



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, March 9th, 2017 @ 6:28 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

700 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212

The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 6:28 P.M. with the 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, and Trustee Pat Gustafson.

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

Personnel Absent: Trustee Chuck Henry (Absent).

The Mayor and the Board spoke of changing the numbering of the following local laws due to the modification of the sign code not completely ready.

The Mayor stated public hearing #1 is being held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of North Syracuse to consider the adoption of Local Law #1 of 2017. This Local Law which would allow for a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law 3-C. The Mayor stated that the Village Board would hear all persons in favor of such matters or any objections thereto. The Mayor asked if anyone would like to speak for the adoption of the local law for the support of such matters or any objections there. The Tax Cap is advertised at 2% and the actual Tax Cap is 1.0068%. The Mayor stated if anybody would like to speak in favor of or against for potential Local Law #1 which would allow us to exceed the Tax Cap. There was no response and he closed the public hearing.

The Mayor stated public hearing #2 is being held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of North Syracuse to consider the 2017 Funding Request for the Community Development Projects in the Village of North Syracuse. The Mayor stated the Village Board would hear all persons in favor of such matters or any objections thereto. The Mayor stated it is not every year that we get a maximum of \$50,000; in years past it was less, but it looks like we might be getting the \$50,000. He continued we have a suggestion on how to use this money, but he asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of or against Public Hearing #2. He shared the suggestions they have are working on Rt. 11. They started the saw cut this week, and are removing pavement where we do not need pavement to put grass in; so we can continue with our Save the Rain Project which has already been approved; all part of the 2016 Community Development application. He pointed out in particular the state is wrapping up the enforcement of the ADA Compliance. He continued if any of you look at the ramp at Sandra Lane and



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Rt. 11; it is steeper than code and doesn't meet the ADA code, so that would be part of the project. He demonstrated how long and deep it appears and did not want the Village to be liable for any getting hurt. He again asked if anyone would like to speak in favor or against. Mrs. Franco stated she wanted to clarify; she explained this is for this year's application, for next year's project. She continued we need to talk about what application we want to do for this year, for next year's work. She stated if you still want to do those additional South Main Street spot repairs that we want to do for the sidewalk, that is was we talked about for our application being. She continued if anybody is for or against doing additional sidewalks in that area; that is what our application is for that we would need the Board approval. The Mayor stated that does fall within our five year plan. Mrs. Franco agreed. The Mayor inquired if there were any other areas that the Village five year plan includes. Mrs. Franco stated we included a lot of other areas, we did the Parks, we did sidewalks north and south, we included signage in there, some street repairs, and Church Street also falls in there. The \$50,000 probably was split Phase I and Phase II for last year's application. She re-iterated that the \$50,000 probably estimated won't fill that whole section; it was from Palace Court to Palmer Drive. She continued if the Village wants to do that application basically again for this year, in anticipation of receiving that for next year, to do. Attorney Chatfield stated as he understood it, there are certain geographical areas that is limited to. Mrs. Franco showed the map that is it designated in purple where it can be. The Mayor clarified that the west side of Rt. 11 is blighted and the east side is not. Mrs. Franco responded correct; the same with Chestnut Street. The Mayor asked if there was anyone else that would like to speak for or against the use our Community Development funds. There was no response and he closed the public hearing.

RESOLUTION # 034-17

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 23rd, 2017 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 035-17

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract #20 in the amount of \$134,921.63 covering Voucher #973 to Voucher #1019. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 036-17

SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Browning made a motion to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #20 in the amount of \$9,689.99 covering Voucher #17 and #18. The Mayor noted that because the Sewer Fund is usually



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just \$55, there is an installment lease payment for a vehicle that DPW uses included in that amount and that is why it is more than the minimal amount. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Ferguson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

CITIZENS' VOICE:

The Mayor invited anyone that wished to share concerns or thoughts to address the Board. David Robinson of Slindes Woods Circle addressed the Board to speak about the Community Garden getting ready to kick off again. He continued to say that last year they had the assistance of the Parks and Recreation Dept. to sign up and register. He got the library to sign on as a contributor for the community garden whereas if someone wants a plot they can go to the reference desk at the library, they will get their plot and be told about it. That makes it quicker, because the library hours are broader, than we have. He continued to mention that Meals on Wheels will be holding Pasta Night on March 23rd, 2017. Last year about 75% of the people that came had takeout; so that led us to think about doing a drive thru. People can do this by going up the side of the building and around; then picking up. He has some help coming from the DPW; he has talked with the Chief about it, so they will be ready to go. People may eat inside also. The Mayor asked if anyone else would like to address the Board and no one responded.

