

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

Date: Wednesday, December 18, 2019  
Location: Board Room  
Meeting: Regular Monthly & Public Hearing 5:00-6:48 PM

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

Also present were Village Justice Christopher Delair, Court Clerk Bridgette LaPierre, Residents James Lanthier, Maureen Harriman, Kate Harriman and News Reporter Aaron Cerbone.

Call Regular Meeting  
To Order and Agenda  
Established Mayor Maroun called the Regular Meeting to order and established the agenda at 5:00 pm.

Justice Reform &  
Court Changes  
Anticipated Village Justice Christopher Delair and Court Clerk Bridgette LaPierre were present to give a brief background on the 2020 changes anticipated for the court and the necessary work load changes for the Court Clerk position.

Into Executive  
Session Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee LaScala to enter Executive Session at 5:19 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.  
(Carried 5-0)

Conditional Employment  
Extended to Kristopher  
Clark & Gage Madore Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to extend a conditional employment to Mr. Kristopher Clark & Mr. Gage Madore while awaiting medical clearance from Franklin County as Police Officers. (Carried 4-1, Trustee LeBlanc “Abstained”)

Exit Executive  
Session Motion by Trustee Hollingsworth, seconded by Trustee LaScala to exit Executive Session at 5:45 pm. (Carried 5-0)

Also present were Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie, Police Chief Eric Proulx, Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mark Robillard, Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace, Tupper Lake Central School Students Scott Stuart, Kasey Conlon, Amber Torres, Bradley Rust, Sofia Arsenault, Hanna Thatcher, Riley Gillis, Nick Skiff, and Kaylee Rabideau, residents James Lanthier and Jan Yaworski and News Reporter Aaron Cerbone.

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 for the purpose of hearing comments from the public concerning Local Law #2-2019 for the purpose of modifications to Section 48-9 of the Vehicles and Traffic law concerning handicap parking.

Mayor Maroun

Mayor Maroun read aloud the public hearing notice and explained that the changes to section 48-9 of the Vehicles and Traffic law would add a handicap parking space at 53 Park Street and remove one at 19 Main Street.

Open Comment

Period:

Jan Yaworski

Resident Ms. Jan Yaworski thanked the Village Board for her re-appointment to the Village/Town Planning Board for a 7-year term.

James Lanthier

Electric Raises

Mr. James Lanthier asked about the recent news that the Village Board gave the Electric Department employees a 26% raise and how that will affect moral in the other department and our future electrical rates?

Trustee Hollingsworth

Addressed Electric

Department Question

Trustee Hollingsworth replied that all the departments do a phenomenal job but to remain competitive and retain employees who would otherwise leave for the private sector pay we felt it was necessary. If we can not maintain our system with qualified personnel we could lose our cheap power, and see a 300-400% increase in our rate per kW, the days of 4 cents per kW would increase to 16 cents per kW. He stressed that we are already short handed and we recently lost an already fully trained employee after investing \$30,000 in training into him. In comparing our lineman pay rates with the others in New York State we were the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in the state.

Trustee LaScala

Trustee LaScala added that there isn't legislation that needs to be passed to secure them from leaving because they aren't leaving for another municipal system they are leaving for a private system which is out of our hands.

James Lanthier

Fire Vehicle Minimum

Bid Questions

Mr. James Lanthier asked if we are setting a minimum bid for the sale of the 1983 Pierce Pumper. It was noted that we will visit the question once bids are received, we can refuse it if it isn't high enough.

Close Public

Hearing

Mayor Maroun closed the Public Hearing at 6:28 pm.

Shared Services

NYS Archives

LGRMIF

Application

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to formally approve the following resolution:

**Resolution No. 121819 A**

**APPROVING SPONSORSHIP OF SHARED SERVICES**  
**NYS ARCHIVES LGRMIF APPLICATION**

Whereas, the Village of Tupper Lake (Village) is desirous of submitting a grant application to the NYS Archives Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) for a comprehensive records inventory of municipal records, and

Whereas, the Town of Tupper Lake (Town) will partner with the Village for a shared services application for municipal records inventory, and

Whereas, the Village has the necessary resources to assist the partnering community by sponsoring a shared services LGRMIF application and act a lead applicant and fiscal agent for project implementation if grant funding is awarded, and

Whereas, the Town will reimburse the Village for fifty percent of the costs for consultant services to complete the LGRMIF application, and

Whereas, pursuant to LGRMIF guidelines, it is necessary that the lead agency: formally appoint a Records Management Officer (RMO), and formally adopt the appropriate records retention and disposition schedule.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Village of Tupper Lake does hereby authorize and direct its Mayor to appoint Mary A. Casagrain, Village Clerk/Treasurer as its RMO, adopt the MU-1 Records Retention and Disposition schedule for municipal government, and execute all LGRMIF paperwork required of a lead agency applicant. (Carried 5-0)

Board Minutes  
Approved

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Maroun to approve the board minutes from November 20, 2019 and December 3, 2019's meetings respectively. (Carried 5-0)

Code Enforcement:  
Accept November  
Monthly Report

Motion by Trustee Hollingsworth seconded by Trustee Maroun to approve the November 2019 Monthly Code Report as presented. (Carried 5-0)

It was also noted that the Year End Code Report is being completed. Also the fire inspections for the schools are being completed over the school's winter break and the Zombie Grant closing documents are being prepared.

Police:

Accept November  
Monthly Report

Motion by Trustee Hollingsworth, seconded by Trustee Maroun to approve the November 2019 Monthly Police Report for the Village and Town of Tupper Lake. (Carried 5-0)

Auctions Int'l  
Vehicles Sale

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Maroun to place the former K-9 vehicles, the Dodge Durango and Chevy Tahoe, for sale on Auctions International once the radios and light bars have been removed. (Carried 5-0)

Reimbursement

Village of Malone

Mayor Maroun explained that the Village of Tupper Lake will be sending a reimbursement request to the Village of Malone for the lateral transfer of former Police Officer Mr. Connor Hesselstine.

Police Car

Arriving Soon

Police Chief Eric Proulx advised that his new police car isn't here due to problems with Ford but he expects it soon.

Fire:

Accept November  
Monthly Report

Motion by Trustee Hollingsworth, seconded by Trustee LaScala to approve the November 2019 Monthly Fire Report. (Carried 5-0)

John Cuttaia Appointed  
Volunteer Fire Dept.  
Member

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to appoint Mr. John Cuttaia to the position of Volunteer Fire Department Member for the Santa Clara Substation. (Carried 5-0)

Auctions Int'l Vehicles Sale	Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee LaScala to place the 1983 Pierce Pumper for sale on Auctions International. (Carried 5-0)
Revised Fire Contract Approval for Town of Santa Clara 2020-24	Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Maroun to authorize Mayor Maroun to execute a revised 5-year fire protection agreement with the Town of Santa Clara as proposed. (Carried 5-0)
Santa's Visit Schedule	It was noted that Santa will be visiting the uptown tonight and the junction tomorrow evening as part of his Christmas visit for the children.
DPW: Miscellaneous Updates	Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Degrace advised the board that his department is plowing and sanding and ready for winter operations.
W/WW: Budget Transfers	Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to authorize budget transfer in the amount of \$5,000 for Water Fund and \$5,000 for the Sewer Fund as follows: \$5,000 from F8340.480 and transfer to F8330.440 & \$5,000 from G8120.480 and transfer to G8130.440. (Carried 5-0)
Park Street Water Tower Garage	It was noted by Superintendent Mark Robillard that his department will be removing the back room off the Park Street Water Tower Garage, it is part of the original building and is quite rotten, when weather permits or in early spring.
Park Dugout Pumps	Trustee Maroun thanked the Water/Wastewater Department for the pumps for the dugout and the French drains.
New Well Development	Superintendent Mark Robillard advised that he has no news to report on the status of the new well development.
Electric: Municipal Garage Update	Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie reported that some of the steel has arrived on site and he expects to have some progress in the next 3-weeks.
Holiday Decorations Update	Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie reported that they have a few faulty GFI's to the snowflakes along Demars Blvd. but they have been fixed.
Moody Bridge Lighting Repair	Electric Superintendent Michael Dominie reported that the Moody Bridge lighting was affected by NYS DOT's subcontractor who mistakenly drilled through our lighting conduit; it took us about a week to repair and had to replace 1500' of wire. While we were out there we changed them over to LED lighting and the subcontractor has made us whole.
Treasurer: Approve Warrant	Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to approve the December 18, 2019 warrant in the amount of \$348,409.32 for payment of the bills and abstracts for the month of November 2019. (Carried 5-0)
Review Cash Position	Review the monthly cash position for November 30, 2019.
Levy Growth Factor 2020	It was noted that the allowable Levy Growth Factor for Local Governments with a June 1 Fiscal Year will be 1.78%.

Annual Insurance  
Buy-out 2020

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to authorize our annual Insurance Buy-out Option for our employees for 2020, \$2,500 single, \$3,000 for 2-person and \$3,500 Family. (Carried 5-0)

Local Law #2-2019  
Vehicle & Traffic

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Hollingsworth to formally approve Local Law #2-2019 for the purpose of modifications to Section 48-9 of the Vehicles and Traffic law concerning handicap parking as proposed. (Carried 5-0)

Thank You  
To Students

Mayor Maroun took the time to thank the high school students for visiting.

Into Executive  
Session

Motion by Trustee Maroun, seconded by Trustee LaScala to enter Executive Session at 6:45 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. (Carried 5-0)

Exit Executive  
Session

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee LaScala to exit Executive Session at 6:46 pm. (Carried 5-0)

Village Court  
Clerk Pay Rate

Motion by Trustee LaScala, seconded by Trustee Maroun to increase the rate per hour for the Village Court Clerk to \$17.00 per hour effective January 1, 2020. It was noted that it would be revisited after 6-months. (Carried 4-1, Trustee LeBlanc “Abstained”)

Adjournment

Motion by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee LaScala to adjourn at 6:48 pm. (Carried 5-0)

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Mary A. Casagrain, Village Clerk/Treasurer