

Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Public Hearings of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, held on Monday, March 20, 2023 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, Superintendent Keith Lanfear, Operator Tim Shudt, Randy Powell, Mary Lussier, Rene Lussier, John Carr, Anthony Hall, Marisa Muratori, Walt Adams, Jose Filomeno, Kathy Flacke, Jan Loonan, Thom Randall, Kristine Lanfear, Avery Lanfear, and others via Zoom.

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

At 4:31 p.m. Mayor Blais continued and opened two Public Hearings to run concurrently:

- Continue Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law No. 1, 2023 for Chapter 118. Food, Drink and Retail Establishment, Article IV Obstruction off Store Windows
- Open Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law No. 3, 2023 for Chapter 195. Article VI Partial Real Property Tax Exemptions for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income.

Mayor Blais explained that Local Law 1 pertained to the amount of covering a business window can have in the Village. The Village Board is seeking to limit the amount of covering to fifty percent.

Mayor Blais then went on to explain that Local Law 3 is looking to allow people with disabilities and an income under \$32.5K, a partial tax exemption. Mayor Blais said that there would be a requirement of proof in the form of a doctors note and an income statement in order to be eligible.

Mayor Blais asked if anyone had any questions or comments to which there was no response.

Mayor Blais presented the minutes from the Joint Meeting held on February 7, 2023, the Regular Meeting and Public Hearing held on February 13, 2023, and the Special Budget Workshop held March 7, 2023. Trustee Root made a motion, seconded by Trustee Earl, unanimously carried to approve the minutes from all three meetings.

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, Planning & Zoning Office, Fire Department, and REC Center were presented and made available to the public.

Mayor Blais read an email from Patty Kirkpatrick backing the proposed Local Law 1, stating that not only would it help with aesthetics, but with safety.

Mayor Blais then read a thank you letter from Joann Stafford-Paige, and Joseph Paige. Mayor Blais read that the letter wanted to acknowledge Keith Lanfear and the superb job the DPW did this winter with snow removal.

Mayor Blais presented the resolution required for the authorization and serial bond for the purchase of the new Fire Truck. Mayor Blais went on to explain that the Town and Village had agreed to purchase a new ladder truck for the Fire Department, subject to permissive referendum.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 252, 2023

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) ROSENBAUER AERIAL FIRETRUCK, COMPLETE WITH ROSENBAUER COMMANDER CHASSIS AND ROSENBAUER COBRA PLATFORM AT A MAXIMUM COST OF \$1,670,734 AND THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,200,000 SERIAL BONDS OF THE VILLAGE OF LAKE GEORGE, WARREN COUNTY, NEW YORK.

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2023 the Board of Trustees of the Village Board of the Village of Lake George desires to purchase one (1) Rosenbauer Aerial Firetruck, complete with Rosenbauer Commander Chassis and Rosenbauer Cobra Platform at a maximum cost of \$1,670,734, of which \$1,200,000 to be obtained from the proceeds of the obligations issued pursuant to the Local Finance Law, and the balance of up to \$470,734 to be paid from Village funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Village Board of the Village of Lake George, Warren County, New York, hereby authorizes the purchase of one (1) Rosenbauer Aerial Firetruck, complete with Rosenbauer Commander Chassis and Rosenbauer Cobra Platform at a cost not to exceed \$1,670,734.

2. The specific object or purpose for which obligations are to be issued pursuant to the resolution is the purchase of one (1) Rosenbauer Aerial Firetruck, complete with Rosenbauer Commander Chassis and Rosenbauer Cobra Platform.

3. The current maximum cost of the aforesaid specific object or purpose of this resolution is \$1,670,734, and the plan for the financing thereof is the issuance of \$1,200,000 serial bonds of said Village hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Local Finance Law, and the payment of \$470,734, or so much thereof as may be necessary, from funds of the Village. Such bonds are to be payable from amounts which shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property in said Village, and the faith and credit of said Village of Lake George, Warren County, New York, are hereby pledged for the payment of said bonds and the interest thereon.

4. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid specific object or purpose of this resolution is twenty (20) years, pursuant to subdivision 27 of Paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law.

5. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell serial bonds and bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the serial bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Mayor of the Village of Lake George, the chief fiscal officer, or in his absence, the Village Clerk, who is the substituted chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be determined by said Village Mayor or Village Clerk pursuant to and consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

6. This resolution is adopted subject to a permissive referendum pursuant to Section 36 of the Local Finance Law and Article 9 of the Village Law of the State of New York.

7. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

a. Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said Board of Trustees is not authorized to spend money; or

b. The provisions of law which should be complied with as of the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication; or

c. Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

8. This notice and resolution shall be published in full within ten (10) days after its adoption in the Post Star, which is hereby designated as the official newspaper of the Village for such purpose. This resolution shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption and thereafter shall be published in full in The Post Star, together with a notice of the Village Clerk substantially in the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 252, 2023 ADOPTED. **March 20, 2023**

Mayor Blais presented the request from Jose Filomeno to approve the deck enclosure in relation to the proposed modification to the existing structure's easement on the Village property. Mayor Blais asked Jose Filomeno to explain what he is looking to do. Jose Filomeno explained that there is a small portion of his building that is on Village Property that he would like to make improvements to. Jose Filomeno then further explained that he is looking to enclose his deck and winterize it to run his business year-round. Mayor Blais said that he sees no issue to approve this request. Trustee Mastrodomenico said that the property is already being used and they are not requesting more so he saw no issue as well.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 253, 2023

WHEREAS, the Village owns a small portion of property to which there is an easement located at 3 Lower Montcalm Street;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board hereby authorizes the design change of 3 Lower Montcalm Street, Lake George, NY based on submittals and drawings presented by Jose Filomeno of the area.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 253, 2023 ADOPTED. **March 20, 2023**

Mayor Blais then reviewed a few local law amendments that the Village should consider.

Mayor Blais presented Chapter 174, Snow Removal and Emergency Conditions to the Board where it would be unlawful for anyone to place snow in the public right of way from private property.

Mayor Blais then presented an amendment to Zoning Law, Chapter 220, where it would allow condominiums along the lake front walkway.

Mayor Blais last read another Zoning Law, Chapter 220, Outdoor Bars, where it would prohibit outdoor bars, unless they are permanent structures (except for grandfathered such as "ice bars").

Mayor Blais then asked Clerk Julie Allen to go over the resolutions to be considered.

Clerk Allen reviewed the list of resolutions to be considered by the Village Board.

- Director of Special Events
- IMA with Warren County for Special Events
- Centennial Bricks and Pavers
- Painting Visitor Center
- Seeley Office System Contract for Copier
- Turf Management Program for Charles R. Wood Park
- CT Male Proposals: WQIP- \$4,200 & WIIA - \$3,300
- WWTP Payments

Mayor Blais then asked if any of the Trustees had questions or issues with any of the resolutions. Trustee Root responded that he wanted to discuss the creation of the Director of Special Events position, as well as the IMA with Warren County. Trustee Root then questioned Clerk Julie Allen as to whether we received any applications for the Director of Special Events. Clerk Julie Allen responded yes, three, which have been given to Trustee Perry. Trustee Perry then said he would be conducting interviews with the three candidates over the next week. Trustee Root then suggested that the Board table the creation of the position until after the interviews were conducted, being that it was very close to an election and there would be two new Trustees that he felt should participate. Trustee Perry responded that if we do not create the position now, we cannot include it in the Budget or the annual meeting. Trustee Root said he understood, but he was not totally in line with the description of the position as there was conflicting information. Trustee Perry said he only saw one job description. Trustee Root responded that there was a draft job description by the County, then the description of the duties in the IMA didn't totally align. Trustee Perry then explained that the IMA is only a part of the entire job as the IMA only covers Wood Park, and there is a lot more than that in the total description. Trustee Root then suggested that the position be one of co-creators, where if Mayor Blais held one of the positions, he would be able to train the other for when he leaves. Trustee Perry then said this is the first time he is hearing of this idea and Trustee Root responded that they had not had the opportunity to speak of it at any length. Trustee Mastrodomenico then asked Trustee Root if he was looking to have two people do this position. Trustee Root explained that he would like to see two co-creators, so that when the Mayor decides to step down, then there would be somebody in place to take over. Trustee Root further explained that the salary would also need to be split in an equitable way. Trustee Perry responded that the County was looking for something completely different than what Trustee Root was suggesting. Trustee Perry felt it would be best if we continued with that the County asked for. Trustee Perry then said if we wanted to, we could create the position and then modify it later if that is what was decided. Trustee Root said that we could put it up for a vote and go from there, but it could be more work in the long run.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 254, 2023

WHEREAS, it is has become necessary due to workload, to create a new position to cover the needs of the Village regarding Event Planning and Administration;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the creation of the position of Director of Special Events. The position created is appointed, part time, and the salary to be based on experience. This position is to begin April 1, 2023, and will re-appoint annually.

VOTING **Ayes: 3**

Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry

Nays: 1
Abstain: 1

RESOLUTION NO. 254, 2023 ADOPTED **March 20, 2023**

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

RESOLUTION NO. 255, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby authorizes Mayor Blais to sign an Intermunicipal Agreement with Warren County for the shared use of a Director of Special Events. The agreement will be for the period beginning April 1, 2023 through March 21, 2024, and will appoint annually;

BE IT RESOLVED that Warren County agrees to pay the Village a sum not to exceed \$15,000 for the services and benefits described in the agreement.

VOTING	Ayes: 3	Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry
	Nays: 1	Root
	Abstain: 1	Blais

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

RESOLUTION NO. 256, 2023

WHEREAS, the Village of Lake George continues to sell Centennial Bricks and Pavers for the Shepard Park fountain area, the budget needs to be increased for the total of the latest order;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees authorizes the following changes to the General Fund Budget:

DR A7110.044 Parks – Bricks and Pavers \$ 853.00
CR A2710 Gifts and Donations \$853.00

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

RESOLUTION NO. 256, 2023 ADOPTED. March 20, 2023

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

RESOLUTION NO. 257, 2023

WHEREAS the exterior of the Visitor Center of Lake George needs cleaning and painting;

WHEREAS proposals were requested from five vendors, and we received responses from two competent vendors – Better than New Painting at \$32,500 and Atherton Painting & Renovations at \$18,895;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board hereby approves the hiring of Atherton Painting &

Renovations being the best value bid at \$18,895 to complete the necessary Village work from fund A.1620.0400 to commence in March 2023.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 257, 2023 ADOPTED **March 20, 2023**

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

RESOLUTION NO. 258, 2023

WHEREAS, the copier in the Village Administration Building needs regular maintenance, cleaning, and supplies; and

WHEREAS, the local office for Konica Minolta has closed, and the closest authorized dealer is Seeley Office Systems, and they have agreed to the same contract rates and terms as our previous supplier;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board authorizes the Mayor to sign the annual agreement with Seely Office Systems for quarterly servicing to include parts, labor and supplies at a rate based on usage of \$.00705 for black and white copies, and \$.035 for full color copies.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 258, 2023 ADOPTED. **March 20, 2023**

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

RESOLUTION NO. 259, 2023

WHEREAS the Village of Lake George oversees the Charles R. Wood Park Festival Space and has an expense account set up for maintenance; and

WHEREAS the Warren County O&M Committee reimburses the expenditures;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George does hereby approve the Turf Management Company Inc. proposal for the Festival Space in an amount not to exceed \$2,489.97.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 259, 2023 ADOPTED. **March 20, 2023**

Mayor Blais explained that the Village would need to continue to make improvements to the new WWTP, and that we would need about \$2.5M more to increase the receiving capacity. Mayor Blais then asked Operator Shudt to explain the additional \$2.5M that was needed. Operator Shudt explained that the additional \$2.5M would be used to make the wet well side explosion proof as required. Mayor Blais then explained that this means the Village needs to come up with a total of \$5M

to get the WWTP fully compliant and efficient. Mayor Blais further explained that the Village would need funding to accomplish this, and that the way to do this was to apply for grants. Mayor Blais explained they had spoken with consultant Jim Thatcher of CT Male to get help to apply for the grants. CT Male proposed that they would complete our applications for the grants for the amounts of \$7.5K total.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 260, 2023

WHEREAS, there is a need for upgrades on the receiving capacity and wet well at the Wastewater treatment facility; and

WHEREAS, funding to pay for these upgrades will be needed; and

WHEREAS, CT Male has provided the Village with proposals to assist in funding strategy and grant applications;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves the proposal submitted by CT Male in the amount of \$7.5K from CT Male to prepare all grant applications.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 261, 2023

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, Stilsing Electric, 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

Mayor Blais read through the list of applications for events and facility use. Mayor Blais then asked if anyone had questions. Trustee Perry asked if the Village was waiving the fees for the not-for-profit Benefit Music Festival by Kelly's Angels. Mayor Blais responded no, there will be a fee for use of the park. Trustee Root then asked if there was more information on the three events by Lake George Festivals to which the Mayor responded no. Mayor Blais said all he knew was that they involved vendors. Trustee Root asked if there was any music and Mayor Blais responded no. Trustee Root said he was not comfortable voting on the three festivals without further information. Mayor Blais asked if he would like to table those three and Trustee Root responded yes.

Trustee Root made a motion, seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico, to table the vote on these three events.

- Mid-Summer Nights, Vincent Cianciolo, August 26 & 27, 2023, 9:00am – 4:00pm
- Sunset in the Park, Vincent Cianciolo, August 12, 2023, 9:00am – 9:00pm
- Lake George Fun Festival, Vincent Cianciolo, July 22 & 23, 2023, Saturday 9:00 am – Sunday 5:00pm

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

MOTION PASSED

Mayor Blais then went over Benefit Music Festival by Kelly's Angels and explained that it is very similar to the Ronald McDonald event that is held in the Village. Mayor Blais further explained that it will be broadcast live by the news as it is run by Mark Mulholland and Lydia Kulbida is a member as well.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 262, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves the use of the Beach Docks for the Pilot Knob Marina Demo Days. The event is held by Mike Billo, May 6 & Road 7 from 10:00am – 5:00pm. All is contingent upon receipt of all fees, insurance, and other necessary documents;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the fees for such use will be \$600. for the Beach Road Dock.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 262, 2023 ADOPTED **March 20, 2023**

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

RESOLUTION NO. 263, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves the following Special Events/Facilities Use of Shepard Park contingent upon receipt of all fees, insurance, and other necessary documents:

- Lake George Fire Department Family Festival, Doni Smith, August 18 – 20, 2023, 10:00am- 8:00pm
- Summerfest, Doni Smith, June 22 – 25, 2023, 10:00am – 8:00pm
- 50th Anniversary Stony Creek Band, Robert, M. Blais, Tanya Tobias, August 24, 2023 5:00 pm- 9:30pm
- Benefit Music Festival, Kelly's Angels, Mark Mulholland, July 12 – 14, 2023, 6:00pm – 10:00pm

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

RESOLUTION NO. 263, 2022 ADOPTED. **March 20, 2023**

Mayor Blais presented the two requests for Occupancy Tax Awards and said he felt the amount being requested for Wild in the Trees was high as they already received money from the Joint Occ Tax. Mayor Blais suggested the Board approve an amount for something closer to \$1.5K.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 264, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees authorizes Occupancy Tax funds awards/expenditures for the 22/23 budget as follows:

- Wild in the Trees Music and Skate Festival, Frank Cavone, \$1.5K
- Benefit Music Festival, Kelly's Angels, Mark Mulholland, July 12 – 14, 2023, \$5K

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

Mayor Blais went over the several requests for training.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 265, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves Village staff to attend:

- **New York's Water Event, April 12, 2023, Fayetteville, NY, Chris Andrews, Chris Buckley, \$85/each**
- **Adirondack Water Works Conference, March 29, 2023, Century House, Latham, NY, Chris Andrews, Chris Buckley, Keith Lanfear, \$70/each**
- **New York Rural Water Association Annual Training, Lake Placid Conference Center, May 22 – 24 2023, Keith Lanfear, Tim Shudt, \$340/each conference, \$291.54/each room**
- **New York Rural Water Association, Basic Math, April 26, 2023, Lake George Fire Hall, Tim Shudt, Tim Shudt Jr., Andy Kehlenbeck, \$25/each**
- **NYS Municipal Clerks Institute and Academy, July 9 -13, 2023, UAlbany, Julie Allen, \$795**
- **NYCOM Annual Meeting, Sagamore Hotel, May 17 – 19, 2023, Mayor, Trustees, Clerk, \$345/each entire meeting, \$245/each Thursday only**
- **Stay Safe Certification, Warren County Human Services Building, May 5, 2023 and May 17, 2023, Tim Shudt Jr, Kevin Mulcahy, Justin Webb, Darren Ross, \$12/each.**

Mayor Blais presented the three requests for new employee hires. Trustee Root questioned the application for James Toole. Trustee Root asked what the schedule would be, and Mayor Blais

responded that it would be part time, three days a week. Trustee Root said he did not see Mr. Toole as somebody who would want to issue tickets, that he would be more suited as a Village Ambassador. Mayor Blais said that Mr. Toole had specifically applied for the Meter Enforcement position. Mayor Blais suggested the Board approve hiring him and let the new incoming Mayor decide what position that Mr. Toole was best suited for.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 266, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves hiring of the following employees:

- Roger Johnson, Beautification Laborer, \$16/hour, part time seasonal.
- Kenneth Gallo, Water Laborer, \$20/hour, full time.
- James Toole, Meter Enforcement, \$16/hour, part time seasonal.

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

Mayor Blais explained that the mural in the Board Room had not been updated in 15 years and is looking to have anywhere from eight to ten new people added. Mayor Blais went on to say the Mural is used to honor those who have contributed to the community. Mayor Blais said he found a local University artist that is willing to do the work this summer. Mayor Blais read the list of suggested individuals that the Board may want to consider and asked them to look at it and make suggestions for anyone he may have missed. Mayor Blais said once the Board decides the individuals and they are added, they will hold a reception to reveal in the fall.

Mayor Blais went over an issue they had with the Horse Drawn Carriages during the Winter Carnival. Mayor Blais explained that during the Carnival there were several wagons, but only one Carriage. Mayor Blais wants to make sure that only Carriages are permitted during the summer months, no wagons.

Mayor Blais asked Superintendent Lanfear to explain what he was looking for. Superintendent Lanfear said that he was working with Sean Doty and Jim Lieberman on finding a solution to repair/replace the culvert along Prospect Brook. Superintendent Lanfear explained that they had determined that only a ten-foot portion of the culvert needs to be replaced and that due to the time of the year he wants to get working on replacing it now. Superintendent Lanfear feels that it would best to get the work completed before there is a large increase in foot traffic and the workload increases.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 267, 2023

WHEREAS, a large culvert known as "Prospect Brook" culvert has deteriorated; and

WHEREAS, such culvert is in the parking area of Shoreline Cruise, 2 Kurosaka Lane; and

WHEREAS, this culvert carries a considerable amount of stormwater into Lake George and is creating sink holes on subject's property; and

WHEREAS, this parking lot is necessary to the business's operation during summer season,

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George do hereby declare this project an emergency to allow our equipment and personnel to repair said current prior to our busy spring and summer season.

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

Mayor Blais presented an email he received regarding the new Lake Champlain Watershed Implementation Plan. Mayor Blais said that they are taking public comments and that if anyone would like to comment the email was waterlog@dec.ny.gov.

At 5:30 p.m. Mayor Blais returned to the two Public Hearings and asked the Boards pleasure for Proposed Local Law 1, Chapter 118, Article IV, Obstruction of Store Windows.

Trustee Perry made a motion, seconded by Trustee Root, to table Local Law 1.

Trustee Earl asked the reason for tabling and Trustee Perry responded to review the streets as it only mentions Canada Street and possibly adjusting the percentage of the window coverage. Mayor Blais said there was some controversy because there was a newspaper article that the Mayor did not participate in where is mentioned a specific business. Mayor Blais said the Local Law was not meant for one specific business, but for all, as full coverage on a window is a safety hazard and to improve the aesthetics of the Village. Mayor Blais told of a time many years ago as a police officer he was able to catch a fire in its early stages because he was able to see it through the window from the street.

Mayor Blais said there was a motion to table, and he asked each Trustee and himself, their vote, all voted Aye.

Trustee Perry made a motion, seconded by Trustee Root, to table the Local Law 1

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

LOCAL LAW NO. 1, 2023 TABLED March 20, 2023

Mayor Blais then went over Proposed Local Law 3, Chapter 195 Article VI, Partial Real Property Tax Exemptions for persons with disabilities and limited incomes. Mayor Blais asked if there were any questions, to which there was no response.

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.3, 2023 amending Chapter 195 Article VI, Partial Real Property Tax Exemptions for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes, of the Code of the Village of Lake George.

VOTING **Ayes: 5**
Nays: 0

Blais, Earl, Mastrodomenico, Perry, Root

LOCAL LAW NO. 3, 2023 ADOPTED

March 20, 2023

Motion by Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Perry, to adopt proposed Local Law No. 3 amending Chapter 195 Article VI, "Partial Real Property Tax Exemptions for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes."

**VILLAGE OF LAKE GEORGE
COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW YORK
Local Law No. 3 of 2023
CHAPTER 195 ARTICLE VI
PARTIAL REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND
LIMITED INCOMES**

Be it enacted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George ("Village"), County of Warren, State of New York ("State") as follows:

Section 1. Article VI Partial Real Property Tax Exemptions For Persons With Disabilities And Limited Incomes.

There shall be enacted a new Article VI of Chapter 195 of the Code of the Village of Lake George, titled "Partial Real Property Tax Exemptions For Persons With Disabilities And Limited Incomes" as follows:

§ 195-28. Legislative Intent.

It is the intention of the Board of Trustees of the Village to enact a partial exemption from real property taxes pursuant to Real Property Law §459-c.

§ 195-29. Definitions.

For purposes of this Local Law, the following shall be defined as follows:

- a. "Sibling" shall mean a brother or a sister, whether related through half blood, whole blood or adoption.
- b. "Person with a Disability" is one who has a physical or mental impairment, not due to current use of alcohol or illegal drug use, which substantially limits such person's ability to engage in one or more major life activities, such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, and who;
 - i. is certified to receive social security disability insurance (SSDI) or supplemental security income (SSI) benefits under the federal Social Security Act; or
 - ii. is certified to receive Railroad Retirement Disability benefits under the federal Railroad Retirement Act; or
 - iii. has received a certificate from the state commission for the blind and visually handicapped stating that such person is legally blind; or

iv. is certified to receive a United States Postal Service disability pension.

An award letter from the Social Security Administration or the Railroad Retirement Board a certificate from the state commission for the blind and visually handicapped or an award letter from the United States Postal Service shall be submitted as proof of disability.

§ 195-30. Partial Exemption for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes.

a. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law, real property located in the Village which is owned by one or more persons with disabilities, or real property owned by a husband, wife or both, or by siblings, at least one of whom has a disability, and whose income as hereafter defined, is limited by reason of such disability, shall be exempt from taxation by the Village to the extent provided in the following schedule:

<u>Annual Income</u>	<u>Percentage of Assessed Valuation Exempt from Taxation</u>
<u>\$0 to \$23,000</u>	<u>50%</u>
<u>\$23,001 to \$24,000</u>	<u>45%</u>
<u>\$24,001 to \$25,000</u>	<u>40%</u>
<u>\$25,001 to \$26,000</u>	<u>35%</u>
<u>\$26,001 to \$26,900</u>	<u>30%</u>
<u>\$26,901 to \$27,800</u>	<u>25%</u>
<u>\$28,801 to \$29,700</u>	<u>20%</u>
<u>\$29,701 to \$30,600</u>	<u>15%</u>
<u>\$30,601 to \$31,500</u>	<u>10%</u>
<u>\$31,501 to \$32,400</u>	<u>5%</u>

b. Exemption from taxation for school purposes shall not be granted in the case of real property where a child resides if such child attends a public school of elementary or secondary education.

§ 195-31. Effect of Other Exemptions Authorized By Law.

Any exemption provided by this Local Law shall be computed after all other partial exemption allowed by law; *excluding the school tax relief (STAR) exemption authorized by Section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law*, have been subtracted from the total amount assessed; provided, however, that no parcel may receive an exemption for the same municipal tax purpose pursuant to both this Local Law and Section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law.

§ 195-32. Exclusions.

a. No exemption shall be granted:

i. if the income of the owner or the combined income of the owners of the real property for the income tax year immediately preceding the date of making application for exemption exceeds the sums provided for in this Local Law. Income tax year shall mean the twelve month period, for which the owner or owners filed a federal personal income tax return, or, if no such return is filed, the calendar year. Where the title is vested in either the husband or wife, their combined income may not exceed such sum, except where the husband or wife or ex-husband or ex-wife is absent from the property due to divorce, legal separation or abandonment, then only the income of the spouse or ex-spouse residing on the property shall be considered and may not exceed such sum. Such income shall include social security and retirement benefits, interest, dividends, total gain from the sale or exchange of a capital asset which may be offset by a loss from the sale or exchange in the same income tax year, net rental income, salary or earnings, and net income from self-employment, but shall not include a return of capital, gifts inheritances or monies earned through employment in the federal foster grandparent program. In computing net rental income and net income from self-employment no depreciation deduction shall be allowed for the exhaustion, wear and tear of real or personal property held for the production of income.

ii. unless the real property is used exclusively for residential purposes, provided, however, that in the event any portion of such property not so used exclusively for residential purposes but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided by this Local Law.

iii. unless the real property is the legal residence of and is occupied in whole or in part by the disabled person; except where the disabled person is absent from the residence while receiving health-related care as an inpatient of a residential health care facility, as defined in Section 2801 of the Public Health Law, provided that any income accruing to that person shall be considered income for purposes of this Local Law only to the extent that it exceeds the amount paid by such person or spouse or sibling of such person for care in the facility.

§ 195-33. Application Process.

a. Application for such exemption must be made annually by the owner, or all of the owners of the property, on forms prescribed by the state board, and shall be filed in the Town of Lake George Assessor's office on or before the appropriate taxable status date; provided, however, proof of a permanent disability need be submitted only in the year exemption pursuant to this Local Law is first sought or the disability is first determined to be permanent.

b. At least sixty (60) days prior to the appropriate taxable status date, the Town of Lake George Assessor shall mail to each person who was granted exemption pursuant to this Local Law on the latest completed assessment roll an application form and a notice that such application must be filed on or before taxable status date and be approved in order for the exemption to continue to be granted. Failure to mail such application form or the failure of such person to receive the same shall not prevent the

levy, collection and enforcement of the payment of the property owned by such person.

§ 195-34. Property Held in Trust.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the provisions of this Local Law shall apply to real property held in trust solely for the benefit of a person or persons who would otherwise be eligible for a real property tax exemption, pursuant to this Local Law, were such person or persons the owner or owners of such real property.

§ 195-35. Applicability.

This Local Law shall apply to assessment rolls on the basis of taxable status dates occurring on or after January 1, 2023 and each year thereafter.

Section 2. Severability.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this Local Law, or in its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such order or judgment shall be rendered.

Section 3. Effective Date.

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the New York State Secretary of State.

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

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

LOCAL LAW NO. 3, 2022 ADOPTED

March 20, 2023

At 5:34 p.m. Mayor Blais closed the Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law No. 3, 2023 amending Chapter 195 Article VI, "Partial Real Property Tax Exemptions for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes".

Mayor Blais asked the public if there was anything they would like to bring to the attention of the Board. Marisa Muratori said that she was glad the Board had decided to add to the Mural and that they are now including people who are not Village residents.

Cathy Flack thanked Mayor Blais.

John Carr asked Mayor Blais how many meetings he had run. Mayor Blais said he was not sure. John Carr then thanked Mayor Blais for everything he had done for Lake George, not just for business, but the entire community. John Carr then thanked Trustee Earl for all his work. John Carr asked the Mayor if he had done the math to which Mayor Blais responded that according to quick calculations, he had led over 628 meetings. Mayor Blais said he never calculated the meetings with Supervisor Dickinson because they were always fun. Mayor Blais said that never once had the Town or the County turned the Village down when asked for help.

Mary Lussier of Muddy Trail Jerky spoke that she had recently received a letter from the Operator of the Farmers Market stating that Muddy Trail Jerky would not be permitted to be a vendor at any of the events he runs this year. Mary Lussier said that she had been a vendor in Lake George since 2017. Mary Lussier said that the letter she received is accusing her of writing a letter to the Village accusing him of something, and that he was considering suing her for defamation. Mary Lussier stated she did not know anything about any letter that was sent, and it was not from her. Mary Lussier asked that the Village Board overturn the decision and allow them to continue being vendors at the Village events. Mayor Blais asked that she give copies of the letter to Trustee Perry and that Trustee Perry and the Village Board will investigate her claim and get her a response.

Rene Lussier thanked the Mayor for everything he had done for the Village.

- Water Changes
- Transfers and Audits

Mayor Blais presented the water changes and Transfers and Audits.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 268, 2023

MARCH 2023 WATER CHANGES

MARCH PENALTIES	\$1,228.70
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FINAL READS:

Ellsworth	\$ 38.71
Ellsworth	\$ 66.19
Ellsworth	\$ 38.71
Ellsworth	\$ 38.71

ADJUSTMENTS:

OPWDD (REVERSE PENALTIES)	\$ 3.50
OPWDD (REVERSE PENALTIES)	\$ 3.44

The above resulted in the following Journal Entries:

DR F0350 WATER RECEIVABLE	\$1,411.02
CR F2148 WATER PENALTIES	\$1,228.70
CR F2140 WATER METERED	\$ 182.32

DR F2148 WATER PENALTIES	\$6.94
CR F0350 WATER RECEIVABLE	\$6.94

RESOLUTION NO. 268, 2023 ADOPTED **March 20, 2023**

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

RESOLUTION NO. 269, 2023

3/20/2023

TRANSFERS:

From:	To:	Amount:
A1110.4	Justice Contr.	\$200.00
A1110.4	Justice Contr.	\$1,200.00
A1110.4	Justice Contr.	\$5,000.00
A1110.4	Justice Contr.	\$150.00
A1110.4	Justice Contr.	\$1,000.00
A1990.4	Contingency	\$20,000.00
A3120.4	Police Contr.	\$500.00
A5110.21	Streets Fixed Assets	\$2,000.00
A5110.21	Streets Fixed Assets	\$15,000.00
A5142.4	Snow Removal Contr	\$2,000.00
A8140.4	Storm Sewers	\$4,000.00
A8020.1	Planning Pers.	\$100.00
F1420.4	Water Attorney	\$5,000.00
F1640.21	Water Fixed Asset	\$26,000.00
F8310.4	Water Adm Contr	\$3,500.00
F8310.44	Water Vehicles	\$300.00
F8330.4	Purification Contr	\$3,000.00

		Voucher Numbers	Checks
		\$86,060.28	
2/23/2023	General	\$20,432.15	231318-231340
	Water	\$106,492.43	37333-37337
		\$95,757.11	231341-231359
3/9/2023	General	\$16,599.35	37340-37351
	Water	\$248,319.63	
	Sewer Plant Improv		
	(HK)	\$360,676.09	
		\$265,195.04	231360-231476

March 20, 2023 Regular & Public Hearing

3/20/2023	General	\$29,276.90
	Water	<u>\$3,320.00</u>
	EPG (HT)	\$297,791.94

Payroll ck#37071 voided

Payroll ck#37149 voided

CK#37204 for \$191,110.26 voided replaced w CK#37207 for \$178,648.80 Washington County

Payroll ck#37209 voided

Payroll ck# 37219 voided

Payroll ck# 37231 voided

Checks #37325-37332 voided, replaced with #37333-37336

Payroll ck# 37336 voided

Payroll ck# 37349 voided

Parks Bricks & Pavers	\$853.00
A7110.44	

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

RESOLUTION NO. 269, 2023 ADOPTED. March 20, 2023

Mayor Blais called on the Trustees for anything they would like to say.

Trustee Mastrodomenico thanked the DPW for the excellent work they have done this winter. Trustee Mastrodomenico thanked Mayor Blais for his time and service.

Trustee Perry thanked Trustee Earl for his service. Trustee Perry said it was his honor to work alongside Trustee Earl for the past sixteen years. Trustee Perry then said he couldn't thank Mayor Blais enough for his service. Trustee Perry said from the bottom of his heart, Mayor Blais has been a mentor and he appreciates everything.

Trustee Earl said he thought about trying to match the Mayors service, but he would have been 107 years old. Trustee Earl said he didn't want to be pessimistic, but he didn't think he would be around for that. Trustee Earl said it had been a pleasure working with Mayor Blais. Trustee Earl said there was a good Board in place, and they were able to accomplish a great deal. Trustee Earl said the Village had changed a lot in the past twenty years. Trustee Earl felt the Village was in good hands with the workforce.

Trustee Root said thank you to Mayor Blais for his extraordinary leadership and that he had a great deal of accomplishments. Trustee Root thanked Trustee Earl and his family for his service on the Board and with the fire department. Trustee Root said no hard feelings for the coin toss to Trustee Earl. Trustee Root thanked Trustee Perry for taking the reins because it's a bold move and apparently nobody else wants to do it. Trustee Root said he looks forward to supporting Trustee Perry and working together on the Board.

Mayor Blais said we had some great people running for the Board on Tuesday. Mayor Blais said he is glad to see there is competition. Mayor Blais said there are three people that are very capable to take

over for Trustee Earl and Trustee Perry. Mayor Blais said he knows Trustee Perry will be a great Mayor.

Trustee Perry asked to read a letter from Jackie Casare addressed to Mayor Blais which carried a sentiment felt by many. Trustee Perry read that Jackie Casare never met Mayor Blais but had always known about him. Trustee Perry read that Jackie Casare enjoyed many of the amenities the Village offered, that she had introduced her friends to many of the events, and now that they are grown, had introduced her family. Trustee Perry read that the woman wished Mayor Blais the best in his future endeavors and to know that he had helped make Lake George the best place in the world.

There was a motion by Mayor Blais to adjourn at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Julie K Allen
Village Clerk