

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, held on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. The Zoom connection was publicized on the Village's web site, listed on the agenda, 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
John Root, Trustee
Ray Perry, Trustee

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joseph Mastrodomenico, Trustee

Also Present: Clerk Debra McKinney

At 8:00 a.m. Mayor Blais opened the Special Meeting and noted that Trustee Root is pressed for time and will have to leave early. He requested that the Board call an executive session for discussion of a contract.

Motion by Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Root, unanimously carried, to enter into an Executive Session at 8:02 a.m. to discuss a proposed contact.

Motion by Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Perry, unanimously carried, to exit Executive Session at 8:37 a.m. There was no action taken.

Trustee Root asked about the fire siren item that is on the agenda. Mayor Blais reported that the siren has been out of service for several weeks, but it was recently put back in to service, and it was activated for 24/7. Mayor Blais explained that over the years the neighbors have complained about it ringing all night long, and now with the Ronald McDonald House is nearby, too. Mayor Blais spoke with Chief Combs and asked that the siren be off from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., and noted that the matter has been resolved.

Trustee Root left at 8:37 a.m.

Mayor Blais asked for permission to hire the following seasonal employees.

SEASONAL		
Cherie Dillenbeck	Beautification A8510	\$15.00
Brian Hopkins	Beautification A8510	\$15.00

There was one other person that was on the list and that was offered a permanent full time job for the WWTP, but he did not come for his scheduled interview, so he has been removed.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 63, 2022

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

Cherie Dillenbeck Beautification \$15.00 per hour
Brian Hopkins Beautification \$15.00 per hour

VOTING Ayes: 3 Blais, Earl, Perry

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Nays: 0
Absent: 2 **Mastrodomenico, Root**

RESOLUTION NO. 63, 2022 ADOPTED. May 25, 2022

Mayor Blais asked Clerk McKinney to review the resolutions listed on the agenda.

The Board considered the following resolutions:

- Holland Company Sales Contract. This is an annual contract for chemicals at the WWTP. This year's bulk delivery quantity is less because of the new plant.

Mayor Blais made a motion, seconded by Trustee Trustee Earl, offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 64, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board authorizes an agreement for the purchase of EPIC WW58 Polyaluminum Chloride from Holland Company at a cost of \$2.94 per gallon for 2,000 gallon bulk delivery with the price to remain the same for the period June 15, 2022 through June 14, 2023.

VOTING **Ayes:** 3 **Blais, Earl, Perry**
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 **Mastrodomenico, Root**

RESOLUTION NO. 64, 2022 ADOPTED. May 25, 2022

- Warren County Agreement for Occupancy Tax
Mayor Blais reported that he appeared before the County Board, who agreed that the fireworks shows are regionally important and supported an occupancy tax award to the Village.

Mayor Blais made a motion, seconded by Trustee Earl, offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 65, 2022

WHEREAS, Warren County has established a Tourist and Convention Development Program whereby they provide funding for certain qualifying conventions, events, trade shows and other directly related and supporting activities;

WHEREAS, Warren County has agreed to support the Village's fireworks shows throughout the 2022 season in the amount of \$25,000.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village does hereby authorize Mayor Blais to sign a Warren County Tourist and Convention Development Agreement with Warren County to that effect.

VOTING **Ayes:** 3 **Blais, Earl, Perry**
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 **Mastrodomenico, Root**

RESOLUTION NO. 65, 2022 ADOPTED. May 25, 2022

- AATV & Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board – Conservation
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Subdivision Design Bill

The Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages along with the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board requested support in opposition to the Conservation Subdivision Design Bill.

Mayor Blais made a motion, seconded by Trustee Earl, offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 66, 2022

Resolution against passage of Conservation Subdivision Design Bill S1145/A4074

WHEREAS, The Adirondack Park Agency Adopted a Large Subdivision Permit application that incorporated many of the action items in the Conservation Subdivision Design Bill, and

WHEREAS, implementation of the Adirondack Park Agency Large Subdivision Permit, is possibly more protective of the Environment than the Conservation Subdivision Design allows for, and

WHEREAS, Conservation Design laws are seldom mandatory, and are a tool to keep open space in urban areas, and

WHEREAS, the State of New York as of March 20, 2018 owned 2,505,802 or 44.6 percent of the Adirondack Park in fee, the State as of November 12, 2018 also owns 785,434 acres of Conservation Easements, where development and subdivision rights have been extinguished, and

WHEREAS, this means there are more than 3.3 million acres of a 5.9-million-acre Adirondack Park that will never be developed or subdivided, and

WHEREAS, of the remaining 2.6 million acres of private land, existing development, roads, lakes, rivers, streams, steep slopes, wetlands and high elevations are not suitable for development, and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would amend the existing Adirondack Park Agency Act which has been in effect for 50 years, and

WHEREAS, before major Adirondack Park Agency permit application processes are changed, a public hearing process needs to be implemented so that property owners have an opportunity to understand and comment on how this proposed law will affect their property values, and

WHEREAS, this change would require private property owners to incur undue burden to hire external consultants to complete additional ecological assessments that will add significant time to proceed with proposed developments, and

WHEREAS, this proposed law could eliminate the potential for development on certain lands, which could be a “taking” without compensation, current law already protects and regulates these lands by the Adirondack Park Agency, and

WHEREAS, the proposed bill places additional burden on property owners that is not necessary to protect environmental and ecological systems and is not beneficial to the well-being of the Adirondack Park and its residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board does not approve of the proposed Bill, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board does hereby call upon the local governments to stand together, individually and through our associations to insist that the Conservation Subdivision Design Bill (S1145/A4074) be withdrawn, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Heastie, All the Adirondack Legislators, Adirondack Intercounty, the Association of Adirondack Towns & Villages.

VOTING Ayes: 3 Blais, Earl, Perry
 Nays: 0
 Absent: 2 Mastrodomenico, Root

RESOLUTION NO. 66, 2022 ADOPTED. **May 25, 2022**

- Transfer funds from Fire General to Fire Reserve Fund
Clerk McKinney noted that normally any balance of funds left in the Fire appropriations are transferred to the Fire Reserve Fund at the end of the year for future purchases of fire equipment. This year there is an additional \$22,300. to be put into the reserve.

Mayor Blais made a motion, seconded by Trustee Earl, offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 67, 2022

WHEREAS, the Village of Lake George Fire Department has completed the fiscal year 2021-2022, and has unused funds estimated in the amount of \$22,300.; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, New York hereby authorizes a transfer of \$22,300. from the General Fund Fire Appropriations to the Fire Equipment Reserve for future equipment purchases.

VOTING Ayes: 3 Blais, Earl, Perry
 Nays: 0
 Absent: 2 Mastrodomenico, Root

RESOLUTION NO. 67, 2022 ADOPTED. **May 25, 2022**

- Budget Amendment for Teen Center Funds
The Teen Center received a donation, which was originally placed in the Trust & Agency account, and now is in General Fund revenues. A budget amendment needs to be done so that the funds can be used by the Teen Center Administrator to purchase items for the Teen Center.

Mayor Blais made a motion, seconded by Trustee Earl, offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 68, 2022

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WHEREAS, the Village received donations totaling \$3,495. from Ellsworth Construction and a fundraiser held specifically for the Teen Center in 2021. The funds were placed in the Trust & Agency Account and then moved to the General Fund for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY hereby authorizes a budget transfer to use the funds for the Teen Center "Wish List":

DR A6292.41	TEEN CENTER EXPENSE	\$3,495.00
CR 2702	TEEN CENTER REVENUE	\$3,495.00

VOTING Ayes: 3 Blais, Earl, Perry
 Nays: 0
 Absent: 2 Mastrodomenico, Root

RESOLUTION NO. 68, 2022 ADOPTED. **May 25, 2022**

The following Special Events/Facilities use applications were considered:

Wood Park

- MINI Takes the States, TEAM Enterprises, Jenny Merrill, July 9, 2022
Mayor Blais reported that they are expecting 800-1,000 mini coopers to come to Lake George for their annual one-day event.

Shepard Park

- University of Rochester, Art Installation, Rose Pasquarello Beauchamp, June 27, rain date June 28, 2022. Mayor Blais noted that this is a traveling art show affiliated with the University of Rochester. They would like to have their display trailer in front of Shepard Park.

Trustee Perry made a motion, seconded by Trustee Earl, offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 69, 2022

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, compliance with pandemic requirements, insurance and other necessary documents:

Wood Park

- MINI Takes the States, TEAM Enterprises, Jenny Merrill, July 9, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board agrees to a daily rate as set by the County;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other aspects of these events are contingent upon approval by the Warren County Board of Supervisors, the Operations and Maintenance Committee for the Park, and the Capital District Control Group as required.

Shepard Park

- University of Rochester, Art Installation, Rose Pasquarello Beauchamp, June 27, rain date June 28, 2022. The Board agreed to allow for parking and waive the fees.

VOTING Ayes: 3 Blais, Earl, Perry
 Nays: 0

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RESOLUTION NO. 69, 2022 ADOPTED. May 25, 2022

Mayor Blais reiterated the previous fire siren discussion, noting that the siren will be silenced during the nighttime at the request of the neighbors.

Mayor Blais reported the petition calling for a referendum on the dissolution of the Village, which was circulated by Town employee, Doug Frost has been validated and is accepted. The Clerk will be sending out the official notification. He noted that we now have 30 days to set a date for the referendum, which must be held within 90 days. He plans to set the date at the next Regular Village Board meeting scheduled for June 20, 2022. He suggested that we pursue the previously discussed grant. He recommended that we set forth the facts. He has heard misinformation about why the Village did not proceed before. He commented that the Village is in the process of seeking funding and constructing a \$24M plant. Our funding source, EFC was concerned about a possible dissolution; the long term financing is not yet finalized. Also, the Village is in the process of trying to fill several staffing positions including two position at the WWTP, the Office Water Department Manager and the Clerk/Purchasing Agent is planning to retire in September. This puts the Village in a rather precarious position. On a normal basis, filling positions is rather difficult at this time. Mayor Blais suggested going back to the original firms that submitted proposals, asking them to submit a new proposal to assist with assembling the facts, and there will be only about 60 days to do this work.

Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Perry, offered the following resolution for end-of-the-year Transfers and Audits:

RESOLUTION NO. 70, 2022

TRANSFERS:

From:		To:	Amount:
A1620.4	Bldg Cont	A1620.41	Bldg Electric \$300.00
A1640.4	CG Contr	A1640.41	CG Elec. \$100.00
A5410.4	Sidewalks	A5650.4	Off Str Parking Contr \$3,000.00
A8130.41	Sanit. Elec	A8130.4	Sewer Treat Contr. \$4,000.00
A8120.41	Sanit Sewer Elect	A8130.4	Sewer Treat Contr. \$6,900.00
F8310.22	Water Inv	F8310.4	Water Adm Contr. \$750.00
A7110.41	Parks Elec	A7110.4	Parks Contr \$2,375.00
A6292.1	Teen Ctr Pers	A6292.4	Teen Ctr Contr \$1,800.00
A1620.4	Buildings Contr	A7110.4	Parks Contr \$2,200.00
A1620.4	Buildings Contr	A1325.4	Clerk-Treas Contr \$2,500.00
A1620.4	Buildings Contr	A3310.4	Traffic Control \$1,100.00
A1620.4	Buildings Contr	A8120.4	Sanitary Sewer \$4,100.00
	Sanit. Sewer Fixed		
A8120.21	Asset		\$428,325.00
A1990.4	Contingency	A1325.1	Clerk Treas. Pers Serv \$3,000.00
A1375.4	Credit Card fees	A1325.1	Clerk Treas. Pers Serv \$3,502.00
A8170.1	Street Clean Pers	A8160.1	Refuse Pers Svce \$345.00
A5110.1	Street Maint. Pers	A7110.1	Pers Svce Wood Park \$1,298.00
A5110.1	Street Maint. Pers	A3410.1	Fire Pers Svce \$450.00
A5110.1	Street Maint. Pers	A3620.1	Safety Inspection Pers \$332.00
A8120.22	Sanitary Sewer Inv	A8120.41	Sanitary Sewer Elec \$4,767.00

AUDITS:

5/19/2022	General Water	\$65,494.68 \$9,399.18 <hr/> \$74,893.86	221811-221812	36427
5/25/2022	General Water	\$499,529.17 \$10,840.54 <hr/> \$510,369.71	221813-221903	36429-36481

VOTING **Ayes: 3** **Blais, Earl, Perry**
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 **Mastrodomenico, Root**

RESOLUTION NO. 70, 2022 ADOPTED. **May 25, 2022**

Mayor Blais stated that this is his last year and he is hoping after 52 years Lake George is in a better place. He commented that the Village remains in a very good financial condition, and the tax rate is lower than it was ten years ago, even with the WWTP bonding. He thanked the Village Board.

Mayor Blais informed the Board that the WWTP Operator, in light of recent resignations, has come to him asking for better pay raises for the WWTP staff. He suggested that those three employees receive a \$2. an hour increase on June 1. These employees must work rotating weekends; they are dealing with all new technology, and taking on more responsibility.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 71, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees the following rates of pay in the 22/23 budget for these employees:

Scott Congel	WWTP	\$21.00 per hour
Darren Ross	WWTP	\$21.50 per hour
Andrew Kehlenbeck	WWTP	\$20.00 per hour

VOTING **Ayes: 3** **Blais, Earl, Perry**
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 **Mastrodomenico, Root**

RESOLUTION NO. 71, 2022 ADOPTED. **May 25, 2022**

Mayor Blais continued and requested that the Board increase DPW Foreman John Helms up to \$29.00 per hour as with his experience he has added responsibilities including overseeing water department breaks. He is a valued employee, and Trustee Perry gave him a very good recommendation as well.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 72 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees the following rate of pay in the 22/23 budget for John Helms, DPW Foreman at \$29.00 per hour.

VOTING **Ayes: 3** **Blais, Earl, Perry**
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 **Mastrodomenico, Root**

RESOLUTION NO. 72, 2022 ADOPTED. **May 25, 2022**

Clerk McKinney reported that she and Mayor Blais have an appointment today to sign for the bonding with Greene County Community Bank for the Vac truck.

Mayor Blais noted that we are trying to be conservative with the WWTP funds as we can't go back to the bonding company to increase the bond. He noted that any change order increases must be approved by the Board. He discussed the anticipated ribbon cutting and open house. He confirmed that we are meeting the state testing standards, and commended Operator Tim Shudt for his work on getting this new plant up and running.

There was a motion by Trustee Perry to adjourn at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. McKinney
Village Clerk