



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, March 23rd, 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 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, Trustee Pat Gustafson, and Trustee Chuck Henry.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Dianne Kufel, 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: Fire Chief Tim Ellis.

RESOLUTION # 043-17

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 9th, 2017 Board Meeting. 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. Trustee Henry abstained.

RESOLUTION # 044-17

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Gustafson made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract #21 in the amount of \$78,870.15 covering Voucher #1020 to Voucher #1074. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Ferguson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Henry, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 045-17

SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #21 in the amount of \$824.00 covering Voucher #19. 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 # 046-17

BUDGET TRANSFER(S)

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to approve the budget transfer for \$3,200 from A7180.12 Pool



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Payroll to A7020.13 Recreation Leader Payroll transferring unused funds to cover new line item payroll for the new Parks Leader-Don Radell. 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.

CITIZENS' VOICE:

The Mayor invited anyone that wished to share concerns or thoughts to address the Board. Vera Desimone of 304 Belmore Drive, North Syracuse stated that Parks Director Roth has been working very hard getting ready for the Bunny Breakfast which is being held on April 9th, 2017 and the Family Festival which is May 27th, 2017. She also thanked everyone in the Village who gave their condolences and support for her daughter's passing.

OLD BUSINESS:

**PENDING: AFTER BUDGET-VILLAGE HALL SCHEMATIC-
HARMONY ARCHITECTURAL ASSOC.**

The Mayor stated at the last meeting he gave the Board a quote for schematic for Village Hall for an addition going out to the front of the building which would give us more room for a conference room and a handicap accessible bathroom. He continued that he is not pushing to move it quickly, but would like it as a tool, when we could move forward to do an addition. The Mayor explained the first meeting was just for the schematic, so he sent us another quote which includes the architectural stamp and drawings. The Mayor wanted to wait until after the first model of the budget was done; but stated if the drawings are paid for then we have a tool toward the first step to go for a grant and suggested tabling this for now. Trustee Browning asked if someone was looking to see if there are grants out there. The Mayor stated not yet; it is still in the idea stage.

RESOLUTION # 047-17

**NYCOM-CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT REVIEW-
40% TO COMPUTEL CONSULTANTS**

The Mayor stated in the last two meetings there was a proposal to do a cable franchise review from a law group that wanted to charge us X number of dollars; and there was a little bit of push back from the Board, so he stated he would look into other options. The Mayor called New York Conference of Mayors (NYCOM) and they had legal counsel, one of which specializes in Cable Franchise Agreements and Tower Agreements, so he talked with that person. He continued they suggested someone



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from Public Service Commission (PSC) who looked into it. He stated that they gave us recommendations for the agreements that we already have. He continued that they recommend a company locally that does reviews of the following: lighting, gas, electric, cable, and tower, as well as the gross receipts tax. He stated there would be no charge to have them do the audits, but they get 40% of what they save us. He continued there are no up-front costs; and if they save us money, they keep 40% of the savings. He clarified they are not looking into sources of revenue that are not part of the contract, but those that are part of the contract; they will look into it to be sure that we are getting paid the appropriate amount. He stated as the Mayor pointed out, they get paid a percentage of the first year of whatever they find. Mayor Butterfield continued to say that we did get from the PSC some notes regarding our current Verizon Agreement; changes that we should make to help us. He stated with all that being said, we could authorize to sign an agreement with Computel to conduct this audit; they keep 40% of whatever they find and that has been sent to us. The Mayor stated that Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel is working through that, but he has not signed it; there are things that we would have to generate and get to them, before they could do their work. Deputy Mayor Ferguson stated he would make that motion; he has read it over and it is a win, win for us. Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to give permission for Computel retaining 40% of their findings and the Village receiving 60%; moving forward, all bills will be correct and the Village should see increased revenue. 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.

NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION OF DOG CONTROL SERVICES

The Mayor stated we currently have a contract with the Town of Clay, as does the Town of Cicero, but it is a Monday thru Friday until 5:00 p.m.; after hours calls go to the Police Department. He continued that Police Chief Crowell has been speaking with him about making a change. He stated no one has communicated anything, but the SPCA offers similar services and they will handle all the after-hours calls; so the Police Officers are not chasing dogs after hours and weekends. The Mayor clarified that he was correct. Police Chief Crowell confirmed he was correct and stated they have some concerns, because the residents are calling after-hours and getting absolutely zero service. He stated that is really unacceptable when there is a loose dog or a chronic complaint of some nature. He continued the SPCA group will provide that after-hours service when it is mostly needed and on the weekend; 24 hours a day, each and every day. He stated preliminarily it looks like it might be even less expensive for the Village to engage in an agreement with them compared to the current agreement. The Mayor stated that this is not something that they are ready to move on as he needs to talk to the Town of Clay to just let them know. Trustee Gustafson stated it sounded like a good idea. The Mayor tabled this item until the next meeting.



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RESOLUTION # 048-17

**DISCUSS /AUTHORIZE WILLIAMSON LAW
BOOK CODES AGREEMENT**

The Mayor stated the next item to discuss is the Williamson Law Book Codes Maintenance Agreement. He explained there are ongoing problems with the Codes Software and they have started to look at other options; but until the funding is in place, he thought it should be renewed. Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the support agreement for Williamson Law Book Codes Maintenance Agreement from 4/1/17 thru 3/31/18 for \$408 per year. 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 # 049-17

**DISCUSS/AUTHORIZE WILLIAMSON LAW BOOK
PAYROLL MTC. AGREEMENT**

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the support agreement for Williamson Law Book Payroll Maintenance Agreement from 4/1/17 thru 3/31/18 for \$745 per year. The motion was seconded by Trustee Browning. Trustee Gustafson asked if the Village decides to go with a different company for Payroll if that ties the Village into a year with Williamson. Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel stated that she did not feel that it would tie the Village in, but she felt that the Board needed to move forward with it, because not doing it we would eliminate the phone support which would create a big problem. She stated if they went with the Heartland in August, she could try to get a refund. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Henry, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 050-17

**DISCUSS/AUTHORIZE WILLIAMSON LAW BOOK
ACCOUNTING MTC. AGREEMENT**

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the support agreement for Williamson Law Book Accounting Maintenance Agreement from 4/1/2017 thru 3/31/18 for \$949. 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.

ATTORNEY REPORT: He stated we have a communications tower in Lonergan Park and that tower is currently subject to a lease with Crown Castle. He continued Crown Castle has been trying to get us to renegotiate for several years and right now we are nearing the end of five, five-year terms for a 25 year lease. We have also been approached by a company who would like to buy out our interests in it for a lump sum; that company is a reseller. He explained as part of this whole cable franchise and that sort of



