

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Monday, July 18, 2016 at Halstead Hall commencing at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Daniel H. Letourneau, Mayor
John A. Mott, Deputy Mayor
Arvil J. Moore, Trustee
Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee
Thomas M. Dart, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Jean LaBombard, Administrator
Becky Pelkey, Deputy Treasurer
Brian Pelkey, Public Works Supervisor

RECORDING SECRETARY: Donna J. Boumil, Village Clerk

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Mayor Daniel Letourneau called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No comments at this time

MINUTES OF MEETINGS:

Trustee Moore made a motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 5, 2016; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

BILLS VOUCHER NOS: 15129 – 15174 \$382,387.03

A Motion was made by Trustee Mott to pay the bills; Seconded by Trustee Arno;

Deputy Treasurer Becky Pelkey stated that a check for \$8,200 was issued on 7/13/16 to LaWare's for 50% down for the paving of the Rec Trail.

Deletions: Twinstare - \$986.78

Additions: Business Credit Card \$ 1,038.41

NYPA \$74,536.79

Discussion: Attorney fees: When a citation is issued, the Village has to have representation in court, if needed. Northern Insuring: yearly cost. Manufacturers and Traders: (water bond and sewer bond) yearly fees.

AYE CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

No correspondence

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND BOARD:

MAYOR DANIEL LETOURNEAU:

- 1) 4th of July Parade winners were acknowledged. The winners are listed on the Village Website and published in the newspapers. The Mayor and Board thanked all of the participants, Kieran Gilroy and the American Legion for the great job they did with this years' celebration.
- 2) Mayor Letourneau appointed Charles Roush to the Planning Board for a term of 5 years.
- 3) Discussion of regulations regarding Village water rates stemmed from the July 5th meeting:
 - The water rates are established in Village Code – Local Law through a resolution
 - Resolution – rate is \$46, outside Village double
 - The person's (Mr. Sterling) property discussed at the July 5 meeting has 2 separate parcels. According to the tax bill (on website), the taxable parcel in the Village is a vacant lot. The lot discussed (Mr. Sterling's) is in the Town of Champlain and taxed accordingly
 - In order to provide relief to Mr. Sterling, the local law would have to be changed which would result in a public hearing, advertising, etc.
 - County and an official Tax Maps were distributed to the Board. The Mayor explained the maps. Mr. Sterling's property is in the Town of Champlain. The vacant lot is in the Village and is eligible for residential water services.
 - Lost Revenue: there are 14 Out-of-the-Village payers for water rates for an annual revenue of \$15,456. If the law was amended, the Village would lose \$7,728 annually. Removing/changing one(1) rate would result in revenue of \$1,152.
 - Changing/amending the Law to eliminate Out-of-the-Village rates would result in a significant loss to the Village
 - The rates would have to change for all outside-of-the village rates.
 - Mr. Sterling's bill will remain as Outside-of-the-Village rate because that is where his lot is located

There was no further discussion.

- 4) Benches for the Rec Trail:
 - The Recreation Leader has secured a grant for composite benches for the Rec Trail. They will be placed on a cement pad. This has already been approved and will be at no cost to the Village. If there is any money left over, then possibly equipment for the trail can be purchased.
 - Half of the paving for the Trail was completed today, due to inclement weather.

5) Discussion of the RPFED EMS Situation

- At a critical juncture in operations. There is insufficient number of Critical Care EMT's (Techs) to respond to all ambulance calls in Rouses Point.
 - There are 3 techs (2 are fully employed as techs, 1 has been answering the majority of the calls)
 - We have to insure that when our residents dial 911 someone will respond to them.
- A choice must be made whether or not to contract with a paid ambulance service to supplement our volunteer squad.
- Trustee Moore, Trustee Arno and Fire Chief LeBlanc met to discuss this situation.
 - If a paid ambulance service is determined to be the answer, village taxes will go up.
 - The amount of money to fund a paid service will be determined by December, which will allow of a tax increase in June.
 - Scenarios were provided for Tech coverage
- Discussion was held regarding an EMS Tax. This EMS tax pays for fuel, repairs, insurance and supplies. It does not pay for personnel.
- The Village is looking for a cost effective way to resolve this situation
- The State is requiring more certifications of the Techs. The full spectrum of care has increased, but volunteers have decreased.
- The other option is to dissolve the Rescue Squad. This would require Rouses Point to surrender its' Certificate of Need to the Town of Champlain and to pay whatever tax increase it deemed appropriate to support the service. This is the least palatable to the Village.
- If the Village doesn't respond to this need, the State can step in and determine what the Village will do.

TRUSTEE MOORE:

Nothing to report

TRUSTEE MOTT:

Nothing to report

TRUSTEE ARNO:

Updates:

Boat Launch: water is very low and difficult for boaters to put their boats in. The Village cannot remedy this without obtaining permits from DEC and Army Corp of Engineers. Another option is to obtain a membership at Sportsman Pier and launch their boats from there.
Trash Receptacles: new receptacles located at Welcome Center, Boat Launch and in front of the Myers Building.

Substation: maintenance being performed

Supervisory School: supervisory employees will be attending a basic school in Burlington, VT in September.

TRUSTEE DART:

Rec Trail: Laware's is paving the trail. The Board asked PWS Pelkey to inspect the trail before the Village accepts it.

OTHER REPORTS:

VILLAGE CLERK:

No report

ADMINISTRATOR:

Administrator Jean LaBombard wanted to thank the Altona Correctional Facility again for cleaning and clearing the lake front. The Correctional Facility came to Rouses Point twice.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR:

No report

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Rene Ancil – lives 2 lots up from Clifford Sterling. He pays double the water rate for being outside the Village. He lives by himself. He uses approximately 300-400 gallons a month. Mr. Ancil is asking if a meter can be put on his residence.

James Kirk, Columbus Drive. Has concerns with the grants the Village is receiving at no cost. Will the Village be drawn into other grants they may not want?

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Trustee Dart made a motion for an Executive Session to discuss a confidential matter to the Village; Seconded by Trustee Moore, AYE CARRIED

Trustee Arno made a motion for an Executive Session to discuss Civic Center personnel. Seconded by Trustee Mott; AYE CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Moore to recess at 7:33pm; Seconded by Trustee Mott; AYE CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Moore to enter into Executive Session at 7:35pm; Seconded by Trustee Dart

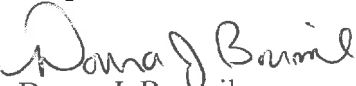
Motion made by Trustee Arno to come out of Executive Session at 8:08pm, Seconded by Trustee Moore.

Motion made by Trustee Arno to enter into Regular Session at 8:09pm; Seconded by Trustee Moore

No Action taken in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Moore at 8:10 pm to adjourn; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna J. Boumil
Village Clerk