

At the Town Board meeting of the Waterford Town Board held at Waterford Town Hall, 65 Broad Street Waterford NY and virtually via Zoom on November 3, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. the following transpired:

There were present:

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

Communications and Petitions

Received from Northside Fire District the 2022 Adopted Budget

Received from Halfmoon Waterford Fire District #1 the 2022 Adopted Budget

Action on Minutes of Previous Meetings as Follows

Minutes of the Town Board meeting of October 5, 2021 and Agenda and Special Meeting of October 26, 2021 were presented to the Board. A motion was made by Councilman Boudreau, seconded by Councilman Marble to accept the minutes as presented. All in favor.

Committee Reports

Financial Report and Submission of Bills and Petty Cash

Supervisor read the financial report for the month of October 2021. The audited vouchers totaled \$ 359,236.72 and the payments in advance of audit totaled \$982,292.66. The petty cash report totaled \$42.80. A motion was made by Councilman Boudreau and seconded by Councilman Marble to accept the financial reports and pay the bills. All in favor.

Committee on Highway, Wastewater Treatment, Water Authority, Cemetery and Museum

Councilman Boudreau thanked everyone for coming tonight. He then read the Highway Department report for the month of October. A sewer manhole was rebuilt on Middletown Rd. The Fulton Street sign post was replaced. 5.5 Tons of blacktop was used for road repair. 390 Yards of yard waste removed. 270 Yards of trash removed. 60 Yards of scrap metal removed.

The Highway Department responded to 21 requests for service and processed 64 Dig Safe Requests.

The Highway Department would like to remind everyone that the annual Fall Leaf Pickup has started and will run till November 30th. During this time yard waste bags and brush will continue to be picked up Mondays and Fridays. This report was submitted by Highway Superintendent Tony Lubas.

The Councilman then read the monthly report for the Wastewater Department as submitted by Chief Operator Crag Falcone. They removed 8,000 gallons of sludge to Albany County and 40,000 gallons to Saratoga County. They answered 21 alarms. 1 High Flow, 10 Power, 6 Mechanical, 4 Phone. Normal Maintenance: Checked all pump stations and cleaned floats. Continued maintenance of outside grounds, equipment, and vehicles. Removed influent primary grease from primary tanks and weirs on weekly basis. The A-Team replaced timer and bushing on wasting pump #1, they also repaired a heat sensor for James Dr pump station. We cleaned out the Fonda Rd pump station with the vac truck. The Wastewater Department would like to remind residents to please refrain from dumping/flushing wipes and other non biodegradable materials down your toilet or through your garbage disposals. All of these types of materials should be going in with your household trash. They can not only cause backups in home piping and laterals but can cause blockages and clogging in pumps in pump stations which can cause system backups.

Councilman Boudreau read an update from the Water Commissioners.

Water Consumption - The water works delivered approximately 29,410,000 gallons or 980,333 gpd of water during the month. Water Distribution System Work - Waterworks staff completed a major maintenance project on St. Mary's Tank. It was drained, cathodic protection was replaced, and the tank was cleaned and disinfected. The staff completed over 80 dig-safe utility locations as well as 70 service calls during the month. In addition to calls, staff calibrated & maintained equipment, completed monthly water testing, and completed meter reading. Meter Installation - Staff continues to reach out to residents and schedule replacement of old meters for replacement with drive by read meters. Staff have logged 2033 meters installed to date (Roughly 63%). Hydrant Maintenance - Staff will be conducting fire hydrant maintenance and winterization during the next few months.

The Councilman then went on to read an update from Town Historian Russ Vandervoort.

Our Waterford History Facebook Page reached over 4,200 people this past month, featuring stories concerning the Grand Union Warehouse and Market in Waterford, the Waterford Rescue Squad, the Waterford Fire Dept, a tragic loss of life fire in Waterford from 1926, a nice story on Frank Gimmelli, along with several other stories.

On October 1st, we conducted a Champlain Canal Walk in Waterford, it was co-hosted by the Saratoga County History Center, The Waterford Canal and Towpath Society and the Town Historian. There were 45 in attendance, nearly all were either local historians or history buffs. Many favorable comments were expressed during and after the walk.

I attended a meeting of the Saratoga County History Center at the Brookside Museum in Ballston Spa. Later in the month I took part in the History Centers Book release and signing of "Saratoga County Stories." A book containing 58 stories of Saratoga County History by 23 different authors. Waterford is included in 5 of those stories. There will be a second book signing at Historic Grooms Tavern in Clifton Park on November 7th.

Planning is ongoing with Dr. Seamus Dillon of the Waterford Ireland Technical Institute for a video broadcast between Waterford Ireland and Waterford, NY comparing the ports of each entity and highlighting Waterford's Irish Heritage. Subject to Dr. Dillons availability, we are considering March 7th or 12th as potential dates. This will be available to a limited live audience, but also available on Zoom and Facebook live.

I will be attending the 250th observance of the Village of Lansingburgh on November 4th. Many of the same families were involved in the early days of both Lansingburgh and Waterford.

On October 20th the Friends of Peeble's Island hosted a very informative Zoom event on the subject of Peeble's Island from an Algonquin Perspective. A great deal of information concerning life on Peeble's Island prior to the arrival of the Europeans was put forth.

I was able to assist a Cohoes resident who was researching his great grandfather who had quite a reputation as a bank robber. The family always thought that he was connected to the Great Waterford Bank Robbery of 1872. We were able to confirm that he was, in fact, part of the gang that robbed the Waterford Bank, but he was already in jail when it happened. After his release from jail, he was subsequently jailed again for bank robbery with some of the same men who did rob the Waterford Bank.

Councilman Boudreau then spoke of upcoming activities for the Waterford Museum. The Lecture series will begin in January at the Van Schaick Country Club. The fee is \$6.00 for not yet members and \$5.00 for museum members. Reservations are highly recommended. January 11th at 7PM-

“Political Assassination in Waterford” presented by Russ Vandervoort, Town Historian. February 8th at 7PM- “Troy in The Civil War” presented by Michael Barrett, Hudson Mohawk Industrial Gateway & Troy Burden Iron Works Museum Executive Director. March 8th 7PM- “Hessians” in the American Revolutionary War, presented by Eric Shnitzer, Saratoga Battlefield National Park Ranger. There are several volunteer opportunities available at the museum, please contact the museum if you are interested at 518-238-0809.

Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Services, and Liaison to Village

Councilman Ball stated that the American Red Cross is holding a Blood Drive on December 2nd from 1 to 6pm at the Waterford Emergency Team, located at 122 First Avenue. Donors can schedule appointments at redcrossblood.org or 1-800-redcross. Red Cross is also looking for platelets, another type of donation. Please consider donating.

The Councilman stated that the Fire District Budgets have been received. The 2022 annual budget for the Halfmoon Waterford Fire District is \$1,422,164.00 to be raised by that fire district. The Northside Fire District Budget for 2022 is \$215,594.00. This is a special tax raised by that fire district, not town budget appropriations.

Councilman Ball went on to give a summary of police activity during the month of October 2021: there were 28 arrests, 58 traffic tickets, 13 motor vehicle accidents, and 548 calls for service. Other activity:

Officer Ryan Ashe successfully completed field training and has been assigned to the afternoon shift.

The new police unit- 4397 -was outfitted and placed into the rotation for patrol.

New digital cameras were purchased and placed into each patrol car for use at crime scenes, accidents, etc. These cameras replaced existing equipment that was over 10 years old.

Officer Wagner worked with representatives of Cornell Co-operative Extension to secure Waterford PD's inclusion in a county wide grant for car seat installations. Inclusion in the grant will supply Waterford PD with a number of car seats that can be given to underprivileged families and installed by Officer Wagner as he recently completed car seat technician school. Officers participated in a "Trunk or Treat" event at Durham Transportation.

Open cases include 1 child pornography case, 2 Larcenies, 1 Burglary, and 4 VICE cases.

A Breakdown of call for the month included 32 Domestic calls, 49 EMS, 3 Fire, 52 Animal Control, 76 Misc., 3 Warrant, 67 Traffic Stops, 18 Property Checks, and 11 Calls to assist outside agencies.

Committee on Veterans, Grants and Funding, Special Projects, Town Hall and Seniors

Councilman McClement gave an update on Veterans Activities. The VFW Post 5800 is having their Veterans Day Chicken and Biscuits Dinner on November 11th from 4-6:45pm. The cost is \$8 a dinner. You can take out or eat in. Call Andy Walters for more information 518-603-2297. The VFW Post 5800 is always looking for members.

The Councilman stated that he is working on a memorial at Soldiers and Sailors Park to honor those who served in the Global War on Terror. The Town is receiving a \$2500 grant from Saratoga County to cover some of the cost and needs to be used this budget period. He invites any Veterans who served to help with input on the text for the memorial. You can contact him by email through the Town website or by phone at 518-928-7636. The Charles J. Brady Post-

American Legion, the post still exists and they are looking for new members. There was a change in legislation and now any Veteran that served can join. There are different criteria to join the VFW or American Legion. Contact Andy Walters 518-603-2297 for more information or email Councilman McClement.

Councilman McClement then read the Senior Transportation report for the month. Contact Driver Andy Walters at 518-524-4589 or Eileen, the Senior Director to sign up for this service.

The Councilman read the Community/Senior Center report for the month. There were 311 visitors for the month of October. The Center was a designated polling place this election season. The Northeastern New York Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association will give a presentation on November 9th. More evening events are being planned at the center. The Seniors are planning a trip to the Holiday Lights in the Park. There will be a Thanksgiving Luncheon on November 16th. There will be a Pfizer Booster Clinic at the Community Senior Center on November 16th, registration is required, please call Saratoga County at 518-693-1075 to sign up. This report was submitted by Director Eileen Haldeman.

Committee on Youth, Playground, Pool, Festivals, Library, WHUFSD, Visitor Center and Building Department

Councilman Marble read the Canal Visitor Center report for the month of October. The Erie and Champlain Canals closed on Wednesday, October 13th. The Federal Lock at Troy remained open until November 1st. On October 21st the Town Highway Department came to the Hurst Harbor Center to lower the ramps onto the docks to prepare the locks for removal by the Canal Corporation. On October 25th the Canal Corporation did move our docks into the flight. On October 28th the Town held a thank you lunch for the 30 of our volunteers who gave 182 hours of service for the month of October and a year-end total of 2023 hours. Thank you to all of our volunteers. In October we welcomed 39 boats from 13 states, 2 Canadian provinces, and 1 from the United Kingdom. For the year 2021 we welcomed 792 boats from 38 states, 2 Canadian provinces and 3 foreign countries, so we have exceeded the number of visitors from the last pre-pandemic year. We are looking forward to making many upgrades to the Harbor Center over the winter and are already working and planning for the 2022 navigation season.

The Councilman read an update from the Building Dept: For October the Department issued building permits, conducted onsite inspections, handled roadside trash complaints and overgrowth issues.

Councilman Marble then read a monthly update from the Waterford Library: Produce continues to be delivered on Wednesdays, no date for that to end as of yet. They had a nice turn out for the Halloween party last Friday. The library will be closed on November 11th for Veteran's Day and November 25th-26th for Thanksgiving.

Councilman Marble gave an update from the Waterford Halfmoon School: The Girls Varsity Soccer went to the section 2 Class C Final on Tuesday night against Schoharie, the final score was 3-2, with Schoharie winning the finals. The girls played an awesome game. The Boys Varsity also went on to the semifinals of the class C sectionals. Both teams have a lot of talent and will not lose too many players since most of them are Sophomores and Juniors, great year

everyone. The Girls Varsity Volleyball had an awesome year as well. The Capital Project is nearing the final approval stage. As soon as the approval comes from New York State Education Dept. they hope to break ground in the spring.

Councilman Marble spoke of upcoming community events. November 17th -Women's Self Defense Awareness Class at the Community Senior Center. Officer Dilbone will be conducting the class. The time is yet to be decided. Please check the website for the time. On Nov. 18th - Family Board Game Night 6-8pm- Community Senior Center. The Christmas Parade is on Nov. 27th. Our parade is back! Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there. This year we will have 2 community trees for the community to decorate if they wish to. Please bring an ornament to the tree lighting. We will have hot chocolate hosted by Pastor Paul and the Wesleyan Church. The parade starts at 6pm at 8th Street and 7th Street. Please call 518-527-1740 if you would like to participate. The more the merrier. We are also going to have a fire truck decoration competition. Each year the fire departments go all out with the decorating so this year we will acknowledge them. Please watch the website for our new tradition: the house decorating contest. I am hoping to bring back the winter carnival at Sugarloaf Pond. The Toys for Tots Children's party is Saturday November 27th at the Knights of Columbus. Our Food Drive is Saturday November 13th from 10-12pm at the Community Senior Center.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Lawler stated that Rock for Tots will be held on Nov 20th and the children's party will be November 27th. Andy Walters puts this on every year and works relentlessly to make Waterford a great place for families. Andy is also our Senior Driver and treats those he drives as precious cargo.

Supervisor Lawler went on to say that the VFW Post 5800 comes to every event we ask them to, they are the backbone of this community. Please consider spending \$8.00 for a great dinner on Veterans Day, stop in and support them.

The Supervisor thanked Pastor Barna and the Wesleyan Church for hosting a Halloween Trunk or Treat Event. It was a fantastic event with well over 100 kids attending, it was well run. Thank you to them for hosting this event for our community.

Supervisor Lawler stated that the Seniors held a Ghoulash Luncheon last week, he did have a chance to stop by, he wasn't able to stay and eat the meal, which is one of his favorites, but it was a nice event put on for the seniors. After he left the Senior Center, he went to a luncheon being held for the visitor center volunteers. It was nice to honor those volunteers who keep the visitor center open. He receives emails and letters on how welcoming and inviting Waterford is for a stop on the Erie Canal.

Supervisor Lawler stated that the Christmas Parade is back this year and there will be a special surprise at the parade, he doesn't want to say too much, but he hopes everyone come out to enjoy the parade.

The Supervisor asked about the fire truck lighting contest and who will be the judges. Councilman Marble asked if he would like to be a judge. The Supervisor answered that he will not be one of the judges, he wouldn't be able to choose.

General Orders

RESOLUTION # 103

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Waterford hereby approved the Preliminary Budget as the Adopted Budget for 2022.

Councilman Marble proposed a revision to the Preliminary Budget to allocate \$2,000.00 to the Library.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Waterford hereby revises the Preliminary Budget to include funding for the library in the amount of \$2,000.00. This increases the appropriated fund balance in the B fund by \$2,000.00.

Revisions by Town Board to 2022 Preliminary Town Budget

<u>Account Number & Title</u> Preliminary	2022 Preliminary Town Budget <u>As Submitted</u>	Revisions to the <u>2022 Preliminary Town Budget</u>	Revised Totals for 2022 <u>Town Budget</u>
B7410.400 Library - Contractual	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
B0599.000 Appropriated Fund Balance	\$408,809.00	\$2,000.00	\$410,809.00

Offered by Councilman Ball
Seconded by Councilman McClement

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

RESOLUTION # 104

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Waterford hereby approves the revised Preliminary Budget as the Adopted Budget for 2022.

Offered by Councilman McClement
Seconded by Councilman Marble

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

Supervisor Lawler thanked the Department Heads, Budget Officer Bill Coutu and the Town Board for working very hard and conscientiously on this budget to address the Towns' needs and include a 2 ½ percent tax cut.

RESOLUTION # 105

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Waterford hereby appoints Benjamin Akin permanently to the position of Building Inspector effective October 20, 2021.

Offered by Councilman Marble
Seconded by Councilman McClement

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

RESOLUTION #106

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Waterford hereby approves a deposit in the amount \$2500.00 to Grethen Cahrenger Memorials for a monument to honor those who served in the Global War on Terror. The total cost of the monument is \$5200.00. A grant from Saratoga County in the amount of 2500.00 to be used towards Veterans services will help fund the cost of the monument.

Offered by Councilman McClement
Seconded by Councilman Boudreau
Councilman Ball yes
Councilman Boudreau yes
Councilman Marble yes
Councilman McClement yes
Supervisor Lawler yes

Supervisor Lawler asked when they can expect installation.
Councilman McClement stated that the deposit will secure the stone and carving. He will work with Veterans groups on the language. The goal is to have the stone set in the Spring in time for the Memorial Day Parade.

The Supervisor stated that he has two resolutions under Other Business tonight and asked the Board if they had any other business to discuss tonight.

Councilman Boudreau had a resolution to bring forward regarding the sale of an old police car.

Other Business

RESOLUTION # 107

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Waterford hereby accepts the following bids for equipment sold at Auctions International:

2015 Dodge Charger \$5,700.00

Offered by Councilman Boudreau
Seconded by Councilman Marble

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

The Supervisor stated that was one of the two resolutions he wanted to discuss this evening as well.

RESOLUTION # 108

Whereas the Town Board of the Town of Waterford is desirous to update the Town Code to include new legislation;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Waterford hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign an agreement with General Code in the amount of \$11,352.00 to codify and supplement legislation, a full update and posting of eCode360 and printing of updated Code books for the Town of Waterford.

Offered by Councilman McClement
Seconded by Councilman Marble

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

The Supervisor stated that it is important to keep our Town code updated. This company will update our Town code books for the Board members.
Town Clerk Carrigan added that the Towns' ECode360 will be updated by General Code as well.

Supervisor Lawler opened up the meeting for public comment.

Chris Connell thanked the Board for re-instating the library funding.

Supervisor Lawler stated that Chris made a persuasive argument for that allowance.

Supervisor Lawler made a motion to close the meeting at 7:50PM, seconded by Councilman McClement. All voted in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Shannon Carrigan
Town Clerk