The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 4:30 P.M. with Mayor Gary Butterfield asking everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Personnel Present:** Village Clerk/Treasurer Dianne Kufel, CEO Brian Johnstone, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Fire Chief Patrick Brennan, Parks Director Tony Burkinshaw, Police Chief William Becker and Village Attorney Robert Germain.

**Personnel Absent:** Amy Franco Village Engineer (Excused).

**RESOLUTION # 048-21**

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the minutes (Facebook Livestreamed) from the March 11th, 2021 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**RESOLUTION # 049-21**

**GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve Abstract #22 in the amount of $91,432.42 covering voucher #1179 thru #1258. The motion was seconded Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**RESOLUTION # 050-21**

**BUDGET TRANSFER(S)**

The Mayor stated money transfer(s) to put accounts out of the red. Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the budget transfers from A1620.25 New Laserfiche System in the amount of $5,600 to increase A1620.210 Computers-Dianne’s System in the amount of $1,359.40, to increase A1620.220 Software Partial in the amount of $1,550, to increase A1620.27 Vlg. Condensor Not Budgeted in the amount of $1,100 and to increase A1620.28 Marlin Phones Extra Panels in the amount of $1,590.60. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**RESOLUTION # 051-21**

**BUDGET TRANSFER(S)**
The Mayor stated money transfer(s) to cover the cost of the appraisal at Station 2. Trustee Strong made a motion to approve the budget transfers from A1990.4 Contingency in the amount of $2,500 to increase A3410.28 Appraisal Station 2. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 052-21

BUDGET TRANSFER(S)

The Mayor stated money transfer(s) to cover boards to prevent damages to the walls at the Comm. Ctr. Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the budget transfers from A7140.1 Playground Staff in the amount of $794.29 to increase A7140.2 Equipment. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 053-21

DISCUSS/APPROVE SUBMITTAL FOR THE 2021 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

The Mayor stated next we need to make a move on the 2021 Community Development Funding. Much discussion went back and forth. The Mayor stated we really do not have a consensus, but we have about $4,000 on the Comm. Ctr. left of the original allocation for the judge's chambers. He continued getting $50,000, we had a price for the basement $26,000, downstairs, to do the judge's chambers and add a bathroom; $50,000 may cover all 3 of those items. Trustee Strong asked about comments on the poll. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel stated out of 16 responses, the #1 response was Comm. foundation repairs. Mayor Butterfield made a motion to allocate the 2021 Community Development Funding for Comm. Ctr. Improvements: Judge's chambers, a restroom in the judge's chamber and foundation repair. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

TRASH AS OF 6/01/2021

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is just a reminder, that beginning June 1st; those tax parcels will be billed for the additional totes over the 1 set for trash and recycling.

RESOLUTION # 054-21

POLICE REFORM: PLAN-REVIEW/DISCUSS/APPROVE

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is to discuss/approve the Police Reform Plan. He
continued the Police Chief and his committee and the citizen’s committee that was formed and also the county group that came up with a Reform Plan. He added we are going to vote on both ours and the County, so we are covered no matter what happens. He stated it was a lot of work and it will be a living document, there will always be options to make changes.

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the North Syracuse Police Reform Plan. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The Police Chief stated the county plan and our plan sort of mesh together, one supports the other and some of the county programs give us a wider prospective on our Police Reform. He continued the NSPD Plan is really specific to our community, how we are going to adjust and reform our policing methods to create a better quality of life here for our residents. He added the county is sort of a bigger umbrella, and ours is more of a specific umbrella that deals just with us. He stated it is going to be a living document, it is meant to, that is why we have a continuing Police Committee with the Trustees and the Mayor involved, so we can always work together to build a better arrangement. Trustee Strong stated as we discussed this is a living document, since the committee last met and the county chiefs have met, and would like to make an addition to the notes. He continued any references in the Village document for emotionally disturbed person, that the term (PIC) Person in Crisis is synonymous for that, because that is a recent change that has come out and has been approved through all Police Depts., so starting April 3rd. The Chief stated he has already talked to the committee for that and that has already been changed on our documents, Person in Crisis Mandate. Trustee Strong thanked the committee, person in audience from the committee and the Chief for their hard work on that. The Mayor stated we had a lot of things in place already and extended kuddos to them. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**RESOLUTION # 055-21**

**POLICE REFORM: PLAN-REVIEW/DISCUSS/APPROVE ONONDAGA COUNTY POLICE REFORM PLAN**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the Onondaga County Police Reform Plan, inclusive of the PIC (Person in Crisis as Emotionally Disturbed Person). The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**“PODS” ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES**

The Mayor stated next on the agenda is “PODS” on residential properties, the Board has received the revised Code which has a 30-day duration and is a totally new section of Code. He continued we have discussed this at a few meetings and will be discussed at our next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**
RESOLUTION # 056-21  

DISCUSS / APPROVE TEMPORARY CARETAKER POSITION REPLACE L. PERES

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve David Demand as Temporary Firehouse Caretaker at $17/hr. to replace Caretaker Levi Peres effective 3/26/21. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. Conversation pursued regarding the hourly rate difference from the new employees, vs. the resigning employee. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 057-21  

APPROVE/APPOINT Q. YEOMANS AS A NORTH SYR. VOL. FIREFIGHTER

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the appointment of Quinn Yeomans as a No. Syr. Vol. Firefighter. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS CONCERNS OF SPECIFIC TREES WITH THE TREE BOARD

The Mayor stated the next item concerns specific trees and we are the Tree Board, the Board has received correspondence from Sup’t Ware regarding certain problematic trees; the Mayor opened this up for dialogue. He continued there are 3 different areas; the 1st is South Bay Rd. & Church St. DPW Sup’t stated which hangs out here towards Church St. to the severe angle. The Mayor clarified if it was definitely in the Right-of-way. DPW Sup’t continued he did not know if we own it, if it is in the park or if it is on the line for sure. He added he knows it is an issue and it is going to come down in the road and possibly the light pole. The Mayor stated the 2nd one is at 113 Herman Dr. He asked if everybody had driven down to see those. Trustee Wilmer stated he had not had time. The Mayor went on to say that there are actually 4 trees right in a row and only 113 has complained, 2 in 1 lot and 1 in the next lot that are in line with the telephone utility poles. He continued he did not know if they were in the Right-of-way or not in the Right-of-way, it is very close and they are standing tall. He added the complainant stated he is having problems with his sewer line. DPW Ware agreed, and stated when he was there is saw the 1 branch leaning over the road. He went on to say he was going by the Tree Code and he was having some question on who is responsible. He explained the way he read it; it is the homeowner who is responsible and liable. He clarified that we do not own the trees and we do not own the Right-of-way, we just have the right to prune. The Mayor stated the 3rd one; there is an easement between Pleasant Ave and Melrose Dr., there is a pipe in the easement that has a hole in it that needs to be replaced. He continued there are trees either in the easement or right next to the easement that if we replace the pipe, these trees are going to be in danger of falling over. DPW Sup’t
Ware stated that is correct, there are 2 trees right next to the pipe, both dead and diseased and he is afraid if they go in there and work on that pipe, if there is an issue is the Village liable. Much discussion went back and forth about DPW Sup’t Ware finding someone with a low quote, that the owners were good with then when the 4th tree was added in the quote, one was not good with doing it. DPW Sup’t Ware stated that there are 4 trees over in the Pleasant Ave and Melrose Dr. area that are dead and diseased back there, 2 are right there in the same proximity, so if we go in there and work we could leave that section of attached, but later on we are going to have an issue with it. He stated we just want to keep that in mind that we have a past practice precedence on how we voted and acted on Elm St. He stated they seem similar in size, but he is no arborist. He spoke of being careful if we acted on 113 Herman Dr.; we have acted and decided we are not doing something on Elm St., he wants to be sure everyone is on the same page. DPW Sup’t Ware asked if the Board has had a chance to look at the Tree Code that he attached. Trustee Strong stated when they looked at Elm St. they had that same page that they read; he does not think it is apples and oranges, he thinks it is pretty similar in what they are dealing with. DPW Sup’t Ware answered correct. Trustee Strong continued if we turned down Elm St., in his opinion we should be doing the same for Herman Dr. and not just doing it as a Village or Tree Board. DPW Sup’t Ware stated the only difference is the tree on Herman Dr. there is a branch leaning toward the road that is a safety concern, but it also states in the code that it is the homeowner’s responsibility. He continued the Tree Board could send them a letter and give them 60 days to address the issue. Trustee St. Germain stated that might be something to do for Melrose and Pleasant too, because being out in her backyard, she heard what she thought were gunshots and it was branches falling onto the ground and the on Melrose she could not believe it. DPW Sup’t Ware continued it is the Tree Board’s choice how to pursue this; this is why he wrote to the Board. The Mayor stated he is in agreement with the trees on Herman; they look to be healthy trees, if it is 1 branch in danger of falling, if branches lean toward the road, he would be inclined to think maybe we would take care of those, so pedestrian and cars do not get hit. Trustee Wilmer asked if he could cut the branch down over the road. DPW Sup’t Ware stated he would have to take a bucket truck down there to see if they could reach and do it in a safe matter. He continued if we could do it with our bucket truck then we could otherwise we would have to hire it out. Trustee Wilmer suggested it would be better to send a letter to all of them. The Mayor stated he would like to have the Atty. look at this and then we can respond at our next meeting. The Mayor tabled this to the next meeting.

**RESOLUTION # 058-21**

**DISCUSS SECTION 4F EVAL AND DETERMINATION: DOT TO ACQUIRE 225 SQ. FT. OF LONERGAN PARKLAND**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to authorize the Village to give up the 225 sq. ft. of Lonergan Parkland. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The Mayor stated it is to our benefit, it is not going to hurt, it is right out at the roadway area and we will be getting a crosswalk. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.
RESOLUTION # 059-21

Trustee Wilmer made a motion for the purpose of discussion whether to authorize and increase the salary of Paul Linnertz to $17.3953/hr. with retro reimbursement check from October when he started of $647.93. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. Discussion went back and forth regarding why Mr. Linnertz should receive retro pay. The Mayor stated basically you are admitting that you should have done this earlier and this is a correctible error, but it is up to the Board; he certainly he is a valuable asset while he is there. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 060-21

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to authorization Officer Cheney to attend Juvenile Conference 8/30-9/03/21 as per Travel Policy. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

The Mayor stated next is to the American Rescue Plan which the Board has received a copy. He continued it is distributed to the towns to divide up and distribute to the Villages within their towns. He continued we will get money from the Town of Clay and Town of Cicero in 2 payments, spread out over 2 yrs. He shared he will meet with Supervisor Ulatowski next week to talk about how this happens. He spoke of a webinar put on by NYCOM having Senator Schumer along the President of National League Cities that gave the amount, the formula, so it is going to be to our benefit at least for now. Much discussion went back and forth as to whether our projections matched the towns, if based on population, and if there was a second round, if money left over. Atty. Germain continued there will be restrictions as to how to use the money.

CITIZENS' VOICE: The Mayor invited anyone that would like to share concerns or thoughts via Facebook to address the Board.

Ken Ryan of 211 Herman Dr. stated he stated the Mayor was right and his guys were wrong, it was an airborne virus and spoke of the importance of masks. He continued to inquire to the Mayor on 2 other issues regarding the DPW. He also added if the tree is on your property in the Village Right-of-way you can cut them yourselves.
Pat Fergerson of 215 S. Main St. stated in 1988 you folks Adopted Tree Board. She continued on April 30th is Arbor Day. She contacted Mrs. Browning who agreed to let them honor her. She will receive a Proclamation, we will plant a tree at Toll Road Pk., we do not have a time yet; we are waiting for her family to get back to us and then we can have Arbor Day. The Mayor asked if anyone else would like to speak and closed Citizen’s Voice.

ATTORNEY REPORT: He stated he looked at the Tree Ordinance and it does say that a 60 day notice is required after a tree is noticed on private property. He continued it is a little gray area when it comes to protecting our own infrastructure in easements if there is a dangerous situation. He agrees with DPW Sup’t Ware, with whoever owns the trees, the procedure is to be cited and give those 60 days.

ENGINEER REPORT: No Report.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: (Police Chief: William Becker): He stated the following:
- 3/6/21 @ 2:50 PM at 100 Hoytville Avenue, NSPD arrested 3 males’ ages 17-19 yrs. and charged them various charges including felonies. One had grazed arm and treated. Chief Becker wanted to thank Onondaga County Sheriff’s Dept. & Manlius PD for their help.
- So far for March: 1155 Total Calls for service, 600 Property Checks, 17 Domestics, 15 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 159 Traffic Stops, 104 Traffic tickets, 13 Criminal Arrests

Fire Department: (Fire Chief: Patrick Brennan) He stated the following:
- Roof issues at the station, usually roof pm done, last year not performed with other issues. Outside the Chiefs Office, the gutter is starting to rot away, leaked on sidewalk; the gutter needs to be replaced from the man door to the front, also both sides roof drains issues.
- Very busy, cleaning up and getting ready for spring

Public Works Department: (DPW Sup’t.: Ed Ware) He stated the following:
- 1st Bulk done, getting ready for second
- Getting ready for 1st brush
- State Site Supervisor meeting with him next week about Rt. 11 project, go over utilities and things Village owns and where they can store some of their equipment
- Grease problem with sewer, sewer jet pulled it out, keep eye on, if needed Health Dept. will be brought in
Parks and Recreation Department: (Parks Director: Anthony Burkinshaw) He stated the following:
- Raising Comm. Ctr. fees, still having issues with things going on here; already charge Resident and Non-Resident fee and want to match sec. deposit fee
- Gladd working on downstairs FOB System on the main doors and downstairs doors
- Bunny Drive thru Event: Saturday, April 3rd, 10:00 to Noon at Lonergan Pk., have 20 registrations available; the Family Fest Committee helping put that on. Village Residents can pre-register for gift bags; Non-residents can drive thru, but won't get gift bags.
- Free and Unlimited Shred Event for Village Residents: Saturday, April 24th, 10:00 to Noon-Out front of the Comm. Ctr.; resident verification will be done
- Earth Day Event: Saturday, April 24th, 10:00 AM to Noon, still looking for groups and organizations that want to help clean up the 5 parks, cleaning brush, garbage and stuff like that, so can get ready to open the parks up.
- Friday, April 30th, Arbor Day

Codes Department: (CEO: Brian Johnstone) He stated the following:
- St. Rose Renovation Project is scheduled on May 20th for the Planning Commission Meeting
- There is no Zoning or Planning in April

Clerk-Treasurer: (Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel) She stated the following:
- 1st Model of Budget out, 9.5% increase, some revenues down, feeling better about the way society is; might be able to increase some, there are not much as far as “capital items” in there, front sheet explains
- Another sheet tomorrow will show actual increase to each town, the levy has increased, assessments have increased, so can be more specific how the increase will be for each town
- Next week Mayor and herself address budget and may call some Dept. Heads in
- She is pleased about the paving on Rt.11, horrific driving down that road

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee St. Germain: She stated the following:
- We rec’d correspondence from Elm St. resident, contact Dep. Mayor and we have answered their concern. She will personally be looking into the concern

Trustee Strong: He stated the following:
- Great news about projects coming up
- Glad Village has posted our concerts in the park
- Good seeing visibility of DPW vehicles out, Codes will be seeing pools and decks in season
Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, March 25th, 2021 4:30 PM

- Rec’d Budget Model 1, outside of Village talking 18% hike for NYS and 1st significant Fed. Income Tax Hike since 1993; keep an eye on that
- Support for Presentation for Cat Coalition, really nice project, helped multiple municipalities

Trustee Wilmer: No Report.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson: She stated the following:
- Kuddos to Police Dept. for the problems solved, they did a good job

MAYOR'S REPORT:

He stated National Grid is predicting high winds in this evening and throughout tomorrow. He spoke of preparing for Arbor Day has already been mention on Friday April 30th. He added Rt. 11 paving project, we knew it was going to start, but got the 1st official word. He stated they told us last year it was going to be a spring time start, and it is going to be further north and south, but it is going to be the whole Village. He shared next month we will be honoring another business, his idea is to do a poll on the website, so he thought the 1st was good and we will keep going. He stated there is a new Employment Law, Employees are permitted paid leave up to 4 hours to go get a COVID vaccine, so that is ongoing until the Covid vaccines are done. He continued as far as the Budget goes, as far as resources go, the state has to have their Budget in place by April 1st. He added the Webinar with Senator Schumer, the state is getting money from the federal government and the municipalities are getting money from a different pot, so they told us that the state cannot or should not take the money that was coming to us and then put some strings on it. He went onto say we are guaranteed to get that kind of money which is a good thing. He stated the state has been made whole by the federal government as well. He stated the assessments, the cost of the housing are going up, we are not an assessing agency, but the Towns of Clay and Cicero are and any house being sold in the Village, we get a certain amount, so we will see, the bottom could fall out on us, but he is hopeful.

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to adjourn at 5:35 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk-Treasurer
# VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

### Date:

3-25-21

### PLEASE SIGN IN

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Burkinshaw</td>
<td>Parks &amp; Rec.</td>
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<td>Pat Hiltz</td>
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<td>Dianne Kiefel</td>
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<td>Brian Johnston</td>
<td>215 So Main St. No Syr 13212</td>
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<td>Pat Ferguson</td>
<td>356Chautauqua ST</td>
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<td>Mike Liou</td>
<td>211 HERMAN DR</td>
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