

At an Agenda Meeting and Special Meeting of the Waterford Town Board held on Tuesday December 26, 2023 at 7:00PM at Waterford Town Hall 65 Broad Street Waterford, NY 12188 and via Zoom the following transpired:

Those present:

Councilman David Ball
Councilman James Boudreau
Councilwoman Laurie Marble
Councilman Frank McClement
Supervisor John Lawler

Supervisor Lawler welcomed the Waterford Halfmoon girls' soccer team, whom the Town Board will be honoring tonight for winning the state championship, and everyone who is in attendance this evening. This is his last official meeting as Town Supervisor and he couldn't think of a better way to end things than by being able to honor this amazing group of ladies. The Supervisor then explained how the meeting will progress this evening.

The Agenda Meeting began.

Items discussed:

Councilman Boudreau- Resolution needed to authorize the purchase of two car ports from Motorhead Metal- for Highway and Wastewater Depts.

Resolution needed to approve vacation time carryover for Craig Falcone and Tony Lubas

Councilman Ball- requests an Executive Session after the meeting to discuss the application of a new court hire.

Resolution needed to appoint Jeremy Krug as Alternate Member of the Planning Board

Jeff Cleary- Visitor Center Director- Thanked the Highway Department for the great job cleaning up after the flood.

David Woodin- Planning Director- Resolution needed authorize three people to attend the Saratoga County Planning and Zoning Conference

Town Clerk Carrigan- Resolution needed to reappoint Registrar and Deputy Registrar

Resolution to appoint William Coutu as Temporary Aide to the Budget Officer

Resolution to sign an agreement with Delaware Engineering for 2024 landfill monitoring

Resolution to approve 2023 budget amendments

The January 2nd Meeting is also the Organizational Meeting

Supervisor Lawler called the Special Meeting to order at 7:07PM.

RESOLUTION # 166

WHEREAS, the Waterford Halfmoon High School Girls Varsity Soccer Team is the 2023 New York State Public High School Athletic Association Class C State Co-Champions; and

WHEREAS, this soccer team amassed an overall record of nineteen wins, one loss and three tied scores for the season; and

WHEREAS, this soccer team is also the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Class C Regional Champions, the Section 2 Class C Champions, and the Wasaren League Champions; and

WHEREAS, the hard work and commitment of this team brings honor to their families, their school and their entire community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Waterford Town Board is proud to honor each member of this team, their coaches and families for their outstanding accomplishments.

Offered by Councilwoman Marble
Seconded by Councilman Boudreau

Councilman Ball yes
Councilman Boudreau yes
Councilwoman Marble yes
Councilman McClement yes
Supervisor Lawler yes

Supervisor Lawler stated that there are a few presentations tonight. He thanked his friends and family that are here tonight.

Supervisor Lawler went on to say that there is a long standing town joke that the “highest honor” of the Town Board is a Waterford hoodie. The Supervisor asked Ben Akin our Building Inspector to come forward. Ben is a hard worker and valuable member of the team and does a fantastic job, he owed him a hoodie.

Supervisor Lawler stated he has one more person to recognize. When he was 15 years old, he ran for class president, and his friend ran for class treasurer. They have remained close friends for the past 55 years. This person has been the Budget Officer for 27 years, and took the job because he asked him too and was paid a fraction of what he was worth. The Supervisor asked Bill Coutu to come forward and accept a well-deserved Town hoodie.

Councilman Ball then accompanied Supervisor Lawler as they presented a plaque to Sergeant Michael Shudt for his 25 years of service to the Town as a Waterford Police Officer. Supervisor Lawler stated that Mike has worked all hours and holidays to keep this community safe and a great place to live. He thanked Mike for his hard work.

Supervisor Lawler, Councilwoman Marble and Councilman McClement then presented the jackets to the Waterford Halfmoon girls varsity soccer team.

Supervisor Lawler congratulated the team and stated that he had so much fun watching you guys play, they are an incredibly talented team and he is looking forward to next year.

Supervisor Lawler stated that the Town Board has a great relationship with the school. Any time we can honor the accomplishment of a student or team we will do that.

Supervisor Lawler went on to say that this team is also recognized as scholastic athletes for Section 2.

Supervisor Lawler and Coach Reynolds spoke of the teams’ impressive 41-2-3 record for the past two years.

Supervisor Lawler invited Joe Burniche to speak.

Joe Burniche stated that he and Jack have been friends since childhood. When he started his business, BPI Piping, 25 years ago, Jack, the Town Board and Dick Hurst helped him out. He will never forget that. When he was hit with flooding a few years ago, the Town helped him out again. He is very grateful. Joe presented Supervisor Lawler with a plaque on behalf of himself, his wife, his family and BPI Piping thanking him.

Supervisor Lawler stated that he wanted to mention one of his oldest friends in politics, someone who got him involved, Chris Callaghan. Chris was also the County Treasurer. Thank you Chris.

Supervisor Lawler then introduced Assemblyman John McDonald.

Assemblyman McDonald thanked the Town Board for recognizing these fine young woman. The ladies are coming to the Senate chambers within the next month or two to be recognized by himself and Senator Tedisco.

The Assemblyman thanked Jack for his three decades of service to the Town of Waterford. We all know federal government and at times the state level can sometimes be dysfunctional, but its local government that really gets is done. This Town is blessed to have had your leadership for 30 years. He has known you for over 23 years and whenever they spoke, he never had to worry about Waterford, because you always did what was right. On behalf of the State Legislature he thanks you for your service this community, they have been blessed to have you at the helm. Thank you.

Supervisor Lawler stated that his daughter and son are here. They grew up with him being Town Supervisor, sometimes that worked out sometimes that didn't, and for those times, he is sorry and he loves you both.

Supervisor Lawler thanked Don and Rhonda Boyajian for being here tonight, Don is the Town Lawyer, he has stepped back from the role, but someone from the firm is stepping in. They have been friends for over 40 years. He thanked Don for all the things he has done for the Town, and the expertise he brought to the Town. The Town has been lucky to have Don.

Supervisor Lawler also thanked Liz Callaghan, who is here tonight. Liz has been a friend of the family for a long time, Liz was a former Town Councilman.

Supervisor Lawler then thanked his wife Fran. He is sorry for all phone calls and missed dinners and events, for all of the nonsense you put up with all these years, "thank you and I love you."

Town Clerk Carrigan stated that the Board had something they wanted to give the Supervisor. While this isn't goodbye, they wanted to give him something to remember them each day. Supervisor Lawler was presented with a framed photo collage.

Supervisor Lawler thanked everyone for coming, he could not have gone out on a higher note.

Supervisor made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:34PM to discuss a court hire, Councilwoman Marble seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Shannon Carrigan
Town Clerk