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thing, it is sort of a third issue; he looked into it and got in touch with Linda Doherty with Crown Castle of whom Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel has been working with as well and learned a little more about it. His initial motivation was to be able to advise the Board whether it was wise to continue the lease or better to the buyout. He stated what he learned is our revenues from the lease have gone down precipitously in the last couple of years. He continued at one time we were getting \$25,000 to \$30,000 a year; it looks like it is going to be \$15,000 to \$18,000 or thereabout this year. He stated that is one of the reasons he wants to know is why. He explained the way the lease is set up is a flat monthly fee of \$1,100 or \$1,200 and a percentage of their revenue from their co-locators. He stated two co-locators were decommissioned on that tower in this period of two years leading up to today. He continued they were reasonably significant ones, Sprint and one other. He explained he asked the reason for decommission and the lady explained that in this tech world where everything has gone 4G, 5G, 12G whatever that involves upgrading their physical facilities. He stated that is a tremendous capital outlay for like Sprint, Cricket or whoever is doing it. He continued they are reluctant to do it, because it is tower specific and the equipment sits there near the tower. He stated these providers and co-locators are reluctant to invest the capital when the term of the lease is so short; this one is due to expire in 2023. He explained Crown Castle would like to renegotiate the lease with you; so that we can sell our product which is the tower space to these providers, because we have 25 years' worth of lease time. He stated that makes sense to him, if it results in boosting our revenue back up to where it was. He has not been able to investigate that far enough to know who is going to co-locate, whether they can shift Sprint back on it or somebody else. He asked the lady to get a proposal to him to buy out, but with circumstances being what they were; he has not yet received it, and he did tell her about tonight's meeting. He stated that he is going to continue to investigate it, but his recommendation is the Village renegotiates the lease with them to add additional years; we will see what we can do about the terms and that sort of thing. He added he wants to see whether they would be interested in a flat fee which will tell him a lot about what they think their prospects really are for selling co-location. In other words, if he pushes them to bump the flat rental fee from \$1,100 to \$4,000 and they snap at it, then that tells him they think they will be able to sell that space to somebody else real quickly; on the other hand if they are really reluctant, then that suggests that they are not going to market it. He continued with the information that you have gotten from the PSC, he would like to look at that plus the original agreement. The Mayor stated he would like that. Attorney Chatfield stated that he may be able at that point to negotiate that agreement. He stated his reluctance previously was his lack of knowledge about the technical aspects of the revenue streams that we are not currently utilizing, but could be utilizing as part of a renegotiated franchise agreement. He stated he is still not ready to say that he is the one to handle this for you, because he does not trust anything; he may be or may not be, but he will be happy to take a look at it and see.

ENGINEER REPORT: She stated you have received the Community Development Application; so if you



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have any final changes you would like to make, we are submitting that tomorrow. She continued McGinnis Nelson who was working on Rt. 11 took a little break with the snow; but they plan on getting back to work on Monday, weather permitting.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: No Report.

Fire Department: No Report.

Public Works Department: He stated that he gave you a list of lights that they are looking at removing from around the Village which is part of the L.E.D. conversion. He continued that he has to inventory all the lights, what wattage we want to go to, and which ones we want to remove. He found a list of about fifty lights that they are going to remove from the Village of the five hundred overheads around the Village. He stated that they are all marked; so if anybody sees an issue with one of them, he asked that they let him know so he can put it back on the list. He stated from this point forward, he will send the list to National Grid and we will get a final cost of what it will be to convert over to L.E.D. Deputy Mayor Ferguson asked the one that we have now for the \$25,000, because it was \$5,000 less which includes these lights as it stands. He explained the fifty one that you want to take off; we have a \$25,000 estimate as what it is going to cost to put in the new L.E.D.'s, if these lights are included in that estimate. DPW Superintendent Wilmer stated they are included, but to remove them we have to pay; it is \$1,200 per seven lights to remove them, so it is about \$8,000 increase in the cost. He continued that no matter what he does he would have to pay the crew to come out for the whole day to remove one or they can do seven in a day. He stated he still thought it would be about \$30,000 or a little less. He continued the savings that they gave us a price on for 30 watts are actually dropping them down to 24 or 25 watts.

Parks and Recreation Department: She wanted to promote a couple of upcoming special events. On Saturday, April 8th, 2017, is the Village Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 11 and under; it is free, just call ahead to register. We will meet at the Community Center and then do the egg hunt over at Centerville. The Bunny Breakfast is the following day, Sunday, April 9th, 2017. Earth Day is Saturday, April 22nd, 2017, just call to register. We are still looking for volunteers and community members to come out on that day and help clean up the Village. She stated that there is a Driver's Safety Course this week, and there is another one set up in May if anyone is interested in taking that; they get an insurance break. She wanted to report that Don Radell, the new hire has been here two weeks and he has been phenomenal. He has helped me out tremendously in two weeks. She thanked the Board for that.

Codes Department: No Report.



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Clerk-Treasurer: She stated she just printed out the first model done of the budget. She explained that is the complete wish list from every department with a few exceptions on the main cover sheet where it shows what is including is and is not included at the bottom left. She continued right now the model that you have in front of you is an increase of 3.3% wish she believes is the best first model she has ever done here in her term. She commented that the cover sheet explains what was included in the expenses and what was excluded as far as "wish list" items. Overall it is a very good model. She clarified right now with this model we are taking out \$54,000 out of the Fund Balance to augment the retirement system which we have been doing for years to kind of maintain that same level of percentage to pay our retirement. She continued if the Board so wished to accommodate these other larger items out of the Fund Balance she did not really know the exact amount yet until the year closes out, but overall she thought it was a pretty good model.

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee Gustafson: She had the privilege today of delivering Meals on Wheels. She had a lot of fun and she would recommend it. She said tonight they have a Spaghetti Dinner as their fundraiser going on with a drive thru, which is being held at the Meals on Wheels on Church Street; so if anyone would like to attend, she was sure they would appreciate it.

Trustee Browning: No Report.

Trustee Henry: He stated the Planning Board met last Thursday night for the first time in quite a while. He continued that Seneca Federal Bank is putting in a second drive thru lane which was approved by the Board, so we will be looking forward to seeing that done.

Deputy Mayor Ferguson: He stated he also had delivered for Meals on Wheels on Wednesday, and they have really done a technical update, since the last time he had done it. He explained that for their particular group, it was a test meal. He continued Onondaga County gives a temperature for everything that goes on the plate. He explained that was the temperature that it is supposed to be when you stop delivering, so it is not going to be delivered we just probe it with temperature probes. He stated he ended up eating that meal, it was very good, and quite an experience; he went about with them in Mattydale. He stated that there is a Public Safety Meeting correction; the date should be June 5th, 2017. He stated Arbor Day is on April 28th, 2017 at noon at Centerville Park. He announced that Attorney Chatfield's mother died this morning and we are having the calling hours on April 4th, 2017 at the Ferguson Funeral Home from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. He expressed his condolences to the Chatfields.

MAYOR'S REPORT:



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The Mayor stated we had moved our Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel out of her office to do a little upgrade which is almost complete. He reiterated that pasta night is tonight from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. down on Church Street with the drive thru. He stated Arbor Day had been mentioned and for those of you that thought that spring had almost come; we got this snowstorm. He thanked the DPW Superintendent and his crew for keeping the roads and sidewalks cleaned; Kuddos to you and your crew. He stated the last Mayor's Meeting was canceled, because of that snow storm, so that will have to be rescheduled. He spoke of the Village sending out letters for hanging baskets for the flowers that are hung up and down Rt. 11 and down here. He continued, according to Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel, we have already received \$620 from our business owners. He stated we are going to be installing new Village signs at the entrance into the Village. He has discussed with Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel, if the money goes over that amount, about using that money to put a flower bed of perennials underneath our signs. He stated that the Village always looks great. He continued Grant, one of our employees is going to retire; but he stated he would still volunteer to water the flowers, like he did last year. He stated on Saturday, March 25th, 2017 the Camillus Fire Department is hosting an Onondaga County Fire Coalition Breakfast and Program which a couple of our Trustees are going to attend. He stated on Thursday, March 30th, 2017, we are hosting a Solar Energy Workshop being held between 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center downstairs. He continued this is for anyone; homeowners' grants are available and there are flyers available at Village Hall.

Mayor Butterfield asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Gustafson made a motion to adjourn at 5:12 p.m. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Ferguson. 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

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING

DATE 3/23/17

PLEASE SIGN IN

NAME

ADDRESS

Christina Owen

311 Herman Drive

Devan Smith

108 Tallmadge

D ROBINSON

Fred W. Ince

Vero Deamone

304 Belmont Dr.

Ashley Casey

Star-Review