

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Monday, August 17, 2009 at Halstead Hall commencing at 7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** George A. Rivers, Mayor  
Brian B. Jefferson, Trustee  
John L. Cooper, Trustee  
Francis J. Baker, Trustee

**ALSO PRESENT:** Arsene Letourneau, Treasurer

**ABSENT:** Jean L. 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:**

No one chose to address the board.

**MINUTES OF MEETINGS:**

Trustee Cooper made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of August 3, 2009; Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE CARRIED

**BILLS: VOUCHERS # 12813-12878 Total - \$568,774.18**

The Treasurer stated that there were nine (9) additions to the bills –New York Planning Federation \$510.00; Northern Sanitation \$499.92; New York Power Authority \$80,951.23; Nextel \$31.81; FIA Card Services \$253.73; Deborah A. Sabin, ESQ \$1,115.35; New York State Sales Tax \$726.47; Wells Fargo \$237.00; Labarge Agency \$19,760.06; Trustee Baker made a motion to pay the bills as amended; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; AYE CARRIED

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Deputy Clerk read a letter from Geri Favreau addressed to The Village Board regarding Quad money. The State Quad Commission has agreed that the \$13,500 originally granted for the Voyage de Danse Program is still available for a “Legacy Project.” A committee was formed and the consensus is that a bandstand/stage in the Village would be the best use of this money, with the best location being near the Pavilion at the Civic Center. However, this Quad money has to be spent this year and the Village will need to spend the money before we can be reimbursed. Thus, the committee is asking for assurance from the Village that they back this project. Trustee Cooper made a motion to approve the location and spend the money as requested by Geri Favreau; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; AYE CARRIED

The Deputy Clerk read a letter from the Clinton County Office of The Aging inviting any public, government or village officials to join them for an upcoming round of public hearings. These hearings will educate the public about issues affecting seniors such as the high cost of fuel, food, housing and transportation.

The hearings will offer information about programs and services for seniors that will enable us to assist them. There is a hearing coming up in Champlain on Thursday, September 17, 2009 at the American Legion- 127 Elm Street., Champlain, NY (Begins at 10:45, lunch served at 11:30. RSVP 298-4431.) Trustee Cooper is interested in attending and the Clerk will remind him in advance.

The Deputy Clerk read a note from Bruce West of Champlain to Mayor Rivers and the Village Board, thanking them for their participation in the Community Day held on August 8, 2009.

The Deputy Clerk read a letter from Andy Ewart, Dodge Memorial Library notifying the Board that Jim Gero has resigned from his janitorial/custodial duties at the library. His resignation is effective immediately and as of September 1, 2009, Donna Boumil will assume the cleaning responsibilities. These duties will be separate and apart from her current duties as Library Technician.

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

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

Mayor Rivers asked for a brief discussion regarding the issues surrounding the sewer mains. He stated that we are working with the engineer and the public works department to rectify the situation. Mayor Rivers stated that Dominic Fontana from the DEC was impressed that we “took the bull by the horns and got the engineer on board immediately.” Mr. Fontana asked that we keep him in the loop. Discussion Followed.

Mayor Rivers directed the Board to a letter and copies of a bill for damage to Pauline Bridinsky’s car. Trustee Jefferson felt the rental quote was a bit high in relation to the value of the car. Discussion followed and the consensus is that we do not want to turn the bills in to our insurance company, but rather pay the lower bid from Soup’s Paint & Reconditioning of \$1418.80 and agree to pay for a rental car. The rental car will be paid for the amount of time it takes the garage to repair the car. The Treasurer stated that the Village policy is that the car be fixed and the bill is paid directly to the vendor; A motion to pay the lowest estimate was made by Trustee Jefferson and he also made a motion to authorize a car rental for the period of time it takes to have the car repaired; Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE CARRIED

Mayor Rivers referred to a letter that came in today from the Department of Transportation regarding possible grant money available for traffic lights, signs and pavement markings. The government pays 90% and we pay 10% on certain items and other items are 100% federally funded. A copy has been given to Chief Bingel. An application for traffic lights on the corner of Lake and Montgomery and the corner of 9B and Route 11 will be sent in.

### **TRUSTEE JEFFERSON**

Trustee Jefferson received a proposal for the Library repairs from Don Deso of Champlain. The proposal is for \$4865.00 and includes replacement of roofing slates in various areas where broken, cracked or missing slate pieces appear. (Several companies were contacted and none were interested in doing the slate repairs.) It was decided that Jean Birtz would be the point man to oversee the repairs. Trustee Jefferson made a motion to accept the contract and award the Library Roof Repairs to Donald Deso; Seconded by Trustee Cooper; AYE CARRIED

**TRUSTEE BIRTZ:**

Absent

**TRUSTEE BAKER:**

Trustee Baker made a motion requesting an Executive Session to discuss the Civic Center Bill; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; AYE CARRIED

**TRUSTEE COOPER:**

Trustee Cooper made a motion requesting an Executive Session to discuss Litigation; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Cooper asked permission from the Board to advertise the upcoming position that will be vacated by Bob Sterling's retirement. It was noted that the Village needs an official letter from Bob for our records, thus which will be followed up immediately. Trustee Jefferson asked that we consider putting the ad in the paper for a longer length of time than previously. Trustee Cooper stated that once the job description was drawn up and approved by Civil Service, all would get a copy before the ad goes into the paper. Treasurer Letourneau also suggested posting it on the Village website. A motion was made by Trustee Cooper to post Bob Sterling's position once he has retired; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; AYE CARRIED

**OTHER REPORTS:**

Mayor Rivers received an email today that he shared with the Board as information only. Greta Browne is on the final leg of a historic Climate Walk. She began in New Orleans, LA and will be coming through Rouses Point on Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>. She is doing this walk to draw attention to Climate Change Issues. She has walked approximately 1200 of the 1600 miles she has pledged to do. She expects a number of people to join her as she walks her final miles into Rouses Point on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August. Mayor Rivers felt this deserves some publicity; it has been faxed to Channel 5, Channel 3, Channel 44, The Press Republican and The North Countryman.

**TREASURER:**

Nothing to Report.

**PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR:**

Brian Pelkey- Absent

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:**

No one chose to address the Board

**RECESS:**

Trustee Jefferson made a motion to recess at 7:31 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE CARRIED

**RECONVENE:**

Trustee Jefferson made a motion to reconvene at 7:48; Seconded by Trustee Cooper; AYE CARRIED

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

No action was taken during Executive Session regarding litigation  
Motion was made by Trustee Baker to pay \$50,000 to Lake Placid Foam & Insulation on  
behalf of current bill; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; AYE CARRIED

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Trustee Cooper made a motion to adjourn at 7:54; seconded by Trustee Jefferson; AYE  
CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Graves  
Deputy Village Clerk