

## Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, April 10, 2023 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

**Present were:** D Supv McKnight and Board Members: David McBath, Kelley Tiernan, and Thomas Hunter.

**Also present:** Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, David Putney, Highway Superintendent, Sue Papasian, Kevin Putney, Phyllis Acres, and Tracey Putney.

**Call to order:** D Supv McKnight called the meeting to order @ 7:05PM.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Tiernan, seconded by Hunter to approve the regular and special meeting minutes that were held in March with the corrections requested.  
Ayes: All

**Citizen's Comments:** No comments were made at this time.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Cemetery:** D Supv McKnight reported that Tenley & Al Amo were able to secure the Alcoa Grant for the cemetery again. There will be 15-20 people from Alcoa attending and \$3,000. The clean up is scheduled for April 22 with a rain date of April 29<sup>th</sup> between 8- Noon. The work will be done in Chamberlain Corners Cemetery again to finish the work that needs to be done before moving on to another cemetery. Putney Tree Service will remove the danger trees in Old Brookside. Three trees need to be replaced in Union Cemetery. Hilltop Nursery will replace them. There will be a cleanup at Union Cemetery on May 13<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of May 20<sup>th</sup> between 8- Noon. This will get the cemetery ready for the Patriot Marker service to be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Tracey Putney reported that the William G Pomeroy Foundation has awarded the Union Cemetery with Patriot markers for 3 Revolutionary War soldiers buried there. There will be a ceremony On June 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 10AM. She has invited the Town Board to attend. They can also lay a wreath if they would like to. The sons of the Legion will provide color guards. A Legionnaire will be posted at the entrances. Tracey will also schedule a boy scout to be with each one. It will be publicized for the community to attend. In September she will be eligible to apply for another Patriot Marker for a different cemetery.

**Highway:** Supt Putney reported that the highway department has been performing general maintenance on trucks and equipment, plowed four time, cold patching holes, and cleaning up chipping brush from winter storms.

**Library:** Library board has completed their required annual training(s). On May 20<sup>th</sup> there will be a book recycling event for the community. Aubrie is working on spring break activities and a Stewarts grant, hoping to increase junior high aged children's attractions at the library and play off steam maker table traction. Aubrie is coordinating with the summer reading program. Library proposed theme for summer reading is Read Beyond the Beaten Path. Mark Scott mentioned the recorder update is 4/17. Tiny Tots program is expanding. Book Club is continuing and hoping to grow members

### **Grants/Alternative Revenue:**

2022 RVRDA grant – Town Hall work - RFP's to be opened at tonight's meeting. D Supv McKnight reported that he had finally caught up with Evan's Caulking and was told that he would do the work at the Old Town Hall for \$55 per square foot. He would be available to do this work in September.

2023 RVRDA Grant application open –Need to finalize project submission at this meeting. Deadline for application to be filed is April 14, 2023. Resolution to apply and application fee payment was approved at the last meeting.

### ARPA Grant:

After last month's meeting, a brief meeting was held on March 21 (Burns, Putney, McKnight, McBath) to go over project expenditures and purchases to date. Project spreadsheet was updated and mailed to all board members for review on March 23. By the end of phase two completion (installation of the oil/water separator which Dave P plans to do this spring) we will have spent all but \$4169 of this grant. The Treasury website was having problems when I logged in on April 4 to submit our annual report. I sent them a helpdesk email describing the problem. I checked today and the website issue appears to have been resolved. Our report will be submitted before the April 30 deadline.

### LEISHMAN POINT CAMPSITES:

Jim Thew advised the town bank account info to accept deposits had been provided to Hip Camp on March 20 and they were going to try and deposit funds from last year into town account on March 21. I also now have access to manage the town's Hip Camp web listing. We agreed at the last meeting that the campsites will be open from May 22 to Oct 1.

2023 current reservations: (all on site 1) – Sun June 11 (2 nights); Sun June 25 (2 nights); Sun July 1 (one night).

We need to re-map the footprint of the campsites at Leishman Point (relocate to be parallel to the shipping channel vs as they are now, as was discussed in Nov 2022 and March 2023 mtg). The campsite footprint and numbering needs to be revised on the website ASAP for 2023 rentals. D Supv McKnight noted that he had a pdf file from Jim Thew with the campground map. He would look in his emails for it. Supt Putney was also going to get a quote for electric work as discussed at the last meeting.

From last year's campers' comments – generally positive, but one said the reservation fee was "hefty". Recommendations - should add grill grates for fire pits; should add water spigot close enough to road at beach for campers to fill.

Energizing Rural Communities – I sent the board the weblink to this information on March 3. Grant applications due by May 24. Dep Supv McKnight was going to check with engineers to see if this could tie into expansion of current solar array that town owns? Also discussed the possibility of using this grant to help with a project to bring solar to Iroquois land? D Supv McKnight noted that he had asked Rob Campany to look at the system to see if we could add to this. He will contact him again tomorrow to get some answers.

**Rescue Squad:** C Hunter reported that there were 18 calls for the Rescue Squad in the month of March. He noted that Julie had told him that there was a leak in the building in the storage area. It happened last week when we had the hard driving rain. Supt Putney showed the board the pictures that she had sent. D Supv McKnight noted he would have Frank Davey look at it. Depending where it was coming from it may have gotten in the blown insulation above. C Tiernan asked if there had been any growing concerns at the Rescue Squad about the tenants living at the motel. There are a couple of calls a month coming from there.

**Museum:** Kathy Putney, Historian submitted the following report:

I Continued to work throughout the month of March with the Clarkson Engineering students on the design for the new museum.

There will be a final presentation on their design on Friday April 14<sup>th</sup> at Clarkson, the public is invited.

I am working with the Madrid Historian (Carrie Rutherford) on a Memorial Day project.

We are hoping to expand the Decoration Day project by involving the students at MW middle school.

Having them research one of the veterans buried in the cemetery and share that on Memorial Day.

We received a few donations from the Potsdam Museum in March.

One is a Marble picture frame carved with flowers all around it.

It was made by Alexander McBrian in 1870, he was the owner of Waddington Marble & Granite Works.

He would have sold many of the cemetery monuments that you see in our early cemetery.

The Potsdam Museum has also gifted us two beautiful wooden display cabinets that they don't have room for in their museum.

They will be stored in the church until the time that we can put them in the new museum.

I am still waiting on the new map cabinet that Carol ordered with the Towns budget money. The first one was damaged, the second one was damaged, and we are looking at another company.

We worked on cleaning up and moving more of the things in the manse to prepare for the Asbestos abatement that started yesterday.

I still haven't received the final waking tour project yet from the Clarkson students, but they assured me that it will be coming soon.

They are working on it in their own time out of the kindness of their hearts.

I will be starting work on the other side of town now.

I what to thank the WHA for continuing to promote Waddington history by including a short history lesson in the new First Sunday Concert series at the church.

Patty VanPatten for making all 22 pew cushions so people could be more comfortable during the concerts.

And to the volunteers that helped with cleaning the church for the concert.

They were Sue Hunter, MaryAnn Martin, Jean Denison, Kay-c Hayes, Mary Hamilton, and me.

The next Museum meeting will be April 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00

The next WHA meeting will be April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00

The Mayor has invited the Town Board to a presentation by the Clarkson students concerning the new museum. It will be held on April 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM in the old town hall. It will also be advertised for the public to attend.

**Iroquois Land:** D Supv McKnight reported that he has spoken with Scott Schlueter and he will be available the 1<sup>st</sup> week of May to attend a public presentation. Discussion held and the meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM in the old town hall. Scott will help with a write-up for advertising the meeting. The board also discussed contacting Jimmy Lawton to do an interview with Scott.

**Bathroom project:** The project is underway. The wall that was discussed to make the new meeting room entrance is a load bearing wall and can't be removed. The existing door entrance will be widened to allow handicap access to the meeting room. D Supv McKnight has been in contact with Colton Glass, St. Lawrence Glass, and Barkley's for the quote on the main entrance. The current door is an odd size. To put a standard size door in, the top of the block will need to be cut out. This will be cheaper than ordering a special size door. It will also make it easier should the door need to be replaced for any reason. He will have the quotes for the next meeting.

**Solar Project:** There is no update currently. C McBath noted that he had gotten the requirements that the Town of Canton uses for a solar system. He feels that the board should sit down with the Code Enforcement Officer to review and possibly adopt for the Town of Waddington. The board members agreed.

**RFP Old Town Hall:** D Supv McKnight reported that he had finally contacted Evan's Caulking for the stonework at the old town hall and the library. He was told that they would do the work for the town at a rate of \$55 per square foot. He will be available to do the work in September. Discussion ensued and the Board asked D Supv McKnight to ask for the rate in writing. A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Hunter to extend the RFP period for one week to allow Evan's Caulking to submit their rate in writing. Ayes: All

**Local Government Task Force:** D Supv McKnight gave the following update.

Update on Waddington Recreation Project:

A bi-weekly progress update was provided by Rob Campany on Friday 3/24 indicating that new floating dock production is ongoing and anchoring and dock installation is expected in time for the upcoming 2023 boating season. At the Village's request NYPA confirmed that it would be providing \$225,138.50 toward the cost of the floating dock installation as part of the overall \$2.2 MM remaining from NYPA'S \$7.5 MM recreation obligation that resulted from the first STL 10-year review agreement. That would leave slightly under \$2.2 MM for NYPA to contribute toward the next phase of the marina improvement project (revetment and floating attenuator to protect

the marina). Rob Company also indicated that his firm will be commencing the revetment comparative design analysis in April.

