

VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, October 13th, 2022 @ 6:30 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

600 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY

Facebook Livestreamed

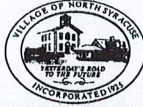
The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 6:30 P.M. with Mayor Gary Butterfield asking everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Dianne Kufel, Codes Enf. Officer Brian Johnstone, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Parks Director Tony Burkinshaw, Fire Chief William Becker, Village Engineer Amy Franco, and Village Attorney Robert Germain.

Personnel Absent: Lou Ann St. Germain (Excused) and Fire Chief Patrick Brennan (Excused).

The Mayor stated the 1st item on the agenda is a Discussion/Presentation of 5357 W. Taft Rd. by Louis Muraco. He invited Mr. Muraco to do his presentation. Louis Muraco from New Plan North, LLC., introduced himself, and Neil Zinsmeyer from Napierala Consulting Site Engineer who are here informally to share their plans for the property located at 5357 West Taft Rd. He stated we are proposing to demo a dilapidated home, garage and we are proposing to build a 2,400 sq. ft. building on that site. He continued we own the parking lot over here already and the shopping ctr. at 628 S. Main St. which was formerly known as Maine's. He added the new building would be a restaurant with a drive thru serving primarily coffee, tea and baked goods with some indoor seating. He explained he has been in touch with Codes and spoke to Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone and Pearl today and he told Pearl, we would submit the Applications Site Plan, Special Use and short form tomorrow or Monday at the latest. The Mayor asked when would the anticipated construction be if you get approvals from the Village. Mr. Muraco continued assuming approvals, we would commence early 2023 and hopefully be completed by the end of year, so our lease is contingent to approvals and we would move forward very quickly. The Mayor asked Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone if he had any comments. Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone stated not really, he thinks it fits the site. He continued it is an allowed use, restaurant with drive thru with Special Use Permit. He added we talked about that today. He explained they already own the one, the only concern he had with him was if they were going to do a subdivision and bring that parcel in. He stated he thinks he can keep the setbacks to the lot, so he would have a cross access agreement to his own property and keep it as a separate parcel. He continued down the road if they wanted to sell it, it would be there and they could also keep the agreement with the access. The Mayor asked without divulging too much information, is it a franchise. Mr. Muraco stated it is a national tenant. Trustee Strong asked Codes Enf. Officer if this will require a DOT, because you have the access in, access out off of Taft. He stated the reason he asked is that is a slow process. Mr. Muraco continued it is a right in, right out just kind of anticipating. Mr. Zinsmeyer stated Taft Rd. is a Cty. Rd., so he is going to start the process tomorrow. He continued with the state as well because of Rt. 11., it is so close they might want



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to look at it, so tomorrow reach out to the Traffic group. Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone stated Cty. Planning will probably want them both, because with the cross access to 628 S. Main St., they are probably going to look at both roads. The Mayor asked if the school knows about this. Mr. Muraco added he does not know if they do, or not, we had discussed this with them thou; he does not remember when we did this, they did not have a problem with that. The Mayor continued it has nothing to do with this, it is more out of curiosity, there is a light at the school right. Mr. Muraco stated yes, over here. The Mayor added with bus traffic during the day, it is going to be a challenge with buses coming in and out, and customers trying to get in and out. Mr. Zinsmeyer stated it is "right in and right out" with full access to the Maine's Plaza.

RESOLUTION #229-22

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES-SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2022

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve the minutes (Facebook Livestreamed, audio problems) from the September 22nd, 2022, Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 230-22

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve General Fund Abstract #10 in the amount of \$118,024.51 covering voucher #556 thru #663. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 231-22

SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve Sewer Fund Abstract #10 in the amount of \$42.38 covering voucher #8 and #9. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

OLD BUSINESS:

DISCUSS/ADOPT LOCAL LAW #4: SMOKING AND VAPING GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

The Mayor stated next on the agenda is Discuss/Adopt Local Law #4: Smoking and Vaping Geographical Areas: The Board requested more time and he thinks we need even more time to digest this and speak to counsel before we make changes. He continued we will push this down the road a little bit.

