

Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, December 9, 2019 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

Present were: Supervisor Alex Hammond and Councilmembers: Travis McKnight, David McBath, and Shaun Prentice. Councilman Loomis was not in attendance.

Also present: Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, David Putney, Highway Superintendent, Patty VanPatten, Brice Robertson, Gabe Rutherford, Jacob Murphy, Jonnie Claeys, Brooke Rouse, James Miller, Mark Scott, Tracey Putney, Dennis Moore, Lori Suter, Duffy Ashley, George LeFleur, and Jim Houmiel.

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 McBath, seconded by Shaun to approve the minutes as corrected. Ayes: All

Updated MOU: Supv Hammond reported that the board has received an updated MOU from the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce for the East Coast Water cross event. He reported that he and Councilman McBath met with Jonnie and Brooke to review and revise the contract. They reviewed the items that the Town was responsible. #1 on the list is complete, #2 calls for permitting. The Clerk is filing out the paperwork for NYPA. #3 has been sent to the Town Attorney for wording. We haven't received it yet. The Board did discuss who would be responsible for the cleanup on Leishman if it were leased to the Water cross. The Town will require a deposit up front to avoid not having it cleaned up. #4 portable toilets. C. McBath stated that they are \$80 per day. #5 Ambulance/EMT services. Supv Hammond has been in touch with Julie McBath and she will bring it to her squad to discuss. IT will cost approximately \$1,000. #6 Trash receptacles. The Board discussed who would be emptying them and the possibility of getting a dumpster. The clerk noted that our trash man charges \$150 for a roll off for homecoming weekend. #7 & 8 address advertising and promotion. Supv Hammond noted that we can put it out on social media etc. #9 assisting in a survey for economic impact. The Board discussed volunteers for this. #11 East Coast Water cross will provide proof of insurance. This will be discussed in the lease for Leishman. #12 & 13 parking/gate fees. The Clerk will be sending the Fire Department a letter to see if they are interested in doing this.

A motion was made by Hammond, seconded by McKnight to move forward by signing the MOU. There was no action on this resolution.

C McBath stated that he wasn't against the event but he feels that there is still information that needs to be nailed down before the town signs the MOU.

C. McKnight noted that there are still some items that need to be hammered out but they can be worked out as we go along.

Resolution #78

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Prentice

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby support to hold the East Coast Water cross event June 19-21, 2020 at the Waddington Town Beach. Signing the MOU is contingent on finalizing the details. Ayes: All

C. McBath suggested setting up a subcommittee for the event including the Fire Department, Rescue Squad, and any other volunteer groups that will be working with the event.

Citizen's Comments:

Patty VanPatten reported that the Museum board will be holding a meeting on Tuesday evening. If anyone is interested in being part of the museum board please let her know. They have advertised for a museum director and have only had one call from someone who lives in Norwood.

Committee Reports:

Recreation/Tourism: Supv Hammond reported that he had spoken with Russ Strait last week. They hope to have ice in the arena in two weeks. It is all dependent on the temperature staying cold.

The Kickoff for Christmas was well attended. There were approximately 100 people in attendance for the tree lighting. The high school stardust sand, hot chocolate was consumed, and Santa made a special appearance to start the season.

Rescue Squad: C. Prentice reported that the Rescue Squad met on Monday. He witnessed formal instructional video training in progress. The light is out on the corner of the building. The new man door has been installed. \$125 for labor is to be paid to the Rescue Squad by the Town. They are getting prices on a new squad vehicle. The stretcher function is a must. It lifts the stretcher and puts it in the rig. This will be an asset when you don't have the manpower to lift the stretcher in. Rig 303 will be sold. The trade values are not favorable.

A new state mandate is requiring squads to detail costs per call and report the same. The reason for this is Medicaid/Medicare wants to pay less and the State is threatening to retain these fees if not compliant. Waddington was selected to do this. The squad responded to 20 calls for November with 14 transports. They answered calls for Lisbon and Ogdensburg. 9 members took emergency driving course and did joint training with fire department to familiarize them with our ambulances.

Library: Supv Hammond reported that he attended the Library meeting this week. C. Loomis fell off a ladder and had to have surgery. He should be home this week.

Cheryl Dominy has served on the library board for 12 years; 10 years of her service were as President. This was her last meeting. He thanked her for all of her years of service. A motion was made by Hammond, seconded by McBath to send a letter of thanks to Cheryl. Ayes: All The Library board asked who owned the sidewalk between the building and the blacktop driveway. The Town Board noted it would be theirs. We will have to look at it in the spring. It is becoming a hazard. The Board discussed and will look at removing it and continuing the blacktop from the driveway.

Campground Committee: C McBath stated that there was no meeting. He said that he attended the local government task force with Supv Hammond and they were receptive to putting cabins on the Power Authority property at Leishman Point. He asked the Board if they wanted him to reconvene the board to look at options. They said they would like that.

Cemeteries: C McBath reported he had nothing.

Highway: C McKnight reported that the Highway Department plowed and sanded 15 times in the month of November. They are doing maintenance on the trucks. The hitches are back on the trucks. They replaced steel and welded on the loading rack where they load the trucks with sand, put sand up for the winter, put up the Christmas decorations, put stone on Hardscrabble Rd and graded it, and dug two graves.

Supv Hammond reported that many people in Town have received an unsigned letter aimed at the Highway Superintendent and the Highway Department. He has spoken with Supt Putney and he would like to address the issues stated in the letter to clear the air. Supv Hammond read the letter aloud and turned the discussion over to Supt Putney.

Supt Putney noted that the first item in question was why did the Town rent equipment and not use our own. He told them that the Town doesn't own a trax excavator. We own a wheeled excavator which works well for ditching along the road. In March 2017 the Town was cited for no overburden or topsoil being stripped at the sand permit. Large trees were hanging over the edge of the mine faces creating a dangerous situation. The overburden needs to be striped and stockpiled prior to any excavation of material. We are in violation with the DEC. The second item in question was hiring of outside trucks to haul sand. Supt Putney stated that he had planned to haul sand on November 12th. We got a snowstorm which prevented the start to haul. He had been waiting on the Challenger which was in Madrid. Pat Curran donates the Challenger to the Towns of Madrid, Waddington, and Norfolk for use with their sand pile.

They don't charge us anything for the use of the equipment. We just have to put fuel in it. He looked back into the records and prior Highway Superintendents were hauling their sand in November. The Town of Lisbon was putting theirs up and the County was still hauling theirs in November. He asked his employees if they would work on Saturday 11/16 to haul sand at an overtime rate. They refused except for the new employee. He hired 2 dump trucks from Gordon Merrick, 2 from AJK Site Development and 1 From M Baldock. Four trucks hauled for 8 hours and 1 truck hauled for 5 hours for a total cost of \$2,960. If his two employees and trucks had hauled for 8 hours the cost would have been \$1,971.36. A cost savings of \$800.

The third item in question was the New Hire not having a valid CDL license. Supt Putney reported that the new hire meets all the requirements for the MEO position. The job description states that they must have a valid NYS Driver's License. He currently has a CDL permit and will take his test on 12/11/19. The new hire is also a cut welder and diesel mechanic. He has been doing maintenance on the trucks. This is a cost savings in itself because whenever the town has had to send out their trucks for maintenance to Rt 11, Seaway Timber, and Thompson's the shop rate per hour is anywhere between \$70-80 per hour.

Supt Putney asked if the board had any questions or concerns about his answers.

C. McKnight stated that if the board remembers correctly they had Supt Putney sell the dozer that the Town owned due to the expense of the repairs that it needed. They all stated that we were further ahead to rent a dozer when needed for the amount of time that we need one.

The Board agreed that this was just smart business.

Supv Hammond asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience. None were had. Supv Hammond noted that this can be put to rest.

Gallery Lake St Lawrence: There will be a meeting at the Clarke House on Thursday. The Clarke House is open and participating in the Christmas events happening. The Main St businesses have really gone all out with decorations. It all looks really nice.

Golf Course Committee: Nothing to report.

Local Government Task Force: Supv Hammond reported that the LGTF is having regular scheduled meetings to be held on the 3rd Monday of the month. He reported that the Louisville Golf and Country Club may not open this season if the club, NYPA, and Town of Louisville can't come to an agreement. The Massena Intake project bids are due back the 1st week of December.

C McBath asked about putting together a project priority list. Supv Hammond stated that he would like to do this in conjunction with the organizational meeting. He would like to have the organizational meeting and then a recreation planning/revenue plan meeting following. The Board discussed this and decided to meet on January 6th @ 7PM. The meeting will be held in the Library because the Village meets on that day in the Board room.

Sidewalk: C McKnight reported that the sidewalk has been completed. The last thing we need to do is have the hot water heaters installed. He has spoken with Bryan Mott and he will look at it. The on demand hot water heaters will be installed in the mechanical room in the Highway Department and need to be connected to the tubing in the sidewalk. He will let everyone know when he has some quotes.

He spoke with Sharon from NYSERDA and she was going to send the contract for signature and then they will schedule an audit. They are requesting that at the end of the contract the Town write a letter of support for the NYSERDA programs.

Electrical Quotes: The Clerk presented the board with two quotes from Craig Debien- C. D. Electric. The first was for the installation of the new yard light for the Rescue Squad in the amount of \$322. The second is for the installation of a sub panel in the clerk's office to provide additional receptacles in the Court and meeting room area in the amount of \$2,200. There are too many items plugged into the surge protectors in the Court. It includes the large copier, computer, copier/fax etc. There have been issues keeping things turned on. Discussion was held.

Resolution #79

Motioned by: Prentice

Seconded by: MCKnight

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the two quotes received from C.D. Electric in the amount of \$322 for replacement of yard light on Rescue Squad building and \$2200 for installation of sub panel and receptacles in the court/meeting room area. Ayes: All

Joint Museum Board: Supv Hammond reported that he attended the Village Board meeting and they discussed that there is no lead agency for the Joint Museum Board. They have agreed to take the lead. Supv Hammond would like a resolution supporting them.

Resolution #80

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: McBath

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby support the Village in being lead agency for the joint museum board. Ayes: All

Sales Tax Formula: Supv Hammond reported that he attended a joint Supervisor/Mayor association meeting where they passed a resolution stating they are not in favor of any changes to the current sales tax formula. He has presented a version for the town and requested that the Board pass and mail to our Representative Rita Curran and the County Legislature.

Resolution #81

Motioned by: Prentice

Seconded by: McBath

WHEREAS, in 1965, New York State enabled counties to collect sales tax because Medicaid expenses became a shared expense between the counties and the state; and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Board of Supervisors, at that time in 1965, decided to share 50% of realized sales tax revenues with local governments, including the City of Ogdensburg; and an additional one percent sales tax was added in 2012, and they agreed to share that additional one percent with local governments including the City of Ogdensburg; and

WHEREAS, due to the 10-year agreement being up for re-negotiation between St. Lawrence County and the City of Ogdensburg, a county committee has been appointed to study and re-negotiate the existing sales tax distribution formula with the City of Ogdensburg in closed-door sessions; and

WHEREAS, the position of the county needing more funding to meet Medicaid costs, in addition to the need to re-negotiate the sales tax agreement with the City of Ogdensburg, may result in the county benefiting from additional sales tax revenues and the local governments, including the City, receiving decreased revenues; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Waddington receives approximately \$288,000 per year in sales tax revenue making up 6% of the Town's annual budget; and

WHEREAS, other municipalities in St. Lawrence County rely heavily on this revenue to balance to balance their budgets;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Waddington stands in opposition with other municipalities to any change to the current negotiated sales tax formula between the City of Ogdensburg and St. Lawrence County. Any change will devastate local municipal budgets resulting in significant local tax increases and possible layoffs.

Budget Adjustments:

Resolution #82

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: McBath

Increase A1110.42 NYS Justice Grant by \$2,268.00 to reflect grant received from the State.

Increase A1620.41 Town Hall Building Improvements by \$4228.63 from Old Town Hall Cash to reflect work done to the building.

Increase A1630.4 Library Building Improvements by \$600 from old town hall/library cash to reflect repair done to library boiler.

Increase A9010.8 Retirement by \$20,502.75 from cash to reflect early incentive payment.

Increase A3510.4 Control of Animals Contractual by \$50.00 from A1930.4 Judgement & Claims.

Increase A4540.4 Ambulance Contractual by \$2,932 to reflect grant received from NYPA.

Increase A8810.1 Parks and Cemeteries Personal Svcs by \$600 from A6989 Other Economic Oppty & Development.

Increase 8810.4A Parks and Cemeteries Contractual by \$258.74 from A1930.4 Judgement & Claims.

Increase A8810.41 Mowing Contract by \$628.55 from A6989 Other Economic Oppty & Development \$600 and A1930.4 Judgement & Claims \$28.55.

Increase DA9010.8 Retirement by \$10,094.99 from cash to reflect early incentive payment.

Increase DB5112.2 Permanent Improvements (CHIPS) by \$4,457.88 to reflect cash received from CHIPS program.

Increase DB9010.8 Retirement by \$14,113.96 from cash to reflect early incentive payment.

Increase DB9070.8 Uniforms by \$185.99 from DB9053.8 HRA to reflect increase in uniforms.

Increase JR9010.8 Retirement by \$602.23 from cash to reflect early incentive payment.

Increase JR7265.1 Skating Rink Personal Svcs by \$1,057.50 from Beach Personal Svcs JR7180.1.

Increase JR7265.4 Skating Rink Contractual by \$436.49 from JR7180.4 Beach Contractual.

Year-end bills: A motion was made by Prentice, seconded by McKnight to allow payment of bills at the end of December. The Clerk will email the abstract for prior approval. Ayes: All

Executive Session: A motion was made by Prentice, seconded by McKnight to enter into executive session @ 8:55PM 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 McBath to return to regular session @ 9PM. Ayes: All

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk