

Village of Tupper Lake
Board of Trustees
Minutes

Date: Monday, September 17, 2012
Location: Board Room
Meeting: Public Hearing & Regular 6:00-8:14 PM

At the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held this date, the following were present: Mayor Paul A. Maroun, Trustees Leon LeBlanc, Charles Perham, Richard Donah, Thomas Snyder and Village Clerk/Treasurer Mary A. Casagrain.

Also present were Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard, Electric Superintendent John Bouck, Department of Public Works Superintendent Michael Sparks, Chief of Police Thomas Fee, and Fire Chief Mark Picerno, local residents Stella Mallon, Debra Meyer, Ronald Lascala, Don and Peg Mauer, and news reporters Ted Morgan, Daniel McClelland and Jessica Collier.

Call Regular Meeting

To Order Mayor Maroun called the Regular Meeting to order and established the agenda at 6:00 pm.

Pledge Pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence and prayer for the safe return of missing teen Collin Gillis.

Mayor's Announcements

& Misc.:

Newly Appointed Librarian

Mayor Maroun welcomed Mrs. Peg Mauer the new Librarian of Goff-Nelson Memorial Library to our monthly meeting. Mrs. Mauer presented the Village Board with a donated "Library" sign to be put up on the community by the Department of Public Works. The board thanked her for her generous donation in memory of her mother who also was a career librarian.

Gary Beaudette

TL Snowmobile Club Mr. Gary Beaudette from the TL Snowmobile Club was present to thank and seek continued support from the Village Board for the 2012-13 snowmobile seasons. Mr. Beaudette stated the club has been busy this summer grooming and signing trails and would like monetary support for fuel if possible this season.

Trustee Donah stated it has been a joint venture between the Village, Town, Chamber and the local club over the last few years. He added that with the help of the TL Hardwood they have been busy preparing bridge work for problem areas and installing needed trail signage.

Department of Public Works Superintendent Michael Sparks stated we would help in anyway possible.

Public Comment:

Deborah Meyer

Ms. Deborah Meyer stated she would like to separate her home from the cottage behind the home. She would like to subdivide the lot into two parcels but that according to the Village's Zoning Law the minimum lot size is 7,500 square feet. It was recommended she stop in to see the Code Enforcement Officer and he would provide her with the necessary zoning variance paperwork to proceed with her request to the Tupper Lake Joint Planning Board for review and consideration.

3rd Public Forum

Fire Department Station Repair/
Replacement Study

It was noted that the 3rd Public Forum for the Fire Department Station Repair/Replacement Study will be held next Tuesday, September 25, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the Goff Nelson Memorial Library, all community members are encouraged to attend.

Robert Fuller Resignation

Village/Town Planning

Board

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Snyder to formally accept the resignation of Mr. Robert Fuller from the Joint Village/Town Planning Board effective September 12, 2012. (Carried 5-0)

Mayor Maroun stated he would like to appoint a replacement at next month's meeting if anyone is interested to please let us know. He did advise that he was considering appointing Mr. Shawn Stuart who expressed an interest in the appointment.

Potsdam Local Gov't

Conference 10/9/12

Reminder that there will be a Local Government Conference October 9, 2012 in Potsdam if anyone is interested in attending to please let the Village Clerk know by October 2, 2012 for early registration.

NYS DOT Public

Hearing Set 9/19/12

Reminder that NYS DOT have set a public hearing date of Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at the Goff Nelson Memorial Library basement for the proposed Route 3 & 30 Reconstruction Project from 2-4:00 pm for informational purposes and the Public Hearing from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

Woulf Avenue East

Parcel Bid Offer

It was noted that we received a bid offer from Mr. Michael Vaillancourt and Richard Reandeu for the purchase of Woulf Avenue East parcel in the amount of \$20,000.00 contingent upon Joint Village/Town Planning Board approval for their proposed commercial use of the property. Motion to accept the offer was made by Trustee Donah, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc. (Carried 5-0)

As a side note, we received a phone call from Mr. Michael Vaillancourt that he and Mr. Reandeu were no longer interested in the property on September 19, 2012.

Approve Minutes

Motion by Trustee Snyder, seconded by Trustee Donah to approve the Board Minutes from August 20, 2012 and September 11, 2012. (Carried 5-0)

Mayor Apology

Mr. Ronald Lascala

Mayor Maroun took a moment to publicly apologize to Mr. Ronald Lascala for the timeliness of the report he requested the previous month and he confirmed hand delivery.

Code Enforcement:

Accept August

Report

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Perham to approve the August 2012 Monthly. (Carried 5-0)

NYCOM Training

& School Inspections

It was noted by Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards that the NYCOM School he attended in Potsdam in August will be very helpful in dealing with future vacant, neglected, and abandoned Properties. He also added that the Tupper Lake Central Schools and Civic Center inspections are completed.

Fire:

Accept August's

Report

Motion by Trustee Donah, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to approve the August 2012 Monthly Report. (Carried 5-0)

Nicholas Degrace

Appointed Membership

Volunteer Fire Dept. Motion by Trustee Donah, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to appoint Mr. Nicholas Degrace to the Village of Tupper Lake Volunteer Fire Department. (Carried 5-0)

Cheryl Arsenault's

Pine Street Siren

Removal Request

The Village Board discussed Mrs. Cheryl Arsenault's written request to have the Pine Street Fire Station siren be removed or made inoperative at length with Fire Chief Mark Picerno.

Mayor Maroun stated he felt the siren should remain to ensure attendance for safety reasons. Trustee Perham recommended that it might be a good idea to have Mrs. Arsenault attend the September 25, 2012 public hearing to voice her concerns.

Fire Chief Picerno stated he agreed with Mayor Maroun that due to working restrictions the siren serves as a good means to alerting members when there is a fire if when they are not allowed to carry pagers during their full employment.

Motion by Trustee Donah, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to leave the Pine Street Fire Station siren operative at this time. (Carried 5-0)

Abandoned Bldg.

Postings

Fire Chief Mark Picerno stated we are by law required to post homes that pose a safety hazard for volunteer fire fighters and he and the Code Enforcement Officer will be completing an inventory of homes in the community that are vacant or abandoned and if a risk is present the home will be posted with a red and black sign indicating the level of hazard.

Ladder Truck

Repair Discussion

It was noted by Fire Chief Mark Picerno that the new ladder truck experienced mechanical problems while in route to a line duty death funeral in Malone and Smith's Auto Repair were a great help in repairing the vehicle for the cost of parts only which totaled \$1,816.22.

Trustee Snyder stated he wanted to make sure a thank-you was sent out on behalf of the Village of Tupper Lake.

Winter Storage

Ladder Truck

It was noted by Fire Chief Mark Picerno that he would be talking with Mrs. LaValley about winter storage for the new Ladder Truck in the coming weeks and rent and heating would be discussed. An update would follow.

Police:

Local Law #2-2012

Amendments to Chapter

48, Vehicles & Traffic

The board briefly reviewed the comments received from the public hearing after last month's public hearing on proposed amendments to Chapter 48 of the Village's Code titled Vehicles and Traffic that would restrict parking along portions of McLaughlin Avenue.

It was noted that from Silver Street to Pleasant Avenue that no parking signs would be removed and put on the other side of the street. Silver to Park Street there would be no parking on the Westerly side of the street. From Silver Street to Park Street there would be no parking on both sides.

Approve Local Law
#2-2012, Chapter 48,
Vehicles and Traffic

It was so moved and approved to adopt Local Law #2-2012's amendments to Chapter 48, Vehicles and Traffic as proposed at a Public Hearing on August 20, 2012 by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Perham. (Carried 5-0)

Proper 911 Addresses
& Home Markings

It was noted by the Chief of Police Thomas Fee and Fire Chief Mark Picerno that there are still many homes that do not have proper 911 addresses marked on their homes. They both stressed that it is important to properly mark your home, it saves lives, buildings and property, please do your part and properly mark your homes.

Water/Wastewater:
Water Towers
Painted

Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard advised the board that both water towers on Fuller Avenue & Park Street have been painted and will be re-inspected by Conrady Consulting Services. Verizon Wireless will be painting for the re-inspection services and we are negotiating reimbursement of first inspection costs.

Demars Blvd. Lift
Station Repairs

It was noted that the Demars Boulevard Lift Station repairs have been completed and everything is back on line.

DPW:
Amell Lane & West
Brook Avenue

Department of Public Works Superintendent Michael Sparks advised the board that Amell Lane and West Brook Avenue roads need to be dug 10 1/2". He suggested that we replace 6" of crusher run, 3" of binder and 1/2" of top coat. The estimated cost would be approximately \$27,378.00. He advised we could do 6" of crusher run and 3" binder and do the top coat later for an estimated cost of \$19,248.00. The last alternative would be to put a 2" top coat on roads for an estimated cost of \$10,550.00.

Trustee Snyder stated he personally did not feel it was our business to be doing this, the road was supposed to be Village ready according to our requirements. He added that the taxpayers would be paying for the developer's obligation and it is wrong.

Trustee Donah asked what previous boards have done. He added that he supports moving forward with the road improvements.

Mayor Maroun stated he supports we send it to the Joint Village/Town Planning Board for resolution, previous roads have been done before without it being brought up to standards.

It was tabled for future discussion.

David Hayes, Assistant
District Attorney
Introduced

Chief of Police Thomas Fee took a moment to introduce the Village Board to the new Franklin County Assistant District Attorney, Mr. David Hayes.

Electric:
Electric Curtailment

It was noted that there will be an 8.3% reduction in firm hydro energy sales on a pro-rata basis for our hydropower customers for the period October 1-31, 2012.

MEUA Fall Engineering
Workshop Nov. 7&8

Motion by Trustee Snyder, seconded by Trustee Donah to send three department members to the MEUA Fall Engineering Workshop November 7 & 8, 2012 in East Syracuse. (Carried 5-0)

TLCSD Upgrades	Electric Superintendent John Bouck advised the board that NYPA in cooperation with the Tupper Lake Central School District will be letting their bid for energy conservation measures in late October and they expect construction to begin in May of 2013. It was noted that the Tri-Lake monies would be used to help defray the school's upgrades of \$1.5 Million of improvements.
Tree Program	Electric Superintendent John Bouck advised the board that NYPA's Fall Tree Power Program is accepting orders until September 20, 2012. It is a "Buy One, Get One Free or At Reduced Cost" program.
Municipal Park Lighting Improvements	Electric Superintendent John Bouck advised that he is waiting on a proposal from a consultant before making a recommendation to move forward with the Municipal Park Lighting Improvement Project.
Treasurer: Approve Warrant	Motion by Trustee Snyder, seconded by Trustee Donah to approve the warrant in the amount of \$201,802.88 for payment of the bills for September 17, 2012 and approve the abstract of audited vouchers for the month of August 2012. (Carried 5-0)
Review Cash Position	Review the monthly cash position for August 31, 2012.
Call in Period:	No calls received during our call in period.
Economic Update: Grant Updates	Trustee Donah took a moment to read aloud the Tupper Lake Revitalization Project Status Update report for September 2012 prepared by Melissa McManus.
Enter Executive Session at 7:29 PM	Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Perham to enter Executive Session at 7:29 PM to discuss personnel, litigation and contracts. (Carried 5-0)
Litigation Update	Chief of Police Thomas Fee gave a brief update on an outstanding litigation issue for the Police Department.
Unit I, II & III NYS PERB Mediation	<p>It was noted that we are trying to narrow down a few days to begin meetings with the Mediator from NYS PERB and members from CSEA Unit I, II & III to continue negotiations for collective bargaining in the coming month.</p> <p>It was noted that Jay Girvin with Girvin & Ferlazzo would be representing the Village with respect to the NYS PERB matter.</p>
Employee Disciplinary Issues W/WW & Electric Departments	It was noted that we would try to schedule a meeting with CSEA Labor Relation Specialist Diane Johnson to discuss resolution to outstanding disciplinary issues for members of the Water/Wastewater Department and an Electric Employee.
Out of Executive Session at 7:30 PM	Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Donah to exit Executive Session at 8:12 pm. (Carried 5-0)
Adjournment	Motion by Trustee Perham, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to adjourn at 8:14 PM. (Carried 5-0)

Mary A. Casagrain, Village Clerk/Treasurer