

## VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

### *Regular Board Meeting*

Thursday, June 28, 2018 @ 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 asking everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Mayor Gary Butterfield, Deputy Mayor Diane Browning, and Trustee Pat Gustafson.

**Personnel Present:** Village Clerk/Treasurer Dianne Kufel, Codes Enforcement Officer Brian Johnstone, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Former DPW Superintendent Gary Wilmer, Fire Chief Robert Liberatore, Assistant Fire Chief Scott Gratien, Parks Director Teresa Roth, Police Chief Steve Rotunno, Village Attorney Scott Chatfield and Village Engineer Amy Franco.

**Personnel Absent:** Trustee Kevin Parker, and Trustee (Vacant).

### **RESOLUTION # 119-18**

### **APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Trustee Gustafson made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

### **RESOLUTION # 120-18**

### **GENERAL FUND OLD BUDGET ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

Deputy Mayor Browning made a motion to approve the Old Budget General Fund Abstract #28 in the amount of \$25,956.88 covering Voucher #1484 to Voucher #1501. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

### **RESOLUTION # 121-18**

### **GENERAL FUND NEW BUDGET ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

Trustee Gustafson made a motion to approve the New Budget General Fund Abstract #02 in the amount of \$106,074.89 covering Voucher #37 to Voucher #90. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

### **RESOLUTION # 122-18**

### **BUDGET TRANSFER(S) OLD BUDGET**

The Mayor explained the transfer revenue received for DWI's to cover overtime shifts to prevent DWI. Deputy Mayor Browning made a motion to approve the budget transfers (Old Budget) from A2615P



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Police Revenue DWI's to increase A3120.143 Police Overtime Shifts for DWI Prevention in amount of \$2,805.03. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

**RESOLUTION # 123-18**

**BUDGET TRANSFER(S) OLD BUDGET**

The Mayor explained that this transfer was necessary to provide a funding line item for the DASNY grant being secured by the Police Dept. The Police Dept. has applied for a DASNY grant in hopes of renovating the downstairs area of the Police Side of the building, making it more conducive with their day to day operation, investigators office, shower facility, etc. This is much needed and will enhance their space and provide better utilization of their space. The DASNY grant provides funds of \$50,000 with the Village's share being \$5,000. Deputy Mayor Browning made a motion to transfer \$5,000 from A3120.12 (Police Full Time Personnel) to A3120.28 (Police Remodel Basement). The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Deputy Mayor Browning, Trustee Gustafson and Mayor Gary Butterfield all voting in favor of the same.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION 124-18**

**DISCUSS/APPROVE INCREASING THRESHOLD TO \$999.99  
PURCH. POLICY-NO NEED FOR PRIOR APPROVAL**

The Mayor stated the Board received the email from the Village Clerk-Treasurer. He continued we actually had this as an agenda item a few months back, as well, but the Board voted it down. He went on the Village Clerk-Treasurer has since contacted 6-7 other local governments, and most "all" have their thresholds at \$ 1,000. The Mayor opened this up for discussion. Trustee Gustafson made a motion to authorize increasing the threshold to \$999.99 Purchasing Policy with no need for prior approval. Trustee Gustafson stated she had given it a lot of thought, and spoke of it being easier for Dept. Heads and less paperwork. Deputy Mayor Browning stated she hoped that the departments would not take advantage of it by purchasing more than they need. She spoke of it being our responsibility for the taxpayers' money. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION 125-18**

**DISCUSS/APPROVE INCREASE PARKS  
O. FLAHERTY-HEAD LIFEGUARD**



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Trustee Gustafson made a motion to authorize the promotion of Owen Flaherty to Head Lifeguard with a salary increase to \$11/hour effective June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

**DISCUSSION ON HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN-POINT  
OF CONTACT B. JOHNSTONE**

The Mayor stated the Board received the recommendation from the County to update our plan as part of a multi-jurisdictional and a request for Municipal Participation. He continued CEO Johnstone attended a start-up meeting on Monday of this week, and has been tasked with following up with different departments on some required documentation. CEO Johnstone stated it was six years ago that this information was filed with FEMA and we have to update our worksheets.

**RESOLUTION # 126-18**

**AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN 2018 YOUTH  
RECREATION APPLICATION**

Deputy Mayor Browning made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the 2018 Youth Recreation Application Agreement to receive \$718 in funding from OCFS. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

**RESOLUTION # 127-18**

**CLAY TAX ROLL CORRECTION - 210 SHAVER AVE.  
EXEMPTION OMITTED**

Trustee Gustafson made a motion to authorize the change in the tax collection from \$973.43 down to \$739.58 for 210 Shaver Ave. to correct a tabulation error omitting a senior discount. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

**RESOLUTION # 128-18**

**DISCUSS/AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN-STATION 2 SPRINKLER/  
FIRE ALARM INSPECTION-JOHNSON CONTROLS**

Deputy Mayor Browning made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Station 2 Sprinkler Fire Alarm Inspection Agreement with Johnson Controls for \$1,600/year for (5) consecutive years for Sprinkler Testing, Fire Alarm Testing and Sprinkler Backflow Service at Station 2-Fire House. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.



