

Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, May 8, 2023 @ 7PM in the municipal building.

Present were: Deputy Supv Travis McKnight and Councilmembers: David McBath, Kelley Tiernan, and Thomas Hunter.

Also Present: Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, David Putney, Highway Superintendent, Michael Pearson, Assessor, Phyllis Acres, Sean O'Brien, William Jackson, Amy Lindsey, Cohen Young, Tristen Cuthbert, Tanner Smith, Troy Peck, Lacey Sullivan, Matthew Reed, Tracey Putney, and Mark Scott.

Call to Order: D Supv McKnight called the meeting to order @ 7PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Citizen's Comments:

Sean O'Brien introduced himself to the Board as the current undersheriff for St. Lawrence County. He told the Board that he is a candidate for the Sheriff's position in the fall. He spoke about the improvements and programs going on in the Sheriff's Office and where he would like to take it if he is elected. He ended by noting that if there is anything that the board or the public would like to discuss he is available. The board thanked him for his time.

Phyllis Acres asked when NYPA was going to replace the fishing pier at the Sucker Brook outlook. Will it be the same as what is there now? D Supv McKnight reported that it will be taken care of in house through Massena. It will be aluminum and should be in the same spot. The Town will be paving the lookout this summer. NYPA will be purchasing the materials and the Town will lay them. It was due to be done a while back but they waited until the fish project was finished.

William Jackson spoke to the board about his request to purchase the property in front of his home located @ 122 Lincoln Ave. The Board has recently rejected his request to purchase the property. He would like to give a counteroffer. He is proposing to purchase the small portion right in front of his house. He supplied a map to the members. The board asked if he had actual dimensions of his request. He did not.

D Supv McKnight noted that one thing to consider is that any sale of land by the town is subject to permissive referendum. If a petition is brought forth to the board for this purpose the town would have to hold a special election which would cost upwards of \$12,000.

C McBath asked Mr. Jackson what he would do with the property if they were to consider his request. He noted that he would just like a little more property in front of their home to call their own. He noted that he would not be doing any construction on it. C McBath asked if he had a right of way to his driveway. He noted that he did.

C Tiernan also noted that this area is used for a staging area when ceremonies are held there. A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Hunter to table until the June meeting to give the board to consider the request. Ayes: All

The next meeting will be the 2nd Tuesday in June @ 7PM to allow our County Legislator to attend.

D Supv McKnight reported that Supv Hammond is back in the states @ Fort Bliss. He will be back in a week or so. He is on zoom listening this evening. He will not be voting on any business.

Assessor Reval: Mike Pearson Assessor reported that he is working on the Reval which will come out in spring of 2025. He noted that it is not physically feasible to have it ready for spring of 2024. He will be out in the community this spring, summer, and fall collecting property data and taking pictures. If something is way off from the data he has he may have to knock on a

door and ask questions. He would like to keep the public informed as the process continues. He will write an article for the next Waddington Recorder. Further discussion ensued. He also told the board he will not be looking for any further compensation to complete the reval. He has been paid for the last two years.

Volunteer Property Tax Exemption: The Board discussed the volunteer property tax exemption. The Assessor noted that if the board is going to participate in this they should have their local law passed by the end of 2023 so that people will have time to apply before the March 1st deadline. He noted that the annual approval process proposed is cumbersome. It states that the St Lawrence County Office of Fire Service must be contacted to receive the Fire Department/Rescue Squad roster. If the local departments don't file it with them there can be no exemptions granted. In our local law we could state that rosters need to be filed with the Town Clerk or Assessor's office. The assessor explained that the exemption for the town portion would be minimal. It would affect the school more than the town.

Committee Reports:

Highway: The Highway Department has been performing general maintenance on trucks and equipment, cleaning up and chipping brush from winter storms, unharnessed and wash trucks with the fire dept pumper and pressure washer, changed road crossing culvert on the Rookey Rd, hauling stone for road projects, finished putting new mailbox post in, dug one cremation and helped the Village move old docks to the arena.

The men had MSHA training in Canton and all attended 811 training in Hogensburg.

Suit Kote ground 7/10 of a mile on the Halfway house, 5/10 mile of the Irish Settlement Rd, and 5/10 of a mile on McKnight Rd.

Agreement to Spend Highway Funds:

Resolution #31

Motioned by: Hunter

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby agree to spend \$180,556.35 for general repairs on 39.88 miles of town roads. Ayes: All

Supt Putney reported that he received a letter stating that the Town's CHIPS funding will be \$148,158.04, Pave NY: \$34,625.30, Winter Recovery: \$29,393.61, and Potholes: \$23,083.53.

Library: Aubrie Liddell has resigned effective the end of May. She must do her clinical rotation for her grad work and will be unable to continue in her role. The Board will need to accept her resignation. The assistant director may have an interest and the library board will be advertising. The fire alarm system is completely installed and ready to be paid for.

Aubrie is applying for a grant for the summer reading program.

They are looking for college kids to work with the coding club.

The electric bill has come down a little bit

There was no finance report-the last reports received from the Town were Jan/Feb due to the construction at the municipal building.

Resolution #32

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the resignation of Aubrie Liddell as Library Manager. Ayes: All

Cemeteries: Tracey Putney reported that the cleanup day at Union Cemetery will be held this Saturday from -12. They will be focusing on the revolutionary war veterans that will be honored at the Patriot Service. The Boy Scouts will be helping with the cleanup. The Historical Patriot Marker Cemetery Service will be held on Saturday, June 3rd @ 10:00 AM rain or shine. The legion and the Boy Scouts will participate in the ceremony.

The Cemetery Committee and Historical Association will jointly go to the MW School to talk to the children about John T. Rutherford.

Alcoa Action Grant for Town of Waddington Cemetery Committee Beautification and Restoration Project

April 22, 2023, 18 volunteers joined forces to continue beautification and restoration activities at the Chamberlain Corners Cemetery in Waddington, NY. 18 Volunteers (6 Alcoa Active/Retirees and 12 Waddington residents (2 were from MWCS Honor Society)) spent the beautiful spring morning continuing beautification and restoration activities to the Chamberlain Corners historic cemetery. The cemetery has gravestones dating back to 1812. Several veterans are buried in this cemetery dating back as far as the Revolutionary War.

The volunteers continued activities that commenced during two prior events in 2022. The focus was on stones needing TLC that could be done manually and the larger stones and monuments that need care will be addressed at a later date, when heavy equipment is available. In addition to cleaning and resetting stones, overgrown Lilac trees were trimmed and replanted, brush and debris cleaned up, topsoil was spread where needed in preparation of planting grass seed.

A summary of the accomplishments of the day's approximately 72 labor hours include:

A total of 30 Stones were given attention.

- 24 were straightened and cleaned
- 6 bases were leveled and prepared for the stones to be doveled and reset

Trimmed and dug up lilac bushes that are causing damage to the base of a monument

Transplanted lilacs along 3 perimeter sides of the cemetery – approx. 60 plants

Uncovered the Apex to a monument that was buried in the lilac tree roots

The Apex was taken and cleaned and will be repositioned on the monument once the base is repaired

Cleaned up brush and debris from the property

Spread topsoil in preparation of planting grass seed

Remaining activities will require an excavator to address the larger stones. The Waddington Cemetery Committee will hold another work session on May 13th at the Union Cemetery to prepare the cemetery for an upcoming Revolutionary War Marker Dedication event on June 3, 2023.

We are most grateful for the Alcoa active and retiree volunteers as well as the local resident volunteers, local businesses and the Town Highway Superintendent that made this event a success.

Grants/Alternative Revenue:

Grants and Alternative Revenue Report – May 2023 monthly meeting – Councilman McBath:

2022 RVRDA grant – Town Hall work – RFP received from Evan's Caulking. Need to draft contract and set dates for work to be done. Funds must be used by Dec 2023.

2023 RVRDA Grant application – Project submission delivered by hand to SLCIDA on April 12.

Requested \$20,000 grant for work to be done on Leishman campground. Awards are to be announced sometime in July/August 2023 timeframe.

ARPA Grant:

Project spreadsheet was updated and ARPA 2023 annual report sent to US Treasury April 25 in advance of the April 30 deadline. Both documents were emailed to all board members for review on the same date. Of the \$129,948.33 awarded, a total of \$107,812.19 can be moved to town funds. 10,821.20 is obligated to finalize phase 1 and phase 2 work, and the remainder of 11,314.94 will be available for phase 3 (paving). I suggest we create a work plan and timeline to complete phases 1 and 2 work and decide on how we will fund the remainder of phase 3 paving (estimated paving shortfall of about \$25,000 we will need come up with).

LEISHMAN POINT CAMPSITES:

Jim and Carol have been working to finalize bank deposits from last year into the town account. Picnic tables and fire pits are in place, the same as last year. As of April 26:

2023 current reservations: (all on site 1) – May 20-23 ; June 11-13; June 25-27; July 1 (one night).

Energizing Rural Communities – I sent the board the weblink to this information on March 3. Grant applications due by May 24. Dep Supv McKnight was going to check with engineers to see

if this could possibly tie into expansion of current solar array that town owns? Also discussed the possibility of using this grant to help with a project to bring solar to Iroquois land. Tabled at March meeting awaiting info from engineers.

Gallery/Clark House: Mark Scott reported that the Gallery will hold its grand reopening on Saturday between 2-5PM. The artist area has been completely refreshed and the visitor area is still going to be manned. They will hold the reopening again on Sunday between noon- 3PM for anyone that can't make it on Saturday.

Rescue Squad: C Hunter reported that there were 14 calls for the Rescue Squad during the month of April. He also asked if anyone had time to look at the roof leak. D Supv McKnight reported that he had spoken with Frank and it is on his list. He will remind him again.

Iroquois Land: D Supv McKnight reported that there were twenty-six people in attendance for Scott Schlueter's Iroquois Land presentation at the old town hall. He noted that he had learned even more than he did when Scott came to the town board. He asked what the board's next step should be. The board agreed that they were interested in hearing the options for the area including trusts and land use. D Supv McKnight will contact Scott and invite him back to speak with the board with options in hand.

Iroquois Vandalism Update: D Supv McKnight reported that no charges have been filed yet. They are still moving forward. This damage is the worst that has been. There was a citizen up there fishing at the time which was able to get videos and license plates of the culprit. There is major damage to the hayfields and horse trails. The State police are working on it and hopefully charges will be filed before the next meeting. They will get an estimate to fix the damage and hopefully get some restitution.

Bathroom Project: D Supv McKnight reported that the bathroom project has been completed. The old men's bathroom has been demoed and the kitchenette and storage has been installed, the subpanels have been moved and enclosed with a door. The original scope of work called for block wall to close in the men's bathroom doorway. It was framed in and sheetrock covered the entire wall. It was much cheaper, easier to accomplish, and looks much better when finished. The only thing left to replace is the main front door. D Supv McKnight reported that he had requested quotes from Barkley's, Colton Glass, and St. Lawrence Glass. St. Lawrence Glass noted they were not interested in the project. Colton Glass suggested Barkley's for the job because they would install handicap openers. The door will be a steel entry door with a drop box and battery-operated openers. He proposed that this be paid for from the high flow money received this year since we didn't appropriate it to the budget because we didn't know what we would receive. The quote from Barkley's is \$7,422.30 and an additional \$1,500 for Frank to saw cut and frame in the door. Total \$8,922.30
It was noted that the 2nd quarter sales tax was up \$9,418.95 from the same period in 2022. This could be used to pay for the balance of the project.

Resolution #33

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the quote from Barkley's to install the handicap accessible front door in the amount of \$7,422.30 and Twin Cedars Construction to cut and frame in the door in the amount of \$1,500. To be paid for by excess sales tax received. Ayes: All

The Board discussed the back door of the building noting that it was not handicapped accessible. This should be something to consider should there be a fire and the need to get out of that way. D Supv McKnight also noted that there was an oversight with the flooring when we took the second door out. There are tiles missing and would be hard to find replacements for. He is in the process of obtaining a quote for the floor.

Proposed solar project update: D Supv McKnight reported that the project is in a holding pattern right now. At the Supervisor Association meeting they discussed a change in codes

requiring a certain percentage of the workers hired must be from the local workforce. They will contact Tony to sit down to discuss changes. He is on vacation right now.

RFP Old Town hall: The only quote received for the repairs to the old town hall. It was received from Evan's Caulking, Lafargeville. The work will be scheduled for late August- early September.

Resolution #34

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby hire Evans Caulking, LaFargeville to do the repairs to the old town hall as per the grant scope not to exceed the allotted funds.

Ayes: All

Resolution #35

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby hire Evans Caulking, LaFargeville to do 35-45 sq ft of masonry repairs to the library @ a rate of \$55 per sq ft not to exceed \$5,500.

Ayes: All

Local Government Task Force: The new docks are in route and should be in by Memorial Day weekend. The barge was brought in on Saturday.

Shoreline Stabilization: The Iroquois Dam shoreline stabilization is now done. It was dry enough to complete the three projects they were working on. They will start taking applications for next year's projects in the fall.

Justice Audit: C Hunter and Tiernan met with the Court Clerk to perform the Justice Audit. All appeared to be in good order.

Resolution #36

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept and approve the Justice Audit that was conducted for 2022. Ayes: All

Ag Land Lease: The letter has been sent by the Town Attorney to Lessee.

County Snowplow Contract: D Supv McKnight reported that the negotiating team for the County Snowplow Contract has gone as far as it can go. Currently the Town is being paid \$5,551.41 per mile for snowplowing. Total for 2023 \$141,151.

The negotiated prices for 2023-24 is \$5450 per mile- \$149,330, 2024-25 is \$5700 per mile- \$156,180, 2025-26 is \$5,900 per mile- \$161,660. Further discussion ensued.

Resolution #37

Motioned by: Hunter

Seconded by: McBath

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the rates negotiated. Ayes: All

NYPA O&M Monies: D Supv McKnight reported that he would like to set up a separate savings account for the NYPA O&M monies. This would be used for the beach program, morning rec program, park maintenance etc. Anything that is paid for in the O&M budget would come from this account. It will be a way to keep it separate from the General Account. If the entire budget does not get used the money will remain in the account for future projects or repairs associated with NYPA. The joint recreation money would still be put into the joint recreation account for programs associated with that budget.

Resolution #38

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the opening of a separate savings account entitled NYPA O&M for all purchased paid for NYPA related budget items.
Ayes: All

Municipal Parking Lot: D Supv McKnight and Supt Putney have been in discussions with the Village Mayor concerning paving the parking lot and surrounding areas of the municipal building/fire department. A quote has been obtained from Suite Cote to grind and reuse with the pugmill to repave the areas. Areas will be split between the Town and Village except for the municipal building parking lot and the area in front of the town barns to the rescue squad. Breakdown as follows:

Old town barn to the fire hall up to the mailboxes: \$23,449.68 split between T/V
Mailbox to the 1st parking lot : \$10,584.10 split between T/V
1 park lot to State Highway 37: \$5,541.10 split between T/V
Town barns to Rescue Squad: \$17,343.20 Town only
Municipal Building Parking lot: \$26,165 Town only.

Total to be split between Town & Village: \$39,575.30 or \$19,787.65 each.

Total town only portion: \$43508.20 + 19787.65= 63,295.85 total.

Total Village share: \$19787.65 + \$6,000 grinding= \$25,787.65

Resolution # 39

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the splits for paving the area from State Route 37 to Town barn/rescue squad and fire department contingent upon the Village approving the same at their meeting. Ayes: All

Uniform Contract: D Supv McKnight reported that the uniform contract with CINTAS is up a the end of this month. He has contacted Unifirst and Century linen. He also called and emailed CINTAS and no one has replied to his request. Currently CINTAS is \$97.20 per week, Unifirst has come in @ \$52.10 per week this includes 3 rugs. Century came in @ 63.18 per week. The Unifirst contract is for 3 or 5 years, if we are not happy or there are issues there is a clause for 45-day notice to cancel. There is a 4-5% fixed rate annual cost increase. D Supv McKnight also noted that he had discussed the possibility of purchasing a washer and dryer to clean their own clothing and the town purchase the clothing outright but with the cost of Unifirst this wouldn't be feasible.

Resolution #40

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby agree to go with the Unifirst quote for uniforms for the highway department. The board authorizes a three-year contract.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board will discontinue service with CINTAS.

Ayes: All

Municipal Solar Project: D Supv McKnight has met with Rob Campany. Rob stated that adding tables to our solar array would be in the \$175,000- 200,000 range. If we added them it would zero out all electric bills the town currently receives. There is currently a NYSEDA incentive of \$17,500 and a direct pay municipal rebate of \$47,250= \$64,750 discount off the total. C McBath will contact Rob directly to get the information needed to submit the grant application that is due by May 24th.

Deputy Clerk: The Town Clerk has requested the Board appoint Janice Sickler as Deputy Town Clerk.

Resolution #41

Motioned by: Hunter

Seconded by: McBath

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby appoint Janice Sickler as Deputy Town Clerk. Ayes: All

Waddington Concert Series: D Supv McKnight would like the Town Board to contribute \$500 to the Waddington Concert Series from the Economic Development budget line.

Resolution #42

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board will contribute \$500 towards the Waddington Concert Series from the Economic Development budget. Ayes: All

Monthly Supervisor Report: D Supv reported that Gray & Gray had gotten a monthly supervisor's report together which was distributed to the Councilmembers. Everyone agreed that it was what they were looking for in a report.

Resolution #43

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the format of the monthly supervisor's budget report as submitted by Gray & Gray CPA and provided to the board this evening. Further, this monthly budget report will be provided by the Supervisor to board members for review in advance of the monthly meeting, with balances current to the end of the month just prior to the meeting being held.

Ayes: All

Citizen's Comments:

Mark Scott thanked the Board for their donation to the concert series. The Town will be sponsoring the band Beartracks.

D Supv McKnight reported that this will be his last board meeting as Supervisor. Alex will be back for the May 15th meeting. He noted that he has really enjoyed working with the board and clerk and will miss the work. He thanked everyone for working with him over the last nine months.

Executive Session: A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Tiernan to enter executive session @ 9:25PM for discussions relating to proposed, pending, or current litigation. Ayes: All
A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Hunter to return to regular session @ 9:45PM.
No action was taken during the executive session.

Bills: A motion was made by Tiernan, seconded by McBath to pay bills # 23-00258- 23-00326 in the amount of \$82,387.39. Ayes: All

Special Meeting: There will be a need for a special meeting to be held on Monday, May 22nd for the insurance agents to present their bids for the Town's Municipal insurance and to meet with Scott Schlueter, Fish & Wildlife. The meeting will be held @ 7PM.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk

Special Meeting

A special meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, May 22, 2023 @ 7PM in the Municipal Building.

Present were: Supervisor Alex Hammond and Town Council members Travis McKnight, David McBath, Kelley Tiernan, and Thomas Hunter.

Also present: Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, David Putney, Highway Superintendent, Russ Strait, Brian LaPier, NBT Insurance and Adam Fuller, Fuller Insurance Agency.

Call to Order: Supv Hammond called the meeting to order @ 7:02PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Supv Hammond reported that the purpose of the special meeting was to receive bids for the Town's liability insurance and discuss Iroquois Dam property with Scott Schlueter and any other business that comes before the board.

Adam Fuller reported that he had quoted Trident which the Town has been with the last couple of years. He ran into a problem due to the excess insurance required by NYPA. They are requesting 10,000,000. Trident will not do 9 million excess insurance for the Town. He wasn't aware of this until last minute. Adam's quote without the excess insurance is \$32,593.69

Brian LaPier from NBT Insurance quoted the town through NYMIR. Brian discussed some of the differences between NYMIR and Trident. Brian did not quote the increased amount requested by NYPA but noted he would be able to have a revised price by tomorrow. He stated that NYMIR will not have a problem with this request. Supv Hammond asked Adam Fuller if he would be able to quote anyone else for insurance. He told him that he was not sure if he could find a carrier that would accept those terms. It wouldn't be to the Town's advantage because the premiums would be too high.

The Board reviewed Brian's quote and noted that the old front-end loader was still listed on the policy and the new one was not added. Brian said he would make the adjustment. Brian's quote for NYMIR without excess insurance was \$28,750.81. The quote will go up with the excess insurance requested. He will have a figure by tomorrow.

Resolution #44

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept NYMIR as its new insurance contingent on the quote as a reasonable cost.

Ayes: Hammond, McKnight, Tiernan, and Hunter

Abstain: McBath

Scott Schlueter with US Fish & Wildlife discussed options with the Board for the area to the left of the road into Iroquois Dam. This is a significant spawning area for muskies. Shoreline development = muskie decline. He would like to help the board in discussions with a couple of land trust agencies that would pay the town for the land in question. It would be deeded to the land trust agencies but the Town would negotiate with them what can be done on the property. Trails, hunting, fishing etc. Scott noted he has two land trust agencies he will approach. St Lawrence Land Trust and Thousand Island Land Trust. The board will need to come up with a dollar amount that they would accept and see what can be done with the agencies. The board will consider this and see what they can come up with. Scott noted he is dedicated to helping the town accomplish this.

Flooring: A quote was received from Gardner's Flooring in Ogdensburg. To replace the flooring from the front door to the bathrooms and down the hall to the assessor's office is \$1,929.15. This will be taken from the building's line.

Resolution #45

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the estimate from Gardner's Flooring to replace the flooring from the front door to the bathroom and down the hall to the assessor's office in the amount of \$1,929.15. Ayes: All

Supt Putney requested approval to purchase a 60" sluice pipe for the Halfway house Road in the amount of \$10,199.20. This will come out of his general road maintenance line item.

Resolution #46

Motioned by: McKnight

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the purchase of a 60" sluice pipe for the Halfway House Rd in the amount of \$10,199.20 to be taken from the general road maintenance line. Ayes: All

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk