

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on March 1, 2021, at Halstead Hall, Civic Center, 39 Lake Street scheduled to commence at 7:00 PM.

PRESENT: Benjamin J. Arno, Deputy Mayor
Jamie L. Gadway, Trustee
Dale M. Menard, Trustee
Brian S. Pelkey, Trustee

ABSENT Jed F. Thone, Mayor

OTHERS PRESENT: Arsene Letourneau, Treasurer
John Cooper, Code Enforcement
Tom Murnane, Village Attorney
Adam Menard, Public Works Supervisor

RECORDING SECRETARY: Susan Sullivan, Clerk/Administrator

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

REGULAR SESSION:

I. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Karen Weierstall, Co-Chair Fourth of July Committee, made a request that the committee be able to use the Civic Center and Rouse Park for festivities this summer as long as they can meet Covid requirements at that time. Also, requested that the village provide the same funding as years past. Motion made by Trustee Menard to allow use of village properties and provide funding. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Arno. All voted Aye.

II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Trustee Menard made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 16, 2021 meeting, seconded by Deputy Mayor Arno. All voted AYE.

III. BILLS: \$30,071.32 **CHECK #** 27235 - 272303

Treasurer Letourneau report there is one correction to the bills. J. Hogan refrigeration listed at \$221.71 reduced to \$197.56. Trustee Gadway made a motion to pay the bills as amended, Seconded by Trustee Pelkey. All voted AYE.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

Administrator Sullivan reported that she received a letter from FEMA stating that they would pay 100% of acceptable costs on our grant instead of 75%.

V. REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:

a. MAYOR JED F. THONE:

b. DEPUTY BENJAMIN J. ARNO:

1) Mayor Thone received a letter from DOT requesting a current map of the Civic Center driveways. Mayor Thone will use his drone to make an aerial map. The letter also suggested that the library might use the White Ave driveway as two way and not use Lake street as an entrance or exit at all. This will be left to the library board.

2) There is a tree by the edge of the road on Pearl Street that looks like it might split. Adam Menard will look at it tomorrow and remove it if necessary.

3) Two quotes were received to replace the floor in the village office. The work will be done after hours so as to not disrupt the office functions. This is a budgeted item. Trustee Menard made a motion to award the contract to Lee Kitchen Carpet & Appliances for \$6,229.35, Seconded by Trustee Gadway. All voted AYE.

4) Deputy Mayor Arno announced that the village is looking for a Historian. Anyone interested should contact him or the village office.

c. TRUSTEE JAMIE L. GADWAY:

1) Trustee Gadway made motions for two executive sessions to discuss the employment history of a particular employee. Both seconded by Trustee Menard. All voted AYE.

d. TRUSTEE DALE M. MENARD:

1) Trustee Menard asked Code Officer Cooper if he has inspected the ERS property. Mr. cooper replied that he hasn't yet but will when the interior renovation is 3/4 completed. Mr. Murnane reported that he has spoken with the ERS attorney and this topic will be discussed at the special meeting on March 4th.

e. TRUSTEE BRIAN S. PELKEY:

1) Trustee Pelkey discussed the current Moratorium on Electric Boilers. This was put into place to protect against the use of inefficient high load boilers that do not meet our electric efficiency code. Tom Murnane will bring documentation required to the next meeting to extend the moratorium for 6 months so the village can draft a proposed law making this permanent and have the required public hearing on the matter.

VI. OTHER REPORTS:

Code Enforcement Officer Cooper is sending out letters to all landlords in the village alerting them of the requirement to perform safety equipment checks for working smoke detectors and CO detectors. Treasurer Letourneau asked the board set a time for a special meeting to review the proposed budget. Next Monday, March 8 at 4 PM in Halstead Hall was agreed upon. Tom Murnane reported that he spoke with KAS regarding the phase 1 study, it was a clean report. Mr. Murnane provided an engineering report to ERS.

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No comments

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Deputy Mayor Arno made a motion to enter executive session at 7:27 pm, seconded by Trustee Menard. All voted AYE. Trustee Menard made a motion to exit executive session at 7:55 pm, seconded by Deputy Mayor Arno. All voted AYE.

IX. REGULAR SESSION:

Trustee Gadway made a motion to promote Heath Cardin to MEO II at his current salary if approval is gained from Civil Service and CSEA, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. All voted AYE.

Trustee Menard made a motion to give Tom Murnane's office permission to contract with an independent investigator to look into personnel complaints. Seconded by Trustee Gadway. All voted AYE

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Menard to adjourn at 8:07 pm, seconded by Deputy Mayor Arno. All voted AYE.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Sullivan
Village Clerk/Administrator