STRIP OF LAND-WELLS AVE. EAST/OAKLEY: NEIGHBORS OPINIONS

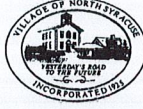


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The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is a Strip of Land-Wells Ave. East/Oakley: Last Mtg. Dep. Mayor Gustafson volunteered, she put a letter together, and he looked at it and stated was fine. He continued she visited all the neighbors and has gotten feedback from some. He added as far as he knows the property did not go up for auction, the Cty. Exec. stated he would take care of pulling it back; he asked Dep. Mayor Gustafson to share what you have learned so far. Dep. Mayor Gustafson stated she delivered 21 letters to people whose property is behind this strip of land. She continued she was able to speak with only 5, 2 people stated they had water in their basements, but the majority of people did not have water or mosquitos; out of 7/8 people. She added she rec'd 3 emails, 2 are interested in buying the land and 1 of the emails are not interested, so it is kind of equal. She explained no one expressed too much of a problem with that land. She stated they had interest in the history and when it was last cleared. She shared Mr. Oakley owned it and then it was passed through 4 other owners. She continued it was cleared in June of 2021. She concluded after speaking with everyone, this was not really a big problem to anyone. The Mayor stated he hoped the neighbors would resolve this issue themselves, we need ½ of the neighbors to buy, not everybody; but if only 4 or 5 people are interested in buying it, and then spots that are landlocked, the Vlg. has no interest in getting involved in that. Trustee Wilmer stated he believed that was 1 lot, it is going to be sold as 1 lot, so someone will buy the whole thing; if they choose to. The Mayor explained if they choose to, but also if somebody chooses and they got together and everybody on Wells stated yes, we will buy it back to the other neighbors, then there would 10 or 11 new owners. Trustee Wilmer continued but it would also be out of Vlg. hands. The Mayor agreed, and stated he was not interested in taking on a problem, he was hoping that the neighbors would resolve it. He continued so let us give it a little more time. He explained if the current owner still owns it, still owes taxes, and he is not interested in us going in and cleaning it up yr. after yr.; if we have to, we charge and it goes on his tax bill. Dep. Mayor Gustafson added he is not paying them. The Mayor stated may be at some point, may be 1 neighbor states he will buy the whole thing and he doubted that is going to happen, because then it is his problem. He continued he did not know why the person would buy it in the 1st place when you cannot do anything with it, maybe it was someone is out of state, or out of town and stated he would buy that. He added so we will just wait for more information, if it has not been sold that is a problem that is looking for a solution, the Mayor does not want the Vlg. to be the solution, because it then becomes our problem.

DISCUSS FIRE DEPT. STATION 2 BUILDING-AS PER COUNSEL

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is the Fire Dept. Station 2 Building, this was tabled at our last mtg., and he thought this was about the proper ownership of the land under the building; he asked for an update from counsel. Atty. Germain stated he reviewed the papers he had, and the issue at the time was about the legal description, on that city portion which he is not really as much concerned about that; we need a Quick Claim Deed from the town and that is about it. He continued we can work out the issues related to the city piece of that they are concerned about, it really does not involve the



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town, the town can give a Quick Claim Deed for what they have. The Mayor asked when was that station built. Trustee Strong stated 1991. The Mayor asked if he could just keep going with that, so when it comes time for us to put that on the market, we own it. Atty. Germain agreed, it needs to get straightened out for sure.

DISCUSS STATUS OF COMM. CTR. FLOORING PROJECT

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda Status of the Comm. Ctr. Flooring Project: For those of you that walked in, he left the lights on, he wanted to have our mtg. down there; but it did not work out. He continued he did not know if you want to move the meetings back down there, because the Wi Fi seems to be a stronger signal down there, what is the pleasure of the Board. Discussion went back and forth re: Which was easier for people setting up, upstairs availability as they have a regular rental who rents it out. The Mayor added well keep it up here, but he is very pleased with the way it looks, you do not see the big divots and the columns are much smaller; the site lines are much better.

NEW BUSINESS:

FACILITATE A COMMITTEE FOR THE HIRING OF A CODES ENF. OFFICER

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is Facilitate a Committee for the Hiring of a Codes Enf. Officer, because of the unfortunate decision of our current Codes Officer to leave us. He continued Trustee St. Germain is the Trustee/Liaison, so he is going to reach out to her, and he asked Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone; if he would help us with the interview process, and he would be on the committee as well. Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone stated he could if you do it after hours at 4:30 PM, there are 2 candidates that are interested, so we will interview them. He continued if neither fit, then we can go find somebody. He explained the problem is even before we were told, there are very few Codes people around. He shared in the interim we did use Mrs. Weed before to do some inspections and we could reach out to her again and see if she would until we find a replacement for Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone.

