

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at Halstead Hall, Civic Center, 39 Lake Street scheduled to commence at 7:00 PM.

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

**ABSENT :** Dale M. Menard, Trustee  
Christopher Latremore, Village Clerk/Administrator

**OTHERS PRESENT :** Arsene Letourneau, Village Treasurer  
John Cooper, Code Enforcement Officer

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Patricia A. Garrand, Deputy Village Clerk

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

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

**REGULAR SESSION:**

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

No comments from the public.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

Trustee Arno made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 2, 2024, regular meeting. Seconded by Mayor LaBonte, AYE CARRIED

**BILLS :** \$ 237,147.78                      **CHECK NUMBERS:** 30202 – 30247

Treasurer Letourneau stated: No additions or deletions, but there is a Supplemental List of Bills along with the Regular List of Bills.

Trustee Pelkey made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded by Trustee Southwick.  
AYE CARRIED

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

No correspondence

## REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND TRUSTEES

### MAYOR JOHN J. LABONTE:

**Resolution 2024-01, 2024 Elections:** Village Elections will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024. Polling Place will be at Halstead Hall, located at 39 Lake Street, Rouses Point, NY. Polling hours will be from 12 noon to 9:00 p.m.

Trustee Pelkey made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-01. Seconded by Trustee Southwick.

### ROLL CALL VOTE

Trustee Brian Pelkey – AYE  
Trustee Dale Menard – ABSENT  
Trustee Nicholas Southwick – AYE  
Trustee Benjamin Arno – AYE  
Mayor John LaBonte – AYE

**Resolution 2024-02, Voter Registration Day:** Due to lack of Activity on past Registration Days, the Village Officials have decided to NOT hold a Registration Day for the General Election of 2024.

Mayor LaBonte made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-02. Seconded by Trustee Southwick.

### ROLL CALL VOTE

Trustee Brian Pelkey – AYE  
Trustee Dale Menard – ABSENT  
Trustee Nicholas Southwick – AYE  
Trustee Benjamin Arno – AYE  
Mayor John LaBonte – AYE

**Resolution 2024-03, Inspectors of Election:** The Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point resolve that the Inspectors of Election shall be:

Mary Racicot – Chief Inspector - \$15.50 per hour  
Margaret Treggett – Inspector - \$15.00 per hour  
Elise Breyette – Inspector - \$15.00 per hour  
Murielle LaFave – Inspector - \$15.00 per hour

Trustee Pelkey made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-03. Seconded by Trustee Southwick.

## ROLL CALL VOTE

Trustee Brian Pelkey – AYE  
Trustee Dale Menard – ABSENT  
Trustee Nicholas Southwick – AYE  
Trustee Benjamin Arno – AYE  
Mayor John LaBonte – AYE

### **TRUSTEE DALE M. MENARD:**

Absent no report

### **TRUSTEE BENJAMIN J. ARNO:**

Received two more quotes for the windows for the Railroad Station (Welcome Center). One from Sample Lumber, which we have. Another from Sticks and Stuff which we will get soon. Then we can go over them and put it in the Budget for the next fiscal year.

Architect for the Library is coming on 01/17/2024. He suggested they remove the book slot in the door and put a drop box for the books outside, separate from the building. He said that other places have had issues with the drop boxes and people putting unwanted things in them. For safety reasons, he recommends removing it. Trustee Arno also mentioned maybe rethinking the drop box for payments at the Village Office. Mayor LaBonte stated that was a very good observation and they will look into it.

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

Trustee Pelkey wanted to mention that he was out getting signatures and talking to the residents. He was surprised at how many said they watch the Board Meetings and told him they are very pleased the meetings are videoed and aired. Trustee Pelkey wanted to extend a special thanks to Calvin Castine and his wife Judy for their time in making this possible. They tape and air a lot of Village events as well as the Board meetings and deserve a special thanks. This way everyone has access to view the meetings even if they cannot attend. Trustee Southwick mentioned that some towns/villages don't have video, so we are fortunate to have this available. Mayor LaBonte agreed and was very pleased.

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

Trustee Southwick mentioned the 2 grants the Village has received for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. One was \$820,000 and the other was \$397,000, these are to upgrade our sewer lines. He stated we have good workers in all the departments, and they should have equipment to match their caliber of work.

**OTHER REPORTS:**

Code Enforcement Officer, Cooper had nothing to report.

Trustee Arno wanted to mention that the Food Shelf is looking for donations of Paper Towels and Toilet paper. They have a lot of people in need, asking for these items.

Mayor LaBonte mentioned the grants for the Water Plant and the Wastewater Plants. They have secured almost 9 million dollars in grants to help upgrade vital Village infrastructure. He also said there are other grants in the works and will be updating everyone during future meetings. Said he was pleased with the work they have done as a Board and are working very well as a unit. Mayor LaBonte stated Trustee Southwick was a welcome addition and they are all working hard and in the best interest of the Village Residents.

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

No Public Comments

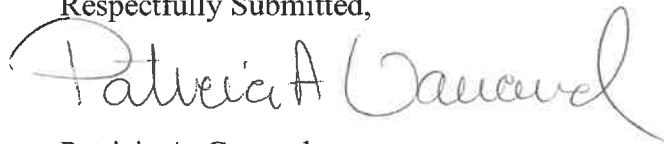
**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

No Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Trustee Southwick to adjourn at 7:15 PM. Seconded by Trustee Pelkey.  
AYE CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia A. Garrand  
Deputy Village Clerk