

Minutes of the Special Meeting and Public Hearings of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, held on Monday, March 27, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. The Zoom connection was listed and available for public participation. Members of the Village Board physically attended at the Village Hall.

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, Chief Operator Tim Shudt, Tony Hall (Lake George Mirror), Deborah McKinney, and others via Zoom.

At 4:30 p.m. Mayor Blais opened the Regular Meeting.

At 4:30 p.m. Mayor Blais opened the following Public Hearings to run concurrently for the proposed Village budgets:

- General Fund budget for June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024
- Water Fund budget for June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024
- Special Assessment District budget for June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024 - Lakefront Walkway district which relates only to the individuals who own property in that area. They are under contract to pay for this portion of the walkway which was built several years ago.

Mayor Blais presented an overview of the budget explaining that they were able to reduce the Budget by over \$350K while increasing revenues over \$400K. The Mayor explained that this meant the amount needed to be collected from taxpayers would go down to \$1,269,558. Mayor Blais said that the tax rate would decrease to \$4.76/\$1,000. from \$5.79/\$1,000. He noted that the rate would be lower than that from 11 years ago. Mayor Blais gave examples showing that a home assessed for \$250K would see a savings of about \$257. Mayor Blais explained that they had tried to achieve up to a 35% reduction as promised back in August, but in calculating the Budget, found that it was unrealistic. He went on to say the reason was because there were too many unknown expenses that had developed including an additional \$5M that will be needed for WWTP improvements. Mayor Blais said that the Village was able to retire two debt services. Mayor Blais said that overall, the Village was able to achieve a 20% decrease on the General Fund Budget and a tax rate that was less than it was ten years ago. He opened the floor to public comment, kept the hearings open, and moved on with the rest of the agenda.

Mayor Blais said that he had been approached by the School regarding a new after school program they offer to the students. He said that the program started last year and was very successful, so they are looking to expand it. The program is a Fishing Club. Mayor Blais said the students fish off public docks and are now looking to purchase a little fishing boat to be able to fish off as well. To do this the School is looking for the Village Board to allow them permission to dock the boat on one of the Village Docks. Mayor Blais went on to say that there are six Village docks that they could use. Trustee Earl said he felt that one at the foot of Lower Amherst would be the

best. Trustee Root questioned if them using would overlap with the Sheriff or the Fire needs. Mayor Blais responded that there is plenty of room for all. Mayor Blais said that this would only be during the spring and end when school was out.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 270, 2023

WHEREAS, the Lake George Central School has requested permission for the Fishing Club to dock a small fishing boat at a Village Dock;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees authorizes the use of the Lower Amherst Dock, by the members of the Lake George Central School Fishing Club, for a fee of \$1, while school is in session, so long as all boaters have completed the boater safety course.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 270, 2023 ADOPTED. **March 27, 2023**

Mayor Blais asked Superintendent Lanfear to explain what Atherton Painting was requesting. Superintendent Lanfear explained that Atherton Painting is looking to start cleaning and painting the Visitor Center next week and is requesting payment upon completion of the cleaning portion which means payment would need to be made prior to the next Audit.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 271, 2023

WHEREAS, Atherton Painting was awarded the proposal for cleaning and painting the Visitor Center; and

WHEREAS, the cleaning portion will be completed by April 4, 2023 and they have requested a progress payment in the amount of \$9,895.00;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board authorizes a progress payment in the amount of \$9,895.00 to Atherton Painting for work completed. The check will be issued at the next available payroll/audit.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 271, 2023 ADOPTED. **March 27, 2023**

Mayor Blais went over the request from the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board to support them in opposing the passage of the Conservation Subdivision design Bill A04608. Trustee Root read the summary of the bill and said that he is always in favor of environmental conservation. There seemed to be a missing resolution.

Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Root, made a motion to table the resolution until all

information can be presented.

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

MOTION PASSED

Mayor Blais had Superintendent Lanfear explain that he recently had a winning bidder with Gov Deals for the Sale of the 2012 Chevy Tahoe (Old Fire Chief Vehicle) in the amount of \$6,700. Superintendent Lanfear requested the approval of the sale.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 272, 2023

WHEREAS the Village of Lake George has deemed the 2012 Chevy Tahoe ID # 1GNSK2E00CR249218 and placed it for sale on Gov Deals;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees hereby accepts the high bid of \$6,700 for the purchase, the funds to be deposited into the A2665 account.

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

Superintendent Lanfear requested the Board deem the old Voting Machine be deemed scrap surplus as it is no longer of use, has no value, and is taking up space in the Village storage area. Superintendent Lanfear said he had spoken to Warren County and they said there was no value to the machine. He explained that the Historical Museum had told him they were interested in the machine for display.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 273, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees hereby declares the Automatic Voting Machine # 173237 located in the Village Storage area as scrap surplus and wishes to donate it to the Lake George Historical Museum.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 273, 2023 ADOPTED **March 27, 2023**

Mayor Blais returned to the Public Hearing and there were no other comments. At 5:00 p.m. Mayor Blais closed the Public Hearings on the budgets.

Trustee Mastrodomenico moved to adopt the proposed 2023-2024 General Fund Budget as presented and seconded by Trustee Earl.

RESOLUTION NO. 274, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, hereby adopts the General Fund Budget for the fiscal year June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024 as follows:

General Fund Appropriations	\$6,484,511.
Less General Fund Revenues	\$4,714,952.
Less Unexpended Balance	\$ 500,000.
Amount to be raised by Taxes	\$1,269,559.

TAX RATE \$4.761 PER THOUSAND.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 274, 2023 ADOPTED. **March 27, 2023**

Trustee Earl moved to adopt the proposed 2023-2024 Water Fund Budget as presented and seconded by Trustee Root.

RESOLUTION NO. 275, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby adopts the Water Fund budget for the fiscal year June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024 as follows:

Water Fund Appropriations	\$1,197,293.
Less Water Fund Revenues	\$1,197,293.
Less Unexpended Balance	\$ 0.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 275, 2023 ADOPTED. **March 27, 2023**

Motion by Trustee Earl seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico to adopt the proposed 2023-2024 Special Assessment District Fund budget:

RESOLUTION NO. 276, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, hereby establishes the Special Assessment District Fund for the purpose of collecting taxes from the property owners in the Special Assessment District, and for making payments on the principal and interest on the bond for the Special Assessment District improvements, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Board adopts the following budget for the Special Assessment District Fund for the fiscal year June 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024 as follows:

Special Assessment District Fund Appropriations	\$25,610.
Less Special Assessment District Fund Revenues	\$ 2,581.

Amount to be raised by taxes **\$23,029.**

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

RESOLUTION NO. 276, 2023 ADOPTED. **March 27, 2023**

At 5:02 p.m. Mayor Blais made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Earl.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie K Allen
Village Clerk