

Regular Meeting

Due to COVID restrictions the regular meeting of the Waddington Town Board was held via zoom on Monday, September 13, 2021 @ 7PM.

Present were: Supervisor Alex Hammond and Council Members: Travis McKnight, David McBath, Scott Loomis, and Shaun Prentice.

Also present: Carol A Burns, Town Clerk, David Putney, Highway Superintendent, Tony McManaman, Code Enforcement Officer, Kevin Liddell, Sue Papasian, Tom Hunter, Michelle Patenaude, Kevin Acres, Hunter Hodgdon, Tenley Amo, Mark Scott, Audrauna Willard, Bonnie Sabatini, James Miller and Kathy Dupray, Historian.

Call to order: Supv Hammond 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 Loomis to approve the minutes with the modifications made. Ayes: All

Citizen's Comments:

Mark Scott invited anyone who would like to submit articles to the Waddington Recorder to have them in by October 13th.

Committee Reports:

Highway: C McKnight reported that the Highway Department has cold paved 7/10 on Allison Rd and 8/10 on Randall Rd. Trucks from Louisville, Norfolk, Madrid, Lisbon, and our own were used for 2 days. They went to Lisbon for 2 days and helped them cold pave. They have done maintenance on the trucks, set up barricades for fireworks at the beach, helped Madrid blacktop 3 days (cold paved 2 days blacktop 1 day), mowed the beach hill again, dug one cremations, and set up for the rabies clinic. Supt Putney went to Fort Dix to pick up the skid steer and to Cape Cod to pick up the F350 Dump truck. 2 trucks hauled 1A stone to Madrid for 2 days as well as hauling to our yard. They went to Louisville to blacktop for 1 day. They used Madrid's boom mower to mow behind the causeway and Coles Creek Rd guard rails and borrowed Lisbon's screen to screen sand in the yard.

Rescue Squad: C Prentice reported that COVID is causing shortages with members. The call volumes are up. The rigs have been undercoated for free by Neal Haney. They are looking for new members.

Library: C Loomis reported that last week the NCLS Consultant spoke with the library board. The working budget was presented. They sold 1000 books as of Saturday. The summer programs are completed for the kids. They had 553 people use the library. 53 people used the computers.

The Library Board requested that the Town Board appoint Mark Scott to the library board.

Resolution #64

Motioned by: Prentice

Seconded by: Loomis

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby appoint Mark Scott to the Library board for a term of five (5) years ending 12/31/2026. Ayes: All

Supv Hammond reported that he had received a letter back from the Town Attorney stating that the MOU has been reviewed and that the Town Board should move forward with signing. This document will help future boards to understand the relationship between the library and Town Board.

C McBath noted that in a letter from the Town Attorney dated July 8th there was a note made about the carrying of insurance can be changed by the Town at any time. Also there was a reference on page 11 concerning legal representation. He did note that he sees that has been taken care of in the document. Bonnie stated that she will make the changes for insurance as

per the Attorney's suggestion. He noted that it was very clear that employees are employees of the library not of the town. He was concerned when Worker's Compensation and unemployment. If the town has been providing it he doesn't think the town can extend these benefits to non-town employees. More investigation will be done to confirm.

C Loomis reported that the Library would like to be put back on the solar program. Their submitted budget is pending this. If they aren't put back on they will have to increase their budget by \$1,400 to cover their electrical expenses.

Bonnie also told the board that their unexpended balance from last year is not a sustainable income and they will be reducing that in the 2022 budget. They are working on fundraising this year to help with the finances.

C Prentice asked Bonnie if they had the load information for the new air conditioning system. Bonnie noted that they did not have it yet but would get it for him as soon as she could.

Grants/Alternative Revenue: C McBath reported that he has read all the information for the SEQR paperwork for the Iroquois Dam project. He has had conversations with Tony and Jim Thew about the process. He also spoke with Kevin Smith the engineer that the board has used for several projects. Kevin noted that he doesn't do SEQR reports due to a conflict of interest with his job. C McBath has spoken with Rob Campany from Fourth Coast Inc. He takes on this type of work. He did it for our solar project. He will be in town tomorrow to talk to.

Supv Hammond noted he would contact Rob with a copy of the PowerPoint presentation and see if he can come up with a not to exceed figure. It is work done by the hour.

The RVRDA grant contract has been signed and sent in.

The HIPCAMP site is finally figured out. They can now find our site by typing in Waddington.

The paperwork side is complete. We still need 2 fireplaces and picnic tables. C McKnight noted if they bring the forms back to him they will be pouring concrete again this week and will get them completed.

Supv Hammond thanked C McBath, C McKnight, Supt Putney, and Jim Thew for all the work they did to get it up and running.

C McBath reported that he and Supt Putney met with Kevin Smith on Wednesday in the Highway Barn to discuss the proposed drainage project. The Clerk noted that the Town has received an additional \$500 in funding.

Cemeteries: C McKnight reported that the cemetery committee met. The committee consists of Dave & Tracey Putney, Sandy Wright, Al & Tenley Amo, and himself. The committee discussed tree cutting for this fall. They will request bids for this work. They have discussed fences for the cemetery. One cemetery will cost \$40,000. They were discussing different ideas. They would like to install lighted flagpoles at each cemetery. Al & Tenley Amo donated one. Sandy Wright will reach out to the Boy Scouts to restore and paint each sign. These were originally an Eagle Scout project. They discussed digitizing the cemetery maps in the Clerk's Office. This would provide a backup source. They are looking at funding sources for the projects.

C McKnight requested permission to ask the Town Attorney if the town could receive donations earmarked by individuals for the cemeteries. The board noted he could contact him.

They will hold another meeting next month. There are a lot of good ideas out there. They are also looking for more committee members.

Recreation: C Loomis reported that the Recreation Committee will be advertising for employment with the Morning Recreation Program, Beach Director, and Morning reading program. Chairman Strait has been in contact with NYPA about cameras at the beach. They would like to see road bumps on the roadway to the top of the beach hill. They have been looking for a contractor to quote for sea weed control.

There will be an Oktoberfest in Waddington on October 9th. The event is Chair is Brittnay Bush. There will be a chili cook-off, live music, pumpkin painting, and pumpkin chuckin. The event runs from 11AM- 5PM.

Gallery/Clarke House: Mark Scott reported that the Gallery would like to thank the Town for the use of the old town hall. It is a bigger safer environment to work in. They have made a \$50 donation to the town. The next exhibit will be by Bill Parmer. It will run for six months.

Supv Hammond reiterated that if you haven't been to the Clarke House you should go down and see their new wide open space. They will be open until after Christmas in Waddington.

Museum: A letter was received by James Miller, President of the Museum Board. He requested that it be read aloud at the meeting. After reading the letter Supv Hammond noted that his response was that he was appointed as the liaison to the Museum Board and has received all his information from the Mayor. He was under the assumption that there was a clear prospective that if anything was needed from the Town that they could come to him and he would bring to our board. The Village is the lead agency and would contact us when we need to provide anything. Board members noted that they were not aware that there were any issues between the Town and the Museum Board. Discussion further ensued and Supv Hammond noted he would come to the museum meetings. They will meet again next Tuesday @ 6PM.

There have been two resignations from the Library Board. Mary Hamilton, Treasurer and Donna Reagan have resigned. The Museum Board would like to appoint James Tiernan and Matt Daley to the Board. These were approved by the Village Board at their last meeting.

Resolution #65

Motioned by: McBath

Seconded by: Loomis

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby accept the resignations of Mary Hamilton and Donna Reagan;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby approve the appointment of James Tiernan and Matt Daley to the Museum Board. Ayes: All

Kathy Putney reported that the exhibit set up in the old town hall was well received. She had over 100 people attend during homecoming. She received some great feedback and heard lots of stories from people about the seaway. On August 22nd Sarah Shultz came over with the Madrid Historical Society. They have 11 members. Carrie Rutherford is the assistant historian. Rick Rikowski who is an underwater diver shared presentations of drawing and pictures he has taken of stuff left under the water when the seaway came through.

They have had four work bees packing up items at the Moore Museum. They had some kids from the High School Honor Society come last week and helped load and move things for them. She will not hold any regular hours in September. People may contact her to see the exhibit by appointment. She reported that the Museum board will meet on Tuesday, Sept 26th @ 6PM and the Historical Society on the 28th @ 7PM. C. McBath asked Kathy if the Historical Society will be a 501.C.3 organization. Kathy noted they are working on it so that they can accept donations.

Generator update: Supv Hammond reported that Mike and his crew had done some field work for the Generator hookup from the Fire Dept. to the Highway Department. It should be done by the end of next week and will put the bids out to be opened at the next Town Board meeting.

Local Government Task Force: Supv Hammond reported that the boring sample study for the marina looks good. The next step is to move forward with the permitting process. Steve Shoenwiser, NYPA will work parallel with the permitting process to get estimate. The ready grant received by the Village must be used separately from the NYPA money. It will be used for the planning that Rob Company has been doing. C Prentice asked about the overall timeline. Supv Hammond noted the groundbreaking should be in the spring.

Court Security Applications: There have been applications received for the Court Security Officer. They should be shared with C McBath, Justice Robinson, and Court Clerk Kerri O'Bryan. A meeting will be set up to review the applications. C McBath reported that an email has been sent to the Town from the County stating that there is paperwork that needs to be filled out because the job title is not on the Town's list of employees.

Charter Franchise Agreement: The Board discussed concerns with the proposed Charter Franchise Agreement. Code Enforcement Officer is concerned about the section for new development underground. He noted that Charter wants the hole open 30 days in advance

until they can get there. The company is trying to tell the municipality how it will be done. We have codes to cover this not their mandates. The board noted that they will send C McBath and Code Enforcement's concerns on to the Town Attorney. They will then set up a meeting to sit with him to discuss their next steps.

Tony updated the board on the situation in Chase Mills brought by Kathy LaForce. He reported that he went out there last Sunday. The rats were all over. He brush hogged the property and put out rat poison. He was going to bring in a 30yd container to clean it up. He will call him tomorrow to see where it stands and contact the board as soon as he does.

Old Town Hall: Supv Hammond reported that Vicki MacDonald has repaired the broken windows at the old town hall. She donated her time/materials to fix them. Bertrand's Construction has a lift in town and will look at the old town hall project. AJK still has not fixed the threshold on the back door. C McKnight will contact him again.

Cannabis Law: Supv Hammond noted that he had contacted the St Lawrence County Board of Elections. In order to have an item placed on the general election ballot it must have been submitted by August 2nd. So if the board really wants to put it to a vote it will have to be a special election in which we have to pay for all the fees. Supv Hammond noted that the board could hold a public hearing on the subject to get the publics input to opt in or out. C McBath noted he was in support of a public hearing. He also noted that if the Town decides to opt out we may not be eligible for any of the cannibas sales tax revenue collected. The other councilmembers were also in favor of a public hearing.

Mowing Contract: The Clerk read the legal notice published for the mowing contract for 2022-2023. There was one bid received from Seaway Valley Lawn Care in the amount of \$25,000 per year.

Resolution #66

Motioned by: Hammond

Seconded by: Loomis

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby award the 2022-2023 mowing contract to Seaway Valley Lawn Care. Ayes: All

Fire System: The Clerk read the legal notice published for the installation of a fire alarm system in the Municipal Building Complex. One bid was received from NCC Systems, 25646 NYS Route 3, Watertown, NY 13601 in the amount of \$21,000. The board noted that this had gone up some since the last quote that they had received when applying for the grant. They discussed where the additional funding was going to come from. Supv Hammond noted that we can take it from a surplus bank account.

Resolution #67

Motioned by: Hammond

Seconded by: Prentice

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby award the bid for the installation of a fire alarm system in the Municipal Building Complex to NCC Systems in the amount of \$21,000. Ayes: All

Justice Grant: The Justice Court has requested the board pass a resolution to allow them to apply for the justice grant. She will be applying for a printer and computer components.

Resolution #68

Motioned by: Hammond

Seconded by: Loomis

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board does hereby authorize the Waddington Court Clerk to apply for the Justice Court Assistance Program Grant (JCAP). Ayes: All

Budget: Supv Hammond reported that he has been working with the budget. The preliminary revenues and expenditures are in a good place. He has received the library's request and is

waiting on the recreation. He would like to set up a budget workshop to review the tentative budget. The board discussed meeting dates and have set up the following:

Franchise Agreement: Monday September 27th providing the Town Attorney is available.

Budget Workshop: Thursday, September 23rd @ 7PM. Board will meet in person w/public via zoom.

Regular meeting/Cannabis public hearing pros/cons: October 11th @ 7PM. In person old town hall. Masks and social distancing will be practiced.

Tax Cap Local Law: The board discussed passing the local law to exceed the 2% tax cap if necessary.

Resolution #69

Motioned by: Hammond

Seconded by: Prentice

RESOLVED, that the Waddington Town Board will pass a local law to exceed the 2% tax cap. A public hearing will be held on Monday, October 11, 2021 @ 7PM. Ayes: All

Hazard Mitigation Plan: The St Lawrence County Hazard Mitigation plan is being reviewed.

The group doing the review would like the town to participate via zoom. The clerk will ask for a couple available dates and let everyone know.

C McKnight asked where the board was going with the zoom meetings. He feels that there is no reason the board can't meet together and put the public on zoom. Meetings are more productive when you can meet face to face. If it gets worse and we can't meet then we would have to zoom only. C Loomis agreed. Supv Hammond noted he didn't have a problem meeting in person if we are masked.

Citizen's comments:

There were no citizen comments at this time.

Bills: A motion was made by Prentice, seconded by Loomis to pay bills #21-00584 – 21-00672 in the amount of \$196,649.76. Ayes: All

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Burns, Town Clerk