



**Village of North Syracuse**  
Regular Board Meeting  
July 14, 2011 at 4:30 PM  
North Syracuse Community Center  
600 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212

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The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m. with Mayor Atkinson leading those present to stand and join the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Mark Atkinson, Deputy Mayor Chuck Henry, Trustee Fred Ferguson and Trustee Gary Butterfield were present. Trustee Paul Linnertz was out of town.

**PERSONNEL PRESENT:** Clerk-Treasurer Dianne Kufel, Police Chief Tom Connelly, DPW Superintendent Gary Wilmer, Park & Recreation Director Teresa Roth, Codes Enforcement Officer Pam DiCarlo, Village Engineer Amy Franco, Village Attorney Scott Chatfield.

**RESOLUTION 140-11**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve the minutes from the Jun 23, 2011 Abstract Meeting, Deputy Mayor Chuck Henry seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Trustee Gary Butterfield made a motion to approve the annual meeting minutes from July 5, 2011. Fred Ferguson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 141-11**

**GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT (OLD BUDGET) #30**

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve General Fund (Old Budget) Abstract #30 in the amount of \$11,009.80, covering voucher #1545 thru voucher #1550; Deputy Mayor Henry seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 142-11**

**VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK (OLD BUDGET) #30**

Trustee Gary Butterfield made a motion to approve the Vets Memorial Park (Old Budget) Abstract #30 in the amount of \$146.85, covering voucher #9; Trustee Ferguson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 143-11**

**GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT (NEW BUDGET) #3**

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve the General Fund (New Budget) Abstract #3 in the amount of \$80,225.30 covering voucher #94 thru voucher #179; Trustee Butterfield seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.



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**RESOLUTION 144-11**

**SEWER FUND (NEW BUDGET) ABSTRACT #3**

Trustee Fred Fergerson made a motion to approve the Sewer Fund (New Budget) Abstract #3 in the amount of \$55.00, covering voucher #2; Deputy Mayor Henry seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 145-11**

**BUDGET TRANSFER**

Trustee Gary Butterfield made a motion to approve a budget transfer from the Trust & Agency Account to the General Fund in the Amount of \$8,429.35; Trustee Fred Fergerson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. Mayor Atkinson explained that this transfer was the remaining monies received of the sale of Toll Road Park for the Senior Housing complex and the requirement to utilize these monies toward another existing park; whereas the Community Center is part of the Village's Parks Department. The Mayor further explained how this transfer would augment an appropriation to the current elevator system – an upgrade, which is another item on the agenda that we will be discussing for an authorization of work to be performed.

**CITIZENS VOICE:**

Mayor Atkinson asked if anyone wanted to speak during the Citizen's Voice portion of the meeting.

Joe Schickling of 106 Edden Lane spoke of an issue with the barking dogs in his neighborhood. He referred to his neighborhood as having 30 plus dogs, and when one barks, the next one barks, and several dogs are barking at all times of the day and night. Mayor Atkinson said he appreciated this feedback and would see that our Animal Control officer is cognizant of this and if she is or has addressed this, and we can see what the next step is. Mr. Schickling also spoke of the run-down houses, garbage cans, and dilapidated houses mentioning various specifics. The Mayor spoke of how appreciative he is of the residents' involvement and reporting their findings to the Village and the spirit of this community involvement is welcoming. Mayor Atkinson said this is exactly the type of comments the Village Board likes to hear and how it assists us in Village government due to the limited resources. Codes Enforcement Officer, Pam DiCarlo, referenced the particular properties that Mr. Schickling was speaking of and stated that they are currently being handled and the processes are being followed with these properties. Pam explained how they are following the State Laws and following through the process. Trustee Butterfield also spoke of a property nearby his residence and the cost associated with the remedy to fix their issue; with the cost being a major factor and how it impedes them. Trustee Butterfield also spoke of the regulations that need to be attended to and that safety is an issue.



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Ed Zimmerman of 105 Edden Lane spoke of an 11.7 % tax bill increase and how he had not heard of this or any explanation. Mayor Atkinson stated that this was a direct reflection of the sales tax formula from the County whereas the County is retaining a larger portion of the sales tax; whereas Towns and Villages are feeling a sharp reduction and specifically our Village has lost over one-half million in sales tax revenue. The Mayor did suggest to Mr. Zimmerman to speak to his County Legislature. Mayor Atkinson spoke an article that the former Mayor had published explaining some of these details. The Mayor further quantified how the Village has consolidated in specific areas and laid off a few people. The Mayor further stated that this was an extremely challenging budget but still felt good about the end result.

Mr. Zimmerman wanted it known that he feels our DPW does an excellent job. He further stated that he has lived in North Syracuse for 35 years and that the DPW is by far the best in comparison to surrounding areas.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their comments.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION #146-11**

**ABOLISH LIEUTENANT, POLICE CAPTAIN, TYPIST 1**

Mayor Atkinson spoke of some general housekeeping that was needed to be done for Onondaga County as it relates to the Village's Civil Service Roster. Accordingly, we needed to remove 3 positions from this roster, with those being the Police Lieutenant position, the Police Captain position and the Typist 1 position relating to the Zoning/Planning Department for the minutes.

Trustee Ferguson made a motion to abolish the Lieutenant, Police Captain, and Typist 1 position relating to the Zoning/Planning; Deputy Mayor Henry seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 147-11**

**NEW MEMBER OF THE FIRE DEPT.**

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve the appointment of Joel Klaisle to the Fire Department at the request of Fire Chief Pat Brennan, seconded by Trustee Butterfield. The motion was carried unanimously.



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**RESOLUTION 148-11**

**SCOTT CHATFIELD - LEGAL COUNSEL AGREEMENT**

Mayor Atkinson stated that each trustee has received the agreement for legal representation for Village business which excludes four specific areas which are municipal bonding, litigation, collective bargaining, large undertakings mutually agreed upon. Mayor Atkinson stated that if we need to move outside of the retainer, it may or may not be Mr. Chatfield; it will be whoever fits the best interest of the Village residents for that specific issue.

Trustee Fred Fergerson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with Scott Chatfield for legal representation; seconded by Trustee Butterfield. The motion was carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 149-11**

**RESIGNATION OF FULL-TIME OFFICER  
RETURN AS A PART-TIME OFFICER**

Mayor Atkinson explained that one of our current full-time officers would like to resign as a full-time officer to pursue college to become a lawyer; and requests a position as a part-time officer. The Mayor read the following resolution:

*WHEREAS, the Village is in receipt of and hereby acknowledges the resignation of Officer Michael Quill from the full-time police force of the Village of North Syracuse and*

*WHEREAS, the Village Board deems it advisable, as part of its ongoing efforts to reduce the cost of policing services for the Village, to establish a new part-time police officer position.*

*NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Village Board hereby creates an additional part-time officer position consistent with the collective bargaining agreement and hereby appoints Michael Quill to fill said position effective August 1, 2011.*

Trustee Fred Fergerson made a motion to accept the above resolution; seconded by Deputy Mayor Henry. The motion carried unanimously.



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**RESOLUTION 150-11 COYNE TEXTILE BIWEEKLY SERVICE AGREEMENT-DPW**

Mayor Atkinson explained that he would like approval to sign a new agreement with Coyne Textile which would be transitioning from a current weekly service to a biweekly service which in turn would be saving approximately \$1,000 year.

Trustee Butterfield made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Coyne Textile biweekly service agreement; seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 151-11 RIEDER ELEVATOR AGREEMENT FOR COMM. CENTER**

Mayor Atkinson spoke of the previous budget transfer that had been approved for \$8,429.35. He spoke of the total cost to upgrade the elevator for \$20,990. These improvements will automate the elevator as well as upgrade the doors. He reemphasized the residual monies remaining from Toll Road Park that would offset this purchase with a balance of \$12,560 being earmarked from the General Fund and was previously budgeted at budget time.

Trustee Ferguson made a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign the Rieder Elevator Agreement; seconded by Deputy Mayor Henry. The motion was carried unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Police Department:** Chief Connelly spoke of the new guns that his department has received and they will be switching over as soon as he can arrange for some range time for the officers, so they can get acclimated with them.

**Parks and Recreation:** Parks Director Teresa Roth spoke of the current "Pickup-Basketball" for adults - no preregistration is needed, as well as the Senior Exercise Program - with spots still available..She mentioned the Zumba class being held on Saturday mornings, and the Camp Program is going very well with more kids this year at Heritage than past years. Teresa stated that the pool has had a ton of use; and the concerts are also going very well on Wednesday nights at Lonergan Park.

**Dept. of Public Works:** DPW Sup't. Gary Wilmer had no report.



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**Codes Enforcement Dept.:** Codes Enforcement Officer Pam DiCarlo stated that Toll Road is winding up and perceives the final walk-thru to be within 1 month. Pam also spoke of the Bellwood Baptist Church and how well this is going and at a rapid pace – very interesting to observe.

**Clerk-Treasurer:** Dianne Kufel stated that she had just about completed the closing of the fiscal year 5/31/11. Based upon the spending moratorium and the Dept. Heads scaling back, the year has closed out with a favorable impact on the fund balance. She spoke of having definitive numbers for the next full Board Meeting of August 11, 2011.

**ATTORNEY REPORT:**

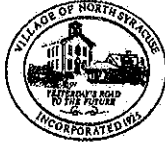
Attorney Scott Chatfield thanked everyone for their support and communicated to the Department Heads that they should feel free to contact him on any issues and he is there for support should they need him for any matter. Attorney Chatfield stated that there would not be any additional costs for this service it is all inclusive as per the agreement with the Village.

**ENGINEER REPORT:**

Village Engineer Amy Franco mentioned the preconstruction meeting that was held this past week, with Lan-Co representatives, Comm. Development – Nina Andon-McLane, Dianne Kufel, Gary Wilmer. Amy stated that the contract should be signed and distributed with all the proper attachments within 2 weeks, and the construction should begin the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week of August.

**DEPUTY MAYOR AND TRUSTEES REPORT:**

**Trustee Fred Ferguson** spoke of the event happening this next weekend – Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. A war veteran, Troy Yocum, is walking across the county in support of disabled veterans and help support military families. He is expected to travel 7000 miles on foot. The event will be held on Centerville place with a march, and appreciative of donations. Trustee Ferguson also mentioned a complaint the safety committee received regarding a parking issue on VanMara and Grove Street because of the traffic going to the pool; children had to walk down the center of the street, etc. He stated that the Police Dept. was involved as well and tickets had been issued.



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**Trustee Gary Butterfield** spoke of the parks and how busy that department has been. This is a busy department within the Village – the pool has been very busy – all in all, it is a great park system we have in the Village. He stated that it is a good sign the numbers have increased this year at Heritage. The Parks window at Village Hall is always busy with several residents signing up for camps/pool. He added that many are using more use of our parks – is a resource that we don't always recognize. Trustee Butterfield also reiterated that the resident's eyes and ears are very important to our local government; stating that if you see something that is not pleasing come to us, rather than complaining to a neighbor. The Board encourages you to help us – to help you.


**Deputy Mayor Chuck Henry** stated that he couldn't be more excited to be Dep. Mayor. He stated that he and the Mayor are looking at many different directions to pursue in the Village; and plans to work as hard as the Mayor does for the total betterment of the Village.

**The Mayor** stated that it has been a little over a week and he has long list of things he wants to complete. The Mayor stated that "communication" will be a priority - inside and outside - of Village Hall. He is attempting to meet with departments heads frequently; and plans to hold a monthly staff meeting. Externally, the Mayor spoke of the website [www.northsyracuse.ny.org](http://www.northsyracuse.ny.org) and how valuable this tool is. He bulleted a few items on the website, such as the poll – if you like the website, the feedback and communication. The Mayor mentioned the Village Beat – Community Policing, and the Codes Department to look up specific codes, for clarification. He stated that these are all good things to know.

The Mayor also mentioned the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament – hosted by the Plank Road Chamber of Commerce to be held on Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. Every year this benefits a non-for-0 profit business and this year the proceeds will be shared with the Canteen. He mentioned to see him after the meeting for a brochure on this event or they could directly contact Angela at the Chamber of Commerce.

Trustee Gary Butterfield made a motion to adjourn at 5:05 p.m.; seconded by Deputy Mayor Chuck Henry. The motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Dianne Kufel  
Clerk/Treasurer