Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Monday, April 20, 2015 at Halstead Hall commencing at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: George A. Rivers, Mayor

Brad M. Martin, Trustee Arvil J. Moore, Trustee

Andrew P. Vincelette, Trustee

John A. Mott, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Arsene F. Letourneau, Treasurer

Brian S. Pelkey, PW Supervisor

Clifford Sterling, CEO

ABSENT: Jean M. LaBombard, Administrator

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.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: For the Passing of Acting Justice - John (Jack) Favreau

## **REGULAR MEETING:**

Mayor Rivers stated that at the last meeting it got out of hand and he read the Rules & Regulations that have been adopted and recently reviewed by the Board at the Organizational Meeting. He stated that these Rules & Regulation will be followed at all meetings.

# PUBLIC HEARING: 2015-2016 TENTATIVE BUDGET

Mayor Rivers opened the Public Hearing and asked for comments from the Public.

John Cooper, 11 Pine Street, asked what had been decided regarding the rates. The Treasurer stated that they decided to raise the water rates to \$44 per month; the sewer rates to \$32.00 and a \$.05 increase in taxes. Discussion followed.

No one else chose to address the Board regarding the Budget so the Mayor asked that the Public Hearing be closed. Trustee Martin made a motion to close the Public Hearing; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; AYE CARRIED

#### MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Trustee Martin made a motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting of March 30, 2015 and regular meeting of April 6, 2015 as presented; Seconded by Trustee Moore; AYE CARRIED

## BILLS: VOUCHER NOS: 20544 - 20605 \$246,588.05

There were no additions or deletions. Trustee Moore made a motion to approve the list of bills as presented; Seconded by Trustee Martin; AYE CARRIED

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Clerk read a letter from Montgomery Hose, Hook & Ladder Company No. 1, Inc. requesting approval of the following: Mike LeBlanc, Fire Chief; Walter Laramie, 1<sup>st</sup> Asst. Chief; and Kevin Chagnon as 2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Chief. Trustee Moore made a motion to approve these Chiefs; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; AYE CARRIED

The Clerk read a letter from Montgomery Hose, Hook & Ladder Company No. 1, Inc. requesting approval to give fire truck rides at the upcoming 125 year celebration being held on Saturday, April 25, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Trustee Martin made a motion to allow the Fire Department to give fire truck rides on Saturday; Seconded by Trustee Moore; AYE CARRIED

#### **MAYOR RIVERS:**

Mayor Rivers announced that the NYMPA 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be held on May 20, 2015 in East Syracuse and asked if anyone wished to attend. He said that he and the Administrator would like to attend this meeting. Trustee Vincelette made a motion to allow two (2) to attend this meeting; Seconded by Trustee Mott; AYE CARRIED

Mayor Rivers presented a Budget Modification Resolution and asked the Treasurer to read it. The Treasurer explained that this resolution needs to be approved before the Budget is approved. Trustee Moore made a motion to approve this Resolution as presented; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes SEE ATTACHED

Mayor Rivers presented the Budget Adoption Resolution and asked the Treasurer to read it. Trustee Moore made a motion to approve the Budget Adoption Resolution; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; ROLL CALL VOTE (4) AYES (1) NAY - Trustee Martin SEE ATTACHED

Mayor Rivers presented a Resolution Amending the Water Rates to be effective June 1<sup>st</sup>. Trustee Martin made a motion to approve this Resolution; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes (SEE ATTACHED)

Mayor Rivers asked for a motion to authorize the Clerk to publish a Legal Notice for a Public Hearing to be held on May 4, 2015 to Amend the Sewer Rates. Trustee Moore

made a motion to allow the clerk to publish this Legal Notice; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

Mayor Rivers presented three (3) Resolutions supporting the County on Crude Oil in NYS passing on the railroad. The 1<sup>st</sup> Resolution is regarding the 'Transporting Crude Oil in New York State.' Trustee Moore made a motion to approve this Resolution; Seconded by Vincelette; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Resolution is for the 'Federal Support to Address Transporting Crude Oil in New York State.' Trustee Vincelette made a motion to approve this Resolution; Seconded by Trustee Moore; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Resolution is for 'Addressing Safe Rail Transport of Crude Oil in New York State'; Trustee Martin made a motion to approve this Resolution; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

Mayor Rivers appointed Michael LeBlanc as Delegate and Walter Laramie as Alternate to the Fire Advisory Board. Trustee Martin made a motion to approve these appointments to the Fire Advisory Board; Seconded by Trustee Moore; AYE CARRIED

Mayor Rivers appointed Walter Laramie as the Delegate and Sebastian Barie as the Alternate to the EMS Advisory Board. Trustee Martin made a motion to approve these appointments; Seconded by Trustee Moore; ALL AYES

Mayor Rivers presented a Resolution congratulating the Fire Department for celebrating 125 Years. Trustee Moore made a motion to approve this Resolution; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes (SEE ATTACHED)

## TRUSTEE MARTIN:

Trustee Martin stated the Code Issue on the agenda is for the house that caught fire on Priscilla Lane and turned it over to Code Enforcement Officer Clifford Sterling for an explanation on where we are. Mr. Sterling stated that this is Randy Guay's home and everybody knows that he is in prison now so that is why this has been dragging on forever. It is in the Village Lawyer's hands and there are two bank liens against the property and he is dealing with the two banks and they are looking forward to press on with foreclosure but at this point and time it has not gone into foreclosure so we can't do anything about it. Once the process moves into foreclosure the Village of Rouses Point can step in and start getting things cleaned up and torn down around the property. He stated that he has a meeting later this week with our lawyer and this issue will be brought up again. The Village Attorney is to contact the two banks again to see where we are on this. The Treasurer asked if it was possible to have a letter of explanation sent to the surrounding residents updating them on what is going on. It was agreed that a letter will be sent to the neighbors explaining the status.

