

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on January 17th, 2022, at Halstead Hall, Civic Center, 39 Lake Street scheduled to commence at 7:00PM.

**PRESENT:** John J. LaBonte, Mayor  
Dale Menard, Trustee  
Benjamin J. Arno, Trustee  
Brian S. Pelkey, Trustee

**ABSENT:** Joseph Rodriguez, Trustee

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**OTHERS PRESENT:** Arsene 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 7:00 PM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**REGULAR SESSION:**

**I. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Matt Boire; CDC Real Estate:

Matt Boire thanked the Board for their work with the Fermos Project. Matt Boire also thanked members of the Zoning Board of taking steps to make zoning laws broader there. Matt Boire plans to address the Zoning Board and thank them as well. Mayor LaBonte mentioned that he was very impressed with Fermos's plant in Canada. Fermos explained the details of their operations in Canada as well as explaining their plans for Rouses Point. Mayor LaBonte thanked Matt Boire for his comments.

**II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Trustee Arno made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 3, 2023 regular meeting, seconded by Pelkey. **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ ABSENT.**

**III. BILLS:** \$181,033.52

**CHECK # 29230-29280**

Treasurer Arsene Letourneau indicated that there were three additions to bills:  
Excellus Health Group \$44,986.72  
Business Credit Card Bill for the Code Enforcement Officer \$150.70  
Prescriptions \$5851.04

Trustee Arno made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Trustee Menard.  
**ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ ABSENT.**

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE:** None

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

**a. MAYOR LABONTE**

1. Mayor LaBonte stated that he would start off with the resolutions.  
Mayor LaBonte motioned a vote for Resolution 2023-1 which will open polling for the Village Election for Offices of Rouses Point, New York being held March 21, 2023. Polling will take place at Halstead Hall, located at 39 Lake Street, Rouses Point, New York, with the polls being open from 12:00 PM to 9:00 PM.  
**MAYOR LABONTE- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE ARNO- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE MENARD- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE PELKEY- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ- ABSENT.**  
**MOTION PASSED AS AMENDED.**
  
2. Mayor LaBonte motioned a vote for Resolution 2021-02 which states that the Village of Rouses Point will NOT hold a Voter Registration Day due to the lack of activity at past Registration Days.  
**MAYOR LABONTE- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE ARNO- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE MENARD- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE PELKEY- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ- ABSENT.**  
**MOTION PASSED AS AMENDED.**
  
3. Mayor LaBonte motioned a vote for Resolution 2023-03 would appoint the Inspectors of Election as follows:  
Mary Racicot- Chief Inspector  
Kathy Hunter- Inspector  
Elise Breyette- Inspector  
Murielle LaFave- Inspector  
Nancy Baker- Alternate

**MAYOR LABONTE- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE ARNO- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE MENARD- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE PELKEY- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ- ABSENT.**  
**MOTION PASSED AS AMENDED.**

4. Mayor LaBonte mentioned that himself, Trustee Pelkey, and Administrator Latremore attended a meeting regarding the Champlain EMS contract in the Town of Champlain. Mayor LaBonte stated that the contract price has gone up about \$54,000. Mayor LaBonte expresses that the rise in price is just the price of doing business. He expresses that the safety of our Village residents is priority and it's in the Village's best interest to have services in network. Trustee Pelkey added that the Village looked at other alternative options to the EMS contract. Trustee Pelkey explained that out of what other alternatives are offering, this would be the best contract for what they're offering. Trustee Pelkey suggested that in time there could be ways to offset the costs considering that the Village is still in negotiation with the contract.

Trustee Pelkey made a motion to allow Mayor LaBonte to sign the Champlain EMS contract, seconded by Trustee Arno. Mayor LaBonte motioned a vote to sign the Champlain EMS contract.

**MAYOR LABONTE- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE ARNO- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE MENARD- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE PELKEY- AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ- ABSENT.**  
**MOTION PASSED AS AMENDED.**

5. Mayor LaBonte stated that Anne Paulson, the Library Director of the Rouses Point Dodge Memorial Library informed him that two out of the four pages for the Dodge Memorial Library are not available during the winter months and often not available during other months. Due to this, the Dodge Memorial Library is often forced to close because there is a lack of pages to cover the circulation desks. For this reason, the Dodge Memorial Library is asking the Board to approve Matthew Brunell to be hired as a part-time page.

Trustee Menard made a motion to accept Matthew Brunell as a part-time page for the Dodge Memorial Library, seconded by Trustee Arno. **ALL VOTED AYE.**  
**TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ ABSENT.**

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

1. Trustee Arno indicated that the Dodge Memorial Library is looking for candidates for trustees. Anyone who is interested in becoming a trustee should seek information from the Library Director, Anne Paulson.

2. Trustee Arno stated that the Dodge Memorial Library is also looking for volunteers to help organize books for the June book sale.

**c. TRUSTEE DALE MENARD:**

1. Nothing to report.

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

1. Trustee Pelkey stated that there is an update on the historical markers. The street department took them down, sandblasted them, and painted them. Trustee Pelkey expressed that they came out very nice. Trustee Pelkey gave a special thanks to Steven Lambert for bringing the state of the historical markers to the Village's attention.
2. Trustee Pelkey stated that the Village Office is undergoing renovations to add offices to the lower level instead of requiring to go upstairs to reach the offices upstairs. Trustee Pelkey expressed that it is coming along nicely, and it is great that the Village was able to do the work in-house without having to hire any contractors. Trustee Pelkey indicated that Heath Cardin was doing an excellent job.
3. Trustee Pelkey made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues, seconded by Trustee Menard. **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ ABSENT.**

**e. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ**

Absent

**VI. OTHER REPORTS:**

Code Enforcement Officer Cooper indicated that since last meeting there were a few small businesses that folded up. He stated that he is assisting a business owner from moving from one property to another.

**VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

None

**VIII. RECESS:**

Trustee Arno made a motion to recess at 7:19 PM, seconded by Trustee Menard. **AYE CARRIED**

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Trustee Pelkey made a motion to enter executive session at 7:23 PM, seconded by Trustee Menard. **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ ABSENT.**

Trustee Arno made a motion to exit executive session at 8:00 PM, seconded by Trustee Menard. **ALL VOTED**

**X. REGULAR SESSION:**

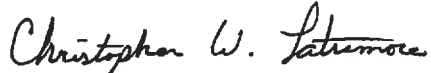
Trustee Arno made a motion to enter regular session at 8:00 PM, seconded by Mayor LaBonte. **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ ABSENT.**

No action taken.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:**

Trustee Arno made a motion to adjourn at 8:11 PM, seconded by Trustee Menard. **ALL VOTED AYE. TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ ABSENT.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Christopher W Latremore

Village Clerk/Administrator