

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on May 2, 2022, at Halstead Hall, Civic Center, 39 Lake Street scheduled to commence at 7:00 PM.

PRESENT: Dale M. Menard, Deputy Mayor
Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee
Brian S. Pelkey, Trustee
Joseph Rodriguez, Trustee

ABSENT: John J. LaBonte, Mayor

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

RECORDING SECRETARY: Christopher Latremore, Clerk/Administrator

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Deputy Mayor Menard called the meeting to order at 6:58 PM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REGULAR SESSION:

I. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Marlene Beal had concerns about her utility bill. Ms. Beal advised the board that board agreed to petition the commissioner on the high electricity bills and wanted to know where it stands. Clerk/Administrator Latremore told Ms. Beal that she was not going to receive a refund, and that the village has a contract with New York Power Authority, until 2040. Mr. Latremore advised her that under the contract the village has 13.79 MEGS of power, and everything over that amount of power will fall under supplemental. Ms. Beal wants the business using the power to pay for the additional cost of power. Mr. Latremore told Ms. Beal that it does not work that way, and everyone in the village is held responsible for the supplemental charge.

William Phelps is also concerned about the increased cost of the electrical from the supplemental charge. Mr. Phelps wants to know when the residents can expect a report on the litigation, and what is happening with counsel. Mr. Phelps advised the board that New York State and the Federal Government do not regulate power usage, and it is up to the municipality to regulate it. He would like an idea of when the village is going to act. Deputy Mayor Menard advised Mr. Phelps that this is in the hands of the village attorney and the board really cannot provide a lot of information at this time. Deputy Mayor Menard said that the village is trying to get in the building to identify the operation, and once we can release information to the public, the board will let the residents know.

Charlene Sample provided the board with an update on the Hometown Hero Flags. Ms. Sample told the board that she received 87 applications and all applications were approved. The flags are going to be delivered on Friday May 6, 2022. Ms. Sample asked if the flags could be put up by Memorial Day weekend, and to have a ceremony the following weekend, in dedication of the banners. Clerk/Administrator Latremore advised the board that he will reach out to the electric department to work on the installation once the flags are received and will try to meet the deadline date of Memorial Day weekend. Trustee Arno felt that the best location to have the ceremony would be at the Legion, for it would be better parking and less traffic.

II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Trustee Arno made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 18, 2022, seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. **ALL VOTED AYE.** Mayor LaBonte Absent

III. BILLS: \$25,922.47 CHECK # 28533-28561

Treasurer Letourneau indicated that there was no change to the bills.

Trustee Rodriguez made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. **All voted AYE.** Mayor LaBonte Absent

IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

Nothing to report

V. REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:

a. MAYOR LaBonte

1) Absent

b. DEPUTY MAYOR DALE MENARD:

1) Read resolution 2022-16 Bank authorization Champlain National Bank depository and authorization of signatures to be Arsene Letourneau, Dale Menard, Rebecca Pelkey and John LaBonte. **ROLL CALL VOTE: AYE CARRIED** Mayor LaBonte Absent.

c. TRUSTEE BENJAMIN J. ARNO:

1) Trustee Arno had conversation with Ethan at the Civic Center and Ethan indicated that there was a leak in the brine pump. They are making the necessary repairs.

2) Fire Department is having a raffle on August 1, 2022. First prize is \$1,000 second prize is \$500 and for third prize there will be five \$100 prizes. Raffle tickets will be \$10 each.

3) Trustee Arno asked Treasurer Letourneau if the village had budgeted for a line helper for the electric department. Treasurer Letourneau advised the board line a helper was include in the budget.

Trustee Arno made a motion to advertise for the position of line helper, seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. **ALL VOTED AYE.** Mayor LaBonte Absent

4) Trustee Arno asked Code Enforcement Officer John Cooper if he has followed up on the State Street property. Mr. Cooper advised the board that he did a letter, and the Sherriff Department was going to pick the letter up, but the deputy was out with COVID. Mr. Cooper told the board that he did another letter and mailed it out certified and regular mail. Trustee Arno told Mr. Cooper that this has been going on since 2016 and action needs to be taken.

5) Trustee Arno asked Code Enforcement Officer John Cooper about the Chapman Street property. Trustee Arno advised Mr. Cooper that there is still a lot of equipment on the property, and it needs to be cleaned up. Mr. Cooper advised the board that he has reached out to the property owner Dave at 43 Chapman and advised him it needs cleaned up. Mr. Cooper told the board that he monitored the demolish and everything went well, and the property does look better.

d. TRUSTEE BRIAN S. PELKEY:

- 1) Trustee Pelkey announce that the Fire Department is having its spring breakfast on May 27, 2022. This is the first time since COVID.
- 2) Trustee Pelkey advised the board that a dock was removed from the boat launch due to the high water causing the dock to float away. Adam from public works will be putting the dock back in and securing it down so it will not float away again.
- 3) Trustee Pelkey would like everyone to know that the Stars and Stripes will hold its Fourth Of July celebration on June 26. Some highlights this year are going to be a craft show, bigger parade, bigger fireworks display, carnival, and entertainment. Trustee Pelkey said the meeting will held on Tuesday and is open to the public.
- 4) Trustee Pelkey said that he was happy to see the return of Canadian traffic in the village.

e. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ:

- 1) Nothing to report

VI. OTHER REPORTS:

- 1) Trustee Pelkey asked the board, that since the village is advertising for a line helper, if the board would agree to advertise for a parttime typist.
Trustee Pelkey made a motion to advertise for a parttime typist,
seconded by Trustee Arno **All voted AYE** Mayor LaBonte Absent.
- 2) Code Enforcement Officer John Cooper advised the board he had complaints of people feeding wild animals in the village. Mr. Cooper told the board that he has pictures and if this continues, he will be issuing violations.

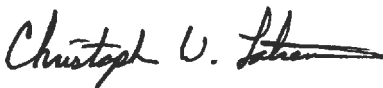
VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No comment

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Arno made a motion to adjourn at 7:25PM, seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. **All voted AYE**
Mayor LaBonte Absent.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christopher W Latremore
Village Clerk/Administrator