

## Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 @ 7PM in the Old Town Hall.

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

**Also Present:** Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk, and David Putney Highway Superintendent. The Clerk and Highway Superintendent will be late due to the running of the rabies clinic this evening which closes @ 8PM.

**Call to order:** Supv McKnight called the meeting to order @ 7:00PM.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Tiernan to approve the July, July special meeting, and August minutes as submitted. Ayes: All

**Citizen's Comments:** There were no citizens in attendance.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Highway:** During the month of August the Highway Department has performed general maintenance on trucks and equipment, the roadside mowing is ½ done, dug two graves and one cremation, hauled stone to the yard, hauled a load of sludge to the transfer station for the Village, graded and rolled Hardscrabble and French Roads, and set the oil separator and tied into the sewer. The County came with their shoulder machine and placed the shoulders on McKnight, Irish Settlement, and Halfway House Roads. Met with the insurance inspector from NYMIR and the County Inspector. They went through the buildings. Supv McKnight reported that Dave was waiting for Frank Davey to get a price for the replacement of the thresholds on the doors before we pave.

**Library:** The monthly library meeting is tonight. Supv McKnight reported that the brickwork is completed. A safety walk through was performed by NYMIR and the County. While the NYMIR inspector was doing his walkthroughs it was discovered that the library building was not covered on our policy. He told Supt Putney that it stated on the paperwork that there is no coverage on the building. Supv McKnight noted he was embarrassed to say that it has slipped through the cracks. It was included in our previous policy. When we changed companies they excluded the building. The contents are insured and specifically states the library is not included. The Clerk contacted NYMIR and they are fixing the error. He will keep the board up to date when resolved.

### **Cemetery:**




Discussed Tree work at Old Brookside completed by Putney Tree Service and Dave to check with Power Authority on their part cleaning up shoreline  
Trees at Union Cemetery doing well will fertilize them this month  
Ogden vault cleaned off again discussing options to landscape  
Want to know if a tree falls in cemetery and damages stones is that covered under insurance and if there is vandalism is that covered. We will check with the insurance company and get back to everyone.

Cemetery Committee would like to post signs at cemeteries about removal of artificial flowers and other objects by October 1<sup>st</sup>. C McBath suggested that they put an article in the Waddington Recorder. He also noted that there are a lot of bushes that are overgrown in the cemeteries. What should be done with those? Supv McKnight noted that at the cemeteries that they have rehabilitated they just removed them and cleaned them out.

**Grants/Alternative Revenue:** Need to set a date to meet with the Highway Supt and Town Clerk in early September and revise the ARPA grant spreadsheet with the new numbers based on invoices submitted and additional work done (oil/water separator, etc.). This will determine the final amount of the grant funds available for paving costs.

C McBath was notified that the town's pre-application to US DOE for \$500,000 grant for additions to the town solar array was not selected to be invited to apply.

Leishman Point- future bookings as of 090423:

HIPCAMPER	CHECK IN	CHECK OUT	LISTING	SITE	CREATED
 Jesse H. 2 1 Message	Sat, Sep 9, 23 1 NIGHT	Sun, Sep 10, 23	Site 1 - Leishman Point Park	Site	Mon, Jul 10, 23 BOOKING ID #1971791
 Matthew N. 2 1 Message	Wed, Sep 13, 23 2 NIGHTS	Fri, Sep 15, 23	Site 1 - Leishman Point Park	Site	Sun, Aug 27, 23 BOOKING ID #2084920
 Jesse H. 2 1 Message	Fri, Sep 15, 23 1 NIGHT	Sat, Sep 16, 23	Site 1 - Leishman Point Park	Site	Mon, Jul 10, 23 BOOKING ID #1971794

The Board needs to set up a cutoff date for reservations at this meeting so we can close the website for the season as of that date. It was discussed that we closed it October 1<sup>st</sup> of 2022. Will continue with that date for 2023. C McBath will let Jim know so he can update the site.

**Rescue Squad:** C Tiernan reported that there was no meeting due to the holiday.

**Recreation/Tourism:** New business included the two positions that are currently vacant. The committee will be meeting with three people that are interested at the September 18th meeting. It was also mentioned about having rollerblading/skating at the arena this winter.

There was a discussion at the Village Meeting, after we adjourned into our separate meetings, about a location for a sheet of ice. Maybe at the four corners? Or someplace not on concrete? This is a website [EZ ICE](#) that was shared with the recreation committee. This will be added to new business on September 18th.

The Town will have the weeds cut in the spring. With a lot of weeds, it is easier to see the path to mow.

**Historian:**

August was busy! I attended the Village Board meeting and sent a report to the Town Board. I attended the NY Forward meeting, Museum Meeting and The WHA Meeting in August. Homecoming went well, I was open a total of 12 hours over the weekend. We had about 60 people go through the museum.

I helped put together a float with the WHA and walked in the parade.

Received 3 e-mails from people interested in their families that settled in Waddington.

We received some old school pictures from Colin Campbell.

We received some photos from the Huntley family, they are related to the Dodds and the Rules who were some of the first families that came to Waddington.

I met with the Clarkson Honor Students on August 31<sup>st</sup>. The students will be coming over 3 or 4 times to help with more organization of the archives and scanning pictures and documents. We will be working on Saturdays, in September and October.

At our last museum meeting Molly Bogart put in her resignation because she is heading off to college. As soon as school starts, we hope to replace her with another MW student who will serve on our board.

I will be meeting tomorrow with Randy Crawford to let him into the church and Manse so he can do the historical assessment.

A reminder that Bobbie Davis will be conducting a Tour of the Old St. Mary's Cemetery on the hill next to the old golf course this coming Sat. Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30.

I will be doing the Village Walking tour next Sat. Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00.

The next museum meeting will be Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 and the next WHA meeting will be Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Old Town Hall. As always both meetings are open to the public.

## **Old Business**

**Iroquois Land Next Steps:** Talked with Charlie discussed next steps. Any pricing should be discussed in executive session. Resolution for the Supervisor to engage with Scott Schluter.

Resolution #60

Motioned: Tiernan

Seconded: Hunter

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby give approval for Supervisor McKnight to engage with Scott Schluter, US Fish & Wildlife to begin negotiations for the Iroquois property.

Ayes: All

**Iroquois vandalism update:** Supv McKnight reported that the last he knew the police were trying to make an arrest. Not sure if happened. C McBath reported that while Supv McKnight was on vacation the clerk sent an email that they were making an arrest. There hasn't been anything since.

**Local Government Task Force:** The next meeting will be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of Sept. More discussion in executive session.

**Municipal parking lot:** The oil water separator has been installed. They are working on burying conduit from municipal building to fire hall & to existing solar array should we need to run any wires after area is paved. It won't have to be dug up. The pave date has been pushed to the end of the month. The County cancelled the Town of Louisville's paving. They were able to get the Town of Massena to pave and need trucks. Dave owes them some time and with shared services we try to help where we can.

**Town owned solar project:** Supv McKnight talked with Rob Campany to get an estimate cost for town to try and capture the NYSERDA grant and the reap grant to expand our solar from 50KW to 150KW. We learned that we didn't get invited to submit a project. Supv McKnight noted he will pursue it a little harder.

Supv McKnight noted that everyone has seen the email traffic back & forth between him, the consultant and developer met with. Currently there is not enough capacity on Brady substation for more than 1.5 MW. This would be a very small project that is not worth putting on our property. It would only take 4-5 acres. He also learned that there are only a few spots in transmission lines where there is a bottleneck. They are hopeful that as the state keeps pushing the electric cars etc. they might be able to open some of those transmission lines. If this happens they are open to a solar project on the town property.

**RIC energy host agreement:** Supv McKnight reported that upon speaking with the Town Attorney he was told that the Solar is out of his wheelhouse. He recommended Eric Gustafson and a place out of Albany. Canton uses the Albany company and there is no room for more clients. On September 11<sup>th</sup> Eric Gustafson is coming to the municipal building to meet with Supv McKnight to look at what the town has for solar laws. Eric Gustafson noted he would charge a small retainer fee and by the hour. Eric told Supv McKnight that the town should ask for a \$3-5,000 mw annual payment. On the project coming in it would be 4.5 mw x 5,000 = 22,500 annually to the town just to be in our community + the \$25,500 per mw building permit fee = 114,750.

**NYSERDA energy grant:** This was a 2018 Grant for 50,000. Frank Davey has submitted a copy of the quote for the municipal building for the insulation of the building. It would start at Rescue Squad end come around the front by the offices along the parking lot and around the back to the rescue squad. It includes strapping the walls, spray foam, and covering with metal to match. Rob Campany is doing a greenhouse gas reduction study. NYSERDA wants to know the quantity of greenhouse gas we can reduce by doing the project. Hopefully updates and be able to put it out to bid. Get this done in fall or early spring.

**Old Town Hall stone repointing update:** Evan's Caulking has completed all that could be done from the ground and the scaffolding. There was some confusion about when the lift would need to be here. They will need the lift for one day. Supv McKnight will bring in his 60' man lift for him to use. He has all the harness and safety equipment for it. They will be back in mid-September to finish.

**NY Forward:** The next meeting is September 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>. It is on the NY Forward website. The website is very informative with meeting dates minutes etc. They are very good at keeping it up.

**Joint Website:** Supv McKnight has heard people comment about confusion of town website. They aren't sure where to go for information on recreation, library, beach etc. He was looking for the Canton Town Supervisor's phone number looked up on website. It was one site for the Town/Village etc. Everything was on one central website. He asked the Mayor if they would have any interest in doing a joint site. The Village Board would be interested. They would like to keep their website and add us to it. C McBath asked if the town would lose our email domain names. The Town currently pays an annual fee of \$485 for domain name "townofwaddington.com". The town also pays for the Clark house \$2500 to promote Waddington.

The project would combine Town & Village websites. This will consist of adding pages, text, data sets (business, photos, minutes, codes, forms etc.), graphics. The addition of yearly maintenance, mobile setup, domain fees, storage, and hosting fees. Total design set-up fees based on estimated hourly charge: \$2350 (one-time fee), First year setup, maintenance, mobile stie app, domain, hosting: \$450 (one-time fee). Yearly charge \$300 (starting September 2024). Estimated time for completion: 40 days from approval and signed contract.

The board would like to sit with the Village and Amber to further discuss the proposition.

**SLU Boathouse sign:** There has been much discussion about the location of the SLU Boathouse sign that was installed at the entrance to Howard Park. The consensus is that the sign is not located in the best spot. C Tiernan noted she heard a lot about it when it first went up. Supv McKnight told the board that if the town wants it moved, it will be moved. Not a problem. The Board noted that with the Town's campground gaining some attention this sign might deter from this. When you pull in it looks like SLU owns the property. Move sign down to the Boathouse and save the spot for a new Howard Park and campground sign. Smaller sign to show boathouse direction and the big sign by the boathouse. Supv McKnight will talk to Jeff and Bryan from NYPA and see what their suggestions are.

**Sidewalks Chase Mills:** Reached out to the Town Attorney about the sidewalks in Chase Mills. He is reaching out to the County Attorney to see if there is any documentation about who owns them. He seems to think that when they redid the road in the 70's the County put them in in good faith. If there is documentation that they have given them to the town we will have to pass a local law stating that we are not going to plow or maintain them in any way. Without this someone could ask to plow them and we would have to do it. If the Town does not own them and it is on the people's property out of the right of way at that point he recommends they have a meeting with us and let them know that they can do what they want to.

Supv McKnight noted that he wanted to ask if the board had any interest in having an open house during with the highway department and fire department during October fest. It could give the public a chance to see what equipment etc. looks like. The board discussed and thought it would be a thought for next year when the parking lot is done and the building outside completed. He also asked if anyone would like to do something for the for trunk or treat organized by the clerk on Halloween.

**Bills:** Supv McKnight asked the board to approve the bills contingent on approval from all when they come to you electronically. C McBath asked if the town board could make a formal resolution by email. This is prohibited.

Motioned by: Hunter

Seconded by: Tiernan

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby payment of the monthly bills pending review via email. Ayes: All

Bills # 23-00487, 23-00553- 23-00623 in the amount of \$74,860.80

**Meeting date for budget:** September 21, 2023 @7PM in the Municipal Building. Regular October meeting changed to Monday, October 2, 2023 @ 7PM.

Executive Session: A motion was made by McBath, seconded by Tiernan to enter executive session to discuss the acquisition, lease or sale of real property or securities when publicity would substantially affect the value.

Ayes: All

A motion was made by Hunter, seconded by McBath to return to regular session @ 9:15PM. No action was taken during the executive session.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Tiernan, seconded by Martin to adjourn the meeting @ 9:15PM. Ayes: All

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk