



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, July 25th, 2019 @ 4:29 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

700 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212

The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 4:29 P.M. with Mayor Gary Butterfield asking everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Mayor Gary Butterfield, Dep. Mayor Browning, Trustee LouAnn St. Germain, Trustee Chris Strong, and Trustee Fred Wilmer.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Dianne Kufel, CEO Brian Johnstone, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Fire Chief Robert Liberatore, Parks Director Teresa Roth, Village Attorney Scott Chatfield, and Village Engineer Amy Franco.

Public Hearing #1 @ 4:29 PM: This Public Hearing is being held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of North Syracuse to consider the adoption of Local Law #5, a local law modifying the current code as it pertains to Lawn Maintenance and will hear all persons in support of such matters or objective thereto. Mayor Butterfield stated this is to “modify” our existing code to change the (6) inches to (10) inches, a new section about special consideration to elderly, disabled, etc. and change from 10 days to 5 days and if similar offense within 120 days; they need to comply within 3 days. The Mayor asked if anyone would like to speak in for or against. He asked again if anyone one would like to speak for or against. He again asked if anyone would like to speak for or against and with no response he closed Public Hearing #1.

RESOLUTION # 139-19

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Dep. Mayor Browning made a motion to approve the minutes from on July 11th, 2019 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Strong, Trustee Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 140-19

GENERAL FUND NEW BUDGET ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Dep. Mayor Browning made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract #04 (New Budget) in the amount of \$93,828.51 covering Voucher #148 to Voucher #215. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. Trustee Strong asked what the normal release time on the abstracts, because this one came this morning. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel stated we try to get it out Tuesday, but depending on her schedule and the audit, it is usually on Wednesday. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Strong, Trustee Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same.

NEW BUSINESS:



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RESOLUTION # 141-19

**DISCUSS/ADOPT LOCAL LAW #5 - MODIFICATIONS
TO LAWN MAINTENANCE**

The Mayor stated we had the public hearing, so we will we entertain a motion to adopt Local Law #5; that has the following three components:

- i. Change from 6 inches to 10 inches
- ii. Codes Officer has the power/judgement to give special consideration to elderly, disabled, etc.
- iii. Repeat offenses; there is some language changes in there

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to adopt Local Law #5 as written to amend the code of the Village to address overgrowth height to 10", give Codes Enforcement Officer power/judgement to give special consideration to elderly, disabled, etc. and repeat offenses. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Browning. Trustee Wilmer sent an email out and he would like to increase the cost to the people who constantly do it, but not the elderly to \$250 per cut. Much discussion went back and forth with the Mayor, Dep. Mayor Browning and Trustee St. Germain all agreeing that \$125 was fair and covered the costs without losing money. DPW Sup't Ware stated that equipment costs, if damaged were also added. Trustee Strong will was willing to re-examine at another time. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Strong, Trustee Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 142-19

**DISCUSS/AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN NSCSD -FUEL
AND WASH AGREEMENT 08/01/19-7/31/20**

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the NSCSD Fuel and Wash Agreement for 08/01/19 thru 7/31/20. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Strong, Trustee Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 143-19

**DISCUSS/AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN NSCSD - BURNELL
PARKWAY STRIP AGREEMENT 08/01/19 - 7/31/20**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the NSCSD Burnell Parkway Strip Agreement for 08/01/19 thru 7/31/20. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Browning. Trustee Strong spoke of looking at monitoring in the future. The Mayor explained this agreement is only for the use of the Burnell Parkway Strip. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Strong, Trustee Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same.



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RESOLUTION # 144-19

**DISCUSS/AUTHORIZE INCREASE FOR INFORMATIONAL
AIDE EFFECTIVE 07/29/2019**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the increase for Maria Madonna, Informational Aide, salary by \$.75 per/hr. effective 07/29/2019. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Strong, Trustee Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 145-19

**DISCUSS/AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN ELEVATTITT
AGREEMENT 6/01/19 - 5/31/20 (\$390 QTR.)**

Dep. Mayor Browning made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Elevattitt Agreement 6/01/19 thru 5/31/20 at \$390 per quarter. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Strong, Trustee Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 146-19

**DISCUSS/AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN JEROME PM
SVC. AGREEMENT E4, E6, E8, T1, R7 (6/2019-6/2021)**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Jerome PM Svc. Agreement for Engine 4, Engine 6, Engine 8, Truck 1 and Rescue 7 effective 6/2019 thru 6/2021. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Strong, Trustee Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 147-19

**DISCUSS/APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF FAITH
KEVILLE AS A REC. AIDE EFFECTIVE 7/18/19**

Dep. Mayor Browning made a motion to approve the appointment of Faith Keville for Parks and Rec. for the Rec. Aide position starting at \$11.10/hr. effective 07/18/19. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Strong, Trustee Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 148-19

DISCUSS/ADOPT THE I-81 RESOLUTION

The Mayor stated the Board has received the sample of the resolution from Clay and they would like us to shadow this, Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel will plug in the Village of North Syracuse where Town of Clay is. Attorney Chatfield stated if the Board concurs with the sentiments then they can go ahead. Trustee Strong made a motion to authorize this view/recommendation and authorize the Mayor to



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sign the I-81 Resolution. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Strong, Trustee Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same. The Mayor added for those of you who are interested tonight is the meeting for I-81 at CNS High School at 6:00 PM. He continued they have all kinds of pictures about the Community Grid and what is going on.

