VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, April 22nd, 2021 @ 4:30 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

600 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY

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 # 073-21 **APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the minutes (Facebook Livestreamed) from the April 8th, 2021 Board Meeting. 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 # 074-21 **GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve Abstract #24 in the amount of $77,688.89 covering voucher #1317 thru #1398. The motion was seconded Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 075-21 **SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #24 in the amount of $374.87 covering Voucher #19 and #20. 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:

REMINDER: TRASH AS OF 6/01/21-ADDITIONAL TOTES

The Mayor stated we sent out a letter again today, reminding the commercial and multi residential

properties that 2 totes would be allowed and that will start June 1st, 2021. He continued we have been getting responses back, but not a lot of complaints as he understands. DPW Sup't Ware stated he has not been getting any.

RESOLUTION # 076-21 **REVISED TENTATIVE BUDGET FY 2021/2022**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is the Revised Tentative Budget FY 2021/2022, he mentioned if there is anyone in the audience that wants a copy of the Budget they are in the back. He continued this is good news, because the Revised Budget is the 3rd work over, and we came up with not quite a zero percent increase; it is actually 0.05 or .03, so it is a good Budget. He added he will turn it over to Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel stated since the last Board Meeting, we went through and there are probably 10 items, either decreased as far as expenses or increased as far as revenues. She continued the main supporting factor lies in the revenues; we are almost rest assured that we are getting something from the American Rescue Plan there. She added she has been tracking all of the Covid expenses, so we have basically earmarked some of those funds that we would need to be recouped for the expenses, also there was a loss in revenue and again, we earmarked what we forecasted that should have been; and we are earmarking some of the Rescue Plan for that. The Mayor asked if there were any other comments. He stated he has had a conversation with one elected official here, he has always been a proponent and others have as well. He continued many the residents do not want to hear it, but you always want to raise taxes some, because you do not want to get behind and have a big increase. He stated this year, if any year, our Village residents could use a break; that is another part of the reason we fought hard. He continued Cicero and Clay are going to see a rise in assessments this year as well, it is not limited to Salina, actually that will increase our revenues; but it is not a thing that anybody is looking forward to. Trustee Strong added who knows what school taxes are going to. Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the Revised Tentative Budget FY 2021/2022. 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 LOCAL LAW #3 AS IT PERTAINS TO TEMPOARY STORAGE CONTAINERS

The Mayor stated next item on the agenda is to discuss Local Law #3 as it pertains to Temporary Storage Containers; he opened it up for discussion. Discussion took place back and forth about the unlimited time for PODS to be left in front of the build line on a property, looking into intent, not wanting to get people in trouble if it was a build project. A letter was sent to resident of POD, have not heard back yet. Was put on Website Poll Question which was, are you in favor of limiting the duration of PODS on property; 30 no and 17 yes. It was explained after 6 mos. it is no longer a temporary

structure; it becomes permanent and then would follow the Zoning Code. The process was explained that the Codes Dept. follows. Some Trustees were not in favor of additional legislation while others felt it should be addressed and in place in advance in case something happens. The Mayor stated it is tabled now, based on what we hear; we can untable and vote on it next meeting.

RESOLUTION # 077-21 **DISCUSS: A "2ND" VILLAGE WIDE GARAGE SALE: PREVIOUS ONE IS SCHEDULED FOR 7/17 AND 7/18**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to adopt May 22nd and May 23rd to be the dates for the 2nd Village Wide Garage Sale. 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.

REVIEW SPECIFICATIONS FOR A REPLACEMENT FOR BOTH ENG. 4 AND ENG. 8

The Mayor stated the next is to review specifications for a replacement for both Eng. 4 and Eng. 8, our last meeting, the Fire Chief spoke on a need to replace Eng. 4 which is currently loaned out. He continued the specs were done, but we just got them today. Much discussion went back and forth about General Municipal Law §103 and the competitive bidding requirements. The also spoke of protections, warranties, and guarantees. Atty. Germain had received the contract and some of the documents that he was looking for which were acceptable and some were on their way. Concerns were raised that previous experience with Rescue 7 did not happen again and Fire Chief Brennan assured the engine had a different design. Fire Chief Brennan stated there are 2 different quotes, (1) $620,000 and the other at $641,000, there was a price increase of 3% went into effect on 4/15/21; both vendors have agreed to hold their price as of right now, he cannot guarantee how much longer they are going to hold that for. The Board decided to wait until all documents that were needed were in and they had time to review the specs. until next meeting.

RESOLUTION # 078-21 **TREE BOARD TO DISCUSS/APPROVE THE FINDINGS FROM ARBORIST M. GRIMM SVCS: 205 CHURCH ST./113 HERMAN DR./529 MELROSE DR./408 PLEASANT AVE.**

The Mayor stated Tree Board is next; we had some discussions and some letters that were sent to you regarding recommendations from Michael Grimm Svcs., as to what we should do with the trees that were considered during the last meeting; he opened it up dialogue. Much discussion went back and forth regarding being unable to find out whose property, costs of surveys or surveyors to come out, established danger of the tree at 205 Church St. leaning toward church street. It was decided for safety reasons that the danger should be eliminated at 205 Church St. and the letters should be sent out.

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to send the letters out to 113 Herman Dr., 529 Melrose Dr., and 408 Pleasant Ave and have an arborist get rid of the tree at 205 Church St. 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.

NEW BUSINESS:

REVIEW CONDEMNATION LETTER FOR 118 GROVE STREET

The Mayor stated next on the agenda, there is a house on Grove St. that needs to come down, it is collapsing, abandoned and a danger. He continued we had an architect look at it and she has sent a condemnation letter of which you have received. He added it is in the hands of Codes and our counsel; he opened it up for discussion. Much discussion went back and forth, CEO Johnstone stated the taxes were paid up until this year; Atty. Marzocchi is trying to figure out who has legal interest in it right now as both of the owners are deceased. He continued when we know who it is, we can send something to them or contact them about the house, we will do that; it is a long process that gives them 40 days to fix it, even though the letter states, it is in disrepair past the point of repair. Atty. Germain stated we are working through the process; The Mayor stated the roof has collapsed and the foundation walls are collapsing. Atty. Germain continued it is going to have to come down. Atty. and explained the costs would be added to the taxes.

RESOLUTION # 079-21 **APPROVE THE PROCUREMENT OF STAFKINGS PERSONNEL AGENCY: FRONT DESK/INFORMATION AIDE**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the Procurement of Stafkings Personnel Agency for the Front Desk/Information Aide at $15/hr. and an add'l $3 for taxes/insurance effective Monday, 4/26/21. 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 # 080-21 **ACCEPT ELECTED/APPOINTED OFFICERS FOR THE FIRE DEPT.**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is to accept Elected/Appointed Officers for the Fire Dept., the Board received the Memo from Fire Chief, announcing Patrick Brennan-Fire Chief, John Linnertz-Deputy Chief, Richard Allen-Assistant Chief, Fire Wardens-Peter Dromms and Paul Linnertz and Captain Scott Gratien, Lieutenants: Joszef Asztalos, Michael Lovetere, Brevin Nicholson, and Wayne Rochette. Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to accept and approve the appointment of these elected officers. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting favor of the same.

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INFORMATIVE DISCUSSION: AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE GRANT

The Mayor stated next on the agenda is just for information, the AARP Community Challenge Grant; the Board received the paperwork on that. He continued maybe we will get somewhere with the AARP this year, Mrs. Franco did a nice job.

INFORMATIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADDITIONAL FUNDING

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda; he had a meeting with Damian Ulatowski from the Town of Clay. He continued normally automatically $50,000 comes every year from Community Development Funding just because we are part of the Town of Clay. He explained they received a letter from the county stating that they are going to give more money this year. He stated the Town asked for a list of things that we would like to see done, because we are getting additional monies we can share some of that with you, so he sent a list over of things that we are trying to get done and they were going to determine how much they were going to give to us. He continued he gave them a varied list from small items to large items and has not heard back yet, but he will make a follow up call. Trustee Wilmer asked about putting on a new roof on the garage. The Mayor spoke of the American Rescue Plan Monies and he thinks that qualifies.

INFORMATIVE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

The Mayor spoke of the American Rescue Plan Monies and having had a meeting with Supervisor Ulatowski and conversation with Supervisor Meyer of Cicero about the distribution of the funds. He added over 2 yrs. we are going to receive a total of $727,145, if it all comes through. He stated May 10th is the distribution date, then the towns divvy it up to us, there are rules and regulations for that. He stated he has sent a letter to everybody that will listen: our elected representatives, the county, and the towns; about the roof, sidewalks and gazebo and the list that you rec'd. He went on to say for those things that are not in our Budget, in view of the cap, we may be able to do some of the things that we need to do. He stated the roof and also the renovations at DPW are a need, we have money in the Budget and it is underway, but prices are coming in higher than what we had in the Budget; that is happening all over the place. He spoke of inviting Senator Mannion to view the Clay side and Senator May to tour the Cicero side and show them our needs.

RESOLUTION # 081-21 **ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF RICHARD GUSTAFSON/ PLANNING BOARD MEMBER**

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The Mayor stated next on the agenda is to accept the resignation of Richard Gustafson Planning Board Member who has retired and is moving south. Trustee Wilmer made a motion to accept the resignation of Richard Gustafson. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 082-21 **APPOINT LISA LIOTO AS THE REPLACEMENT FOR RICHARD GUSTAFSON WITH HER TERM EXPIRING 07/01/22**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the appointment of Lisa Lioto to replace Richard Gustafson with a term expiring 07/01/22. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 083-21 **REVIEW/AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE HANCOCK ESTABROOK AGREEMENT: 1149 GRIEVANCE**

The Mayor stated next on the agenda is review/authorize the Mayor to sign the Hancock Estabrook Agreement: 1149 Grievance, this agreement is a follow up to the grievance filed by the 1149; this firm is handling this for us. Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Hancock Estabrook Agreement: 1149 Grievance. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

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

Pat Fergerson of 215 S. Main St. spoke of Arbor Day is next Friday at 6:00 PM; she brought posters and will have more then.

Ken Ryan of 211 Herman Dr. stated he was not sure what you are passing with the trees, was that the responsibility of the people to have their trees trimmed. He continued that is not how it was; he spoke of him trimming trees in various places. He spoke of curiosity about the new specs for the engine.

The Mayor asked if anyone else would like to speak and closed Citizen's Voice.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No Report.

ENGINEER REPORT: No Report (Excused).

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

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Police Department: (Police Chief: William Becker): He stated the following:

- **Police Reform:**
  Trying to coordinate next Police Committee Meeting 1st or 2nd week of May, have several updates to share and discuss possible involvement in establishing our Police Explorer Program; possible funding options to make program fiscally self-reliant
- So far for April: 894 Total Calls for service, 412 Property Checks, 12 Domestics, 12 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 140 Traffic Stops, 63 Traffic tickets, 14 Criminal Arrests

Fire Department: (Fire Chief: Patrick Brennan) He stated the following:

- Held a Defensive Driving Course for the members at the Fire House
- Busy day for motor vehicle accidents, people learning how to drive on snow again
- Started our OSHA training working online and at Sta. #2, also partnered with the Police and new officers are training tonight in Sta. #2
- The Committee has met about 10 times for the station renovations.
- He spoke of the new signing system and having to follow up with emails.

Public Works Department: (DPW Sup't.: Ed Ware) He stated the following:

- Crews are working Rt.11 National Grid replacing poles, making room for 5G
- Side streets have end work and cones out, Ulster Paving is working for the state doing there cuts down Rt. 11
- He spoke with some of the engineers from the state and they are going to try to repair some of our sidewalks that need repair and Handi-cap ramps, plugging along all summer long
- DPW is doing brush, they have another week of brush and then will start bulk trash May 3rd

Parks and Recreation Department: (Parks Director: Anthony Burkinshaw) He stated the following:

- Village Resident Shred Event: Saturday, April 24th, 10:00 to Noon-Out front of the Comm. Ctr.
- He thanked DPW for helping get the boxes out of Village Hall and for helping get our mulch to the parks for Earth Day
- Earth Day Event: Saturday, April 24th, 10:00 AM to Noon, meet at Comm. Ctr. we will get mulch to all our playgrounds and surfaces and pick up trash and sticks, so they can get ready to mow that is coming up
- He attended Pool Operation Training Tuesday and Wednesday, he passed, so good to go
- He brought up to the Board smoking in the park, does not know if covered under county, we need to look at how we want to handle smoking in the park and make local law with new laws that are coming down and passing of everything

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Codes Department: (CEO: Brian Johnstone) He stated the following:

- May 6th at 5:00 PM is the Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting downstairs
- May 6th we have a Special Planning Commission Meeting after that at 6:15 PM to hear a time sensitive matter

Clerk-Treasurer: (**Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel)** No Report.

