

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

Date: August 16, 2023
Location: Board Room
Meeting: Public Hearing & Regular Monthly 6:00-6:55 PM

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

Also present were Electric Superintendent Michael Dominic, Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace, Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard, Fire Chief Royce Cole, Residents Barbara Denis, Michael Vaillancourt, Fredrich Schuller, Town Councilwoman Mary Fontana, News Reporter Dan McClelland and Aaron Marbone (Via Zoom), Mercy Living Center Executive Director Madaline Toliver (Via Zoom) and Goff Nelson Memorial Library Director Courtney Carey.

Call Monthly Meeting
To Order

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

Call Public Hearing
To Order

Mayor Maroun called the Public Hearing to order and read aloud the legal notice for the hearing which was to hear comments from the public concerning renewal of our cable television franchise agreement with Spectrum Northeast, LLC an indirect subsidiary of Charter Communications, Inc.

No comments received.

Public Comment
Period:
Fredrich Schuller

Mr. Fredrich Schuller was present to ask that the Village Water/Wastewater refund his Grandson Tyler Larabie for the back water and sewer services on the property of 4 Spirit Lane because he felt they should of been waived by Franklin County at time of auction in May of this year.

It was explained to Mr. Schuller that at the time of auction everything up until that point were forgiven and the current water/wastewater charges were for the most recent year, of which, will be collected until November 1 of this year, at which time, they would have been levied to the property if not paid.

Trustee Shaheen advised that he recently spoke with Franklin County and they do not forgive re-levied water/wastewater once they foreclose on a piece of property and they never will. The charges stay with the property and his grandson should have been told that at time of closing on the property.

Town Councilwoman
Mary Fontana

Town Councilwoman Mary Fontana advised the board the Town would like a joint effort between the Village and Town boards to create an infrastructure replacement program to apply for future grant funds for capital improvements. They were hoping to get a few representatives from each board together in the coming weeks to discuss the next steps and create a priority list.

Goff Nelson Memorial
Library Director
Courtney Carey

The Goff Nelson Memorial Library Director Ms. Courtney Carey advised the board that the library has some great programming right now, many of which involve our youth and hope that members of the board have the opportunity to participate in the coming month's programming.

Mercy Living Center
Executive Director
Madaline Toliver

Mercy Living Center Executive Director Ms. Madaline Toliver advised the board that both units are open and their current census is 49-50, they have a 60 resident capacity. The facility currently has some wonderful hiring incentives too.

Adirondack Park Local
Review Board
Agreement

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to formally approve our annual agreement with the Adirondack Park Local Review Board for a stipend of \$300.00 as proposed. (Carried 5-0)

Television Franchise
Agreement Renewal
Spectrum Northeast,
LLC 7-years

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Maroun to formally approve a 7-year cable television franchise agreement with Spectrum Northeast, LLC as proposed and authorizes Mayor Maroun to execute said agreement. (Carried 5-0)

Review Grant Report
Summary – Community
Development

The board took a moment to review the grant report prepared by our Community Development Director Melissa McManus as a follow-up from last months meeting. There were no questions and no future meeting was scheduled to discuss further at this time.

Board Minutes
Approved

Motion by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee Maroun to approve the board minutes from July 19, 2023 and August 15, 2023 respectively. (Carried 5-0)

ROOST Support
\$25,000 Stipend

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Maroun to utilize the \$25,000.00 Bed Tax funding from Franklin County for promotion and tourism support from ROOST.

The motion was never brought to a vote because Trustee Shaheen asked for additional information from ROOST before making a decision.

Mayor Maroun advised he would have Jim McKenna and team come to our next monthly meeting to highlight their efforts and initiatives for us; at that time we will revisit the motion.

Treasurer:
Approve Warrant

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to approve the August 16, 2023 warrant in the amount of \$201,366.98 for payment of the bills and abstracts for the month of July 2023. (Carried 5-0)

Review Cash Position	Review the monthly cash position for July 31, 2023.
Village of Tupper Lake's NYS Comptroller AFR for 5/31/2023	After a thorough review a motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee McClain to formally accept the Fiscal Year End May 31, 2023 NYS Comptroller Annual Financial Report for the Village of Tupper Lake as presented. (Carried 5-0)
Fiscal Year End May 31, 2023 Budget Transfers	Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to formally approve the budget transfers for the General Fund for Fiscal Year End May 31, 2023 totaling \$380,230.26 as provided. (Carried 5-0)
NYSERDA - Clean Energy Communities Program	Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee McClain to acknowledge and accept a \$5,000 grant from NYSERDA under the Clean Energy Communities Program to upgrade lighting in the Grandstands. (Carried 5-0)
Code Enforcement: Accept August Monthly Report	Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee Maroun to approve the August 2023 Monthly Code Report. (Carried 5-0)
Miscellaneous Updates	Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards advised the board that Rail Trail is moving along nicely, Phase 1 and 2 are in full swing and are currently closed to the public. The Rail Trail from Tupper Lake to Floodwood is opened on a limited basis.
TL Energize Uptown Grant Launch	It was noted that the Village of Tupper Lake and Franklin County Economic Development Corporation have received 9 applications for funding through the Tupper Lake Energize Uptown Grant program and they will be reviewed over the course of the next month for grant support consideration.
Police: Accept August Monthly Report	Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to approve the August 2023 Monthly Police Report. (Carried 5-0)
Fire: Accept August Monthly Report	Motion by Trustee McClain, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to approve the August 2023 Monthly Fire Report. (Carried 5-0)
Membership Schooling Update	Fire Chief Royce Cole advised the board that many of his new members are going to schooling and expected to be completed over the next few months.
DPW: Miscellaneous Updates	Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace advised the board that they are going to start milling Washington Street in the coming week and then black topping the week after. They plan to blacktop Washington Street, the Train Station portion of Depot Street, the Tupper Lake Supply portion of the intersection of Cedar Street and the village portion of Barry Avenue.
	The Town of Tupper Lake will be helping us and we will offer our assistance to them with Raquette River Drive.

**W/WW:
Fiscal Year End
May 31, 2023
Budget Transfers**

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee McClain to formally approve budget transfers for Fiscal Year End May 31, 2023 totaling \$200,791.00 for Water and \$27,584.00 for Sewer. (Carried 5-0)

Miscellaneous Work

Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard advised the board that he followed the milling machine to repair manholes in anticipation of blacktopping.

**Maddox Lane Pilot
Kickoff**

Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard advised the board that they will be having a kickoff meeting this Friday in preparation of the Maddox Lane Pilot testing if anyone would like to attend it is at 10:30 am.

**Kildare Water
Treatment On-line**

Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard advised the board that the new water treatment additive should be up and on-line by tomorrow.

**Vendor Fee
Water**

Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard advised the board that he feels the water fund should be getting paid from the general fund as a result of the food vendor's use of water at the park from May until September each year. It was so moved by Trustee Shaheen, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to authorize it as requested. (Carried 5-0)

**Secure Well
Site Gate**

Trustee LeBlanc stated he wanted to make sure the Kildare Well Site gate is locked at all times.

**Water Meter Final
Notices**

Trustee Shaheen stated he was upset with the water meter final notices that were recently sent out and wants a hold on the meter installs.

Mayor Maroun stated he believed since the EFC Funding agency is involved and we are under an order from the NYS DEC and NYS DOH for our Water Withdrawal Permit. He further added that he understood that we didn't have a choice and had to continue with the installation of water meters because it is a condition of our permit. He advised he would make a call to discuss it with them and get back to the board.

**Electric:
Miscellaneous
Updates**

Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie advised the boards that they are finishing clearing a spur line between Raquette River Drive and Byram Road. They have also replaced a pole near Leroy's, replaced a broken pole on Flanders's Street that was damaged, Verizon still has work outstanding on the pole but Spectrum responded the same day.

Substation Repairs

In addition, Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie advised the boards that they discovered a broken lineage rod during de-energize testing which would require replacement of a broken circuit switcher in the substation. The cost to replace the switch is roughly \$88,000 and his best guess with the new foundation including labor, demo and installation will be an additional \$10-15,000. The lead time to rebuild the switch is roughly 1 year. Right now two transformers are holding and there are other things that can be done to bypass with fuses on steel structures but lets hope we don't have to take that avenue if we have failure until the new circuit switcher is received.

Adjournment

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Shaheen to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm. (Carried 5-0)

Mary A. Casagrain, Village Clerk/Treasurer