RESOLUTION #: 149-19

**DISCUSS/APPROVE TAX ROLL CORRECTION 118 SHAVER
AVENUE FY 2019/2020 AND FY 2018/2019**

The Mayor stated the town missed a senior exemption for the property at 118 Shaver Ave., so a correction is needed. Trustee Strong made a motion to authorize the Village Tax owed for FY 2019/2020 to be reduced from \$850.69 to \$443.20; and refund FY 2018/2019 in the amount of \$406.49. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Strong and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same.

CITIZENS' VOICE: The Mayor invited anyone that wished to share concerns or thoughts to address the Board. Sue Hammond of 102 Elaine Ave. asked about when he was going to have the professor come and speak. The Mayor stated he was going to try to get him here for the next the 6:30 meeting. The Mayor asked if anyone would like to speak and closed Citizen's Voice.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No Report.

ENGINEER REPORT: Mrs. Franco stated she sent the email yesterday for Easy Paving's request for payment for this Church St. project. The Mayor mentioned the grass is not growing great and asked if they sprayed it. DPW Sup't Ware stated that is us and they did not spray it, only put rough seed down.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: He stated the following:

- So far in July: 788 Total Calls for service, 424 Property Checks, 07 Domestic, 23 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 90 Traffic Stops, 89 Traffic tickets, 07 arrests

Fire Department: Fire Chief Liberatore stated the following:

- He thanked the Police Dept. for keeping an eye on the apparatus the last couple of nights
- He thanked Teresa for the use of the pool

Public Works Department: He stated the following:



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- We have been out doing black top patching hitting the worst holes we could hit
- We finished brush this week and gearing up for bulk trash next week
- They are working on more storm drains

Parks and Recreation Department: She stated the following:

- Busy with summer programs
- Pool has seen a lot more use than in past years; probably due to the heat and closed beaches
- Summer Camp numbers are up as well as far as numbers attending on a daily basis
- Senior group met today; a huge number have joined over past 2 yrs., had to cut off number and take waiting list due to capacity of room

Codes Department: He stated the following:

- ZBA Mtg. on August 1st, four applicants to seeking variances, if approved 3 will go to Planning Commission; 2 for message boards and one is for site plan approval and other one if for fence height
- We got a call regarding 800 N. Main St. former Mobil; he has not picked up paperwork to go to Planning Commission for Special Use Permit yet, but is aware of the property needing tanks and is looking to revamp it the way it sits. The company owns 15 gas stations to include Mobil, Sunoco and Gulf and own the Gulf on Bear Rd.
- Phone/Internet update: modem install for phones on Wednesday, Verizon installed Wednesday, FiOS has been switched over, Sonitrol here this week
- Red Hawk is going to be here next week to do the fire alarm
- Our "IT" Dept. is moving servers 8/3 and new phone system is scheduled for 8/7; then we should be done with phones and wiring mess and should be able to start ripping out wires

Clerk-Treasurer: She stated she plans to closed books, see status of fund balance and roll into new year. She continued she has a question from Retiree who is on Medicare and asks if he can stay on Village Insurance and pay full premium; right now he is paying 10% as would help with prescriptions. She has dove into this yet, but has spoken to someone that is familiar, she stated it would be cheaper, because Medicare would be primary and this would be secondary. She asked would the Board be willing to allow us to acquire this and let him pay the full premium if it is \$400 a month or something, does the Board want to open that; she does not know that, that many people would want to have that, but she does not know. Dep. Mayor Browning stated she sees no reason that they should not do it as long as he understands that we will not pay the 10% that we do now. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel clarified that we pay 90% and he pays 10%. Dep. Mayor Browning continued he will have to pay the whole things, but this should be almost half if Medicare is his primary and this is his secondary. Trustee Strong asked about other people would be interested in it as far as previous employees or is there



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some type of scale; has it been offered in the past. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel stated it has never been offered in the past, because typically people do not want to pay the whole premium like that. She continued we do have 4 other retirees right now paying the 10%, she does not know if any of them would asked her about that. Dep. Mayor Browning stated it should not hurt us at all and it would be something that we are doing for our retirees, but you may want to look into it a little further. Trustee St. Germain did not see anything wrong with it and thought it was a nice perk for retirees. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel asked if he could get it cheaper somewhere else. Dep. Mayor Browning suggested he would have to call around and that is on him.

