



Village of North Syracuse

Board Meeting

August 11th, 2011 at 4:30 PM

600 South Bay Road

North Syracuse, NY 13212

Mayor Atkinson called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Mark Atkinson, Deputy Mayor Chuck Henry, Trustee Fred Fergerson, Trustee Gary Butterfield and Trustee Paul Linnertz were present.

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

RESOLUTION # 155-11

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Atkinson made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 28th, 2011 Board Meeting. Deputy Mayor Charles Henry seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION # 156-11

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Mayor Mark Atkinson made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract #5 in the amount of \$131,349.66 Voucher #235 to Voucher #287; the motion was seconded by Trustee Butterfield. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION #157-11

SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Mayor Mark Atkinson made a motion to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #5 in the amount of \$83.47 Voucher #3 and Voucher #4; the motion was seconded by Trustee Linnertz. The motion was carried unanimously.

CITIZENS' VOICE: No one wished to speak.

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENT OF A SENIOR ADVOCATE

Mayor Atkinson spoke of how he is not only trying to maintain the same high quality of service that we have here in North Syracuse but to add some service as well. The Mayor spoke of the feedback that he has received from the legislative branch of the government here and would like to take a step back and review this whole "senior advocacy" process with due diligence. The Mayor suggested that this item be tabled for approximately 30 days and we will revisit this. All of the trustees concurred.



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RESOLUTION #158-11

NEW MEMBER OF THE FIRE DEPT.

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

APPOINTMENT/SALARY OF DEPUTY CLERK/TREASURER

Mayor Atkinson spoke of the job classification of Deputy Clerk-Treasurer was created at the annual meeting and requested an executive session directly after the regular meeting to discuss this.

AUTHORIZATION OF DEP. CLERK-TREASURER AS OFFICIAL SIGNATORY

Mayor Atkinson spoke of the need for the Village needing another signatory for check signing and also requested an executive session to discuss this directly after the regular meeting.

RESOLUTION #159-11

2011 CROWN VICTORIA PURCHASE/POLICE DEPT.

Mayor Atkinson spoke of the information that was distributed to the Trustees regarding the fleet of vehicles within our Police Dept. The Mayor further explained that due to budget constraints the Police Dept. has not purchased or leased any new vehicles in quite some time, and suggested some dialogue from the Police Chief as well as some purchase/leasing options from the Clerk-Treasurer. Chief Connelly spoke of the "aging" fleet with the newest patrol car being a 2007. Vehicle "261" (2006) has 86,000 miles, has a bad transmission and the estimate to repair is approx. \$3,000. Chief Connelly explained that this 2011 would replace this 2006. Chief Connelly spoke of the two options that were currently available under State Contract – a 2012 Chevy Impala and a 2011 Crown Victoria. The Chief explained that the 2011 Crown Victoria is a bit more expensive but is available today and transferring the equipment from his existing car is cost saving. He further explained that the 2012 Chevy Impala would not be available until October and transferring the equipment from the 2006 Crown Victoria was not really an option, as it would not fit. Clerk-Treasurer Dianne Kufel spoke of the leasing option available over 3 years – one payment per year for three consecutive years; then the Village owns its. She forecasted a financing rate of approximately 4% with total interest payments of approx. \$1,500. She further explained the other option would be to buy it/purchase it out of this year's budget and felt this could be absorbed directly through the police department budget with the full time to part-time resignation of an officer; of course, with the Police Chief's approval. Chief Connelly reiterated the dollars necessary – the base price of \$22,625 coupled with the outfitting it/licensed sirens – the total cost is \$24,975. Mayor Atkinson spoke of the MPG difference between the Crown Victoria and the Chevy Impala was 2 miles difference – city miles. Mayor Atkinson



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opened it up to the legislative body. Trustee Ferguson inquired about the exchange of equipment and the cost. Dep. Mayor Henry inquired if the equipment needed updating, although the Chief stated that it was in fairly good shape. Trustee Butterfield explained that he felt that Crown Victoria would save the Village money with the rolling over of the equipment from one to the other. Mayor Atkinson made a motion to purchase off of State Bid the 2011 Crown Victoria for \$24,975 including the equipment installed; Trustee Ferguson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION # 160-11

SURPLUS 2006 CROWN VICTORIA

Mayor Atkinson spoke of the 2006 Crown Victoria is inoperable and how the Village wanted to dispose of it. Chief Connelly spoke of the bids on the Auction International Site and would not expect more than \$2,000, perhaps less with its inoperable state. Mayor Atkinson inquired on the auction site and if no one was interested it was still the Village's vehicle, in which Chief Connelly confirmed. Mayor Atkinson suggested putting a reserve/minimum on it, as well. Deputy Mayor Henry suggested putting it on the Auctions International and if no one is interested or if the minimum is not met, the Village could turn it over to the Fire Department. Trustee Linnertz made a motion for Chief Connelly to surplus the 2006 Crown Victoria as he sees fit. Trustee Ferguson seconded the motion. Trustee Butterfield stated that in the past, surplussed vehicles were sent to the County Auction. Attorney Chatfield stated that there is no requirement for it's going to the County, he stated that the Village need not give away something of value. He further stated that the Fire Department is a Village entity and if the Fire Department ends up with this, it not an issue. Attorney Chatfield continued to speak of the value being zero -- with the expenses related to repairing it far exceeded it's worth. Mayor Atkinson amended the motion to include a cost analysis benefit to verify the value; the motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 161-11

AMENDING THE TREE CODE

Mayor Atkinson started a discussion of amending the Tree Code – Paragraph 219-13 – removing of dead or diseased trees on private property and how it has been a problem recently for the Village. The Mayor explained how we do not employ an arborist on staff and the Village is going onto private property make determinations to the bests of their ability that a tree is diseased or it is in imminent danger. The Mayor spoke how this should be worked out between the neighbors that own the houses through a civil matter and does not feel that the Village should be going onto peoples' property or view peoples' property and make that determination. The Mayor explained that the code allows us to do that and would like to remove this paragraph. Although, the Mayor did not want this to affect our status of tree city; but reassured the Board that there are 4 areas of criteria to maintain, and this does not affect those 4 areas. Mayor Atkinson stated the need for a public hearing in order to properly remove this from the Code. Mayor Atkinson made a motion to hold a public hearing to remove this paragraph from the Tree



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Code for 6:29PM on Thursday, September 8th, 2011; Trustee Butterfield seconded the motion. Trustee Linnertz inquired what the intent of the legislative body would have been regarding this being in the Code, whereas Attorney Chatfield found it surprising and only commented that perhaps there was a tree falling on someone else's property or in the right of way. Attorney Chatfield explained that if the tree was in the right of way, the Village could still remove. The motion was carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No report.

ENGINEER REPORT: Amy Franco commented on the progress of the sidewalks along Main Street in front of Seneca Federal and Sears Middleton. She explained that they were almost complete.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Codes Enforcement Dept.: Wayne Dean – no report.

Parks and Recreation Dept.: Teresa Roth spoke of the summer program winding down and will end tomorrow; very nice summer. She spoke of the swim lessons ending as well. Teresa stated that she hopes to keep the pool open until August 24th, 25th or perhaps August 28th. She mentioned the concert at Lonergan this evening.

DPW – Highway Department: Gary Wilmer mentioned that his guys have been concentrating on the storm drains around the Village.

DEPUTY MAYOR AND TRUSTEES REPORTS:

Trustee Linnertz inquired on the heavy trash pick up. DPW Sup't. suggested that that information is on the Village website.

Mayor Mark Atkinson spoke of his speaking to the media and will concentrate on two important areas. The first is that he will be concentrating on maintaining the service we already have or increasing the services if possible with the same money source we currently have. The Mayor spoke of his goal to have the Department Heads' look at the costs associated with personnel, contractual costs, purchasing costs – anything and everything we can look into. Mayor Atkinson explained that he believes the Village can save some money with energy



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efficiencies and focusing on the energy bills. Mayor Atkinson also spoke of the forecasting of the “revenues” and trying to predict these for the next few years, reiterating the unknown if cuts are made from above. Mayor Atkinson spoke of his second goal, that being the Village Center. Mayor Atkinson spoke of the continual refurbishment of the sidewalks in the Village – and the connection to each of the 8 parks in the Village; whereas they all lead to the middle of the Village. The Mayor explained the 3 empty buildings that will be his focus to develop. The Mayor spoke of the many sources to develop these properties, and he will continue to meet with the County Agencies, State Agencies, people that control the grants, block grants, grants for parks, anchor grants – a multitude of people with a goal of developing this central area. The Mayor stated that these are his two main goals and objectives.

Mayor Mark Atkinson made a motion to enter into executive session regarding employment history of an appointment of a particular person at 5:02PM, seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION # 162-11

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CLERK/TREASURER

Mayor Atkinson and the Board of Trustees returned from executive session at 5:16PM. Mayor Atkinson made a motion approving the appointment of Denise Papa as the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer at \$36,000 per annum or \$19.0444 per hour, effective retroactively to July 1st, 2011; the motion was seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION # 163-11

AUTH. OF DEP. CLK-TREAS. AS OFFICIAL SIGNATORY

Mayor Mark Atkinson made a motion authorizing Denise Papa to be an official signatory for the Village, seconded by Trustee Linnertz. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Butterfield made a motion to adjourn at 5:17PM; seconded by Deputy Mayor Henry. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Dianne Kufel
Village Clerk/Treasurer