

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, held on Monday, June 6, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Village Office. 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
Ray Perry, Trustee
John Root, Trustee

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joseph Mastrodomenico, Trustee

TOWNCOUNCIL PRESENT: Dennis Dickinson, Supervisor
Marisa Muratori, Councilperson

Also Present: Clerk Debra McKinney, Superintendent Lanfear, Operator Tim Shudt, Director of Planning & Zoning Dan Barusch, Sean Doty & Mike Connors from LaBella Associates, and others via Zoom.

At 10:00 a.m. Mayor Blais opened the meeting and reported that of the three original proposals to do a dissolution study, two firms are willing to complete an Interim Study within the time period necessary. MRB Group from Saratoga indicated that they cannot meet the time frame. CGR, 1 South Washington St, Suite 400 from Rochester submitted a quote of \$28,500. Laberge Group of 4 Computer Drive West, Albany, NY submitted a proposal in the amount of \$27,500. plus reimbursables. Mayor Blais noted that he was thinking about setting Tuesday, September 13, 2022 as the date for a Special Election thus allowing for the study to get done and time for public information meetings. Mayor Blais confirmed that he has contacted several people and asked if they would serve on a Citizens Committee for the purpose of working with the consultants and asking pertinent questions.

Trustee Root commented that this is the worst case scenario. He would like to recommend Laberge firm. He asked if it would be possible to ask the committee to withdraw the petition. It was confirmed that No, that cannot be done. Trustee Root suggested that someone who signed the petition should be on the Committee. Further discussion ensued about the timing of the public information sessions for presentation of the facts that are gathered by the consultants. The Board also discussed the options for different members to be appointed to the Committee. Mayor Blais confirmed that there will not be a dissolution plan in place for the election, but then if the vote is yes, we have 60 days to develop a plan. He noted that he tried to choose the committee based on being open minded, with a great knowledge of the Village and some having big stakes in the Village. Trustee Earl agreed that a committee with 12 people would be a good size.

Mayor Blais went back to the Board asking for their opinion on which firm to choose and asked for a motion if someone would like to choose. Trustee Root confirmed that he is in favor of hiring Laberge. Supervisor Dickinson agreed with the choice, and so did Dan Barusch citing that the proximity of their office is a plus. Dan noted that Laberge worked with him on the DPW Study as well.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 73, 2022

WHEREAS the Village Clerk received a complete petition for Local Government Dissolution on May 18, 2022, and the petition was deemed valid on May 26, 2022;

WHEREAS a Request For Proposal for consultants to complete a study was done, including presentations by three firms on January 24, 2022, but not acted upon, and;

WHEREAS two of those firms submitted new proposals to complete an Interim Village Dissolution Study;

BE IT RESOLVED upon review and discussion by the Village Board, they are in agreement that they would like to hire Laberge Group of 4 Computer Drive West, Albany, NY 12205 and represented by Benjamin Syden, for professional services to prepare an Interim Dissolution Study at a cost of \$27,500. plus reimbursable expenses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a grant application will be submitted to help cover a portion of the cost.

**VOTING Ayes: 4 Blais, Earl, Perry, Root
 Nays: 0
 Absent: 1 Mastrodomenico**

RESOLUTION NO. 73, 2022 ADOPTED. June 6, 2022

Mayor Blais presented the list for a Citizens Committee to work on the Dissolution Proposition as follows and subject to the Village Board's approval:

Ray Perry (VB)	Fred Pape (T)
Rob Gregor (V)	Fred Vogel (T)
Carol Sullivan (V)	Dennis Dickinson (TB)
Dave Mentor (V)	Marisa Muratori (TB)
Patricia Dow (V)	Dan Barusch – Project Manager
John Fox (V)	
Ron Mogren (V)	

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

RESOLUTION NO. 74, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George hereby appoints the following as the Citizens Committee for the Dissolution Project:

Ray Perry (VB)	Fred Pape (T)
Rob Gregor (V)	Fred Vogel (T)
Carol Sullivan (V)	Dennis Dickinson (TB)
Dave Mentor (V)	Marisa Muratori (TB)
Patricia Dow (V)	Dan Barusch – Project Manager
John Fox (V)	
Ron Mogren (V)	

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

RESOLUTION NO. 74, 2022 ADOPTED. June 6, 2022

Mayor Blais confirmed that the Village will be eligible for up to \$25,000. in grant funding from NYS DOS to help cover the cost of the consultants. This funding is a 90%/10% match; and the Town of Lake George has agreed to share the cost.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 75, 2022

Resolution Authorizing the Planning and Zoning Director to apply for grant funding through the 2022 NYS CREG and supporting the CREG-funded Village of Lake George Reorganization Study

WHEREAS, the Village of Lake George (the “Village”) has interest in submitting for grant funding from New York State Department of State as part of the 2022 Citizen Reorganization Empowerment Grant (CREG) for money to complete a “Reorganization study” which will include analysis of dissolution, consolidation and other reorganization alternatives; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board discussed potential projects and grant applications and which projects would be considered priority including the CREG application for a Dissolution/Reorganization Study; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Director requests the authorization to submit applications for the following grant on behalf of the Village,

- **DOS Local Government Efficiency Program / Citizens Reorganization Empowerment Grant (\$25,000 grant, \$25,000 match - match to be shared with Town, \$12,500 each) to be used for Dissolution/Reorganization Study**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board authorizes the Director of Planning and Zoning to submit the necessary grant application through the NYS DOS CREG application method, for the above grant and that the Village Board members support the use of those funds, if awarded, to complete a Reorganization study to analyze the potential benefit of the numerous options for Village reorganization.

