

VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, January 26th, 2017 @ 4:30 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

700 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212

The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 4:30 P.M. with Mayor Gary Butterfield inviting everyone present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Mayor Gary Butterfield, Deputy Mayor Fred Ferguson, Trustee Diane Browning, Trustee Pat Gustafson, and Trustee Chuck Henry.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Dianne Kufel, Codes Enforcement Officer David Barnhart, DPW Superintendent Gary Wilmer, Parks Director Teresa Roth, Police Chief Michael Crowell, Village Attorney Scott Chatfield, and Village Engineer Amy Franco.

Personnel Absent: Fire Chief Tim Ellis.

RESOLUTION # 014-17

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 12th, 2017 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Henry, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 015-17

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract #17 in the amount of \$60,531.19 covering Voucher #808 to Voucher #862. The motion was seconded by Trustee Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Henry, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 016-17

SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Henry made a motion to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #17 in the amount of \$20.00 covering Voucher #15. The motion was seconded by Trustee Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Henry, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

CITIZENS' VOICE:



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, January 26th, 2017 4:30 PM

The Mayor invited anyone that wished to share concerns or thoughts to address the Board. David Robinson of Slindes Woods Circle stated as a member of the Sign Committee he wanted to commend the Codes Enforcement Officer. He feels as you drive up and down Rt. 11, there is a significant change in how it looks. His personal observation is that the Codes Officer has gotten most of the people in compliance with what the Sign Committee intended; "Good Job."

OLD BUSINESS:

DISCUSS MULTIPLE DWELLING FEE SCHEDULE

The Mayor stated he has talked with the Codes Enforcement Officer and there is really one apartment complex that has multiple buildings putting it at odds with the fees they generate versus other buildings, so we are talking about that. He has an idea that he wants to discuss with counsel that would not have to change the local law or the fee schedule.

DISCUSS CHESTNUT STREET PROPERTY

The Mayor stated this will be the last time the Chestnut Street property is on the Agenda until something is done. He continued that he drove past today and even the licensed vehicle had the hood up. We are kind of helpless, unless we spend some money; a back tax issue may be a solution down the road. We are going to try to figure what to do.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 017-17

**APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE PLANNING
COMMISSION BOARD-ALTERNATE**

Trustee Henry made a motion to approve the appointment of Darlene Piper as the Planning Commission Alternate for a three year term to expire on July 1st, 2019. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Henry, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 018-17

AUTHORIZE THE CINTAS-RENTAL SERVICE AGREEMENT-DPW

Trustee Browning made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the CINTAS Rental Service Agreement for the DPW. The motion was seconded by Trustee Henry. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Henry, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, January 26th, 2017 4:30 PM

ATTORNEY REPORT: No Report.

ENGINEER REPORT: Mrs. Franco stated they have not heard anything on the D.O.T. Grant Application that was submitted for the Chestnut Street/Church Street work. The other is the Community Development Applications will probably be released soon which are usually due by the middle to end of March for whatever project we want to submit.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: He stated our new officer and our new sergeant are doing really well with their new assignments; he is really pleased with their direction. Today they finished the January In-Service Training Program which included legal updates and that kind of thing. Lastly, he was happy to report that he received a letter of approval for the grant that he was allowed to apply for. So we are getting a 0% matching grant on the Village side for \$18,448.00 that will go toward legal updates and equipment.

Fire Department: No Report (Absent).

Public Works Department: He stated yesterday the third L.E.D. light was installed at the end of Elm Street, so if you have a chance take a look at it. The Village of Minoa is almost finished with their transition over to L.E.D.'s, so he will take a ride out there some night and see what the lighting looks like with the whole street done.

Parks and Recreation Department: She stated she was continuing to finalize the grant by gathering the estimates that were needed to turn in the paperwork for the grant that we are supposed to get for the Community Center. She shared she was excited for the potential for that renovation. She stated she is nominating the Lonergan Park Renovation Project that was done this past year for the facility design awards through CNYRPS which has to be turned in tomorrow. She continued that she wanted to make the Board aware of a notification she received this week regarding the tiny piece of property that was acquired from Plank Road Historical Society. The notice came from the county for back taxes that had compounded over nine years to the amount of \$2,000. She stated she had spoken with the gentleman from County Finance trying to resolve this, but they do not want to make that just go away, so it may take an act of County Legislature to pass something to have this happen. She is waiting to hear back from the finance gentleman with his recommendations on how to make that go away. The notice stated that it was going to go up for auction. She basically stated to the gentleman to let it go up for auction; it is not worth \$2,000. She was informed by law a municipal property can't be auctioned. She continued he was in a complete quandary and he wanted the Village to pay the \$2,000. She stated that she definitely would not authorize or recommend that we do that.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, January 26th, 2017 4:30 PM

She stated possibly having County Legislator Casey Jordan notified of such and see where we can go from there; but before we do that, the gentleman from County Finance wanted to discuss this with legal counsel and get back to her so she will keep the Board posted.

Codes Department: No Report.

Clerk-Treasurer: She stated she finalized the Sales Tax Infrastructure Grant documentation that was needed, so that the Village will receive in \$612,000. This used to be just given to us, but now we have to apply for it as a grant and say that we are using it for infrastructure. She stated she documented all of that and sent that in to support the \$612,000 that we received for 2016. She then had to do a new application for 2017 which basically stated that we would be spending \$612,000 which we certainly do. We are working on the W2's today and hope to have them out tomorrow and finalize the 1099's on Monday. She continued to say she is preparing to get the new flower letter out for the year, so the businesses can participate and perhaps contribute to the new planters that we hang throughout the Village. She stated she had reached out to the county about our trash contract, but had not had much success. She added Mrs. Roth's cleaning contract for the Village Hall/Community Center is also expiring on March 31st, so we will also need to prepare a bid package for this. She stated she was happy to share that the Historian had submitted an article about the old cemetery which was sent to the Star Review, so hopefully next week that will be published.

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee Gustafson: She stated she had a very nice time at the Christmas Party and thanked everyone who donated.

Trustee Browning: She commented on what a nice Christmas Party it was due to Ms. Kufel and others that worked on it. She had a good time and she can afford a tank of gas now.

Trustee Henry: He stated six days ago we received a new Commander in Chief of the United States. He shared that he watched the whole thing and it just makes you proud to be an American. He stated he is looking forward to some good things down the road.

Deputy Mayor Ferguson: He stated he enjoyed the Holiday Party and the pizza was very good. The next Public Safety Meeting is March 6, 2017 here in this building.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor stated he wanted to remind people on February 11th, 2017, the new area code "680" will



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, January 26th, 2017 4:30 PM

start showing up. Mayor Butterfield continued on February 12th, 13th, and February 14th, 2017, everybody except Deputy Mayor Ferguson, will be attending the NYCOM Legislative Conference in Albany which is always interesting and informative. Deputy Mayor Ferguson will be in charge to handle any problems in his absence. The Mayor stated we participated and received a report from the 2017 NYCOM Budget Survey of Villages. He continued not all the Villages participated, but quite a few did; it has many categories and we are in good shape for the most part. We are in much better shape than some Villages are as far as debt service, the cost per resident, and it was helpful to look at. The Mayor stated that he and Ms. Kufel had met with the auditors, because there is a lot more information that was requested for review than in the past. He asked Ms. Kufel to explain why. She stated there are new requirements explained in GASB68 in reference to the pensions. She explained as she looked through the audit, much more detail was provided on the pensions. There were three pages alone spent on costs and percentages with details pertaining to the Police/Fire Retirement. We have the Police Retirement and separately, the Employees Retirement System which is everyone else, but the Police. Then there is a separate category for LOSAP which is basically the retirement for the Fire Department. She stated in as much as she knows what the projections are, she knows what they are paying, as it is always budgeted. They also had to do some projections way out, for example: people who are currently collecting retirement, what the percentage of that is in the whole grand scheme of things in the NYS Retirement System; what percentage we are in that pie, so it is a lot of intricate numbers that don't mean much specifically to us, but it is a requirement and necessary for the Office of the State Comptroller. She continued to speak how they would like to know where they stand as far as the stability of the NYS Retirement System itself. She commented as much as they went over that, they went over other categories of the audit, but overall we did very well. The Mayor continued to say once again, we are in a healthy position of our portion of the total state retirement system with a .003%. He agreed that the Village Christmas Party was nice. He liked the venue and commented he would like to see it there again; it was roomy enough, the food was good, and they treated us well. We will be sending a thank you letter, because they did treat us very well. A thank you to the sponsors was also expressed. The Mayor stated that he has looked at the five new Village signs that have arrived and are in the garage at Village Hall. We will be putting up four of those in various locations and will have one for a spare. He stated, for those of you that did not know, there was an accident this afternoon right here. A car hit one of the air conditioning condensers which probably destroyed it, and we will be looking to replace it at their expense; fortunately, it is the not the cooling season now. He continued they just missed the generator and the standard holding up the traffic signal, so it was fortunate that no one was hurt. Lastly, he is trying to make some changes at Village Hall by getting a permanent part-time helper for Mrs. Roth; a Rec. Leader. There will be internal shuffling in Village Hall, but no one is losing their job that is currently employed as a regular Village employee. That would allow Mrs. Roth to have someone there who has experience in recreation to assist her in the field. There will still be another person there during the busy season; to assist with this department. That is the intent and Mrs. Roth is looking for candidates, so

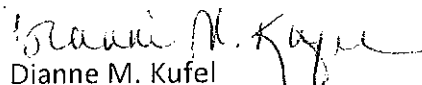


Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, January 26th, 2017 4:30 PM

hopefully, we can have that happen fairly soon so that person can be on board before the busy season which starts fairly soon as far as the planning.

Mayor Butterfield asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Browning made a motion to adjourn at 4:51 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Henry, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,


Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk Treasurer