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**CITIZENS' VOICE:** The Mayor invited anyone that wished to share concerns or thoughts to address the Board. The Mayor asked if anyone would like to speak and no one responded, so he closed Citizen's Voice.

**ATTORNEY REPORT:** He stated he received a copy of contract from Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel from a Computel that was engaged to audit the Verizon Utility Tax. He spoke of having reviewed it and did not see anything wrong with it. He continued having an acceptable resolution to the matter and finding us some additional monies; \$3,000 should come to the Village.

**RESOLUTION # 129-18**

**DISCUSS/AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN VERIZON  
AGREEMENT RE: GROSS UTIL. REC. TAX**

Trustee Gustafson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Verizon Gross Util. Rec. Tax Agreement to release funds in the amount of \$3,000 to the Village. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Browning. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

Attorney Chatfield spoke of a Supreme Court Decision Janice versus AFSCME. He stated it is monumental, and he was thrilled about it. He would speak more on it during the Mayor's report.

**ENGINEER REPORT:** Mrs. Franco stated we had our last SMTC Municipal Parking Lot Meeting off of Church Street last Monday. She continued they went over a couple of alternatives and the group kind of decided on one to pursue and to do a pros and cons list for them. She went on that SMTC will be able to provide their data and analyze a bit better with this information. She stated also for AARP Grant that we submitted for the Gazebo here; we have not heard anything on that. She continued they have not released the names yet; they stated roughly the 28<sup>th</sup> they would announce it, but they have not yet.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Police Department:** He stated the following:

- He is working on a Police Chaplin Program, and he is working with a Chaplin
- Been working with North Syracuse School District on the Health and Safety Committee
  - Has met with School Safety Coordinator and has safety plans and cameras on his office desktop and cell phone; they have gone mostly electronic
- He visited the NSFD Emergency Operations Center, obtained EOC locker keys and is working currently working on scenarios for fall exercise
- Crosswalk Crack Down is under way and we are now in the enforcement phase



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- Bear Cub that was killed on 481 update-No response from NYS DEC
- June busy so far 458 property checks, 488 calls for service; 27 Domestic, 14 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 144 Traffic Stops and 8 arrests this past week-20 for the month, over 30 tickets in the last two days

**Fire Department:** Chief Liberatore stated:

- They have five new applicants to train; there are different forms of training to do
- The Rescue is in service

**Public Works Department:** He stated the following:

- They have been picking up brush; in May they did 56 loads averaging 7,000 lbs.
- They have been doing building maintenance and finishing up a few projects at the Comm. Ctr. and the parks
- They have been busy

**Parks and Recreation Department:** She stated the following:

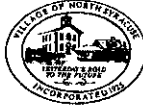
- Parks have been; a lot of things started this week
- The Summer Camp Program they already maxed out at 104 kids at Lonergan with 94 show up the first day; most they have ever had
- Program is going well with good staff
- Swim Lesson Program started this week
- Kennedy Pool has been open a couple of weeks; a lot of people getting pool passes with the heat anticipated this weekend
- The summer concerts series will start tonight at 6:00 PM due to weather cancellation last night
- Summer Flyer is out with all sorts of programs
- Heritage-kids for their earth day helped plant a maple tree over by the Pavilion today that we purchased along with DPW

**Codes Department:** He stated the following:

- Sunbelt Rentals returns to Planning Commission for their parking lot expansion on July 5<sup>th</sup>
- Fireworks Tent is up and running on E. Taft Rd.; there Friday and all paperwork was in order
- There was a truck at Fireworks Tent on Monday June 25<sup>th</sup>; although he did not hear anything
- Firehouse Subs on schedule to open July 7<sup>th</sup>

**Clerk-Treasurer:** She stated the following:

- Court is winding down and she will be taking possession of Court Clerk's Computer
- There are going to be some calls coming through and she is not really privy to anything yet



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- She is overseeing what needs to be shredded and needs permanently filed; she will show her
- Comptroller's Office called today asking for final court closing numbers which the audit has been moved up to middle of July
- They are taking a portion of the Tax Cap away for the court and give Clay/Cicero a little more
- Attended Records Seminar Wednesday in Volney to get a better handle on court records

**DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:**

**Trustee (Vacant):**

**Trustee Gustafson:** No Report.

**Trustee Parker:** No Report (Absent).

**Deputy Mayor Browning:** She inquired to Chief Liberatore if the Village decals that were removed from the new Rescue 7 had been placed back on the fire truck. Chief Liberatore answered they that were not. Deputy Mayor Browning asked when they were going to be back on. Chief Liberatore stated when he sits and discusses it with the Mayor. Deputy Mayor Browning commented on the delivery acceptance and how nice it looked; they came off and she would like to see them back on.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

The Mayor stated there is a Public Safety Meeting following this meeting at 6:00 PM.

He continued speaking on the SMTC Study that Mr. Bouchard and Mrs. Franco are working on; there is some good information and a good possibility to see what happens with those multiple owners of the parking lots behind the Dollar Store, around the Post Office, etc., so we are working on that.

He stated there was a Mayor's and Supervisors "only" Meeting last Wednesday and the speaker Ryan Mc Mahon, Chairman from the Onondaga County Legislature was there. He continued that it was interesting in regards to the Court issue. He went on by abolishing the Court we are going to save approximately \$85,000 a year, because it was costing us that much to have Court. He explained any shared services that you save money, the state is supposed to match; one to one, so potentially we could get a \$170,000 somehow or the state matches that to us. He stated Ryan Mc Mahon stated that they talked about all this stuff, but there still is no money in Albany placed in the budget for this. There is no method to pay any savings that they originally focused on when all this Tax Cap and Shared Services was talked about. He went on in any event we will save some money, by not having



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the Court. He explained every Monday for years they had to set up and take down the Court, but the transition to date, has run smoothly. He spoke of a lot of details and a meeting downstairs with over twenty people that were involved from Clay, Cicero, and Downtown getting through what might have fallen through the cracks, so it has been a good thing. He stated Election Day was June 19<sup>th</sup> and Lou Ann St. Germain is the new Trustee. Her official start date is July 1<sup>st</sup> and her first Board Meeting will be at our July 12<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting; that is our annual meeting. He stated Trustee Henry has resigned and is will be on his way to the Carolinas this weekend, so we will have another Trustee position available. He continued the Poll Question: 73% feel the speed on our Village Street is sufficient. He stated we also did the monitoring of the speeds on Palmer Drive as a focus of concern was in this area. He continued to say that he has signed to purchase the little building on the corner here at the end of Church St. The surveyor is going to start divvying up the land on the 6<sup>th</sup>. He went on the DPW Supervisors has got some quotes to take down trees, so that is going to be under way now. He stated on the things he learned when he was in the SMTC Meeting is we also talked about opening up this end and our desire is to have a right turn only, but the SMTC stated we have to go back to the county to make sure that they do not want the right in as well; pork chop. He continued he would prefer not to have a pork chop. He did not know if it is a recommendation but he thinks and we can still do what we want to do hopefully. He stated the court decision that the Supreme Court rendered was for Municipal Employees; we had an instance where one of our newer employees did not want to join the union, but was forced to and the payment was huge. He continued they did not have to join, but they had to pay the dues. He went on this decision says that Municipal Employees do not have to pay dues if there is a Bargaining Unit and they choose not to join. The national average of states is 37% are unionized employees; in New York State, 73% of all Municipal New York Employees belongs to a union. He explained to the one employee once this is legal they will not have to pay dues. Attorney Chatfield commented when the Supreme Court speaks it is legal. The Mayor stated Firehouse Subs is a national chain and are very friendly to fire stations, etc. and the North Syracuse Fire Department has already been awarded a \$11,000 Firehouse Subs Grant for a fit test machine to do fitting for respirators. Chief Liberatore stated their machine has long exceeded its life expectancy. The Mayor added it is good they decided to locate in the Village of North Syracuse. Parks Director Roth stated she received a call from Senator Venesky's Office. She continued they asked her to spread the word particularly to the seniors, that Senator Schumer is scheduled on Monday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, to have a meeting at the Cicero Senior Center at 2:15 PM, to talk about Social Security Benefits. He wanted to try to get the word out to the residents and unfortunately he called her after the Senior Meeting and she will try to announce it a the concert tonight as well in case anyone wants to come and listen. It is located up by the Burdick Car Dealership off of South Bay Road.

The Mayor stated he would like to entertain a motion to go into Executive Session to talk about a personnel issue. He continued we will not be making any decisions when we come back out.



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Deputy Mayor Browning made a motion to enter into **Executive Session** 4:55 P.M. to discuss a personnel issue. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

Deputy Mayor Browning made a motion to return to **Regular Session** at 5:20 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

Deputy Mayor Browning made a motion to adjourn at 5:21 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gustafson. The motion was approved with Trustee Gustafson, Deputy Mayor Browning, and Mayor Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel  
Village Clerk