

**Village of Tupper Lake
Board of Trustees
Minutes**

Date: Monday, October 20, 2025
Location: Board Room
Meeting: Public Hearing & Regular Meeting 6:00-6:33 PM

At the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees held this date, the following were present: Mayor Mary Fontana, Trustees Eric Shaheen, Rick Pickering, Leon LeBlanc and Village Clerk, Kathy Savage.

Also present were Fire Chief Royce Cole, Electric Superintendent Mike Dominie, and news reporter Dan McClelland.

Guests: Tupper Lake Resident and candidate for Board of Trustees, David Plummer

Absent: Trustee David Maroun

Call Meeting
To Order

Mayor Fontana called regular meeting to order @ 6:00 PM with Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence and prayer for the safe return of missing teen Colin Gillis.

Establish Agenda:
Spec Mtg Date

Date for Special Meeting to approve re-levy of unpaid Village Taxes set for Friday, November 7th @ 9:00 AM.

Re-Appoint Gerry
Savage-TLHA

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Pickering to re-appoint Gerald Savage as Chairman of the Tupper Lake Housing Authority for a 5-year term, expiring 8/8/2030. (Carried 4-0)

Establish terms for
ZBA Members

Trustee Shaheen asked why a Zoning Board of Appeals even exists, considering the fact that a Variance was issued for paving 2 parking lots on property located @ the corner of McLaughlin Ave & Broad St. AFTER the work had already been done. Trustee Shaheen advised that an application for a variance was submitted, and when he found out that the paving company was at the property the next day, PRIOR to the ZBA hearing, he called Code Enforcement and asked that a Cease & Desist Order be issued immediately. Trustee Shaheen stated this was a slap in the face to the ZBA. Trustee Shaheen went on to say that he attended the ZBA hearing and expressed his concerns regarding the placement of these 2 parking lots, stating they were situated at one of the busiest intersections. Trustee Shaheen also stated that it will be a nightmare this winter, since there is no place to plow the snow, it will end up getting piled up at the corner up against the STOP sign. Trustee Shaheen stated he will instruct the DPW that they will NOT be removing snow from the corner lot; it will be the owner's responsibility. A question was also raised asking how the property owner was allowed to pave over the village sidewalk.

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Pickering to establish 5-year term for ZBA Members with term expirations as follows: Floyd Reandeau 12/1/2025, Rene Breton 12/1/2026, Joseph Tremblay 12/1/2027 and Matthew Kendall (Chair), 12/1/2028. (Carried 4-0).

Approve Minutes
Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Pickering to approve the board meeting minutes from September 15th and October 6th, 2025. (Carried 4-0)

Treasurer:
Approve Warrant
Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to approve the October 20, 2025, warrant in the amount of \$431,691.44 for payment of the bills, and abstracts for the month of September 2025. (Carried 4-0)

Review Cash
Position
Review cash position for September 30, 2025.

Fire:
Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to approve the September 2025 monthly Fire Report.

Misc. Updates
Fire Chief Royce Cole advised the Board that a yearly service and pump test was completed, which revealed issues with 1995 Pierce. He is currently waiting on quotes from a couple of companies. Fire Chief Cole also stated that the 1995 Pierce has significant body damage which must be addressed and that the Santa Clara Fire Truck failed a pump test, so pump needs to be rebuilt, which will cost approximately \$15,000 - \$20,000.

Trustee Shaheen asked Chief Cole if this truck belongs to Santa Clara. Mayor Fontana replied that the Village of Tupper Lake still holds the title on this firetruck until Santa Clara pays off the balance of \$20,000. Chief Cole advised that a contract was just signed last week with Santa Clara stating that the Village of Tupper Lake will take care of repairs until it is paid off.

Trustee LeBlanc asked if Santa Clara will come up with any money for repairs. Chief Cole replied he hadn't gotten that far in discussions with Santa Clara yet.

Trustee Shaheen asked Chief Cole about body damage on 1995 Pierce. Chief Cole replied that the frame holding the tank on the truck is rotted and must be repaired.

Police:
Approve Sept.
Monthly Report
Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to approve the September Monthly Police Report. (Carried 4-0)

Trick or Treat
On Park Street
Mayor Fontana stated that that Park Street between Wawbeek Ave and Mill Street will be closed on Friday, October 31st from 2:30 – 5:00 PM for Trick or Treat on Park St. Halloween event.

Court :Records
Examined/Section
2019-a as of
FY End 5-31-25
Motion by Trustee Pickering, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to examine and approve the submitted court records and dockets for the Village of Tupper Lake Justice Court as submitted by Village Justice Mr. Leonard Young for Fiscal Year End May 31, 2025, for compliance with Section 2019-a of the Uniform Justice Court Act of New York State. Trustee LeBlanc abstained. (Carried 3-0).

DPW:
Mayor Fontana advised the DPW Department is getting ready for winter.

Water/WW:

Mayor Fontana advised that a Hydrogeologist mapped out (5) potential sites for a 3rd well, (3) of which are located on Lyme Timberlands, (1) on Haymeadow Homeowners Association land and (1) on Big Wolf Lake Association land. Mayor Fontana stated that per her conversation with Big Wolf Lake Association Board President, they have declined the Village of Tupper Lake's request to conduct a resistivity test on their property. Mayor Fontana went on to say that legal documents have been signed with Lyme Timberlands to conduct resistivity tests for the (3) potential sites on their land.

Miscellaneous Updates

6-inch main line break on McLaughlin Ave repaired and hydrant flushing still on-going.

Electric:

Motion by Trustee Pickering, seconded by Trustee Shaheen allowing Electric Superintendent Mike Dominic to list their 2016 Chevrolet pick up and boat w/trailer on Auctions International. (Carried 4-0).

Miscellaneous Updates

Electric Superintendent Mike Dominic reported that all of the poles on Brentwood and Barry Ave have been replaced and, in the process, changed the way the power lines run from horizontal to vertical to allow easier access for maintenance and less interference with trees.

Superintendent Dominic also brought up a complaint that was made about his department cutting trees next to a house on Barry Ave in preparation for a new pole. His department had obtained permission from a resident of the home to cut the trees, however while his crew was cutting the trees, another resident of the house came out to inform his crew that they didn't want the trees cut. Mayor Fontana backed the Superintendent, stating that she and the board trusts his judgement.

Transformer Quote update

Electric Superintendent Mike Dominic advised that Northline Utility is not happy with the company that provided a written proposal for replacement of Transformer 3. Wanting to make sure the transformer was unique to the Village's situation, Northline Utility then composed a list of questions on Superintendent Dominic's behalf, which the Superintendent then submitted to a Virginia Transformer representative. Virginia Transformer has provided answers to the majority of the questions, but Northline has yet to review the answers.

Miscellaneous Comment

David Plummer, village resident and candidate for the Village Board of Trustees commented that he is looking forward to working with the board and Mayor.

Adjourn:

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Pickering to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 PM. (Carried 4-0)


Kathy Savage, Village Clerk

