

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on November 6, 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 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:**

Andrew Staulcup from ERS addressed the board regarding the changing of village code 57-4 Commercial/Industrial Development. Mr. Staulcup asked the board if this change is because of the ERS property. Mr. Staulcup asked why the board was exploring changing the code. Mr. Staulcup indicated that he was just trying to understand.

**REGULAR SESSION:**

**II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Trustee Southwick made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 16, 2023, seconded by Trustee Menard. **ALL VOTED AYE.**

**III. BILLS: \$48,758.11 CHECK # 30001-30041**

Treasurer Arsene F. Letourneau indicated that there were no additions and no deletions to the bills.

Trustee Menard made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. **ALL VOTED AYE.**

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Administrator Latremore stated that on November 3, 2023, the village launched its new website. Furthermore, the new design provides a more user-friendly experience, from Bill Pay to Board Minutes and Agendas. The website is fully equipped for

accessibility and is ADA compliant. E-Notify, user admin controls, and the ability to add attachments also make this website extremely efficient. The website encourages the citizens to be engaged, while organizing information in one place. The website will become even more useful for the residents and visitors in the coming months. Latremore encourages individuals to register for alerts. Latremore also thanked Treasure Letourneau for all the hours and hard work on making this transition go smooth.

2. Administrator Latremore also advised that on Monday November 13 at 4:30PM the Clinton County Health Department will be hosting a walk with us. Clinton County Health Department needs input on projects to make the community safer to walk, bike and roll. The walk will start at the Village office.
3. Administrator Latremore stated that the Rouses Point Stars and Stripes Committee would like to request the Rouses Point Village to approve temporarily blocking traffic, on Saturday December 9, 2023, on Montgomery Street from Rose Avenue to Lake Street from approximately 3:00PM-3:30PM, for the annual speedo run fundraiser and community event. They are also requesting the Rouses Point Fire Department to assist as it has in previous years.

Trustee Menard made a motion to temporarily block Montgomery Street from Rose Avenue to Lake Street on December 9, 2023, from 3:00PM-3:30PM for the speedo run fund raiser seconded by Mayor LaBonte.

**ALL VOTED AYE.**

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

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

1. Mayor LaBonte provided the board with details of local law 2 of 2023 flood Damage Prevention of the village code. There was no discussion roll call vote for public hearing.  
**Roll call:**  
**Trustee Pelkey AYE**  
**Trustee Southwick AYE**  
**Trustee Arno AYE**  
**Trustee Menard AYE**  
**Mayor LaBonte AYE**
2. Mayor LaBonte provided the board with details of resolution 2023-21 Election Polling Place, Hours, Offices. There was no discussion.  
**Roll call:**  
**Trustee Pelkey AYE**  
**Trustee Southwick AYE**  
**Trustee Arno AYE**  
**Trustee Menard AYE**  
**Mayor LaBonte AYE**

3. Mayor LaBonte provided the board with details of local law 3 of 2023 Chapter 57 subsection 4 Commercial/Industrial Development of the village code. Administrator Latremore indicated that changing this code could prevent the village from receiving grant money for the village electric system. There was no discussion roll call vote for public hearing.

**Roll call:**

**Trustee Pelkey AYE**

**Trustee Southwick AYE**

**Trustee Arno AYE**

**Trustee Menard AYE**

**Mayor LaBonte AYE**

4. Mayor LaBonte provided the board with details of local law 1 of 2023 Chapter 60 Dogs of the village code. There was no discussion roll call vote for public hearing.

**Roll call:**

**Trustee Pelkey AYE**

**Trustee Southwick AYE**

**Trustee Arno AYE**

**Trustee Menard AYE**

**Mayor LaBonte AYE**

5. Mayor LaBonte advised the board that Code Officer Cooper requested the board to approve his travel March 3-7, 2024, for an educational conference in Lake Placid.

Mayor LaBonte made a motion to authorize travel March 3-7, 2024, seconded by Trustee Menard.

**ALL VOTED AYE.**

6. Mayor LaBonte provided the board with details of local law Chapter 64 Electrical System, Municipal Development addressing Electric Boiler. Mayor LaBonte explained that the village had a public hearing on this in December of 2022, but since there was no roll call vote and a new board, the village attorney advised that the village needs to have another public hearing. There was no discussion roll call vote for public hearing.

**Roll call:**

**Trustee Pelkey AYE**

**Trustee Southwick AYE**

**Trustee Arno AYE**

**Trustee Menard AYE**

**Mayor LaBonte AYE**

7. Mayor LaBonte advised the board that the Electric Department needs a new pickup truck. Mayor LaBonte explained that this was a budgeted item and wanted a motion to put out to bid.

Trustee Arno made a motion to allow the administrator to put out to bid for a new pickup truck for the Electric Department, seconded by Trustee Menard.

**ALL VOTED AYE.**

**B. TRUSTEE DALE MENARD:**

1. Trustee Dale Menard Thanked the village crew for doing an excellent job with the fall cleanup.

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

1. Trustee Arno stated that the slate roof at the Welcome Center is in need of repair. Trustee Arno said he received an estimate from Don Deso in the amount of \$4,975.00. Trustee Arno indicated that he would like to table this until he has further conversations with Mr. Deso.
2. Trustee Arno stated that the annual Fire Department parade of lights will be held on December 16 starting at 7:00PM.
3. Trustee Arno expressed his condolences to Mayor LaBonte for the recent loss of his mother.

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

1. Trustee Pelkey made a motion to hold an executive session regarding personnel issues, seconded by Trustee Menard.  
**ALL VOTED, AYE.**
2. Trustee Pelkey indicated that Champlain Technology has been working on Champlain Street on the removal the communication lines and poles. Trustee Pelkey stated that these are the last of the aerial lines in the village, and he is anxious to have them removed. Mayor LaBonte stated that he will talk to Mike Southwick on their progress.

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

1. Trustee Southwick advised the residents that Public Skating will be held on November 10 from 3:00-5:00 and on November 12 Stick and Puck will take place from 3:00-4:00 followed by Public Skating from 4:30-6:30.

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

None

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

Harold Ashline, 136 Lake Street, asked the board to consider turning Montgomery Street to a one-way street. Mr. Ashline indicated that he was trying to make a left turn on Lake Street and with the volume of traffic and the view being obstructed, it was virtually impossible to make the turn safely, so he had to make a right hand turn instead. The mayor indicated that this is something for the board to discuss.

### **VIII. RECESS:**

Trustee Southwick made a motion to enter recess at 7:25PM, seconded by Mayor LaBonte.  
**ALL VOTED, AYE.**

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

Trustee Pelkey made a motion to enter executive session at 7:33PM, seconded by Trustee Arno.  
**ALL VOTED, AYE.**

Trustee Arno made a motion to exit the executive session at 7:54PM, seconded by Trustee Pelkey. **ALL VOTED, AYE.**

### **X. REGULAR SESSION**

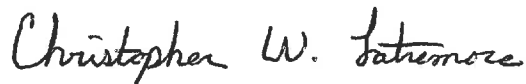
Trustee Southwick made a motion to appoint Heath Cardin as Recreational Facility Manager with the understanding that within six months from the date that Mr. Cardin starts the position of Recreational Facility Manager Mr. Cardin will have the right to transfer back to his prior position as MEO II at the same pay rate seconded by Trustee Pelkey. **ALL VOTED, AYE.**

Trustee Pelkey made a motion to advertise the vacant position of MEO II seconded by Trustee Menard. **ALL VOTED, AYE.**

### **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Arno made a motion to adjourn at 7:56PM, seconded by Trustee Pelkey.  
**ALL VOTED, AYE.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Christopher W Latremore  
Village Clerk/Administrator