



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
October 13, 2011 at 6:30 PM
North Syracuse Community Center
700 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212

Mayor Atkinson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Mark Atkinson, Trustee Fred Ferguson, and Trustee Gary Butterfield were all present. Trustee Paul Linnertz had a work conflict and Deputy Mayor Chuck Henry had a medical conflict.

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

RESOLUTION # 182-11

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2011 Board Meeting. Trustee Gary Butterfield seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION # 183-11

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Gary Butterfield made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract #9 in the amount of \$117,266.25, Voucher #466 to Voucher #550; the motion was seconded by Trustee Fred Ferguson. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTUION # 184-11

SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #9 in the amount of \$538.46 covering Voucher #6 to Voucher #8; the motion was seconded by Trustee Gary Butterfield. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION # 185-11

BUDGET TRANSFER

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve the transfer of \$8,262.68 from A9060.8 (Hospital/Medical Insurance) to A9050.8 (Unemployment). The motion was seconded by Trustee Gary Butterfield. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION # 186-11

BUDGET TRANSFER

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve the transfer of \$120.00 from A231P (DWI Reserve) to A3120.401R (Alco Sensors for Testing). The motion was seconded by Trustee Gary Butterfield. The motion was carried unanimously.



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RESOLUTION # 187-11

BUDGET TRANSFER

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve the transfer of \$100.00 from A1910.438 (Umbrella Insurance) to A3620.412 (Codes Safety Inspection Clothing). The motion was seconded by Trustee Gary Butterfield. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION # 188-11

BUDGET TRANSFER

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve the transfer of \$6,000 from A1410.11 (Village Clerk – Now abolished) to A1345.11 Deputy Clerk-Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gary Butterfield. The motion was carried unanimously.

CITIZENS' VOICE:

Pat Gustafson of 137 Maxwell Avenue stated that she is very disappointed that Trustee Paul Linnertz was not present tonight as her comment was directed solely to him. She has a real problem with his questioning the necessity and his doing away with the reduced speed zone and flashing lights, in the area of St. Rose of Lima school; not only do the children use the parking lot for play areas as well as many school buses of all the districts pull in there all day long. She spoke of having just one ball go in the street, or one negligent driver. She continued to say that it is a proven fact that you can stop a lot quicker at 20 miles per hour than you can at 35 miles per hour. Pat stated that our children are our most precious commodity and their safety should not be jeopardized for any cost. Trustee Fred Ferguson said it will be on the agenda for the next public safety meeting.

RESOLUTION # 189-11 ACCEPTANCE OF FINAL PLANS FOR THE TOLL ROAD SNR. COMM.

Mayor Mark Atkinson spoke of the (3) meetings he has had and the walk-thru(s). He continued to say that the first couple of meetings didn't show progress, if any. Mayor Mark Atkinson spoke of his last meeting this past week, either it has been done or it is almost done and they have agreed on a way to get it all done. The Mayor stated that he is ready to make a motion to accept the infrastructure based on the punchlist that we have developed that they are going to complete; and as a guarantee we also have a substantial amount of money in an escrow deposit that we are holding for a (1) year period. Attorney Chatfield reassured that this is fine to proceed in this fashion, and that he will be working with the engineer as far as no liens, and obtaining an affidavit; this is all proforma and before we authorize the filing of the plat map, we will be sure that this is all taken care of. Attorney Chatfield stated that once all documents are in place, we will be given an estimate of how much we should hold of the developer's deposit, from the our engineer. This will be held during the one year warranty period that would cover the Village and protect them. Mayor Mark Atkinson made a motion to authorize the acceptance of the infrastructure. The motion was seconded by Trustee Fred Ferguson. The motion was carried unanimously.



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CROWN CASTLE

Mayor Mark Atkinson spoke of the Village receiving a dollar offer for the Cell Tower over at Lonergan Park and the Board has been looking at although is unsure if they want to sell it. He continued to say that he is leaving this "as is" under Old Business and plans to see what the value of this truly is from another source, other than the firm making the offer.

INSURANCE TRANSITION (CSEA) HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES

Mayor Mark Atkinson spoke of a meeting we had this week with Brown and Brown (a broker), the Highway Employees (CSEA) and Dianne regarding a transition with their insurance. Amber Gifford from Brown and Brown is very familiar with an array of difference insurance plans and very knowledgeable. The Mayor went on to say that the CSEA group has all of the information they need to digest for now, and we will follow up with this at a later date. Mayor Mark Atkinson stated that this will remain on "Old Business" as well.

MOWING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Mayor Mark Atkinson spoke of the result of cutting trees down on private property and the Mayor has asked the Codes Dept. to put together their process on how they go about directing the DPW to cut the grass on a house that exceeds our code, whether it be a health issue or a property value issue. Mayor Atkinson said he has received this from the Codes Dept. and he has now given this information to our legal counsel to be sure that we are doing this process right. Mayor Atkinson stated that once he has an opinion from legal counsel we will put clarification to this, until that time, this will remain on Old Business. Trustee Fred Ferguson inquired as to the (8) properties on the list, and it was confirmed that that is still current and we have not added additional properties to the list. Conversation took place with Trustee Gary Butterfield and legal counsel regarding the residence being occupied verses vacant, both practically and legally. Attorney Chatfield will provide an opinion at the next meeting. Codes Enforcement Officer, Wayne Dean, suggested the use of any outside company that would provide a paper invoice/bill for the property being mowed rather than a distribution of labor on a timecard.

RESOLUTION # 190-11: SHARED SERVICES FOR STORAGE SALT AND SAND

Mayor Atkinson spoke of the annual agreement that we have in place with NYS Dept. of Transportation for the storage of salt and sand effective October 1, 2011 thru September 30, 2011. Trustee Gary Butterfield made a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign. The motion was seconded by Trustee Fred Ferguson. The motion was carried unanimously.



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RESOLUTION # 191-11:

TAX CORRECTION – 313 HERMAN DRIVE

Mayor Atkinson explained the Cold War Exemption was omitted from this property and that it was originally billed at \$1,586.01 and should be \$1,471.20 and this property resides in the Town of Clay. Trustee Ferguson made a motion to authorize the correction of taxes to allow for the Cold War Exemption that was not calculated originally at 313 Herman Drive. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gary Butterfield. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION # 192-11

NEW LEASE WITH COMDOC – XEROX COPIER

Mayor Atkinson spoke of the changeover from our current Toshiba Copier to a Xerox Copier. Dianne Kufel conveyed to the Board that the current lease was due to expire in 8 months whereas ComDoc/Xerox will pay off the residual balance and provide a new lease for 63 months that will overall save the Village approximately \$2,500 per year. She explained that this transition will include a new copier for the Police Dept. as well as Village Hall with all the same features of scanning/faxing/copying with an additional allotment of copies per month; and will seek to have the install done with our IT Specialist Peter Knowels to communicate with the server. Trustee Gary Butterfield made a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign the new leasing agreement with ComDoc for a Xerox copier. The motion was seconded by Trustee Fred Ferguson. The motion was carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Chatfield stated that the two matters that needed special counseling on are moving forward.

ENGINEERING REPORT: No report.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Codes Department: Codes Enforcement Officer Wayne Dean spoke of the hearing scheduled with P. Vinch this week was post-poned so that the new attorney could familiarize himself with the case.

Parks and Recreation: Parks Director Teresa Roth spoke of the Halloween Event this year for 12 and under is scheduled for Friday, October 28th at St. Rose of Lima Church. She also stated that the Annual Village Parade is scheduled for Sunday, Decemer 4th; and they currently have a Driver Safety Course offered for November 1st and 2nd - \$12 for AARP members, \$14 for non-members and the month of November it is FREE for Veterans.



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Department of Public Works: DPW Sup't. Gary Wilmer spoke of the underground spring issue at the sewer break at Oakley Drive. Gary spoke of a new place to bring out leaves that will be closer and less costly to save on fuel and tipping fees. Gary spoke of the new sidewalks on Chestnut St. that have been sealed again in preparation for this winter. He is gathering the figures together for the tree city application and mentioned that the "Don't Walk" sign is still not completed and is waiting for the "Pedestrian" signs to come in.

Finance/Budget: Clerk-Treasurer Dianne Kufel stated that the audit is currently taking place and the auditors will be around for the next month; she welcomes any questions, and appreciates any and all cooperation of any questions that may be asked of you or any department. She reiterated that the fund balance memo that was distributed a month or so ago to the Board of Trustees is right on target and has been confirmed and verified by the auditors. Dianne spoke of the audit taking place from Koegel and Vincentini for all of the funds of the Village and the separate audit being done by Michael Benn CPA's for the LOSAP Service Award audit (for the Volunteer Fire Department's Retirement System for the 2010 and 2011 Service Award point years'). Dianne also made mention of a few meetings that are currently scheduled in the next week regarding the "2% tax cap" and the new requirements associated with this. She stated that this is a new "event" for all of us, so any and all new information will be helpful. She reported to the Board that that the Annual Update Document was also filed, as required, by September 30th, 2011 with the Comptroller's Office.

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRSUTEES REPORT:

Trustee Fergerson spoke of the thank you letter he and Pat Gustafson received thanking them for their presence at the Ataxia meeting of CNY. Trustee Fergerson spoke of a former administrator, Douglas Shupe, died on September 25th, whereas he stated that he sent a condolence letter on behalf of the Village Board. Trustee Fergerson also stated that historically (86) years ago, on October 7th, was the first time the Village met. They met at 8:00 PM for the 1st time at the Firehouse. Trustee Fergerson also complimented the Fire Dept. on their Fire Safety Day that he had attended and it was very well done. Further conversation took place regarding the Village's name prior to North Syracuse whereas it was called Centerville and Podunk.

Trustee Butterfield No report

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Mark Atkinson spoke of how communication has increased internally at the Village and will continue to do this externally to the citizens that we represent. He spoke of an article that is forthcoming from the Mayor and looking for feedback that makes us a community based organization. Mayor Atkinson spoke of the website – it is really a wonderful tool; and how we have a new question on the website from the Police Dept. The Mayor asked the students in the audience (People in Government Class) attending to answer the poll question on the website as a group effort.



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Trustee Gary Butterfield made a motion to adjourn at 6:49 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Fred Ferguson. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel
Clerk-Treasurer