



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, February 25th, 2016 @ 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 PM 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 Linnertz and Trustee Pat Gustafson.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk-Treasurer Dianne Kufel, DPW Superintendent Gary Wilmer, Parks Director Teresa Roth, Police Chief Michael Crowell, and Engineer Brian Bouchard.

Personnel Absent: Fire Chief Tim Ellis, Codes Enforcement Officer Pam Di Carlo-Schermerhorn, and Village Attorney Scott Chatfield.

RESOLUTION # 029-16

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 11th, 2016 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Linnertz and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 030-16

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Browning made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract # 19 in the amount of \$57,751.76 covering Voucher # 1042 to Voucher # 1084. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Linnertz and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 031-16

SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Linnertz made a motion to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #19 in the amount of \$55.00 covering Voucher # 21. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson Trustee Linnertz, and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 032-16

STREETScape/VILLAGE CENTER/SAVE THE RAIN



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Trustee Browning made the motion to approve the Streetscape Village Center /Save the Rain Abstract # 19 in the amount of \$55,487.04. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Linnertz and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

CITIZENS' VOICE: No Response.

OLD BUSINESS:

BOARD FEEDBACK ALLOWABLE % OF ASPHALT/STONE ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Mayor Butterfield mentioned we have an ongoing discussion regarding the percentage of asphalt or stone allowed in a front yard. We are working on making some changes to our current regulations to prevent front yards in residential areas from becoming parking lots. Mayor Butterfield opened this up for discussion. Trustee Gustafson stated she had a concern about the percentage due to the variations in sizes of houses, as well as homes that already had driveways that exceeded the proposed size. She stated she felt something should be written in to grandfather those properties from this requirement. Brief discussion continued and the Board decided there were areas that they still needed to look into so it was tabled at this time.

"AGREED UPON PROCEDURES" FOR NORTH SYRACUSE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Butterfield stated the next item is the "Agreed Upon Procedures" for the Fire Department. He continued to say we should have a document to share with the Trustees at the next meeting. Deputy Mayor Ferguson and I have a meeting scheduled with the President of the Fire Association and also the Chairperson of the Board of the Fire Association tonight. The Board tabled this item.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 033-16

DISCUSS PROMOTION OF DPW EMPLOYEE TO LABORER II

Mayor Butterfield explained DPW Superintendent Wilmer has requested that we discuss promoting a DPW employee to a Laborer II; so I will ask him to brief the Board. DPW Superintendent Wilmer stated this is the guy that we hired last year. He didn't have a CDL license when he was hired as a Laborer I. He has gotten his class B license now, so I would like to promote him to a Laborer II with a little higher wage than he is making now. Mayor Butterfield asked if he meets the new classification, of a Public Works Maintenance Worker, and DPW Supervisor explained that we are awaiting confirmation with legal counsel as well as discuss with the Union. Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a



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motion to authorize the promotion of Richard Edwards to a Laborer II effective February 26th, 2016 at a rate of \$25,000 per year. The motion was seconded by Trustee Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Linnertz and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 034-16

DISCUSS GRANT THRU AL STIRPE'S OFFICE FOR N. SYR. FIRE DEPT.

Mayor Butterfield continued to say our next item we need to discuss is a grant the Fire Department received from Al Stirpe's office to be used for heavy extrication equipment in the amount of \$7,500. He went on to explain that the equipment that they currently have is more for cars, so this would accommodate larger vehicles, trucks or whatever. Clerk Treasurer Kufel explained that the official notarized paperwork was being signed today although the Village didn't have a copy of this as of today. Mayor Butterfield made a motion that we accept the grant for the Fire Department in the amount of \$7,500 from Al Stirpe's office for the heavy extrication equipment. Trustee Gustafson seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Linnertz and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 035-16

**DISCUSS USER AGREEMENT FOR SANITARY SEWER CONNECTION
TO TOWN OF CLAY (STORE AMERICA)**

Mayor Butterfield stated the Board has received a copy of the Outside User Agreement which will allow Store America located on 5624 Bear Road to connect to the Town of Clay sanitary sewer. He continued that they are in-between connections and it was determined that it would be more economical for them to tie into the Town of Clay side. Deputy Mayor Ferguson made a motion to allow Mayor Butterfield to sign the Outside User Agreement with the Town of Clay. The motion was seconded by Trustee Linnertz. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Linnertz and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS RENEWAL OF SYRACUSE HAULERS CONTRACT

Mayor Butterfield stated the Board has received a copy of the contract with Syracuse Haulers giving an option to renew for two more years; one year at a time. He continued that he had reached out to them and asked if they would lower the fees for this year due to gas prices being down. He stated they were supposed to get back to me by today, but I did not hear back from them yet. The Board tabled this item.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No Report/Absent.



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ENGINEER REPORT: Brian Bouchard explained that at the last meeting you authorized CHA to prepare the application for the Community Development Grant Application for 2016. At the next meeting there is a public hearing regarding this application. He continued to explain that any project that is put forth in the application needs to be contained in the five year plan. Part of the public hearing would be to tell us what one of the projects you would like to have us put in that application. Brian explained that if there are any ideas or projects from the departments for the five year plan; they need to be sent to Dianne, so she can get them to our office so that way we can start making the updates that need to be made prior to the public hearing. Mayor Butterfield expressed that he would like the Board to consider the right turn only at the end of Church Street as an option because it was approved as part of our Complete Streets. Engineer Bouchard commented that it is always good to keep the five year plan updated as a source of funding.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: Police Chief Crowell stated that the department is finishing up the February in service training. He also shared that the car camera program has been completed; now all four of the marked cars have camera systems in them. He explained that he and Deputy Mayor Ferguson have scheduled the interviews with the two people that are eligible for the Sergeant promotion and that will be next week. He stated he would inform the Mayor and the board as soon as the selection process is complete.

Fire Department: No Report/Absent.

Public Works Department: DPW Sup't. Gary Wilmer spoke of the trees that have been removed for the sidewalk extension and also at Heritage Park. There is a problem with the sidewalk; at Garry's Auto and the Village needs to have to look at that and see if we can relieve some of the water. Trustee Linnertz asked if this was part of a one-year process that we could go back on them in regards to the ponding by Garry's Automotive. Engineer Bouchard replied that there is a one year warrantee period. He continued to say he was not sure of the date of when it started or stopped, but they could check into it. He went on further to explain that there is not much we can do until the spring, but until then I can check to see if there is anything that we can go back to the contractor for. Trustee Linnertz expressed that if we need to wait that we should put them on notice and Engineer Bouchard stated he would take care of contacting everyone. Clerk-Treasurer Kufel pointed out that this is the final payment to EZ Paving and wondered if that was an issue. Engineer Bouchard suggested holding on to the payment for a few days while he looks into the things before sending it.

Parks and Recreation Department: Upcoming Events to make you aware of:



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Blood Drive	Wednesday 3/09/16	(Comm. Center)	2:00 p.m-6:00 p.m.
Line Dancing Prog.	Wednesday 3/09/16	(Comm. Center)	** Starts; goes 4 weeks
Bunny Breakfast	Sunday 3/20/16	(VFW)	
Family Festival	Saturday 5/28/16		

**Parks Director T. Roth requested to call the Parks Office for contact information and details to sign up. She continued to say that she has sent all last year's summer staff to see who is interested in returning; most have responded that they will be returning. However, the others have until the middle of March to reply. Teresa continued to give an update on Lonergan Park. She is hopeful to finalize by next week the paperwork so that we can receive our 1st reimbursement for some of the bills we have already paid, including the sign, for that project. She spoke of a meeting on Friday to download messaging for the sign; if not this week- next week for sure.

Codes Department: No Report/Absent.

Clerk-Treasurer: Ms. Kufel stated the last few years the Comptroller's Office has been concerned with the fiscal stress management of Villages. She continued to mention from 2013-2015, the Village registered a 6.3 (2013), then we moved to a 6.8 (2014) and this last year we went to a 15.0. This is still good as we are not in the designation range or concerned range; 40 thru 44 is when they start to identify you. The major component of that is the fund balance which carries a 50% weight and we used part of it for the Streetscape Project. Dianne continued to reference some expenditures that will be noted for some minor renovations to the Court Clerk's Office that Mayor Atkinson had approved before he left. She referenced this as "not a budgeted item" and will find the money to cover these costs. Clerk Treasurer Kufel spoke of a Webinar that she had just taken having to do with Sales Tax. She explained that the increase was around 3.6% to Onondaga County; that is 32% of their revenue for the year and for the Village it is 10%. Various counties have different rates, some go up and others go down. One thing that plays a big role is the weather; when they are damages and repairs are made it generates more money.

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee Gustafson: No Report.

Trustee Browning: Stated that Leon Ilnitzki who worked with the Village on both sides of the aisle for forty to fifty years who backed our Boards and Mayors; has died at 85.

Trustee Linnertz: Stated after having Elevattit doing maintenance on a regular basis he thought it was



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unusual that they would give a quote for repairs and then blame the higher actual charges on the age of the elevator; they should have known how old it was. Parks Director Roth clarified that the original quote was strictly an estimate as the pit they have to work in was not accessible at the time; once the system was drained the leak was in an area which they couldn't reach and additional cuts were required. She continued to explain that the company that made the elevator was no longer in business, so parts had to be shipped out and premade before the repairs could be completed; that is where the additional costs came from.

Deputy Mayor Ferguson: Stated following up on Mr. Ilnitzki, his calling hours will be held Friday, February 25th, 2016 from 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., and Saturday, February 26th, 2016 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; followed by a prayer service at 1:30 p.m. Then on Monday, February 29th, 2016 there is a church service at St. Rose at 10:00 a.m. The Public Safety Committee Meeting will be held Monday, March 7th, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. downstairs at the Community Center.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Stated he wanted to recognize Leon Ilnitzki of whom he didn't know long, but worked with; he was a good friend and help to me. He truly loved the Village and was a help to both sides of the aisle; he will missed. Mayor Butterfield continued the budget process has started. I have asked that Department Heads and their Liaison to review the budget projections; first cuts should be coming soon. He spoke of a conversation he had with Police Chief Crowell regarding the crosswalks and traffic blowing thru and ignoring these. They have come up with a plan to address the failure to stop at the crosswalks and some tickets have been issued. Mayor Butterfield stated he has been contacted by Dustin Czarny who is Election Commissioner for the county who has asked that we move our elections to November. Dustin Czarny will be attending our meeting, one month from now to discuss moving the elections to November; this would not be now, but the next cycle for elections. Mayor Butterfield spoke of a meeting with D.O.T. representative Anne Saltman from Complete Streets. This is a committee that he is a part of and he is trying to get something done with Church Street and Chestnut Street. It is difficult with no shoulders there for walkers and bikers to get around. Mayor Butterfield explained that Church Street and Chestnut Street are not designated as county roads, and the Village does not have money to make the improvements; so they did contribute some acronyms for agencies to go for help. We will be working on this to try to make it happen. He stated the Consensus has been in the news; it is in the citizenry of which the Village and town supervisors have met on February 17th, 2016. There is a more to come as there is a lot in the process and we will have to see how it finishes out. He spoke of the Police contract negotiations and the contract ending the end of May 2016; and has met with the union representative and will continue to work on that. He stated that he and Deputy Mayor Ferguson are attending the 8th Annual Legislative Breakfast this Saturday for Fire and Emergency Services. He continued to share at our next meeting there is a public hearing on the tax levy in excess of the tax limit. He explained this is in response to the Tax Cap that keeps getting smaller which is down to less than a half percent that



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we are allowed to expand our budget by without passing a motion allowing us to go over that. He continued the raises from the contracts are already more than 45%, so we will be addressing that at the next meeting.

Mayor Butterfield entertained a motion to adjourn at 5:00 PM. Trustee Browning made a motion to end the meeting. Trustee Gustafson seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Trustee Browning, Trustee Gustafson, Trustee Linnertz and Deputy Mayor Ferguson, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk-Treasurer