OLD BUSINESS:

**REVIEWING REFERENCES OF LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES RE-NEGOTIATED
CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS**

The Mayor stated last meeting we talked about our cable franchises that we have with what is Spectrum now, and Verizon. We have an unsigned agreement with Verizon, and dated signed agreement with Spectrum. The Village was approached by someone saying they could update, and gain resources for a fee; we discussed this last week. We decided to try to get some references and find out a little more about them. We have received some limited feedback. The Mayor called NYCOM and one of their attorney's deals with cell tower and communications. They gave the Mayor a phone number of a woman from PSC who deals with that. He spoke with her and she agreed to look into the agreements that she has online to see what needs to be adjusted, tweaked and approved; then she will send something the early part of the week to him. He will not know what she has come up with until he sees the information, but she did inquire as to why the Village would be looking for outside help. The Mayor commented that maybe they do not have to spend the money, but he wanted to see what her report says; and he tabled this until the next meeting when we have further information.



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VILLAGE HALL SCHEMATIC-HARMONY ARCHITECTURAL ASSOC.

The Mayor stated he talked to an architect with whom he shared an idea to give more space to Village Hall and got a budget number for a schematic from him. He thought we would wait until we got through our first round of the budget to see where we stand. Obviously, we do not have the money now, but he wanted something in hand, to shop around with to try to come up with funding. He wanted to do the following: 1) give us a meeting room of sufficient size to have meetings for more than six or eight people, 2) have an accessible restroom at Village Hall, and 3) the Police to have a little vestibule between them and the court; right now there is only a hallway. He explained when one client shows up; it gets jammed up with little or no room. This is not for immediate development or to build something right away. The item was tabled for now, pending more budget information.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 037-17

2017 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the engineers to complete the application for the 2017 Community Block Grant to include the continuation of the restoration and repair of sidewalks along the Rt. 11 corridor from Palmer Drive to Taft Road. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 038-17

**DISCUSS THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW #1-
TAX CAP OVERRIDE**

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion approve and adopt Local Law #1 - Tax Cap Override to which allows the Board to pass a budget over the tax levy limit of 1.0068%. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 039-17

**REVIEW/AWARD BID FOR CLEANING SVCS. AT THE
COMMUNITY CENTER AND VILLAGE HALL**

Trustee Gustafson made a motion to approve Immaculate Commercial Cleaning for cleaning services for the Community Center and Village Hall at \$17,400 for the year from April 1st, 2017 thru March 31, 2018 with the option to renew at the same price for the next two consecutive years. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Ferguson. Deputy Mayor Ferguson stated there was a stipulation in



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there that he needs to be vetted and wanted to be sure he understands that. Mrs. Roth stated he had a background check and Chief Police Crowell stated he would have to be sent down to have his finger prints done which is an \$80 cost; so he is properly vetted as he has access to the Police side. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 040-17

**DISCUSS/APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF PART-TIME
RECREATION LEADER**

Trustee Gustafson made a motion to approve the appointment to hire Donald Radell for the position of Permanent Part-time Recreation Leader at a rate of \$14 for approximately 18-20 hours per week with a start date of March 13th, 2017. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Ferguson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 041-17

**DISCUSS/APPROVE SYRACUSE TIME AND ALARM
AGREEMENT EFFECTIVE 4/01/17**

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the annual agreement for Syracuse Time and Alarm that is effective starting on April 1st, 2017 for the security system at the Community Center. The motion was seconded by Trustee Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 042-17

**AUTHORIZE 2017 FORD UTILITY VEHICLE TRANSFER FROM
FIRE ASSOCIATION TO THE VILLAGE FOR \$1**

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to authorize the transfer of the 2017 Ford Utility Vehicle with VIN# 1FM5K8ARXHGC58522 from the Fire Association to the Village for \$1. The motion was seconded by Trustee Browning. Deputy Mayor Ferguson clarified whether it has already come. Fire Chief Tim Ellis clarified that it is being made and is expected at the end of the month. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No Report.

