

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

Date: November 18, 2020
Location: Board Room
Meeting: Regular Monthly & Public Hearings 6:00-6:49 PM

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

Also available via FreeConferenceCall.com were Trustee Ronald LaScala, future elect Trustee Jason McClain, Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie, Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace, Police Chief Eric Proulx, Fire Chief Royce Cole, Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards, Resident Jan Yaworski and News Reporters Dan McClelland and Aaron Cerbone.

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.

**Open Comment
Period:**

None.

**Board Minutes
Approved**

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Maroun to approve the board minutes from October 21, 2021, October 28, 2020 and November 3, 2020 as presented. (Carried 5-0)

Police:

**Accept October
Monthly Report**

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Maroun to approve the October 2020 Monthly Police Report for the Village and Town of Tupper Lake. (Carried 5-0)

**Retirement Officer
Troy Griffin**

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Mayor Maroun to formally accept a letter of retirement from Police Officer Troy Griffin effective November 7, 2020. (Carried 5-0)

**Parking Ban In
Effect**

Police Chief Eric Proulx advised the board that the all night parking ban has been in effect since November 15, 2020 and for the first few nights people were given warnings. There is no parking from 2: am to 6: am until April 15, 2021.

Fire:

**Accept October
Monthly Report**

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to approve the October 2020 Monthly Fire Report. (Carried 5-0)

**Appoint Ms. Kaitlyn
Rabideau Vol. FD**

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to appoint Ms. Kaitlyn Rabideau to the Tupper Lake Volunteer Fire Department. (Carried 5-0)

Junior Fire Fighter
Program Discussion

The Board discussed briefly with the Fire Chief the feasibility of forming a Junior Fire Fighter Program for our department. A few youth in the community have asked if we would consider forming a program for them. Chief of Fire Royce Cole expressed that many years ago it was discussed and there were concerns over the liability and the program never went anywhere. He advised he would bring it to his board for discussion and revisit it next month.

New Members on
Horizon

Chief of Fire Royce Cole advised the board that there are a few potential members on the horizon and expects to have their physicals completed in the coming week and available for board approval at next months meeting.

DPW:

Elan LWRP Contract Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to formally approve a contract with Elan for our Local Waterfront Revitalization Program development as proposed, our 2018 DOS LWRP Grant will fund the contract. (Carried 5-0)

Garage Move

Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace advised the board that they have started moving into the new garage and expect to have it buttoned up for winter in the coming weeks.

W/WW:

WWTP Capital

Project Change Order

NCC LLC

Motion by Trustee Hollingsworth, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to formally approve change order #1-2 for North Country Contractors, LLC in the amount of \$32,704.03 for our WWTP & Collection System Improvements as presented. (Carried 5-0)

WWTP Capital

Project Change Order

Weydman Electric

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Maroun to formally approve change order #3-2 for Weydman Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$85,656.00 for WWTP & Collection System Improvements as presented. (Carried 5-0)

Water & WWTP

Capital Change Orders

C2AE

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Maroun to formally approve change order #5 for our Meter Installations and change order #2 for our WWTP & Collection System Improvements through 12/31/2021 as proposed for an increase of \$49,000.00 and \$60,000.00 respectively for C2AE. (Carried 5-0)

Water & WWTP

Capital Change Orders

DANC

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to formally approve change order #2 for our Water System Capital Improvement Project and change order #1 for our Sewer System Capital Improvement Project through 12/31/2021 as proposed for an increase of \$10,000.00 and \$20,000.00 respectively for DANC. (Carried 5-0)

Water Fund Budget

Transfer

Motion by Trustee Hollingsworth, seconded by Trustee Maroun to formally authorize a budget transfer in the amount of \$20,000.00 for the water fund from F8340.480 to F8330.440. (Carried 5-0)

Sewer Project

Progress Update

It was noted that the Sewer Project was moving along nicely, Water Street unearthed area has a course of binder and North Country Contractors, LLC are now moving up Demars Blvd. nicely.

Electric:
Recent Outages Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie advised the board that the recent few outages were due to wind and squirrels.

Hometown Banners Taken Down Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie advised the board that the Hometown Banners are being removed and Christmas decorations are going up in the coming weeks.

New Garage Move Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie advised that they are all moved into the new facility and are working on the inventory and tweaking the overhead doors. It was so moved by Trustee Hollingsworth, seconded by Trustee Maroun to formally accept the Electric Department Report. (Carried 5-0)

Code Enforcement: Accept October Monthly Report Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to approve the October 2020 Monthly Code Report. (Carried 5-0)

COVID-19 Update Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards advised the board that he has visited many of the local businesses to remind them of the 50% occupancy and help them establish safe spacing for their patrons.

Discuss Chickens/Egg Laying Hens Inside Village Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards gave a brief background to the current ban on farm animals in the Village limits and also provided the board with the sample language proposed in the new draft of a joint land use code with the Town of Tupper Lake.

Trustee LaScala Comments Trustee LaScala advised the board he would like to allow cooped hens in the Village limits, he advised he was not in support of free range hens and he would like to see a small amount per home allowed. He did admit he currently has coop with egg laying hens but wasn't aware they weren't allowed.

Trustee Hollingsworth Comments Trustee Hollingsworth did state if they were allowed he would like to know what the community feels about them and what the regulations would be. He did state some homes have many dogs and make more noise then a quiet hen.

Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards stated hens/chickens are currently outlawed in the Village limits and the new proposed drafted land use code would allow 1 egg laying hen per 1,000 square feet of back yard but a resident would have to apply for a Special Use Permit to the Joint Planning Board.

Trustee LeBlanc Comments Trustee LeBlanc state he isn't in favor of hens/chickens in the Village and the local law banning them was established because we had problems in the past. If a resident wants them they should move into the town where the properties are larger and they have the room for a farm.

Trustee Maroun Comments Trustee Maroun stated he is worried we might see more frequent predators in the Village if we allow hens/chickens in the Village like fox and coyote etc.

Set Public Hearing For Comments from Public Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Maroun to set a Public Hearing to hear comments from the public as to how they feel about hens/chickens in the Village limits for 6:00 pm on December 16, 2020. (Carried 5-0)

Treasurer:
Approve Warrant Motion by Trustee Hollingsworth, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to approve the November 18, 2020 warrant in the amount of \$1,416,077.79 for payment of the bills and abstracts for the month of October 2020. (Carried 5-0)

Review Cash Position Review the monthly cash position for October 31, 2020.

Annual Organizational Meeting Set It was noted that the Annual Organizational Meeting was set for Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

Comment Trustee Maroun Mayor Maroun took a few moments to commend Trustee David Maroun for his support on the Village Board over the past 8 years and his successful work with the youth and Municipal Park improvements.

Trustee LeBlanc Comments Trustee LeBlanc congratulated Trustee Maroun for his work on the board and stated his Dad would be very proud of him.

Trustee Hollingsworth Comments Trustee Hollingsworth stated it has been a pleasure working with him over the past 4+ years and look forward to seeing what develops in with the Empire League and the ball field.

Trustee LaScala Comments Trustee LaScala stated he has enjoyed working with him and the battles and triumphs and he appreciates his service to the community.

Trustee Maroun Comments Trustee Maroun stated he has enjoyed his time on the board and is relieved at the same time. He stated he also has enjoyed being the “mouth” for the park and he has big ideas with the Empire League and wants to stay active with the Park as much as possible. He reminded the board that a 48 team U12-U18 League will be hosting games this July on the new field and can’t wait to see how it develops.

He also added he was happy to work with the Park, Fire, Police, Highway, Water/Sewer and Electric Departments and was proud of their accomplishments during his service on the board.

Adjournment Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to adjourned the meeting at 6:49 pm. (Carried 5-0)

Mary A. Casagrain, Village Clerk/Treasurer