

**Village of Tupper Lake
Board of Trustees**

Minutes

Date: Monday, May 20, 2024

Location: Board Room

Meeting: Public Hearings & Regular Monthly

5:45-7:22 PM

At the Public Hearings and Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held this date, the following were present: Mayor Mary Fontana, Trustees, Eric Shaheen, Jason McClain, David Maroun and Village Clerk/Treasurer Mary A. Casagrain.

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

Also present were Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard, Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace, Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie, Police Chief Eric Proulx, Assistant Fire Chief Nickolas Rolley, Residents Michael Vaillancourt, Ronald Allen, and News Reporters Aaron Marbone (Via Zoom) and Dan McClelland.

**Call Public Hearing
To Order**

Mayor Fontana called the first Public Hearing to order and read aloud the Public Hearing Notice at 5:45 pm for the purpose of hearing comments from the public concerning the submission of an application to Empire State Development for financial assistance under the Restore NY Communities Initiative for 179 Park Street & 185 Park Street properties owned by Sustainable Forest Futures.

Dan McClelland

News Reporter Dan McClelland stated a similar project was done in New Hampshire and they did a wonderful job.

**Close Public
Hearing**

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to close the public hearing since there were no questions or further comments at 5:56 pm. (Carried 4-0)

**Call Public Hearing
To Order**

Mayor Fontana called the second Public Hearing to order and read aloud the Public Hearing Notice at 6:00 pm for the purpose of hearing comments from the public concerning proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2024 entitled Chapter 37 – Parks and Recreation Areas.

**Close Public
Hearing**

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to close the public hearing since there were no questions or comments at 6:02 pm. (Carried 4-0)

**Call Monthly Meeting
To Order**

Mayor Fontana called the Monthly Meeting to order and established the agenda at 6:03 pm.

**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.

**Formally Approve
RESTORE NY Grant
Application For
Sustainable Forest
Futures, Inc.**

Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee Maroun to formally approve the following resolution in support of a Restore NY Grant Application for Sustainable Forest Futures, Inc. as follows:

WHEREAS, the Village of Tupper lake is eligible for grant funding under Route 8 of the Restore NY Communities Initiative Municipal Grant Program, and

WHEREAS, the Village has considered proposals that qualify for funding under the program and selected one project to be included in an application that will be submitted to Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC) as follows:

Reconstruction of 175 Park St. and rehabilitation of 185 Park St., both in the Village of Tupper Lake. The project will demolish and reconstruct the vacant and condemned 6,640 square foot building at 175 Park St. into 9 units of workforce housing and rehabilitate the adjacent vacant 1,660 square foot single family home at 185 Park St.

WHEREAS, this project is consistent with all existing local plans, the proposed financing is appropriate for the project, the project will facilitate effective and efficient use of existing and future public resources so as to promote both economic development and preservation of community resources and the project develops and enhances infrastructure and/or other facilities in a manner that will attract, create and sustain employment opportunities in the Village of Tupper Lake.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village board hereby supports and will sponsor an application for Restore NY funding for 179 Park St. and 185 Park St. and will administer the grant in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations established by ESDC, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village Mayor is authorized to sign the applications and any agreements required by ESDC for grant funding that result from the application.
(Carried 4-0)

Board Minutes
Approved

Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to approve the board minutes from April 15, 22, 23, and May 3, 2024 respectively. (Carried 4-0)

Treasurer:

Approve Warrant

Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to approve the May 20, 2024 warrant in the amount of \$251,119.11 for payment of the bills and abstracts for the month of April 2024.
(Carried 4-0)

Review Cash
Position

Review the monthly cash position for April 30, 2024.

Set Special Meeting
For June 10, 2024
@9:00 am

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Maroun to set a Special Meeting for Monday, June 10, 2024 at 9:00 am for the purpose of reviewing the proposal from Northwood Engineering for the 53 Park Street building façade as well as discuss next steps for the floors at 21 Santa Clara Avenue. In addition, we will run our fiscal year end accounts payable run. (Carried 4-0)

Code Enforcement:
Accept April
Monthly Report

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee McClain to approve the April 2024 Monthly Code Report as presented.
(Carried 4-0)

Police:
Accept April Monthly Report
Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee McClain to approve the April 2024 Monthly Police Report. (Carried 4-0)

Approve Local Law #3-2024 Chapter 37 – Parks & Recreation Areas
Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee McClain to formally approve Local Law #3-2024 for the creation of Chapter 37 entitled Parks and Recreation Areas as presented. (Carried 4-0)

Bike Rodeo June 8, 2024 & Close Santa Clara Avenue
Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee McClain to formally approve the Annual Bike Rodeo to be held on Saturday, June 8, 2024 and to close down Santa Clara Avenue during the event. (Carried 4-0)

Party on Park NYS DOT Permit Requirements
Police Chief Eric Proulx advised the board he has attained the required NYS DOT Permit and staffing from the Franklin County Sheriff's Department for the Party on Park and the only restriction is that it has to be reopened by 4:00 pm.

NYS DCJS Technology Grant Received
Police Chief Eric Proulx advised the board that he recently received notice that the department was successful in attaining a \$22,000 NYS DCJS Technology Grant for the department.

Fire:
Accept April Monthly Report
Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to approve the April 2024 Monthly Fire Report. (Carried 4-0)

Accept April 4, 2024 Election Results
Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to formally accept the April 4, 2024 Tupper Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. election results as presented. (Carried 4-0)

James Richardson
Resignation Accepted
Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to formally accept the resignation of Mr. James Richardson as a relief fire driver for the Village of Tupper Lake. (Carried 4-0)

Required Training To Be Completed
Fire Chief Royce Cole advised the board they are going to be busy completing required training over the next few weeks.

DPW:
Miscellaneous Updates
Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace advised the board that his crew has been busy street sweeping they have been helping to get the Washington Street Park ready for this seasons use with the help of the Town of Tupper Lake helping with funding a few loads of clay for the field.

In addition, Rob Gillis thanked the DPW Department for doing a wonderful job on the streets again this year.

W/WW:
Permission – Bid Misc. Pipes, Valves & Fittings
Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Maroun to advertise for bid of Miscellaneous Pipes, Valves and Fittings with a bid opening date of June 5, 2024 at 12:00 noon. (Carried 4-0)

Koester GAC Pilot Test Agreement
Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee Shaheen for authorization for Mayor Fontana to execute a GAC Pilot Test Agreement with Koester as presented for Maddox Lane. (Carried 4-0)

Hydrant Flushing Completed

W/WW Superintendent Mark Robillard advised the board that the hydrant flushing is completed.

Electric:
Miscellaneous Updates

Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie advised the board that his crews have halted tree trimming until the black flies let up.

In addition they will be working on setting a new pole on upper Park Street, installing the “Home Town” banners, completing the Margaret Street line extension, preventative maintenance testing and dye testing of the trucks before the start of the busy summer season.

Electric Report accepted by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee McClain as presented. (Carried 4-0)

Public Comment

Period:

Main Street Resident
Ronald Allen

Main Street resident Mr. Ronald Allen was present to apprise the board of his concerns and ongoing issues with the Raquette River Brewing as follows:

Mr. Allen stated patrons of the Raquette River Brewing has urinated on his lawn in front of his family, footballs and bean bags have been thrown over the barrier fencing and landing on his expensive vehicles to name a few.

He further added that he has filed an article 78 to stop the closing of Balsam Street, there is a building of the brewery on his road easement, he has ongoing blocking issues accessing the back of his property, patron’s children are playing in grassy areas that patron’s dogs are urinating and pooping on, smokers are trespassing on his property to smoke, cones are being placed in front of Balsam Street road way, patrons are parking in the “No Parking” zone and not being ticketed, there is broken glass being thrown over the fence onto his property.

Mayor Fontana stated we hear you; we will talk with the Police Chief to see if anything additional can be done on our end, although, many of the issues brought to our attention are of a civil nature, DOH or NYS Police.

Mr. Allen closed by stating he is asking that the board care and correct this matter.

Mayor Fontana stated she would follow up with him after this.

Into Executive Session

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Maroun to enter Executive Session at 6:28 pm for the purpose of discussing collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law) for Unit II – Police. (Carried 4-0)

Exit Executive Session

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee McClain to exit Executive Session at 7:21 pm. (Carried 4-0)

Adjournment

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee McClain to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 pm. (Carried 4-0)

Mary A. Casagrain, Village Clerk/Treasurer