

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on December 19, 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
Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT: Arsene F. Letourneau, Treasurer
John Cooper, Code Enforcement Officer

RECORDING SECRETARY: Christopher Latremore, Clerk/Administrator

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

I. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No one addressed the board.

REGULAR SESSION:

II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Trustee Arno made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 4, 2023, seconded by Trustee Southwick. **ALL VOTED AYE.**

III. BILLS: \$215,391.48 CHECK # 30120-30172

Treasurer Arsene Letourneau indicated that there was one addition to the bills:

Business Card- \$188.90

Trustee Menard made a motion to pay the bills as amended, seconded by Trustee Pelkey.

ALL VOTED AYE.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Administrator Latremore stated that U.S. Small Business Administration was supposed to attend, but due to the weather, they were unable to attend the meeting. The scope of what they wanted to present was that SBA mission-driven team stands ready to help New York businesses and residents impacted by severe storms and flooding. They are currently accepting applications from residents, renters, businesses and non-profit organizations with physical damage from severe storms/flooding occurring July 9-10, 2023, in Clinton County,

NY. SBA currently has a temporary office located at the Ellenburg Town Hall, 13 Brandy Brook Rd, Ellenburg Center, NY 12934, and will permanently close on Friday December 22, 2023, at 4:00P.M. The deadline for business and non-profits organizations with economic loss to apply for disaster assistance is September 3, 2024.

2. Administrator Latremore advised the board that the Rouses Point Fourth of July Committee would like to have access to the interior of the Civic Center from 12:00P.M.-8:00P.M. on Friday June 28th and from 11:00A.M. until dusk on June 29th and 30th.

Trustee Menard made a motion to approve the Rouses Fourth of July Committee to have access to the interior of the Civic Center, seconded by Trustee Southwick.

ALL VOTED AYE.

3. Administrator Latremore advised the board that the Rouses Point Fourth of July Committee would like to have access to the grounds of the Civic Center from Friday June 28th through June 30th and if NYS regulations allowed, they would like permission to have local business support food and drink vending. As in the past, they will be responsible for all licensing, insurance and any other regulatory guidelines required.

Mayor LaBonte made a motion to approve the Rouses Fourth of July Committee to have access to the grounds of the Civic Center and allow business food and drink vending if proper licensing, insurance, and any other regulatory guidelines are followed, seconded by Trustee Menard.

ALL VOTED AYE.

4. Administrator Latremore advised the board that the Rouses Point Fourth of July Committee is hoping that the village will consider a donation of at least \$5,000 to help continue this annual tradition. In addition, they are requesting that the village again cover the expenses of additional portable toilettes, needed to support the village wide event. The board tabled this until the budget for 2024-2025 was completed.

V. REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES:

A. MAYOR JOHN J. LABONTE

1. Mayor LaBonte read resolution 2023-22 Electric Capital Equipment Purchase. Trustee Menard made a motion approving resolution 2023-22, seconded by Trustee Arno.

Roll call:

Trustee Pelkey AYE

Trustee Southwick AYE

Trustee Arno AYE

Trustee Menard AYE

Mayor LaBonte AYE

2. Mayor LaBonte was pleased to announce that through NYS Water Infrastructure Improvement Act grant that the village applied for has been awarded \$5,000,000 as

well as a Federal Grant in the amount of \$2,000,000. Mayor LaBonte stated that the grant money would be used toward the construction of a new water plant. Mayor LaBonte stated that the water plant is 60 years old. The water plant crew is doing an excellent job maintaining the facility, but it is outdated and needs to be replaced. Mayor LaBonte stated that the new water plant is estimated to cost the village \$12,000,000 but the mayor is hoping the cost will be reduced.

3. Mayor LaBonte announced that the telephone poles on Chapman Street have finally been removed. Mayor LaBonte thanked Mike Southwick for his help in getting this project completed.

B. TRUSTEE DALE MENARD:

1. Trustee Dale Menard stated that the Parade of lights was very nice and thanked the Rouses Point Fire Department not only for putting on the parade, but for everything they do all year long.

C. TRUSTEE BENJAMIN J. ARNO

1. Trustee Arno indicated that the library needs a dumpster. Trustee Arno stated that he and Mr. Lambert removed a trailer load of cardboard and feels that a dumpster would be a benefit to the library.
2. Trustee Arno stated that the Fire Department kids Christmas Party was a great success. Trustee Arno indicated that over 150 people attended, they handed out gift bags, apples, hot chocolate and gave fire truck rides until 3:00P.M.

D. TRUSTEE BRIAN S. PELKEY:

1. Trustee Pelkey stated that the Speedo run on Montgomery Street went well. There were about 25-30 participants, and everyone had a good time.
2. Trustee Pelkey stated that the Parade of lights was a success again this year. Trustee Pelkey stated the Fire Chief Mike LeBlanc needs to be thanked for organizing and putting this event together. Trustee Pelkey said that he spoke to Mr. Roberts, one of the participants in the parade, and they feel that next year they should reach out to other communities prior to scheduling the parade to eliminate any conflict with other communities which could increase the number of entries in the parade. Trustee Pelkey also wanted to thank Shannon and Vicky for keeping the intersections safe during the parade.

E. TRUSTEE NICHOLAS C. SOUTHWICK:

Trustee Southwick had nothing to report.

VI. OTHER REPORTS:

Code Officer Cooper advised the board that everything is going well and that he still has a lot of activity with permits.

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No one addressed the board.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Menard made a motion to adjourn at 7:24PM, seconded by Trustee Pelkey.

ALL VOTED, AYE.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher W. Latremore
Christopher W Latremore
Village Clerk/Administrator