**VOTING Ayes: 4 Blais, Earl, Perry, Root
 Nays: 0
 Absent: 1 Mastrodomenico**

RESOLUTION NO. 75, 2022 ADOPTED. June 6, 2022

Trustee Perry inquired as to whether the Town would still qualify for the dissolution tax credit. Dan Barusch confirmed that it is still in the law.

Mayor Blais introduced Sean Doty of Labella who came to submit a request for a change order for the WWTP, mostly related to additional paving. First, it was noted that Mr. Doty has given his two-week notice at Labella and is moving to another local firm. The Board members thanked him and wished him well in his new position.

Sean Doty presented a drawing outlining the original paving and the new intended areas that need to be paved. There is paving included as well as grading and drainage infrastructure. He broke out the request as follows: \$61,000. Increase – additional asphalt over base bid; \$144,000. for 91,000 sq. ft. of additional asphalt; and \$33,000. for infiltration and a drywell.

Sean noted that he spoke with the Board previously about increasing the project costs. Mayor Blais mentioned that Attorney Fuller has been working with Larry Paltrowitz in order to proceed with an increased project cost. Mr. Doty noted that there is still some outstanding work that needd to be done in regards to the analyzer and probes, but he doesn't have the price quote on that yet. Mr. Doty passed out an updated WWTP Project cost status sheet and reviewed it with the Board. Operator Tim Shudt is recommending that the paving work be done basically as a maintenance item because of anticipated mud and ease of getting around at the Plant. Also, it has been determined that the new Vac truck because of its size will need to be stored in a different spot than the old one. Mayor Blais asked Mr. Doty to communicate with Attorney Fuller about the updated project cost, and he agreed. Mr. Doty also confirmed a conversation that he had last week with EFC in regards to some additional grant funding that the Village may be eligible for.

Based on Operator Shudt's recommendation Trustee Perry, seconded by Mayor Blais, offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 76, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves Blue Heron, WWTP Replacement Project Change Order No. 2 which includes a time extension to extend the construction contract at no cost; a contract price increase due to the increased cost of asphalt since the original bidding; increase contract price for additional areas to be paved interior to the WWTP; additional drainage work as proposed and changes to the original contract as follows:

**An increase of \$61,125.20 for the asphalt price increase since the project was bid;
An increase of \$144,125.00 for installation of additional pavement areas 1-5 as identified on Field Order 30;
An increase of \$33,015.00 for installation of drainage improvements associated with pavement area 5. This includes the drainage improvements and final grading.**

For a total Change Order increase of \$238,265.20., making the Blue Heron contract amount \$17,219,866.70.

**VOTING Ayes: 4 Blais, Earl, Perry, Root
 Nays: 0
 Absent: 1 Mastrodomenico**

RESOLUTION NO. 76, 2022 ADOPTED. June 6, 2022

Operator Shudt requested permission to hire Jonathan Tudda as a full time permanent employee at the WWTP.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 77, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves hiring the following full-time permanent employee for the WWTP pending a satisfactory pre-employment drug test:

Jonathan Tudda \$22.00 per hour

VOTING Ayes: 4 Blais, Earl, Perry, Root

Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Mastrodomenico

RESOLUTION NO. 77, 2022 ADOPTED. June 6, 2022

Superintendent Lanfear reported that Water Treatment Plant employee Mike Sabo has submitted his resignation. Mr. Lanfear interviewed a potential candidate and upon interview with Mayor, he asked that the Board approve his hiring.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 78, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves hiring the following full-time permanent employee for the Water Treatment Plant pending a satisfactory pre-employment drug test:

Paul McMann \$20.00 per hour

VOTING Ayes: 4 Blais, Earl, Perry, Root
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Mastrodomenico

RESOLUTION NO. 78, 2022 ADOPTED. June 6, 2022

Mayor Blais asked the Board to go into Executive Session. Motion by Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Earl, unanimously carried, to enter into an Executive Session at 11:13 a.m. to discuss a potential contract. He commented that there would be no action taken during or afterwards.

Motion by Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Perry, unanimously carried, to exit Executive Session at 11:19 a.m.

There was a motion by Trustee Perry to adjourn at 11:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. McKinney
Village Clerk