

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on March 20th, 2023, at Halstead Hall, Civic Center, 39 Lake Street scheduled to commence at 7:00PM.

PRESENT: John J. LaBonte, Mayor
Dale Menard, Trustee
Brian S. Pelkey, Trustee

ABSENT: Joseph Rodriguez, Trustee
Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT: Arsene Letourneau, Treasurer
John Cooper, Code Enforcement Officer

RECORDING SECRETARY: Christopher Latremore, Clerk/Administrator

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Mayor LaBonte called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Alex Barie; 30 Bridge Rd

Alex Barie stated that she was there to answer questions about the I2 Zone if the subject comes up during the meeting. She mentioned that she is there for support.

REGULAR SESSION:

II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Trustee Menard made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 6, 2023, regular meeting, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ AND TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

III. MINUTES OF BUDGET MEETING:

Trustee Menard made a motion to accept the minutes for the March 15, 2023, budget meeting, seconded by Trustee Pelkey **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ AND TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

IV. BILLS: \$278,176.71 CHECK # 29404-29454

Treasurer Arsene Letourneau indicated that there was one deletion to the bills: Transformer Service \$6495 has been removed.

Trustee Pelkey made a motion to pay the bills as corrected, seconded by Trustee Menard. **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ AND TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

V. CORRESPONDENCE:

1) Christopher Latremore advised the board that on March 20, 2023, Treasurer/Budget Officer Arsene Letourneau presented the Village Clerk/Administrator Christopher Latremore the 2023-2024 Tentative Budget prior to the deadline of March 20th. Pursuant to Village Law 5-508(1). The Village Clerk presented the Tentative Budget to the board of trustees. The Village Clerk advised the Board of trustees to review the tentative budget and make changes and revisions as it deems appropriate in accordance with Village Law 5-508(1).

Trustee Menard made a motion to authorize the Clerk Christopher Latremore to publish the budget for public hearing, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ AND TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

2) Christopher Latremore received an email from Junior Moore stating that the Fire Department has a contract with the Village regarding the Medical Director Dr. Giuseppe Ventra. Junior Moore stated in the email that Dr. Giuseppe Ventra is withdrawing from this position. Junior Moore explained that Dr. Michael D'Urso would be willing to take over the role. The proposed new MD has asked for a new contract to be written that will run from April 1, 2023, to May 31, 2026, which would be a 3-year contract. The new Medical Director has requested to charge a \$5 fee for the review and training of the EMTs for the Fire Department.

Trustee Menard made a motion to allow for the Clerk to write up a new contract for this matter, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ AND TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

VI. REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:

A. MAYOR LABONTE

1. Mayor LaBonte stated that regarding the chickens, the Board has not made any decisions. A public hearing will be held on this matter and Mayor LaBonte emphasized that no decision has been made. Mayor LaBonte expressed that this decision will be made based on the best interest of the Village and what most residents want. Mayor LaBonte stated that everyone collectively must put aside biases. Mayor LaBonte will respect what the citizens have to say before a decision is made.
2. Mayor LaBonte said that an unsigned letter was read to the board at the last meeting. From now on, no more letters will be read unless signed. Residents will from now on know if it is a citizen or not because the person will be named in the sent letter.

B. TRUSTEE BENJAMIN J. ARNO:

Absent.

C. TRUSTEE DALE MENARD:

1. Trustee Menard stated that Village residents have asked if the Civic Center could be used for Pickle Ball this summer. Christopher Latremore said he is looking for a tape

that will not leave adhesive to the flooring which could affect laying the ice for the rink next season, so the Rec Center is exploring their options on how to make this possible.

D. TRUSTEE BRIAN S. PELKEY:

1. Trustee Pelkey has asked to have an executive session to discuss personnel issues but decided to table it until all Board members are present.

E. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ

Absent.

VI. OTHER REPORTS:

1. Code Enforcement Officer Cooper stated that he plans on attending the 8-hour training in Plattsburgh on April 25th, 2023, regarding the energy program. Cooper plans on attending so the village abides by the new laws and standards in the state of New York.

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

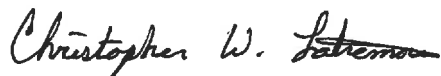
Scott Richner; 16 Pratt St

Mr. Richner stated that he has been the leading charge against chickens in the Village. Scott Richner stated that the Board has been extremely helpful in suggestions such as the petition against the allowance of chickens in the Village. Scott Richner stated that he has been telling individuals that both sides must properly present their cases for their opinion on the matter and in the end, the Board will make the proper decision regardless of what that outcome may be.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Menard made a motion to adjourn at 7:16PM, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ ABSENT.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Christopher W Latremore
Village Clerk/Administrator