

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

Date: January 20, 2021
Location: Board Room
Meeting: Regular Monthly & Public Hearing 6:00-6:55 PM

At the Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held this date, the following were present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Mary A. Casagrain.

Also available via FreeConferenceCall.com were Mayor Paul A. Maroun, Trustees Jason McClain, Ronald LaScala and Clint Hollingsworth, Electric Superintendent Michael Dominic, Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard, Police Chief Eric Proulx, Fire Chief Royce Cole, Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards, Resident Kelly Fleury, Robert Gillis, Richard Donah, Rickey Dattola, Mark Moeller, Town Supervisor Patricia Littlefield, Melissa Lewis, Sally Strasser, David Maroun and News Reporters Dan McClelland and Aaron Cerbone.

Absent from the Public Hearing and Regular Meeting was Trustee Leon LeBlanc.

**Call Public Hearing
To Order**

Mayor Maroun called the Public Hearing to order and read aloud the public hearing notice for the purpose of hearing comments from the public concerning the future care and keeping of chickens (egg laying hens only) in the Village.

None.

Mayor Maroun reminded those in attendance that the hearing would be kept open for the next 30-days for additional comment.

**Call Monthly Meeting
To Order**

Mayor Maroun called the Monthly Meeting to order and established the agenda.

**Pledge & Moment
Of Silence**

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

**46th President
Best Wishes**

Mayor Maroun took a short moment to wish our new 46th President of the United States Joseph Biden best wishes as he starts his term in office.

**Open Comment
Period:**

None.

**Tupper Lake Business
Group – Recreational
Strategy**

Members of the Tupper Lake Business Group addressed the Village Board to discuss their “Recreational Strategy” for Tupper Lake. Those who were present discussed the five (5) points/phases to their drafted plan including, 1st acquiring the former Big Tupper Ski Area/Mountain, 2nd expanded/planned groomed snowmobile trails, 3rd compliments to the Town’s Frenette Cross Country trail system by adding lighting to the trail system, 4th adding bike trails for 4-season usage and finally 5th additional work on the lower 9 holes at the golf course.

Each of the board members took the time to thank the volunteer Tupper Lake Business Group for their well thought out plans and they acknowledged that the key to the plan will be to acquire the former Big Tupper Ski Area/Mountain in order to jump start the recreational strategy and to prosper as a recreational community.

Board Minutes
Approved

Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee LaScala to approve the board minutes from December 16, 2020 meeting. (Carried 4-0)

Code Enforcement:
Accept December
Monthly Report

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee McClain to approve the December 2020 Monthly Code Report. (Carried 4-0)

Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards advised the board that he is working on the year end report and will have it for approval at next month's meeting.

David Maroun

Former Trustee David Maroun asked Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards if there were other boy scouts available for future painting if possible this summer at the Municipal Park.

Police:

Accept December
Monthly Report

Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards advised he would have the scouts available to let him know before the school year is out and he will organize the hours needed.

Fire:

Accept December
Monthly Report

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to approve the December 2020 Monthly Police Report for the Village and Town of Tupper Lake. (Carried 4-0)

Jennifer Bradley
Appointed Volunteer
Firefighter

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to approve the December 2020 Monthly Fire Report. (Carried 4-0)

Junior Fire Fighter
Program

Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to re-appoint Ms. Jennifer Bradley to the Volunteer Fire Department after a short leave of absence. (Carried 4-0)

Fire Chief Royce Cole advised the board that the volunteer members voted to move forward with creating a Junior Fire Fighter Program for 16 & 17 year olds. They are in the process of sitting down with Tupper Lake Central School Officials to see how it will fit into the schools curriculum for those interested in participating. The initial program will allow 10 Junior Fire Fighters for starters. We are awaiting work from our insurance carrier NYMIR on the cost associated with the additional coverage.

DPW:

NYS DOT Shared
Services Agreement

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee McClain to formally authorize Mayor Maroun to execute a Shared Services Agreement between NYS DOT and the Village of Tupper Lake for 2021 as presented. (Carried 4-0)

Miscellaneous
Updates

Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace advised his crews have been busy picking up snow and preparing the skating rink for opening this weekend. The hours of operation for the skating rink will be daily from 12-8: pm with Stick and Puck on Monday, Wednesday and Sunday evenings, helmets required.

W/WW:
WWTP Capital
Water Fund Budget
Transfer

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee McClain to formally authorize budget transfers in the amount of \$17,000.00 for the water fund as proposed. (Carried 4-0)

Sewer Project
Progress Update

Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard advised that M.A. Bonjiovanni has Pump #1 & #2 up and operating; they are very quiet. They expect to have Pump #3 on Demars Blvd. up maybe the end of February first part of March.

Electric:
Account Balance
Write-off

Motion by Trustee Hollingsworth, seconded by Trustee LaScala to formally approve the write-off of two electric account balances in the amounts of \$514.09 and \$40.87 respectively for deceased customers. (Carried 4-0)

Miscellaneous
Updates

Electric Superintendent Michael Dominic advised the board that they are working on replacing some poles along Second Street that were damaged, they have put up ten (10) additional LED street lights in the past month, they haven't initiated shut-offs for any of our customers for now and the Water Department were thanked for their help with setting a few poles recently; the Vac-Con truck and men were greatly appreciated.

Treasurer:
Approve Warrant

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee McClain to approve the January 20, 2021 warrant in the amount of \$933,001.68 for payment of the bills and abstracts for the month of December 2020. (Carried 4-0)

Review Cash
Position

Review the monthly cash position for December 31, 2020.

Trustee LaScala

Trustee LaScala took a moment to express his wishes to maintain the old municipal electric garage for the snowmobile club's use as recreational opportunities arise for the future of Tupper Lake.

Adjournment

Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee LaScala to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm. (Carried 4-0)

Mary A. Casagrain, Village Clerk/Treasurer