

Minutes of the Sewer Rates Hearing, and Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on April 19, 2021, at Halstead Hall, Civic Center, 39 Lake Street scheduled to commence at 7:00 PM.

PRESENT: Jed F. Thone, Mayor
Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee
Dale M. Menard, Trustee
Brian S. Pelkey, Trustee
Joseph Rodriguez

OTHERS PRESENT: Arsene Letourneau, Treasurer
John Cooper, Code Enforcement
Tomas Murnane, Village Attorney

RECORDING SECRETARY: Susan Sullivan, Clerk/Administrator

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

SEWER RATE HEARING

The mayor asked for comments on the proposed Sewer Rate Amendment.

There were no comments from the public.

With no further comments Mayor Thone made a motion to close the hearing at 7:05 PM, seconded by Trustee Arno. All voted AYE.

REGULAR SESSION:

Trustee Arno made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-11, Sewer Rates, seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. Roll call vote: Trustee Arno – AYE, Trustee Menard – AYE, Trustee Pelkey – AYE, Trustee Rodriguez – AYE, Mayor Thone – AYE.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Residents of Chapman Street, Casey Boire, Mark Boire, Bob Racicot, Calvin Coloumb, all had questions about what is being done about the building that burned on Chapman Street and the abandoned vehicles, trash, and leaves on the property. Code Enforcement Officer, John Cooper and Attorney Tom Murnane explained that there is an ongoing fire investigation. The landlord is working with his insurance company and they did fence the property. After the investigation is completed, John Cooper will follow up to ensure that the property is cleaned up. If there is no progress, Attorney Murnane will contact the property owner. Mr. Cooper will keep the residents apprised of the progress.

II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Trustee Arno made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 5, 2021, meeting, seconded by Trustee Menard. All voted AYE.

III. BILLS: \$213,866.52 **CHECK #** 27406 - 27456

Treasurer Letourneau reported that there is one deletion from the bills. Champlain Valley Electric, \$205.12, the wrong size bulbs were returned. Trustee Pelkey made a motion to accept and pay the bills as amended, seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. All voted AYE.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

The Fire Department wrote to inform the board of the outcome of recent elections. Elected were: Chief, Michael LeBlanc; 1st Assistant Chief, Maurice Snide; 2nd Assistant Chief, Shawn LaBombard.

These positions were added to the Mayoral Appointments.

V. REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:

a. MAYOR JED F. THONE:

- 1) The Mayor presented an updated Mayoral Appointments slate. Motion by Trustee Arno to approve, seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. All voted AYE.
- 2) The Library received a grant to install a Story Walk around the exercise path in the park. Civic Center Manager, Ethan Goslin, will work with Library Director Anne Paulson to place the story stops.
- 3)The Mayor reported that the planner for the Complete Street program will be in the Village in May to look at places to put signage for the parks and library.
- 4) The mayor reported on a NYCOM webinar about Recreational Marijuana. The village could opt out of allowing a dispensary by passing a local law, but then we would not get any of the tax money associated with sales in the county. Any business associated with marijuana would have to go through the zoning process.
- 5) Mayor Thone requested that Jason Juneau, Chief Lineman, be sent to the semiannual NYPA meeting as the village delegate. Motion made by Trustee Arno to allow this, seconded by Trustee Menard. All voted AYE.
- 6) Mayor Thone discussed the village wide yard sale. Trustee Pelkey clarified that it is usually held the weekend before the 4th of July festivities. Trustee Pelkey made a motion for the village to support the yard sale this year by supplying the map and descriptions of sale items, seconded by Trustee Menard. All voted AYE.

b. TRUSTEE BENJAMIN J. ARNO:

- 1) Trustee Arno reported that he attended the library board meeting this month. The library would like to have a handrail put on the basement stairs and Library signs put on the road.
- 2) Trustee Arno reported that the gazebo needs some work and painting and the benches around the village need painting.
- 3) Requests an executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular employee. Seconded by Trustee Pelkey. All voted AYE.

c. TRUSTEE DALE M. MENARD:

Nothing to report.

d. TRUSTEE BRIAN S. PELKEY:

- 1) Trustee Pelkey reported that the 4th of July committee will have events on Saturday and Sunday, June 26 and 27, but not on Friday this year. They are still selling raffle tickets to offset the costs of the bands.
- 2) Trustee Pelkey suggested that Trustee Rodriguez look into getting benches for the park. The cement pads were poured last year.
- 3) Trustee Pelkey asked if the questions asked in the 30% engineering report have all been answered. Mayor Thone said that is not yet complete. Trustee Arno made a motion that at least 1 trustee attend future engineering meetings, seconded by Trustee Menard. All voted AYE.
- 4) Electric Boiler Moratorium. Attorney Murnane is working on the extension. He will send it to Administrator Sullivan as soon as he is finished so she can distribute it to the board.

e. TRUSTEE JOSEPH RODRIGUEZ

Nothing to report.

VI. OTHER REPORTS:

Code Enforcement Officer John Cooper reports he is doing all he can with the burned out property and he will get phone numbers from the residents in attendance so he can keep them updated.
Attorney Murnane asked for an executive session to discuss the purchase of real property. Motion made by Trustee Arno, seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. All voted AYE.

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No comments

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Trustee Arno made a motion to enter executive session at 8:11 pm, seconded by Trustee Menard. All voted AYE.
Trustee Menard made a motion to exit executive session at 8:18 pm, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. All voted AYE.

IX. REGULAR SESSION:

No action taken in executive session.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Arno to adjourn at 8:19 pm; Seconded by Trustee Arno. All voted AYE.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan Sullivan".

Susan Sullivan
Village Clerk/Administrator