

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Monday, October 7, 2019 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  
Dale M. Menard, Trustee  
Jamie L. Gadway, Trustee

**ABSENT:** Donna J. Boumil, Village Clerk/Administrator  
Arsene F. Letourneau, Village Treasurer

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Rebecca Pelkey, Deputy Treasurer  
Brian Pelkey, Public Works Supervisor  
John Cooper, Codes Enforcement Officer  
Susan Sullivan, Library Director  
RPDML Board of Trustees:  
James Gero, President  
Donna Racine, Trustee  
Wendy Engelbrecht, Trustee  
Mary O'Connor, Trustee  
Everett Larsen, Trustee

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Patricia A. Garrand, Deputy Village Clerk

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

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

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

The Public Hearings opened at 7:01 PM

- 1) Public Hearing to hear comments and concerns from the public regarding making the current 18-month moratorium on prohibiting Data Mining and Cryptocurrency in a Local Law. Mayor Batha opened the hearing to the public for comment.

- Ron Leblanc addressed the Board and said he supported their decision in making this into a Local Law.
- Motion made by Mayor Batha to add Chapter 58 to the Village of Rouses Point Local Law CRYPTOCURRENCY AND DATA MINING Local Law 2-2019; Seconded by Trustee Dart; ROLL CALL VOTE AYE CARRIED

2) Public Hearing to discuss and authorize a 12-month moratorium on the acceptance and approval of building permit applications for the use, installation and placement of electric boilers and electric hot air furnaces within the Village of Rouses Point. Mayor Batha spoke about 1 applicant, ERS, who would like to convert the existing buildings to electric boiler heat. The Mayor suggested a temporary moratorium to do more research and then opened the hearing up to the public for comment.

- Ron Leblanc questioned a 10-year projection on how much electric ERS would use if they converted the buildings to electric boiler heating.
- Everett Larson questioned if the moratorium was for Industrial as well as Residential. The Mayor responded and stated it was. Currently anyone with an existing boiler is grandfathered in and can replace it with a new one if needed.
- Trustee Menard asked Public Works Supervisor, Brian Pelkey, how much power 1 boiler would use at the ERS facility. Brian stated that for Building #25 it would be 1 Mega Watt of power.
- Trustee Dart commented and suggested a 6-month moratorium.
- Trustee Menard asked for clarification of the ERS boiler and the moratorium. Mayor Batha stated the ERS proposal wouldn't be affected by the moratorium, that would have to be done by special permit.
- Mayor Batha asked for a motion to Table the Topic until the next meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Menard; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

#### **REGULAR SESSION:**

Entered Regular Session 7:19 PM

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Andrew Vincelette, 84 Maple Street, addressed the Board regarding a new fence he put up on his property. Gave the Board copies of a violation notice and pictures of the fence.

- Started installing fence at 6 inches from the sidewalk. John Cooper, Code Enforcement, told him he would have to move it back farther off the sidewalk as per Village code.
- Mr. Vincelette stated that no where does it show that he needed it farther off the sidewalk. After some discussion with Mr. Cooper, he claims he was asked to please move the fence back 12 inches from the sidewalk and this would be ok. Mr. Vincelette stated he had a witness to this statement, Carolyn Trippany from 85 Maple Street was standing there as well.
- Fence was completed and posts have been cut and set. Violation was for obstruction of traffic and sight lines. Mr. Cooper stated in the violation that the fence needs to be moved 3 feet from the sidewalk. Trustee Arno explained that fences need to be 3 feet from the sidewalk in order to prevent damage during the winter months for snow removal.
- Mr. Vincelette stated he understood the reasoning, but there are 15 other fences in the Village that are in this same violation. He claims his fence is not an eyesore and that he maintains his property.
- Mayor Batha asked Code Officer John Cooper and he stated he wasn't going to get into this, it is a legal issue and we will settle it in court.
- The witness, Carolyn Trippany from 85 Maple Street addressed the board and explained that she was there and heard Code Officer Cooper tell Mr. Vincelette 12 inches. She addressed

Mr. Cooper and he replied that he did say that but when he went back to check the code, he realized the fence was in violation and wrote up the citation.

- May Batha stated the Board would discuss this further and get back to Mr. Vincelette within a day or two.
- Mr. Vincelette thanked them for their time.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Minutes from the September 16, 2019 meeting are currently unavailable and will be discussed at the next Board meeting on October 21, 2019.

**BILLS:**                      **VOUCHERS**    25797 - 25837                                      \$133,468.30

No additions or deletions.

Motion by Trustee Menard to approve and pay the bills as written; Seconded by Trustee Arno;  
**AYE CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

No correspondence

**REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:**

**MAYOR THOMAS D. BATHA:**

**1) Update on Meeting with Barton and Loguidice regarding Water Treatment Study**

- Looking into replacing our aging Water Plant
- Assigned a Civil Engineer, Jason Ballard, to the study
- Possible Grant Money may be available
- Different Treatment Options
  - Upflow Filters
  - Micro Filtration
  - DE Filters
- Proposed Locations
  - Current Site
  - New Site next to Water Tower
- Want the plant scaled for 1 million gallons a day capacity
  - Set the plant up in increments with the ability to expand
- Possible construction could begin as early as Summer of 2021

**2) Proxy and Resolution 2019-28 NYMPA**

- Mayor Batha read the Resolution that Thomas D. Batha be and is hereby designated as the accredited delegate of the Village of Rouses Point.
  
- Motion made by Trustee Menard to designate Mayor Batha as the delegate;  
Seconded by Trustee Arno; **AYE CARRIED**

- 3) **Lisa Turner RE: Shuffleboard Court in Rouse Park**
- Mayor Batha said Lisa Turner called him regarding getting a grant to have a shuffleboard court installed in Rouse Park. It would be a no cost grant. The Mayor asked what the Board thought of the idea.
  - Trustee Dart inquired about the land being given to the Village.
  - Trustee Menard asked if there were any restrictions on the land.
  - Mayor Batha asked the Village Historian, Donna Racine about the park.
  - The Board would like to ask Lisa to attend a meeting and explain the project in more detail.
  - Tabled until next meeting.
- 4) **Steve Peters: Update on Elevate 518 Rec Project**
- Draft Map from AES
  - Playground is set up and installed
  - Engineers (AES) had to develop a Storm Water Prevention Plan
  - Fencing, Field work and Parking Lot work will be done together and could start in the Spring of 2020, rushing to do it sooner would be at a much higher cost. Bidding it out as one project would be the best option.
  - Mayor talked about the Village's contribution of \$73,000 and suggested Public works could do the expansion of the parking lot with the grindings from paving. This could go towards the contribution.
  - Alternate egress onto Montgomery Street
  - Andrew Vincelette thanked the Board for all the work they have done on the Rec Park and Soccer Fields
- 5) **Letter from Ron LeBlanc Regarding Leasing Village Land**
- Specifically, about half the field directly east of the Sewer Plant
  - Wants to hold Car Shows, Parts Sales, and other similar events
  - Mayor Batha stated that part of that land has already been earmarked for a dog park
  - Offered possible alternatives such as the Civic Center Building and Parking Lot
  - Mayor Appointed Trustee Gadway and Trustee Menard to a committee to look into layout of the Dog Park and Mr. LeBlanc's idea
- 6) **Letter from Pfizer Requesting Permission for Planned Road Work**
- Work will be done by Pfizer on Maple and Academy Streets
  - Installing 8 flush mount monitoring wells
  - Brian spoke with Greg Reynolds and work is supposed to start on October 21, 2019
  - Requesting written consent from the Board of Trustees to conduct the work
  - Mayor Batha made a motion to do a letter giving consent for the street work;  
Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED
- 7) **Request an Executive Session to Discuss Personnel**
- Mayor Batha made a motion to have an Executive Session to discuss Personnel;  
Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED

**8) Quote from J. Hogan Refrigeration & Mechanical, Inc.**

- Controls System Upgrade for Civic Center Ice Making Refrigeration System
- \$28,360
- Question on whether funds were carried over from previous year's budget
- Mayor Batha will forward the proposal to IEEP to see if the project is eligible for funding

**TRUSTEE BENJAMIN J. ARNO:**

**1) Probationary Period is up for Electric Department Personnel**

- Jerrod LaValley's 6-month probationary period is up
- Motion was made by Trustee Arno to approve Jerrod LaValley for Permanent Employment Status; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED

**2) Quote for New Clock in Front of Village Office**

- \$3,857.75
- Question of whether it was budgeted
- Will wait until Treasurer Letourneau returns to look into funding

**3) Grant for Library Steps**

- Library Director, Susan Sullivan, read a statement from the Library Board of Trustees (See Attached)
- Mayor Batha asked how much the cost of the full project was, Susan stated it was \$23,814
- Library has \$8,000 for building repairs in the budget over the next 2 years (\$ 4,000 for this year and \$4,000 for next year), Grant would provide \$11,000, \$2,200 would be for in kind services for Public Works to do the demolition. Leaving \$1,700 additional funding to be included in next year's budget.
- Susan was granted a one-week extension of the filing deadline
- Question of age of the steps
- Motion was made by Trustee Arno to have Susan proceed with the grant; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED
- Susan will bring a letter to the Village office for the Mayor to sign at 9:00 AM on Tuesday October 8, 2019 giving permission to go ahead with the grant

**TRUSTEE THOMAS M. DART:**

**1) Question on why the whole Village Board was not invited to attend the meeting with ERS**

- Mayor Batha stated he was under the impression that the whole Board was invited and were going to attend.

**TRUSTEE DALE M. MENARD:**

**1) Fall Clean-Up Days**

- To begin on Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 and will run through Friday October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- Only time Village Crews will be picking up clippings, brush and leaves until the next Clean-Up Days in the Spring

**TRUSTEE JAMIE L. GADWAY:**

**1) Most on the Coast**

- \$1500 for the Village
- Limited Exposure
- Start Earlier next year to get more exposure
- Mayor Batha spoke about the Electric Crew doing a lot of work and replaced lights before the show

**OTHER REPORTS:**

**PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR:**

- Finished Paving, would like to have the Clerk send a letter to the County thanking them for their help
- Mr. Pelkey called Karl Weiss to thank him personally because it will be his last year working with them
- Library Boilers have been installed and working
- Put a New Sewer Line in for Civic Center
- Doing some Sidewalk Repairs
- Patchwork Paving
- Mayor Batha asked about the concrete slabs for the Benches, Mr. Pelkey needs to know where and how many
- Mr. Pelkey asked the Board for clarification on the Yellow Caution Lights and whether or not for them to be installed.
  - Motion was made by Trustee Arno to install additional caution lights on Montgomery Street; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED; Mayor Batha Opposed
  - PW Supervisor Pelkey asked Andrew Vincelette if he felt the lights are helping and Mr. Vincelette agreed they were helping to slow the traffic down on Maple Street
- Mayor Batha asked PW Supervisor Pelkey about the lights that were supposed to get installed in Rouse Park
  - 2 Lights to be installed in the Park, Discussion on what lights, and whether or not to install them

**CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:**

- John Cooper stated he is currently working on the ERS project regarding the boilers

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR:**

- Susan spoke about an interesting talk the Library will have
- Journey Route 11
- October 15, 2019, 6:00 PM at Halstead Hall at the Civic Center

**TREASURER:**

Absent No Report

**CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR:**

Absent No Report

**RECESS**

Motion was made by Trustee Dart; Seconded by Mayor Batha to recess; AYE CARRIED

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by Trustee Menard to enter Executive Session at 8:43PM; Seconded by Trustee ARNO; AYE CARRIED.

No Action was taken in Executive Session

Motion was made by Trustee Gadway to leave Executive Session at 8:59PM; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

**REGULAR SESSION**

Motion made by Trustee Gadway to enter back into Regular Session at 8:59PM; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED.

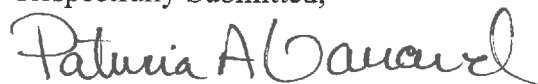
Motion made by Trustee Menard to override Code Enforcement Officer Cooper's decision and allow Andrew Vincelette's Fence located on 84 Maple Street, to Stay where it is currently located; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Gadway to authorize the Village Attorney to investigate the personnel matter; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED; Trustee Arno Opposed

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Trustee Arno to adjourn at 9:01PM; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia A. Garrand  
Deputy Village Clerk