

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Monday, May 15, 2017 at Halstead Hall, Civic Center, 39 Lake Street commencing at 7:00 PM

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Jean LaBombard, Administrator
Arsene F. Letourneau, Treasurer

RECORDING SECRETARY: Donna J. Boumil, Village Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Daniel Letourneau opened the Public Hearing at 7:00PM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to amend the sewer rates for 2017-2018 fiscal year. The rate will be \$36 month.

There were no comments or questions from the public.

Public Hearing closed at 7:01PM

REGULAR SESSION:

Regular Session of the meeting commenced at 7:02PM.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Motion by Trustee Dart to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 1, 2017;
Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

BILLS: **VOUCHERS** 16581 – 16640 \$125,968.67

A revised list of bills was provided to the Board

There are no additions or deletions.

Motion by Trustee Arno to approve and pay the bills; Seconded by Trustee Menard;
No Discussion: AYE CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) Letter from the Great Chazy River Memorial VFW Post 1418 re: sale of poppies
Motion by Trustee Menard to approve the sale of poppies by the VFW during the week of May 14-20, 2017; Seconded by Trustee Menard; Discussion: the VFW coordinated with the American Legion and there will not be a conflict. AYE CARRIED

REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:

MAYOR:

- 1) Presentation by Jan Letourneau – Recreation Leader Village of Rouses Point
A recommendation for a Pickle Ball on the Civic Center grounds
 - Background of the game Pickle Ball provided
 - Discussed CVPH Foundation will be responsible for 100% of the cost for a Pickle Ball Court (including painting, sleeves, poles and nets)
 - Court to be constructed on the existing basketball court located at the Civic Center
 - Diagram provided to the Board
 - Pickle Ball Court will run east to west
 - On eastern side of court there will be a basketball court (nets run north – south, moving the hoops, providing a short court)
 - Timeline for completion – after July 4th
 - The Village will be responsible for the following:
 - general maintenance of the Pickle Ball surface following established Village guidelines for care of current equipment and park amenities. (to include removal of nets at the end of the season)
 - The Village will promote the availability of the new Pickle Ball courts and whenever possible coordinate clinic opportunities for all ages to learn.
 - Moving basketball hoops to new site
 - Painting lines for new basketball court
 - Fencing will not be provided by CVPH Foundation
 - Possibly in the future there will be benchesMotion by Trustee Arno to approve the Pickle Ball Court with the reconfiguration of the existing basketball court (per diagram), based on the recommendation of the Recreation Leader and Village responsibility for the new Pickle Ball Court as described in the diagram; Seconded by Trustee Menard; Discussion followed. AYE CARRIED
- 2) Resolution 2017-23: Sewer Rates Resolution
Motion by Trustee Menard to approve the Sewer Rate Resolution; Seconded by Trustee Arno; ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustee Arno – AYE; Trustee Dart – AYE; Trustee Menard – AYE; Trustee Batha – AYE. MOTION CARRIED

3) Sick Leave Bank Policy (Full time non-bargaining unit employees)

Mayor Letourneau provided a summary

- Mirrors the bargaining unit's policy
- Fellow employees can donate sick leave on a voluntary basis
- NYCOM's recommendation for added verbiage (unused sick leave)
- On a case by case basis
- Clarification: hour for hour

Motion by Trustee Menard to approve the Sick Leave Bank Policy with the added verbiage; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

4) Increase in Village Speed Limit –

Continuation from discussion of May 1, 2017 meeting

- Consulted with NYCOM
- Mayor Letourneau explained the process to change the Village Code (enact a local law)
- Streets that are 30mph: Champlain, Lake and Pratt Streets (state highways)
 - 45' wide and have sidewalks
- Village streets are 25mph
 - Some village streets without sidewalks or shoulders are only 21' wide
 - Safety is a concern
- A traffic study would have to be conducted - \$7,000 - \$10,000

➤ Research and statistics show that it is not a good idea to increase the speed limit
Motion by Trustee Arno to not raise the speed limit within the Village; Seconded by Trustee Menard;

Discussion:

Costs incurred in changing the speed limit:

- cost of changing approximately 35 signs
- cost of a traffic study
- only village in Clinton County whose speed limit is 25 mph

Safety concerns:

- safety concerns on Montgomery Street – main thorough fare to Vermont Bridge, paint double lines, stop signs at Rose Ave and Montgomery Street have been removed. Village Code states there are stop signs on Montgomery and Rose Ave. Public Works Supervisor will be notified to replace the signs. “Stop Ahead” indicators will have to be painted on the road.
- safety concerns of no sidewalks in newer developments.

AYE CARRIED

5) IEEP'S Evaluation of the Civic Center Control System upgrade:

- Dave Trudeau, Honeywell, evaluated the project
- Possibly the cost of materials could be paid through IEEP
- The programming would not be paid through IEEP
- Removed from the 2017-2018 budget
- Trustee Dart to confer with PWS

6) Rouses Point Police Department update –

Continued discussion of laying off the Police Chief to 20 hours a week and dissolving the Police Department

- Mayor Letourneau provided a synopsis of the activity of the Police Department from January 1 – March 20, 2017

- Mayor Letourneau explained that in the Governor's budget calls for county-wide shared services plan
 - There is a meeting May 17 with mayors, supervisors to discuss a plan
 - Has had preliminary discussions with County Sheriff about shared services
 - Having full utilization of the current Police Station
 - Maintain computers
 - Help to enforce local ordinances
 - This is a work in progress
- If Police Department is dissolved, then there would be a change in the local law
- Mayor Letourneau described the process of dissolving the Police Department and the need to begin the process
- The final request for shared services should be approved by August 15
- If the Shared Services Panel decides against the plan with the Sheriff's Department, other options will have to be looked at
- The discussion will continue at the June 5th Village Board meeting

TRUSTEE ARNO:

- 1) Dock at the boat launch:
 - Trustee Arno spoke to John Mott, no response from Gaines as of this date
 - The section of the dock will have to be lifted to allow of drainage of water
 - Mr. Mott will replace free of charge with Styrofoam
 - If the Village does not have equipment to raise the dock, Mr. Mott has the ability to do so
- 2) Village Clean-Up
 - Thank you to the Village Crew for the excellent job they did during the clean-up week
 - Discussion of the amount of brush some residents have, the number of times the Crew returns to a residence and the intention of the clean-up
 - The chipper broke and the Village was able to borrow a chipper from the Town of Champlain's under shared services
- 3) Village employee working on Memorial Day to set up speakers and lower the flag to half-staff for a ceremony at Veteran's Park – paying employee overtime.
 - In the Union Contract
- 4) Discussion regarding the Use of Village Property Policy
 - Very strict
 - Who is monitoring it
 - Trustee Arno doesn't agree with it
 - Already passed
 - Signing the policy is merely acknowledging receipt of the policy
 - There is recourse if the policy is violated

TRUSTEE DART:

- 1) Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge:
 - currently the sludge goes to a landfill in Franklin County – tipping fee charge is increasing. Uncertainty of when the landfill might close
 - WWTP Chief Operator is seeking estimates from other vendors
 - A Canadian Company is interested and plans to visit the plant
 - Potential saving of \$1500-1800 year

- 2) Village Streets Projects –
 - Clean up is complete
 - PW Crew is working on a sewer line on the south side of the upper part of Chapman Street.
 - A resident is paying for the materials and the Village is providing the labor.
 - Possibility of gaining 4-5 sewer rents from this project
- 3) Street Salt has been ordered for next winter season – under budget

TRUSTEE MENARD:

Nothing to report

TRUSTEE BATHA:

- 1) Discussion regarding the paving on Clinton Street
 - Approx. \$44,673 to pave up to Delaware St.
 - Paved 8-11 yrs ago
 - Possibility of boat traffic destroying the street (weight and usage)
 - Village Code cited: Transportation of boats –
 - “Marina owners shall be liable for all damages to any property owner for damages cause by vehicles and/or boats which are being transported”.
 - Would have to see legal opinion, which would cost money
 - The mayor will look at the damage done on Clinton St.
 - Delaware St. and White Ave. will be looked at for any damage
 - In the future look into preparing the roads as heavy duty use.

OTHER REPORTS:

CLERK: No report

ADMINISTRATOR: No report

TREASURER:

- The village received notification of Worker’s Comp premium – decreased approximately \$7,000

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Ashley Birtz-Deso: Montgomery Street

- Regarding the Police Department –
 - Asked reason for dissolution
 - Understand potential savings of \$150,000
 - What type of coverage will be provided by the Sheriff’s Department
 - Currently 8 hours a day of physical presence by Police Chief
 - Will the Sheriff check in with Pedophiles/Sex Offenders living in Rouses Point
 - Asked for clarification of the potential contract with the Sheriff’s Dept. and if there will be a physical presence
 - If the Police Department is dissolved, can the Village reinstate it

Jan Letourneau – Recreation Leader

- June 23rd – Longest Day of Play
 - Barb Bluto – Zumba 6-7PM at the Pavilion at the Civic Center
- Fitness in the Park (awarded \$960)
 - There is still room in the Hip Hop Dance, Karate (younger age group) and Archery classes (older age group)
- Outdoor Fitness Trail
 - Waiting for Mother Nature to cooperate to install the cement pads and the equipment

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Trustee Menard for an Executive Session to discuss:

- 1) Information relating to a future investigation of a criminal offense which would imperil effective law enforcement if discussed
- 2) The employment history of a particular person

Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Arno to adjourn the Regular Session for a short recess at 8:19PM; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Arno to enter into Executive Session at 8:26PM; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED

No action taken during Executive Session.

Motion by Trustee Menard to enter into Regular Session at 8:29PM; Seconded by Trustee Batha

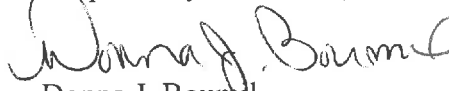
REGULAR SESSION:

Trustee Menard made a motion to approve the recommendation of granting permanent status to Jeremy Guay, Laborer Water Treatment Plant. Jeremy completed his probationary period.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Arno to adjourn at 8:30PM; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,



Donna J. Bounel
Village Clerk