

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on December 6, 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, Absent

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Arsene Letourneau, Treasurer  
John Cooper, Code Enforcement Office  
Thomas Murnane, Village Attorney

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Christopher Latremore, Clerk/Administrator

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

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

**REGULAR SESSION:**

**I. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Heidi Danis spoke about property at 104-106 Lake Street. She indicated that they filed for a permit and a building permit was issued by code enforcement officer John Cooper. Shortly after, Mr. Cooper issued a stop work order. The stop work order was issued for the size of the windows being installed. Mrs. Danis indicated that she provided drawings and photos of windows when the permit was issued. Mrs. Danis was advised that the windows being installed did not follow the requirements set by the code for store front windows. Mrs. Danis feels that under the code it indicates "size should be" rather than "size must be" for store front window size. Mrs. Danis also advised the board that they have put similar windows in other property they own on Lake Street without any issues. Mrs. Danis was advised that the permit may have been issued in error, but the board was not going to reference what happened in the past. Mrs. Danis was advised by Thomas Murnane that they need to apply for an area variance permit. Mrs. Danis asked to have the stop work order lifted. The board advised the Danis's they would review the matter and have the village attorney send them a letter of the board's decision. The Danis's advised the board that they would take legal action against the village if deemed necessary and the building could stay as is for years ahead.

**II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Trustee Arno made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 15, 2021, meeting, seconded by Trustee Menard. **ALL VOTED AYE.**

**III. BILLS:** \$79,293.89      **CHECK #** 28035 – 28078

Treasurer Letourneau reported supplemental bill totaling \$129.90

Trustee Menard made a motion to pay the bills as amended. Seconded by Trustee Arno.

**All voted AYE**

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Village needs to hold a public hearing for Local Law 2-2021 of the year 2021 in pursuant to Cannabis Law 131 opting out of licensing and establishing retail cannabis dispensaries and/or on-site cannabis consumption establishments within the Village of Rouses Point.

Trustee Menard made a motion seconded by Trustee Pelkey.

Trustee Menard, Pelkey and Arno ALL VOTED AYE, Mayor Thone VOTED NAYE

Create new position for employees with dual certificate for water and wastewater to forward to attorney and CSEA.

Mayor Thone made a motion seconded by Trustee Arno.

All voted AYE

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

### **a. MAYOR THONE**

- 1) No report

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

1) Estimate to replace two windows at the Dodge Memorial Library that are rotted would be \$239.00 each. Trustee Arno also advised the board that there are 9 windows that will all need to be replaced at some point.

Mayor Thone made motion pending approval from budget officer Letourneau seconded by Trustee Menard

2) Presented certificate of recognition to Nancy Baker, Kay Papin, Penny Treggett and Mary Racicot for their dedication to the Rouses Point Beautification Committee.

3) Trustee Arno requested an executive session. Seconded by Trustee Pelkey. Trustee Arno, Pelkey and Menard ALL VOTED AYE. Mayor Thone VOTED NAYE.

### **c. TRUSTEE DALE MENARD:**

1) Trustee Menard thanked the village employees for the work on the Christmas decorations for everything looks great. Also, thanked everyone at the Civic Center.

### **d. TRUSTEE BRIAN S. PELKEY:**

1) Fire Department is not having a Christmas party this year. The fire department will be bringing Santa around on December 18, 2021. The event will begin at noon and last until 3 P.M. Presents will be brought door to door with the help of elves.

2) The parade of lights will take place on December 19, 2021 at 6 P.M. This is a very up lifting event for all ages. For additional information contact fire chief Mike Leblanc.

3) Individuals can register for the "Santa Speedo Run/Walk". The event will take place on December 11, 2021, at 11 A.M. The run/walk will start outside Latitude 45. Benefits will go to the Fourth of July committee.

### **e. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ:**

- 1) Absent

## **VI. OTHER REPORTS:**

1) Treasure Letourneau reported since last meeting the village has received \$25,825.00 form septic drop off.

2) Treasure Letourneau advised the mayor that he needs to appoint Chris Latremore as register and zoning board clerk.

Mayor Thone made motion seconded by Trustee Pelkey. ALL VOTED AYE

3) Clerk Latremore advised the board that a village resident would like to set a tree in the park by the fountain with Christmas ornaments. The tree would be set up for individuals to bring an ornament and/or take an ornament. The ornaments will be none breakable. She will be responsible for promoting and taking charge of clean up.

Mayor Thone made motion seconded by Trustee Arno. ALL VOTED AYE

4) Clerk Latremore advised the board that Librarian Ann Paulson inquired about doing a village newsletter. This is something board will consider.

#### **VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

1) Pat Birkett expressed concern on the continuing use of masks in all indoor facilities within the village for the increase numbers of covid cases and new variant. The board agreed that the village policy for mask has not changed.

#### **VIII. RECESS:**

Trustee Arno made motion to recess at 7:35. Seconded by Trustee Menard. AYE CARRIED

#### **IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Trustee Arno made a motion to enter executive session at 7:40 pm, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. Trustee Menard, Pelkey and Arno ALL VOTED AYE. Mayor Thone VOTED NAYE

Trustee Arno made a motion to exit executive session at 8:41 pm, seconded by Trustee Menard. ALL VOTED AYE.

No action was taken in executive session.

#### **X. REGULAR SESSION:**

1) Request for Village Attorney Thomas Murnane to send out noncompliance letter.

Trustee Menard made motion seconded by Trustee Pelkey.

Trustee Menard, Pelkey and Arno ALL VOTED AYE. Mayor Thone voted NAYE

#### **XI. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor made a motion to adjourn at 8:41 pm, seconded by Trustee Menard. ALL VOTED AYE.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christopher W Latremore  
Village Clerk/Administrator