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee St. Germain: She stated Trustee Strong and she went to the Fire House on for a tour and she gained knowledge of what the firefighters and trucks do. She spoke of a requisition for Rescue 7 waiting to fabricate and install rear step and side rails which is waiting signatures to approve. She did not feel it was a necessity, but was open to the Board acting on it. Trustee Strong stated Rescue 7 was built around the required specs, however, a safety concern was pointed out by a firefighter and there is a concern over OSHA, should someone be injured on that vehicle, PESH would come in. Much discussion went on back and forth and the Mayor stated he signed it and it requires the signature of two other Trustees, so they need one more signature and it is in the budget, so it is up to one other Trustee to sign and if it is not signed then it is not approved.

Trustee Strong: He thanked DPW Sup't Ware and CEO Johnstone for stopping over at Chestnut and Park Ln. regarding the tree that came up at the last Board Meeting as well as the quick feedback; CEO Johnstone has been talking with a couple the residents and asked if it came up to let residents know we will still continue with the residents who took that down and if needed the Town of Clay can get involved. He stated the Village Instagram Account is searchable by Village_ of_ North_Syracuse_NY; Instagram Photos and Views and asked for ideas to get publicity out there, had some good feedback and considering cross posting to Facebook. He spoke of a chance to get pictures of the parks, go through the Depts. and spotlight their excellent work done by the Department Heads and the employees; also some businesses have shown some interest. He suggested possibly "Business of the Week," there are more than 52 businesses in our little Village. He stated they are going to need the help with I-81 and other issues pertaining to us and we want to focus on them, because nothing comes from being a store front.

Trustee Wilmer: He distributed pictures from Dog Daze to the Board from 2017 of the building and spoke of the Save the Rain Project creating flooding to the building. The Mayor stated it had flood before. Trustee Wilmer stated the storm drain is above the water table; he is not sure if it was by



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design, but it is not working. He also showed later pictures where it was all torn up; still the grass is not growing and he thinks we have to issue an order to take care of it. The sidewalks in front of the building are not wide enough for the side walk machine to go down there without hitting the grass or the building, so he thinks that we need to do the sidewalks on Rt. 11 to make them uniform like the rest of the sidewalks. The Mayor clarified that the state was supposed to do the sidewalks on Rt. 11 this year and they cancelled the whole project, because they made the ADA regulations stricter there by throwing out of the ability to do it and putting it over budget.

Dep. Mayor Browning: No Report.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor stated Church St. /Chestnut St. as you can see are underway; Church St. the watermains are being done. He continued there will be light at the end of the tunnel, but is going to bad on Chestnut St. and this is just the watermains. He went on to say unfortunately we still do not have drawings for the road project. He asked if Mrs. Franco had any idea when they would get them. She replied she did not hear any more since Mr. Bouchard's updates from the last meeting. The Mayor stated our best hope is to still get the paving done this year, so anyway it is going to be messy. He continued they did some paving and pot hole work on Chestnut St. which generated a call from a resident to ask "Why are you paving when you are going to pave." The Mayor stated we do not know when we are going to pave. He stated our office is working on the Taste of North Syracuse. He asked if we had gotten any letters. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel stated we have gotten 3. He stated it is not a lot of interest. He reminded everyone of a meeting tonight at CNS at 6 PM for the I-81. He continued one of the things that is very important to our Village is, if the 481 becomes the main corridor, a main thorough fare; it is busy now, it is going to be busier and our Fire Dept. is the one that responds to that section of the road, so it is going to place an unfunded mandate again among other things, so if you are interested attend. He stated there is a Noise Barrier sign-up sheet. CEO Johnstone stated, it is not for every resident, they were only mailed to the residents that back up to the highway; we got one for Kennedy Park, because it borders the highway. He continued to explain that they were only mailed to the residents on Slindes Woods Cir., no name, Wells Ave E. and Oakley St., all the ones on Church St. on both sides; only those within a certain footage to I-81. The Mayor thought they had to go around and get those. CEO Johnstone clarified they need to mail those into the I-81 Viaduct Board. The Mayor stated Tuesday, July 30th Chestnut St. closed between North Main St. and George St. from 8:30 AM to 2 PM, it may be quicker than that, but it is going to be shut down to shut the power off and changing over.

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



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Dep. Mayor Browning made a motion to enter into **Executive Session** 5:15 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Strong and Dep. Mayor Browning all voting in favor of the same.

Mayor Butterfield made a motion to return to **Regular Session** at 5:39 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Strong and Dep. Mayor Browning all voting in favor of the same.

Dep. Mayor Browning made a motion to adjourn at 5:40 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved with Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Strong, Trustee Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Browning, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,



Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk

