

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on July 1, 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  
Jamie L. Gadway, Trustee

**ABSENT:** Dale Menard, Trustee

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Arsene F. Letourneau, Treasurer  
Brian Pelkey, Public Works Supervisor  
Susan Sullivan, Library Director  
John Cooper, Code Enforcement Officer

**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.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

The Public Hearing opened at 7:00PM to hear comments and concerns from the public with relation to the revision of Local Law #2019-01: Abolish the existing Planning and Zoning Boards and to create a Zoning Board of Appeals with the powers and duties of the Planning and Zoning Boards.

Mayor Batha explained that is revision to the law is to streamline procedures and to enable the public to communicate with 1 (one) Board. Additionally, the merger will reduce the cost of training expenses and time to train. Lastly, there has been difficulty recruiting volunteers to serve on the Boards. The merger will enable the Board to have alternate members.

Ron LeBlanc inquired what portion of the Board will have planning expertise.

Mayor Batha responded that the Board will have a combination of Planning and Zoning Board members with alternates.

No other comments.

Public Hearing closed at 7:03PM

**REGULAR SESSION:**

**I. OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:**

Ron LeBlanc inquired if the Mayor received the questions that were delivered to the Village Office.

Mayor Batha acknowledged receipt of the questions. He and Trustee Arno asked that the questions be signed by whomever is submitting them.

Mayor Batha responded to the questions:

1. How much money has the Rec Center lost in operations for the period of your first year of Mayor?

Mayor Batha responded that the last report he had was February 2019. The Village contributed \$15,135 for youth ice programs which was 10,000 less than the previous year. He also stated that Mr. LeBlanc has access to this information as he was a trustee at that time.

2. What are you going to do about vagrants begging villagers for money?

Mayor Batha stated that this is an issue for law enforcement. He encourages residents to contact the Sheriff's Office.

## II. BIDS

1) Pad Mounted Switch

1 bid received from Wesco

PWS Brian Pelkey asked that the bid award be tabled for 2 weeks. He is consulting with the Electrical Engineer.

2) Playground Equipment (Parks and Rec Revitalization Grant)

1 bid received from Bears Playgrounds \$61,607.61

Motion by Trustee Gadway to accept the bid from Bears Playgrounds; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

## MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Trustee Arno made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 17, 2019 meeting; Seconded by Trustee Gadway; AYE CARRIED

**III. BILLS:            CHECK #    25538 – 25570            \$180,503.52**

No additions or deletions.

Treasurer Arsene F. Letourneau informed the Board that there was a check issued for \$4,400 to the Fourth of July Committee for expenses. This was a budgeted item.

Motion by Trustee Arno to approve and pay the bill; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED

## IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

No correspondence

## V. REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:

### a. MAYOR THOMAS D. BATHA:

1) Mayor Batha requests an Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular employee(s); Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

2) Quotes were received for a lawn tractor for the Rec Center for a Kubota:  
\$9677.26 – trade in \$2,250  
\$9677.26 – trade in \$3,000

There are funds in a reserve account for a lawn mower

Trustee Arno made a motion to approve and accept a bid from Dragoon's Farm Equipment for a Kubota Lawn Tractor in the amount of \$9,677.26 - \$3,000 (trade in); Seconded by Trustee Gadway; AYE CARRIED

3) Local Law #2019-01: Merger of Planning and Zoning Boards

Motion by Trustee Gadway to approve and adopt the Local Law #2019-01; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED

**b. TRUSTEE ARNO:**

- 1) Trustee Arno shared concerns from citizens on Smith Street regarding speeding cars.  
The Board will inquire with the Sheriff's Office about borrowing the portable speed sign.
- 2) Downtown clock  
Trustee Arno received quotes for a new clock:  
Electric Time Clock - \$11,000 (cast aluminum)  
Gregoire – US \$2,882 (cast aluminum with 10 year guarantee)

To be discussed at another time

- 3) Trustee Arno thanked Kieran Gilroy for the work he did on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. He asked that a letter be sent to Mr. Gilroy.

**c. TRUSTEE THOMAS M. DART:**

- 1) Trustee Dart mentioned that the Board should seek approval from Civil Service for an Electric Supervisor and advertise aggressively.
- 2) Summer laborers – Trustee Dart inquired as to the status of the laborers for the rec center and public works. Discussion ensued: The board suggested that possible 3 people be hired for laborer positions. Trustee Dart has applications that he will review.
- 3) Trustee Dart inquired as to the status of the bids for the pick up truck for the wastewater treatment Plant. Discussion: The Board determined that bids will go out for 2 different types of pick up (regular cab and double cab; 6' foot box and 8' box, etc.) The Clerk will be provided with the specs. The Board determined that an invitation to bid will be sent to the 3 local dealers who represent 3 makes of truck. Also, the bid will be advertised.

**d. TRUSTEE DALE M. MENARD:**

Absent

**e. TRUSTEE JAMIE L. GADWAY:**

- 1) Trustee Gadway reported on the progress of the construction of the dugout  
The dugout is complete. A letter of thanks will be sent to Junior Moore for the work he did on on this project. The insurance claim will be finalized. There is a deductible of \$2,500.

**VI. OTHER REPORTS:**

**ADMINISTRATOR:**

Nothing to report

**TREASURER:**

Today is the last day to pay taxes. Beginning tomorrow there will be a penalty assessed.

**PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR:**

**1) Updates:**

- PW crew is working on multiple projects
- The PW mechanic is out on medical leave.
- A/C has been fixed at the railroad station
- the fire alarms are continuously going off at the RR Station. Brian Pelkey will be contacting Altech.

Mr. Pelkey was asked by the board what he needs for employees. The department is short staffed. Mr. Pelkey stated that skilled people are needed.

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR:**

Report from Library Director Susan Sullivan

- Farmer's Market – 2 markets so far and going well
- the book sale went well
- July 11 begins the summer program. 30 children are signed up so far.
- electric panel needed for the furnace project

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:**

CEO John Cooper is issuing notice for maintenance of properties.

**VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

No comments from the public

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion by Trustee Arno to recess at 7:34PM; Seconded by Trustee Gadway; AYE CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Arno to enter into executive session at 7:39PM; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED

No action taken in executive session

Motion by Trustee Arno to exit executive session at 8:24PM; Seconded by Trustee Dart

Motion by Trustee Dart to enter into regular session at 8:24PM; Seconded by Trustee Gadway

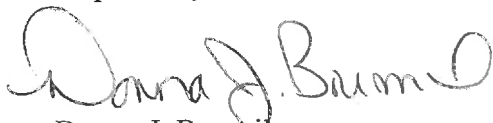
**IX. REGULAR SESSION:**

Trustee Dart made a motion to pay CEO John Cooper \$300 for the time he was at training; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

**X. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Trustee Arno to adjourn at 8:26PM; Seconded by Trustee Gadway; AYE CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,



Donna J. Boumir  
Village Clerk/Administrator