

Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, March 12, 2012 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

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

Also Present: Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, Terry Mayette, Highway Superintendent, Don Hassig, Martha Sinkeldam, Nancy Putney, Sandy Wright, and Patty VanPatten.

Call to order: Supv. Scott called the meeting to order @ 7:05PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Citizen's Comments:

Sandy Wright noted that there is a gap in the concrete outside the office building. She asked if it was frost related. Supt. Mayette stated that it will go down with the warmer weather.

Sandy also noted that she was not satisfied with the answer that she was given at the last meeting concerning the chargeback increase of 8.4% so she did some research of her own. She stated that she spoke with the County Attorney's office about the Worker's comp charges. She stated that it is based 70% on assessment and 30% experience. The Towns of Pierrefield and Colton both withdrew from the County program. She stated that this is something that the Town should look further into. Supv. Scott stated that if there is a savings to be had the Town can look further into supporting its own workers compensation.

Sandy further stated that she was concerned about the Board entering into executive session with Mr. Ma at the last meeting. She asked why their conversations with him were not done in public session. Supv. Scott stated that there are only certain things that the Town can enter into executive session about and one of them is the sale of Town owned property. Sandy stated that she did not feel that the town was in negotiations at this point and his interest should have been done in public session. Patty VanPatten also noted that she had spoken with someone about executive session and she too felt that this should have been done in open session. They both would like to have heard what Mr. Ma had to say. Supv. Scott told them that he had reported to them what they discussed with Mr. Ma. There were no decisions made. The Board is currently having the property appraised for the possible sale.

Don Hassig addressed the board to request that they pass a resolution authorizing the Supervisor to write to the Public Health Department to request a copy and make public the World Health Organization's document "Persistent Organic Pollutants". He reported that the Towns of Russell, Canton, DeKalb, and Morristown have passed the requested resolution. The Board told him that they had already passed a resolution and do not feel that another one is needed. They thanked him for his time.

Code Enforcement Annual report: There were 30 building permits issued in 2011 for an estimated assessed value of \$828,250.00, up \$174,980 from 2010. There were 7 permits issued for new dwellings, 4 of which were manufactured houses. Their estimated assessed value is \$525,000, down %5,500 from 2010. The remaining 23 permits were issued for alterations, demolition, additions, barns, garages, septic systems, and utility buildings with an estimated assessed value of \$302,750, up \$180,480 from 2010.

There was a decrease of 4 building permits from 2010.

The annual Census Bureau report does not include manufactured houses. For the year 2011 only 3 houses can be reported.

Resolution #22

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Putney

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the Code Enforcement Officer's annual report for 2011. Ayes: All

Chase Mills property: Supervisor Scott reported that Attorney Nash has reviewed local law #2 of the year 2007: Enforcement of Unsafe Buildings. The Town's next step in the process of taking Mr. Maslin to court is to hire an engineer/architect to survey the building and make an engineering report as to whether it is safe or not. Under this provision, Mr. Maslin has to get at least five days' notice of when the inspection is to be made. Attorney Nash has suggested Tisdel Associates for the report. Supv. Scott has been in contact with Tisdel Associates and the approximate cost for this report is \$500. Dan Tebo will be available to do the inspection this week and will then be on vacation until the 1st week in April. The Board discussed this timeline and it will not be able to work with the 5 day notice required to Mr. Maslin. They will contact Tisdel and have them do it as soon as Dan returns from vacation.

C. McKnight reported that he had been in contact with the DEC concerning the Fire Department obtaining a permit to burn the structure. The structure must be burned from a standing position. They can't have it knocked down and then burn. The building is too close to the other structures around it to safely burn so the Fire Department will not do this.

Resolution #23

Motioned by: Putney

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby agree to hire Tisdel Associates to perform and inspection of the Maslin Property in Chase Mills. The cost of the report will be \$500. Ayes: All

Committee reports:

Recreation: C. McKnight reported that the Recreation Committee had planned on keeping the rink open until March 15th but the weather has not cooperated and the ice is gone. The rink attendant that they hired in the beginning of the season quit. They have someone local in mind for next year. The beach director is coming back for the 2012 beach season. There are some new lifeguards that have passed the class for this season. The Recreation committee wants to talk to the Power Authority about constructing a concession stand at Whittaker Park that can be used during baseball season. This would have to be requested by the Village.

Highway: C. Putney reported that the department has been busy plowing, sanding, and working on the equipment. They will begin to patch potholes shortly.

