

## Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, March 9, 2015 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

**Present were:** Sandra Wright, Town Supervisor and Councilmembers: Travis McKnight, Shirley Robinson, Patricia VanPatten, and Shaun Prentice.

**Also Present:** Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, Robert Dalton, Highway Superintendent, Edith Ashley, Cheryl Dominy, and Barbara Doe

**Call to order:** Supv. Wright called the meeting to order @ 7PM.

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

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

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

### **Committee Reports:**

**Library:** C. Prentice reported that the annual report has been filed with NCLS. They continue to work on Policies & procedures. They received notification from Time Warner that they will now be charging new customers (libraries) for internet. They are grandfathered in. The elevator has been repaired. There was a cable that got twisted and broke. They have increased prices for print/copies. They received another grant from ALCOA in the amount of \$1000.00 which stems from the two board members who work for ALCOA and volunteer on the board. Tables are being purchased for downstairs from the ALCOA grant. February usage is as follows: 968 people used the library, 196 used the computers, 42 copied or faxed, 6421 adult reference, 84 child references, and 1 new adult card.

C. Prentice also noted that the library is participating in the Amazon Smile program which allows shoppers to choose a charity of their choice and 0.5% of the purchase price is donated to the Hepburn Library of Waddington once you choose them as your charity. To date they have earned \$22.00. The water at the library froze on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Bob put a heater under the sink in the kitchen to see if he could get it thawed. The Town of Waddington along with the Madrid Highway Department spent a whole day trying to thaw the pipe. It was frozen under the driveway. It was finally cleared and the water needs to be left on slightly to keep it moving. The Library also asked C. Prentice what the status of the solar project was and when they could begin to see a savings in their bill. C. Prentice noted that there would be no savings to the library building. The solar project is directly related to the Municipal Building.

Supv Wright stated that she had questions about a couple of bills. The first one was for Platinum Fiction in the amount of \$1600 for books. Cheryl Dominy, library president reported that this is an annual deal price and it covers 6 books per month for a twelve month period. Supv Wright also asked about a bill from Coast to Coast for 250 pens with a shipping and handling fee of \$28.45. She stated that she couldn't justify an expense like this when things are tight. Cheryl told her that a couple times per year Duffy purchases something to help promote the library as give away. Supv Wright then went on to speak to Duffy and Cheryl about the money that has been spent in the Library over the last five years. She again reiterated that the library needed to be mindful of their budget.

Barbara Doe arrived at the meeting a few minutes late. Supv Wright asked if she had any citizen's comments for the Board. Barbara noted she wouldn't take much of their time. She just wanted to distribute a letter to each board member that she requested they read when they have time. She thanked the Board and left the meeting.

**Recreation:** C. Robinson reported that the meeting was cancelled due to illness. They will meet shortly and discuss salaries and the beach program.

**Rescue Squad:** C. VanPatten reported that the Waddington Rescue Squad met Monday March 2. There were not enough members to have a meeting but a rep from the Cardiac Pulse Machine came and demonstrated the device. Everyone was very impressed with how it works. No EMTs are needed to be there to use the device. It is a very simple machine that anyone can run.

**Tourism:** C. VanPatten reported that she has been working with the committees for the BASS tournament and Homecoming weekend.

Supv Wright noted that C. VanPatten had spoken to her about the board contributing to a bench in the memory of former Supervisor Reggie Greene. At last year's homecoming the committee purchased a bench for \$1900 in memory of past Homecoming Chairman Nancy Putney. Discussion was held by the board in which they noted that they would rather make a personal donation towards the cause rather than a donation as a Town Board.

**Cemetery:** C. McKnight reported that he has received the plaque for the Haggett's. It is very nice. He will have it attached to the stone. There will be a ceremony in May. He is waiting for a response from Paul Haggett for a date that is good for his family.

**Agriculture:** C. McKnight reported that he had received an email from the St. Lawrence County Planning Office inviting him to an Ag Forum to be held on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 7- 8:30 in the Lisbon School. They will discuss the County Ag Development Plan. He told the board that it will be an interesting meeting and urged anyone that could make it to do so.

