

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on August 21, 2023, at Halstead Hall, Civic Center, 39 Lake Street scheduled to commence at 7:00PM.

**PRESENT:** John J. LaBonte, Mayor  
Dale Menard, Trustee  
Nicholas C. Southwick, Trustee  
Brian S. Pelkey, Trustee

**ABSENT:** Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee  
Arsene F. Letourneau, Treasurer

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

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

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

Mayor LaBonte called the meeting to order at 7:03PM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**I. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Steve Lambert residing at 22 Academy Street, stated that during the past 2 weeks he has intercepted trucks making turns from Maple Street onto Academy Street. Mr. Lambert indicated that trucks are having issues making the turn and having to backup. Mr. Lambert stated that he also saw a truck take tree limbs down; the truck ended up backing up, and while he was backing a vehicle drove around the truck and both Treasure Letourneau and Mr. Lambert witnessed the truck hitting the curb. Mr. Lambert is concerned for the children since school will be starting shortly. Mr. Lambert suggested adding signage on Maple Street and Academy Street to detour truck traffic from these streets. Mayor LaBonte indicated that the village has had conversations with the warehouse company, who has taken action to have the truck traffic detoured, and the village has already ordered the proper signage. Trustee Menard indicated that he has also observed the truck traffic and witnessed the issues Mr. Lambert is claiming. Mayor LaBonte stated that the village streets and sidewalks need to be safe.

**REGULAR SESSION:**

**II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Trustee Menard made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 7, 2023, seconded by Trustee Southwick. **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

**III. BILLS: \$142,063.38 CHECK # 29810-29849**

Deputy Treasurer Becky Pelkey indicated that there were no additions and no deletions to the bills.

Trustee Southwick made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Trustee Menard.  
**ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

#### **IV. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Administrator Latremore advised the board he had no correspondence at this time.

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

##### **A. MAYOR JOHN J. LABONTE**

1. Mayor LaBonte made a motion to hold an executive session regarding personnel issues, seconded by Trustee Menard.

**ALL VOTED, AYE. TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

2. Mayor LaBonte stated that he has been receiving complaints regarding the telephone poles on Chapman Street. Mayor LaBonte advised the board that he had a phone conversation with Mike Southwick from the telephone company. Mr. Southwick advised Mayor LaBonte that they plan on having the poles removed before the first snow fall. Mayor LaBonte indicated the reason the poles have not been removed is that some residents on Chapman Street have not changed from the old cooper line to the new fiber optic line. The telephone company will be mailing letters to their customers, as required by the New York State Public Service Commission, which need to convert their service. The telephone company indicated that the letters would be mailed by Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at the latest.

##### **B. TRUSTEE DALE MENARD:**

1. Trustee Dale Menard asked Administrator Latremore if he knew when the bins for the clothing would be picked up at the Civic Center, because there is an overflow on the ground. Administrator Latremore indicated that he did not know, but he would reach out to the Friends of the Stage to have the clothing picked up.

##### **C. TRUSTEE BENJAMIN J. ARNO**

Absent

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

1. Trustee Pelkey advised the board that Public Works is paving the paths and removing trip hazards at the Civic Center. Trustee Pelkey feels this will allow more usage of the paths.

2. Trustee Pelkey stated that the work to replace the Fire Department roof has started.
3. Trustee Pelkey state that the tires on Montgomery Street have been picked up and thanked Code Enforcement Office Cooper for is involvement.

#### **E. TRUSTEE NICHOLAS C. SOUTHWICK:**

1. Trustee Southwick advised the board that currently the village has two open positions. One is for a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator with Grade 2-A certificate, and the other position is for a Water Treatment Plant Operator with Grade 2-A certificate.

Trustee Menard made a motion for the Administrator to advertise both positions on Indeed and Monster, seconded by Trustee Southwick.

**ALL VOTED, AYE. TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

#### **VI. OTHER REPORTS:**

None

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

Mr. Lambert advised that he has seen a truck come a couple of times a month to pick up the clothes from bins, but it seems to be more common than the pickup for the bottle and cans and asked the board to speak to the youth hockey association to have them removed as well.

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

Trustee Menard made a motion to enter recess at 7:25PM, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. **ALL VOTED, AYE. TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

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

Trustee Menard made a motion to enter executive session at 7:30PM, seconded by Trustee Pelkey.

**ALL VOTED, AYE. TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

Trustee Menard made a motion to exit the executive session at 8:31PM, seconded by Trustee Southwick. **ALL VOTED, AYE. TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

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

Trustee Menard made a motion to start cost of service study on the municipality electric rates, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. **ALL VOTED, AYE. TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor LaBonte made a motion to adjourn at 8:32PM, seconded by Trustee Menard.  
**ALL VOTED, AYE. TRUSTEE ARNO ABSENT.**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Christopher W. Latremore*

Christopher W Latremore  
Village Clerk/Administrator