Trustee Martin made a motion requesting an Executive Session to discuss Public Works Personnel; Seconded by Trustee Moore; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

## TRUSTEE MOORE:

Trustee Moore stated that Bryon Gelineault needs to order the Diatomaceous Earth used to filter our water. He received three (3) quotes for 828 bags: Aftek - \$17.39/bag; Slack Chemical - \$18.09/bag; and ManCal Associates Inc. - \$17.95/bag. Trustee Moore made a motion to accept the bid from Aftek in the amount of \$14,401.61; Seconded by Trustee Martin; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Moore stated that he was approached by a couple of the guys from the Public Works/Electric Dept. about coming in for the summer from 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. PWS Pelkey would have to still work the 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. hours in case a call comes in. Discussion followed. Trustee Moore made a motion to approve these hours; PWS Pelkey said that he spoke to the guys today and that it wasn't a big deal there was only one guy that really wanted it. Trustee Moore rescinded his motion.

Trustee Moore announced that the grant is coming out in May for the COPS Hiring Program (CHP). This grant program funds the hiring or rehiring of law enforcement officers. CHP provides 75% of the approved entry-level salaries and fringe benefits of each new hired and/or rehired full-time officer, up to \$125,000 per officer over a 3 year (36 month) period which will be open in May 2015. Trustee Moore made a motion to apply for this grant when it comes out; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; AYE CARRIED

## TRUSTEE VINCELETTE:

Trustee Vincelette stated that he has received a lot of complaints about dog issues. As a reminder, pick up after your dog. If you know that it is a specific person let us know or we can't help you. It has been asked to put out dog stations to put the droppings in. So please clean up after your pets. There is a leash law and you should not have any dogs running free.

Trustee Vincelette announced that the Center Stage is having a Prize Bingo in Alburg, Vt. at the fire station this Friday night.

#### TRUSTEE MOTT:

Trustee Mott made a motion requesting an Executive Session to discuss a Contract Negotiation; Seconded by Trustee Martin; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

Trustee Mott made a motion requesting an Executive Session to discuss Electric Personnel; Seconded by Trustee Martin; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

## **OTHER REPORTS:**

## **VILLAGE CLERK:**

The Village Clerk announced that the Spring Pick-up is being held May 11<sup>th</sup> – May 15<sup>th</sup>; Monday – Friday. This pickup is for bagged leaves; trimmings and nothing over 3" in diameter and make sure that the bags are not blocked by vehicles; are at the curb side and

in clear bags. We usually do it the week before Mother's Day but with the weather and ground being wet Brian thought we should hold off a week.

## TREASURER LETOURNEAU:

Treasurer Letourneau reminded the ratepayers that any unpaid water and sewer rents as of April 30<sup>th</sup> are applied to the June taxes.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Code Enforcement Officer, Clifford Sterling, stated that there is a burn ban in effect so you cannot burn any brush. There were some people burning outside the Village limit recently. Mayor Rivers stated that this is a State Law that there is no burning from March 15<sup>th</sup> to May 15<sup>th</sup> and there is no burning in the Village. There is not burning in the Village of Rouses Point. Clifford wanted everyone to be aware that there is no burning.

## **OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:**

Ben Arno, 104 State Street, asked the Mayor if he was going to present the Resolution to the Fire Department on Saturday. Mayor Rivers told him yes.

#### **RECESS:**

Trustee Moore made a motion to go into recess at 7:24 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Martin; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Moore made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:40 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Martin; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Vincelette made a motion to go back into Regular Session @ 8:25 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Martin; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Vincelette made a motion requesting an Executive Session to discuss Police Personnel; Seconded by Trustee Martin; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

Trustee Martin made a motion to go back into Executive Session @ 8:25 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Moore; AYE CARRIED

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

No action taken during Executive Session to discuss Civic Center Personnel No action taken during Executive Session to discuss Electric Personnel. No action taken during Executive Session to discuss a Contract Negotiation No action taken during Executive Session to discuss Police Personnel

Trustee Moore made a motion to go back into Regular Session @ 8:35 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Martin; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Moore made a motion to hire Aaron Heroux as a Permanent Part-time Police Officer not to exceed 24 hours per week effective Sunday, April 26, 2015 for a

probationary period of 6 months; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; (4) AYES (1) NAY - Trustee Martin.

## ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Moore made a motion to adjourn at 8:41 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; AYE CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted;

Carol A. Charfield
Carol A. Hanfield

Village Clerk