

Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Monday, October 2, 2023 @ 7PM in the municipal building.

Present were: Supervisor Travis McKnight and Council members: David McBath, Melinda Martin, Kelley Tiernan, and Thomas Hunter.

Also Present: Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk and David Putney, Highway Superintendent. Luke Miller, Phyllis Acres, and Mayor Mike Zagrobelny joined the meeting @ 9 PM after the Village meeting.

Call to order: 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 Hunter to approve the minutes as submitted. Ayes: All

Public Hearing: Local Law #3 of the year 2023.

Supv McKnight stated that the Town Board is considering the approval of local law #3 of the year 2023 which will allow the board to exceed the 2% tax cap if necessary. The clerk read the legal notice that was published. Supv McKnight declared the public comment period open @ 7:05PM. No comments were had and the public comment period was closed.

Resolution # 61

Motioned by: Hunter

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby pass local law #3 of the year 2023 entitled " A local law to exceed the 2% tax cap" Ayes: All

The law will be sent to the Town Attorney for filing.

Bid Opening: Lawn Mowing Contract

Supv McKnight noted that he had put out a request for bids for the 2024-2025 mowing season. The clerk read the public notice. The Board received one bid from Seaway Valley Lawn Care, Madrid. The bid was in the amount of \$26,600 per year, total 2 years 53,200.

The town is currently paying \$25,000 per year.

Resolution # 62

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: Martin

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby award the mowing contract for the 2024-2025 mowing season to Seaway Valley Lawn Care, Madrid, NY in the amount of \$26,600 per year. Ayes: All

Committee Reports:

Rescue Squad: C Tiernan reported that there was no September meeting due to Labor Day and the 9/11 memorial. The Squad had 32 calls in August and were able to attend 100% of them. They also thanked the highway department for planting the memory tree.

Recreation: They would like to hold the youth cheerleader program once again. It would be held beginning in October and run for 6-8 weeks.

Swimming lessons ended with about 30 regular participants throughout the summer

The beach was inspected and all went well

There have been roughly 1,100 patrons at the beach so far this summer

Anticipated closing date of August 25th due to only 3 lifeguards still being in the area.

The float in the parade received 2nd place.

The Committee had discussions about the purchase of a sheet ice kit to have ice outside in the parking lot of the arena. With the new doors in and windows in the arena it gets too warm inside to keep the ice. It was proposed that the Village and Town each pay \$5,000 towards the venture. Discussion was held as to what is the total cost of the equipment, who will put it up, who will maintain it etc. The Board would like to see a written proposal before they approve anything. Supv McKnight noted that they would table this until the next meeting when they could have some more information.

Highway: The highway department has been performing general maintenance on the trucks and equipment, the roadside mowing is done, they dug one grave and one cremation, replaced the hydrant at the New Brookside Cemetery that got run over, had OSHA and Sexual Harassment training at the Massena Fire Hall, chip sealed all roads that were cold paved, used two of our trucks, Madrid, and Lisbon, used the County broom to sweep the roads, put conduits in for the fire hall, solar field, and to the fuel building, put new drain in perimeter drain in west end of town highway building and cleared the trees out, three trucks hauled blacktop for Louisville for one day and two trucks for two days, hauled stone for the parking lot, grading and prepping the parking lot for paving, cold paved the parking lots with Suit Kote. Madrid brought their loader over to help.

Met with the DEC. Everything is good. He is very happy with work done at the gravel pit. He wanted to know when it would be finished. Told him next spring.

The board noted that the parking lot and paving around the municipal complex looked good.

Supt Putney noted that it will be chip sealed either next week or the following week.

C McBath asked if Supt Putney will get to the campsites on Leishman before the winter. Supt Putney noted he is hoping to get up there shortly.

Alternative Grants/Revenues:

HIPCAMP website has been closed for making any Leishman camping reservations from Oct 1, 2023, until May 1, 2024. Dates can be changed to open website reservations at any time.

We need to meet ASAP and revise the ARPA grant spreadsheet with the new numbers based on invoices submitted and additional work being done (oil/water separator, etc). This will determine the final amount of the grant funds available for paving costs and allow us to close out this grant. C McBath asked if the clerk and Highway Supt would be available to meet on

Wednesday afternoon. They noted this will work for them. The Clerk will gather the information ahead of time.

NY Forward Grant - Participated in a Project Coordination Call with the Supervisor and NY Forward reps. They are asking for the below documentation by this Friday, Oct 6

- Written documentation of funding received from St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency (RVRDA) for masonry work
- Written assessment from mason/contractor regarding the overall condition of the masonry, substantiating the need for the stonework included in the NYF project scope
- Pictures showing the before/after effect of masonry work that has been done, thus far
- Documentation (e.g., estimate/quote from contractor) supporting the projected cost of exterior stonework (which is listed at \$393,305 in the application)
- Record/list of outside grant funding sought in the past for Old Town Hall building repairs
- Written confirmation that the Town supports the modifications to the NY Forward budget for this project, as discussed during the coordination call.

The clerk will put together a list of the grants and work done at the old town hall. The board discussed reducing the request for funding requested in the original grant application. It would increase our chances of getting the funds. If we reduce it to \$393,305 it would be able to do the masonry work, south tower and roof that needs repair. Discussion ensued

Resolution # 63

Motioned by: Hunter

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby reduce the amount of the request for the NY Forward Grant to \$393,305. Ayes: All

Historian:

I attended the Village board meeting and the WHA meeting in September. We did not have a museum meeting in September.

I attended the NY Forward grant meeting in September.

Met with Randy Crawford about the church and manse restoration project. Mayor Zagrobelny will fill you in on Mr. Crawford's report.

Conducted my last walking tour for the season, only had 2 people show up.

Roger Bailey, researcher for the James Ricalton exhibit in Canton, returned all the Ricalton items he borrowed for the exhibit from our museum.

He also donated all the items and pictures he had done for that exhibit.

We had our first work bee with the Clarkson honors students on Saturday September 23rd, we got a good start on some new projects. They will be back again on Oct. 14th for 5 hours.

We had 15 visitors in the month of September.

We received some small item donations from Judy Jones, and Sue Byrd. Scrapbooks, pictures, and programs from old school events.

I am working with the WHA on the October 22nd event. A Day in History. We will focus on the 12 One room schoolhouse and the Waddington High School/ Elementary School. We are still looking for memories of anyone who attended any of the schools in Waddington, from 1900-

1991. You can write it out or record it on your phone and send it to info@waddingtonhistory.com, by October 7th.

All the memories will be put together into a video to be shown on Sunday October 22nd, at the event. We urge everyone to attend and enjoy our History Day, starting at 2:00 in the Town Hall. The next Museum meeting will be held October 18th at 6:00.

The next WHA meeting will be held Tuesday October 24th @ 6:30.

Cemeteries: Supt Putney reported that a leader out of a tree fell and smashed five headstones. The whole tree will be removed. The Clerk is checking with the insurance company to see if we have coverage for this. He will get an estimate to fix them. They are the old white stones and will need c-channel to hold them up.

Iroquois Land Next Steps: Supv McKnight reported that he has spoken with Scott Schluter twice since the last meeting. He will have an answer to proceed with an offer for the November meeting.

Iroquois Vandalism Update: Supv McKnight noted that the state police investigator came to the Town Clerk's office to get color copies of the damage that was done on the Iroquois land.

Local Government Task Force: There was no update for the Local Government Task force. The meeting has been postponed until October 25th.

Municipal Parking Lot: The parking lot has been paved and will be chip sealed within the next two weeks. The highway department will be helping Madrid with their paving and Supt Putney has some patching to do on the Coles Creek Rd. He is also going to get the paving done at the Little Sucker Brook outlook. He will contact Jeff Farrell from NYPA to see what type of blacktop they want put down.

NYSERDA Grant: Supt McKnight reported that we are waiting approval.

Car Charging Station: Supv McKnight reported that Shaun Prentice keeps receiving past due notices from the car charging company. Supv McKnight noted that he sent an email stating that the board will not be paying any past due bills or renewing any new subscriptions. They need to remove us from their list.

Joint Website: No update on this. Table until next month.

SLU Boathouse Sign: Supv McKnight reported that the representatives at NYPA are waiting for feedback from SLU. They will contact them and propose moving the sign closer to the boathouse.

Chase Mills Sidewalks: The County is still looking for documentation on who is the owner of the sidewalks. If it comes down to the town owning the sidewalks we can invite the people involved to come to a public meeting and declare that the Town will not do maintenance on

them and the property owner can then remove them or maintain if they want to. We will table until we can get more information.

Solar Law: Supv McKnight has spoken with Attorney Nash, Code Enforcement Officer and Eric Gustafson concerning the Town's solar law. It has been suggested by Attorney Gustafson that the Town adopt the Canton Solar law as Waddington's. He noted that their solar law is rock solid and there is no area of gray interpretation. The board agreed with this. Supv McKnight will contact Attorney Nash to see if we need to repeal & replace our law or amend.

Resolution #64

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board will adopt the language of the Canton Solar law as their local solar law. Ayes: All

A draft will be done and distributed. A public hearing will be held to adopt.

Covid Sick Leave Policy: It has been brought to the Town's attention that they NYS COVID-19 paid quarantine leave is still on the books in NY State and will sunset in 2024 if the law is not extended. Based on the law as written and the current public health and CDC guidance the Town of Waddington will adopt an employee COVID sick leave policy.

Resolution #65

Motioned by: Hunter

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the COVID sick leave policy submitted with changes discussed. Ayes: All

Tentative Budget: Supv McKnight reported that the tentative budget has been completed. The tax rate for 2024 will be \$2.24 per thousand. This is the same rate as the 2023 budget. No increase. As per the formula for the 2% tax cap the town could raise a total by taxes of \$363,403. The total in the proposed tentative budget is \$358,298. A difference of \$5,105. The board went through the tentative budget line by line. The only change to the figures is for the mowing contract. Supv McKnight inserted a figure of \$27,500 and the bid came in at \$26,600. A difference of \$900. The board discussed the tentative budget and the following resolution was passed.

Resolution #66

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby adopt the tentative budget as the 2024 preliminary budget w/ the correction on the mowing contract. Ayes: All

The preliminary budget will be available for the public and a public hearing will be held at the November meeting to be held on November 6th @ 7:00PM.

Excavator Lease: Supt Putney discussed the lease of a new excavator. There were two options. Option one is lease for four years for a total of \$52,446.18 payment per year. The second option is a lease for five years with a total of \$43,011.95 payment per year. He is proposing the payment be made by taking \$25,000 from his equipment line and the balance be paid from the

Emergency Winter recovery money that the Town receives from the state each year. The board discussed and the following resolution passed.

Resolution #67

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board gives the Highway Superintendent permission to enter a lease for a new excavator using the 4-year lease option- payments total to be made \$52,446.18. \$25,000 will be taken from the highway equipment line DA5130.2 and the remaining \$27,446.18 will be taken from the annual extreme winter recovery funds received from NYS. The first payment will not be due until 2025. Ayes: All

Surplus property: The Highway Supt has requested the Town Board declare the following equipment as surplus to allow it to be sold on Auction's International: 2001 Mack Plow truck, 1 dump box, 1 ditch witch, and the 214 wheeled excavator that is shared with Madrid and the Village of Waddington. The excavator will be pending approval from the other part owners.

Resolution #68

Motioned by: Tiernan

Seconded by: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby declare the following items as surplus 2001 Mack Plow truck, 1 dump box, 1 ditch witch, and the 214 wheeled excavator that is shared with Madrid and the Village of Waddington. The excavator will be pending approval from the other part owners. These items will be sold on Auctions International. Ayes: All

Citizen's Comments:

Luke Miller told the board that he owns the property next to New Brookside Cemetery. He is requesting the board have some kind of rules on the securing of silk flowers. They blow off the graves and wind up in his front yard. The board noted that all silk arrangements need to be removed from the cemetery by October 1st. They will be putting an article in the recorder and can mention securing the items on the plots.

Mayor Zagrobelny asked Supv McKnight if the board had discussed a grant writer. Supt McKnight noted that they hadn't. Mayor Zagrobelny noted he would work up RFP suggestions for both boards to review. Jim thew thought that hiring an individual who does economic development and grants would be good for the town and village. Someone that would be able to promote Waddington. He noted that the Town of Louisville has Lindsey Gladding who is the recreation director who posts and organizes events that constantly promote their town.

Bills: A motion was made by Tiernan, seconded by Hunter to approve the bills # 23-00625- 23-00689 in the amount of \$113,292.20. Ayes: Since the meeting is early again this month the clerk will send out the abstract for review before processing the checks for payment. If there are any questions please contact her for clarification.

The next town board meeting will be held on Monday, November 6th @ 7PM.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Hunter, seconded by Martin to adjourn the meeting @ 9:40PM. Ayes: All

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk