

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 at Halstead Hall commencing at 7:00 P.M.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Arsene F. Letourneau, Treasurer
Brian S. Pelkey, PWS

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:

No one chose to address the Board.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS:

Trustee Jefferson made a motion to accept the minutes of the special meeting of August 11, 2009 and the regular meeting of August 17, 2009 as presented; Seconded by Trustee Birtz; AYE CARRIED

BILLS:

Treasurer Letourneau stated that there was one addition to Pauline Brindisi for damages to her vehicle in the amount of \$1,418.80. Trustee Jefferson made a motion to pay the bills as amended; Seconded by Trustee Cooper; AYE CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Clerk read a letter from Montgomery Hook, Hose & Ladder Co. No. 1, Inc. informing the Board of two new members - Megan Boyer and Sandra Sue Martin. Trustee Jefferson made a motion to approve the two new members for a probationary period of six months; Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE CARRIED

The Clerk read a letter from Robert Sterling of his formal notification of his retirement effective August 28th, 2009. Trustee Jefferson made a motion accepting this notice of retirement with deep regrets; Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE CARRIED

The Clerk read a letter from Bill Brunelle thanking the Village of Rouses Point and it's Public Work Crew Brian, Dan, Jason & Eric for averting a possible serious situation with a split tree in front of his house on White Avenue.

The Clerk read a request from Norman Lague, Patrol Agent In Charge, U.S. Border Patrol to use the grounds at the Civic Center for a summer station party on September 12, 2009 from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. He also requested a waiver of the open container law for this event. Trustee Birtz made a motion to approve the request for use of the grounds at the Civic Center and a waiver of the open container law for this party; Seconded by Trustee Cooper; AYE CARRIED

The Clerk read a letter from Bonnie J. Page, Village Clerk-Treasurer of Village of Speculator, stating that on behalf of the officers and membership of the New York State Society of Municipal Finance Officers it is her pleasure to inform Arsene Letourneau that he has been awarded recertification as a Credentialed Municipal Finance Officer. The Board congratulated Arsene.

The Clerk read a letter from Andrew M. Cuomo, Attorney General, thanking the Board for facilitating his office's recent Project Sunlight presentation at the Civic Center given by Asst. Attorney General Glen Michaels.

The Clerk read a letter from State of New York Department of Public Service letting everyone know that there is assistance available to help people stay connected and have access to vital telephone service. "Lifeline" and "Link-up" are two assistance programs that provide discounts for low-income consumers on basic residential telephone service. The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners has adopted the first full week after Labor Day as National Lifeline Telephone Discount Awareness Week. Forms will be available at the Village Office.

The Clerk read a letter from Business Development Corporation for a Greater Massena notifying the Village that there has been acceleration in the efforts to construct a four lane interstate highway (I-98) across the North Country. Copies of a question and answer document are available at the Village Office for the public for anyone interested in this four way highway.

MAYOR GEORGE A. RIVERS:

Mayor Rivers reported that the local law that was recently passed on – Dangerous Dogs needs to be amended again because of the problems that arose from the wording that was in the law. Trustee Cooper made a motion to authorize the clerk to publish a Legal Notice for a Public Hearing on Local Law #4 – Amending Chapter 60, Dogs, of the Village Code of the Village of Rouses Point; Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE CARRIED

Mayor Rivers made a motion to appoint Tom Batha as the new Planning Board Member; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; AYE CARRIED

Mayor Rivers requested an Executive Session to discuss a Contract Negotiation;
Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

Mayor Rivers presented a resolution and asked the Clerk to read it. This resolution is to seek advance priority projects identified in the Downtown and Waterfront Revitalization Strategy and Action Plan and made a motion to approve this resolution; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes (SEE ATTACHED)

Mayor Rivers expressed concern about the misuse of the Village compost pile. He stated that he confronted an individual last week from Champlain who was using the compost pile to dump his material. He would like to propose to fence it in entirely and have it open from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on work days or go out to bid to buy a decent camera system to see who is coming in and out. Trustee Birtz expressed his concerns about installing cameras. Discussion followed. Trustee Jefferson will look into the cost of camera systems for the various locations in the Village.

TRUSTEE JEFFERSON

Trustee Jefferson made a motion requesting that Bryon Gelineault and Eugene LeClair attend the training seminar in Plattsburgh on 10/20/09 on 'Pump Design and Applications'; Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Jefferson made a motion to request and Executive Session to discuss a Contract Negotiation; Seconded by Trustee Birtz; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

Trustee Jefferson stated that the IEEP Annual Meeting will be held on October 1st at the Embassy Suites in East Syracuse. Trustee Cooper, Mayor Rivers and Trustee Jefferson stated that they would like to attend this meeting. Trustee Jefferson made a motion that they be allowed to attend IEEP meeting in Syracuse; Seconded by Trustee Birtz; Aye Carried

Trustee Jefferson stated that the Tour of Fort Montgomery will be held this weekend September 12 – 13. Jim Millard will be there to autograph books and to give tours of the Fort.

TRUSTEE BIRTZ:

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

Trustee Birtz stated that Don Deso recently did repairs to the library roof and took pictures showing that the Library is in of some major repairs. There was 240 pieces of slate replaced. The pictures will be kept to be used in the future.

TRUSTEE BAKER:

Trustee Baker gave an update on the ceiling at the Civic Center. They were to have completed the painting of the ceiling today and expect to have everything cleaned up and be out by the 16th. Mayor Rivers stated that it is starting to look like a skating rink again. It is looking good.

Trustee Baker requested an Executive Session to discuss Civic Center Personnel; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; ROLL CALL VOTE All Aye

TRUSTEE COOPER:

Trustee Cooper had nothing to report.

TREASURER:

Treasurer Letourneau asked about the invoice from Placid Foam in the amount of \$108,000 and asked permission from the Board to release the check from IEEP in the amount of \$70,000 to cover part of this. Trustee Baker made a motion to authorize the release of the \$70,000; Mayor Rivers asked that 10% of the total bill be held. Trustee Jefferson; AYE CARRIED

Treasurer Letourneau stated because of the global economic crisis that the state retirement pension fund has taken a hit down 26%. The retirement bills will be going up in 2011.

Mayor Rivers stated that on August 29th the 65 year old lady Greta Brown who walked Route 11 from Louisiana to Rouses Point arrived and he presented her with a Proclamation. She was very pleased. He also thanked the media for being here for this event.

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:

No one chose to address the Board.

RECESS:

Trustee Jeffrson made a motion to recess at 7:33 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Birtz; AYE CARRIED

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No action was taken during Executive Session regarding a Contract Negotiation
No action was taken during Executive Session regarding a Contract Negotiation
No action was taken during Executive Session regarding a Personnel Issue
No action was taken during Executive Session regarding Civic Center Personnel

RECONVENE:

Trustee Baker made a motion to reconvene at 8:15 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Birtz; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Birtz made a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign the amendment to Melissa McManus's Contract; Seconded by Trustee Jefferson; Aye Carried

Trustee Jefferson made a motion authorizing the Clerk to publish a Legal Notice to go out to bid for Electrical Materials for the substation; Seconded by Trustee Birtz; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Jefferson made a motion to hire Cody Roberts as a Temporary – full time seasonal (40 hours/week) and Cody O'Brian as a Temporary – part time seasonal (25 hours/week) seasonal laborer at the Civic Center for the winter months both at a salary of \$9.26/hour with

no benefits commencing September 21, 2009; Seconded by Trustee Baker; AYE
CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Baker made a motion to adjourn at 8:21 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Birtz;
AYE CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol A. Hanfield
Village Clerk