

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Tuesday, July 5, 2017 at Halstead Hall, 39 Lake Street, Rouses Point, NY commencing at 7:00 PM

**PRESENT:** Daniel H. Letourneau, Mayor  
Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee  
Thomas M. Dart, Trustee  
Thomas D. Batha, Trustee

**ABSENT:** Dale M. Menard, Trustee

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jean LaBombard, Administrator  
Arsene F. Letourneau, 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 7:00 PM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mayor Letourneau began by explaining the procedure of a public hearing.

The topic of tonight's public hearing is the Dissolution of the Police Department.

Mayor Letourneau provided the following background:

- the state mandated county-wide shared services plan
- meetings held with the County Administrator and Sheriff Favro regarding the police department
- the Municipal Restructuring Fund
- the Police Chief resigned from the Village of Rouses Point and will be starting with the Clinton County Sheriff's Department
- Current coverage at Rouses Point is 8 hours a day 5 days a week
- Coverage with the Sheriff's Department will be 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Mayor Letourneau provided the following information:

- explanation of a permissive referendum and election process
- the part time police officer position has been vacant for 10 months (no candidates)
- police department is funded by the property tax collection

Questions/Comments from the following people:

Patricia Birkett  
Laura Robert  
Cecila Robert  
Angela Robert  
Vickie Douglas  
Steven Douglas  
Shirley Hall

Questions/comments:

- Is the Sheriff adding personnel or keeping the same amount of staff?
- Is the Sheriff's Office providing coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year?
- Was it Chief Bechard's idea to leave?
- Residents should decide whether or not to close police department
- Will the equipment in the police department be sold?
- Will there be added wait time to responses?
- No waiting time with State Police
- Chief Bechard provided coverage for special events

Public Hearing closed at 7:25PM. Resume Regular Session after a 5-minute recess.

**REGULAR SESSION:**

Regular Session began at 7:35PM.

**I. MINUTES:**

Motion by Trustee Batha to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 19, 2017 and Special Meeting of June 20, 2017; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

**II. BILLS:**      Voucher    16807 – 16845                      \$ 189,391.88  
No additions or deletions

Motion by Trustee Arno to approve and pay the bills; Seconded by Trustee Batha; Discussion: new shoes range from \$219 – 300 (shoe allowance of \$300). Taylor Rental for a tiller - \$60 (cheaper to rent than to purchase a new tiller) AYE CARRIED

**III. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 1) Letter from Administrator Jean LaBombard: Letter of contract fulfillment and non-renewal of contract accepted by the Village Board on 6/20/17. The Mayor asked for a motion to authorize the clerk to advertise for the vacancy of administrator. No comments from the Board. Continued discussion at the next meeting.

- 2) Letter from Chief Scott Bechard – Letter of resignation effective July 5, 2017. Motion by Trustee Batha to accept; Seconded by Trustee Arno; Discussion: Chief Bechard has done a great job and should be commended for all his efforts. Chief Bechard has accepted a position with the Clinton County Sheriff's Department. AYE CARRIED
- 3) Letter from the Friends of the Stage thanking Brian Pelkey, the Electric Crew, the Recreation Center Crew and office personnel for their help with the stage and throughout the year.
- 4) Letter from the Dodge Memorial Library: informational purposes. The Dodge Memorial Library Board of Trustees has hired Sheila Arruda, Mary Ann Brown and G. Whitney Curry as library pages on an as needed basis.

#### **IV. REPORTS:**

##### **MAYOR:**

- 1) Update on the Fitness Trail – update provided by Recreation Leader Jan Letourneau
  - \* 5 pieces of equipment have been installed on 7/3/17
  - \* The equipment is labelled with a warning label and instructions.
  - \* Thank you to Adam, Eric, Jeff, Kim and Brian.
  - \* Equipment is for ages 13 and older
  - \* Benches have been installed along the trail
  - \* Signage: a message board will be ordered. This will contain acknowledgements of major donors, announcements of activities and events.
  - \* Awaiting the construction of a kiosk, which will be utilized to record usage
  - \* Leftover grant money will be used for landscaping.
  - \* The installation of 2 Pet Waste Stations is forthcoming
  - \* Fitness in the Park will begin next week (rain or shine)
  - \* Pickle Ball – waiting for final notification of award money. Court painting during the month of July.
  - \* Planning a dedication to highlight the improved the Rec Park
- 2) Resolution 2017-29: Court Equipment Capital Reserve Closeout  
Motion by Trustee Dart to approve; Seconded by Trustee Arno; ROLL CALL VOTE. Trustee Arno – AYE, Trustee Dart – AYE, Trustee Menard – ABSENT, Trustee Batha – AYE. AYE CARRIED
- 3) Resolution 2017-30: Budget Modification  
Motion by Trustee Arno to approve; Seconded by Trustee Dart; ROLL CALL VOTE. Trustee Arno – AYE, Trustee Dart – AYE, Trustee Menard – ABSENT, Trustee Batha – AYE. AYE CARRIED
- 4) Resolution 2017-31: Municipal Board Authorization Resolution  
Motion by Trustee Arno to approve; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED
- 5) Golf cart at Civic Center:
  - \* The Club Car cannot be registered per NYS Motor Vehicle
  - \* Used daily for trash pick-up, watering flowers and transporting weed whacker, etc.
  - \* Discussion regarding the purchase of a vehicle – continue at next meeting
- 6) Beach mowing: property located near the bridge.
  - \* DEC owns and is not going to mow or maintain.
  - \* Village practice to mow and keep up the property
  - \* Discussion: the beach will be brush-hogged 2-3 times during the summer

- 7) Ambulance maintenance/repair:
  - \* The turbo needed replacing - \$5,000 (non-budgeted item)
  - \* Maintenance budget reduced in the 2017-2018 budget (budget modification once bill received)
  - \* Needs tires – budgeted item
- 8) Rouses Point Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Winners:  
List of winners is attached  
Thank you to Kieran Gilroy and volunteers for the excellent work they did with the parade and celebration.

**TRUSTEE ARNO:**

- 1) Pet Waste Stations have been delivered:
  - \* 2 will be installed on the Fitness Trail
  - \* 4 will be installed throughout the Village
- 2) Shrubs at Veterans Park
  - \* Tilled and ready to plant
  - \* Trustee Arno will contact Cook & Gardner for pricing
- 3) D&H Station (Welcome Center) –
  - \* grass area – do away with and black top itDiscussion: if there is extra black top when paving is being done, this area will be black topped.
- 4) Trimming of bottom of trees in the park and gazebo area.

**TRUSTEE DART:**

Nothing to report

**TRUSTEE BATHA:**

Nothing to report

**TRUSTEE MENARD:**

Absent

**OTHER REPORTS:**

**CLERK:**

Nothing to report

**ADMINISTRATOR:**

Nothing to report

**TREASURER:**

In the 5% penalty period for taxes which started 7/2/17.

Treasurer Letourneau read the Notice to Electric Customers New York Clean Energy Standard Charge (copy attached)

**PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR:**

- Update on Water Plant Rehab Project:
  - PWS Pelkey met with the engineers
  - Ordering controls
  - Skid units (approx.. \$15,000 each) – will visit Peru to see the skid units they fabricated

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Jan Letourneau – Recreation Leader: change the signs at the fitness trail pertaining to dogs

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion by Trustee Batha at 8:10PM for Executive Sessions and a short recess:

- 1) Discussion of employment history of a particular person(s)
- 2) Discussion of matters leading to the employment of a particular person
- 3) Discussion of matters leading to the appointment of a particular person(s)

Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Arno to enter into Executive Session at 8:16PM; Seconded by Trustee Batha; AYE CARRIED

No Action Taken in Executive Session.

Motion by Trustee Dart to enter into Regular Session.


**REGULAR SESSION:**

Motion by Trustee Dart to authorize the Clerk to advertise for a Public Works Maintenance Person; Seconded by Trustee Batha; Discussion: deadline for applications 3 weeks from today. AYE CARRIED

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Trustee Dart to adjourn at 8:58PM; Seconded by Trustee Arno. AYE CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Donna J. Boumil  
Village Clerk