**Sign Policy:** C. Robinson reported that she had spoken with the Waddington Chamber of Commerce about the sign policy proposal. They told her that they were against it because of the businesses in town and didn't want to get involved in it. She reported that Ernest Olin was at meetings all week in Lake Placid. He got back to her this morning. Attorney Nejanie with the legal department is still researching whether a local law could include removal of political signs in the DOT right of way. Route 37 through Waddington is considered a Scenic Byway (the Seaway Trail).

**Wastewater grant:** Supv Wright reported that she had received a couple of resolutions from Rob Campany that needed to be passed for the wastewater grant. There was no motion or second for the resolutions.

**Highway:** Supt Dalton reported that during the month of February the Department traveled 7,802 miles plowing snow and chasing drifts. While not plowing maintenance was being performed on the trucks. Mostly service and general maintenance with the exception of T6 which had a broken front wheel hub and T2 with a broken wing brace. Snow piles have been removed and the narrow streets cleaned up. Chris Reagan helped out while hauling the snow by pushing the piles up with the backhoe. The Town of Madrid came over to help thaw out frozen water line at the library. They brought their steamer and that attempt failed. The next attempt was with a welder which was a success. They estimated that the frost is around 5 feet deep. While waiting for the welder to thaw the line and there was no water in the system in the basement, they plumbed in a new 30 gallon electric hot water heater that the Library will use in the summer for their domestic hot water. Tomorrow they will have their hotsi pressure washer up and running for thawing culverts. This will do away with the old steam machine. Supt Dalton worked with Attorney Nash to prepare the lease for our sand pit and will be getting the necessary DEC permitting underway soon. Solar power generated was 11,388KW as of this morning. 345 KW were produce today.

**Sand Pit Lease:** Supt Dalton reported that he had been working on a lease agreement between the Town of Waddington and Robert & Lori Crites to operate a sand pit on their property. The Town has purchased sand from them over the years. This lease will allow the Town to apply for a mining permit through the DEC. It will also give the town rights to mine sand for a period of twenty (20) years. The Town will pay the Crites \$1.50 per yard of sand removed from the premises. Attorney Nash has written a lease agreement to be signed by both parties once the town gets its mining permit from the DEC.

Resolution # 26

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby authorize Supv Wright to sign a lease agreement with Robert and Lori Crites for the excavation of sand for use on winter highways.

Ayes: All

**Dollar General:** Supv Wright reported that she had been in contact with Primax which is the company that owns the land and will build the Dollar General store. She stated that the neighbor that owns the horses next to the property was concerned that there would not be a privacy fence on their side like the one proposed on the other side of the property. They have agreed to install a fence on this side also. It will add another \$7,000 to the project. They have been very good to work with.

**RVRDA Solar Grant:** Supv Wright reported that the solar grant will fall short of \$7,232 of the \$90,000 awarded. This will cause the amount to bond to change from \$38,000 to \$45,000.

Resolution #27

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby rescind Resolution #22 of the year 2015 which allowed the bonding of the Solar Project in the amount of \$38,000.

Roll Call Vote:

C. McKnight: Aye

C. Prentice: Aye

C. Robinson: Aye

Supv. Wright: Aye

C. VanPatten: Aye

Resolution #28

Motioned by: Prentice

Seconded by: McKnight

WHEREAS, the Town of Waddington has completed its solar grant project and has a balance of \$45,000 outstanding for the project; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Waddington has gone through the legal process for bonding;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby authorize the Supervisor Sandra Wright to enter into a bond with Upstate Bank in the amount of \$45,000 for 60 months at an interest rate of 2.50%.

Roll Call Vote:

C. McKnight: Aye

C. VanPatten: Aye

C. Robinson: Aye

C. Prentice: Aye

Supv Wright: Aye

**BASS Tournament:** Supv Wright reported that in 2013 the Town had contributed \$5,000 to the Village for the BASS Tournament. \$3,500 was from contest winnings and \$1,500 was from economic development. In 2014 we contributed \$1,500. She asked the Board what they would like to contribute for 2015.

