

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on February 3, 2020 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 Menard, Trustee  
Jamie Gadway, Trustee

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Arsene Letourneau, Treasurer  
John Cooper, Code Enforcement Officer  
Susan Sullivan, Library Director

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

**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:**

**I. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No comments

**II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Trustee Arno made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 21, 2020 meeting; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED

**III. BILLS:** CHECK # 26171 – 26204 \$ 48,071.41  
No additions or deletions

Motion by Trustee Dart to accept and pay the bills; Seconded by Trustee Gadway; AYE CARRIED

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 1) Letter from Latitude 45 LLC regarding a renewal advisory notice for their beer, liquor and/or wine license. Informational purposes

**V. REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:**

**a. MAYOR THOMAS D. BATHA:**

- 1) Resolution 2020-04: Inspectors of Election  
Motion by Mayor Batha to approve the Election Inspectors as presented; Seconded by Trustee Menard; Roll Call Vote: Trustee Arno – AYE; Trustee Dart – AYE; Trustee Menard – AYE; Trustee Gadway – AYE; Mayor Batha – AYE
- 2) Resolution 2020-05; Extension of hydropower allocation  
Motion by Mayor Batha to approve the execution of the contract for the extension of the hydropower Allocation and agree to the new contract; Seconded by Trustee Menard; Roll Call Vote: Trustee Arno – AYE; Trustee Dart – AYE; Trustee Menard – AYE; Trustee Gadway – AYE; Mayor Batha – AYE

3) Engineering proposal for the water plant

The only proposal received was from Barton & Loguidice in the amount of \$1,127,000 for engineering services.

Jason Ballard from Barton & Loguidice is present to answer any questions. Barton & Loguidice would be responsible for soliciting and writing grant applications (such as NYS EFC); all bid specs for subcontractors.

Motion by Trustee Gadway to award the Engineering Service contract to Barton & Loguidice in the amount of \$1,127,000; Seconded by Trustee Menard; Discussion: Trustee Arno asked if PVC piping could be used instead of ductile iron – B&L responded that it could be. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Arno – AYE; Trustee Dart – AYE; Trustee Menard – AYE; Trustee Gadway – AYE; Mayor Batha – AYE. Motion Carried

4) Mayor Batha requests an Executive Session to discuss the proposed acquisition of real property; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED

5) Discuss on completion of Academy Street

Last year curbing and repaving of Pine and Academy Streets were scheduled. Due to the condition that Pine Street was in it took all summer to repair it. Academy Street didn't get new curbing or repair of curbing. Both streets are approximately over 700' in length totaling approximately 1400-1500' of curbing. Mayor Batha is asking the board to determine what they want for curbing taking into consideration the time it took to work on Pine Street.

Discussion by the trustees that they want the curbing done correctly.

Motion by Trustee Arno to replace all of the curbing; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED

6) Budget sheets are due to the Mayor

**b, TRUSTEE BENJAMIN J. ARNO:**

1) Training –

Trustee Arno requests that public works and electric department personnel attend a training provided OSHA for trenching/excavating. The training will be held at the Chamber of Commerce in Plattsburgh and will be approximately \$234 for 9 employees. All are in agreement

2) MEUA Annual Meeting

Trustee Arno requests that Chief Line Worker Jason Juneau attend the MEUA Annual Meeting which will be held in April. Discussion: In the past an electric department employee or board member has attended this meeting. The Board is in agreement to send Jason.

3) Electric Department

Trustee Arno requests that Chief Line Worker Jason Juneau receives a red key which will provide him access to all village buildings in the event there is an emergency.

4) Plowing and cleaning streets

There were 4 vehicles left on Lake Street overnight which impeded plowing and cleaning the snow. (Montgomery Street to the Coffee Shop). The Sheriff's Department will be notified.

**c. TRUSTEE THOMAS M. DART:**

Nothing to report

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

Nothing to report

**e. TRUSTEE JAMIE L. GADWAY:**

1) Recreation Department updates:

- Girl's locker room: the door has been installed and new outlets on walls installed

- Ethan Goslin, Rec Facility Manager, has asked permission to hold special events at discounted rates. Youth hockey season is winding down and there are surplus hours of ice time. An example would be for Rouses Point residents, showing proof of residency, to skate free.

Motion by Trustee Gadway to authorize Ethan Goslin to hold special events at discounted rates until the end of this years ice season; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED

**VI. OTHER REPORTS:**

**ADMINISTRATOR:**

**TREASURER:**

Nothing to report

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:**

John Cooper reported that he is working with Assessor Tim Surpitski to change the filing system to make it user friendly.

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR:**

Library Director Susan Sullivan reported that there are 2 new computers at the library. One will be designated for the Census. One computer was budgeted and one purchased by the Friends of the Library.

**VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Ron LeBlanc: Referencing the water plant engineering contract that was authorized tonight. Mr. LeBlanc stated that when he was a trustee, he was informed that the existing water plant would last until 2028. Mayor Batha stated that he was not sure where Mr. LeBlanc heard that from because he was not informed of this. Mayor Batha stated that the current water plant is very expensive to operate, manpower intensive and is operating day to day. There were some improvements in 2017.

Nicholas Southwick – inquired about the PLM Study with regard to development of the former Pfizer Property. Does the Board have flexibility with electric revenue? Mayor Batha responded that there are 3 ways additional revenue can be spent which is outlined in the Study.

Jedidiah Thone – Inquired if the source of water for the new water plant will come from the lake. Mayor Batha responded that it will.

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mayor Batha requested a recess for Executive Session at 7:28PM; Seconded by Trustee Dart; AYE CARRIED

Motion by Mayor Batha to enter into Executive Session at 7:36PM; Seconded by Trustee Dart

Motion to exit Executive Session by Trustee Arno at 8:21PM; Seconded by Trustee Menard

No action taken in Executive Session.

**IX. REGULAR SESSION:**

Motion by Trustee Arno to enter into Regular Session at 8:21PM; Seconded by Trustee Menard

Motion by Trustee Menard to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Barton & Loguidice; Seconded by Trustee Gadway; AYE CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Menard to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Elevate 518, LLC for consulting services for the Norther Border Regional Commission Grant (\$500,000); Seconded by Trustee Gadway; AYE CARRIED

Parks and Recreation Grant – discussion with Elevate 518 LLC regarding blueprints for the fields, resurfacing the tennis courts, fencing for the tennis courts and pickleball court. Administrator Donna Boumil will set up a meeting with PWS Adam Menard and Elevate 518 to discuss plans and inkind services provided by public works.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Trustee Arno to adjourn at 8:45PM; Seconded by Trustee Menard; AYE CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,



Donna J. Boumil  
Village Clerk/Administrator