

**Village of Tupper Lake  
Board of Trustees**

Minutes

Date: Monday, July 15, 2024  
Location: Board Room  
Meeting: Regular Monthly & Public Hearings 6:00-7:58 PM

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

Also present were Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards, Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace, Electric Superintendent Michael Dominic, Fire Department Assistant Chief Nicholas Rolley, Residents Michael Vaillancourt, Daniel Carmichael, Reese and Kelly Fleury, and News Reporters Aaron Marbone and Dan McClelland.

Call Monthly Meeting  
To Order

Mayor Fontana called the Monthly Meeting to order and established the agenda at 6:00 pm.

Call Public Hearing  
To Order

Mayor Fontana called the first 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 Local Law #4-2024 to amend Chapter 48, Vehicles and Traffic to modify section 48-9 (D) Parking prohibited; handicapped parking; time limit parking to restrict parking on the south-east side of Depot Street from Main Street 100 feet towards Oak Street, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm for deliveries.

Close Public  
Hearing

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Maroun to close the public hearing since there were no questions or comments at 6:01 pm. (Carried 5-0)

Call Public Hearing  
To Order

Mayor Fontana called the second Public Hearing to order and read aloud the Public Hearing Notice at 6:02 pm for the purpose of hearing comments from the public concerning Local Law #5-2024 to amend Chapter 39A, Salaries and Compensation to amend section 39A-1 Salaries and Compensation restating the proposed corresponding salaries for each and adding section 39A-2 adding language giving the elected positions of Mayor or Trustee the option to elect to not take the annual stipend for the elected position if they so choose.

Close Public  
Hearing

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Maroun to close the public hearing since there were no questions or comments at 6:05 pm. (Carried 5-0)

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.

Public Comment

Period:

Daniel Carmichael  
Campers In Park

Resident Daniel Carmichael advised the board he has witnessed three motorists on different occasions camping along the firemen's strip in the park and connected to our services. He further stated he has photos and wants to make sure there is enforcement against those individuals.

Dan Carmichael  
Fully Controlled  
Intersections

Resident Daniel Carmichael also was present to discuss the need for fully controlled intersections at Luke's, Stewarts, Park Street and Pleasant Avenue. He was his understanding that the device at Park Street and Hosley Avenue was fully controlled. He stated he has witnessed a family almost get run over at Stewart's because the device there doesn't turn all four ways red while giving the pedestrian the right of way and it is wrong. He stated he has visited the subject with the previous board and nothing has been done.

Mayor Fontana stated she would reach out to Joseph Sciortino with NYS DOT to get pricing and to see if we could find funding for the project. All the board members present were in support of the devices being installed.

Timothy Thornton  
Petition Submitted  
Keep Amorielle Avenue  
A 2-Way Intersection

Mr. Timothy Thornton was present to give the Board of Trustees a petition with 64 signatures to keep Amorielle Avenue a two-way street. In addition he was present to express his frustration with trying to safely exit Amorielle Avenue onto Washington Street due to the influx of traffic visiting the dump, observatory, camping and parents who have children participating in baseball at the Washington Street Park. Traffic has been very congested mainly due to visitors to the park and they constantly block the hydrants and he wants it alleviated now. He stated he can't see in either direction when exiting the street and feels the park should be eliminated because there are already enough parks. He stated as a small child there never was a park there until just recent years.

Trustee Maroun advised he played there as a child over 45 years ago and it was always there.

Chief of Police Eric Proulx stated he suggested making Amorielle Avenue a one-way street to eliminate the problem for Mr. Thornton and because he didn't like what he was hearing he circulated the petition in objection to that suggestion. He did advise there have been tickets issued to those blocking a hydrant and they will continue to monitor it.

Mayor Fontana thanked him for his petition.

Trustee David Maroun  
Read Aloud Letter  
From Barbara Denis

Trustee Maroun read aloud a letter from a resident and Village Trustee candidate Barbara Denis because she could not be here tonight asking that the letter be an official complaint concerning the residency of Village Trustee Eric Shaheen.

It was so moved by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee McClain to look into the zoning classification of the property located at 195 Park Street as requested by Ms. Denis. (Carried 4-1, Trustee Shaheen "Nay")

Board Minutes  
Approved

Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to approve the board minutes from June 17, 2024, and June 21, 2024, respectively. (Carried 5-0)

Treasurer:

Approve Warrant  
Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to approve the July 15, 2024 warrant in the amount of \$551,687.78

for payment of the bills and abstracts for the month of June 2024.  
(Carried 5-0)

**Review Cash  
Position**

Review the monthly cash position for June 30, 2024.

**Accept Resignation  
And Re-Advertise  
For Cleaner**

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee McClain to accept the resignation of cleaner from Ms. Michelle Moeller and to advertise to fill the vacancy accordingly at \$15.00 per hour.  
(Carried 5-0)

**Code Enforcement:  
Accept June  
Monthly Report**

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee McClain to approve the June 2024 Monthly Code Report as presented.  
(Carried 5-0)

**Miscellaneous  
Updates**

Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards advised that the Energize Uptown Grant is moving forward nicely and bid are getting awarded for projects along Park Street that will be impactful.

In addition, when asked about the former Wheel Inn property he advised it is fenced off until the fire investigation is completed and the owner has time to schedule a clean up of the property.

**Police:**

**Accept June  
Monthly Report**

Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to approve the June 2024 Monthly Police Report. (Carried 5-0)

**Night Patrol Concerns**

**Trustee LeBlanc**

Trustee LeBlanc asked the Chief of Police when we might expect night patrols again.

Chief Proulx explained that Franklin County Civil Service has the announcement out there and the last day for individuals to apply to take the test is the first week of August. Once there is a list we will have a better idea.

**Close Local Streets  
Tupper Lake Field Day  
Parade**

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee McClain to give permission to close Demars Blvd from Pine Street to Pleasant Avenue from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm on Saturday, July 20, 2024 to accommodate the Tupper Lake Field Day Parade as well as Santa Clara Avenue. (Carried 5-0)

**Fire:**

**Accept June  
Monthly Report**

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee McClain to approve the June 2024 Monthly Fire Report. (Carried 5-0)

**DPW:  
Miscellaneous  
Updates**

Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace advised the board that his crews are working on completing winter repairs for the water and sewer department and hauling for neighboring departments so it can be reciprocated when we complete our black topping projects. In addition he is waiting on the excavator currently being used by the water and sewer department so he can make ready Lakeview Avenue.

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee McClain to accept the DPW Report for June 2024 as presented. (Carried 5-0)

W/WW:

**C2AE Amendment #7  
Approval**

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to formally ratify Amendment #7 to C2AE's Agreement with the Village of Tupper Lake to modify the Meter Installation Budget for our DWSRF Project #18061 as proposed, there is no monetary change to the budget. (Carried 5-0)

**Award Misc. Pipes,  
Valves and Fitting  
Bid**

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Maroun to formally award the Miscellaneous Pipes, Vales and Fittings bid to Blair Supply Corp for the Sewer Materials in the amount of \$3,798.00 and Ferguson Waterworks for Water Materials in the amount of \$32,726.12 respectively. (Carried 5-0)

**DANC Efficiency  
Grant Completed**

It was noted that DANC has completed their inventory of our community as part of a Local Government Efficiency GIS Inventory Project grant and we expect final documents in the coming weeks and training for our workers in the field.

**NYS DOH Required  
GAC Pilot Started**

It was noted that the NYS DOH required GAC Pilot has been started and updates will follow in coming weeks.

**Electric:  
Chief Line Worker  
Chris Zaidan  
Acknowledgement**

The swift action of Chief Line Worker Chris Zaidan for his heroic actions on June 27, 2024, in which he performed CPR on a distressed resident who had a health event while walking along Route 30 was acknowledged and applauded.

**Miscellaneous  
Updates**

Electric Superintendent Michael Dominic advised the board that his crews will be continuing to work in the North Little Wolf area over the next few weeks.

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee McClain to formally approve the Electric Report as presented. (Carried 5-0)

**Approve Local Law  
#4-2024 Chapter 48  
Vehicles And Traffic**

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Maroun to approve Local Law #4-2024 amendments to Chapter 48, Vehicles and Traffic to add restricted parking along a portion Depot Street adjacent to Fortune's Hardware to allow a delivery zone for the business as requested. (Carried 5-0)

**Local Law #5-2024  
Chapter 39A Salaries  
And Compensation**

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee McClain to formally approve Local Law #5-2024 for the modifications to Chapter 39A titled Salaries and Compensation. (Carried 5-0)

**Into Executive  
Session**

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to enter Executive Session at 6:48 pm for the purpose of discussing 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. In addition, also discuss collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law) for Unit II – Police. (Carried 5-0)

**Unit II Tentative**

**Agreement Approved Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Maroun to approve the Tentative Agreements with Unit II – Police Department as originally presented. (Carried 5-0)**

**Exit Executive Session**

**Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee McClain to exit Executive Session at 7:57 pm. (Carried 5-0)**

**Adjournment**

**Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee McClain to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm. (Carried 5-0)**

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**Mary A. Casagrain, Village Clerk/Treasurer**