

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

Date: April 27, 2022
Location: Board Room
Meeting: Public Hearings & Regular Monthly 5:00-7:43 PM

At the Public Hearing of the Board of Trustees held this date, the following were present: Mayor Paul A. Maroun, Trustees Ronald LaScala, Leon LeBlanc, Jason McClain and Village Clerk/Treasurer Mary A. Casagrain.

Absent from the Public Hearings was Trustee David Maroun.

Also present were Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard, Reese and Kelly Fleury and News Reporters Dan McClelland and Aaron Cerbone.

**Call Public Hearing
To Order**

Mayor Maroun called the Public Hearings to order and read aloud the Public Hearing Notices at 6:00 pm for the purpose of hearing comments from the public concerning amendments to Chapter 50 and Chapter 41 of the Code of the Village of Tupper Lake, New York to increase water rental rates and other miscellaneous service charges and to increase sewer rental rates, and other miscellaneous service charges. The increases shall apply to the rents both inside and outside the corporation limits of the Village respectively.

**Mayor Maroun
Comments**

Mayor Maroun advised that we are now converting our short-term loans to long-term financing for our water and sewer capital projects and we need to be prepared to meet the annual payments. He did advise he would continue to look for grant funding sources to help reduce our loans.

Trustee McClain

Trustee McClain stated we have options when making changes to our cable or phone plans but the Village (water and sewer) is the only game in town.

**No Comments
Received**

There were no comments from the public concerning the proposed amendments to Chapter 50 titled Water Rents and Chapter 41 titled Sewer Rents and the hearings were closed at 5:25 pm.

**Open Regular
Meeting**

At the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held this date, the following were present: Mayor Paul A. Maroun, Trustees Ronald LaScala, Leon LeBlanc, Jason McClain and Village Clerk/Treasurer Mary A. Casagrain.

Absent from the Public Hearings was Trustee David Maroun.

Also present were W/WW Superintendent Mark Robillard, Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace, Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie, Police Chief Eric Proulx, Fire Chief Royce Cole, Town of Tupper Lake Recreation Director Laura Labarge, Deputy Town Supervisor Mary Fontana, Jamie Rose Power Walk Organizer Michelle Dukette, Residents Reese and Kelly Fleury, Library Director of the Goff Nelson Memorial Courtney Carey, News reporters Dan McClelland and Aaron Cerbone; via ZOOM was Mercy Healthcare Madaline Toliver.

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.

Tupper Lake Field Day

& Parade Update Town of Tupper Lake Recreation Director Ms. Laura Labarge gave a presentation to the board highlighting the activities planned for the July 23rd, 2022 Tupper Lake Field Day & Parade event in great detail.

Trustee LaScala

Demand for Add'l

Police Contract

Funding

Trustee LaScala demanded additional police funding from the Town of Tupper Lake Deputy Town Supervisor Ms. Mary Fontana for our Police Contact at the conclusion of their field day presentation.

Deputy Town Supervisor Ms. Mary Fontana advised that she wasn't there to discuss the police contract this evening but agreed a meeting should be scheduled between the two full boards at a later date.

Trustee LaScala continued to press the Deputy Town Supervisor for the funding and again was told by her it will need to be scheduled at a later time, but Trustee LaScala continued to make comments about her tenure with the town board in a loud accusatory behavior.

Jamie Rose Power

Walk June 18, 2022

Ms. Michelle Dukette was present to give a brief overview of this years Jamie Rose Power Walk activities scheduled for the June 18, 2022 event at the municipal park which starts at 11:00 am until 8:00 pm.

Noisy Mufflers

Park Street Resident

A Park Street property owner was present to ask for the Village Board and Police Department's assistance in addressing the loud mufflers issue in this community. She stated there are about a half dozen vehicles that have the loud mufflers and it is preventing her visitors and family from enjoying their home in our community.

Police Chief Eric

Proulx

Chief of Police Eric Proulx advised the Park Street property owner that they are aware of the individuals with the loud mufflers and they have been ticketed but with the new bail reform they are not able to scoff their licenses if they do not pay their fines to the court, the law as it stands has no teeth. He suggested we write our representatives in Albany to repeal the bail reform.

Board Minutes

Approved

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee McClain to approve the board minutes from March 16, March 30, April 4, and April 5, 2022 and the public hearing minutes from April 4, 2022 respectively. (Carried 4-0)

Grants:

MOU with Cloudsplitter

Foundation

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to authorize Mayor Maroun to sign a MOU with Cloudsplitter Foundation for a Grant Award for the Junction Connectivity Study as proposed. (Carried 4-0)

**NYS DOS Regional
GIS Mapping Award**

It was noted that the Village of Tupper Lake along with 24 other partnering municipalities in Franklin and St. Lawrence Counties was awarded a NYS DOS Regional GIS Mapping Project Award and it is expected to move along later this year.

**Phase II AHC Grant
Awards**

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to award the Phase II AHC Grants to Mr. Louis Benware, Ms. Jesse Fletcher, Ms. Jennifer Jaquis and Mr. Clifford Kiblin respectively. (Carried 4-0)

Code Enforcement:

**Accept March
Monthly Report**

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to approve the March 2022 Monthly Code Report as presented. (Carried 4-0)

Police:

**Accept March
Monthly Report**

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to approve the March 2022 Monthly Police Report for the Village and Town of Tupper Lake. (Carried 4-0)

**Kristopher P. Clark
Resignation**

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee McClain to formally accept the resignation of Police Officer Kristopher P. Clark effective April 9, 2022. (Carried 3-1, Trustee LeBlanc Abstained)

May 6, 2022

**½ Day Staffing
Change**

Police Chief Eric Proulx advised the board that due to staffing shortages he will be changing the Police Department's staffing to 7:00 am to 7:00 pm; he has been working closely with the New York State Police for the evening coverage needs. It was so moved by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee LaScala. (Carried 4-0)

Fire:

**Accept March
Monthly Report**

Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee LaScala to approve the March 2022 Monthly Fire Report and the Yearly Fire Report respectively. (Carried 4-0)

**Election Results
Ratification**

Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee LaScala to formally approve their recent Fire Department Election Results, all positions remained the same except Darrin LaRocque was elected to Co. #1. (Carried 4-0)

Recent Storms

Thank You

Fire Chief Royce Cole took a moment to thank the DPW and Electric Department for their help during the recent storm, it was nice working together.

DPW:

**Complete Streets
Policy**

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to formally approve the recommended Complete Streets Policy as proposed. (Carried 4-0)

**Seasonal Laborer
Arthur Sparks**

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to formally appoint Mr. Arthur Sparks as a seasonal laborer for our Municipal Park to begin May 5, 2022. (Carried 4-0)

Miscellaneous

Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace advised they are finishing up street sweeping and then onto Lakeview Avenue.

Trustee LaScala
w/WW:
Local Law #3-2022
Chapter 50, Water
Rents Approved

Trustee LaScala advised that many of the structures in the park are in need of stain and wants it as a priority with the seasonal help for the park.

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee McClain to formally approve Local Law #3-2022 amending Chapter 50 Water Rents as proposed effective May 1, 2022 for billing to the customers in June 2022. (Carried 4-0)

Local Law #4-2022
Chapter 41, Sewer
Rents Approved

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee McClain to formally approve Local Law #4-2022 amending Chapter 41 Sewer Rents as proposed effective May 1, 2022 for billing to the customers in June 2022. (Carried 4-0)

Miscellaneous
Updates

Bids were received for Pipes, Valves and Fittings for the Water and Sewer respectively, Superintendent Robillard asked to review them and have the board award at their next meeting later in the week. It was noted that hydrant flushing would be finishing up this week and finally Bonjiovanni will be chlorinating the line later this week and putting it back on-line.

Electric:
MEUA Accounting
Conference

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee LaScala to authorize Michael Dominie, Matthew Harris and Melissa Dominie to attend the MEUA Accounting Conference May 10-11, 2022 in Syracuse. (Carried 4-0)

BOCES Student
Internships

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee LaScala to authorize BOCES Students to complete an internship with the Electric Department during the month of May. (Carried 4-0)

Miscellaneous
Updates

Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie advised the board that the recent storm outages were due to trees on the line, they had to work from 4:00 am to 7:00 pm but most were back on before evening.

Treasurer:
Approve Warrant

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to approve the April 20, 2022 warrant in the amount of \$392,710.33 for payment of the bills and abstracts for the month of March 30, 2022. (Carried 4-0)

Review Cash
Position

Review the monthly cash position for March 30, 2022.

Special Meeting
Scheduled

It was noted that a Special Meeting has been scheduled for 5:00 pm on April 29, 2022 for budget adoption.

Abolish Civil
Service Position
Of Plumber

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee McClain to abolish the Civil Service position of plumber. (Carried 4-0)

Mercy Living
Center Update

Mercy Living Center Executive Director Ms. Madaline Toliver advised the board that they are having trouble recruiting Nurses and CNA's and they are also looking for volunteers to maintain their courtyard flower beds. Currently their census is down due to staffing shortages.

Ms. Courtney Carey Ms. Courtney Carey the Goff Nelson Library Director advised they are offering a writing workshop May 11th and a Poem-a-thon as well as other activities throughout the month to keep an eye out for new programming each month.

Into Executive Session

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee McClain to enter Executive Session at 7:30 pm for the purpose to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation. (Carried 4-0)

Exit Executive Session

Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee LaScala to exit Executive Session at 7:42 pm. (Carried 4-0)

Adjournment

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee LaScala to adjourned the meeting at 7:43 pm. (Carried 4-0)

Mary A. Casagrain, Village Clerk/Treasurer