

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at Halstead Hall commencing at 7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** George A. Rivers, Mayor  
Jean L. Birtz, Trustee  
Dennis Roberts, Trustee  
Francis J. Baker, Trustee

**ALSO PRESENT:** Arsene Letourneau, Treasurer

**ABSENT:** Brian Jefferson, Birtz, Trustee  
Carol Hanfield, Village Clerk

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Tracy Graves, Deputy Village Clerk

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

Mayor Rivers called the meeting to order and began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Jason Andrews announced his presence to the Board and offered to answer any questions regarding his request to use the Civic Center for a July Arts project.

**MINUTES OF MEETINGS:**

Trustee Birtz made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of January 4, 2010, Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE CARRIED

**BILLS: VOUCHERS # 13422-13488 Total - \$442,282.68**

The Treasurer stated that there were two (2) additions to the bills –New York State Electric & Gas \$37,936.09; FIA Card Services \$70.59; Trustee Birtz made a motion to pay the bills as amended; Seconded by Trustee Roberts; AYE CARRIED

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Deputy Clerk read a letter from Montgomery Hose, Hook & Ladder Co., informing the Board that Sebastian Barie of 83 Maple Street has been approved to the Fire Department for a probationary period of six months pending Board approval. Trustee Birtz made a motion to appoint Sebastian Barie a new member; Seconded by Trustee Roberts; AYE CARRIED

The Deputy Clerk read a letter from Donna Boumil, Library Director to Mayor Rivers and the Board thanking them for their support in 2009. She outlined all the many services that the library provided last year such as: story hours, outreach services, computer and internet access, WiFi, conference and meeting room space. She also spoke of the many projects in the works for the year ahead and is looking forward to 2010.

The Deputy Clerk also read a letter from the Clinton County Health Department addressed to Mayor Rivers in response to an inquiry of reducing the hours of the water plant staff operation. It was a two page letter that will be filed at the office for all to read any time they request. In brief, their initial reaction was that this is not a good idea and they feel “If it isn’t broke AND it’s operating well, don’t fix it”.

They stated “More specifically, as we have previously reported in our annual inspection reports to the Village, not only has your water plant been exceptionally well operated by your staff over the last decade, the efforts expended in 2009 have finally resulted in maximizing plant operation to be compliant with Federal, State and County regulations.” Mayor Rivers summarized the remainder of this letter to explain that it would be a great expense to automate the chlorine system if the Village considered shutting down a shift. He went on to explain there were far too many dangers involved in changing our current program.

## **REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND BOARD:**

### **MAYOR GEORGE A. RIVERS:**

Mayor Rivers announced that he and Trustee Roberts would like to attend the 2010 Conference of Mayors Legislative Meeting. Trustee Baker made a motion to authorize Mayor Rivers and Trustee Roberts to attend the Conference of Mayors; Seconded by Trustee Birtz; AYE CARRIED

Mayor Rivers announced his choice to appoint John Cooper as Chairperson of the Planning Board and Thomas Batha as Vice Chairperson of the Planning Board. A motion to accept John Cooper as Chairperson and Thomas Batha as Vice Chairperson of the Planning Board was made by Trustee Roberts; Seconded by Trustee Birtz; AYE

Mayor Rivers discussed the fact that in light of the recent fire at the Dannemora Town Garage we should consider installing a Fire Alarm System at the Public Works Building. In our case we would not only be losing highway equipment, but there would be a large loss of electrical inventory. Thus he has people coming in next week to give us quotes.

### **TRUSTEE JEFFERSON**

Absent

### **TRUSTEE BIRTZ:**

Trustee Birtz took the opportunity to remind everyone of the great workshop that the Dodge Memorial Library is offering each week on Wednesday. It is a Job Search Workshop to assist people in their pursuit of employment.

### **TRUSTEE BAKER:**

Trustee Baker proposed that the Board settle on a fee schedule for use of the Civic Center. He felt that \$500 per day is fair. (Jason Andrews voiced his opinion that maybe there should be a non-profit rate. Discussion followed as he summarized what his project would involve, what he is offering to bring to the Village and how these are free workshops for kids.) Trustee Birtz made a Motion to charge a daily fee of \$500 for the Civic Center, (and leave it open to *consider* a non-profit fee before the next meeting), Seconded by Trustee Baker, AYE CARRIED

### **TRUSTEE ROBERTS:**

Trustee Roberts made a motion to allow the Village Clerk to post a Legal Notice requesting bids for “Cleaning and Internal Condition Assessment of the Village Sewer Lines.” Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Roberts made a motion to authorize Bryon Gelineault and Eugene Leclair to attend a training seminar in Plattsburgh on March 10, 2010. Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE  
CARRIED

Trustee Roberts reported that Akrimax will be donating various office supplies and equipment to the Rouses Point Fire Department. They will be storing it at the sewer plant at this time and will share it with non-profit organizations as they need it. Any equipment left over may be auctioned off in a fundraising effort during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities.

**OTHER REPORTS:**

**TREASURER:**

Treasurer Letourneau reported that the closing of the Serial Bond for the Civic Center is going to be on Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010. He has attained a 5 year serial bond with a rate of 4.25.

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:**

No one chose to address the Board

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Trustee Baker made a motion to adjourn at 7:29; Seconded by Trustee Roberts; AYE  
CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Graves  
Deputy Village Clerk