Resolution #29

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: VanPatten

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby authorize payment to the Village of Waddington for the BASS Elite Tournament in the amount of \$1,500 to be paid from Economic Development. Ayes: All

**RVRDA Grant Application:** Supv Wright reported that it is once again time to submit a grant application for phase two of the Old Town Hall restoration. She asked the Board what they were thinking for a matching price. The Board discussed this and decided they would put \$30,000 towards the project from cash and in-kind services. The grant application will consist of repair of the round top window (critical), repair of the critical stone work identified by Ken

Hargrave, attic & tower framing, wiring, and insulation, and removal of suspended ceiling in main level.

**Wine Trail Support:**

Resolution #30

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Robinson

WHEREAS, the development of the St. Lawrence Wine Trail, which was officially designated as the 18<sup>th</sup> Wine Trail in New York State in August 2014 by Governor Cuomo. The 80-mile trail includes Black Lake, Morristown, Ogdensburg, Canton, Potsdam, Stockholm and Brasher Falls, highlighting stops at River Myst, High Peaks and Bella Brooke Wineries. Additionally a map and subsequent promotion will further highlight businesses and attractions throughout St. Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, rural tourism development by means of linking businesses and assets through a 'trail system' such as the St. Lawrence Wine Trail, has proven successful in many parts of the world. The NY Wine and Grape Foundation reported in 2012 that the Wine Trails had a \$4.8 billion economic benefit to the state, with 5.29 million wine related tourist visits. In our region, the Thousand Island Wine Trail was identified as the #1 visitor attraction for Jefferson County. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Waddington joins Senator Patty Ritchie and Assemblywoman Addie Russell in supporting this Trail development, and support the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce in seeking funds to assist in the launch of the St. Lawrence Wine Trail as a premier attraction, which will leverage tourism opportunities for many businesses in the region, while highlighting our rich agricultural and entrepreneurial heritage. Ayes: All

**Beach Cottage:** Supt Dalton showed the Board a sketch of a proposed 26'x24' cottage for the beach caretaker to take the place of the camper that is currently in place. The Board discussed the proposal. A motion was made by VanPatten seconded by Robinson to put it out for bid to see what the cost would be. Ayes: Wright, McKnight, Robinson, & VanPatten. C. Prentice abstained from all discussion. Permission will have to be obtained from NYPA to build.

**Grievance Board:** Supv Wright reported that there was a vacancy on the Grievance Board of Assessment Review due to the death of Jim Locy. She suggested Don Verville to fill the position.

Resolution #31

Motioned by: Robinson

Seconded by: VanPatten

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby appoint Donald Verville to fill the vacancy of Jim Locy on the Grievance Board of Assessment Review. The term will expire 9/20/2016. Ayes: All

**Zoning Board of Appeals:** Supv Wright reported that there was a vacancy on the Town's Zoning Board of Appeals due to Robert Matthews moving out of town. She suggested Don Hughes to fill the position.

Resolution #32

Motioned by: VanPatten

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby appoint Donald Hughes to the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill the vacancy of Robert Matthews. The appointment will expire on 12/31/2015. Ayes: All

**Executive Session:** A motion was made by Robinson, seconded by McKnight to enter into executive session @ 9:15PM to discuss land negotiations. Ayes: All A motion was made by McKnight, seconded by Prentice to return to regular session @ 9:30 PM. Ayes: All No action was taken during executive session.

**Surplus Land:**

Resolution #33

Motioned by: VanPatten

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby declare the following Town owned properties received from the NYPA in 2007 as surplus:

Tax map #21.035-1-20- .66 acres located on McGinnis Rd and

Tax map # 21.002-2-5- 13.6 acres across Brandy Brook bounded by LaRock & Fobare Farms (Irish Settlement Rd). Ayes: All

**Land Appraisal:** Supv Wright reported that she had been in contact with the following people to have the surplus properties appraised:

Farm Credit- declined not doing much with waterfront residential properties. Working mostly on farm appraisals.

Joel Howe- \$1,200 for both parcels

Mike Varley- \$2,000 for both parcels

Resolution #34

Motioned by: VanPatten

Seconded by: Robinson

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby agree to hire Joel Howe to appraise the two surplus properties on McGinnis Rd and across Brandy Brook in the amount of \$1,200.

Ayes: All

**Bills:** A motion was made by Robinson, seconded by McKnight to pay bills #137 -202 in the amount of \$117,341.40. Ayes: All

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk