

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York, held on July 6, 2009 at Halstead Hall, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: George A. Rivers, Mayor
Brian B. Jefferson, Trustee
Jean L. Birtz, Trustee
John L. Cooper, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Arsene F. Letourneau, Treasurer

ABSENT: Francis J. Baker, Trustee

RECORDING SECRETARY: Carol A. Hanfield, 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:

County Legislator, Harry McManus stated that it was an honor to be a part of the parade yesterday and to be part of the process. All the comments from just about everybody is that it was probably one of the best ones of all times. Efforts were made in different areas that made a difference.

He then addressed the Board with the following issues: The County did not receive the grant for the bike path, they received partial funding for an overall county recreation plan which they are going to try and include the bike path. The old railroad bed is a perfect spot – it would connect Rouses Point to Champlain; He spoke with Al Rascoe of the Clinton County Highway and the Village should be saving around \$10,000 + by having the County do the paving; He gave an overview of the County Airport and some of the issues like parking. The Airport has 26 tenants and they have received \$800,000 in revenue. It is quite impressive; He offered the Board a tour of the Airport. As far as the sales tax , we would probably be on the safe side to use the figures that were given. We are probably better insulated than most counties in the State of New York because of the Canadian business coming in. He asked the Treasurer about the tax computer change. The Treasurer explained some of the changes that he suggested. They have opened an office and made it available for Betty Little at the County. He addressed the celebration of the Quadri-centennial and the mosaic which was done by students and will be unveiled at the end of July. He addressed the actions taken by the Clinton County Legislature to assist Volunteer Firefighter and Ambulance Workers regarding the amount to be reduced on their property taxes and how it will affect the Village. Legislator McManus will attempt to attend a board meeting approximately every 3 months.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS:

Trustee Jefferson made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of June 15, 2009 as presented; Seconded by Trustee Birtz; AYE CARRIED

BILLS:

The Treasurer stated that there was one addition to Montgomery Hose, Hook & Ladder in the amount of \$1944 for bands for the July 4th. Trustee Jefferson moved to accept the bills as amended; Seconded by Trustee Birtz; AYE CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Clerk read a letter from Dodge Memorial Library to the Board inviting them to attend the ‘2009 Be Creative and Express Yourself Your Library – Summer Reading Program Kickoff’ on July 7, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. The guest is “Speedy” Arnold Storyteller, singer and illustrator and is free of charge.

The Clerk read a letter from R. Carey Babyak, P.E. from NYSDOT thanking the Board for their support for the Northern Tier Expressway.

The Clerk read a letter received Certified Mail from Konstantine Raptis of Angelo’s Pizza & Grill, Inc. notifying the Clerk of his intent to renew his Liquor License for Angelo’s Pizza & Grill, Inc.

The Clerk read a letter from Montgomery Hose, Hook & Ladder Co., No. 1, Inc. informing the Board of a new member Sierra Tatro from Rouses Point who was approved to the Company for a probationary period of six months. Trustee Jefferson made a motion to approve Sierra Tatro for a probationary period of six months; Seconded by Trustee Cooper; AYE CARRIED

The Clerk read a Notice to all Clinton County Residents, businesses, commercial haulers and organizations regarding the Notice of Electronics Disposal Ban that effective August 1, 2009 disposal of electronic waste shall be prohibited from being disposed of in the Clinton County Landfill. Drop off locations for electronic waste items will be at the Clinton County Landfill in Morrisonville and the Mooers Transfer Station in Mooers.

The Clerk read a request from Theresa Davison of Mooers to use the Civic Center and grounds for the NCCS Class Reunion of 1979 and a waiver of the Open Container Law for this event on August 8, 2009. The Board decided that a \$50 fee deposit will be required to be returned after approval by Mike O’Brian that everything is in order. Trustee Jefferson made a motion to approve the use of the Civic Center and grounds and the waiver of the Open Container Law for this event; Seconded by Trustee Cooper; AYE CARRIED.

MAYOR GEORGE A. RIVERS:

Mayor Rivers asked the Board if they had reviewed the agreement for the Engineer. Trustee Jefferson made a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign the agreement with Doug Ferris, the Village Engineer; Seconded by Trustee Cooper; AYE CARRIED (SEE ATTACHED)

Mayor Rivers stated that we have received request for information on the 1997 police car but no one has bid on it. Discussion followed. The Board asked that the information on the car be placed on the website and posted in the Village Office and that the minimum bid of \$2,000 be lifted.

Mayor Rivers addressed the request from JNS to sign the Amendment to the Agreement that was executed on December 11th, 2008. This Agreement specifically contemplated the operation of an unmanned communications tower with related facilities and equipment on the Premises. The Amendment will allow for a permanent unmanned communications facility with related facilities and equipment on the "Village Water Tank". Trustee Cooper made a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign this Amendment; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; AYE CARRIED (SEE ATTACHED)

Mayor Rivers made a motion requesting an Executive Session to discuss a Possible Litigation; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

Mayor Rivers announced that a workshop will be held at Potsdam State on October 13, 2009 on 'Managing Local Government' and stated that he had attended it a few years back and found it to be very informative. The Board will decide who will attend at a later date.

Mayor Rivers made a motion to authorize the Clerk to publish a Legal Notice for a Public Hearing on Local Law #3 of the Year 2009 – Amending Chapter 60 'Dogs'; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; AYE CARRIED

Mayor Rivers personally expressed sincere thanks to Geri Favreau and her crew for the 4th of July celebration. They worked very hard putting the event together and they did a great job. Trustee Birtz also complimented on the great job that was done.

TRUSTEE JEFFERSON:

Trustee Jefferson gave an update on the Rouses Point Water System Compliance Notice.

Trustee Jefferson stated that he received a letter from Dennis Roberts, Montgomery Hose, Hook & Ladder thanking everyone for their patronage on the purchase of the ladder truck, pick up, rescue boat and 25% of the cost of the ambulance was accomplished with funds provided by the patronage of the various fund raising activities and the total of these purchases was \$150,000 of money donated by people of the Village and others.

TRUSTEE BIRTZ:

Trustee Birtz made a motion requesting an Executive Session to discuss Personnel Issues; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

Trustee Birtz made a motion requesting an Executive Session to discuss Civic Center Personnel; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

Trustee Birtz stated that he and Trustee Cooper spoke to Donald Deso regarding the leaks at the Library roof. He stated that there is about 200 tiles that are loose causing problems and that they could be temporarily fixed. The whole roof is going to have to be replaced within the next year or two. Discussion followed. Trustee Birtz will look into getting another two written quotes.

Trustee Birtz stated that he had spoke with Matt Fredette who is running the library program and he stated that he is very impressed with the work that is being done by our new Library Technician, Donna Boumil.

Trustee Birtz stated that he was not able to touch base with Mike O'Brian but that he spoke to the guy working on the ceiling and they are having a problem with the scoreboard. He would like to have it removed so that it doesn't get ruined. Discussion followed.

Trustee Birtz stated that he personally saw Geri, Jan Letourneau, Kelly Penfield and Janet McFedrick regarding the whole parade security. They did a fantastic job. They put all the numbered stakes and having the people line up. It went extremely well. They did an excellent job. Hats off to the ladies for doing such a great job!

TRUSTEE BAKER:

Absent

TRUSTEE COOPER:

Trustee Cooper gave an update on the meeting that was held with Andree LaBarge, our insurance agent, regarding the renewal of our insurance. Trustee Birtz stated that for the best interest of the Village, a consultant should be hired to do up a package to be sent out to various insurance companies by January of next year. Discussion followed.

OTHER REPORTS:

The Clerk congratulated Geri Favreau for the excellent job and she should be commended for what she did.

Treasurer Letourneau agreed with what the Clerk said and asked that the Board consider looking into giving her some kind of a stipend. If the Village wants to continue to have this celebration then they should look into having an individual responsible for doing these events. Discussion followed.

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:

No one addressed the Board.

RECESS:

Trustee Birtz moved to recess the meeting at 7:55 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Cooper; AYE CARRIED

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No action was taken during Executive Session regarding a Possible Litigation
No action was taken during Executive Session regarding Personnel Issues
No action was taken during Executive Session regarding a Contract Negotiation
No action was taken during Executive Session regarding Civic Center Personnel

RECONVENE:

Trustee Jefferson moved to reconvene at 8:43 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Birtz. AYE CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Rivers made a motion to adjourn at 8:43 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Cooper. AYE CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol A. Hanfield
Village Clerk