

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Monday, June 1, 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.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

There were no comments.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Trustee Moore made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 18, 2015; special meeting of May 28, 2015; and regular meeting of May 29, 2015 as presented; Seconded by Trustee Martin; AYE CARRIED

BILLS: VOUCHER NOS: 20739 – 20743 \$5,783.34

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Clerk read a letter from Jan Letourneau, Recreation Leader, requesting that some items from the baseball & softball programs be surplus so that they can be donated to the Mission of Hope in Plattsburgh. The Board asked if this equipment could be used by some of the other area communities and asked that this be looked into. Trustee Moore made a motion to surplus the equipment; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; AYE CARRIED

The Clerk read a letter from Montgomery Hose, Hook & Ladder Company No. 1, Inc. requesting approval two new members: Bernard Savage Jr. from Champlain and Kyle VanDenBush from Rouses Point. Trustee Martin made a motion to approve these two new members for a probationary period of six months pending approved physicals; Seconded by Trustee Mott; AYE CARRIED

MAYOR RIVERS:

Mayor Rivers announced that two (2) bids were received for the sidewalk pavers. Bill Carey bid \$100 per pallet; and John Bernard bid \$40.02 per pallet. There are a total of nine (9) pallets available. Mr. Carey said he wanted four (4) so the other five (5) can also be sold at \$100 per pallet. Trustee Moore made a motion to accept the bid for the \$100 per pallet from Bill Carey; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; AYE CARRIED

Mayor Rivers announced that a North Country Citizen Preparedness Corps Training Program will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Northeastern Clinton Central High School Auditorium in Champlain. This invitation was received from Governor Andrew M. Cuomo along with others. Mayor Rivers stated that this is open to the public and if interested in attending please contact him and he will give the website to register.

Mayor Rivers addressed the memo received from the NYPA regarding use of LED technology for streetlighting. This came from the Power Authority at the MEUA meeting last month who strongly recommended. The Mayor made a motion that from now on we use LED lighting for the street lights. Conversion kits will be required to change to the LED lights and the cost is being looked into. Discussion followed.

PWS Brian Pelkey stated that the first ten LED lights that were sent to us, when they first came out, were put up and nobody liked them. We complained to the vendors and they sent conversion kits but we never tried them. Discussion followed. The Board chose to table this until they received further information.

Mayor Rivers stated that there are three (3) wooden docks – 6' x 16' that need to be surplused. Brian Pelkey said that these docks were replaced by the plastic ones put in by Homeland Security a couple of years ago. The Board discussed placing an ad on the website and posting it in the office and maybe putting it in the Free Trader to be in by the next meeting. Trustee Moore made a motion to surplus these docks; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; Discussion followed. AYE CARRIED.

TRUSTEE MARTIN:

Trustee Martin stated that the Planning Board wishes to change their meeting time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The day and time are presently listed in our Local Law so it is necessary to amend the Local Law. Our Attorney has advised that we omit any date and time for a meeting being mentioned. Trustee Moore made a motion to authorize the Clerk to send this to the Attorney to be placed in Local Law Form; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; AYE CARRIED

TRUSTEE MOORE:

Trustee Moore requested an Executive Session to discuss Public Works Personnel;
Seconded by Trustee Martin; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

Trustee Moore requested an Executive Session to discuss Civic Center Personnel;
Seconded by Trustee Martin; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

Trustee Moore addressed the water and sewer charges and said that he has been hearing people talking about the increase in the rates so he gathered information on rates for the Town of Chazy and Village of Champlain. He said that one person owns in Chazy said he pays \$56 / month for his water and sewer and he doesn't live there. One guy does live in Chazy and his bill averages \$110 per month. He said it is usually he and his wife in the winter and on the weekends in the summer they are gone. His daughter does come home on breaks from college. In Champlain a husband and wife said they average \$57 per month but they also have a water softener which is about \$120 per year so they are about \$67 per month. Trustee Moore said that one of his daughters lived in Plattsburgh and it ran \$80 – \$100 per month and that was a couple of years ago. These are just examples of what other people are paying so our rates are not that bad.

TRUSTEE VINCELETTE:

Trustee Vincelette said that Steve Merchant contacted him about the sign and that it was supposed to be here a couple of weeks ago and he has been getting a different excuse every time he called so he cancelled the order and is going to a different vendor. This will push everything back on installation. He told Brian that he will be notified in advance when the sign is coming in.

Trustee Vincelette requested an Executive Session to discuss Electric Personnel;
Seconded by Trustee Moore; ROLL CALL VOTE All Ayes

TRUSTEE MOTT:

Trustee Mott addressed the status of the #5 Dump Truck stating that there is a hole in the frame. He said he looked at it today and does not think it is safe and neither does the Village mechanic. PWS Brian Pelkey said that they were going to order a new box for it but when they saw the hole in the frame they cancelled the order on the box. Trustee Mott stated that this should be sold for parts and salvaged with no title. The whole thing is paper thin. Trustee Vincelette asked about the plowing in the winter and if this will leave us with only one plow truck so if it goes down we have nothing to plow the streets. Trustee Mott asked if a plow could be put on the white truck. PWS Pelkey said that John Bernard has been working with the Treasurer on some numbers for a new one. Discussion followed.

Mayor Rivers said that this truck is to be surplus as salvage. Trustee Mott made a motion to surplus the truck as salvage for parts only; Seconded by Trustee Martin; AYE CARRIED

OTHER REPORTS:

VILLAGE CLERK:

The Village Clerk reported that the Village Wide Sales will be held on June 27, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. until ??? If anyone wishes to be placed on the map please contact her at the Village Office at 297-5502.

TREASURER LETOURNEAU:

Treasurer Letourneau announced that the tax bills were mailed out last week.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Code Enforcement Officer, Clifford Sterling, stated that he had given the board maps showing the area up by his property for the underground installation. The Village is in the process of putting in underground wire up the road and he was told that they are stopping at Oliver's house and continuing with poles the rest of the street and he wanted to know why. Mayor Rivers said because that is in the Town of Champlain. Clifford then said that everybody up there pays Village electricity and their water is also supplied by the Village so why wouldn't you put the rest of the power underground. Mayor Rivers said that we are already supplying electricity to two street lights and paying for it when they are in the Town. If Champlain wants to put in a lighting district up there then fine.

Clifford then stated that he owns a piece of property in the Village that he pays taxes on so why is he not going underground. Brian Pelkey stated that he measured from Maple Street to the end of Prospect Street for the underground in the budget. There are two poles on the south side and two on the north side in that area. Mr. Sterling said that he is in the process of putting up a garage and wants to know where he has to connect to. Trustee Mott stated that if this is in the budget and we have all the material to do it then why are we not doing it. Discussion followed.

Mayor Rivers stated that we have no right of way to run underground in that area. Trustee Mott suggested that we go to the Town to get a right of way for this. He said that if this was not budgeted that he would not be in favor of it. Brian Pelkey said that why he measured from Maple Street to Prospect Street was to get an accurate figure. There should be a right of way already because you have other lines that run through the area for others.

John Cooper, Councilperson for Town of Champlain, said that the right of way should be on file and that he will take care of looking into this. He doesn't see any problem with the Town on this project.

Brian explained that the crew may not be at that end this year because they have a lot of work to do. He is understaffed and behind schedule right now.

John Cooper stated that we should start the paperwork now because it takes so long to get things done.

Brian said he spoke to Trustee Mott about the paving schedule for this year. For this year lower Chapman Street; lower State Street; Rock Street and Myers Street are scheduled to be paved. Because we are headed over to Pratt Street to do the sidewalks we will not have enough time to do the curbing on lower Chapman and State, and the unknown with the bike path coming down lower Chapman we don't know what direction we are going in. If they are going to be getting money to blacktop the street he would rather see them pay for it. His proposal is that when the County comes they can do the paving in a day or two, because we are not going to be ready on these two streets, he would like to instead of doing lower Chapman and State do Stewart Street, Edgewater Drive and Lakeview Drive, while they are up in that development. It will be around the same amount of money. There is no curbing or manholes. We will still do Rock and Myers. The Treasurer stated that there is \$28,869 to do Stewart, Edgewater & Lakeview. Discussion followed.

Mayor Rivers asked for a motion to approve this change. Trustee Moore made a motion to change the paving schedule for this year; Seconded by Trustee Martin; AYE
CARRIED

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:

Ben Arno asked about the house on the corner of State and Delaware Street and if something is being done about the garbage. Clifford Sterling stated that he is working on sending out more letters this week. His next step is to send another violation because there are fire violations on the porches. These will be sent to both the landowner and the tenant and they can answer to the Judge. Mr. Arno stated that there are mice that come out of there every day.

Ben Arno asked Mr. Sterling if he looked at the building on Lake Street. Mr. Sterling said that this is being looked into.

Ben asked about the stuff being surplus and there are a lot of teams that contact the legion for donations for uniforms, equip., etc. This will be addressed with Jan Letourneau.

Clifford Sterling addressed the house at 39 State Street stating that the bank is in the process of having this house torn down. There are a couple of contractors that have put in bids to remove this.

Trustee Mott asked about the house on Priscilla Lane and was told by Clifford that he is still looking into this and has contacted Tom Murnane and per our lawyer he was told not to do anything with this. He is leaving it up to the Board to contact our lawyer because he is not returning his phone call. Clifford explained the present situation on this property. Trustee Mott stated that this is a lot more complicated than it looks.

Trustee Mott asked if there is a liason at the bank that could be reached and asked if the Village could move the debris on the porch inside and close it up. Discussion followed.

John Cooper asked if the Clerk could contact the Village Attorney about running the power underground on Prospect St. We better start now because everything we do takes at least six months.

RECESS:

Trustee Moore made a motion to go into recess at 7:37 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Martin; AYE CARRIED

Trustee Moore made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:43 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; AYE CARRIED

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No action taken during Executive Session to discuss Public Works Personnel

No action taken during Executive Session to discuss Civic Center Personnel

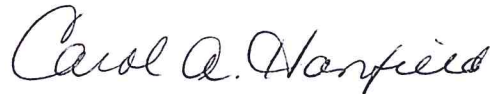
No action taken during Executive Session to discuss Electric Personnel

Trustee Moore made a motion to go back into Regular Session @ 8:05 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Martin; AYE CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Moore made a motion to adjourn at 8:07 p.m.; Seconded by Trustee Vincelette; AYE CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol A. Hanfield".

Carol A. Hanfield
Village Clerk