**ALSP March Update:**

Two sites in Massena were stabilized this winter. Work was challenging due to the unseasonable warm temperatures and lack of frost in the ground. This caused work to take longer than anticipated. Spring restoration work will be performed once ground conditions improve.

The other 10 sites were not stabilized this winter. NYPA received the USACE permits for these sites on February 24, 2023. The delay in receiving the permits, poor ground conditions and limited time to perform the work prevented these sites from being stabilized. Sheehan will repair access points that were plowed this spring season. NYPA plans to extend the current contract with Sheehan. Permits are in place and work will be scheduled when conditions are favorable.

2023 Site selection: ALSP Board plans to meet in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2023.

**Justice Audit:** It was reported that the audit will be conducted on Wednesday.

**RVRDA Grant:** D Supv McKnight reported that he was not successful in obtaining a quote for the steps at the old town hall. He contacted Rob Dean who had health issues, Andy Miller who has not gotten back to him, and Roddy Burns who is not interested in the work. He also reported that he and Supt Putney have been working to get a quote for power to the campground. They have sent a work-order request to National Grid. They have also tried to connect with Frank Richardson but have not had any luck there either.

The Board further discussed what they could apply for. They decided to apply for money to install the road and four permanent camp sites along the waterfront. Supt Putney will put together a budget and give it to C McBath for the grant. The clerk will add the voucher for the application fee to the bills this evening.

**Property Tax Exemption:** C McBath reported that he has given the Assessor a current roster for the Fire Department and Rescue Squad. He has not received any concrete numbers from him yet. His first estimate was that on a house assessed at \$100,000 the volunteer would save approximately \$22 on his town portion of the tax bill.

**Ag Land Permits:** D Supv McKnight reported that the letter that was supposed to be sent out by the attorney from our last meeting didn't get done. Charlie was on vacation and sent him an email requesting a copy of the signed contract. Unfortunately it went to D Supv McKnight's spam folder and he didn't see it. It will be sent to the attorney in the morning and an update will be had for the next meeting.

**NYPA Maintenance:** D Supv McKnight reported that he has signed the new O & M contract with NYPA. There is an increase of approximately \$78,000. He and the Clerk worked very closely with NYPA to produce the newest figures. There is a specific line in the contract for seaweed cutting to be done annually, the beach and morning recreation program received a considerable hike due to specifications in personnel from the DOH, and the calculations of the fringe benefits. D Supv McKnight has been in contact with the Seaweed people. They are looking at cutting in June. The beach will open on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The actual contract didn't change except for some insurance requirements. It is a 10-year contract as before with a 2-5% increase built in yearly.

**Assessor's Office:** D Supv McKnight has been studying the building to see where we can make more room for the court to work more efficiently. He has spoken with the rescue squad and they have a storage space overhead that can be used to store files that are not in use. He is also looking at moving the assessor's office to the old chamber office at the old town hall. This would allow him to have regular hours and it would be able to be accessible to the public. He has spoken with him and he doesn't have a problem with the suggestion. Further discussion ensued and the board noted that cleaning out the chamber office will take some work. It is currently housing stuff from the Moore Museum. This could be stored over top at the Rescue Squad. The office would be big enough to move the assessors' file cabinets etc. into. He will continue to explore this option.

**Highway Department:** Supt Putney reported that he has been looking at an excavator on Auctions International. He told the board that the excavator that he usually rents has been updated and our brush head will not work on it and it doesn't have a third line. He has contacted Tracey Rd Equipment and Anderson Equipment for rental rates. Rental rates are \$2100 per week and \$5580 per month. He has spent \$18,410 on rental fees over the last five years. These fees are from a local company and they didn't charge anywhere near the rates that he was quoted from other companies. With the work planned for this summer he will need to rent a machine and would run \$10,000 in fees.

The machine on Auctions International is a 2001 Komatsu 228. He went to Batavia to look at the machine. He also brought along a qualified person that knows excavators to look at it. It has 8,000 hours on it. He would like permission to bid up to \$41,500 on this machine. There would be a buyers premium of \$4,150 making the total \$45,500. He has \$55,000 in his equipment line and this purchase would leave \$10,000 for the remainder of 2023. The Board asked when the auction ends. He noted that it ends on Wednesday.

Resolution #30

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby give permission for Supt Putney to bid on the 2021 Komatsu 228 on Auctions International. Not to exceed \$45,500 which includes the buyer's premium. Ayes: All

D Supv McKnight reported that Supv Hammond should be back for the May meeting.

**Citizen's Comments:** There were no comments.

**Bills:** A motion was made by Tiernan, seconded by McBath to pay bills #23-00183 – 23-00256 in the amount of \$125,796.31. Ayes: All

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Hunter to adjourn the meeting @ 8:40PM. Ayes: All

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk