

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Monday, September 21, 2009 at Halstead Hall commencing at 7:00 P.M.

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Becky Deso, Deputy Treasurer  
Brian Pelkey, Public Works Supervisor

**ABSENT:** Carol Hanfield, Village Clerk  
Arsene Letourneau, Village Treasurer  
Brian Jefferson, Trustee

**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:**

Geri Favreau chose to address the Board on behalf of the Historical Society and the Quad Committee in regards to the Fort Montgomery Days. She thanked everyone publicly including the community, the Village Board, and the volunteers for the wonderful support and assistance in preparing for the event. She stated it was extremely successful and the turnout exceeded their expectations with more than two-thousand people attending. She stated the committee and volunteers worked very hard to put a nice program together and they have received lots of positive feedback. She felt it was not only nice exposure for the Fort but also for the Village as well.

Geri then addressed the Board with a few questions on behalf of the Planning Board which met earlier in the evening:

1). Were the guidelines for the historical downtown ever adopted by the Village Board?

Mayor Rivers was unsure and suggested that Geri check with Melissa Penfield or Carol for that answer as that discussion took place many years ago.

2). Was the Village going to complete The Codes Project and is there some kind of time line for it?

Trustee Birtz stated that we are going to complete the project and that he believed the timeline requires it to be done at the end of 2009. He stated they would have to meet a few more times and then a public hearing would be scheduled with Melissa joining in towards the end to assist. He believes that in October they should start meeting again. Geri mentioned that maybe it would be beneficial for the Planning Board to make a list of questions that they would like addressed.

3). At the meeting it was also brought up that the Village Comprehensive Plan hadn't been done since 1983, it should be done every 5 years. Could we get it updated?

The Board will get back to Geri regarding this request.

**MINUTES OF MEETINGS:**

Trustee Birtz made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of September 8, 2009; Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE CARRIED

**BILLS: VOUCHERS # 12951-13015 Total - \$497,536.75**

The Deputy Treasurer stated that there were three (3) additions to the bills –Flying Cow Signs \$880.00; Melissa McManus \$1620.00; Riley Outdoor Décor \$1840.00 Trustee Birtz made a motion to pay the bills as amended; Seconded by Trustee Cooper; AYE CARRIED

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

No Correspondence.

**REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND BOARD:**

**MAYOR GEORGE A. RIVERS:**

Mayor Rivers gave a short report on his trip to the Annual MEUA Meeting. Mayor Rivers stated the meeting went well and there was much discussion in regard to the Public Services Commission and how we can get out from underneath them. Mayor Rivers was appointed Chairman of the Nominating Committee for next year.

Mayor Rivers and Melissa Penfield met on September 10, 2009 with Nancy Catalina and another gentleman from NYS Department of Transportation and the Engineering Firm that was picked. A preliminary contract has been issued for the engineering firm and they are going to come back with a contract in the next few weeks. That contract has to go back to the Department of Transportation for approval. Nancy did say that it would be a matter of days now not weeks. Mayor Rivers said that the Engineering Firm would start as soon as we signed a contract with them. He felt that everything seemed to be going along well.

Mayor Rivers announced the upcoming NYMPA meeting coming up on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at the Embassy Suites Hotel East Syracuse, NY. Trustee Cooper will check his schedule and let Tracy know asap if he will attend so that she can make reservations. Trustee Birtz made a motion to authorize Trustee Cooper to travel and attend NYMPA Semi Annual Meeting on October 22, 2009; Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE CARRIED

**TRUSTEE JEFFERSON**

Absent

**TRUSTEE COOPER:**

In Trustee Jefferson's absence Trustee Cooper spoke about the recent Water Report. There were a few minor items that needed attention, but overall they received a very good report.

**TRUSTEE BIRTZ:**

Trustee Birtz originally wanted to discuss the issue of Security Cameras but he felt it would be best to do this at a future date with all of the parties who are interested in having cameras installed. A discussion followed and it was decided that department heads should offer feedback at their Monday morning meeting with the Mayor and then the trustees and Mayor can meet thereafter. A memo will be sent to all department heads informing them to be present at the next meeting for this purpose.

Trustee Birtz did speak about having met with Donna Boumil regarding monies available for the Library. He has encouraged her to apply for any and all grants that they might be eligible for. He stated Donna will be taking an online course for grant writing also. Trustee Birtz and Mayor Rivers commended Donna on a job well done and are pleased that she is partnering with the local schools.

**TRUSTEE BAKER:**

Trustee Baker had an update on the Civic Center project regarding Lake Placid Foam and Insulation. He stated the job is at a finished stage and they seem to be cleaned up. All in attendance had a copy of the bill which is \$20,746.46. He states the finish product looks good. Discussion followed and it was decided that we would pay the bill but withhold 10% of the final payment. Mayor Rivers was unsure how long we could hold that 10%, but he would check with Tom Murnane regarding that question. Trustee Baker made a motion to approve payment to Lake Placid Foam minus 10%; Seconded by Trustee Cooper; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Baker brought up the Resolution to change Civic Center Park Area Hours. Mayor Rivers briefly read the resolution so all in attendance understood the changes. Trustee Baker made a motion to pass the resolution changing Park Hours; Seconded by Trustee Birtz; Roll Call Vote; AYE CARRIED

**OTHER REPORTS:**

**TREASURER:**

Absent

**PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR:**

Trustee Birtz asked Brian Pelkey how things were coming with helping out the Civic Center with their Playground Equipment. Brian stated that this project was in its last stage, with one final day to finish up. He also asked about the roof of the gazebo and Brian reports that this project will be done this Fall or Winter when time permits. Trustee Birtz thanked Brian and the Public Works crew for taking time out of their busy schedule to assist.

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:**

Geri Favreau asked for clarification on the Resolution for the Park Hours change. She wanted to know if this meant closing was at 9:00 p.m. Mayor Rivers stated “no”. It is closing a half-hour before dusk. She was concerned whether this would effect the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration, she was told this should not be a concern.

Geri pointed out that in regard to the Security Issues, they are working on erecting a bandstand/stage area and so they are also concerned about vandalism.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

No executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Trustee Birtz made a motion to adjourn at 7:29 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Baker;

AYE CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Graves  
Deputy Village Clerk