

## Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, July 10, 2023 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

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

**Also Present:** Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, David Putney, Highway Superintendent, William & Jackson, Tony McManaman, Code Enforcement Officer, Shaun, RIC Energy, Patty VanPatten, Sue Papasian, and Barbara Evans.

**Call to Order:** Supv McKnight called the meeting to order at 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 as submitted. Ayes: All

**Citizen's Comments:** None had at this time.

**RIC Energy:** Shaun Frusco from RIC Energy gave a presentation on a proposed solar project to be located @ 11290 SH 37. Shaun told the board that the project is a community solar project and that the citizens who sign up would be eligible for a 10% reduction on their power bill. Supv McKnight noted that there is a hose community agreement that can be negotiated between the town and RIC Energy. He asked where the figure would come from. Is it RIC giving us a number or does the town produce their own figure and negotiate from there? Shaun noted the number would come from the town. Supv McKnight also noted that there is currently a moratorium on solar projects in the town. The building permit fee is \$25,000 per MW. He also asked Shaun if he had an all-in total project cost. Shaun stated it was too early in the process to have the total cost. Phyllis Acres asked if the power gets sold back to National Grid. Shaun noted that it did and that is where a homeowner could get the discount. She also asked about the removal of the project and its lifespan. Shaun stated that the project is good for 25 years. After it has outlived its usefulness it will be removed. There is a decommissioning plan in place and a surety bond is provided for this purpose. Supv McKnight asked about the hiring of local people to construct the project. Shaun noted that they hire as many local laborers as possible. Tony told them that the last two projects in Waddington went to the temp agencies to hire local laborers for the projects. They also asked if the primary wires will be underground. Shaun noted that they will go underground with as much as possible. National Grid requires poles at the beginning of the driveway. The wires that are buried will be run along the field edge to comply with the law and to make the property still accessible to farming. The board thanked him for his presentation and will be in touch concerning the host agreement.

### Committee Reports

**Highway:** Supt Putney reported that the Highway Department has performing general maintenance on trucks and equipment, has finished mowing roadsides, mowed the lookout, changed culverts on Halfway House Road and is ready to pave, swept the walking trail with the County's broom, sent two trucks to Madrid for two days of grinding, and had one cremation burial.

Supv McKnight reported that he had looked at the highway's fuel line today and at the 6 months mark they have spent \$23,970. The budget had been increased to 50,000 for 2023. At the same time last year, they spent \$36,947. It looks like we will be in good shape for the year.

**Library:** The library board meeting was moved to next Tuesday due to the holiday. They have been conducting interviews for the new library director. We made an offer to one candidate who declined. We have one more (local) candidate that will be interviewed prior to the meeting on Tuesday.

The library is working with the rec committee on the reading program that started this week. Brittany Palmer and Kori Barkley have been hired by rec and are working with Ashley Chapin at the library. The reading program is only 3 weeks this year as we are also working with the school's calendar with their program. They are getting ready for the book sale during homecoming.

Barbara Evans addressed the board representing the Friends of the Library group. They would like to purchase and have installed a picnic table in front of the library for people to take advantage of the free wi-fi. The table would be handicap accessible. It is a 4' square pedestal mounted in the ground. \$350 of the cost would be paid for donations in memory of Allison Charles and the balance would be covered by the Friends of the Library. She asked if the Town would be able to install it. They noted that they would go down and look at the positioning and let her know what they would need to do it.

**Grants/Alternative Revenues:**

2022 RVRDA grant – Town Hall stonework – Still need to draft contract and set dates for work to be done. Funds must be used by Dec 2023. The Clerk was going to look in the town files to see what we used the last time that Evan's did work for the town.

2023 RVRDA Grant application – (\$20,000 for Leishman Point Campground)

Contacted RVRDA office on 7/7/23. They anticipate awards will be announced sometime later this month.

ARPA Grant: We still need to complete a timeline to complete phases 1 and 2 work, and then update our budget spreadsheet with those numbers for that work. Once that is done any remaining funds in this grant will be put toward phase 3 paving of parking lot.

LEISHMAN POINT CAMPSITES:

Bank deposit glitch has been worked out thanks to Jim Thew and Carol Burns. HIPCAMP deposited \$655.20 on 6/16/23. Total in the account is now \$737.55

2023 current future reservations (as of 07/07/23):

AMPER	CHECK IN	CHECK OUT	LISTING	SITE	CREATED
Marisa M.  Message	Fri, Jul 14, 23 2 NIGHTS	Sun, Jul 16, 23	Site 1 - Leishman Point Park	Site	Sun, Jun 25, 23 BOOKING ID #1931985
Tyler W.  Message	Fri, Jul 14, 23 9 NIGHTS	Sun, Jul 23, 23	Site 4 - Leishman Point Park	Site	Thu, Jul 6, 23 BOOKING ID #1962059
Susan M.  Message	Wed, Jul 19, 23 2 NIGHTS	Fri, Jul 21, 23	Site 1 - Leishman Point Park	Site	Wed, May 31, 23 BOOKING ID #1873552
Cindi C.  Message	Mon, Jul 24, 23 3 NIGHTS	Thu, Jul 27, 23	Site 1 - Leishman Point Park	Site	Mon, Jun 26, 23 BOOKING ID #1936332
Susan B.  Message	Tue, Sep 12, 23 1 NIGHT	Wed, Sep 13, 23	Site 1 - Leishman Point Park	Site	Fri, May 26, 23 BOOKING ID #1863260

Department of Energy Grant: C McBath contacted Rob Campany and discussed the grant. This could be used for adding to our town's solar array. Pre-application is in draft and was mailed to everyone. Will be submitted by July 13 deadline after I hear back from Rob.

NY Forward Grant: C McBath attended the June 15 Local Planning Committee meeting. Reviewed original application submitted to the state. Met with Supv and Macdonald's at the town hall to conduct measurements and create a project list. Has prepared a draft application submission for the town (Town hall work) to be discussed with the board at July meeting. Application deadline is 7/31/23.

The Board discussed the project list put together for the old town hall. To do the complete exterior stonework on the building would cost \$393,305. A list of items was constructed including windows, south steeple/roof, prep kitchen 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, replace front railing, repaint all exterior trim & finish south stairway, south stairway restoration, stone/exterior perimeter drainage work, and replace the front steps. Total budget without steps (estimate not received yet) \$603,305. Supv McKnight noted that we could use money from the surplus land fund. This was established when we sold surplus property above the beach and on McGinnis Rd. It has not been earmarked for

anything. Further discussion will be held to determine the amount the board will apply for at a special meeting on July 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM.

**Historian:** Sent reports to Village and Town boards in June.

Worked with Tracy Putney on the dedication of the Union Cemetery.

Presented a short history of the Episcopal church building during the June concert.

I have been having open hours at the museum on Wednesday's 2:00 – 5:00 and Saturday's 10:00 – 12:00.

Met with Kate Krueger Director of the Honors Program at Clarkson University about working with the students again this fall.

Met with 2 different families researching genealogy.

I attended the St. Lawrence County Chamber dinner at the Town Hall.

Had about 20 visitors in June.

I will be having a walking tour on Saturday July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00, leaving the Town Hall.

There will be no museum meeting in August, the next one will be Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at Town Hall.

**Rescue Squad:** The rescue squad had 26 calls and 13 transports during the month of June.

Supv McKnight reported that Frank has looked at the roof again and has found that there are several loose screws in the metal. He tightened them down but some are stripped in the wood. We will need to keep an eye on it and do something differently in the future.

**Recreation:** The Recreation Committee has been working to get ready for the summer program. This started this week (July 5<sup>th</sup>). There were more than 50 kids who signed up after the 1<sup>st</sup> day. Ryan Hayes is running the program this year and it runs July 5- Aug 16<sup>th</sup>.

The weeds were cut one time before the beach started. If we must have Kris come back to do it again before the program ends we won't be able to do it again in the fall. We will keep an eye on it.

Supv McKnight noted that he was planning to attend the next recreation meeting to discuss the program and discuss getting a bit more organized for next year.

**Jackson Land Sale:** Supv McKnight reported that there are three ways to sell property by a municipality. Sealed bid, auction, or purchase offer by a private individual. The board met at the Jackson's property during a special meeting held on June 19, 2023. The board looked at the property that he would like to purchase. The board decided that they would allow a triangular piece of property that doesn't hinder any activity at the four corners.

Supv McKnight reported that the first step would be for the Jackson's to submit a purchase offer to the board in writing. Step two would be the board accepting the purchase offer and a resolution passed.

The resolution is subject to permissive referendum. Step three would be that the resolution needs to be posted in the legal newspaper for 30 days. If no petitions are filed within the 30-day period the sale will go through. The property must be sold for fair market value. Any costs incurred in the sale will be the responsibility of the Jacksons.

**Iroquois Land:** Supv McKnight reported that he is waiting on a figure from the Assessor. He has spoken with Scott Schlueter and we are in a holding pattern until we have a number. He will contact the Assessor again to remind him.

**Iroquois Vandalism update:** Supv McKnight has been in contact with a local State Investigator. She has asked that he send her a written estimate for damage. They are working on it now that it has come back to the local level.

**Local Government Task Force:** Supv McKnight reported that the last project completed was in 2018. At the next meeting they will be pushing hard for NYPA to get moving on the projects once again. There are 42 project applications within the boundary. If anyone is going to apply for a new one it must be submitted to the shoreline stabilization committee shortly. The problem they have run into is some of these projects are upward of \$50,000. There were no escalators built into the agreement so money is running short. The landowner or homeowner must pay the balance once the threshold is met.

Phyllis Acres asked about the replacement of the fishing pier @ Sucker Brook lookout. Supv McKnight noted that the engineered plans have been completed. They are trying to put this through locally and hope to have it done this year.

**County Snow Removal Contract:** Supv McKnight reported that the county snow removal contract has been completed. He and Supt Putney have reviewed the document and see that the changes discussed have been included. It is a three-year agreement.

Resolution #51

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the three-year snow removal contract with St. Lawrence County and gives Supv McKnight and Supt Putney authority to sign said contract.

Ayes: All

**New Business:**

**Solar:** The Board discussed a meeting with Tony to make sure we have all our basis covered in our local law. There is a document from Canton which has a list of items that are required. We should check to see if they are in our code as well.

Supv McKnight noted he would like to investigate hiring a consultant to help us along with the project. There are so many new clauses with solar, the inflation act, the reduction act, and many energy credits. He would like to make sure the town gets their fair shake. He will have more information for the next meeting.

**NYSERDA Energy Grant:** Supv McKnight reported that the town had received a NYSERDA energy grant in 2018 in the amount of \$50,000. It was originally submitted for insulation of the municipal building but they had talked us into switching the project to heat pumps for the buildings. Upon speaking with Rob Campany, he was told that heat pumps won't do anything for the town because we already have the most efficient furnaces and air conditioning. To close out this grant Supv McKnight has spoken with a woman named Nancy Bernstein. She is a third-party person working with NYSERDA. She was able to help get the grant project switched back to insulation and new siding. He has talked with Frank Davey who is getting him an updated quote and will see where we can go with the project.

**Car Charging Station:** Supv McKnight has received an email estimate from the company to repair the car charging station. They are requesting \$1,500 for them to look at the station with no guarantee that this will repair the problem. He contacted Jeff Farrell from NYPA to see if they have anyone that can help with the issue but their chargers are not the same brand. The Town doesn't charge to use the station. We pay the electric bill. The board discussed and decided that it was not worth the \$1,500 to fix at this time. There are grants out there that we can look at to replace it. It will be posted on the town website that it is out of order at this time. We will also try to get ahold of someone with the NYSERDA that maintains the maps of the chargers to have it put out of service at this time.

**Carp Request:** Supv McKnight reported that Shawn Rafter has requested permission to put 5 spots at Iroquois Dam, 2 spots at Leishman Point, and 2 spots at Brandy Brook Lookout for the Carp Tournament held on August 7-11<sup>th</sup>. Discussion was held and it was noted there would not be a problem with this.

**Building Cleaning:** Supv McKnight reported that the Town Clerk had received an estimate from Robla's Carpet Care LLC to have the building cleaned since the construction has been completed. They will come in and steam clean all the carpets in the building @ \$504.30 and deep cleaning of structure to include removal of sheet rock dust and renovation debris from walls, doors, windows (exterior & interior), lights, kitchenette area, bathroom area, floors (vacuum and mop). Excludes desks only @ \$600 for a total price of \$1,104.30. The cleaning estimate is for 8 hours for two cleaners. This could take less time or a little more. If it is over it would be charged @ \$37.50 per hour. This will be taken from the buildings line item in the budget. Discussion was held.

Resolution #52

Motioned by: Hunter

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the estimate from Robla's Carpet Care LLC not to exceed \$1,500. Ayes: All

**Supervisor Monthly Report:** Supv McKnight noted that the board has received the monthly report from Gray & Gray. If everyone is satisfied with the format he will have them continue with this. It has been requested that he receive it one week prior to the board meeting. He will sign an original and the clerk will file it in the office.

He also noted he is giving everyone a statement of revenues and expenditures to review on their time. If there are any questions please let him know.

**Bills:** A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Hunter to approve bills # 23-00402 -23-00423 in the amount of \$66,790.87. Ayes: All

**CHIPS prepayment:** Supv Putney has requested permission to have the remainder of the CHIPS invoices paid when they have finished paving. To get reimbursement from the State in September we must have them submitted before our next board meeting.

Resolution #53

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the payment of CHIPS invoices. Ayes: All

**Citizen's Comments:**

Patty VanPatten asked Supt Putney to fill the holes in on McGinnis Rd from Burns' through. The road has become a nice cutoff for people with campers heading to Coles' Creek. He noted he would take care of it.

Phyllis Acres asked why the Board was considering 5.01-acre properties on Iroquois property. Supv McKnight told her that anything of 5 acres does not require Department of Health Approvals. She also noted that Shawn Rafter usually asks to have spots in front of their old home on Clark Point. They are in the process of selling the property and wouldn't want them to be in the backyard. Supv McKnight noted he would let Shawn know this.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Tiernan to adjourn the meeting @ 9:03PM. Ayes: All

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk