

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Monday, September 20, 2021, at Halstead Hall, Civic Center, 39 Lake Street scheduled to commence at 7:00 PM.

PRESENT: Jedidiah F. Thone, Mayor
Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee
Brian S. Pelkey, Trustee
Joseph E. Rodriguez, Trustee

ABSENT: Dale M. Menard, Trustee
Susan Sullivan, Village Clerk/Administrator
Arsene F. Letourneau, Village Treasurer

OTHERS PRESENT: Rebecca Pelkey, Deputy Treasurer
John Cooper, Code Enforcement Officer

RECORDING SECRETARY: Patricia A. Garrand, Deputy Village Clerk

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

REGULAR SESSION:

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

- 1) Calvin Coulombe asked about any progress on 43 Chapman Street. Expressed concern that it is going on 6 months, and nothing is being done.
- 2) Charlene Sample spoke about the Banner Project for the Hometown Heroes. She has a small group of ladies including Pat Birkett and have formed a committee. With the Boards permission and approval would like to move forward. They started a Facebook Page. She presented applications for the Board to review and explained how the process would work. She spoke to Jason Juneau about the Pole locations, hardware, etc. There would be no cost to the Village other than having the Village Crew hang them and take them down. The Committee will pay for all the hardware needed. Looking at using Lake Street, Champlain Street and possibly Maple Street and/or Pratt Street if needed. Planning on hanging them from May to November. If there is a waitlist for the banners, there will be a 2-year period. They will see how it goes. Trustee Pelkey made a motion to allow the committee to proceed with the project. Seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. AYE CARRIED.
- 3) Vanessa Lewis-Rodriguez is part of the Independence Day Committee and asked for the Board's permission to do a Boot Drive on Lake Street, September 25, 2021, from 9:00 am to 3:00pm. She also asked permission to do another Boot Drive on Lake Street, October 9,

2021, from 9:00am to 3:00pm to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness. **“Real Men Wear Pink”** for October. Trustee Arno asked if they have the safety signs to slow traffic and cones for the area. Vanessa assured them she did. Trustee Arno made a motion to allow both Boot Drives, Seconded by Trustee Pelkey. AYE CARRIED. Trustee Pelkey just asked them to be safe.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Trustee Arno made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 7, 2021, meeting, Seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. AYE CARRIED

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| BILLS: | VOUCHERS | 27865 - 27906 | \$161,601.49 |
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No additions or deletions.

Trustee Pelkey had a question about the bill for Stafford, Owens, Piller, Murnane. He would like clarification as to what the miscellaneous matters are that we are being charged for. The items listed on the invoice are too vague. He would like to know exactly what the Village is paying for. Trustee Pelkey would like to pay the invoice as to avoid any late charges but wants the message relayed to Mr. Murnane that there needs to be more clarification of the charges on the invoices.

Trustee Pelkey questioned the bill for Jedidiah Thone for Mileage Reimbursement. Trustee Pelkey asked Mayor Thone what the reimbursement was for. The mayor said that it was for travel to the MEUA conference in his personal vehicle. Trustee Pelkey stated the Village has a travel policy that was passed by the Board. The policy states a Village vehicle should be taken when available. The Hybrid was available. When Mayor Thone was asked as to why he didn't take it, he replied he didn't want to. Further discussion took place.

Trustee Pelkey made a motion to pay the bills except the bill for the mileage reimbursement; Seconded by Trustee Arno; Trustees Arno, Pelkey and Rodriguez voted AYE, Mayor Thone voted NAY. Motion to pay the bills as amended CARRIES. Further discussion took place.

CORRESPONDENCE:

No correspondence

REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:

MAYOR JEDIDIAH F. THONE:

- 1) Assessment of Rabideau Way Property: Trustee Pelkey left a message for the Independent Assessor to contact the mayor regarding this issue. Mayor Thone stated he called and left a message with the Assessor and is waiting to hear back.
- 2) Town of Champlain contacted Mayor Thone about renaming the Bike Path to The Harry McManus Bike Trail. Trustee Arno made a motion; Seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. AYE

CARRIED. Will do a Resolution and have a ROLL CALL VOTE at the next Board meeting.

- 3) Mayor Thone stated that Susan Sullivan, Clerk/Administrator, contacted the Sheriff and State Police to see if they supply monthly reports. They haven't gotten back to her yet.
- 4) MEUA-RIDER A: Rates and Charges for Customers requesting High Density Load Service. Stating that if someone wants to come in, they would be responsible to pay all the costs. Plattsburgh has implemented this plan into their rate structure. Will investigate how they are doing it and see if it is something we can incorporate into our rates. This will help with the Crypto Currency ban that is difficult to enforce.

TRUSTEE BENJAMIN J. ARNO:

- 1) Would like the Village Crew to take the flowers down from the downtown poles.
- 2) Trustee Arno requested an executive session to discuss a particular person. Seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. AYE CARRIED
- 3) Spoke to Mr. Todd Lincourt at 17 Pine Street. Regarding the driveway damaged by Village Equipment. Trustee Arno stated he went and personally inspected the damage; it is 6 inches long and ½ inch deep. Trustee Arno contacted Mr. Chenevert for a quote to repair the damage. He came back with a quote of \$100. Mayor Thone questioned if that was to seal the entire driveway. Trustee Arno replied that you need to seal the whole driveway. Motion was made by Mayor Thone to make the \$100 repairs the driveway, Seconded by Trustee Rodriguez AYE CARRIED
- 4) Spoke to the Administrator Susan about the resolutions she did for the Fire Department Years of Service. Out of the eight, four of them were crooked. One had the seal on the wrong side. They didn't have any frames. It's a shame that these men with 65 years, 50 years, 30 years etc.... of service were given these Resolutions in cheap frames and printed on copier paper. Said they should have gone to Border Press and got some better paper. They looked very bad compared to the other ones from the Town and County.
- 5) Trustee Pelkey asked Trustee Arno if he spoke with the Library Technician, Anne about the steps. Mayor Thone said the repairs will be done in the spring. The funding is good until April so we may have to start early. Trustee Rodriguez spoke with Adam Menard, Public Works Supervisor, and said that we should not lose the funding. Trustee Pelkey said we need to secure the contractor down to a definite date so we can get this project done.

TRUSTEE DALE M. MENARD:

Absent

MAYOR JEDIDIAH F. THONE: ADDITIONAL REPORTS

- 1) Requests an Executive Session about a particular person, Seconded by Trustee Pelkey. AYE CARRIED
- 2) Requests an Executive Session about an Investigation, Seconded by Trustee Pelkey. AYE CARRIED
- 3) Requests an Executive Session about a particular employee, Seconded by Trustee Pelkey. AYE CARRIED

TRUSTEE BRIAN S. PELKEY:

- 1) Eric Gooley passed his test for Water Treatment Plant Operator. Need to make a motion to promote him from a Water Plant Laborer in Training to a Water Treatment Plant Operator. This was brought to him today by the Superintendent. Trustee Pelkey made a motion to increase his pay to Operator, Seconded by Trustee Arno. AYE CARRIED. If a Resolution is needed, they will do one for the next Board meeting and have a ROLL CALL VOTE.
- 2) Meeting with PLM, an Electrical Engineering Firm, to take over the Engineering duties for the Village. They are a member of MEUA, so we get a break in the cost. They are currently doing our ARC Flash Study and will be doing a System Study in the future. Now we have someone we can call with questions and/or concerns. PLM are the engineers for Lake Placid and Tupper Lake.
- 3) Meeting with Barton & Logudice regarding the new Water Plant. It was an update of the 90% of the construction on our new Water Plant. Everyone has questions about the Water Plant and the costs and when it is going to happen. After talking with the engineers, what they are looking for is that the Village of Rouses Point be "shovel ready". So that when we do need a Water Plant, we will be ready to go. When we started this, the Village was going to get a 40% grant and we would have to Bond the other 60%. After talking with them, they feel there is going to be more money coming down the pike. Being shovel ready will put us at the front of the line when the funding becomes available. Trustee Pelkey spoke to the public and said that if anyone has any questions just to come to one of the Board members and ask. There are also copies of the plans available at the Village Office.
- 4) Trustee Pelkey requests an executive session about a particular employee, Seconded by Trustee Rodriguez. AYE CARRIED

TRUSTEE JOSEPH E. RODRIGUEZ:

- 1) Would like to Thank the Village Employees for the great work on the Civic Center Sidewalk.
- 2) Trustee Rodriguez spoke with the other Board members and would like to recognize Kay Papin and Nancy Baker for the work they do with the flowers around the Village. Trustee Pelkey stated he would like to include all the ladies who are involved. They have been doing it for many years and should be recognized. They would like a certificate made for each of them for all their work. Motion was made by Trustee Rodriguez, Seconded by Trustee Arno. AYE CARRIED

OTHER REPORTS:

CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

- 1) Following up on complaints. Trustee Pelkey asked about 43 Chapman Street. John Cooper stated he hasn't received anything from our lawyer yet so he can take them to court. Trustee Pelkey spoke to a few different public officials, and they suggested to call Kimberly Davis, the Clinton County Treasurer to see if the Village can take care of the property and put the cost on the taxes for that property. It has been 6 months, and something needs to be done. There is wildlife living in the mess and if we need to contact the Health Department then we can go that route.

TREASURER:

Absent No Report

CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR:

Absent No Report

DEPUTY CLERK:

No Report

DEPUTY TREASURER:

No Report

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:

- 1) Calvin Coulombe asked if tractor trailer traffic is allowed on Chapman Street. He has been seeing a lot of truck traffic lately. Trustee Pelkey and Trustee Arno stated there is a weight limit on that street. We will check to make sure the signs prohibiting the truck traffic are still in place and let the Sheriff know.

MAYOR JEDIDIAH F. THONE ADDITIONAL REPORTS:

- 1) Mayor Thone had a question on the Invoices for the Civic Center Ads. That due to COVID was wondering if the customers should get a break for the year. He would like to discuss this more with the Treasurer, Arsene Letourneau when he comes back from fall training.
- 2) The sidewalk in front of 69 Lake Street, Alan Kaufman, will be replaced and just noted as non-compliant so that people in wheelchairs can still enter his building. Mayor Thone stated that the curbing is up to State Code. Needs to be 6 inches to be ADA Compliant. It is a state problem so if there are problems in the future it will be a State issue not a Village issue.

RECESS

Motion was made by Trustee Arno to recess at 7:43pm; Seconded by Trustee Rodriguez; AYE CARRIED

EXECUTIVE SESSION

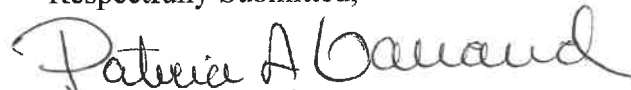
Motion made by Mayor Thone to enter Executive Session at 7:45pm; Seconded by Trustee ARNO; AYE CARRIED.

Motion was made by Trustee Pelkey to exit Executive Session at 8:45pm; Seconded by Trustee Arno; AYE CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Thone to adjourn at 8:46pm; Seconded by Trustee Rodriguez; AYE CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia A. Garrand". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Patricia A. Garrand
Deputy Village Clerk