

Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, December 12, 2022 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

Present were: D Supervisor Travis McKnight and Councilmembers: David McBath, Kelley Tiernan, and Thomas Hunter.

Also Present: Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, David Putney, Highway Superintendent, James Miller, Phyllis Acres, and Patty VanPatten. No attendance was had on Zoom.

Call to order: D Supv McKnight called the meeting to order @ 7:00PM.

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 as submitted. Ayes: All

Citizen's Comments:

Patty VanPatten thanked the Town for all they did to make the Christmas in Waddington weekend a success. They especially thanked Putney Tree Service for putting the lights on the Christmas tree in the park.

Local Law #2 of 2022: Providing for the administration and enforcement of the NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building code(the uniform code) and State Conservation Construction Code (the Energy Code).

The Clerk read the legal notice that was published. D Supv McKnight declared the public hearing open @ 7:05PM. No comments were had and the public hearing was closed. He then asked if there were any board discussion. The board noted that there was a typo on the date in section 9. It should read local law number 2 of the year 2022.

Resolution # 85

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Tiernan

WHEREAS, the Waddington Town Board has met and held a public hearing on Local Law#2 of the year 2022; and

WHEREAS, no public comments were had for the local law;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby pass Local Law #2 of the Year 2022 entitled: Providing for the administration and enforcement of the NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building code(the uniform code) and State Conservation Construction Code (the Energy Code). Ayes: All

Charter Franchise Agreement: The Clerk read the legal notice published for the public hearing on the Charter Franchise Agreement. D Supv opened the public hearing @ 7:15. No comments were had and the public hearing was closed. He then asked if the board had any further discussion. None being had the following resolution passed.

Resolution #86

Motioned by: Hunter

Seconded by: Tiernan

An application has been duly made to the Board of the Town of Waddington, County St. Lawrence, New York, by Spectrum Northeast LLC, I/k/a Charter Communications, a limited liability company organized and existing in god standing under the laws of State of Delaware doing business at 6005 Fair Lakes Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057, for approval of renewal agreement for Spectrum Northeast LLC's cable television franchise for ten (10) years commencing with the date of approval by the Public Service Commission commencing with the date of approval by the Public Service Commission.

The Franchise Renewal Agreement would bring the franchise into conformity with certain provisions of the Federal Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, as amended and certain court rulings.

A public hearing was held in the Town of Waddington New York on December 12, 2022 @ 7:15 PM and notice of hearing was published in the North Country Now on NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of the Town of Waddington finds that:

1. Spectrum Northeast LLC has substantially complied with the material terms and conditions of its existing franchise and with applicable law; and
2. Spectrum Northeast LLC has the financial, legal and technical ability to provide these services, facilities and equipment as set forth in its proposal attached; and
3. Spectrum Northeast LLC can reasonably meet the future cable-related community needs and interests, taking into account the cost of meeting such needs and interests.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of the Town of Waddington hereby grants the cable television franchise of Spectrum Northeast LLC and the Town of Waddington for ten (10) years commencing with the date of approval by the Public Service Commission and expiring ten (10) years hence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of the Town of Waddington hereby confirms acceptance of this Franchise Renewal Agreement. Ayes: All

Committee Reports

Library:

The librarian reported out on:

Utilization

Expenses-reported there are late notices received monthly on most bills. I said I would check on the timing of them vs. approval etc. by the Town.

Grants

Amazon line of credit issue/discontinued

Christmas in Waddington activity-donation to library and letters to Santa, other activities planned

New Book club

Specific items for information:

Snow removal-resolved by Travis

National Grid coming on site Dec 7th to audit/look at meter (Aubrie has been doing weekly readings and is not seeing any major jumps or anything) Mark asked again if the town reviewed the invoices they were receiving to see if something was changed with the switch to solar (if we saw a decrease and something got switched to the library bill by accident?) I sent to Carol separately to follow up as I believe she was going to double check those bills.

Fire Alarm System/Grant update- Original grant app included brickwork etc. and was larger. The brickwork was denied. The fire alarm system was approved at \$6200. Quotes (good for 30 days) are at \$8900. This would have been part of the original match. I believe the Town has funds set aside for this 2700 difference? November balance was \$7514. Mark Scott asked about the "\$20,000" that is supposed to be set aside each year for the library and town hall. I believe we have discussed this previously and it is where we said the brickwork would have to come out of????

Other grants-they have received nothing on either grant application , but Aubrie saw a 3rd round of funding has been announced so she did send in an inquiry.

NCLS holiday request- library would like to follow the Town's guidelines on holidays. The NCLS has asked for a report on which holidays will be observed in 2023 and when. I've asked Carol to send this to Aubrie

Excess Furniture- No decisions were made, but discussion about some excess furniture in the basement. I did mention that the Town uses auctions international

Financial reports-are not receiving them-I've asked Carol to provide contact information for Gray and Gray to the library (Aubrie/Michelle).

D Supv McKnight stated that he has reviewed the electric bills and each bill is being charged to its respective building. He also noted that he has looked at the specs on the air conditioning unit. The unit uses the amperage equivalent to 7 window AC units. There were 3 units prior to the new installation. The compressor and fan use 38 full load amps. We should wait to see what the audit from National Grid shows.

D Supv McKnight has contacted Karen Thew. She is willing to keep the steps at the library cleaned. The special salt is already purchased at True Value so they know what to use. She will keep track of the hours and put a bill in at the end of the season.

Library Trustee Appointment:

Resolution # 87

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby appoint Bonnie Sabatini to the library board effective January 1, 2023. Ayes: All

Museum: November Historian's report

The first Friday in November Matt Daly and myself attended another session with the engineering students at Clarkson.

They have been working very hard at developing some designs and ideas for the new museum building.

The following day we had our final work bee at the museum with the Clarkson honor students. They accomplished a lot of filing and moving of shelves, organizing, and unpacking books and other items. I also had one of the students filing all the different maps and plans that we have from village and town projects that are in the possession of the museum.

I attended both the village and the town meetings in November back-to-back on the same night.

I have been in constant contact with the honor students that are working on the village tour map and website, I also met with them in person on the 4th of November.

They are progressing very well on this project, we will be developing a virtual tour and having a hard copy that folks will be able to follow along with to take the tour by themselves if I'm not available.

I spent quite a bit of time in November returning the different items to storage that we used upstairs in the town hall for the exhibits for the WHA event.

I attended both the Museum and the WHA meetings in November.

We have an end of semester meeting with the engineering students next week for their preliminary final designs, looking forward to that.

The museum will be open this coming Saturday the 10th for Christmas in Waddington. the hours will be 10-3:00.

There will be no museum or WHA meeting in December both boards will resume in January.

Grants/Alternative Revenues:

RVRDA grant –

RVRD grant agreement was signed and returned. \$5000 award which will require town match of \$6250 – total available for Town Hall stonework will be \$11,250. RFP with scope of work created and draft provided for discussion at this meeting. Once approved the town can put it out for RFPs with stipulation that work will need to be done prior to 10/01/23. Grant expires Dec 2023.

ARPA Grant:

As of Nov 22 mtg, at the end of phase 2 (with no additional revisions) all but \$11,715.00 of ARPA grant money will be committed or spent. Oil/water separator has been received but is not yet installed. Phase 3 of the project (paving parking lot once drainage is done) was estimated at \$36,726. There is a \$25,011 shortfall on completing the projected phase 3 paving project.

C McBath will be required to do a project / budget update with US Treasury. Annual report will be due to US Treasury on status of these funds no later than April 2023.

Iroquois Land:

Town Planning Board (TPB) will re-visit this when comments are received back from the county. County Planning Board has not yet returned comments. Town codes require roads to be wide enough for school buses and emergency vehicles to traverse and be able to turn around. Highway Superintendent says the base of the road put in by NYPA at Iroquois meets highway/code specs, other than the ability to turn around. He says the town has the material on hand to install a cul-de-sac or turnaround at the end of the road. When TPB reconvenes on this issue C McBath recommends that he and the Highway Superintendent plan to attend to discuss the road.

HIP CAMP:

Town Clerk needs to establish checking account for HIPCAMP to deposit rental income. Highway Superintendent advises he is planning to change the footprint of the campsites at Leishman Point (relocate to be parallel to the shipping channel vs as they are now, as was discussed at Nov mtg) He feels he has most of the fill he will need to level off the new sites. If the weather holds, he may try to get some of this work done this fall/winter. If not, then he is looking at the early spring.

Northern NY Community Foundation Grant:

C McBath discovered a grant opportunity from the Northern New York Community Foundation's Youth Philanthropy Council - **nonprofit organizations** are eligible to apply for grant funds for of all types for programs, projects, or initiatives that strengthen the quality of life in Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties. The Foundation chartered is to **promote positive youth development and engage young people in meaningful activities** that build their skills while deepening their understanding of community needs and educating them about community philanthropy and its impact on Northern New York. The library (as a not for profit) would be an eligible party to apply

for a grant. C McBath shared all this info with Ms. Liddell by email on Dec 9 and offered to assist in writing application if they wished. Applications are due by January 27, 2023.

Rescue Squad: C hunter reported that the Rescue Squad had 78% coverage during the month of November. The windows and doors were delivered today for the Rescue Squad Building. There are two new drivers making out applications

Fuel Usage: Supt Putney reported that there were only two full fill ups since the October meeting. Total gallons received 647. With the \$10,000 added to the budget we should be able to make it through the end of the year. He will check again as the month progresses.

Local Government Task Force: D Supv McKnight reported that there will not be a meeting until January.

Land Purchase Request: At the last meeting the board tabled a decision on the land purchase request from William Jackson @ 122 Lincoln Ave. He has spoken with Susie & Shaun Prentice (previous owners) about any right of ways for the property. He was told that there is a conveyed right of way in the deed which allows the shared driveway for both parties. D Supv McKnight noted that he is not in favor of selling any property on the corner where the memorial is located. There had obviously been some confusion with the mowing in that area. The previous owners had always mowed it and he believes that Seaway Valley Lawn Care didn't realize how far the town's property actually went. He will discuss this with Jason to make sure that the property is mowed as it should be next year. Further discussion ensued and the following resolution was passed.

Resolution #88

Motioned by: Hunter

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby agree not to sell any property located on the Memorial Corner on Lincoln Ave. Ayes: All
Mr. Jackson will be notified of the board's decision.

Supervisor Association Update: D Supv McKnight reported that the discussion at the Supervisor's Association was insurance claims. They discussed a town who lost a truck in a fire. Their insurance carrier was Trident. After they paid this claim they increased the town's insurance premium by 25%.

They discussed the County Plowing contract. Jefferson County received \$5873 per mile and the Tug hill region received an additional 5% more due to the increase in snow in that area. They have a fuel change of .50 per gallon up or down.

Lewis County receives \$6,365 per mile. They have a \$1.00 allotment for fuel up or down. They also have an allotment of \$10 for salt.

In St. Lawrence County they are looking to make all towns a Tier 2 which pays \$5,725 per mile. The next meeting will be in January and they should have a proposal hammered out.

Elevator Old Town Hall: D Supv McKnight reported that there was a repair tech at the old town hall on Thursday. They had to call the manufacturer because the schematics didn't match the elevator. It turns out there is a third relay in the back of the elevator that didn't show in the specs. They have ordered the new part.

NYCLASS: The Board tabled this from last month. C McBath reported that he had looked at the program and it could work well for the town. There is a representative for our area that can discuss the program with the board. The Board discussed and would like to have the representative attend the January meeting by zoom if that works for her.

Open Meetings Law: The Board tabled this from last month. The board's main concerns are the strings attached to it. 72 hours' notice and postings. The board won't discontinue zoom but a member can't vote if not here. This will be tabled until next month.

NYPA Maintenance Contract: D Supv McKnight met with Bryan Terry, Jeff Farrell, and Piotr Zareba from NYPA. They reviewed the current maintenance contract. There is a discrepancy in

the way the three towns calculate the Fringe Benefits. They want us to use the same formula that they use. The Clerk and Supv used their calculations and it came within .30 of each other. He also provided them with our worker's compensation for 2023.

They provide the town with a zero-turn mower which will be up for replacement in 2027 and weed eaters that are up for replacement in 2028. Of course, if something is wrong with our equipment before the replacement date they will look at it to determine what will be done. They have requested changes in our insurance coverage. The Clerk has sent the request to the insurance agent to see if we have the coverage requested and if we don't please give us a quote to change it.

They will be installing cameras from Massena to Waddington. They will be the ones in charge of them. If something is needed from them our town attorney can request it.

The lookout can now be paved whenever the highway department has the time. Once the work is done we will submit the bills to NYPA and they will reimburse the Town. They are looking to replace the current fishing pier with an aluminum one.

Payloader payment: At this time the Town has not closed on the USDA loan/grant for the new payloader. We were given the loader in July with the intentions of closing within a couple of months. It has been held up and payment has not been made. CAT has become very impatient to the point that the town has received a letter to pursue legal action if not paid by December 15th. D Supv McKnight spoke with the director at the USDA to find out what the hold up was. He said it has been sent to OGS for review and once it comes back it will be sent back to the attorney for the bond documents. It will be at least another month before we can go to closing. He suggested that the Town pay for it and then when the funds are released return it to our bank account. He spoke with the Town Attorney to see if we can do this. Charlie told him that we could do this if we pass two resolutions. One will be to take the money out of our reserve account to pay the bill and the second will state that we will return the funds to our reserve account upon payment.

Resolution #89

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board authorizes the D Supv to take \$146,264 out of the NYPA General reserve fund in Upstate Bank and deposit in the general checking account to pay Milton Cat for the 2022 payloader received in July. Ayes: All

Resolution #90

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: McBath

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby agree that upon receipt of \$146,264 from the USDA will be directly deposited into the NYPA general reserve fund in the Upstate Bank. Ayes: All

Iroquois Subdivision: A letter has been received from the St. Lawrence County planning Office concerning the town's request for subdivision of Iroquois land. It was just received and hasn't been sent to the Town's Planning Board. Discussion will be tabled until the next meeting.

Grievance Board Re-appointment:

Resolution #91

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby reappoint Richard Hobkirk to the Grievance Board of Assessment review for a period of five years with an ending date of 9/30/2027. Ayes: All

Year End Budget Adjustments:

Resolution #92

Motioned by: Hunter

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the following budgets adjustments to be made by Gray & Gray Accountants:

Increase Buildings Contractual A0-1620-40 by \$16,975.79 reflecting work done to the Rescue Squad by Twin Cedars Construction and CD Electric for electrical repair.

Increase Unallocated Insurance A0-1910-4 by \$1,125.38 from Contingency A0-1990-4.

Increase Homecoming Contractual A0-7271-4 by \$1,636.09 reflecting cash received.

Increase Mowing Contractual A0-8810-41 by .01 from Parks/Cemeteries Contractual A0-8810-4.

Increase NYS Retirement System A0-9019-8 by .20 from Social Security A0-9030-80.

Increase HRA A0-9053-8 by \$162.28 from HAS A0-9052-80.

Increase A0-9060-89 Ancillary Benefits by \$466.31 from Health Insurance A0-9060-80.

Increase Automation B0-1680-4 by \$49.57 from Contingency B0-1990-4.

Increase Machinery Equipment DA-5130-2 by \$146,256 to reflect purchase of new payloader.

Increase Machinery Contractual DA-5130-40 by \$10,367.49 to reflect insurance repair check received.

Increase Health & Medical Insurance DA-9060-80 by \$1565.06 from HRA DA-9054-8 \$1283.28, HRA over 65 DA-9054-8 \$196.88, and Uniforms DA-9070-8 \$84.90.

Increase Ancillary Benefits DA-9060-89 by \$152.46 from Uniforms DA-9070-8 \$141.52 and Sand DA-5142-4 \$10.94.

Increase Permanent Improvement CHIPS DB-5112-2 by \$117,678.46 to reflect reimbursement received from NYS

Increase NYS Retirement DB-9010-8 by .02 from Social Security DB-9030-8

Increase Uniforms DB-9070-8 by \$956.57 from Medical/Hospital Insurance DB-9060-8

Increase Recreation Beach personal services JR-7180-1 by \$4,998.48 from cash

Increase Recreation Beach Contractual JR-7180-4 by %723.77 from Morning Rec Contractual JR-7181-4

Increase Morning Recreation personal services JR-7181-1 by \$397.90 from Morning Recreation Contractual JR-7181-4

Increase Recreation Youth Programs Personal Service JR-7310-1 by \$1333.36 from Morning Recreation Contractual JR-7181-4 \$641.80, Rink Contractual JR-7265-4 \$22.56, and Rink Personal Services JR-7265-1 \$669.00

Increase Recreation Youth Program Contractual JR-7310-4 by \$248.08 from Rink Cont. JR-7262-4

Increase NYS Retirement JR-9010-8 by .24 from Rink Contractual JR-7265-4

Increase Social Security JR-9030-8 by 195.02 from Rink Contractual JR7265-4 \$79.12 and \$116.08 cash

Increase Library capital expense L0-7410-43 by \$3500 to reflect Air Conditioning repair

Increase Library Periodicals L0-7410-41 by \$320.88 to reflect donation received from the Friends of the Library. Ayes: All

Solar Law Tax: D Supv McKnight reported that he is researching the new solar law tax in which there is an option to opt out of the pilot payments. He will talk more to the Town Attorney and get more information for the January meeting. The board discussed placing a moratorium on solar projects until they can get more information on the solar tax law.

Resolution #93

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby place a moratorium on any new solar projects effective 12/9/2022. The moratorium will be lifted when more information is received on the solar tax law. Ayes: All

Animal Shelter Request: D Supv McKnight reported that the Village of Waddington has requested the town consider contracting with the Potsdam Animal Shelter. They would be willing to pay ½ of the cost. D Supv McKnight reported that the clerk has pulled records concerning the impoundment of any dogs by the Town of Waddington. Since 2019 they Town has taken 4 dogs to Moyer's Pound in Rossie. All four of these dogs were adopted out to Gracious Paws foundation. We have not had any dogs euthanized. The total paid for dog impoundments since 2019 was \$200. If we go with the Potsdam Animal Shelter it is a minimum

of \$1500 per year. Further discussion ensued and the board noted that they are going to stick with the plan that has been working and continue with Moyer's pound for services.

Drug Testing Services: It is time to renew the drug testing services from Mountain Medical/Standard Medical Services. They provide the random drug testing pool. There is a \$75 yearly administration fee. It is \$62 for urine test and \$38 for breath alcohol.

Resolution #94

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby agree to continue its current drug testing services with Mountain Medical/Standard Medical Services. Ayes: All

Old Town Hall RFP: C McBath reported that he has worked up an RFP for the repair of the stone masonry at the old town hall. He asked if the board wanted to get quotes based on a price per square foot. The total the board can spend is \$11,250 which includes the \$5,000 grant received by the RVRDA. The Board discussed areas that needed to be repaired and noted that the town would provide the lift so it isn't included in the bid price. It was also discussed as to what the town's exposure would be by doing this. D Supv McKnight will contact the Town Attorney to ask the question. The Board will revisit at the next meeting.

Citizen's Comments:

Patty VanPatten asked if there was anything that can be done about the crack in the large stone over the man door going into the basement. Someone will look at it when they assess the other areas.

Executive Session: A motion was made by McBath seconded by Tiernan to enter executive session @ 8:15 to Medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or relating to the appointment, promotion, or demotion, discipline, or removal. A motion was made by Tiernan, seconded by Hunter to return to regular session @ 8:35PM. No action was taken during the executive session.

Bills: A motion was made by Hunter, seconded by Tiernan to pay bill #22-00768 – 22-00860 in the amount of \$225,016.83. Ayes: All

Adjournment: A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Tiernan to adjourn the meeting @ 8:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk