

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, held on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. This meeting was held during the COVID-19 virus outbreak, and public attendance was prohibited. Some members of the Village Board physically attended at the Village Hall. The public was allowed access via Zoom teleconferencing.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Robert M. Blais, Mayor  
John Earl, Deputy Mayor  
Joseph Mastrodomenico, Trustee (Attended via Zoom)  
John Root, Trustee  
Ray Perry, Trustee

Also Present: Clerk Debra McKinney, Superintendent Keith Lanfear, WWTP Operator Tim Shudt, Tabor Dunn, and others via Zoom.

At 10:00 a.m. Mayor Blais opened the Regular Meeting and asked Trustee Root to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Blais presented the minutes from a Regular Meeting held on September 21, 2020. Trustee Root made a motion, seconded by Trustee Earl, unanimously carried, to approve the September 21, 2020 Meeting minutes.

**VOTING**      **Ayes: 5**                      **Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root**  
                    **Nays: 0**  
**MOTION PASSED.**

Mayor Blais presented the minutes from a Special Meeting held on October 5, 2020. Trustee Root made a motion, seconded by Trustee Earl, carried by a majority, to approve the October 5, 2020 Meeting minutes.

**VOTING**      **Ayes: 4**                      **Blais, Earl, Perry, Root**  
                    **Nays: 0**  
                    **Abstention:**              **Mastrodomenico**  
**MOTION PASSED.**

Monthly reports from the Sanitation Department and Caldwell Sewer District, Superintendent of Public Works, REC Center, Fire Department, Planning & Zoning Director and Code Enforcement, Meter Enforcement and Revenues, Teen Center, and Park Mobile were presented and made available to the public.

Mayor Blais asked the Board to consider the Fire Chief's request for the Village to cover the cost of hooking up a gear dryer that was donated to the Department. Trustee Earl commented that having the option to wash and dry their gear is basically a mandate today. The gear has to be washed and dried to be put back into service. One quote was presented; it was suggested that the Board could approve this work at a cost not to exceed the proposal, and if a cheaper price comes in, they can go with that vendor.

Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Root, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 128, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the cost to set up the necessary electrical to install the gear dryer at a cost not to exceed \$3,240. to be charged to the Fire Appropriation.**

**VOTING**      **Ayes: 5**      **Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root**  
                 **Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 128, 2020 ADOPTED.                      October 19, 2020**

Mayor Blais reported that he got some more information about the current Fire Department members and potential members that live outside of the district. Company Vice President Garrett Ramsey works locally, and has over five years' experience, and has a good record of attending calls, drills, etc. Mayor Blais noted that we usually try to accept members that work within the district. Trustee Earl commented that he has been notified that Mr. Ramsey is allowed to leave his place of employment to go to fire calls, and Mr. Ramsey is a pump operator/driver and attends a majority of the training and calls.

Trustee Earl made a motion, seconded by Trustee Root, unanimously carried, to approve Garrett Ramsey to remain in the Fire Department as long as he maintains his attendance rating.

**VOTING**      **Ayes: 5**                      **Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root**  
                 **Nays: 0**

**MOTION PASSED.**

The application for John Servelli was reconsidered. Trustee Perry looked up the address, and there was a question as to how far away he lives and works. The Board decided to table this for further information.

Mayor Blais acknowledged an attendee, who identified himself as Tabor Dunn of Carefree Lane. Mayor Blais asked if he would like to address the Board. Mr. Dunn requested that the Board consider the possibility of offering a sticker for any Lake George resident to allow them to park without paying the meters. He went on to say that he has talked with his neighbors, and they are all willing to pay \$30 for a parking permit. He noted that this would go a long way to support local businesses and residents. Mayor Blais replied that many times, locals have asked for parking permits. He noted that Route 9 is a State highway, and we have not been allowed to offer any kind of permits to residents stating that it would be discriminatory to not offer them to everyone. Mayor Blais confirmed that it has been allowed on back street parking, in a sense that we offer a parking permit at the cost of \$100. for the James Street parking lot. Mr. Tabor asked about parking for school participants, and Mayor Blais confirmed that while school is in session, we have a waiver for fees in our local law. Mayor Blais commented that he has checked on resident parking permits many times over the years, but will follow up again with our attorney, and see if there are any options.

Mayor Blais acknowledged a letter from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation which recently conducted a Comprehensive SPDES Inspection of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The report came back that "Overall, the Village of Lake George WWTP appeared to be well operated and maintained and was producing a clear effluent at the time of inspection. The facility inspection has been assigned a rating of satisfactory."

The following resolutions were considered:

- Tax Collector Danae Bock submitted the list of unpaid Village Taxes to be relayed onto January 2021 Town & County Taxes.

Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Perry, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 129, 2020**

10-19-20 regular

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Treasurer to relay to Warren County the list of unpaid Village taxpayers for the June 2020 Village taxes in the amount of \$58,206.26 plus interest in the amount of \$4,714.52 which includes a postage fee for each parcel, for a grand total of \$62,920.78.

**VOTING**      **Ayes: 5**      **Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root**  
                  **Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 129, 2020 ADOPTED.                      October 19, 2020**

- Accept list of unpaid Town Water Customers to be relayed onto January 2021 Town & County Taxes.

Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Perry, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 130, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Treasurer to relay to Warren County the list of unpaid Town Water Customers in the amount of \$17,685.17 plus interest and penalties of \$2,883.37 for a total of \$20,568.54 to appear on their January 2021 Town and County tax bill as per an agreement with the Town of Lake George.

**VOTING**      **Ayes: 5**      **Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root**  
                  **Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 130, 2020 ADOPTED.                      October 19, 2020**

- 2021 Fire Contract for Annual Operating and Debt Expenses has been submitted to Town officials for approval.

Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Perry, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 131, 2020**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Lake George has contracted with the Village of Lake George for fire protection;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George hereby authorizes Mayor Blais to sign the 2021 Fire Contract for Annual Operating and Debt Expenses with the Town with a total payment of \$372,050.25 to be due in the month of February 2021;

**VOTING**      **Ayes: 5**      **Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root**  
                  **Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 131, 2020 ADOPTED.                      October 19, 2020**

- Approve renewal contract for Humana Medicare Advantage for 2021 coverage for Medicare eligible retirees at a premium of \$136.26 per person per month. The 2021 rates are a 23.9% decrease, which is a one-time reduction due to COVID. 2022 rate premiums will be based on this year's monthly rate of \$172.59 per person per month.

Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Perry, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 132, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village Board hereby authorizes Mayor Robert Blais to sign a one-year contract with Humana for Group Medicare health insurance called "Passive LPPO 079 059 Medical with Rx66" beginning January 1, 2021 at a cost of \$136.26 per person per month.

**VOTING**      **Ayes: 5**      **Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root**  
                  **Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 132, 2020 ADOPTED.                      October 19, 2020**

- James D. Quirk Lease for Beach Road Ticket Booth. Mr. Quirk has agreed to commit to seasons 2021 and 2022.

Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Perry, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 133, 2020**

**WHEREAS**, James D. Quirk was originally awarded the Beach Road Ticket Booth bid for the 2018 season, and Mr. Quirk chose his right of renewal for two additional terms at an escalation rate of 5% each additional year above the succeeding year;

**WHEREAS**, James D. Quirk did not use the ticket booth for the 2020 season, but would like to accept the Board's offer to commit to use it for 2021 and 2022.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village Board hereby authorizes Mayor Blais to sign a renewal of the lease for the Beach Road Ticket Booth with James D. Quirk for the period of May 1 through October 26, 2021; at a total cost of \$14,077.82. (the 2019 bid proposal \$13,407.45 PLUS 5% escalation \$670.37); and also for the 2022 season, the final year of the lease, at a total cost of \$14,781.71

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Mr. Quirk may choose to pay the full cost in advance of the season upon execution of the lease, or in six payments on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of each month thereafter beginning May 1, 2021;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Village Board waives the 2020 season fees as long as Mr. Quirk pays as promised for 2021 and 2022.

**VOTING**      **Ayes: 5**      **Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root**  
                  **Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 133, 2020    October 19, 2020**

The following Special Event/Facility Use applications were considered:

Mayor Blais announced that Lite Up the Village has officially been cancelled, but we still plan on putting up decorations and lighting them up.

- Jennifer Frame for the Special Olympics Lake George Polar Plunge to be held on Saturday, November 14, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the Shepard Park Beach.

Mayor Blais noted that they have successfully used the beach for this for several years. They have filed their Safety Plan, which has been approved by Warren County.

Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Root, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 134, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves the following Special Events/Facility Uses contingent upon receipt of all fees, insurance and other necessary documents:**

- **Jennifer Frame for the Special Olympics for Lake George Polar Plunge to be held on Saturday, November 14, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the Shepard Park Beach**

**VOTING      Ayes: 5      Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root  
                 Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 134, 2020 ADOPTED.                      October 19, 2020**

- Wood Park Holiday Light Display by Events to a T, Weekends, November 28, 2020-December 20, 2020. Mayor Blais reported that he has been working with Letizia Mastrantoni, and the group plans to shows the light displays 11 nights. So far there are 14 businesses signed up to set up light displays in Wood Park. They plan to ask for a \$5. donation per person to be given to operation Santa Claus. There will be no alcoholic beverages allowed. They plan to monitor the number of spectators in the Park. The Village will be designing a display as well. Mayor Blais commented that as it stands the fee would be \$750. per day, but with the Board's approval he would like to reduce it to \$500. per day and ask for County approval. The organizers did receive some Joint Occupancy tax funding.

Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Perry, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 135, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves the use of the Charles R. Wood Park Festival space for the following events contingent upon receipt of all fees, insurance and other necessary documents**

- **Wood Park Holiday Light Display by Events to a T, Weekends, November 28, 2020-December 20, 2020**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this approval is contingent upon approval from the Warren County Board of Supervisors or the Operations and Maintenance Committee for the Park.**

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Village Board agrees to a reduced fee of \$500. a day if the County Committee approves it.**

**VOTING      Ayes: 5      Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Root, Perry  
                 Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 135, 2020 ADOPTED.                      October 19, 2020**

Mayor Blais notified the Board that Warren County has terminated the 2020 Occupancy Tax Funding Agreement with the Village. Mayor Blais commented that he will probably ask the County to reconsider the funding once they see the receipts for the 2020 season.

Patty Kirkpatrick submitted a request to leave her deck up year round, although her business is not open year round. She would agree to be responsible for snow removal. The Board discussed the requirements for businesses to keep their outdoor decks up year round, and agree that her business does not meet the criteria for a year round deck.

Mayor Blais reported that the Town of Lake George is considering setting up a special tax district to support the ambulance corp. There would be an additional tax line on their tax bill to cover the cost. The Emergency Squad is having trouble getting staff and volunteers. The Town currently pays a portion of their funding. The Village will be involved, so Dan Barusch will keep us informed as the process continues.

The Board agreed to set Fall Clean Up Week as October 19 through November 9, 2020.

Mayor Blais informed the Board that Prestige Services currently has a three-year contract for vending services which expires May 30, 2022, but they had contacted him to negotiate the contracted commission. They paid the \$4,500., which was the agreed upon price for 2020. Citing issues with vandalism and loss of sales due to COVID for this year, they are asking for a reduction and have offered a flat fee of \$2,500. or a 25% commission, which is estimated to be about \$3,000. Trustee Perry suggested we counter offer at \$3,000. Mayor Blais agreed to follow up with them.

Mayor Blais reiterated that Lite Up the Village for 2020 has been cancelled, but he's looking forward to having it back again next year.

Mayor Blais reported that the AUD was filed and accepted by the Comptroller's Office at the end of September.

Mayor Blais advised the Board that there has been several complaints of noise disturbances at 10 Jogues Farm Road. The Sheriff's have been there several times. He sent a warning letter to the owners to put them on notice. We have a noise ordinance law, so he has asked Code Enforcement Office Troy LaBelle to handle any future calls. He can go to the property and check the decibel reading and report back. Mayor Blais noted that he has requested a copy of a draft ordinance in use at another municipality from Attorney Fuller. The ordinance uses a point system for violations.

Trustee Root, seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico, offered the following resolution for the Water Changes:

**RESOLUTION NO. 136, 2020**

**OCTOBER 2020 WATER CHANGES**

<b>OCTOBER PENALTIES</b>	<b>\$ 482.01</b>
<b>NOV, DEC, JAN PENALTIES</b>	<b>\$ 717.99</b>
<b>TOWN RELEVY FEES</b>	<b>\$ 1,075.00</b>
<b>TOWN UNPAID WATER RENT RELEVY</b>	<b>\$20,568.54</b>

**FINAL READS:**

10-19-20 regular

G Doxie	\$ 48.65
17 Mohican Street LLC	\$ 63.76
T Treurniet	\$ 281.71

The above resulted in the following Journal Entries:

DR F0440 DUE FROM OTHER GOV'T	\$20,568.54
CR F0350 WATER RECEIVABLES	\$18,775.55
CR F2148 WATER PENALTIES	\$ 1,792.99
DR F0350 WATER RECEIVABLES	\$ 876.13
CR F2140 WATER METERED	\$ 394.12
CR F2148 WATER PENALTIES	\$ 482.01

VOTING      Ayes: 5      Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root  
                  Nays: 0

RESOLUTION NO. 136, 2020 ADOPTED.                      October 19, 2020

Trustee Root, seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico, offered the following resolution for Transfers and Audits:

RESOLUTION NO. 137, 2020

TRANSFERS:

From:	To:	Amount:
A1620.4      Buildings	A1620.22      Buildings Inventory	\$5,700.00
A3320.4      On Street Parking	A1110.4      Justice Contr.	\$4,000.00
A1990.4      Contingency	A1375.4      Credit Card fees	\$5,000.00
A1990.4      Contingency	A3620.4      Safety Ins	\$50.00
9/24/2020    General	\$107,074.29      210627-210653	34424-34430
Water	\$24,591.61	
	<u>\$131,665.90</u>	
10/8/2020    General	\$52,223.29	
Water	\$11,521.03      210654-210668	34435-34445
Sewer Plant Improv (HK)	\$1,409,856.57	
WTP PLC(HW)	\$70,000.00	
	<u>\$1,543,600.89</u>	
10/19/2020    General	\$201,051.34	
Water	\$37,771.79      210669-210768	
LG Watershed Mgmt(HA)	\$47,947.09	
Sewer Plant Improv (HK)	\$770,400.97	
Blueway Trail #1(HU)	\$16,002.72	
	<u>\$1,073,173.91</u>	

**VOTING**      **Ayes: 5**      **Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root**  
**Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 137, 2020 ADOPTED.                      October 19, 2020**

Mayor Blais asked for any other business.

Trustees Root and Perry thanked WWTP Operator Tim Shudt for their recent tour of the WWTP construction project.

Trustee Root asked about protocol for the March, 2021 election. Mayor Blais noted that he will watch for guidance from the Governor's office and follow up with Ryan Moore as well.

Trustee Perry congratulated Operator Shudt on the satisfactory rating for the WWTP operations.

Trustee Mastrodomenico clarified some details on the leaf cleanup.

Superintendent Lanfear suggested that it may be possible for the Village staff to take on the task of installing the fencing at the Lake Avenue Park. It would save some money. In regards to plowing down there, they will have to consider the placing of the fence. As far as Shepard Park fencing, then we can get quotes to get that one done next year. Trustee Perry remarked that he would like to be absolutely certain that we need fencing at Shepard Park after the pandemic is no longer an issue. Mayor Blais commented that the fencing in Shepard Park worked well. Superintendent Lanfear agreed that with the fencing around the beach this year, we had no problem with violations after hours.

There was a motion by Trustee Perry, to adjourn at 11:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. McKinney  
Village Clerk