



*with the minutes.*

Commencing the agenda review, privilege of the floor was extended to Kevin Hajos, *Superintendent of Public Works*, who presented the following requests:

- 1) To authorize an Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) with the Village of Lake George for maintenance of the Charles R. Wood Park.

Motion was made by Mrs. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Strough and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the July 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 2) To authorize reimbursement in the total amount of \$759.05 to the Village of Lake George for various expenses related to the Charles R. Wood Park, as well as to appropriate funds from Budget Code A691.07, *Deferred Revenue Gaslight Village Parking Fees*, in the amounts of \$664.00 to Budget Code A.1625 413, *Charles R. Wood Park, Repair & Maint.-Bldg/Property*, and \$95.05 to Budget Code A.1625 410, *Charles R. Wood Park, Supplies*, to fund same.

Mr. Strough inquired if Mr. Hajos had confirmed that the Village had done the work the Committee was authorizing reimbursement for and Mr. Hajos replied affirmatively. Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, asked what the annual budget for reimbursements was and Mr. Hajos replied \$12,000 - \$13,000 per year was budgeted, depending on the attendant rates which changed each year.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mrs. Hogan and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Thomas entered the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

Mr. Merlino pointed out that the Information for Discussion/Review portion of the agenda consisted of items Mayor Blais wished to address the Committee about. He noted that Mayor Blais was on his way to the meeting but had not yet arrived and he asked Mr. Hajos if he was able to provide any information on these items in Mayor Blais' absence. Speaking to the "2018/2019 Events: Festival Space Use Fees", Mr. Hajos said he believed the first three events (*Adk Christkindlmarkt and the January and February Pond Ice Hockey Tournaments*) were requesting that their rental fees be waived or reduced; he noted that these discussions had begun at the last Committee meeting. Mr. Merlino acknowledged these discussions had been held, but pointed out no decisions on this request had been made. Mr. Strough apprised he had spoken with Kristen Hanifan, *Special Events & Convention Sales Director, Lake George Chamber of Commerce & CVB*, about these upcoming events and she had explained these types of events attracted large crowds in Europe and could possibly have a larger attendance than expected in this area; he added that in light of this information, he thought the requested discount should be given, and Mr. Merlino concurred. Leisa Grant, *Principal Account Clerk, Tourism*, said she recalled the discussion last month was about reducing fees for the pond hockey event and Mr. Merlino said it was, but they had agreed if a reduced rate was given to one new group it should be given to the others, as well. Mrs. Hogan voiced her opposition to reducing the fee, but noted she was supportive of the effort to hold the events. Chairman Conover expressed his concern that without a set criteria other groups would come forward and request the same discount. Mr. Merlino suggested delaying any further decision on this matter until Mayor Blais arrived and the Committee agreed.

Mr. Hajos indicated the agenda items pertaining to the British Invasion and Charlie Daniels Band were informational items to advise of two upcoming events; he also apprised The Adirondack Wine & Food Festival was being held this weekend.

Ms. Grant advised Mayor Blais had waived the damage fee charged for an upcoming event at the Skate Park portion of the Wood Park and had only collected a total of \$250 for the use of the Park. She said this was something that needed to be discussed and approved by the Committee. Mr. Merlino advised he would prefer to include Mayor Blais in that discussion, as he was in charge of managing the Skate Park.

Mr. Hajos informed the last item was discussion on the annual Reserve Fund for maintenance for the South Parcel of land at the Charles R. Wood Park. Privilege of the floor was extended to Jim Lieberum, *District Manager, Warren County Soil & Water District*, who explained he was in attendance to inquire if a maintenance account had been established for mowing and invasive species work at the Park. He apprised the annual expense for these services would be \$15,000 - \$17,000.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Randy Rath, *Project Manager/GIS Specialist, Lake George Association*, who notified it was outlined in the Conservation Easement that an account would be created and he questioned the status. Mr. Hajos inquired if Mr. Lieberum was speaking directly about the South parcel and Mr. Lieberum replied affirmatively. Mr. Hajos read part of the Conservation Easement which indicated the Town of Lake George would help maintain the property and Mr. Hajos pointed out the Town of Lake George was no longer a part of the easement and Mike Swan, *County Treasurer*, indicated to him no account had been established. Chairman Conover inquired if income had been generated from the south parcel property; Mr. Lieberum said it was assumed the revenue from the Park would be deposited into a maintenance account, but that was not clear. He said it was necessary to determine if there would be an account established for such maintenance. Mr. Merlino remarked the contract needed to be revised, as the Town of Lake George was no longer involved. Chairman Conover said there was \$17,000 budgeted for maintenance, but no separate fund existed for maintenance of this particular parcel.

Robert Blais, *Mayor, Village of Lake George* and David Harrington, *Superintendent of Public Works, Village of Lake George*, entered the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

Mr. Merlino summarized the discussion that had taken place in regards to the South Parcel prior to Mayor Blais and Mr. Harrington's arrival. He asked Mayor Blais if he was in agreement with postponing discussion of the contract changes discussed until a future meeting and Mayor Blais concurred. Ms. Braymer suggested a review of the easement since the South Parcel was not a revenue generating venture. She inquired if the easement was current and Mr. Hajos replied the easement was done in 2005 or 2006. Mayor Blais indicated the Festival Space funds were supposed to go into the dedicated maintenance account for the South Parcel. Mr. Harrington inquired if Mr. Merlino would like to hold a workshop for the purpose of reviewing and modifying the easement and Mr. Merlino replied affirmatively.

Returning to the Information for Discussion/Review items, Mayor Blais indicated a decision on the discounted rate for the Adirondack Christkindlmarkt event was requested by the event organizer. Mr. Merlino asked Mayor Blais his opinion on reducing the fee and Mayor Blais responded due to the need for added maintenance in the winter, as well as the uncertainty of what type of cut-off date should be used for the discounted term and the fact that the rental rates were already lower in comparison to other competitive locations, he recommended declining to provide reduced rates in

favor of maintaining those previously set. Mr. Strough mentioned his consideration or request for a reduced rate for first year of events was related to the risk involved to the new event as well as consideration for the costs the newcomer would be faced with to hold the event. He suggested a one time new event reduction fee in hopes that the event would return. Mayor Blais explained the Village of Lake George and the Town of Lake George had jointly provided the event more occupancy tax funding which should offset their request for a reduced use rate. Mr. Merlino suggested encouraging the event holders to seek funds from the surrounding towns. It was the consensus of the Committee to leave the event fee as it stood.

Ms. Grant reintroduced discussion regarding the damage deposit for the upcoming Skate Park event. Mr. Hajos pointed out a resolution pertaining to the damage deposit had been adopted for last years event, but it did not carry forward to subsequent years. Ms. Grant asked if Mayor Blais would like a resolution authorizing a reduced damage deposit and use fee going forward and Mayor Blais replied affirmatively.

Motion was made by Mayor Blais, seconded by Mr. Strough, and carried unanimously to waive the Charles R. Wood Park event fee rates set by Resolution No. 42 of 2018 and authorizing a \$250 damage deposit and a \$250 use fee for the Annual Skate Plaza Competition held at the Charles R. Wood Skate Park beginning with their 2018 event and continuing for future events and the necessary resolution was authorized for the July 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes. (Note: prior Resolution No. 313 of 2017 authorized a reduced deposit fee, but did not speak to the reduced use fee; additionally, the minutes of the July 31, 2017 Park Operations & Management Committee meeting where Resolution No. 313 of 2017 was approved only spoke to the 2017 event and did not indicate this would be recurring discount.)*

As there was no further business to come before the Park Operations & Management (O&M) Committee, on motion made by Mrs. Hogan and seconded by Mr. Strough, Mr. Merlino adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Lovelace, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board