

Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Public Hearings of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, held at the Village Administration Building on Monday, June 19, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ray Perry, Trustee

Also Present: Darlene V. Gunther (Clerk-Treasurer), Deb McKinney (Deputy Clerk-Treasurer), Superintendent Dave Harrington, Thom Randall (Journalist), William Massry, and Joanne Mamrosch.

At 6:30 p.m. Mayor Blais opened the Regular Meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Blais asked for a moment of silence in memory of George Cannon who recently passed away. George was a long time President of the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages and Newcomb Supervisor.

At 6:31 p.m. Mayor Blais opened three Public Hearings to run concurrently.

- The first is for a proposed Local Law amending Chapter 213 "WATER". This amendment will increase the water rates by 3% effective August 1, 2017.
- The next proposed Local Law amends Chapter 148 "Parks & Recreation" and will prohibit smoking or the use of tobacco products within Shepard Park near the children's playground and the amphitheater seating area. It will also change the law allowing dogs in the new designated "Dog Park" area at the REC Center. It also makes the Dog Park a non-smoking area.
- And a proposed Local Law amending Chapter 208, "VEHICLE & TRAFFIC". The amendment will increase the fee to \$2.00 per hour in the parking spaces adjacent to the James Street Parking lot.

Mayor Blais opened the floor to public comment. There was none.

Mayor Blais presented the minutes from a Regular Meeting held on Monday, May 15, 2017 and a Special Meeting held on May 30, 2017. Trustee Root made a motion, seconded by Trustee Earl, carried by a majority to approve the minutes.

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

Monthly reports from the Sanitation Department, REC Center, Code Enforcement, Fire Department, Caldwell Sewer District, Meter Revenues, Meter Enforcement, Americade and Superintendent of Public Works were presented and made available for inspection.

Fire Chief Berry had the following action items:

- Approve membership for Jessica McKinney and Hollis Olden Jr. Jessica 6-19-17 regular

Absent: 1 Perry
MOTION PASSED.

Mayor Blais received some unsigned correspondence from Dunklee of 86 Montcalm Street in regards the parking of vehicles on private property. He reviewed the letter.

The following resolutions were considered:

- The Warren County Hazard Mitigation Plan was made available for inspection and needs to be approved by resolution. Superintendent Harrington responded on behalf of the Village.

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

- Milton Cat preventative maintenance service contracts on four generators

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

- Northeast Information Services contract for preventative maintenance on the Village Office Mitel phone system purchased last year.

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

- Proposal for professional services by Chazen Companies for the Storm water runoff project on Lower Amherst Street. Superintendent Harrington explained that a hydrodynamic separator will be installed by Village staff. A survey will

need to be completed as well. The cost of the engineers and the whole project is covered with 100% grant funding.

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

- Budget amendment for an insurance recovery claim on damages to the Fire Department's 2014 Pierce Saber Rescue truck.

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

- Authorize Mayor Blais to sign a MOA with the Towns of Lake George & Bolton for Student Connection funds of \$1,000 each. An agreement with the Town of Queensbury was previously approved.

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

- Approve handbook changes

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

Absent: 1 Perry

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

The following Special Event/Facility Use applications were reviewed:

- First United Methodist Church worship service in Shepard Park on Sundays beginning June 25 until September 3 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

- Adirondack Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Show to hold the Lake George Rendezvous on August 26 at the Village Docks. Payment for rental of the docks has been received.

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

- Prospect Center Division of Center for Disability for use of Wood Park on August 4-6, 2017 in conjunction with their annual volleyball tournament held at the Million Dollar Beach. Warren County approved the use today.

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

The following additional seasonal employees were considered:

- John Bottillo for meter enforcement @ \$10. per hour
- Jun Xiao as a restroom cleaner @ \$10. Per hour

6-19-17 regular

Mayor Blais presented an email from Dan Wolfield in regards to the Marriott Courtyard's proposal for a rooftop garden. He requested that the Board be polled for their opinions as to what the intended purpose of the space was. Mayor Blais reviewed how he thought the rooftop was going to be used and suggested treating it the same as other decks and bars. He commented that he would consider it a highly attractive location to see the Lake and the fireworks shows. He noted that he never considered it to be another floor. Trustee Earl commented that as an outside venue, the volume of the music should be considered. After some discussion, the Board agreed that the regulations already in place could be used. If it becomes a nuisance, address it at that time. Mayor Blais will draft a response to Mr. Wolfield.

Mayor Blais reported that he and Enforcement Officer Doug Frost made a trip around the Village and found that the Leonelli property down on the Lake front Walkway is in need of some maintenance. A notification letter has been sent.

Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Earl, offered the following resolution for water changes:

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Earl, offered the following resolution for transfers, audits, and electronic payment:

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017

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

RESOLUTION NO. , 2017 ADOPTED. June 19, 2017

Mayor Blais requested nominations for Beautification awards to be announced at the July meeting. He asked that any nominations be turned into Clerk-Treasurer Darlene Gunther. Awards will be handed out at a concert in August.

Mayor Blais announced that the first Friday at the Lake was cancelled due to the weather. The activities have been rescheduled for Thursday, July 20. He reported that \$27,000. was raised towards the Shepard Park Improvements, including the Wood Foundation grant it brings the total to \$77,000. The lighting project has already been completed.

Mayor Blais asked for any other business.

- Trustee Mastrodomenico pointed out that the cleaners were working up by the Lobster Pot and commended them. He went on to say that he noticed that the boats parked on Sewell Street seem to be quite far out into the street. Superintendent Harrington acknowledged that they are supposed to be five

feet from the pavement edge. He will go and measure them. He commented that there have been repeated requests to push them back. The idea of putting up bollards and chains was again discussed. Superintendent Harrington mentioned that the placement of the boats has been incorporated into the Park Commission permit.

Mayor Blais asked for any other comment on the Proposed Local Laws. There was none.

At 7:26 p.m. Mayor Blais closed the Public Hearings on Proposed Local Law No. 9, 2017 amending Chapter 213, "WATER", Proposed Local Law No. 10, 2017 Amending Chapter 148, "PARKS AND RECREATION", and Proposed Local Law No. 11, 2017 amending Chapter 208, "VEHICLE & TRAFFIC".

Motion by Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Root, unanimously carried, 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. 9, 2017 amending Chapter 213, "WATER" of the Code of the Village of Lake George.

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

Motion by Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Root, to adopt proposed Local Law No 9, 2017

LOCAL LAW HERE

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

LOCAL LAW NO. 9, 2017 ADOPTED **June 16, 2017**

Motion by Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Root, unanimously carried, 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. 10, 2017 amending Chapter 148, "PARKS & RECREATION" of the Code of the Village of Lake George.

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

Motion by Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Root, to adopt proposed Local Law No 10, 2017

LOCAL LAW HERE

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

LOCAL LAW NO. 10, 2017 ADOPTED

June 19, 2017

Motion by Trustee Root, seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico, unanimously carried, 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. 11, 2017 amending Chapter 208, "VEHICLE & TRAFFIC" of the Code of the Village of Lake George.

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

Motion by Trustee Root, seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico, to adopt proposed Local Law No 11, 2017

LOCAL LAW HERE

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

LOCAL LAW NO. 11, 2017 ADOPTED

June 19, 2017

Mayor Blais passed out some documentation in regards to the Department of State and the Lake George Watershed Coalition projects and funding requests. There have been accusations made; he wanted to make sure the facts were clear. He reported that in correspondence in regards to the Grant Payment Process from the Department of State dated November 12, 2014, effective January 1, 2015, there will be changes in the administration of the grant reimbursement process. They attached an Acceptable Proof of Expenditures Guidance. Just prior to this correspondence Mayor Blais noted that they met with the author of the letter, Matthew Millea, Deputy Secretary of State, and he explained the whole process to them. Shortly thereafter the State started going back and asking for documentation for six to seven years prior to that date. Subsequently another letter dated April 15, 2015 was received saying that the contract that the Village had with them was complete. Administrator, Cynthia Denick said, "Sufficient documentation has been provided to support the expenditures and meet all of the local match requirements, pending amendments. A contract amendment will be necessary to incorporate these changes." Mayor Blais noted that the Department of State staff would be willing to work with us to facilitate the amendments, which were listed. On October 20th another letter from DOS Administrator, Cindi Denick came again confirming that the Village's contract was complete. Included in this letter was a summary review of an audit which was done on 11 contracts that the Lake George Watershed Coalition had with the Towns of Queensbury, Lake George and Bolton. Only one contract of the Village's was audited, the rest were all of the other Towns' audits. Mayor Blais confirmed that coincidentally, it's the same one that we were told was complete. They requested that we return with comments within three weeks. The report was critical of the Village noting that, "the Village failed to properly document and report required local match." They also said that the Village failed to appropriately administer and oversee the contract. Mayor Blais pointed out that DOS noted that they would review all comments received, complete the DOS response section and issue the

final report. Mayor Blais confirmed that he completed the comment section by writing them a letter dated November 3, 2015. He was upset because after all these years they were criticizing the Village for one contract that had already previously been approved. To this date, he has received no correspondence back from them. The audit report that has been discussed in the media was not received by the Village and, to his knowledge was never received by the other Supervisors. Mayor Blais noted that he did not share the audit report of October 15th with the Board because there was no Village money involved, and he's been the one involved with all of the meetings with the State. He just wanted the Board to aware of the background involved in this. After receiving no correspondence back from his "response letter", he has not corresponded with them again. Mayor Blais reported that the Village was anticipating some funding towards the purchase of our VAC truck, but those promised funds will not be forth coming because they changed their criteria after the fact. Several other agencies never received promised funding either. He went on to say that the DOS recommended that we sever our ties with Mr. Decker, in which we have done. The documents that Mayor Blais referred to were made available to the media.

Mayor Blais reported that there was a Village Street Parking explanation posted on Lake George.com for visitors.

There was a motion by Trustee Root to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. McKinney, CPPB
Purchasing Agent
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer