

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, held at the Village Administration Building on Monday, January 13, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

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

Also present: Clerk Debra McKinney, Superintendent Keith Lanfear, Robert Leombruno, Doni Smith, John Humor, Dave Wells of Nexamp, Chirs Dutcher with Americade, Dave Ehmann, Heather Engwer, Thom Randall and Michael Goot (Journalists).

At 6:30 p.m. Mayor Blais opened the Regular Meeting and asked Trustee Root to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Blais presented the minutes from a Regular Meeting held on Monday, December 16, 2019 and a Special Meeting held on December 30, 2019. Trustee Root requested that further detail about the discussion in regards to the Forum be added to the minutes of December 16th Trustee Root made a motion, seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico, unanimously carried to approve the December 30, 2019 minutes and to table the December 16, 2019 minutes.

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

Monthly reports from the Sanitation Department, REC Center, Code Enforcement, Fire Department, Caldwell Sewer District, Historian's Annual Report, and Superintendent of Public Works were presented and made available for inspection.

Fire Chief Smith requested permission for Tom Williams to attend the Fire Officer 1 class in North Queensbury beginning January 8, 2020 at no cost. Trustee Earl made a motion, seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico, unanimously carried to approve the training.

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

Mayor Blais asked David Wells of Nexamp to review their proposal. Mr. Wells had a handout with details specific to the Village's National Grid invoices. Nexamp already made a presentation to the Town of Lake George, and they are interested in participating in the program, but have not committed yet. Nexamp is working with New York State to achieve energy goals of 70% of electricity to come from renewable sources by 2030. Community solar is a way to do this. The program is available to homeowners, renters and small businesses. There is no cost to participate. He pointed out that they have a few projects in the works now. By using community solar, you get credits on your National Grid bills and in turn a separate invoice for the energy credits is generated by Nexamp, which will reduce your electricity costs. Mr. Wells pointed out that if anyone is interested, there is a video

on their website that gives more information. The question was asked whether an RFP was done for this, and it was noted that OGS issued an RFP and there are five preselected vendors. David reported that the closest project is in Troy and is up and running. They are working on another one in Clifton Park. Mayor Blais asked about the term, and Mr. Wells replied the homeowners and small businesses can cancel at any time, but municipal customers would probably have a three-year commitment. Mayor Blais thanked him for the presentation, and noted that he will follow up after reading the documentation.

Mayor Blais began a discussion about the location for a 2020 Americade Block Party. He noted that last year the block party was held on Beach Road, and he mentioned that at the previous meeting, Patricia and Luke Dow talked about the concerns they had with traffic and access to their property. Luke reiterated and explained in detail where the traffic problems were, and made some suggestions for new signage. Mayor Blais commented that if the Board can come to a decision on the location, hopefully it will be a permanent solution so the event doesn't have to keep getting moved around. Christian Dutcher spoke on behalf of Americade and commented that even though it is a smaller location, Beach Road worked out for them last year. He acknowledged the traffic issues, and had some suggestions for signage as well. As Americade's Production Manager, Dave Ehmann remarked that he's 100% confident that the location can work; the biggest hurdle was the traffic problems, which he feels can be worked out.

Lake George resident, Heather Engwer, stated that she was concerned about the location as she didn't recall getting any notice about the rerouting of traffic during last year's event and was stuck there in traffic for a long time. If she would have known, she would have taken different routes to work. Mayor Blais made note that there were several articles in the paper, but the proper signage is very important. Trustee Perry suggested using the LED signs to broadcast the information. Luke Dow suggested that a couple weeks prior to the event Facebook would be a good place to post the information about traffic routes.

Mayor Blais reviewed the other two location options, but suggested that with changes, last year's location on Beach Road would be the best. Trustee Root noted that it's refreshing that all of the parties are working together.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 198, 2020**

**WHEREAS, Christian Dutcher on behalf of Americade has verbally requested use of Beach Road to hold a Block Party during the 2020 Americade;**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves a permit for such use contingent upon receipt of a Special Event Application including all fees, insurance and other necessary documents.**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 198, 2020 ADOPTED.                      January 13, 2020**

Tim Shudt Sr, submitted a request for Tim Shudt, Jr. to attend the Basic Laboratory 1-13-20 regular

Course at SUNY ACC at a cost of \$345. This course is part of the licensing process. Trustee Mastrodomenico inquired as to whether there is anything in the handbook that says the employee must work a certain period of time after the Village covers the cost of the class, but Mayor Blais commented that he isn't aware of any.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 199, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves Tim Shudt, Jr. to attend the Basic Laboratory Course at SUNY ACC beginning in March at a cost of \$345.**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 199, 2020 ADOPTED.                    January 13, 2020**

Mayor Blais reported that he received a request from the Fire Company to increase the LOSAP benefit available for qualifying firefighters from \$700. to \$1,200 annually. The Fire Company has voted to approve this. He noted that in order to change the benefit amount, the Village must hold an election with a public referendum. The impact on the Village will be raising the cost from \$19,000. to about \$33,000., but it is all dependent on how many members qualify each year. There could be 44 members eligible to participate if they were all to qualify. Mayor Blais suggested if the Board wants to approve, the Village would need to hold a special election.

Benefits representative Bob Leombruno reported that the present amount of \$700. has not been increased in over ten years. He noted that probably 30 members will qualify for the LOSAP benefits in 2019. They would like to get this approved so that it can be put into the Village's budget. The Village's percentage share of the additional \$15,000 is about 22% or a \$3,300. increase to the tax payers. He also mentioned there were two forfeits in 2019, which will be refunded. The Town bears a share of the cost. He noted that Ed Hoolihan, the president of Penflex offered to come and speak at a public meeting.

Mayor Blais asked the Board if they were willing to put the matter out to a public referendum. There is no regular Village election this year. He suggested holding the election at the same time as the general election in November. Mayor Blais confirmed that we will have a public information session prior to the vote.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 200, 2020**

**WHEREAS the Board of Trustees has received a request from the Lake George Volunteer Fire Company to increase the LOSAP benefit for qualified members from \$700. to \$1,200. annually;**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees agrees to move forward to hold a public referendum at a Special Village Election at the next general election scheduled for November 10, 2020.**

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

**Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 200, 2020 ADOPTED January 13, 2020**

The IRS has set the 2020 Standard Mileage Rate.

**Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico, offered the following resolution.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 201, 2020**

**WHEREAS the Board of Trustees has determined to pay a fixed rate for mileage as reimbursement to Village officers and employees who use their personal automobiles while performing their official Village duties;**

**WHEREAS the IRS has set the Standard Mileage Rate for 2020 as .575 cents per mile for business uses;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees will approve reimbursement to such officers and employees at the rate of \$ .575 per mile effective January 1, 2020.**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 201, 2020 ADOPTED January 13, 2020**

The following Facility Use applications were considered:

- Adirondack Magic REC Center fields, Jesse Hayes – three Softball Tournaments and practices from April 1 through October 31, 2020  
Mayor Blais reported that the organization has done a good job helping to maintain the fields. The Village's per day rate for tournaments is \$250. The organizer has noted that they may practice every day starting in April. Mayor Blais commented that they paid a fee of \$200. last year for the season for use of the fields for practices. Trustee Perry was concerned about conflicts with the Youth Commission and other softball teams. He would like them to coordinate with the other groups.
- Lake George Association Stream Monitoring at REC Center, Lindsey Kenna & Kristen Wilde - May & June, 2020  
Mayor Blais commented that if the Board gets a chance they should go up and look at the classroom set up that they built up there.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 202, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves Special Event Applications for the REC Center as follows:**

- Adirondack Magic use of REC Center fields, Jesse Hayes – three Softball Tournaments scheduled for July 3-5, 2020, August 7-9, 2020, and October 30-November 1, 2020 at a cost of \$250. per day.
- Lake George Association Stream Monitoring at REC Center, Lindsey

**Kenna & Kristen Wilde - May & June, 2020**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the request by Adirondack Magic for practices beginning April 1 through October 31, 2020 will be tabled until it is confirmed that they are no scheduling conflicts with the other entities.**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 202, 2020 ADOPTED.   January 13, 2020**

The following Facility Use applications to use Charles R. Wood Park Festival Space were considered:

- ESTRA Tow Show, Empire State Towing & Recovery – May 29, 30, and 31, 2020
- Adirondack Wine and Food Festival, Sasha Pardy - June 27 & 28, 2020

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 203, 2020**

**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, insurance and other necessary documents:**

- ESTRA Tow Show, Empire State Towing & Recovery – May 29, 30, and 31, 2020
- Adirondack Wine & Food Festival, Sasha Pardy - scheduled for June 27 and 28, 2020

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that §148-45 to §148-48 of the Village's code will be waived for all applications referenced above 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. 203, 2020 ADOPTED.   January 13, 2020**

Mayor Blais asked the Board if they would like to set a Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law No. 1, 2020, which will prohibit the use of sound devices and speakers that broadcast out onto to the public sidewalk and Canada Street. The Board agreed to set the hearing at their next regular meeting scheduled for Monday, February 10, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Blais gave an update about the Gateway South project, which runs from Mohican Street south to the Town line. It was initially believed that the design would be ready to go out to bid, but after reviewing the drawings he found that the design

does not match up with the Town's gateway as he thought. He went on to say that the project only includes sidewalks and lights, no medians or trees. He suggested that the Board members come in and look at the plans that are done and see what they think. In regards to the north end project, Superintendent Lanfear confirmed that we have enough light fixtures in stock, but one of the hurdles might be the right of way as it is narrow up through there. Some easements might need to be done.

Mayor Blais reported that last year he had a presentation from Lyn Derway of NYCLASS in regards to possible Village Investments. Treasurer Danae Bock researched and found that their current rate of return is 1.55%. She checked with TD Bank and their rate for an equal investment is the same. Also, in order to invest with this group, the procurement policy would need to be updated. Mayor Blais recommended that since both rates are the same, we make no changes at this time.

The Center For Economic Growth thanked the Village for their support and sent a summary report for their 2019 accomplishments.

Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Perry, offered the following resolution for Water Changes:

**RESOLUTION NO. 204, 2020**  
**JANUARY 2020 WATER CHANGES**

<b>JANUARY PENALTIES</b>		<b>\$1,130.34</b>
<b>FINAL READS</b>		
M Lucas	# 298	\$ 37.86
P Fallisi	#3619	\$ 56.50
<b>ADJUSTMENTS</b>		
J Remington #4479	Purchased Meter	\$ 230.00

The above resulted in the following Journal Entries:

DR	F0350 WATER RECEIVABLE	\$1,454.70
CR	F2148 WATER PENALTIES	\$1,130.34
CR	F2140 WATER METERED	\$ 94.36
CR	F2655 SALE OF EQUIPMENT	\$ 230.00

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 204, 2020 ADOPTED. January 13, 2020**

Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Perry, offered the following resolution for Transfers and Audits:

**RESOLUTION NO. 205, 2020**

**TRANSFERS:**

From:		To:		Amount:
<b>A8020.4</b>	Planning	<b>A8010.4</b>	Zoning	<b>\$400.00</b>
<b>A8560.4</b>	Trees	<b>A8510.4</b>	Beautification	<b>\$1,000.00</b>

<b>F9710.7</b>	Serial Bond Interest	<b>F9710.6</b>	Serial Bonds	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
12/19/2019	General Water	\$99,031.33 \$22,492.76 <u>\$121,524.09</u>	201148-201178	33515-33523
1/2/2020	General Water	\$45,759.99 \$11,288.27 <u>\$57,048.26</u>	201179-201190	33524-33531
1/13/2020	General Water Sewer Plant Improv (HK) EPG-HT	\$103,982.08 \$26,312.81 \$741,545.94 \$664.00 <u>\$872,504.83</u>	201191-201272	

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 205, 2020 ADOPTED.    January 13, 2020**

Mayor Blais asked for any other business.  
Superintendent Lanfear reiterated that the north end shoulders are restrictive, so we might have to get easements to put in new streetlights.

Trustee Root congratulated Mayor Blais and all of those involved with getting the grant for the WWTP. Mayor Blais acknowledged that we have been awarded \$9.4M in grant funding, and in the spring we can apply for another Northern Border Alliance grant in the amount of \$500,000. He also advised that he will follow up with his request to Warren County for funding in the amount of \$100,000. per year for the next ten years. He reported that today there was a meeting with the engineers, the contractors and Village staff, and that it went well with the contractor agreeing to ramp up construction to stay on schedule. Trustee Perry repeated the congratulations on receipt of the grant.

Mayor Blais mentioned that more work needs to be done to get the final Planning/Zoning Administration and Code Enforcement Officer shared services agreement completed for 2020. He would like to set a date for a special meeting in the near future. The Board agreed to meet on Monday, January 27 at 9:00 a.m.

Trustee Earl reported that the sign at the Route 9 entrance to the REC Center is in need of some repair. Superintendent Lanfear agreed to follow up on that.

There was a motion by Trustee Perry, to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. McKinney, CPPB  
Village Clerk

1-13-20 regular