

Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Monday, April 2, 2018 at Halstead Hall, 39 Lake Street, Rouses Point, NY commencing at 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Thomas D. Batha, Mayor
Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee
Thomas M. Dart, Trustee
Dale Menard, Trustee
Ron R. Le Blanc, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Peters, Administrator
Arsene F. Letourneau, Treasurer
Brian Pelkey, Public Works Supervisor
Bryon Gelineault, Chief Water Plant Operator
Clifford Sterling, Codes Enforcement Officer
Jessica Shields, Recreation Facility Manager

RECORDING SECRETARY: Donna J. Boumil, Village Clerk

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

II. LETTER OF RESIGNATION:

1. Letter of Resignation from Thomas Batha as Trustee was read.
Motion by Trustee Arno to accept the Resignation as Trustee from Mr. Batha;
Seconded by Trustee Menard. AYE CARRIED

III. APPOINTMENT OF NEW TRUSTEE:

- 1) Mayor Batha appointed Ron R. Le Blanc as Trustee to complete the 1 year term vacated.

IV. ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS:

- 1) The Village Clerk administered Oaths of Office:
Bejamin Arno: 2 year term as Trustee
Ron Le Blanc: 1 year term as Trustee

V. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No comments for the public

VI. MINUTES:

Motion by Trustee Arno to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 19, March 21, 2018 and Budget Workshop of March 29, 2018; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED

VII. BILLS: Vouchers 24208 - 24250 \$ 16,831.12

No additions or deletions.

Comments: Trustee Dart – page 2 of the Bills. Invoice No. WR 75852 Dragoon’s Farm Equipment (\$1,012.50) for labor. Explanation provided by PWS Brian Pelkey – seals & bushings for the loader.

Motion to accept and pay the bills by Trustee Menard; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) Letter from NYSDEC re: Wastewater Treatment Plant testing
 - Mayor Batha read the letter and congratulated Tim Graves, WWTP Chief Operator on a job well done.
- 2) Letter from the American Legion Auxiliary regarding Poppy Sale
 - The Clerk read the request to sell poppies in the Village during the month of May 2018.
Motion by Trustee Le Blanc to approve this request; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED

IX. REPORTS:

a. MAYOR:

- 1) Mayoral Appointments:
A list was provided to Board Members and read by Mayor Batha
Trustee Arno made a motion to accept the Mayoral Appointments as stated;
Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED
- 2) Mayoral Commission Appointments:
A list of Commission Appointments was provided to the Board and read by Mayor Batha
- 3) Rules of Procedure for Public Meetings:
Mayor Batha summarized the revisions:
 - Addition: Public Comment at the beginning of the meeting
 - Eliminate Executive Session Section on the Agenda: Executive Sessions will appear under the Trustee who commissions the department which Executive Session is called.
- 4) Schedule of Meetings:
Motion by Trustee Menard to approve the 2018-2019 Schedule of Village Board Meetings: Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED
- 5) Resolution 2018-07: Mileage Reimbursement
Motion by Trustee Menard to approve the Mileage Reimbursement; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED
- 6) Resolution 2018-06: Resolution with Proxy for the MEUA Conference on April 11 and 12, 2018.
 - Motion by Trustee Menard to approve; Seconded by Trustee Dart: 5 AYE, 0 NAY
- 7) Shared Services:
Mayor Batha provided a summary of the March 12, 2018 meeting he attended for the County Shared Services:
 - Village of Rouses Point’s contribution:

- Police Department abolished and Sheriff's Office took over jurisdiction in the Village
 - Patrolling has increased
 - Shared services are mandated by the State
 - Municipalities must reflect some savings from shared services in property taxes
 - Attempting to align property tax in New York State with the rest of the country.
 - Copies of the report Mayor Batha referred to is available from the Village Clerk
- 8) Resolution 2018-08: Service Recognition of Dennis Roberts
 Mayor Batha read the Resolution recognizing Dennis Roberts' 35 years of service to the Fire Department
- Motion by Trustee Arno to approve the Resolution; Seconded by Trustee Menard; ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustee Arno – AYE; Trustee Dart – AYE; Trustee Menard – AYE; Trustee Le Blanc – AYE; Mayor Batha – AYE. AYE CARRIED
- 9) Resolution 2018-09: Service Recognition of Kevin Chagnon
 Mayor Batha read the Resolution recognizing Kevin Chagnon's 30 years of service to the Fire Department
- Motion by Trustee Menard to approve the Resolution; Seconded by Trustee Arno; ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustee Arno – AYE; Trustee Dart – AYE; Trustee Menard – AYE; Trustee Le Blanc – AYE; Mayor Batha – AYE. AYE CARRIED
- 10) Resolution 2018-10: Police Equipment Capital Reserve Closeout
 Treasurer Arsene Letourneau provided an explanation: The Police Department had a capital reserve account for equipment. There is no longer a Police Department, therefore this resolution is to authorize the transfer of funds to another capital reserve account.
- Motion by Trustee Dart to approve; Seconded by Trustee Arno: ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustee Arno – AYE; Trustee Dart – AYE; Trustee Menard – AYE; Trustee Le Blanc – AYE; Mayor Batha – AYE. AYE CARRIED
- 11) Public Hearing to be set for the 2018-2019 Tentative Budget at the April 16, 2018.
 Motion by Trustee Menard to authorize the Clerk to advertise; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

b. TRUSTEE ARNO:

- 1) Water Plant Update:
- Auto-dialer has been delivered and partially wired
 - Waiting for the company where purchased to wire the remainder
 - Chief Water Plant Operator Bryon Gelineault was present to provide an additional update to the Board on the water plant rehab project
 - Delivery of the skid units will be here approximately the 2nd week in April

c. TRUSTEE DART:

- 1) Training request from the Civic Center:
 - Fall Protection Training offered at the North Country Chamber in Plattsburgh.
 - Trustee Dart recommends this training for the Civic Center employees because they walk on ice and will be climbing ladders when painting the building
 - Safety Committee Training offered at the North Country Chamber in Plattsburgh. This training is for Safety Committee members.
 - Motion by Trustee Dart to authorize Civic Center Personnel to attend the Fall Protection training and to authorize personnel to be determined to attend the Safety Committee Training; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE
CARRIED
- 2) Trustee Dart also congratulated Mayor Batha and Trustee Le Blanc on the Election.

d. TRUSTEE MENARD:

Nothing to report

e. TRUSTEE LE BLANC:

Nothing to report

f. OTHER REPORTS:

CLERK:

Nothing to report

ADMINISTRATOR:

- 1) Update on Negotiations: Union negotiations are almost complete
- 2) Policies: The Administrator and Clerk are working on updating policies

TREASURER:

- 1) Each Board member received a copy of the latest audit report
- 2) Budget preparations are proceeding

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR:

- 1) PWS Brian Pelkey asked for feedback regarding the two new LED lights (white lights, more efficient) that are being tried for a 30-day trial. It is the consensus of the Board to use the new LED lights when replacing the old ones.
- 2) PWS Brian Pelkey acknowledged the damage that the plows did to resident's lawns over the winter. The public works crew is in the process of repairing the damage.
- 3) Spring Clean Up is generally the week before Mother's Day. (May 7-11)
A Press Release will be issued.

RECREATION FACILITY MANAGER:

Manager Jessica Shields reported the following:

- Indoor and outdoor projects are being worked on.
- Safety hazard are being fixed
- Baseball field maintenance is underway with Recreation Leader

- Outdoor equipment (mowers) are ready
- Working with PWS on replacing sheet metal

CHIEF WATER PLANT OPERATOR:

- Reiterated information regarding the auto-dialer mounting and start up.
- Chlorine Skid Units – should arrive the 2nd week of April.
 - 1 – 2 days to hook up the plumbing connections
 - Chief WTP Gelineault explained the process of filling the skid units and where they are located

CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

- 1) Information to the Board: Received a call from Pomerleau Real Estate (owners of the Dollar General Building) inquiring on procedure &/or permits to do a “face lift” on the building. (painting, wrap pillars, etc).
 - Mayor Batha asked that the Planning Board be kept apprised
- 2) CEO Sterling will be sending out letters &/or a press release to residents concerning property maintenance requirements relating to the Village Code.

X. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Jeff Mossey:

- 1) Inquiring if the Board has plans on how to attract new businesses to Rouses Point; specifically the downtown.
- 2) What is the Board doing about businesses leaving Rouses Point?

Mayor Batha and Trustee Dart commented that the Board is working on ways to attract businesses emphasizing low tax rates and utilities.

There are 3 new businesses opening in Rouses Point:

- Art gallery
- Pizza shop
- Flower shop

The Board thanked Mr. Mossey for his comments.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Dart to adjourn at 7:42PM; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE
CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,



Donna J. Boumil
Village Clerk