ENGINEER REPORT: No Report.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:



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Police Department: He stated everything is going well in the Police Department. He stated the annual report went out from 2016 and everybody should have received that. On Tuesday he held interviews for part-time vacant positions and Deputy Mayor Ferguson helped with that. Of the five people we had scheduled, one person canceled, and two passed the initial panel; so more to come with that at which time he will bring it to the Board.

Fire Department: He reported they recently had a PESH Inspection where they come and inspect our operation to make sure that we are in compliance. He was pleased to report that they passed that with "0" violations. He stated spring is coming. He reminded everyone when they change their clocks forward, to remember to replace the batteries in their smoke detectors; smoke detectors should be replaced every ten years, and carbon monoxide detectors get replaced every 5 years. The Rescue #7 replacement project last he reported was they had sent a request for proposals out through the HGAC Program and they have received three back by the end of the date which was February 28th, 2017. We received them from: E-One, Sutphen, and Pierce; so the committee in the month of March will be reviewing the proposals. They are also going to schedule a meeting with each vendor. He stated he would email the Mayor, because he would like to either have the Mayor or someone from the Board available to attend those meetings, so they can ask any questions they may ask. He reported there have been one hundred sixty four alarms year to date. We have not taken on any new members, but we do have written into our SOG's a driver only status. We have sent letters out to past members who are no longer members, asking if this is an option that they would be interested in; it is here and we would love to see you back, so that is going on with recruitment. We have not heard anything back from the grant yet which is a good thing, because he have not been told no. We are hoping to hear yes as far as recruitment grant. Our OSHA Training for the quarter is just about complete. The last thing I have to report is an unfortunate lost time injury which brings up a huge question as far as the fire service in general. The fire service is noticing a major increase in cardiac events and a major increase in cancer, so he believes it is time that the fire department along with the assistance of the Village looks at some sort of wellness program for our fire fighters. Now they are selling combination smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and they are selling combination gas and smoke detectors. There are a lot of different resources and technology out there as far as smoke detectors.

Public Works Department: He reported at the last meeting the Board approved to go forward with the L.E.D. lighting, but under your report you rescinded that, so he was wondering. The Mayor questioned rescinded and the DPW Superintendent Wilmer clarified that the Mayor wanted to hold back until the DPW Superintendent returned; it has to do with something about cost. He continued he did speak with National Grid and we can split it up a little bit. If you want to do 50% of the lights you can, but it may affect the cost the next time you do it; the price may go up. Right now the price actually went down; it was just a little over \$25,000 for the conversion right now. The one thing that could go up is any lights that we want to remove of the grid. For every seven lights it is like \$1,200 he



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stated. The Board agreed to it, but Clerk Treasurer Kufel said she thinks that they wanted more information if it could be spread out a little bit; to make it more palatable. The Mayor stated that DPW Superintendent is driving around to see on some streets, if we may not need some, because some streets have more lights than others. The Mayor asked if he could complete that study, even if we cut by 5% throughout the Village. He did find one that was on our role that is outside of the Village. If we have not approved it by then, the Mayor would certainly like to do it all at once. Attorney Chatfield clarified that the Board did approve to proceed to a maximum of \$25,000 was approved, but the question was can we pay it out over two years, can we do half the identified lights this year and half the identified lights next year to minimize the impact on the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The DPW Superintendent stated we could split it up; it is not like the Smart Watt Program where they financed it. They want their money up front. So if we want to do 50% and pay for that we can then do other 50% next year we can. When we got the price the cost per cobra head was \$55 and it dropped down to \$49 right now. The Mayor stated if we wait it could be going down and DPW Superintendent responded he doesn't believe so. The Mayor stated on the other hand if something happens and we can't do the rest of them next year, then we have half L.E.D.'s and whatever we got. Trustee Gustafson asked if the money was budgeted to do it. The Mayor stated no, but there is a three year payback, so after the third year; we start making money. Trustee Browning stated that she thinks that the Board should go ahead, do it, and get it over with.

Parks and Recreation Department: She spoke of the annual Easter Egg Hunt which is scheduled for Saturday, April 8th, 2017, so anyone who has Village youth eleven and under can sign up for that by calling the office. On Palm Sunday which is April 9th, 2017 is the annual Bunny Breakfast being held from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the VFW. That is our big fund raiser for the Family Festival which is scheduled for Saturday, May 27th, 2017. Earth Day is scheduled Saturday, April 22nd, 2017. She stated that she is trying to recruit people here and we are looking for some groups out in the community to come and help pick up litter, do maintenance in some of the parks, and along the streets. Papa Johns will sponsor pizza again for that. She gave an Update from the DASNY Group on the Community Center SAM Grant. The woman stated they are backlogged nine to twelve months in the review process for these grants. Yes, we were awarded the grant and it is up to us if we want to move forward with it, but if we move forward with it; we do not have their final approval from the state to have the funds released. So if we do it, we will not be able to get reimbursed by her turning in the vouchers and receipts; we have to wait until we get approval from the review and then they will do that. She asked that they give that some thought and then we will have to decide if we are going to postpone it. Nine to twelve months is not a big deal, but a year is going to throw off all the estimates that she has gotten that are typically good for three months. She thanked the Board for approving the hire. She stated she was excited to have Mr. Radell start next week.

Codes Department: No Report.



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Clerk-Treasurer: No Report.

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee Gustafson: She congratulated Mrs. Roth and stated the speech was beautiful.

Trustee Browning: She extended Kuddos to the Police Department. She stated that she thought the public should see that report and asked that it be put on the website. She thanked and congratulated Mrs. Roth for the great award that she got last week.

Trustee Henry: No Report (Absent).

Deputy Mayor Ferguson: He stated everyone has a copy of the Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes and one big correction is this is 2017; not 2016. In there was a report on how to get a hold of Public Safety Critical Management Course which you all have had before, but the general public when that gets out if anybody is interest in that. He reminded that Arbor Day is April 28th, 2017 at noon and they are going to plant two trees. He stated that we need an E.O.P. Tabletop update, so if you two guys could work that out sometime.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor stated we are getting close to having our first review of the budget and then we will see where we are at. The Mayor commented as you know, we have constraints. He continued one of the reasons that we struggle is not only the Tax Cap which the Governor has given to all of us, but there is an AIM funding, which is the state funding that we get; cities and villages have not had an increase in seven or eight years. We keep moving along, we are still doing a good job as a Village, but all villages are doing more with less. In this years proposed budget, there is not an increase in the AIM funding; the total of our monies is \$751,000,000 which would seem like a lot, but if we had kept up with inflation in the normal course of events, we would have \$133,000,000 more; but we are not seeing any of that. He explained the schools; just to give you a comparison the increase for the school budget in this years proposed budget is \$1,000,000,000 increase and our whole budget for all the villages and cities is \$751,000,000. There is no increase there and has not been for many years, so that is part of the reason why we struggle to make ends meet. However, he stated we are still in a healthy position as a Village, so he thanked everyone that has been involved in the process. He shared that the Village Clerk/Treasurer has been moved out of her office to do a little upgrade in her office. He continued she has two corner walls and her office is always cold in there, so we have reinsulated and sheet rocked. We are going to move her back in to her office in about a week or so; then she will be all smiles from now. He stated that he did not attend the state of the county address. He did not think that there were any surprises. He continued to mention the invite the



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Village received at the Islamic Learning Center; it is a school located on Gateway Park Drive. They had their grand opening last year and invited us. We were treated quite nicely to a dinner and a program. They have invited us back for the one year anniversary, so some of us are going to attend again. The next Mayors Meeting is being held on March 15th, 2017, over in Liverpool; Peter Baines who is the President of NYCOM who will be the speaker. Saturday, March 25th, 2017 at the Camillus Fire Department is the next Onondaga County Fire Coalition Breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. He reminded everyone that there is a Solar Energy Workshop being held at the North Syracuse Community Center here on Thursday, March 30th, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. which is open to anybody that wants to learn about solar for their business or residence. Deputy Mayor Ferguson pointed out that they have the Mayors Meeting at Fayetteville; they have the Liverpool building on the top. The Mayor stated they will find out.

The Mayor stated we will be going into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. He continued they will not be doing any business after they come back out.

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

Trustee Gustafson made a motion for the Board to return at 7:35 p.m. to Regular Session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

Mayor Butterfield asked for a motion to adjourn. Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk Treasurer



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

DATE 3/9/17

PLEASE SIGN IN

NAME

ADDRESS

ROBINSON
Margaret Butterfield 224 Chestnut St.
Jodi Butterfield

Lined area for additional sign-in entries.