Rescue Squad: C. Dalton reported that the Rescue Squad held their meeting on Sunday, March 4th. Eric from Well's Communications was in attendance. There are new regulations that all handheld radios/pagers must comply with FCC regulations by 2013. These new regulations mean that if a fireman goes to assist the rescue squad on a call the fire department must be toned out to the scene in order for the volunteer to be covered under the County Self Insurance. Emergency room doors are locked at night. The Squad has been given key fobs to enter the emergency rooms at Canton-Potsdam and Claxton-Hepburn Hospitals. They have a door card for Massena Hospital. They have two members who have finished 1st responder classes and applications for 4 new members.

Due to a generous donation of \$5,000 from the Donald Babcock family the Squad was able to purchase a new backboard system. When a patient is placed on the board they are surrounded by a material that holds them in place while they are being moved.

C. Dalton reported that to date the Rescue Squad has a balance of \$77,132 in their savings account. He spoke to them about the holdback for fuel. They were unaware that they had been going over their budget. The clerk noted she had spoken with June Dumas and will send her the figures for gas/fuel.

Supt. Mayette and C. Dalton looked discussed the water issue under the man door. They have looked at it and are working on a couple of ideas.

They discussed the fan installation. C. Dalton noted that in order to make a decision between the two contractors they have to both be bidding on the same equipment. Bernie Runions will resubmit his bid with the same equipment as Craig Debien.

Tiernan's has come to the building to look at the steel color and has ordered it. They will begin work as the weather permits.

Library: C. Robinson reported that the library board held their meeting on March 6th. The Board expects the Town Board to discuss the responsibilities of the library at the March meeting. Vicki and Carol will complete the paper work on the roof grant. Martha will write a letter to the Town Board stating that Mary, the Library Director does not want to join the Retirement system. At the April meeting the board will look at the Town's Employee Handbook and decide whether a library employee handbook is needed as well.

Roy submitted a list of items that need addressing. They include: an on demand water heater that would save running the boiler during the summer, the boiler needs maintenance, the front steps are flaking and the banister needs attention and the carpets need cleaning. The next meeting is April 3rd.

Supv. Scott reported that he and C. Robinson met with the Library Board to discuss the responsibilities of the Town. There is a small line item in the Library's budget for day to day maintenance. He feels that the annual things that need to be done such as elevator maintenance and snow removal should be assessed and then add some extra for light bulbs, sidewalk salt etc. Anything out of the ordinary would be covered from the Town's capital account. The Board agreed with this. The Board discussed the boiler system at the library. C. Putney asked if there were any major problems with it that need to be addressed. Supv. Scott stated that Roy just thinks it needs some yearly maintenance. The demand water heaters would work well in the summer. It gets awful warm running the boiler for the small amounts of hot water needed. Supv. Scott will talk to Bryan Mott to get some prices for next month's meeting.

WRA: The recorder is out. The next one will be in May. They are accepting articles.

Chamber of Commerce: Nancy Putney reported that their next meeting will be the last Monday of March @ noon. The Chamber was able to save approximately \$100 by getting their general liability insurance through Santamont Insurance Agency. He is also looking into officers insurance and event insurance for them. Wayne Santamont told the Chamber that if the Chamber is the lead agency for Homecoming all organizations will have to present certificate of insurance to the Chamber. He also can't find any underwriters that will take on the tube race. Nancy noted that Homecoming is a town event and should be sponsored by the Town. She asked why the Town can't have a Homecoming committee to organize and run the weekend under its umbrella. After much discussion on the subject it was decided to check with Attorney Nash about having a contract with a homecoming committee and the reporting of the money etc. They will also talk to Russ Strait about the insurance coverage.

Teamsters Contract: Supv. Scott reported that the union has accepted the contract with the change to the high deductible plan in place with the non-union employees. They would like a roving holiday to take the place of President's Day since it has already passed. They have agreed to a 50% contribution for health insurance hires that are eligible to retire in the future. The raise in salary is 2% per year and maximum contributions for health insurance have been set for 2012, 13, &14. They will keep their eye coverage, dental, legal, and life insurance through the Teamsters. Discussion was held. C. Dalton noted that he didn't feel that the contract was 100% satisfied to everyone's benefit but would vote aye for it.

Resolution # 24

Motioned by: Robinson

Seconded by: McKnight

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the Teamster's contract as presented for the years 2012, 2013, & 2014.

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Scott: Aye Councilor Robinson: Aye Councilor McKnight: Aye
Councilor Putney: Aye Councilor Dalton: Aye

Justice Review: Councilors Robinson and McKnight met with the Town Court Clerk and Town Justice to review their books as per the requirement of NYS Justice System. They reviewed the checklist and submitted it to the Town Board for approval.

