

## Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, February 11, 2013 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

**Present were:** Supervisor Mark Scott and Councilmembers: David Putney, Shirley Robinson, Robert Dalton, and Travis McKnight.

**Also Present:** Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, Sandy Wright, Zach Dupray, Patty VanPatten, Shaun Prentice, Kevin Kitsman, Amanda Purcell, Ogdensburg Journal, and Benjamin Johns, Town Attorney.

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order @ 7:05 PM. Supv Scott reported that in an attempt to reduce paperwork he will be presenting the meeting in digital form this evening. He has created a drop box on the computer where Councilmembers can also pick up information for the meeting.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by McKnight, seconded by Dalton to approve the minutes as submitted. Ayes: All

### **Committee Reports:**

**Recreation:** C. McKnight reported that the ice rink is going well. They have been trying to build ice on the outdoor rink but the weather is not cooperating. The position of Beach Director has been put out to St. Lawrence University and a couple of other places. In years past the Town has been able to hire a good director through SLU. Russ Strait stated that they have had several applications for beach caretaker. There will be a meeting later this month and the beach will be discussed in more depth.

**Highway:** C. Putney reported that the Highway Department has been busy plowing and maintaining trucks.

**Rescue Squad:** C. Dalton reported that the Rescue Squads regular meeting was cancelled. He has spoken with members and the biggest thing right now is trying to recruit new members. They have gotten a good response thus far.

**Library:** C. Robinson reported that the library meeting was held on February 5<sup>th</sup>. The North Country Library System made up 450 flyers advertising the after school story hour at no charge. They will be distributed to Madrid/Waddington elementary students. There will be a children's program March 29<sup>th</sup> called "Reptiles Forever". Dan Buckley, the Civil War re-enactor will present a program February 13<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30. February 6<sup>th</sup> Martha will go to the Madrid Library to help them form a Friend's Group. Our Friend's group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month and the Book Club meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month. Roy checked the paper shredder. He said the teeth were worn out so they will replace it. Vicky suggested doing a public survey. Cheryl will ask to have it in the next Waddington Recorder. The survey will include Library hours and phone number. They will also have a sign with hours posted on the book drop box. Vicky will check with vendors and get prices for the sign. The next meeting is March 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Chamber of Commerce:** No one was present to give a report.

**WRA:** Supv. Scott stated that they would like to have articles for the Waddington Recorder in by the end of the month.

**Energy Working Group:** Supv. Scott reported that the energy working group met on the 19<sup>th</sup>. They continue to work on energy conservation. They will be looking at the survey of facilities that was put together by Shaun Prentice and see what they can do to conserve energy. They continue to work on renewable energy sources. Jim Thew will get his crew out on the river as

soon as weather permits to collect more data for underwater turbines. The group will make a more formal presentation to the board in the near future.

**Local Government Task Force:** Supv. Scott reported that there was a meeting with the new attorney that was hired to put together the groups' argument for review. NYPA has released its financial plan for the next four years. If anyone has information that they feel needs to be added to the list of things that need to be included with the review they should get it to him. There will be a preliminary report out in March.

**Town Property Utilization & Development:** C. Putney reported that he met with Jim Thew. They have the plans that Lisbon used for their campground. They have begun developing some notes to begin plans for the Town to start with a four site campground. C. Putney also reported that he has been in touch with Sheehan Construction for a cost to install a 200' road and a road from the beach to the gas line. The road must be done to Town highway specs. He is also waiting for a price from Barrett's Paving. He would like to appoint the following people to his committee: Jim Thew, Marty Haenel, Bruce MacDonald, Terry Mayette, Highway Superintendent, and himself. A motion was made by Scott, seconded by McKnight to appoint these people to C. Putney's Committee. Ayes: All  
Supv. Scott asked C. Putney if he had seen the booklet called Directions for Change which was written in 1986-87. The book contains suggestions for surplus NYPA lands from Lisbon to Waddington. A lot of the suggestions that are being raised now were in this publication. The Clerk will get C. Putney a copy. He also suggested looking at indoor water parks and tiny house development. C. Robinson noted that Waddington could be the next destination for the Casinos that are being proposed by Governor Cuomo.  
Supv. Scott also showed the board the Orenco Wastewater Solutions website which could be helpful for the development of the surplus lands.

**Recreation/Tourism:** C. Dalton reported that the Bass Elite committee is going to be holding a fund raiser on February 17<sup>th</sup> at JC's River Run. There will be food, games and fun for all. C. Dalton also reported that he and Supv. Scott had spoken with Randy Crawford about helping with drawing and prices to put together a grant request. They will meet on the 19<sup>th</sup> @ 1PM. The application is due to the RVRDA by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Resolution #19

Motioned by: Dalton

Seconded by: Putney

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve working with Randy Crawford to produce the drawings needed for the grant application not to exceed \$1,900.

Ayes: All

Resolution #20

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby authorize the Supervisor to submit a grant application to the RVRDA to provide handicap access to the old town hall;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board approves the \$100 processing fee due at the time of the grant submittal. Ayes: All

**Agriculture:** C. McKnight reported that he had filled out the survey that was given to him concerning the Emerald Ash Borer. There were a lot of in-depth questions concerning ash trees. He spoke to someone from Cornell and found out there is money available to help the Towns assess their trees. He would like them to come to the next meeting for a brief presentation.

**Cemetery:** C. McKnight reported that he had been looking for grant opportunities to do cemetery repairs/revitalizations to the other cemeteries in Waddington. He has had a couple emails into the State Cemetery fund. He has spoken with the Gouverneur Talc mine concerning the white stones for the driveways in Old Brookside Cemetery. They charge \$235 for an 18 yard

load. C. Putney told him to contact Harmer Construction for a price. They also deliver the stone.

**Business Development:** C. Robinson reported that the Town needs to hire an Economic Development Coordinator to coordinate the tasks intended to foster economic development and tourism. The Board needs to discuss hours and wage per month.

The Town needs to have improved signage for community events. She discussed this with the Clerk and she is willing to resubmit for the grant through Iroquois Gas. The letter she wrote for the previous grant was excellent. She would like to ask for \$10,000 and have each board member sign the letter.

#### Resolution #21

Motioned by: Scott

Seconded by: Dalton

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby authorize the Town Clerk to reapply for the sign grant through Iroquois Gas in the amount of \$10,000. Ayes: All

Supv. Scott suggested a possible sponsorship on the sign from local businesses to help pay for it.

The Town Clerk is working on a new website that will have a link to the County. C. Robinson spoke with John Tenbusch to see if he would be interested in the coordinator position. John didn't think that he could do this due to his job in the planning office. He would check. He did receive permission from his office to help the town get set up. He will do one meeting and will give some names for coordinator. He will also get some suggestions from his office.

C. Robinson would like the Board to consider a casino to be placed on some of the land that was returned to the Town by NYPA. Governor Cuomo has proposed three casinos for upstate New York. The Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority has a 10 acre parcel that could be considered for a casino site.

**Town Court Audit:** Supv. Scott reported that C. Putney and C. Robinson had met with the Court Clerk and the Justice to perform the annual audit. A report has been submitted.

#### Resolution #22

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Dalton

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the annual audit report submitted by the Town Court. Ayes: All

**Town Clerk Annual Report:** Supv. Scott reported that the Town Clerk had submitted her annual report. Overall revenues are down \$971.67. The Clerk noted that most of it was the sale of conservation licenses had declined.

#### TOWN CLERK'S REPORT TO THE TOWN BOARD JANUARY 1, 2012 TO DECEMBER 31, 2012

Conservation Licenses	9615.00
Dog Licenses	4213.00
SPCA Redemption	105.00
Marriage Licenses	440.00
Certified Copies	300.00
Misc. Sales	1066.33
Building Permits	1615.00
Cemetery Funds	2125.00
Ag Permits (PA lease)	<u>3704.09</u>
Total Collected	23183.42
Paid to Town Supervisor	13119.98
Paid to DEC	9101.94
Paid to Ags & Markets (dogs)	714.00
Paid to Dept. of Health (marriage)	<u>247.50</u>
Total Paid out	23183.42

Taxes Collected & paid to Town Supervisor	295587.00
Interest collected & paid to Town Supervisor	4523.87
Taxes collected & paid to County Treasurer	<u>1053441.98</u>
Total Taxes collected	1353552.85

**Historian**

Resolution #23

Motioned by: Scott

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby appoint Zachary Dupray to the position of Town Historian. Ayes: All

Supv. Scott reported that Zach had been going through boxes of historical files that were turned over to the Town by the previous historian. Zach told the board that there was some very interesting stuff in the files. He noted that because there is no place for a museum he would like to construct mobile displays. They could be done during homecoming, maybe in the Chamber Office or the Municipal Building. He also noted that he had a lot of ideas for future projects. He would like to take some of the old pictures and make postcards to sell during the upcoming bass tournament and homecoming. This money could be put into a historical account for future projects. He would also like to interview some of the older local residents to get information on the past. C. McKnight noted that this was a very good idea and that maybe he could put some of this information in the Waddington Recorder for citizens to read. Zach noted that he would do that.

**Health Insurance:** Supv. Scott reported that the HSA accounts had \$4,000 left and the HRA had \$8,000 for 2012. C. Putney asked about the coverage for the union member’s dental insurance. He was told that they can use their HSA or HRA for any payments not covered. Supv. Scott also noted that the Board could put more in the HRA as a cushion should it be needed.

**Medicare Advantage Plan:** Supv. Scott reported that he had spoken with Steve Foy about saving money by changing the Retirees Medicare supplement plans. The Town could pick up a Medicare Advantage Plan that covers through the so called donut hole. The premium is lower and the prescription copays remain the same. It is a high deductible plan with a \$1250 max. The Town would fund the HRA to cover this. He would like Steve Foy to come to talk to the retirees. The soonest they could be switched is April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Town Website:** Supv. Scott brought a sample of the new website up on the computer. The Clerk navigated through the site to show the board what will be included. She told them that it should be up and running by the end of the month. She also asked for any additional input that anyone might have.

**American Legion Request:** Tom Tomlins from the American Legion has requested permission to install a flagpole w/light in New Brookside Cemetery. The flag will be installed next to the vault. This flag will replace the individual little flags that are placed on veteran’s graves for Memorial Day. The cost of the electric for the light will be the responsibility of the Town.

Resolution #24

Motioned by: Robinson

Seconded by: Putney

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve installation of a new lighted flag pole in the New Brookside Cemetery. Ayes: All

**Wellness Program:** Carol Zimmerman with the Health Initiative will be here on February 13<sup>th</sup> to meet one on one with employees to help set their health goals.

**Phone Review:** Supv. Scott reported that he had a company contact him that reviews utility bills to see if municipalities are being over charged. If they find that there is a discrepancy they

will go after the money owed to the municipality. Money returned will be 70% to the municipality and 30% to Phone Review for their services. Discussion was held and the Board would like to see references in this area or be able to talk to someone about it in greater length. Supv. Scott gave the information to C. McKnight. He will make some calls and report back at the next meeting.

**Bill Support:**

Supv. Scott received a letter from Assemblyman Michael Kearns requesting support from the Town for bills #A.88 & A8.24 which makes it mandatory for banks to provide municipalities with contact information of property managers or other parties responsible for upkeep and maintenance of foreclosed or abandoned properties. He stated that he is afraid that the bills will encounter considerable special interest headwinds this year.

The Board discussed why there should be opposition. Attorney Johns stated that he would like to read the whole bill. The Board agreed that there is something not right and decided to table until next meeting when Attorney Johns would report more on the subject.

**County Five Year Plan:** Supv. Scott reported that Senators Griffo & Ritchie stated they would need to see a five year plan for the County before they could entertain support for a sales tax increase. This plan has been distributed and Chairman Putney has asked the Towns for their support in the sales tax increase. At this current time the Town Board is opposed to a sales tax increase. They stated that there is no accountability in the County's five year plan and would need to find out more information before they would consider supporting this. Chairman Putney will be reached and asked to meet with the Board.

**Meeting Rules of Procedure:** Supv. Scott noted that at the January meeting he gave the board a draft plan for meeting rules of procedures. He asked if everyone had a chance to look over and if they were interested in passing it. C. Putney stated that he thinks that there were procedures passed concerning public comment, being placed on the agenda, etc. He didn't feel that this procedure document was necessary. The clerk stated that she would look up the procedures passed. This will be discussed further at the March meeting.

**NYPA Maintenance Contract:** Supv. Scott stated that he had met with the representatives from the Power Authority and had some changes made to the maintenance contract. Attorney Johns stated that there were still several things that are standard contract items that needed to be changed in order to protect the Town. He would like a revisable contract in which he could make the changes and authorization for up to 5 hours work to do this. He would then send it to Supv. Scott to submit to NYPA.

Resolution #25

Motioned by: Putney

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby authorize Attorney Johns up to five hours additional time to revise the NYPA maintenance contract. Ayes: All

**Old Town Hall Roof:** C. Dalton stated that he had spoken with two local contractors about repairing the leak in the old town hall roof. RSI stated that they would like to take the gravity vents out and put ridge vent in. C. Dalton stated that it doesn't matter how much ridge vent you put in if there is no ventilation. There are no soffit vents or gable end vents. Both contractors will check both gutters on the ends of the dormer and seal around both gravity vents to prevent any water getting in. C. McKnight asked if there were any grants available for insulating the attic. C. Dalton noted that this will be done eventually but for now there is a lot of work to do on the building such as possible wiring. The wiring is exposed in the attic and will be easier to get to. C. Dalton is hoping that by getting the handicap access and restrooms completed the building will start showing potential for use. This will give us greater chances for grants to rehabilitate the building.

Quotes were received from the following contractors:

Akins Construction, Lisbon \$600.00

Tiernan's Construction, Waddington \$1,940.00. Discussion was held.

Resolution #26

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Putney

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve a quote from Akins Construction, Lisbon to repair the old town hall roof in the amount of \$600.00 Ayes: All

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

**Bills:** A motion was made by Scott, seconded by Robinson to pay bills # 83 – 161 in the amount of \$41,037.22. Ayes: All

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Scott, seconded by Dalton to adjourn the meeting @ 9:45PM. Ayes: All

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk