

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, held on Wednesday, July 1, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. This meeting was held during the COVID-19 virus outbreak and public attendance was prohibited. The public was allowed access via Zoom teleconferencing which was publicized on the Village's web site.

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Joseph Mastrodomenico, Trustee  
John Root, Trustee

Also present were: Clerk Debra McKinney, Superintendent Keith Lanfear, WWTP Operator Tim Shudt, Dan Barusch (Director of Planning and Zoning), Troy LaBelle, and Chad Arnold (Post Star) via Zoom.

At 8:30 a.m. Mayor Blais opened the meeting and asked the Board to consider hiring Heather Lanfear as a seasonal employee for the Beautification Department. He made note that she is Superintendent Lanfear's daughter.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 71, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve hiring of Heather Lanfear as a seasonal employee for the Beautification Department at a pay rate of \$13.50 per hour.**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 71, 2020 ADOPTED.                      July 1, 2020**

Mayor Blais reported that there had been an accident while doing CCTV work and the cable on the remote camera got damaged beyond repair. WWTP Operator Tim Shudt wrote up a detailed description of the incident. Mr. Shudt explained and noted that accidents happen, and we're lucky that we didn't have to dig up the road to get the camera out. Replacement parts come from Cyncon, and the cost of a full length of cable is \$5,027.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 72, 2020**

**WHEREAS during recent CCTV work, the cable on the remote camera was accidentally damaged beyond repair;**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve purchase of a new cable from Cyncon at a cost of \$5,027.**

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

**Absent: 2 Mastrodomenico, Root**

**RESOLUTION NO. 72, 2020 ADOPTED. July 1, 2020**

Mayor Blais announced that on June 16<sup>th</sup> the Fire Department and Fire Company held their annual election. The Fire Company's President Doni Smith sent the list of newly elected Fire Department Officers to the Village Board for their approval.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 73, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George hereby appoints the following list of newly elected firematic officers for the 2020-2021;**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the experience requirement for Scott Smith will be waived as he will have seven years with the Lake George Department on September 3, 2020 with many years of experience with other departments.**

Chief – Scott Smith  
1st Assistant Chief – Matt Oswald  
2nd Assistant Chief – Brandon Combs

**In addition these company officers were acknowledged to their respective positions**

Captain – John Cocozza-Hill  
1st Lieutenant – Dennis Mitchell  
2nd Lieutenant – Craig Underwood

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 73, 2020 ADOPTED      July 1, 2020**

A motion by Trustee Earl, seconded by Trustee Perry, carried unanimously to accept for informational purposes only, the following list of Fire Company Administrative officers elected to their respective positions:

President – Doni Smith  
Vice President – Garrett Ramsey  
Secretary – Jessica Benjamin  
Treasurer – Bob Leombruno  
Board of Directors - James Barber, Ricky White and Jay Liguori

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

Mayor Blais announced that the Planning & Zoning Administrator, Dan Barusch along with Troy LaBelle are present at the meeting. He went on to say that these are very different and difficult

times, and since the Phase 2 opening we have received complaints via letters, phone calls and emails at an unbelievable rate. Dan Barusch and Mayor Blais have been handling these the best that they could. Mayor Blais advised the Board that the Governor has warned that the municipality will be responsible to enforce the regulations that have been put in place to keep Lake George safe. He commented that with all of the complaints that have been received, it has been difficult to keep up, so he is recommending hiring a part time employee that can concentrate strictly on COVID inspections and enforcement of the new regulations. Mayor Blais interviewed Troy LaBelle for the part time Code Enforcement Officer position, which would start out just doing COVID inspections and working with business owners to get in compliance. Possibly at a later date, other Code Enforcement duties could be included. Dan Barusch has worked on setting up some guidelines, as well as a form for COVID-19 Regulatory Inspections and a Written Notice, and he passed out copies to the Board. Dan noted that the intention is to have the CEO spend time at each business helping them to comply with the regulations, the first visit will be a “meet and greet”. Dan went on to explain that with the first violation, there will be a verbal warning; the 2<sup>nd</sup> notice will be written, and if there is a 3<sup>rd</sup> notice, there could possibly be a citation or a call to the SLA. Mayor Blais introduced Troy LaBelle and asked him to give a brief description of his background. Mr. LaBelle reviewed his resume and a summary of his experience. He noted that he is ready to take his NYS Home Licensing exam for home inspections. Mayor Blais pointed out that Troy would work along with Dan, possibly four hours a day. He could use the office downstairs. Mayor Blais suggested \$18.00 an hour with the funds to come from our Occupancy Tax account because with the cancellation of the special events, there will be funds available there. Mayor Blais asked for any comments from the Board. Trustee Perry made note that it is important that the business owners know that he is here as an ally, not an enemy. Dan Barusch continued with the discussion in regards to whether there would be coverage this weekend, and the Board agreed that Code Enforcement would not be out on July 4<sup>th</sup>, but it would be left up to the Sheriff’s Department. Mayor Blais commented that it is our goal to “inspect, enforce, and advise.” Mayor Blais noted that he sent out a second newsletter last week letting business owners know that the state may be sending inspectors as well. He also notified businesses that the A-frame signs had to be removed by June 26<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Blais reported that we now have a picnic area set up in Shepard Park for those that are looking for a space for outdoor dining.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 74, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the hiring of Troy LaBelle as a part-time Code Enforcement Officer effective immediately, with concentrated duties at this time to be focused on COVID-19 inspections and regulations until further notice and with the possibility of adding other Code Enforcement duties at a later date, at a pay rate of \$18.00 per hour.**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 74, 2020 ADOPTED.                      July 1, 2020**

The following resolutions were considered:

- WWTP Improvement Project Integrated Control Systems, Change Order No. 3  
This order covers providing and installing access control systems for three buildings at

an additional cost of \$20,650. Superintendent Lanfear confirmed that it is for the SCADA system and will upgrade the control system and balance it with the new plant.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 75, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves Change Order No. 3 for Integrated Control Systems which includes providing and installing access control systems for three buildings at the WWTP for the Improvement Project as proposed, at an additional cost of \$20,650.**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 75, 2020 ADOPTED                      July 1, 2020**

- Jaeger & Flynn Services Agreements for the Health Insurance Consultant

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 76, 2020**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby authorizes Mayor Blais to sign Business Associate and Cobra Administration Services agreements with Jaeger & Flynn.**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 76, 2020 ADOPTED.                      July 1, 2020**

Mayor Blais reported that Steven Senseman on behalf of Mrs. Senseman has been put on notice several times for lack of property maintenance at 75 and 81 McGillis Avenue. The last notification was sent on June 23 giving them five days to take care of the violations. If they do not respond or make the improvements, Village staff may do the maintenance, and the cost will be added to their tax bill.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 77, 2020**

**WHEREAS, the Dan Barusch, Director of Planning and Zoning has sent several notices with the last one being June 23 2020, in regards to lack of maintenance on the 75 and 81 McGillis Avenue properties, tax map #251.18-4-27 with no response;**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves completion of the work by Village staff and pursuant to Section 158-10 having the expense be charged as a lien upon the premises to be included in the next annual Village tax bill.**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 77, 2020 ADOPTED.                      July 1, 2020**

Mayor Blais asked the Board about the proposed changes to the local law Chapter 63, Animals. He reported that some of the issues with the loose and abundance of animals have been resolved, but the law did not address all of the issues. The Board agreed to set a Public Hearing for the next regular meeting on July 20 as long as Matt Fuller confirms that the law is ready to go.

Mayor Blais confirmed that the next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 20 at 10:00 a.m. and please note the time change.

Mayor Blais asked for any other business. Superintendent Lanfear reported that some of the benches and Adirondack chairs have been put out as well as a new picnic area has been set up in Shepard Park for outdoor diners. He commented that we are maintaining these the best that we can. Keith noted that they checked out the Senseman properties to see what needed to be done. Mayor Blais commented that there were four other property owners that were sent notices, two have been taken care of, and two have promised to make improvements.

There was a motion by Trustee Perry to adjourn at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. McKinney, CPPB  
Village Clerk  
Purchasing Agent