

At the Town Board Meeting of the Waterford Town Board held on May 2, 2023 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
Councilman Laurie Marble
Supervisor John Lawler

Those absent:

Councilman Frank McClement

Communications and Petitions

There were none

Action on Minutes of Previous Meetings as Follows

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting of April 4, 2023 and Agenda Meeting of April 25, 2023 were presented to the Board. A motion was made by Councilman Boudreau, seconded by Councilman Ball 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 2023. The audited vouchers totaled \$ 354,824.32 and the payments in advance of audit totaled \$35,741.10. The petty cash report totaled \$9.24. A motion to adopt the financial report, reimburse petty cash and pay the abstracts was made by Councilman Ball and seconded by Councilwoman Marble. All voted in favor of the motion.

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

Councilman Boudreau read the Highway Department report for the month of April 2023. Brush and trash was removed from the annual canal clean up on Fulton Street. Culvert improvements were made on Devitt Rd South. Annual street sweeping was completed. Tennis Court nets were installed at Mallards Landing Park. All town ball fields and parks were mowed and maintained. Storm water catch basins were inspected and cleaned. All vehicles and equipment continue to be serviced and repaired. 10 Tons of crusher was used for road improvements. 15 Yards of mulch was used for various town locations. 6 Tons of blacktop was used for road repair. 390 Yards of trash was collected. 30 Yards of scrap metal was collected. 480 Yards of green waste was collected. The Highway Department responded to 21 service requests and processed 44 Dig Safe requests with 2 emergencies.

Councilman Boudreau then read the Wastewater Department report for April. Average Influent Flow: 993,000 gallons/day. We removed: 8,000 gallons of sludge to Albany County, 52,000 gallons of sludge to Saratoga County

Alarms answered:2, High Flow-0, Power-0, Mechanical-1, Phone-0, Testing- 1

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.

Assisted the Highway Department with a discussion with a resident at 220 Middletown Road about sewer lateral ownership and the repair/cleaning cost responsibility.

Pressure washed and brushed the UV area troughs and weirs and installed the UV disinfections system for the 2023 river swimmable season which runs from May 1st to October 31st.

We worked with the A-Team to change out faulty electrical contactors at the Timber Drive pump station and repair piping at the James Drive pump station.

We used the vac truck to clean the Murray Ave, Sage Road, Birch Glen, Fonda Road, and the Front Street pump stations.

Glen from Troy Belting installed new piping, wiring, and a new power outlet in the UV area of the river side final clarifier.

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. Please look on the Towns website for more information.

Submitted Craig F. Falcone, Chief Operator.

The Councilman then read the monthly reports from the Water Commissioners.

Water Consumption-The Water Works delivered approximately 30,939,405 gallons or 998,045 gpd of water during the month.

Water Distribution System Work-The staff completed close to 150 dig-safe utility locations as well as 30 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 with drive by read meters. Staff have logged 2556 meters installed to date. Meter reading fees are now being billed to residents that still have old style meters. A concerted effort is still under way to complete this upgrade. Lack of customer response continues to impede progress.

Hydrant Maintenance - Flushing is in progress, it is anticipated that flushing will be completed the week of May26th If there are any questions or concerns, we can be reached through our website www.waterfordwater.org or 518-237-0422.

Councilman Boudreau read an update from Town Historian Russ Vandervoort.

A fellow Municipal Historian is researching Yorkers. Yorkers was a State- sponsored historical program of the 1940s for schools. The county is attempting to document any of its activities within the county. We were unable to find any evidence of Waterford's participation. Cohoes was a participant, not Waterford.

Assisting a Waterford resident in researching their Italian Heritage. Acquired a framed, original photo of the tug Schenectady in the Waterford

Harbor preparing for the first Waterford to Buffalo run on the new Erie Barge

Canal in 1915. Among the crew were members of the storied Connors family of Waterford.

Attended Trivia Night on behalf of the Waterford Museum.

This Friday and Saturday, I will be in attendance at a Revolutionary War Symposium in Schuylerville.

On May 20th, I will be conducting a canal walk during the Canal Fest.

May 20th will also mark the opening of the year-long display at the Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum II "Made in Saratoga County" Waterford's submission is a heating/cooking stove from the Hudson – Mohawk Manufacturing Co. Also known as Eddy Valve.

Councilman Boudreau then stated that on May 5th the Waterford Museum will hold the opening of a new exhibit called "Waterford Framed". It will be various photos, prints, and newspaper clippings from the days past. Free public admission to the exhibit that night only.

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

Councilman Ball read the following is a summary of police activity during the month of April 2023: 46 arrests, 166 traffic tickets, 11 motor vehicle accidents, 501 calls for service.

Other activity: All Officers received training in Officer Wellness.

Officer Ashe attended training at the Zone 5 Law Enforcement Academy to be certified in Evidence Collection and Crime Scene Processing.

New Departmental Policy regarding the Safeguarding of Children of Arrestees was issued per DCJS requirement.

The Councilman stated out of the 501 calls for service there were 8 larceny calls, 8 domestic related calls, 4 DUI, 7 fire calls, 29 EMS calls, 7 warrant calls and 142 traffic stops. The Summary of Arrests report along with the status of open/closed investigations was distributed to the Board.

Councilman Ball stated that the three fire companies in Waterford – FB Peck Hose, Waterford, and Halfmoon Waterford are always seeking volunteers.

The Councilman stated that some areas in the Village are undergoing a National Grid gas line replacement.

Supervisor Lawler stated that Councilman McClement is not here this evening, he is on vacation. Deputy Supervisor Marble will be reading his reports.

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

Councilwoman Marble read the monthly report for the Waterford Seniors as submitted by Director Eileen Haldeman.

Attendance for April 2023- 387, New Members- 2

Transportation report

Grocery bus

Shoppers -42, Miles-119, Hrs-12

Medical Transportation

Clients -27, Cancelations -17, Miles - 892.4

Vehicle Odometer readings

2018 Chevy Bus -6824

2015 Ford Bus - 96129
2009 Ford Van - 97884

Along with our regular weekly schedule, more people are venturing out to be a part of the walking group. In the past few weeks attendance has doubled. You can walk at your own pace and take in the beauty of our canal towpath. Come walk with our group and bring a friend.

Some fun new things we are working at the Center; pressing fresh flowers to use in decorative projects and planting our own potatoes in a fabric container.

We have gotten the gardening group together prepare the soil with fertilizer. Some vegetables will be planted this week and then I expect the remainder to be in the ground by the end of May. We had a great turnout at the Blood Drive and are planning another event in the Fall.

This year's Annual Saratoga Co Seniors Luncheon will be held at Saratoga Springs Civic Center on Friday May 19. This year's theme will be Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. 35 people have signed up to go.

The Trip Club is busy planning great places to visit. This past week, groups of Seniors went to The Curtain Call Theatre in Latham to see the play "Our Lady of Perpetual Help". I was told that it was quite funny. They also enjoyed the shopping trip to the mall. On May 24, the club is going to The Little Vegas Theatre in Rotterdam to be entertained by a Frank Sinatra impersonator.

We will be having a guest speaker at the Center, local physician and author, Dr. John Len will be joining us next Tuesday May 9 at noon to discuss his books he has written.

There will be a Volunteer Recruitment Luncheon tomorrow May 3 at the Center at 12 noon. Per harbormaster, Jeff Cleary, he is looking for recruits to help out and be on hand down at the harbor to greet our visitors both from near and far. This harbor front is a fascinating place which attracts many travelers each season making their way through Erie Canal System.

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

Councilwoman Marble stated that the new playset at Clement Park is due by the end of the week. Some important events coming up include the Memorial Parade on May 24th, the Town Pool will open on June 24th, the Fishing Derby is back at Sugarloaf Pond on June 25th and the Clement Park Program starts June 24th.

Councilwoman Marble gave an updated from the Waterford Halfmoon School. The Budget will be presented to the public this Thursday at the school board mtg.. The School Budget vote and School board vote is on May 16th. Prepping for the end of year is underway, All of the current sports schedules are on the school website on the sports calendar

Little League and Softball both started their season this past weekend.

The Councilwoman went on to read the monthly report from the Building Department. There were 27 building permits issued, 20 onsite inspections, and 3 stop work orders, 8 stops for roadside items / trash and 3 fire calls.

A property on Saratoga Ave has been cleaned of all garbage. 1 landlord tenant dispute has been resolved.

Unsafe accessory structure on South St. ext. is being removed by the owner.

The asbestos abatement has been completed at 90 Hudson River Road and the structure has been demolished.

Meetings with the new owners of 15 Fonda Road. They are waiting for the deed to be transferred and then the steps will be taken to demolish that structure.

A complaint for chickens at a property on First Ave has been resolved and the chickens have been removed.

Attempts have been made to contact a home owner on Timber Drive regarding their property and further step will be put in motion to resolve the problem with the home.

3 attempts have also been made in regards to a dead tree on Middletown Road that is a risk to public safety and further steps will be taken.

A property on the north end of Fonda Road has started to clean up and remove items from the property.

The owner of a property has been contacted regarding the accumulation of unregistered trucks / equipment / trailers etc., occupied by a tenant in the town limits and has agreed to address the problem in the coming weeks.

A property on Grand Alley also has an accumulation of trash / building material and further steps will be taken to have all material removed.

All properties on Industry Drive have been contacted in regards to the entrances to the businesses. The contact stems from tracking mud and debris into the street.

Councilwoman Marble read an update from the Hurst Harbor Visitor Center from Harbormaster Jeff Cleary.

The NYS Canal Corporation announced that the Canal system will open on May 19th for the 199th consecutive season of navigation. The Canal system is scheduled to close on October 11, 2023.

The Dock Office is currently being prepared for the 2023 navigation season. CanalFest is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, May 20th and 21st.

Our Independence Day Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, July 1st

and the legendary Tugboat Round-up will take place on September 8th, 9th and 10th.

More festivals and events are being discussed and will be announced as they are finalized.

The New York Navel Militia will once again station a patrol boat in Waterford. This is the 3rd consecutive year that they will be in port.

On Wednesday, May 3rd, there will be a luncheon at the Waterford Community/Senior Center at 12:00 Noon to welcome new and returning volunteers to the Hurst Harbor Center. Anyone interested in attending should call Jeff Cleary at 518- 233-9123. Volunteering a few hours each week is a great way to serve your community while meeting people from around the world and enjoying the natural beauty of our harbor and our town.

The Councilwoman then went on to read an update from Tim McDonough the Waterford Library Director, We welcome Daisy, a therapy dog, for our story-time program on Friday May 5th. The library offers a story-time for families and pre-school children each Friday at 10:30am.

The library now has 3 fishing poles and gear available for checkout. The equipment has been donated by the NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation. Please contact Tara King at the library for more information.

The library is planning to plant an herb garden as part of our window box planting project. We hope to be able to offer free herbs to folks through our Farm2Libraries program. We welcome folks interested in helping with the program.

The library will hold its 2024 Budget Vote and Trustee Election on Wednesday June 7th. There are 2 seats up for election this year. Residents of the Waterford School District who might be interested in serving as a Library Trustee are encouraged to contact Library Director Tim McDonough for more information. Copies of the proposed budget are available upon request.

General Orders

RESOLUTION # 79

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor be and he is hereby authorized to sign an agreement with Pan Am Dragon Boat LLC in the amount of \$12,292.00 for equipment and services associated with the Town of Waterford 2023 Dragon Boat Festival.

Offered by Councilman Ball
Seconded by Councilwoman Marble

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

Supervisor Lawler stated this year's Dragonboat Festival will be held on August 5th and the proceeds will be benefitting To Life! which is a local organization that supports and educates those dealing with a breast cancer diagnosis.

RESOLUTION # 80

RESOLVED, that Russell Vandervoort be and he is hereby authorized to attend the 2nd Annual Women in War Symposium on May 5th and 6th 2023 at a cost of \$110.00.

Offered by Councilman Boudreau
Seconded by Councilwoman Marble

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

RESOLUTION # 81

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor be and he is hereby authorized to sign a 48 month lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for a postage meter.

Offered by Councilwoman Marble
Seconded by Councilman Ball

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

RESOLUTION # 82

RESOLVED, that Francesca Lanning-Ashe be and she is hereby hired as Assistant Pool Director at a salary of \$16.25 per hour to be paid in weekly installments by the Town 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
Supervisor Lawler yes

RESOLUTION # 83

RESOLVED, that George Moore be and he is hereby hired as Part Time Cleaner at the Waterford Harbor Visitor Center at a salary of \$17.50 per hour to be paid in weekly installment by the Town Supervisor without the necessity of pre audit by the Town Board.

Offered by Councilwoman Marble
Seconded by Councilman Ball

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

Other Business

RESOLUTION # 84

RESOLVED, that Joshua Muzzi be and he is hereby appointed as full time Police Officer at a salary 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 Councilman Boudreau

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

Supervisor Lawler invited Councilman Ball to join him in administering the Oath of Office to Josh and his family was invited to help pin his badge.

Supervisor Lawler stated that Josh has been working towards this for many years, he is extremely focused and we are glad to able to add Josh to our department, he will be working with a tremendous group of officers.

RESOLUTION #85

RESOLVED, that Tony Lubas be and he is hereby authorized to attend the 2023 Highway School at Ithaca College from June 5-7, 2023.

Offered by Councilman Boudreau
Seconded by Councilman Ball

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

There were no other comments.

Councilman Boudreau made a motion to close the meeting at 7:35PM, seconded by Councilwoman Marble. All voted in favor of the motion.

Supervisor Lawler hopes everyone has a wonderful May and Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Shannon Carrigan
Town Clerk