Resolution #25

Motioned by: Putney

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve and accept the annual checklist for review of the Justice Court Records as performed by Councilors McKnight and Robinson. Ayes: All

Drug Test Policy: Supv. Scott reported that the company who currently provides drug testing for the lifeguards at the beach and the highway department has not been performing as it should. He noted that it may be time to look for a new company to implement the program. He had two companies- Mountain Medical and Med Ready. The Board discussed this and asked about the highway testing. Supv. Mayette noted that there hasn't been anyone tested in the Highway department in about 2-3 years. Supt. Scott noted that they should probably be in a smaller pool of candidates. C. Putney asked the Clerk to contact Madrid and Lisbon to see who they work with.

Clarkson Reh Center Project: Supv. Scott stated that the Clarkson Reh Center met with him, the Mayor and the Chamber to discuss how they can help implement the economic development plan. He stated that we will have the availability of the students for 1 year. More information will be forthcoming on this project.

RVRDA Grant: Supv. Scott reported that he had submitted the grant application in the amount of \$50,000 for handicap access to the Old Town Hall and one in the amount of \$40,000 to help pay for the additional position that has been proposed with the Chamber. There will be no decisions made on the applications until April.

Resolution #26

Motioned by: Robinson

Seconded by: McKnight

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board approves the grant fee of \$100 each for applications to the RVRDA. Ayes: All

C. Putney noted that he was told if the Town installs an elevator/lift for handicap accessibility State Code requires that a handicap accessible restroom is provided on the main floor of the building. C. Dalton also reported that he had been speaking with Larry Denesha from Clarkson about a handicap lift that requires a much smaller footprint of space. Supv. Scott stated that the board will have to gather all information possible to make an informed decision.

Broadband update: The Clerk spoke with Phil from SLIC. He told her that broadband is on target for fall in Waddington. He also stated that because the winter has been good for working it may even come in at an earlier time. He will know more sometime in April/May.

Energy Working Group: The Energy Working Group will be holding a workshop on April 18th to help homes and businesses increase their energy efficiency. The workshop will be sponsored by Adirondack North Country Association. They are also associated with NYSERDA. Shaun Prentice is looking at the energy audits that were done for the Municipal Building and the Library and will make some recommendations at the next meeting.

Old Town Hall: Supv. Scott reported that one of the furnaces at the old town hall was not working. He contacted Bryan Mott. He ordered a new control board and replaced it. He also noted that the furnaces are only about 80% energy efficient. As the building gets used more the Board may have to look at more efficient heating for the building. Roy suggested that the Town might want to consider a monitor heating system for upstairs. To date the prom will be held at the old town hall in May and a wedding in June and August.

Economic Development Plan: Supv. Scott reported that the economic development plan draft is complete. The final plan should be available for adoption at the April meeting.

NYPA Surplus lands: Supv. Scott reported that Farm Credit East will begin work on the appraisals this week.

A letter was received from NYPA in regards to the applications submitted to use the properties around Leishman Point, across from the beach, and up River Road. They stated that they didn't have enough information to grant use of the properties. They are requiring engineered plans. At this point with the potential buyer for the property the Town will not invest in engineered plans. When Mr. Ma spoke with the board he noted that he liked the idea of public access and would be interested to invest in the trail.

Shared Services: The Village Board discussed the Town's proposal for a joint Zoning/Planning Board and is interested in sitting down with us. Supv. Scott stated that he would invite Jason Photenhauer from the County Planning Office to help with the process. He will invite them to the next Town Board meeting.

Surplus Lands: C. McKnight reported that he had spoken to John Fobare, Joan Andress, Tom Dalton, Gary Tiernan, Paul Dalton, and Stephen McKnight regarding surplus NYPA lands that border their properties. They are interested in seeing what NYPA will say about returning them. Supv. Scott noted that we would have to look at the tax maps and get numbers. The Clerk will help with this.

Citizen's Comments:

Patty VanPatten asked if the Town was looking at any new computer software like the Village is. She noted that the Village is saving money by going with a different company. Supv. Scott told her that he, the clerk, and bookkeeper will be looking at different options.

Nancy Putney reported that there are four chamber members that will be attending training for updating the website. Supv. Scott stated that the Town will be looking at having a government website that could link to the Chamber's site. The Clerk noted that the site is not user friendly for updating and posting. Nancy asked if the Clerk would send her a list of problems that she has had so that she can try to have them addressed.

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

Adjournment: A motion was made by Putney, seconded by Dalton to adjourn the meeting @ 9:20PM. Ayes: All

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk