

Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

**Present were:** Supervisor Travis McKnight and Town Council Members: David McBath, Melinda Martin, Kelley Tiernan, and Thomas Hunter.

**Also present:** Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, David Putney, Highway Superintendent, John Dinneen, Gehrig & Kevin Putney, and Patty VanPatten.

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

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

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Hunter to approve the minutes from the regular March meeting.

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

**Bid Opening:** Supv McKnight asked the Clerk to read the legal notice posted for the bid opening on the agricultural leases. Two bids were received.

John Dinneen: 115 Lincoln Ave, Waddington

Parcel #1554 Map #1502:	15 acres	\$2.00 per acre
Parcel #1552 Map #1501:	15 acres	\$2.00 per acre

Gehrig Putney, 11290 St Hwy 37, Lisbon

Parcel #1556 Map #1503:	8 Acres	\$5.00 per acre
Parcel #1569 Map #1512:	10 Acres	1.00 per acre
Parcel #1561 Map #1506:	11 Acres	1.00 per acre
Parcel #1570 Map #1513	11 Acres	25.00 per acre
Parcel #1329,1330 Map # 1327:	60 Acres	\$15.00 per acre
Parcel #1452 Map #1426	65 Acres	1.00 per acre
Parcel #1555 Map #1502	44 acres	1.00 per acre
Parcel # 1557 Map #1503	8 Acres	1.00 per acre

Resolution #31

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the bids as submitted from John Dinneen and Gehrig Putney. The clerk will send the bill and contracts for signature. Ayes: All

**Committee Reports:**

**Highway:** Supt Putney reported that the items sold on Auctions International did well. The total collected was approximately \$39,000. The excavator went for \$10,600. This will have to be split three ways between the Town, Village, and Town of Madrid. The 2001 Mack went for \$9,600.

Supt Putney reported that the highway department has been performing general maintenance on trucks and equipment, plowed and sanded seven times, got the surplus equipment lined up for Auctions International, dug one grave, prepping the new pickup, blasting trailer and prepping for paint, prepped and painted T-2 box for auction, and finished mulching on the Town Line and Dunbar Roads.

Supt Putney also noted that he had started working on the campground road today. C McBath asked him when he thought they would be complete. The board agreed on June 1<sup>st</sup> to allow campers to use the sites. C McBath will get with Jim Thew to get the HIP Camp site up to allow reservations to be made for after June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Library:** C Martin reported that the library board will meet tomorrow. She did note that the skates have been sharpened and dropped off to the library for next season.

#### **Cemeteries:**

Sign at Cemeteries Regulations : Went over what we wanted signage to say Tracey working up an example to send with Tom for board approval and will forward to Cemetery Committee as well Dave will check with County about making sign. Supt Putney showed the board the size sign that the committee is looking at. Discussion was held. The board thought there was too much information for the size of the sign they would like to use. C Hunter will bring it back to the committee to see how they can abbreviate or make the sign larger. The clerk can post the regulations on the website as well.

C Hunter showed the board pictures of flowers/items left at cemeteries. These will need to be removed at the end of the season.

Supt Putney will get a quote for the removal of trees that need to be taken down in Old Brookside.

David will look for planter Sandy described at Old Brookside

Tracey will inspect fencing at Old Brookside and test clean a piece before cleanup day, Sat May 4th 8-12 Tracey and David will produce a plan for the day. Tracey will reach out to the Scouts and other organizations to help.

Action Grant: Tenley will apply for the grant for 2024.

Old Business 501-3-C Still in progress Ogden Vault ( working with DAR and Historical Society ).

Supt McKnight noted he would contact Attorney Nash's office to see how the application progress was coming along. There is another firm that is doing the actual paperwork for this.

#### **Grants/Alternative Revenues:**

**NY Forward Grant:** Have not heard any updates on the status of our application for stonework on the town hall.

**Development Authority of the North Country (DANC)** – coordinated with DANC regarding the special meeting which was held on March 25.

**ARPA grant** - Our annual report to the US Treasury is due by April 30, 2024. It will be submitted by the end of next week.

#### **RVRDA Grants** –

2024 grant - RVRDA grant application paperwork has been completed. Letters of support received from Waddington Historian, AC Bistro Artworks Creperie, and the Waddington Concert Series. The contractor quote of \$16,880 was received from Twin Cedar Construction. The completed grant application will be submitted prior to the Monday April 15 deadline, with the nonrefundable \$100 application fee.

**Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) grant** – After discussion with DANC, this application is on hold. Further town board discussion will be needed prior to filing. Fall pre-application filing deadline is Sept 6. The fall application (by invitation) deadline is Oct. 18. (agenda item under new business tonight)

**Clean Energy Communities Grant 3.0** – managed by NYSERDA – new announcement recently released by Governor. Waddington needs to complete one “High Impact Action” and submit documents of completion prior to 9/30/24 to be eligible for a \$10,000 grant. More work will need to be done on this in the coming weeks/months if we want to apply.

**Museum:** C Tiernan reported the museum met on March 20<sup>th</sup>. They adopted their slate of officers. They reviewed proposals on the rectory. Cleanup this past weekend to get ready for the concert series. The next meeting is May 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Historian's Report:**

I attended the Village board, Museum and WHA meetings in March.

Received two requests for information on families with roots in Waddington.

I have been working with Mayor Zag and the museum board on reviewing the drawings from Randy Crawford.

We have gotten the invitation done for the Golden Agers Luncheon during Homecoming. We have started to compile a list of names and addresses and will be sending them out this month. We have a final list of WHA and historical events done and it will be posted to our website and Facebook page. We will also send it to North Country Now, and the County Chamber site.

The first event was the Easter Egg hunt this past week. Unfortunately, because of the weather we had to hold it in the arena. Although that didn't detour the attendance, we had about 65 or 70 kids show up. Everyone had a good time and the kids got lots of candy.

The next event scheduled will be April 13th from 6:30 -8:00 pm. This will be the first concert of the year held in Saint Paul's Village Venue on Lincoln Ave. The first concert will be Triple Fiddles and More. The group includes Donnie Woodcock and Gretchen Kohler who are some of the best fiddlers in NY State. We encourage everyone to attend and have a good time. This year's concert series is being dedicated to Kathy Hubbard who was a music teacher at Madrid Waddington Central School for many years. 50 years ago, Kathy Hubbard started a group called Stardust at school and it continues to this day. Kathy passed away this past spring and we hope to see many of her Stardust alumni attend the concerts to honor her legacy.

During the 15-minute intermission we will also have a history element.

This coming Saturday April 6th I will be attending the quarterly Saint Lawrence County historian meeting. The meeting this quarter will be in Massena at their museum on Main Street.

The next meeting of the museum board will be Wednesday May 15th at 6:30 in the Old Town hall. And the next meeting for the WHA will be Tuesday April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30.

#### **Rescue Squad:**

C Tiernan reported that the Rescue Squad discussed organizing in-house physicals.

Update on Eclipse and related concerns.

Still discussing paid EMT with Canton and Madrid Rescue. Looking at draft contracts. Norfolk is interested in the mutual aid agreement.

Rig 304 repairs have been updated

There were 28 calls (2-3 dropped Massena high volumes)

Pulsara reporting system for hospitals-update-positive feedback on ease of use. Fixes HIPAA concerns with scanners.

Julie is looking for a new key for Iroquois dam for each rig.

**Recreation:** C Martin reported that the recreation committee is working on:

Initial planning of certification of new Lifeguards and recertification.

Ad for guards.

Reading program: July 8th - July 19th (including Fridays)

Recreation July 8th - August 16th

Plan to open beach Saturday 29th

Ice skates from the arena have been sorted. We are arranging the sharpening of the skates (around 42). The Recreation will pay for the skates to be sharpened. The library will have a system for signing out the skates for the season.

Homecoming theme will be Waddington Pirates. They are working on the events.

**Iroquois Land:** Supv McKnight reported he had spoken with Scott Schleuter and noted that the land trust would like to attend our meeting in May or June. On March 14<sup>th</sup> they took a tour of the property. There were no red flags from their end. They were looking at the access road to the old launch road and thought they could keep it open with a small parking lot for fishing and kayaking. They are still looking at the horse issue. Scott would like to have a public meeting after May 6<sup>th</sup>. Not available on Monday or Friday. The board looked at the schedules and thought of May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Supv McKnight will reach out to see that date works for them.

**Local Government Task Force:** Supv McKnight reported that there is nothing for the local government task force. They are waiting for NYPA final draft of the 10-year review.

**Joint website:** C Martin noted she had spoken with Amber. She will try and set up another meeting with her for the progress.

Supv McKnight asked if there was any other old business.

**USDA Grant:** C McBath has gotten the paperwork for the USDA grant to purchase the new truck. Bank letters will need to be mailed out requesting a quote for the loan.

C McBath also asked if there was any response from the County concerning the tower lease. Supv McKnight noted he had not heard anything from them.

**New Business:**

**Town Clerk Annual report:**

JANUARY 1, 2023 TO DECEMBER 31, 2023

Conservation Licenses	7995.00
Dog Licenses	3154.50
SPCA Redemption	0.00
Marriage Licenses	400.00
Certified Copies	870.00
Misc. Sales	0.00
Building Permits	2336.95
Cemetery Funds	11070.00
Ag Permits (PA lease)	9670.90
Beach Pavilion Rental	1625.00
1 Day Officiant Permit	<u>25.00</u>
Total Collected	37147.35
Paid to Town Supervisor	28856.49
Paid to DEC	7569.86
Paid to Ags & Markets (dogs)	496.00
Paid to Dept. of Health (marriage)	<u>225.00</u>
Total Paid out	37147.35
Taxes Collected & paid to Town Supervisor	352,070.00
Interest collected & paid to Town Supervisor	1,471.90
Taxes collected & paid to County Treasurer	<u>1,451,267.79</u>
Total Taxes collected	1,804,809.69

**Code Enforcement Annual Report:**

There were 19 building permits issued in 2023. There were 3 permits issued for new dwellings. Their estimated assessed value is \$205,000 down \$325,000 from 2022. The remaining 16 permits were issued for alterations, additions, yard barns, barn, garages, decks, and swimming pools.

There was a decrease of 9 building permits from 2022.

The building permit fees collected in 2023 were \$2,336.95 a decrease of \$1183.15 from 2022.

**Resolution #32**

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the Town Clerk and Code Enforcement Officer report for the year 2023 as submitted. Ayes: All

**Justice Audit report:** Supv McKnight noted that he needed two board members to conduct the annual justice audit report. C Tiernan and Hunter have agreed to do this again this year. C Tiernan will get with Kerri O'Bryan to set up a time.

**Campground Preliminary Report:** Based on the discussion with DANC at the special meeting in March the board has agreed to have DANC work on an RFP not to exceed \$6,000. The engineering report should come in at around \$15-18,000. Supv McKnight proposed to take these funds from the Leishman Point account set aside for development of that area. The board agreed with this.

**Board of Assessment Review:** Supv McKnight reported that he has been trying to find someone to take Patty VanPatten's seat on the Board of Assessment Review. He has not had

any luck. Patty has agreed to stay on the board for a one-year term. If anyone knows someone who would be interested in serving please let Supv McKnight know.

Resolution #33

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby appoint Patricia VanPatten to the Board of Assessment Review for a term of one year. Ayes: All

**Speed Reduction request:** The Board discussed the speed limit on CR 44 at the intersection of Allison and McGinnis Rd. They have requested the clerk send a request for reduction to the County.

Resolution #34

Motioned by: Martin

Seconded by: Hunter

WHEREAS, the current posted speed limit on County Route 44 in the Town of Waddington at the intersection of the McGinnis and Allison Roads is 55MPH; and

WHEREAS, County Route 44 is a heavily traveled roadway used by passenger cars, large commercial vehicles, and all sorts of slow-moving agricultural equipment; and

WHEREAS, this intersection has experienced several severe automobile collisions in the past; and

WHEREAS, the highway elevation at this intersection has been the site of previous county highway department construction work to partially eliminate the hazards and sight limitations that the blind hill approaching this intersection created; and

WHEREAS, these severe collisions continue to occur with at least two occurring in the last 36 months; and

WHEREAS, the continued limited visibility at this intersection threatens the safety of highway users in the Town of Waddington, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board feels that a speed limit reduction in the area of this intersection is warranted to enhance highway safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Waddington requests that the speed limit on County Route 44 be reduced to 45MPH in both directions at the intersection with McGinnis and Allison Roads and for a distance of one-half mile or farther on each side of the intersection. Ayes: All

**Executive Session:** A motion was made by Tiernan, seconded by McBath to enter executive session @ 8:35 to discuss contract negotiations under Taylor Law. A motion was made by Hunter, seconded by McBath to return to regular session @ 9:00PM. Ayes: All  
No action was taken during the executive session.

**Bills:** A motion was made by McBath seconded by Martin to pay bills #24-00179 – 24-00237 in the amount of \$35,505.65. Ayes: All

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Tiernan, seconded by Hunter to adjourn the meeting @ 9:10PM. Ayes: All

Respectfully submitted

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk