

Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Public Hearing of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, held on Monday, December 19, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. Zoom teleconferencing was also available.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert M. Blais, Mayor
John Earl, Deputy Mayor
Joseph Mastrodomenico, Trustee
Ray Perry, Trustee
John Root, Trustee

Also Present: Clerk Julie Allen, WWTP Operator Tim Shudt, Doni Smith (President- Lake George Fire Dept), and Tony Hall.

At 4:30 p.m. Mayor Blais opened the Regular Meeting and asked Trustee Perry to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Perry suggested, and Mayor Blais agreed to a moment of silence honoring Jeff Killeen and Frank Dittrich.

At 4:31 p.m. Mayor Blais opened a Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law No. 7, 2022 Amending Chapter 135-2, License and Permits, Fees, of the Code of the Village of Lake George. Mayor Blais explained that we are requesting to increase the fees we charge individuals and businesses to obtain licenses. Mayor Blais further explained that the fees have not been increased since 2006 and the fees are used to cover the costs that we spend on the paperwork, forms, and the code enforcement officer. He opened the floor for public comment.

Mayor Blais presented the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on November 21, 2022. Trustee Root asked to make a comment or a correction to resolution 190. Trustee Root did not believe it reflected the motion he made because it does not give a date, instead it said, "Exact date to begin posting to be determined". Trustee Root felt it had been determined that it would be done as soon as possible. As no exact date to begin the postings was given, it was left to interpretation. Mayor Blais suggested that to clarify they needed to determine what meetings would be posted as well as a specific date. Trustee Root felt that any meeting that had a quorum should be posted, and that it should begin January 1, 2023.

Trustee Root made a Motion, seconded by Trustee Perry to amend Resolution 190 from the November 21, 2022 Regular Board Meeting. The change replaces the line "**Exact date to begin posting to be determined**" with "**YouTube posting to begin January 1, 2023 for any meeting with a Quorum**".

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

MOTION PASSED.

Trustee Root, seconded by Trustee Perry made a motion approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on November 21, 2022 with Amended Resolution 190.

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

MOTION PASSED.

Monthly reports from the Sanitation Department and Caldwell Sewer District, Superintendent of Public Works, Fire Department, Teen Center, Planning & Zoning Office, Parking Meter Collections, Meter Enforcement, and REC Center were presented and made available to the public.

Mayor Blais introduced Doni Smith, the President of the Fire Department, who had some Fire business she wanted to go over. President Smith said that the first item she wanted to update the Board about was the new key system on the Fire House. Doni Smith said the installation went well with exception of two doors that could not be done because the software on them was from 2008 and not compatible. President Smith requested that we have these two doors upgraded for an additional cost of approximately \$2,500.00. Trustee Mastrodomenico asked if they would be locked out if the doors were not done at this time. President Smith said they would still have access just not through those two doors. Mayor Blais said that he and Clerk Allen would look at the budget the following day to determine if the Fire Department had the funds available. Mayor Blais said if the funds are available, it made sense to do it now. President Smith said she would get a formal quote for the work to be done and send it over to the Clerk.

President Smith said that the members of the Fire Department had voted and decided to bring back the Hudson Valley Convention in 2025. Trustee Perry questioned if they were coming back this year. President Smith replied No, the Convention is in Queensbury this coming year and Saugerties the following year.

Trustee Perry asked if the door access was through an app or key fob and President Smith said yes, both, and that they were working very well. The Fire Department had already been able to let people in remotely and it was much more convenient.

President Smith wanted to remind the Board that they were looking to have the Vote on raising LOSAP \$200 added to the Ballot for the 2023 Election. Mayor Blais said that we do have it set to be on the Ballot in the 2023 Election.

The last item that President Smith wanted to go over was the Cancer Insurance for the Fire Department. President Smith explained that Fire Department currently has only the basic policy and would like to request the policy be upgraded to the Enhanced Coverage. President Smith said the Fire Members take all the precautions they can on their end and feel that more can be done to help protect those that risk their lives.

Mayor Blais reviewed the following resolutions for consideration:

- NY Fire & Security monthly monitoring contract for the Water Department new door alarm.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 195, 2022

WHEREAS NYMIR recommended we install a security alarm system in the Water Plant on Ottawa Street given the nature of its vital operational value to the community; and

WHEREAS we awarded and had installed a new Door Alarm System by New York Fire & Security; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees hereby declares the 2012 Chevy Tahoe ID#...9218 as surplus and wishes to put it out for auction.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 197, 2022 ADOPTED December 19, 2022

- WWTP Capital Payments

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

RESOLUTION NO. 198, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board authorizes payment to be processed for the WWTP capital project for EFC Payment Requests, which currently includes: Uline, Hach, Chazen Companies and Blue Heron Construction among other vendors, and any other request that comes in prior to the next Village Board meeting. Upon receipt of the transfer of funds from EFC, checks will be issued at the next available payroll/audit.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 198, 2022 ADOPTED. December 19, 2022

Mayor Blais brought back the ATV Access Resolution. Trustee Root asked for the specific dates. Mayor Blais said it would run from February 1, 2023 and continues until ice is out. Trustee Perry questioned the street descriptions. Mayor Blais explained that the Carnival prints out a map showing the routes outlined in Red.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 199, 2022

WHEREAS the Village of Lake George hosts several special events annually, in accordance with Article II 135-10 of the Code of the Village of Lake George;

WHEREAS, many of these events require the use of motorized vehicles, ATV's and snowmobiles during the winter months;

WHEREAS, the Village Board wishes to make accessible all businesses in the Village to these participants;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, due to a large influx of snowmobiles and ATV's that the Board of Trustees agrees to assist our open businesses into taking advantage of their presence, we hereby amend Article XXIII Snowmobiles of Chapter 200 Vehicle and Traffic of the Village Code to permit snowmobiles and ATVs on the following streets commencing February 1, 2023 and continues until ice is out on Lake George:

- 1) Dieskau Street and Ottawa Street from the intersection of Amherst Street north to a point 300 feet north of the intersection of Mohican Street**
- 2) Crossing Canada Street**

located outside the geographic limits of the Village, provided that such single-family residences are on individual lots and to be connected to an existing water line; and be it further

RESOLVED, that all projects currently approved by the Village shall not be subject to the foregoing pause, provided that all other requirements applicable to such projects shall remain unaffected by this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 200, 2022 ADOPTED. **December 19, 2022.**

The following Special Events/Facility Use Applications were considered:

Village

- Rock the Dock Music Festival, Luke Dow, July 8, 2023
- Winter Carnival and Parade, Nancy Nichols, weekends in February, 2023, Parade February 4, 2023 3:30 p.m.
- New Year’s Day Polar Plunge, Linda Duffy, January 1, 2023

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

RESOLUTION NO. 201, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves the Special Event application from Luke Dow, of the Lake George Steamboat Company for Rock the Dock Music Fest to be held on the Steel Pier July 8, 2023 from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves the Special Event application from Nancy Nichols, for use of Shepard Park and Blais Park for the Lake George Winter Carnival for weekends in February 2023 and approves the Parade permit for their scheduled parade on February 4, 2023 contingent upon receipt of insurance and other necessary documents.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves the Special Event application from Linda Duffy, for the use of Shepard Park Beach for the New Year’s Day Polar Plunge, on January 1, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board waives the fees for these events at Steel Peer, Shepard Park, Blais Park and for the Parade.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the approval is contingent upon receipt of fees, insurance and other necessary documents.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 201, 2022 ADOPTED. **December 19, 2022**

Wood Park

- Lake George Art & Craft, Tim Cianciola, July 26-30, 2023

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

RESOLUTION NO. 202, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves the use of the Charles R. Wood Park Festival space for the following event with requests for an alcohol waiver contingent upon receipt of all fees, insurance, and other necessary documents

- Lake George Art & Craft, by Tim Cianciola, at Wood Park, July 26-30, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that §148-45 to §148-48 of the Village's code will be waived for all applications hereafter referenced and indicate the sale of beer and wine on the premises during the event is hereby approved contingent upon proof of licensing from the New York State Liquor Authority, and

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.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 202, 2022 ADOPTED. December 19, 2022

The Fireworks bid for 2023, 2024, and 2025 was presented by Mayor Blais. Trustee Root questioned whether the Village was still receiving any donations for the shows. Mayor Blais responded that we have been very successful with donations. We currently receive \$25,000.00 from the County, and \$17,500.00 from the Town. All together about half of the cost is covered by others.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 203, 2022

WHEREAS, the Village Board solicited for bids for the 2023, 2024, and 2025 fireworks shows; and

WHEREAS, Santore's World Famous Fireworks of Stillwater, NY was the sole bidder; and

WHEREAS they are a responsive, responsible bidder;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George hereby awards the bid for the 2023 season fireworks to Santore's World Famous Fireworks of Stillwater, NY at a cost of \$6,750 for each Regular Show and \$12,500 for a Special Show on July 4, 2023 for a total cost of \$66,500.

ALSO BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board has a right to add two one-year extensions if both the Village and the vendor agrees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Board authorizes Mayor Blais to sign a contract as necessary for the above.

VOTING**Ayes: 5****Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root****Nays: 0****RESOLUTION NO. 203, 2022 ADOPTED.****December 19, 2022**

Ballots for Citizen of the Year were handed out. Trustees were instructed to mark their vote on the ballot and hand back the ballot in the envelope provided. The winner will be announced at the next regular meeting.

Mayor Blais presented Sample E-codes from other Municipalities regarding the allowance of Chickens in the Village. Trustee Root questioned whether making the allowance be approved by neighbors would put neighbors in an awkward position. Trustee Perry responded that if the Village decided to allow chickens, then they can write into law what they choose, that neighbors permission does not need to be included.

Mayor Blais explained the status of the Sewer Rate. The Mayor has provided all requested information to our consultant Jeffery Smith, and he will be getting back to us after the first of the year with information regarding our sewer rate. The Mayor explained that Jeffery Smith knows that it is the Villages intention to put it in place while working on a separate tax rate for the people in the Village. Mayor Blais stated he sent out emails to the Trustees for their opinion on the figure they believe we should use for the sewer rate. Mayor Blais said our consultant suggested 80% but Mayor Blais believes it should be higher, like 85%. The Mayor believes that the majority of water that people use goes down the drain, which is why the rate should be higher. Mayor Blais stated once the information is in from the consultant the Village Board will have a workshop. Mayor Blais said when the Board adopts the Budget, the tax rate will go down, even more than what was promised to the taxpayers. Trustee Root questioned if this would need a Public Hearing. The Mayor responded yes, but it can be incorporated into the Budget Hearing. Trustee Root commented that he believes that the Village Board will receive a lot of complaints when it comes time. Trustee Perry stated for the record he is ok with 85%. Trustee Root said he agrees, and Trustee Mastrodomenico said he is good with starting at 85% but reassessing after a while.

Mayor Blais said the Town of Lake George would like to sit down with the Village Board and have a Shared Services Summit. Mayor Blais said the Town wants to explore other services that we can do together and go over and weigh in on how some that we already do together are going. Mayor Blais suggested that this would be a good time to go over the purchase of the new Fire Truck. Mayor Blais said the Town didn't want to do the meeting until February, but the Mayor wants to suggest the meeting take place in January. Mayor Blais also wants the Fire Company to come and go over the new truck. Trustee Perry said he had heard the meeting between the Town and the Fire Company last week went very well.

Mayor Blais explained that to become compliant with the NYS Department of Health, trees around the water tanks need to be removed. Superintendent Lanfear received three different bids with the lowest being \$12,600.00. Mayor Blais said that his Church recently had a company come in and take down and remove trees and they were considerably less expensive. Mayor Blais is asking the company to also provide a bid before deciding who to use.

WWTP Chief Operator Tim Shudt explained that the Village of Lake George does not currently have a Confined Space Program and that we must have one per OSHA. Chief Operator Shudt has presented a written Confined Space Program. Chief Operator Shudt requested the Board of Trustees adopt it.

RESOLUTION NO. 206, 2022

12/19/2022

TRANSFERS:

From:		To:		Amount:
F8340.4	Trans. & Dist	F8310.4	Water Admin Contr	\$2,035.50
F1990.4	Contingency	F8310.4	Water Admin Contr	\$4,000.00
F9010.8	Wtr Retirement	F8310.4	Water Admin Contr	\$4,000.00
F.8340.4	Trans. & Dist	F8310.4	Water Admin Contr	\$20,000.00
A7020.22	Rec Center Inventory	A7020.42	Rec Ctr Gas	\$4,500.00
A1990.4	Contingency	A1490.4	Public Works Contr	\$400.00

			Voucher Numbers	Checks
12/1/2022	General	\$56,001.10	230904-230912	37060-37065
	Water	\$9,424.89		
		<u>\$65,425.99</u>		
12/15/2022	General	\$59,249.10	230913-230916	37066-37073
	Water	\$11,619.22	230993-231000	
		<u>\$70,868.32</u>		
12/19/2022	General	\$131,980.02	230917-230992	
	Water	\$15,575.62	231001-231020	
		<u>\$147,555.64</u>		

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

RESOLUTION NO. 206, 2022 ADOPTED. December 19, 2022

Mayor Blais returned to the Public Hearing at 5:37 p.m. on Proposed Local Law No. 7, 2022 amending Chapter 135-2, "LICENSE AND PERMITS, FEES" to see if there were any questions or comments. There was no comment.

Motion by Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Perry, carried by a majority, to make a Negative Declaration on SEQR, stating that there was no significant adverse impact on the Village of Lake George in adoption of Proposed Local Law No.7, 2022 amending Chapter 135-2, LICENSE AND PERMITS, FEES" of the Code of the Village of Lake George.

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

Motion by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Root, to adopt proposed Local Law No 7, 2022, amending Chapter 135-2, LICENSE AND PERMITS, FEES"

**Village of Lake George
Proposed Local Law No. 7, 2022
Chapter 135. License and Permits
Article I Licensed Occupations and Businesses**

§ 135-2 Fees.

[Amended 4-30-1962; 8-1-1966; 4-6-1981 by L.L. No. 1-1981; 7-20-1987 by L.L. No. 5-1987; 4-29-1991 by L.L. No. 4-1991]

A. Fees. [Amended 7-20-1992 by L.L. No. 7-1992; 2-14-2005 by L.L. No. 4-2005]

- (1) Each person or persons, partnership, corporation, membership corporation, association or limited-liability company, before entering into, pursuing or exercising such trade or occupation, shall pay to the Village Clerk-Treasurer of the Village of Lake George the fee for such license, said fee to be fixed by the local law in accordance with the following categories: **[Amended 4-17-2006 by L.L. No. 5-2006; 1-8-2007 by L.L. No. 1-2007; 3-24-2010 by L.L. No. 5-2010; 7-18-2011 by L.L. No. 8-2011; 8-15-2016 by L.L. No. 6-2016]**

Category	Fee
Food service: full-service restaurant with seating	[\$75] <u>\$100</u>
Food service: window service	[\$200] <u>\$250</u>
Food service: window service, seating capacity 10 plus	[\$125] <u>\$175</u>
Food service: inside, seating less than 10, not full service	[\$150] <u>\$175</u>
Sidewalk cafe	[\$100] <u>\$125</u>
Bar	[\$75] <u>\$100</u>
Entertainment	\$50
Retail store	[\$75] <u>\$100</u>
Amusement centers, golf courses, arcades (10 or more)	[\$100] <u>\$125</u>
Recreation uses, outdoor	[\$100] <u>\$125</u>
Amusements, outdoor (using public lands or waters)	[\$125] <u>\$150</u>
Accommodations	[\$75] <u>\$125</u>
Boardinghouse 1	[\$75] <u>\$100</u>
Boardinghouse 2	[\$100] <u>\$125</u>
Short-term residential rental	[\$125] <u>\$150</u>
Miscellaneous and other	[\$50] <u>\$75</u>
Contractors	[\$25] <u>\$100</u>
Vending machine within 20 feet of public right-of-way	[\$75] <u>\$100</u>
Entertainment center	[\$100] <u>\$125</u>
Parking lot, commercial	[\$50] <u>\$75</u>

Explanation: New material is underlined. Deleted Material is in ~~[brackets]~~

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

LOCAL LAW NO. 7, 2022 ADOPTED December 19, 2022

At 5:38 p.m. Mayor Blais closed the Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law No. 7, 2022 amending Chapter 135-2, LICENSE AND PERMITS, FEES”

Mayor Blais asked for any other business.

Trustee Root commented that the DPW did a nice job with the clean up after the storm.

Trustee Earl had no new business.

Trustee Mastrodomenico wished everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday.

Trustee Perry wished all a Happy New Year and Merry Christmas.

Mayor Blais mentioned that he has recently received correspondence from a lady asking why there was no Nativity or Menorah. Mayor Blais had responded to her that back in the year 1978 there was a lawsuit that prompted the removal of all religious displays from municipalities. Mayor Blais received a response stating that Long Beach has one.

Mayor Blais said that the last three years the Nativity was out, the baby Jesus was stolen from his crib. Mayor Blais commented that it is a shame that the F word can be proudly displayed in a window, but the Village cannot display a Nativity Scene.

There was a motion by Trustee Perry to adjourn at 5:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie K. Allen
Village Clerk