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee St. Germain: No Report.

Trustee Strong: He stated the following:

- A lot of talk about summer concert and word getting out, so KUDDOS
- Citizen in Coolidge Wells area sent an email of concerns about the project going, shared something going on Coolidge, asking if we could look into this, illegal dumping and other concerns. A Trustee acknowledged him on Saturday, saying we will get it. The Mayor, DPW Sup't Ware and CEO Johnstone handled it on Monday, he wanted everyone to know it was brought out, discussed, acknowledged, and acted on within 2 days; KUDDOS to all involved. The project was discussed about Rt.11 being shut down, and subcontractors working on the poles, not giving a heads up to the Police Dept., Fire Dept. and NAVAC; there was no knowledge to the Village, that they were doing that at that time, will give notice in the future.

Trustee Wilmer: No Report.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson: She stated the following:

- Thanked the Mayor, Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel and Dept. Heads for their hard work on the Budget
- Thanked DPW Sup't Ware for giving her a tour of the building, very informative and enlightening
- Neighbor got dumpster, stated they charge him $25 a piece for mattresses, amazed Village charges $15 and not making profit; second comment rec'd, no one minds paying the $15

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor stated Rt. 11 paving project is underway, they told us a lot of it is going to be done at night. He thinks the actual paving will be a night time project, so we are going to deal with an inconvenience for a while, but will be worth it in the end. He continued we had planned to hand out our 2nd Business of the Month this afternoon, but the business could not be here; the business was **Nesticos.**

He added we gave him a plaque last week and pictures will probably end up on Facebook. He spoke of a Poll Question and encouraged suggestions for Business of the Month, there are many worthy businesses that have been there a long time. He continued next is the new law and Cannabis and all that entails. He stated the reason that he brought up the smoking issue with Parks Director Burkinshaw is as far as he knew, it was our practice that you could smoke on the pavement area to our parks. He continued he did not know if it was written in our law, but that is what we have been allowing, so going forward are we going to allow people to smoke. Parks Director Burkinshaw stated there is no local law and he knows Onondaga County has smoke free parks and we are part of that. He continued he did not know if they fall under the umbrella of that, and thought we should ask Atty. Germain, because we did abide when the County went smoke free and Marijuana Legislation, some has to be done by the end of the year, so you need to keep that deadline in place. He continued you can opt out; it is called opting out and has to be done by local law process subject to submissive referendum no matter what. He added in terms of licensing and shops or consumption areas. He stated in terms of the times, place, and manner restrictions; a lot of your Villages are allowed to do that. He continued including banning smoking in public parks, that is not a deadline issue, because it is not tied to licensing, you can do that whenever you want to, if you want to. The Mayor stated he believed we are going to do a Poll Question; there is a deadline for the end of this year to determine whether we opt in or out of the sales, consumption. Atty. Germain stated there are 2 separate licenses. The Mayor added because we have a Main St. with a lot of store fronts, we potentially could have lots of those facilities on Rt. 11, so that is a topic that needs to be discussed with lots of questions that need to be answered, so we will continue working on that. He shared there is Rental Relief thru Onondaga County Emergency Rental Relief and it is posted at both the Village Hall and the Comm. Ctr. He stated if you know of anybody that is struggling in addition to the other reliefs that are available to us, Onondaga County also has money for anyone struggling with rent. The Mayor suggested that the Trustees go over to the Fire Dept. and see the changes that have been made there, they have done a lot. He reminded Arbor Day, April 30th at 6:00 PM, right over here we are going to plant a tree honor former Mayor, former Dep. Mayor, and former Trustee Diane Browning.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to adjourn at 5:46 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. 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: 4/22/21

PLEASE SIGN IN

Name	Address
Darlene Piper	106 1/2 Northfield Dr.
Pat Gustafson	
BRIAN JOHNSTONE	
John Coleman	232 Elm St
Tony Burkinshaw	
Lisa Lasko	356 Chestnut St
PAT Ferguson	215 So Main St N Syr 13212-3100
Junyla Sabari	5854 W. Gillette Rd.
LA St. GERMAN	Trustee
KEN RYAN	211 HERMAN DR.
JOHN LINCOLN	