



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, December 9, 2010
6:30 P.M. – Community Center

PERSONNEL PRESENT: Village Clerk Christine Pollock, Treasurer Dianne Kufel, Attorney Heather Cole, Engineer James Trasher, Police Chief Thomas Connelly, Codes Officer Wayne Dean, Fire Chief Patrick Brennan, Parks Director Teresa Roth and DPW Superintendent Gary Wilmer.

Mayor Browning called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Following the pledge to the flag, the roll was called; Deputy Mayor Mark Atkinson, Trustee Fred Ferguson, & Trustee Chuck Henry were present. Trustee Gary Butterfield was excused.

RESOLUTION 271-10

MINUTE APPROVAL

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 23, 2010 Board Meeting, Deputy Mayor Mark Atkinson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 272-10

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL:

Deputy Mayor Mark Atkinson made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract #14 in the amount of \$165,392.72 covering vouchers #762 to #841; Trustee Ferguson seconded the motion, the motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 273-10

VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL:

Trustee Ferguson made a motion to approve the Veteran's Memorial Fund Abstract #14 in the amount of 29.93 covering voucher #4. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mark Atkinson, and carried unanimously.

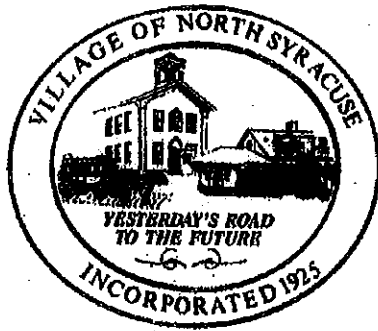
RESOLUTION 274-10

BUDGET TRANSFER:

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion; seconded by Trustee Chuck Henry, to approve the following budget transfer. The motion was unanimously approved.

12/08/10	FROM:	A5110.12 – Summer Help
\$3,549.00	TO:	A7110.22 – Snow Removal Equipment

To purchase a second snow blower for the ToolCat.

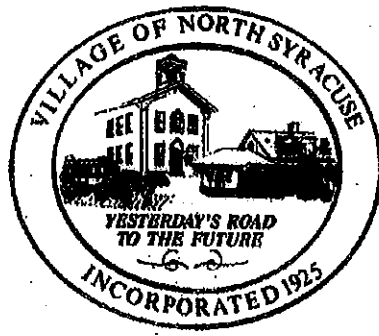


CITIZENS' VOICE:

Mr. Linnertz of 312 Helen Street voiced concerns that he did not see the Personnel Policy on the October 14th agenda, and wondered why, after executive session it was adopted. Mayor Browning said she did not recall talking about the policy in executive session, and she did not have those particular set of minutes before her to refer to. Village Attorney Heather Cole said that she may have told the Board from an attorney client stand point that she had reviewed the document; however she does not recall the policy itself being discussed in executive session. Mr. Paul Linnertz went on to say he is deeply concerned over the "sick bank" policy proposed in the Village Personnel Policy adopted on 10/14/10. The fact that there are no defined time periods associated with the plan leaves it open to abuse, and can be extremely costly. Mr. Linnertz said he felt one particular policy is a "monster that cannot be controlled". In his 10 years of experience dealing with this type of policy, there needs to be a termination point within that section of the policy, or employees could be out indefinitely. Deputy Mayor Atkinson said on a Federal level sick banks are used and it's very streamlined & uncomplicated. There are no committees designating who gets what, it's between the peers. No one knows better who abuses sick leave than your peers. Mr. Linnertz said that's another issue with the "sick bank"; it needs to be compartmentalized so a lower wage employee cannot donate hour for hour, or day for day to an employee with a higher wage job. Attorney Cole explained that one of the reasons the policy is not going into effect until June 2011 is so issues such as this can be brought up, discussed, and resolved. The Mayor thanked him for his input, and assured him it will all be looked into.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. After speaking with Helen Kiggins with the Board of Elections, Mayor Browning was provided with the following information; if the Village holds their elections in November 2011 instead of June 2011 there will be no cost to the Village. If we hold them in June, as we normally do, the cost will be about \$3,000. Treasurer Dianne Kufel said the last election cost the village approximately \$2,547, so we are looking at a difference of approximately \$453 additional cost to keep the election in June. After further discussion the board decided the resolution from the 11/23/10 meeting will stand, and the village election will be in June as always.
- b. The draft of the Mayor's Policy for Board Meeting attendance has not yet been reviewed by the Board or the Village Attorney; therefore this matter will be tabled until the next meeting.



RESOLUTION 275-10

ABOLISH (2) ROSTER POSTIONS:

Trustee Ferguson made a motion to abolish the Typist II and Accounting II Civil Service positions on the Village roster as they have not been, nor do they expect to be utilized. Two Clerk I positions have been added to the roster, one of which will be available for the Fire Department. Deputy Mayor Atkinson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 276-10

REAL PROPERTY TAX CAP :

Trustee Ferguson made a motion to follow NYCOM's recommendation and enact a property tax cap in an effort to manage New York States' unfunded mandates; Trustee Henry seconded the motion, all voted in favor of same. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 277-10

INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT:

Deputy Mayor Atkinson made a motion to pre-authorize the Mayor's signature on the tax agreement for the infrastructure grant, contingent upon Village Counsel's review and approval. Trustee Ferguson seconded the motion.. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 278-10

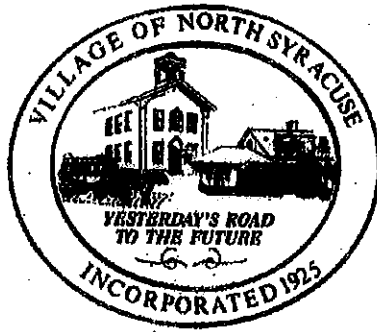
RENEW ABJ AGREEMENT:

Trustee Ferguson made a motion authorizing the Mayor's signature on the Village's annual agreement with ABJ for fire sprinkler management at Community Center. The cost went up \$12 from the previous year. Deputy Mayor Atkinson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 279-10

ADVANCED NETWORK DESIGNS:

Village Clerk, Christine Pollock provided the Board members with three quotes for IT work that is needed to secure and maintain the computer systems at the Village Hall. Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to hire Advanced Network Designs, (Peter Knowles). Deputy Mayor Mark Atkinson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.



DOT PLOWING AGREEMENT:

DPW Superintendent Gary Wilmer said the County has provided him with a plowing agreement that would have his crew plow Chestnut Street to the end, where it meets Allen Road. He feels this would be much safer for our residents than the way it's done now. From Josephine Street, our department does a better job and it is best for public safety. Attorney Heather Cole said she had reviewed the agreement; however she was waiting for the DOT to get back to her with clarification of mileage/gas figures. Mayor Browning tabled this item until the next meeting on 12/21/10.

RESOLUTION 280-10

HIRE PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER:

North Syracuse Police Chief Tom Connelly asked the Board to approve hiring Scott F. Conway as a part-time police officer at \$17.57 per hour for 20 hours per week, with no benefits. The Chief also added that the new officer will not require training. Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to approve hiring the new part time officer; Trustee Chuck Henry seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 281-10

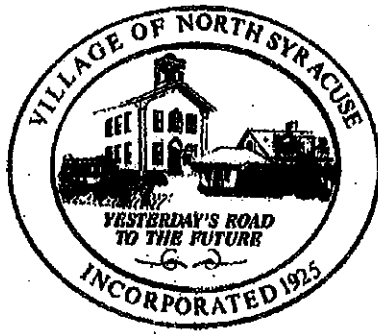
EASTERN SECURITY AGREEMENT:

Trustee Fred Ferguson made a motion to authorize Mayor Browning to sign the agreement with Eastern Security to install panic buttons in the Village Hall. Fire Chief Brennan questioned where the "call" would go when activated. Deputy Mayor Atkinson explained that it would go directly to the North Syracuse Police Department, unless they were rolled over, then it would go directly to 911. Trustee Henry seconded the motion; which was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 282-10

RENEW IMA AGREEMENT:

Deputy Mayor Mark Atkinson motioned to allow the Mayor to renew the Drug Testing agreement with IMA, per DOT Federal Regulations. The cost has risen slightly since last year \$2 per test. Deputy Ferguson seconded the agreement. The motion was unanimously approved.



Ms. Roth also reported that Trustee Ferguson arranged a meeting with a gentleman in the elevator business, whose work he is personally familiar with, and this contractor felt he could automate the existing elevator at the Community Center for around \$9,000 or \$10,000. This is a substantial savings from the quotes we received from other elevator companies that said they would have to replace the entire elevator at a cost of approximately \$90,000. She is very optimistic, and would like to see this taken care of since it has been a top priority for this building.

CODES ENFORCEMENT: Mr. Dean had no report.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

DPW Supt. Gary Wilmer said the guys have been out all week snow plowing. Mayor Browning said she wanted him to know that she had a very nice compliment from a reporter that came to do an interview. The reporter told her that when they were driving here today, they knew the minute entered the Village of North Syracuse because the roads were so much better to drive on!

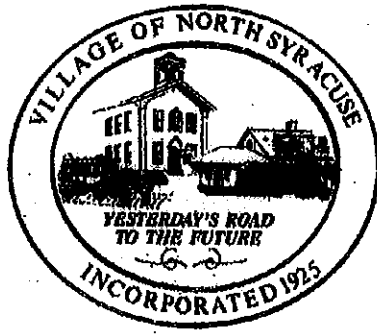
TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer Dianne Kufel reported that the village has CHIPS money left to use or we will lose it. Ms. Kufel said she and Gary Wilmer talked about possibly working on some street signs. Ms. Kufel also wanted to remind the Board that the Village must have a plan in place and be prepared to submit the grant for the sales tax soon, as the cutoff date is January 1, 2011. We need to make sure this is followed through because there is \$160,000 that hangs in the balance for the Village.

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEES REPORT

Deputy Mayor Atkinson wanted to reiterate that the Board put the personal policy out there early enough so they could perfect any issues or concerns that were brought to their attention. The most important thing is that the policy is fair to both the Village employees and to the Village residents.

Trustee Fred Ferguson reported that the Masonic Lodge donated the two horses and sleigh for the parade, so the village is no longer a "once horse town". He also commended Teresa Roth & the Parks & Rec. Staff for a very successful Holiday Parade. Trustee Ferguson announced that the next Public Safety Meeting will be held on March 7, 2011.



Trustee Gary Butterfield was excused.

Trustee Chuck Henry told Parks Director Roth that the float this year was fabulous! He also wanted to thank DPW Supt. Gary Wilmer and his staff for all of the great work they've done during this recent winter blast.

Mayors Report

Mayor Browning said there is a box in the Village Hall for donations for seniors, 5 ladies and 2 gentlemen, sponsored by the Plank Road Chamber of Commerce. Donations are needed to help make this holiday season a little brighter for these Village residents and she would encourage everyone that is able, to give to others.

Deputy Mayor Atkinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine Pollock".

Christine Pollock
Village Clerk