

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Monday, August 20, 2018 at Halstead Hall, Civic Center, 39 Lake Street scheduled to commence at 7:00 PM.

**PRESENT:** Thomas D. Batha, Mayor  
Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee  
Thomas M. Dart, Trustee  
Ron R. LeBlanc, Trustee

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Steve Peters, Administrator  
Becky Pelkey, Deputy Treasurer  
Brian Pelkey, Public Works Supervisor

**ABSENT:** Dale Menard, Trustee  
Arsene Letourneau, Treasurer

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Donna J. Boumil, Village Clerk

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

Mayor Thomas Batha called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**REGULAR SESSION:**

**II. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

Connie Cassavaugh, The Gallery presented A Revitalization and Economic Development Plan (The future of Rouses Point as the “Charming Village on the Lake”) along with a sketch of the Proud Patriot with a revitalized façade.

**II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Trustee Arno made a Motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of August 6, 2018; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED

**III. BILLS:**           **VOUCHERS**   24634 – 24682   \$ 149,075.12  
No additions/deletions

Motion by Trustee Arno to approve and pay the bills; Seconded by Trustee Dart. AYE CARRIED

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Village Clerk Donna Boumil read the following correspondence:

- 1) Letter from the Dodge Memorial Library Board of Trustees regarding hiring Mary Ann Brown to the permanent part time library page position effective September 4, 2018 (informational purposes)
- 2) Letter from the Dodge Memorial Library Board of Trustees regarding the reinstatement of Sara Dias as a Library Page, on call as needed (informational purposes)

3) Letter from Ms. Cassavaugh was read:

Discussion ensued with the Board, Ms. Cassavaugh and Ms. Binnie Munnik regarding the following:

- **Empty Storefronts:** reference made to the drawing provided
  - Revitalization of buildings in the downtown area
  - Grants
  - The Codes Enforcement Officer is in the process of investigating violations and issuing letters (many legalities)
  - Ms. Cassavaugh expressed that there are investors interested in purchasing buildings
  - Mayor Batha explained that it is one of the duties of the Board to keep the cost of living in the Village as low as possible to be able to attract potential businesses and residents.
- **Truck Traffic:** Lake Street (route 11) is a state road
  - Traffic study already conducted a few years ago to lower the speed limit. The study indicated that lowering the speed limit was not warranted.
  - Discussion of a traffic light at Montgomery and Lake. Criteria is 3 fatalities before a light is installed.
  - Mayor Batha explained the Route 276 Truck Route expansion, which widened the road. There was discussion about a bypass for the trucks and the legality of “forcing” trucks to bypass the Village. This would have to be heard at a public hearing and petition to Congress, DOT and State Reps.
  - Jake Brake usage discussed.
- **Parking:**
  - 2 hour parking limit during 8AM – 5PM (currently not enforced)
  - Could this be policed by someone in the Village
  - Possibly a notice going out to landlords/property owners in the downtown area
  - There have been improvements over the years: parking lot on Washington Ave.
  - Residents are supposed to park behind the building they live in.

## V. REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:

### a. MAYOR THOMAS D. BATHA:

- 1) Resolution of Appreciation for Steve Merchant as a member of the Friends of the Stage. Motion to approve by Mayor Batha; Seconded by Trustee Arno; ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustee Arno – AYE; Trustee Dart – AYE; Trustee Menard – absent; Trustee Le Blanc – AYE; Mayor Batha – AYE

Either Mayor Batha or Deputy Mayor Arno will be at the last concert on Thursday, August 23 to present the Resolution to Mr. Merchant.

- 2) Resolution 2018-21 (Delegate Resolution vote by proxy)- Motion by Trustee Arno to approve that MEUA Executive Committee is designated as the delegate for the Village of Rouses Point at the September 11-14, 2018 meeting; Seconded by Trustee Le Blanc; AYE CARRIED.
- 3) Mayor Batha mentioned that there is a large quantity of paint left over from painting the Civic Center. (11 5 gallon pails @ approx. \$40 pail). The amount of paint needed was estimated by the company that the paint was purchased from. There was an email sent to the company regarding returning the paint.

- 4) Civic Center signs: Mayor Batha would like the outside signs ordered by next week, including the silhouette of the figure skater and hockey player.
    - a. Mayor Batha will arrange for the Press Republican to visit the Civic Center showing the upgrades and meeting the staff who was responsible for the painting.
    - b. Mayor Batha asked PWS Pelkey order new lights for the outside of the building (IEEP to pay)
- b. TRUSTEE BENJAMIN J. ARNO:**
- 1) Safety Report:
    - a. Trustee Arno finished inspecting the Village vehicles for first aid kits and fire extinguishers (10 first aid kits are needed for the trucks and 7 5lb fire extinguishers are needed).
    - b. Trustee Dart made a motion to approve the upgrade of the first aid kits and fire extinguishers through Midstate; Seconded by Trustee Le Blanc; AYE CARRIED John Bernard to order.
    - c. All other safety equipment in compliance (helmets, vests, etc.)
  - 2) Trustee Arno received a phone call from Don Favro regard the railroad tracks on Chapman Street being rough
    - Administrator Peters is in contact with Jeremy Vanderpool – CP Rail
    - Cannot cold patch around the tracks because it will interfere with the railroad
- c. TRUSTEE THOMAS M. DART:**
- 1) Trustee Dart added to the conversation regarding the downtown storefronts.
    - Administrator Peters has been working diligently for months on Community Development.
  - 2) WWTP chlorine injection:
    - 2 pumps have been installed
    - WWTP Chief Operator Tim Graves explained the process of the chlorine injection pumps
  - 3) Answering Service
    - Follow up to previous meeting: Public Works Supervisor Pelkey will contact the vendor that the Village utilizes for security alarms to inquire about an answering service.
  - 4) Public Works Maintenance Person:
    - This position has been open for a year
    - Trustee Dart suggests abandoning filling the position but leave open with regards to Civil Service.
    - Public Works is adequately staffed at the present time
    - Trustee Darts suggests keeping this position funded in the budget in the event it is needed.
  - 5) Trustee Dart requests an Executive Session to discuss the employment history of particular employees; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED
  - 6) Trustee Dart requests an Executive Session to discuss an issue relating to the public employee collective bargaining agreement; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED
  - 7) Trustee Dart provided an explanation for his absence at past meetings and from his duties as Trustee:

Trustee Dart's wife has been ill. He is back to performing his duties as Trustee and intends to run again.

**d. TRUSTEE DALE M. MENARD:**

Absent

**e. TRUSTEE RON R. LEBLANC:**

- 1) Library update: The library has received a grant for asbestos abatement of the basement. Public Works/Electric will estimate the cost of new lighting in the basement (this will be paid by IEEP). The new furnace will be installed after the abatement process is complete.
- 2) IT Infrastructure:
  - Trustee Le Blanc suggests that the IT Infrastructure of the Village is reviewed and upgraded where ever needed.
  - 1 quote has been received to review the infrastructure of approx. \$1500 not included upgrades
  - Suggested having 1 vendor for all IT needs
  - Trustee Le Blanc will update at the next meeting.

**f. OTHER REPORTS:**

**ADMINISTRATOR:**

- 1) Codes Enforcement provided a weekly report
- 2) Updates: Recreation Center
  - There has been communication with Hogan about refrigeration
  - The gutters will be ordered by the end of the week. The company who originally provided them is still in business.
  - Rec Maintenance Worker applications – 1 application received. That applicant has not been qualified yet. Need more clarification from applicant.
- 3) Most on the Coast –
  - Event is on 9/29/18
  - This is a Market Day with regional artisans
  - Continuing to advertise and put on social media

**DEPUTY TREASURER:**

Nothing to report

**PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR:**

- 1) Updates paving:
  - Last Thursday and Friday, shim coating
  - Paving should be done this week
- 2) Sidewalks are being fixed for trip hazards
- 3) Storm drains

- 4) Update water plant:
  - # 2 filters are back together
  - #3 filter is apart and being painted. Should be together by Monday
  - Then take apart #4 filter.
- 5) Wastewater plant:
  - I&I – (storm water is getting into sewer system)
  - In the near future, manholes will be pulled to document flow starting with the north end and should have done by winter. (Eventually all manholes will be pulled – north, south and Maple Street)
  - Possibly do a sump pump survey with residents/property owners

**CHIEF WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR:**

- 1) Chief Tim Graves gave the Village Clerk a letter and read it aloud. This letter is his formal resignation as Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator for the Village of Rouses Point.

Motion to recess by Trustee Arno at 8:10PM; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Arno to enter into Executive Session at 8:16PM; Seconded by Trustee Dart.

Motion by Trustee Arno to exit Executive Session at 9:12PM; Seconded by Trustee Dart.

No action taken in Executive Session.

Motion by Trustee Dart to enter into Regular Session at 9:12PM; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

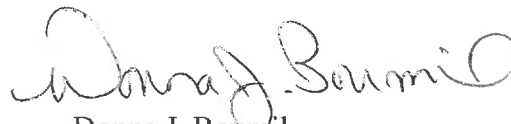
Motion by Trustee Arno to authorize the clerk to advertise In-house the position of Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator; Seconded by Trustee Le Blanc; AYE CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Arno to authorize the clerk to advertise externally for the position of Recreation Maintenance Worker; Seconded by Trustee Le Blanc; AYE CARRIED

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Trustee Dart to adjourn at 9:18PM; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,



Donna J. Bounail  
Village Clerk