

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on December 16, 2019 at Halstead Hall, Civic Center, 39 Lake Street scheduled to commence at 7:00 PM.

PRESENT: Thomas D. Batha, Mayor
Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee
Thomas M. Dart, Trustee
Dale Menard, Trustee
Jamie Gadway, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT: Arsene Letourneau, Treasurer
John Cooper, Code Enforcement Officer
Jason Juneau, Chief Line worker

RECORDING SECRETARY: Donna J. Boumil, Village Clerk/Administrator

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

REGULAR SESSION:

I. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Trustee Arno made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 2, 2019 meeting; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED

II. BILLS: **CHECK #** **25997-26056** **\$209,531.29**

Treasurer Arsene Letourneau provided an addendum to the bills

Motion by Trustee Menard to accept and pay the bills with the addendum; Seconded by Trustee Gadway; Discussion: Trustee Arno inquired about the bill to Elevate 518 for the PLM Study. Mayor Batha explained that this is a budgeted item. AYE CARRIED

III. CORRESPONDENCE:

No correspondence

IV. PUBLIC HEARING:

Barton & Loguidice provided a report to the Board and public regarding the water plant feasibility study. Present from Barton & Loguidice were Don Fletcher, Senior Vice President and Jason Ballard, Senior Managing Engineer.

Jason Ballard gave a presentation summarizing the Water Plant Feasibility Study.

- water source
- filtration method
- water plant site
- additional funding

Water source –

Lake Champlain (existing source) or connection to Town of Champlain

Filtration Method

- Membrane Filtration
- Continuous Backwash Upflow Filtration (sand filter system)
- Package Treatment Plant (modular system)

Site

- Existing WTP site
- Adjacent to the Water Storage Tower
- Other Village properties
- Connection to the Town of Champlain

Additional Possible Funding

- NYS EFC (Environmental Facilities Corporation)

- USDA Rural Development
- NYS CFA (Consolidated Funding Application)

The public and Board had an opportunity to pose questions and clarification to Barton & Loguidice.

V. REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:

a. MAYOR THOMAS D. BATHA:

- 1) Discussion and decision on Water Plant Feasibility Study:
Mayor Batha made a motion to select Lake Champlain as the water source, membrane filtration system as type of system and the property adjacent to the current water tower as the site; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED
- 2) Trustee Menard made a motion to authorize Mayor Batha to obtain information for Board approval for the acquisition of land, if needed, for a new water plant; Seconded by Trustee Gadway; AYE CARRIED
- 3) Trustee Dart made a motion to authorize the Clerk to advertise for an engineering firm, if needed; Seconded by Trustee Menard; Discussion: the Clerk and Mayor have a meeting with the Village Attorney on Wednesday to discuss the RFP and the process to bid for an engineering firm. AYE CARRIED
- 4) Motion by Trustee Arno to approve the budget modification; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED
- 5) Resolution 2019-32: 2020 Village Election Date
Motion by Trustee Menard to approve the Resolution: Seconded by Trustee Arno; ROLL CALL VOTE
AYE CARRIED
- 6) Mayor Batha requested an Executive Session to discuss the employee history of a particular employee; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED

b. TRUSTEE BENJAMIN J. ARNO:

- 1) Downtown Businesses: Trustee Arno announced that there will be a meeting for downtown business on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 from 4-6PM at the American Legion
- 2) Trustee Arno inquired as to painting or painting a mural on transformer boxes. Chief Line Worker Jason Juneau stated that the transformer boxes cannot be painted because they have stickers on them and they have to be a designated color

c. TRUSTEE THOMAS M. DART:

- 1) Executive Session: Trustee Dart requests an Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular employee (s); Seconded by Trustee Gadway; AYE CARRIED

d. TRUSTEE DALE M. MENARD:

Nothing to report

e. TRUSTEE JAMIE L. GADWAY:

- 1) Trustee Gadway informed everyone that the North Country Skating Club is having a Holiday Show at 6pm on Friday, December 20th. The admission fee is \$5.00

VI. OTHER REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATOR:

TREASURER:

Treasurer Arsene Letourneau stated that the water rates are currently \$49/mo. Also, he mentioned that the

School District has a vote for the capital project on December 3rd from 11am – 8pm

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

John Cooper reported that he has been issuing permits and has had inquiries for the spring.

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

- Becky Reid, Rose Ave, inquired about a MOU

Mrs. Reid also inquired about the Tree Program. Village Administrator has been in contact with the New York Power Authority (NYPA) and is waiting for information.

- Karen Wieirstall, 4th of July Committee, asked the Village Board their opinion for a Holiday house decorating contest. She contacted the Village of Champlain for information on their contest. Karen explained that this would be great for community involvement and there would be prizes of \$100 1st, \$50 2nd, \$25 3rd. She will be in charge of judges. Karen asked that the winners be announced at the January 6th meeting. The Board of Trustees agreed that this is a great way to get the community involved and thanked Karen for everything she is doing

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Trustee Menard to recess for Executive Session at 8:08PM; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Arno to enter into Executive Session at 8:15PM; Seconded by Trustee Menard

Motion to exit Executive Session by Trustee Arno at 8:45PM; Seconded by Trustee Menard

No action taken in Executive Session.

IX. REGULAR SESSION:

Motion by Trustee Arno to enter into Regular Session at 8:45PM; Seconded by Trustee Menard

Motion by Trustee Dart to hire Dale McDonald as a permanent full-time line helper for the electric department effective 12/17/19 with a 6 month Probationary period; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Arno to adjourn at 8:45PM; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,



Donna J. Boumil
Village Clerk/Administrator