

Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, February 14, 2023 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

Present were: D. Supv Travis McKnight and Councilmembers: David McBath, Kelly Tiernan, and Thomas Hunter.

Also present: Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, David Putney, Highway Superintendent, Kevin Liddell, John Tenbusch, Scott Schlueter, Fish & Wildlife, Gerigh Putney, Gracey Plumley, Lacey Putney, Silas Kent, Phyllis Acres, Aubrie Liddell, Kevin Putney, Patty VanPatten, Landon Sharlow, Wess Cordwell, Olivia Grandy, Ella Hitzman, and Noah Haenel,

Call to order: D Supv McKnight called the meeting to order at 7:03PM.

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: Kevin Putney requested that he be able to enter an executive session with the board to discuss the lease on Iroquois lands. D Supv McKnight noted it was not on the agenda but he would let him know by the end of the meeting.

Windsong Bay Presentation: Scott Schlueter a marine biologist with the Fish & Wildlife Service gave the board a presentation on Windsong Bay also known to the locals as Kentner Bay. He gave the board information on the fish population and decline in the St Lawrence River and the importance of White song Bay in the spawning and population of Muskies. There was a question-and-answer period upon the end of his presentation. He will be in contact with the board for additional answers to questions they had.

Committee Reports:

Highway: Supt Putney reported that the Highway Department has been doing general maintenance and has plowed 30 times during the month of March.

He discussed the Town's 10-year plan for the rotation of equipment. He noted that the oldest truck is a 2007, then a 2010. T-4 which plows the Village is a 2003. He has looked at the new trucks and builds are now 2 years out. He just wanted to give them something to think about for budget time. C McBath noted that we are paying on a plow truck and front-end loader now. D Supv McKnight noted that he would get figures together on payments etc.

Supt Putney also told the board that they might want to begin thinking about another full time employee. He had to find temporary employees when his part time help had health issues and were unavailable to plow. He advertised for two weeks and never received a single application. He told the board that Terry is not going to keep plowing forever. He is in his late 70's and the other part time employee he was able to find is also in his 70's. The board asked if he had any costs figured for this position. He told them that he would get something together. They also discussed the possibility of looking to the state for help with CDL drivers.

Library: C Tiernan reported that the library board met Feb 7th. The library resolved their Amazon account issues and they will be receiving an invoice for purchases through a business account.

A fire alarm installation company was selected at the meeting. This was part of a grant. Originally the total grant was larger and included a Town Match of over \$10k that was agreed to when the grant was first submitted. The final grant award is \$6,223 and the total project cost is \$8979.09. The question is how much the Town is going to cover of the remaining balance ? (\$2756)

Resolution #18

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board will cover the remaining balance for the fire alarm system at the library in the amount of \$2,756. This will be taken from the joint town hall/library improvement savings account. Ayes: All

There are still questions about the brick work. Travis is looking for masons/contractors willing to propose the job. The Library Board offered several names as suggestions. I forwarded them to Travis.

Michelle Patenaude will be renewing her 5-year term. No issues with snow removal with the agreement with the hardware store. That is working well.

Aubrie Liddell wanted to make sure a “thank you” was sent to Dave Putney for plowing behind the library. There have been struggles with the main street construction. Aubrie has requested a call with Travis/I before the meeting tonight to discuss. Her biggest issue is that there is no communication. She had/has a class of 30 people coming in today and there were difficulties with access/parking.

Resolution #19

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: McBath

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the reappointment of Michelle Patenaude to the library board for a term of five years. Ayes: All

Recreation: C Tiernan reported that Joe Putney has resigned from the Recreation Committee. They are looking at other names to fill the position. D Supv noted that we could put an advertisement on the website for anyone interested to contact the town office.

A motion was made by Tiernan, seconded by McBath to accept Joe Putney’s resignation from the Recreation Committee. Ayes: all

The rec committee has met twice since last month. Planning has begun for the summer rec/reading programs. Anna Brady will continue as the director of the Beach . The committee is reviewing the new NYS public health recommendations for the program. Ryan Hayes has an interest in running the rec program and there was a special meeting to meet with him to discuss his ideas. The committee agreed he would be a good choice for the director of the program.

Positions will be posted “soon” and last year’s employees will be notified to reapply if they are interested.

Grants/Alternative Revenues:

RVRDA grant – Town Hall work

Carol posted RFPs on town website and in the papers. RFP deadline to submit needs to be extended to March board mtg to give contractors time to make a site visit.

ARPA Grant:

Oil/water separator has been received but not sure if it has been installed yet? With expenses paid to date, there is a shortfall on completing the projected phase 3. Annual grant report will be due to US Treasury on status of these funds no later than April 2023. We will need to revise budget before March meeting and finalize/approve revised budget at that mtg so we can get it posted before April filing deadline.

LEISHMAN POINT CAMPSITES:

Table to March mtg – we need to discuss if Highway Superintendent 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 2022 mtg). The campsite footprint and numbering will need to be revised on the website for 2023 rentals. We also need to decide when the campsites will open and close for 2023 and update the website.

Rescue Squad: C Hunter reported that the Rescue Squad had 18 calls during the month of January.

Gallery/Clark House: Mark Scott reported that the Gallery has moved over to the Clark House. The marketplace is closing and the Gallery will run the visitors center. On March 10th the Laurention Singers will play at the old town hall @ 7PM.

RFP Old Town hall: C McBath reported that the RFP has been advertised in the paper and on the website. The board noted that they will receive the submissions until the March meeting.
Resolution #20

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby amend the RFP for repairs to the old town hall to state the date for submissions will be Tuesday, March 14th @ 7PM. Ayes: All

C McBath reported that he has spoken with Evans Caulking who had previously done work on the old town hall. They will contact the clerk or Highway Superintendent to set up a site visit before the deadline.

Old town hall elevator: D Supv McKnight reported that the elevator is not repaired and functioning. The emergency key is stored at the town clerk's office. If there happens to be a problem someone can contact her and we will be there. If the key is left at the old town hall and moved or lost we will not be able to get someone out should the need arise.

NYCLASS: The clerk noted that she has the application paperwork and will get started on it. D Supv McKnight noted he would help her with it.

USDA Payloader: D Supv McKnight reported that he and the clerk had gone to Attorney Linden's office for the closing. The \$150,000 has been electronically deposited in the highway account. \$146,256 has been returned to the Upstate bank as per the resolution #90 of 2022. The balance of \$3,744 will be for the bonding attorney. His bill was for \$4,000 leaving a \$256 balance which will be taken from the general account.

Iroquois Land: D Supv McKnight noted that he had the Iroquois Land project on the agenda to talk about the Board's next steps in the process. He noted that after hearing the presentation from Scott Schlueter he has given them some more to think about. There is no way around having the area surveyed because it is all one tax map number. It won't matter how many parcels they split it in. They discussed putting an RFP out for survey costs. They will think on the options and discuss again in the March meeting.

Bathroom Project: D Supv McKnight reported that he had received a scope of work for the handicap bathroom. The court should hear if they received the grant in early March. The board will put out an RFP for the project. It will also include the handicap door entrance and removal of the inside door.

Resolution #21

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve advertising an RFP for the bathroom project and handicap door entrance. Proposals will be accepted until the March 14th meeting. Ayes: All

Solar Moratorium: D Supv McKnight reported that the board had put a hold on solar projects to give time to look into a program that taxes solar projects vs. the pilot program. After looking into it and discussing with the Code Enforcement Officer it has been determined that the best way to go is by using the building permit fee which was put into place @\$25,000 per MW. Solar projects are being assessed @ 80,000 per MW as per the state. At that rate it would take up to 30 years for the town to equal the original building permit fee.

D Supv McKnight also noted that he had a developer contact him concerning a solar array they want to install in Waddington. He told them that they Town was working to make sure they do what is best for its residents. The developer was very eager to help with whatever the town needed for the project to move forward. D Supv McKnight also spoke to him about solar at Iroquois lands.

The Planning Board will be having a preliminary sketch plan with RIC energy on Thursday @ 7PM.

Parking Hanlon/Brown Church Rd: D Supv McKnight noted that the Board had recently received a request to lift the parking ban on Hanlon Rd by a group holding an ice fishing tournament to benefit Wounded Warriors. Parking signs had been installed because there is an ongoing problem with cars parking there, in front of residents driveways, and in the turnaround for the snowplows. He spoke with the Town Attorney and was told they can't give permission to park in the no parking zone. D Supv McKnight sent an email to the people giving them ideas on places to park for the tournament. Apparently they followed the rules and there were no problems. The Town Attorney is drafting a local law to enforce the no parking regulations on both the Hanlon and Brown Church Rds. It will be available for review for next meeting. The Board discussed contacting the Power Authority to see if they might be willing to install a parking lot on their property adjacent to the road to accommodate the fishermen. D Supv McKnight will bring this up at the next local government task force meeting.

Municipal Building: D Supv McKnight reported that he sat recently in on a Court night out of his own curiosity to how it runs. He was surprised at how the court room operates. The area they are in is not a good setup. There are people at the table. The attorneys are trying to do paperwork and people are sitting where they are. Just not a good situation. In Madrid they put an extension on their building for the court. He would like to begin a search to see if there is any funding that exists that might help the town do something similar. The Board discussed and C McBath will do some research on any grants available.

Cintas Uniforms: D Supv McKnight reported that he has finally been able to get the uniform contract straightened out. He has had several phone conversations with them only to get passed to another person because that person no longer works for the company. In the end they owed the town \$586.73 in which we received credit for. They have also given us two free services of \$96.46 each. We haven't received this credit yet but he will be contacting someone to see when it will be done. The contract is up in May and he would like to contact other companies to receive quotes.

County Snow Plow Contract: D Supv McKnight reported that the County Supervisors Association has been in negotiations with the County for the Snow Plow Contract. The current rate is \$5151.51 per mile. The association asked to be compensated at the Tier 1 rate noting that this area may not get the snow they do but we get a lot of ice to deal with.

The county has proposed the following rates:

2023-34- increase of \$175 per mile, 2024-25 increase of \$175 per mile, and 2025-26 increase \$195.60 per mile making us even with the Tier 1. There is the same allotment for fuel and salt adjustments. The Board discussed and would like to see the proposed contract before committing.

Citizen's Comments:

Kevin Liddell thanked C Tiernan and D Supv McKnight for helping with communication between the construction people and the Library. He noted he was thrown off the job area when he approached them. It was not a friendly environment.

Kevin Putney told the board that the CDL schooling they were discussing is a nightmare. People are trained for two months and thrown out to drive plows. They recently had a plow graze a school bus.

Mark Scott reported that the deadline for the next Waddington Recorder will be April 17th.

Executive Session: A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Tiernan to enter executive session @8:45PM to discuss the 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 @ 10:15PM. Ayes: All No action was taken during executive session.

Bills: A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Hunter to approve bills #23-00047 –23-0115 in the amount of \$77,218.24. Ayes: All

Adjournment: A motion was made by Tiernan, seconded by Hunter to adjourn the meeting @ 10:25PM. Ayes: All

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk