

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY, held at the Village Administration Building on Monday, July 27, 2009, at 4:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Robert M. Blais, Mayor  
John Earl, Trustee  
John Root, Trustee  
Ray Perry, Trustee  
Joseph Mastrodomenico, Jr., Trustee

Also Present: Darlene Gunther (Clerk-Treasurer), Deb McKinney (Deputy Clerk-Treasurer), Dave Harrington (Superintendent of Public Works), Lydia Wheeler (Post Star), Fire Chief Jim Barber, Chris Navitsky (Lake George Waterkeeper), and Thom Randall (Adirondack Journal).

At 4:00 p.m. Mayor Blais opened the special meeting and asked Superintendent Harrington to explain the request for funding to relocate a water line. He explained that recently in cooperation with Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District (WCS&WCD) the brook on Cooper Street has been restored. In doing so a very shallow water line was found. This needs to be moved down further into the ground so that it will not freeze. Dave got price quotes for labor and material. Vellano submitted the lowest price for material at a cost of \$3,027.18. O'Connor Construction had the lowest price of \$4,280 for the labor portion. The funds can be taken from the Water Transmission and Distribution account. Mayor Blais reported that the brook looks much better and the neighbors are happy. Mr. Harrington noted that the Village has been working recently with WCS&WCD with grant funding to install ten new storm drain structures throughout the Village. These drains remove the surface flow water and put it back into the ground. Over the past two years a total of about 25 drains have been put in.

Trustee Root, seconded by Trustee Earl, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 83, 2009**

**WHEREAS, while working up on Cooper Street, the Water Department discovered an old water line which was located only a few inches below ground, and**

**WHEREAS, this water line could easily freeze and break,**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves relocating the water line on Cooper Street at a price not to exceed \$7,507.18.**

**VOTING       Ayes: 5       Blais, Earl, Perry, Root, Mastrodomenico**  
**Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 83, 2009 ADOPTED.**

**July 27, 2009**

Mayor Blais asked the Board to look at the possibility of bonding funds for the Village's share of the Gaslight Village project. They reviewed the Capital Project budget. The \$2.5 million grant has been awarded with the Village as the lead agency. Basically this grant will cover the cost to make the north side of the property

look like a park. As previously planned the 3E's will complete the environmental portion of the project. A joint meeting of the property owners is scheduled.

The following firemen have requested their annual lump sum LOSAP payments: Ray Calore, Jr., Irving Gerber, Robert McKinney, Donald Fangboner, William Manion, and Alan Moon.

Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Root, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 84, 2009**

**WHEREAS, Irving "Bud" Gerber, Ray Calore Jr., Donald Fangboner, William Manion, Robert McKinney and Alan Moon are members of the Lake George Volunteer Fire Department in good standing and have earned the necessary points for the LOSAP program, and have reached the age of fifty-five and beyond, and**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George, NY hereby authorizes Mayor Robert Blais to direct Glens Falls National Bank & Trust Co. to issue lump-sum payments to the above eligible members for the Village's Length of Service Award Program for the calendar year of 2008.**

**VOTING        Ayes: 4                      Blais, Perry, Root, Mastrodomenico**  
**Nays: 0**  
**Abstentions: 1        Earl**

**RESOLUTION NO. 84, 2009 ADOPTED.**

**July 27, 2009**

NYCOM's 54<sup>th</sup> Fall Training School is scheduled for September 21 -24 at the Albany Crowne Plaza. A motion by Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Root, carried unanimously to approve the attendance of any interested official.

**VOTING        Ayes: 5                      Blais, Earl, Perry, Root, Mastrodomenico**  
**Nays: 0                      MOTION PASSED.**

Because of the recent sewage spill, problems we're having with negotiating a sewer contract with the Town, and problems with the current point system for Caldwell Sewer District, it has been suggested that the Village enact a moratorium for hookups to our sewer system. C.T. Male submitted a proposal for the preparation of a preliminary engineering report for improvements to the existing Shepard Park pumping station with slip-lining on the existing sewer lines along the shoreline. A portion of the proposal includes assistance with the emergency project and replacement of the failed wye. Mayor Blais met with David Connors, the representation from Senator Gillibrand's office about the availability of stimulus funding for this, but a set of plans needs to be drawn up to proceed. They discussed the subdivisions planned and how many hookups there may be. The Board agreed to look further into the regulations for enacting a moratorium and how it would affect the Caldwell Sewer District. Trustee Perry suggested scheduling a joint meeting of the Boards for discussion of the issues.

Mayor Blais noted that the Dissolution Study has been presented to the Board by the Committee.

The Board accepted the report, thanked the Committee for their many hours of work, and noted that they will proceed with the process and work with Town officials.

Mayor Blais, seconded by Trustee Root, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 85, 2009**

**WHEREAS, the Dissolution Committee has performed their due diligence and along with Fairweather Associates have created a Final Report for a “Study of Village Dissolution,” and**

**WHEREAS, the Dissolution Committee has convened and by majority voted to pass the “Study of Village Dissolution” onto the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George for further review, negotiations with the Town of Lake George, and Public Hearings on same,**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby accepts the Dissolution Committee’s Final Study with many thanks for all the time and effort that was contributed to this study.**

**VOTING        Ayes: 5        Blais, Earl, Perry, Root, Mastrodomenico**  
**Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 85, 2009 ADOPTED.**

**July 27, 2009**

Mayor Blais went back to the C.T. Male proposal. Mr. Harrington noted that he met with Alex Rhodes. The engineers will review the whole sewer pumping system and also evaluate the problem that caused the recent sewer break. Mayor Blais noted that the slip lining from the Boardwalk to the Pump Station had previously been completed. This report is a priority and will probably take a couple of weeks to complete.

Trustee Root, seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico, offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 86, 2009**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lake George hereby accepts a proposal from C.T. Male Associates, PC to submit a Preliminary Engineering Report for Shepard Park Pump Station and Collection System Improvements for the Village of Lake George Sanitary Sewer System on an hourly basis, not to exceed fee of \$8,000., and will include estimated engineering design fees and construction costs for recommended improvements to the pumping station that would prevent potential spills at the station, as well as collection system improvements to reduce inflow and infiltration along the shoreline areas.**

**VOTING        Ayes: 5        Blais, Earl, Perry, Root, Mastrodomenico**  
**Nays: 0**

**RESOLUTION NO. 86, 2009 ADOPTED.**

**July 27, 2009**

Mayor Blais asked for any other business before continuing on with an executive session.

- Trustee Mastrodomenico inquired about the tree trimming on Amherst Street. The response was that the DPW will be trimming on Village property only.
- Trustee Perry asked about the status of code enforcement on the Bradley & Cherry Street complaints. Mayor Blais replied that a local law allowing for posting and mailing notification to violators is set for a public hearing at our next regular meeting.
- Trustee Root inquired as to whether the timers on the street lamps have been checked. Superintendent Harrington responded that they've all be reset because it is getting dark earlier. Trustee Root reported a request from John Carr for a crosswalk across Route 9 by the high school. Mayor Blais noted that we've tried to get a crosswalk there before, but NYS DOT will not allow it. Mrs. Gunther noted that she made copies of the DOT's previous correspondence for Mr. Carr.
- Mayor Blais pointed out that the most recent editorial by the Post Star's editor did a great disservice to the Village and our employees. Information about the alarm system at the pump station was erroneous. The complexity of the sewer break was not revealed. He noted that Post Star staff were invited to come for a tour of the station to help them in their reporting, but they declined. He commented that other local papers assign one reporter to a story, but the Post Star uses several reporters causing much confusion and duplication.

Motion by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico, unanimously carried, to enter into an Executive Session at 4:40 p.m. to evaluate the performance of a particular employee.

Motion by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Mastrodomenico, unanimously carried, to exit Executive Session at 5:14 p.m.

There was no action taken in the Executive Session.

Superintendent Harrington made the Board aware that the football fields at the REC Center are complete. The operators have requested access to the electrical to hook up the scoreboards. They would also like the restroom building open during their games which will begin soon. They asked if the lights in the parking lot can be turned on. Mayor Blais has been in contact with Town Councilman Crocitto who agreed to get the details about their requests. It was noted that in order to use the building, the alarm system must be utilized allowing access to the "backroom" in the building where items of value are stored. Turning on the lights in the parking lot, if they even still work, will increase energy costs. Mayor Blais will follow-up.

There was a motion by Trustee Perry to adjourn at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. McKinney, CPPB  
Purchasing Agent  
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

7/27/2009 special