Aye

C. McKnight: Aye

C. Prentice: Abstain

C. Robinson: Aye

**Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Supv Wright reported that the County has adopted the joint Hazard Mitigation Plan and is requesting that the local governments adopt it as well. She noted that she and Supt Dalton had attending meetings when it was being prepared. It will help should we need to ever apply for FEMA funds.

Resolution # 78

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Robinson

WHEREAS, the Town of Waddington, with assistance from Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C., and St. Lawrence County, has gathered information and prepared the St. Lawrence County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Waddington is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the Plan and the actions in the Plan; and

WHEREAS, Town of Waddington has reviewed the Plan and affirms that, with the assistance of St. Lawrence County, the Plan will be updated no less than every five years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Town of Waddington adopts the St. Lawrence County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazard Mitigation Plan as this jurisdiction's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the Plan. Ayes: All

**Retirement:** Supv Wright requested permission to pay the retirement bill early. We will save \$441 by paying in December.

Resolution #79

Motioned by: VanPatten

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby grant permission to the Supervisor to pay the Retirement bill in December 2015. Ayes: All

**Wire Transfer:** Supv Wright reported that she had done a wire transfer for the payment of the excavator. By doing them the town saved an additional \$565. She requested that the Board give her permission to do so at any time.

Resolution #80

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: VanPatten

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby grant permission for the Supervisor to do a bank wire transfer at any time that she deems it fitting. Ayes: All

**Executive Session:** A motion was made by McKnight, seconded by Prentice to enter into executive session @ 8:20PM to discuss highway negotiations. A motion was made by Prentice, seconded by Robinson to return to regular session @ 8:45PM Ayes: All No action was taken during executive session.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk