

At the Town Board Meeting of the Waterford Town Board held on May 3, 2022 at the Waterford Town Hall 65 Broad Street, Waterford, NY and via Zoom at 7:00 P.M the following transpired:

Those present:

Councilman David Ball

Councilman James Boudreau

Councilwoman Laurie Marble

Councilman Frank McClement

Supervisor John Lawler

Communications and Petitions

There were none

Action on Minutes of Previous Meetings as Follows

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting of April 5, 2022 and Agenda Meeting of April 26, 2022 were presented to the Board. A motion was made by Councilman Boudreau, seconded by Councilwoman Marble to accept the minutes as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Committee Reports

Financial Report and Submission of Bills and Petty Cash

Supervisor Lawler read the financial reports for the month of April 2022. The audited vouchers totaled \$ 224,909.18 and the payments in advance of audit totaled \$21,567.40. The petty cash report totaled \$8.36. A motion to accept the financial reports, reimburse petty cash and pay the abstracts was made by Councilman Ball and seconded by Councilman Boudreau. All voted in favor of the motion.

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

Councilman Boudreau read the Highway Department report for the month of April. The town ball fields were prepped and opened for the season. Repairs and maintenance were done on summer equipment.

22 Yards of mulch was used for various town locations.

Flood cleanup was completed at the Harbor Visitor Center from 3rd street to the Waterford Boat Launch.

113 Tons of Norlite was used for the upper and lower cemetery roads. A sewer manhole was located and rebuilt on Fulton Street.

6,000 gallons of high-pressure water was used on sewer backup service calls.

The Sewer Vac truck was used to assist the water department in pumping out water at Bells Lane pump station.

A sign post was replaced on Higgins Road.

“Do Not Feed the Wildlife” signs were installed at Sugarloaf Pond.

300 Yards of yard waste was removed, 390 Yards of trash removed; 60 Yards of scrap metal removed.

The Highway Department responded to 23 requests for service and processed 29 Dig Safe Requests.

The Highway Department would like to thank Chris Moore from Flow Rite Plumbing for donating his time and expertise with plumbing repair and installation at Garrett Field. This report was submitted by Highway Superintendent Tony Lubas.

The Councilman then read the monthly Wastewater Department Report. The Average Influent Flow: 1,498,000 gallons/day
They removed: 10,000 gallons of sludge to Albany County
46,000 gallons of sludge to Saratoga County

Alarms answered: 1 High Flow-5, Power-1, Mechanical-0, Phone-0
Normal Maintenance: Checked all pump stations and cleaned floats as needed.
Continued maintenance of outside grounds, equipment, and vehicles.
Removed influent primary grease from primary tanks and weirs on weekly basis.

We worked with the A-team and the Highway Department to unclog and inspect a manhole off of Fulton Street and a buried manhole was also found and raised above ground level.

Repaired a broken float hanger chain at the Towpath Lane pump station.

Inspected and tightened the motor coupling on wasting pump #1 at the plant.

Inspected, tested and installed the U.V. disinfection system for the May 1-October 31 swimmable river season.

Inspected and cleaned the grit building sump pumps and collection system trough.

We used the vac truck to clean out the Drake Court and Mallards South pump stations.

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. Please see the Town's Facebook page for more details. This report was submitted by Craig Falcone, Chief Operator.

Councilman Boudreau added that there is a notice on the Town Facebook page regarding this issue and it is a problem for wastewater plants across the country. Homeowners are responsible for the lateral that runs from your house to the main line. Any backups and clogs that happen here can be expensive to fix and it comes at the homeowner's expense. Help yourself, help the Town and help your community by not putting these items in your toilets.

The Councilman stated that the Wastewater plant recently had an inspection regarding the SPEDES permit and received a wonderful report, congratulations to everyone in the Department.

Councilman Boudreau went on to read the April report for the Water Commissioners.

Water Consumption - The water works delivered approximately 30,340,000 gallons or 978,710 gpd of water during the month.

Water Distribution System Work-The staff completed 15 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 2086 meters installed

to date. We are launching a big push this spring to install as many meters as possible to further help reduce our costs of meter reading. Beginning this month, we are sending out mailed notices as well as continuing to drop off door knocker notifications, to customers who need to be changed out.

Hydrant Maintenance - Staff will begin flushing hydrants this month. Flushing schedule has been released. It has been advertised in the Times Union Paper as well as on all water bills going out. The schedule can also be found on our website. If you see a hydrant in serious need of a paint job, please reach out to the Water Commissioners and we will put it on the top of the list. We can be reached through our website or by phone 518-237-0422.

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

April was a very busy month.

The story that he mentioned last month of the Famous Waterford Poisoning Case of 1893, will be a feature story in the Saratoga County History Centers Program, This week in Saratoga County History. This program is in its 2nd year. This will be the first 2 part story. It will run for 2 weeks. The story of the alleged murders one week and the results of the investigation and trial the next.

The tour for the Environmental Tourism class from Siena College went well. It was a rainy and cold day. The Waterford Harbor Visitor's Center was flooded that day. A walk of that area was scheduled. We amended the program to Lock 2 Park, a walk on the Champlain Canal Towpath, and then a bus tour of the drained flight of locks and AlCathy's area. We started the tour at the Cohoes Falls and the Harmony Mills Complex, then bussed to Waterford. Considering the adverse conditions, all went well.

He attended the board meeting of the Saratoga County History Center at the Brookside Museum.

Our Waterford Museum is hoping to loan an item to the History Center for their upcoming Exhibit on Manufactured in Saratoga County. The item would be a heating stove manufactured by Hudson & Mohawk Manufacturing, better known as Eddy Valve in Waterford.

He will be attending a meeting next week with other Town Historians and the County Historian to discuss plans for the 250th Anniversary of the County's role in the American Revolution. Obviously, Saratoga, Waterford, and many other county locations were involved a great deal. As was Waterford's Father VanSchoonhoven.

He is working with Upstate Kayaks. They are hoping to do more water and land tours in Waterford this year.

The Saratoga County History Center has asked me to have two towpath walks in Waterford this year. Last year was well attended and enjoyed. They are hoping to schedule an after-walk get-together in Waterford after one of the walks.

He also assisted the Mylott family, although not to a large degree. One of their family members Eugene Edward Chounire, with ties to Waterford and Cohoes, was killed during WW II in a bombing mission over Germany in November of 1942. This year the family is traveling there for the 80th anniversary of the event. Eugene was actually in the British Air

Corp. but an American citizen. I was not able to uncover any more than they already knew. But we did find that 4 of the Mylott boys served for the USA, 3 were wounded and Milo, who many may remember was a bona fide war hero and saved several lives.

Councilman Boudreau spoke of upcoming events at the Waterford Museum. On Friday May 6th from 6pm-8pm is a special opening reception with light refreshments. The exhibit will be highlighting businesses, churches, organizations from Waterford's past. Saturday June 4th from 1pm-3pm 'Savage Art and Lilac Wine and Cheese Tasting' to be held on the lawn and front porch of the Museum.

Outdoor Lectures at the Museum start June 10th at 6:30. Cost is \$10 per person. Local Historian Michael Barrett- "The Anti-Rent War". Lectures will be the second Friday of the month and are picnic style, bring your own chairs and refreshments.

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

Councilman Ball read the summary of police activity for April. There were arrests 34 traffic tickets 100, motor vehicle accidents and calls for service 710.

Other activity:

Sergeant Dilbone worked as a NYS Assessor for the Accreditation program in Ulster County.

Officer Wagner participated in a car seat install program in the City of Cohoes.

Sergeant Dilbone taught recruits at the Zone 5 Academy on the topic of report writing.

Officer Williams attended the Saratoga County traffic safety meeting.

Officer Wagner secured several bicycle helmets from Martin, Harding, and Mazzotti that will be given to those in need during upcoming community events. Additionally, Stewarts donated several free ice cream cards to be given out by patrol officers to youths observed in compliance with helmet laws.

Open cases include 1 child pornography case, 1 Assault/Endangering the Welfare of a Child case, 1 Criminal Mischief case, 3 Larceny cases, and 4 Burglary cases.

The Summary of Arrests was also distributed to the Board which shows the 34 arrests by charge.

Councilman Ball spoke a word of caution to residents. Summertime is here and you may have seen small motorbikes and homemade go carts on the streets, these are not registered vehicles and do not belong on the roads. We ask that you be careful if you see one when out driving. Parents, these should not be on the roads.

The Councilman spoke of the recent recruitment drive by the Waterford Fire Department and Northside Fire Department on May 23rd and 24th. They provided tours and activities. We encourage people to volunteer.

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

Councilwoman Marble gave an update on the Town Recreation Department.

The Memorial Parade is Wednesday May 25th at 7 PM with a ceremony to follow at Soldier and Sailors Park.

We are still looking for any interested community groups that would like to either walk or have a float in the parade. Please contact me thru the Supervisor's Office if you are interested.

We are still looking for park counselors and lifeguards for our summer park season. Applications can be picked up and dropped off at the Supervisor's Office. We will be accepting them thru May 18th. Lifeguards must be certified by June 17th.

Councilwoman Marble gave an update from the Waterford Halfmoon School District. There are two finalists for the superintendent job at the WHHS. Right now, they are still in negotiations. The Capital project is in full swing. Work is being done on the outside and demolition in Tech and PE wing. The sports program is midway through the season. June 2nd is Senior give back day.

The Councilwoman read a report from the Waterford Library. The library will hold it's 2023 Budget Vote on Wednesday June 1st at the Library from 9 am-6pm. All Residents of the school district are eligible to vote. Absentee ballots will be available upon request. Copies of the budget will be available at the library and on the website.

The library has added a new digital platform to its collections. It's called Hoopla and people can sign up for it with their new library card. They can then check out up to 5 items per month from Hoopla , including e-books, audiobooks, movies, music, and more. There is a link to Hoopla on the library website.

The library will have a table at the Farmer's market this summer. They will be there the first and fourth Sundays of the month from July to Sept. They will info about the library, people can sign up for cards there, along with giveaways and more. The library will be offering an in-person Summer Reading program this Summer. It will take place in July and early August. More details to come.

Councilwoman Marble stated that Building Department issued 23 permits and three Stop Work orders for the month.

The Councilwoman then read the Harbor Center report as submitted by Canal Visitor Center Director/Harbormaster Jeff Cleary. Plans are underway for the 2022 navigation season and planning for several festivals are underway.

CanalFest is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, May 21st and 22nd. Our Independence Day Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, July 2nd and the legendary Tugboat Round-up will take place on September 9th, 10th and 11th. The Dragon Boat Festival will return on Saturday, August 6th. More information will be released soon.

The Federal Lock at Troy will open on May 1st.

The Erie and Champlain Canals will open on May 20th.

On April 8th water and debris came over the wall an into the Dock Office area with more than 2 feet of water. As usual Paul Terry and our hard-working Highway Department did a great job on the clean-up efforts. The Highway Department was back on April 21st to replace the line on the flag pole and they returned again on April 25th to mulch and help beautify the Hurst Harbor Center. Many thanks to Superintendent Tony Lubas and his team.

I am happy to report that the Dock Office has a new air conditioning unit for the comfort of our guests and volunteers. The Visitor Center/ Dock Office is seeking volunteers to assist during the upcoming navigation season. This is a great way to serve your community for a few hours each week while meeting people from around the world and enjoying the natural beauty of our harbor and our town. An informational lunch is planned for Wednesday, May 11th at 12:30 at the Waterford Community/Senior Center. Please RSVP to Jeff Cleary at (518) 233-9123, If you cannot make the lunch, please call Jeff at the visitor center.

We are also seeking part time custodial work on the weekends. Applications are available at Town Hall, if you have any questions, please call Jeff Cleary at the Visitor Center.

Committee on Veterans, Grants and Funding, Special Projects, Town Hall and Seniors
Councilman McClement read the Senior Transportation report as submitted by Driver Andy Walters”

Medical Transportation

Appts - 28

Cancellations - 19

Miles – 772.6

Hours – 54.25

Grocery Bus

Seniors - 29

Hours - 16

Miles - 99

To sign up for this service contact Andy Walters at 518-527-4589 or call the Senior Center.

The Councilman then read the monthly Seniors report. New Members-4, Total Visitors- 399 Regularly scheduled weekly activities are going quite well. Our sewing class and arts and crafts class have an increase in new participants, of whom are busy making crafts for the Canal Fest weekend.

In our Watercolors Class, it’s quite remarkable to see the expanse of different levels of experience, from the novice to the well-seasoned artist. There is room for more participants too.

The Ice Cream Social held on April 13th this month was a hit. We served up ice cream for a few more weeks beyond this event! Thanks to Stewarts Shops for their generous donation.

The presentation on Proper Disposal on Medications held on April 19th turned out an impressive crowd of 31 people. Many people brought in their expired meds to dispose of. Thanks to John McDonald from Marra’s Pharmacy for taking time to come to our Center to present such a worthwhile and informative discussion.

We had an amazing turnout at our Afternoon Tea Social held on April 28th. Ladies donning their hats, several selections of tea and an impressive assortment of finger sandwiches, scones and other pastries were just part of it all. Most memorable though was the collective enthusiasm shared by all, as so many folks stepped up to the plate to help make this event happen. My

sincere thanks to all for your help to make this not only a memorable event, but being here for our first of many tea parties to come.

This coming Friday May 6th, 32 Seniors from Waterford Community Senior Center will be attending the Saratoga County Office of the Aging Luncheon. The theme this year is The Wizard of Oz. We look forward to this event which provides a chance to connect with other Seniors in surrounding communities. 700-800 people are expected to be attending at the Saratoga Civic Center.

Our Trip Club is in full swing with planning upcoming trips. On May 24, for our first trip this year, we have sold out our seats to attend Grapevine Farms in Cobleskill. We are scheduled to go to Lake George to board the San Sacramento for a cruise luncheon on June 29th. We also will be going to the Saratoga Race Track on July 29th. More information to follow on these and other trips we are planning.

Lastly, we will be hosting a Garden Club Informational Meeting for our community on Wednesday, May 11th at 6:00 pm here at the Center. This is a great opportunity to get involved and volunteer some time while working with others in our Community Garden. Much of which is grown will go to our local food pantries. Let us grow together as a community as we nurture one another through good health, stewardship and caring for one another. Submitted by Director Eileen Haldeman. Councilman McClement stated if there are any questions about these activities to contact the Senior Center at 518-235-8500.

Supervisor Lawler pointed out that Eileen was in attendance tonight and that she has held a number of events at the Center and started some new programs as well, nice work. He has heard these are all well attended and put together well. We appreciate all you do.

Councilman McClement spoke about the Saratoga County Board of Supervisor Honor A Deceased Veteran Program. This is the highest honor the Board of Supervisor's can bestow on a Veteran. On June 21st at 2pm a Veteran from Waterford, Butch Giroux who was a Vietnam Veteran, will be honored. Anyone who is interested to honor a Veteran and Butch is welcome to attend. It will be held at 40 McMaster Steet in Ballston Spa and the Board of Supervisor's Building.

Supervisor Lawler asked about the cancellations that were mentioned in the Senior Transportation report; there were 29 appointments and 19 cancellations. Is this a scheduling issue?

Councilman McClement stated that he feels this is the nature of the service. With the uptick in Covid there are cancellations due to illness and appointments being rescheduled by doctors.

Both Eileen and the Councilman stated that these cancellations are not on the Town side, no scheduling issues.

The Councilman added that the Town has posted an opening for a Chauffeur position. We do not want to pull or medical transportation driver from his duties.

General Orders

Supervisor Lawler stated that it seems like a long time ago when we hired Matt Gibbons as a Police Officer. We are happy to say that Matt is returning to the Waterford Police Department. Matt lives here, his kids are in the school district, he is invested in the Waterford community. We are proud of your reputation and standing in the community and we are happy to have you back with us.

RESOLUTION # 80

RESOLVED, that Matthew Gibbins be and he is hereby appointed as full time Police Officer at a salary of \$64,801.32 according to the current union contract to be paid in weekly installments by the Supervisor without the necessity of pre-audit by the Town Board.

Offered by Councilman Ball
Seconded by Town Board

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

Councilman Ball mentioned they are proud to have Matt back, he is a compliment to the department. He also thanked Sgt. Shudt for participation and recruitment of Officer Gibbins. Officer Gibbins was sworn in by Supervisor Lawler with Sgt. Dilbone and Councilman Ball assisting.

RESOLUTION # 81

RESOLVED, that Darci Kane be and she is hereby appointed as Zoning Board of Appeals Secretary at a salary of \$200.00 per month to be paid in monthly installments by the Supervisor without the necessity of pre-audit by the Town Board.

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 spoke about the position of Secretary of ZBA. It's time sensitive and labor intensive. He gave credit to Planning Board Director Dave Woodin for finding a secretary.

RESOLUTION # 82

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor be and he is hereby authorized to sign a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Agreement with Care Environmental Corp. for 2022.

Offered by Councilman Boudreau
Seconded by Councilman McClement

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

RESOLUTION # 83

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor be and he is hereby authorized to sign an agreement with Pan American Dragon Boat Association in the amount of \$9,516.00 for equipment and services associated with the Town of Waterford 2022 Dragon Boat Festival.

Offered by Councilman Marble
Seconded by Councilman Boudreau

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

Supervisor Lawler stated that we held this event for 2 years pre Covid and were successful. The Harbor Center is a beautiful location for this event. The Dragonboat event will be held in August, it is a good opportunity to bring people into the community, to showcase the Harbor Center and raise money for Breast Cancer Research. We hold a ceremony before the event to honor breast cancer survivors and those who have passed.

Town Clerk Carrigan added that she has already heard from one of the past dragonboat teams and they are thrilled that the Town is holding the event this year and have verbally committed. They are planning their summer schedule around our August event.

RESOLUTION # 84

RESOLVED, that Nicole David be and she is hereby hired as Assistant Pool Director for the 2022 season at a salary of \$15.25 per hour to be paid in weekly installments by the Supervisor without the necessity of pre-audit by the Town Board.

Offered by Councilwoman Marble
Seconded by Councilman Boudreau

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

Councilwoman Marble spoke about more upcoming Town events happening in June. On June 17th the Town will be having a Sock Hop and Car cruise from 3-8PM and on June 26th there will be a Fishing Derby. Both events will be held at Sugarloaf Pond.

Supervisor Lawler suggested passing out a flyer to let residents know that the pond will have more traffic on these 2 days.

The Councilwoman added that the first of many outdoor movie nights will take place on June 22nd at the Senior Community Center more details to follow.

The meeting was opened to the public.

Chris Connell- Garrett Drive- asked of there was a cause of the duck die off at Sugarloaf Pond recently?

Supervisor Lawler stated that a private individual put more ducks into the pond. Some became ill, DEC was called and they took charge of the ducks.

Councilman Ball added that it apparently seemed to be Avian Bird Flu. DEC recommended that the rest of the flock (2 birds) be put down.

Supervisor Lawler added that he has known this gentleman for a long time, he is good and kind hearted. It is unfortunate what happened last year with the ducks and he knows it affected this gentleman a great deal.

Chris C. – stated that thankfully it seems enough cattails were left at the pond, the red winged blackbirds have come back. She also asked about the County Covid relief money. Is there any information. The awards were supposed to be announced in the second quarter.

Councilman McClement added that he was informed that some grants will be issued by the end of the month. The County is still accepting grants till the money is gone.

Supervisor Lawler commented that the grant Chris is asking about is on behalf of the library, Chris is the president. The County put together grant money for nonprofits.

Councilman Boudreau made a motion at 8:02PM to close the meeting seconded by Councilman McClement. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Shannon Carrigan
Town Clerk