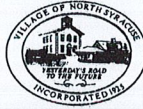
RESOLUTION # 232-22

SURPLUS 2017 POLICE VEHICLE

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to Surplus 2017 Police Vehicle #171 with VIN # 1FM5K8AR3HGA80971 to go to the auction. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

REVISIT: FIRE DEPT. 2023 BUDGET TO TOWNS-INCREASED

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is Revisit: Fire Dept. 2023 Budget to Towns, there was



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an Increase and he turned it over to Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel who had conversation with Fire Chief Brennan. She continued it was presented to you with a 2% increase basically, 2 mtgs. ago., and then a few days ago she got a question from the town; that something was not adding up. She added when she looked at it, it was not a 2% increase, so she reached out to Fire Chief Brennan and they went in with a 6.5% increase. Kufel stated she just wanted the Board to be aware that it is now 6.5 % rather than 2%. More detailed data to follow; she continued she thought it was worthy of letting you know it was not a 2%, it was a 6.5%.

RESOLUTION # 233-22

DISCUSS/APPROVE THE PERMANENT APPOINTMENT OF SIR WINSTON AS LABORER 1/\$16.50 HR. EFF. 10/17/22

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the hiring of Sir Winston as Laborer I. at \$16.50/hr. effective 10/17/22. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

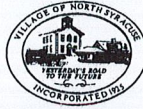
RESOLUTION # 234-22

SURPLUS MISC. FIRE DEPT. ITEMS

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to Surplus Misc. Fire Dept. Items. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS CHANGE ORDER ITEMS FOR THE VILLAGE HALL PROJECT

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda Discuss Change Order Items for the Village Hall Project: He did not know if the Board got to see these at all, did they get sent out, but basically; we have 1 change order with a \$3,800 credit, because we are not going to do a gutter on the back of the roof. He continued then we had some adds after, they uncovered after they dug, they found some stuff we did not know about. He added, so there are some change orders: 1 of them we needed an answer right away, because they were pouring the footing, so he stated just put together a list of the change orders; start with the credit and then we got some add, so at some point we need to approve the change orders. He explained he did not know if it was fair, you guys should see them, but when they showed up 2 days ago; they were sending stuff over and they are legitimate. He stated Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone has looked them all over and you are in agreement that they are legitimate. Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone stated absolutely. Discussion went back and forth re: Village Hall Roof: 1) Gutters were bid on drawing, but were not on the garage roof before and there is not a flooding issue, so not putting on. Village Hall Project: 2) There was rebar on the footing, but was not tied into the vertical, it did not get on the drawing, so there is a quote for that, 3) There was a condition at the wall that nobody ever knew, but the sidewalk went in on the existing foundation, they had to jack hammer the side and go in and take



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that out, and now they have got to put some other material in there to bring it back out there flush, and to support the existing wall is only support on half of the, we need to fill it in basically, 4) The soffit on the Police end is rotten, so we got to replace some wood there, in order to put it back together. The Mayor added there is no concern, they are legitimate, they are putting a 10% markup on; that is very fair, cost plus 10%. He stated the ball park is like \$1,000, \$3,800 credit, and we are probably plus \$1,000 or something like that overall. Mrs. Franco wanted confirm costs. The Mayor wanted the Trustees to have time to look it over, before they do the approval. The Mayor shared they are moving right along, but delivery of materials is going to be a problem. He shared for those of you who have not seen it, the blocks are up, will be backfilling early wk., their intent is to pour the concrete back; and pave this season, so the front will kind of be back in business. He added the framing will be done, the trusses are about 3 wks. out, that is the unfortunate thing; because we could have the roof on; that is about 1 wks. worth of work to: Frame, set the trusses, but that is the way things are going in today's economy. DPW building: Roofer reached out and left message, regarding the roof and bring a gravel vacuum to take all the gravel off the roof in November. The roofer stated they were not going to start the roof until next yr. The Mayor stated he needs to call him back, but thought that is a ballasted roof, the gravel is the weight that keeps the roof in place. He continued if we ever have a heavy wind and all the ballast was gone; he explained typically a lot of times the ballasted roof, that is what fastens the roof down; is the weight, so we can talk about. He continued when he stated it will be next yr., he does not know if it will be 6 or 8 mos., of course; he has a schedule to gravel vacuum when he can get it, he is sure.

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

Pat Ferguson of 215 S. Main St. stated goodbye to Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone, she will miss him.

Jodi Butterfield of 224 Chestnut St. stated goodbye and wished Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone well. She added the planters on Rt. 11. look great, mums are in full bloom and looks forward to seeing what is planted for the other seasons. She added there have been a lot of improvements making the Village more beautiful; so, keep it up.

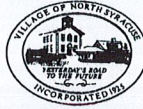
The Mayor asked if anyone else would like to speak and closed Citizen's Voice.

ATTORNEY REPORT: (Robert Germain): No Report.

ENGINEER REPORT: (Amy Franco): She stated the following:

- She will miss Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:



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

- Onon. Cty. Traffic Safety Awards Ceremony honored:
 - Officer Jordan Pannell-Cty. Top Performer-Impaired Driving Enforcement
 - Officer Chris Cushman-Cty. Top Performer-Speed Enforcement Awareness
- Totals for September: 871 Total Calls for service, 416 Property Checks, 22 Domestic, 14 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 113 Traffic Stops, 129 Traffic Tickets, 22 Criminal Arrests
- So far for October: 393 Total Calls for service, 200 Property Checks, 5 Domestic, 5 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 46 Traffic Stops, 41 Traffic Tickets, 3 Criminal Arrests

Fire Department: (Fire Chief Patrick Brennan): No Report. (Absent).

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

- Doing brush pickup, ready for leave season, trimming trees so signs are visible
- Doing vehicle inspections
- Starting up all the equipment for winter
- Thanked the Codes Enf. Officer for all help given to the Vlg., and working with his dept.

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

- Flr. Project wrapped up, looks nice, is open so you can walk thru and see
- Still working on the fascia of building
- Friday, Oct. 28th: Trunk or Treat from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM, need to pre-register
- Winter: Working on the lights
- Sunday, December 4th: Parade and Tree Lighting, after Santa, Craft Vendors

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

- Bulk Trash is over for the yr.
- It has been a pleasure serving the Vlg., owes Vlg. a lot, did a lot for him for this 5 yrs.; it has been fun, good working with all of you, you will be missed; will still stop in

Clerk-Treasurer: (Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel): She stated the following:

- Will miss Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone, has been thru 10 Code Officers, been very organized; very good person added to the Vlg.
- Auditors coming in, finalized 2021 and get that data out to very soon, doing AUD (Annual Update Document) for State Comptroller's Office and trying to start up with the new yr.
- Intern in audience: Her name is Grace.

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:



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Trustee St. Germain: No Report. (Absent).

Trustee Strong: He stated the following:

- Holiday Parade, all vendors have sold out for that Event, thank you Parks Dir. Burkinshaw
- Thank you Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone for great talks and help with other Depts.
- Walgreens 30-day notification sign, they are closing

Trustee Wilmer: He stated the following:

- Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone, we will see you

Dep. Mayor Gustafson: She stated the following:

- She spoke of saying it for a mo., all she has left is goodbye to Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone

MAYOR'S REPORT:

He stated so long Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone you will be missed. He added Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone stands out, if not the best, one of the top; he cannot be mad at Cicero. He called Steve Procopio, Codes of Cicero and stated he had Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone in his office and asked what are you doing. He stated to him he cannot be mad; you are getting a good man. He continued a lot of the calls that he gets, I want to speak to the Mayor, and get voicemail messages; and most of them are complaints, but he did get a thank you. He added a tree on Maxwell, do you remember the tree climber, and lots of conversation about the tree in the front yard; National Grid took it down and they stated if we took it down, DPW would have to take the tree away. The woman of the house called; and stated thank you very much for what you are doing, we very much appreciate it. He continued he was over at the DPW, 1 of our trucks was up on jacks, and our mechanic was changing brakes; some seal blew, he is good, so thankful to have him. He shared the Canteen is having a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, November 5th, from 3:00 PM to 6:30 PM., advance sales \$7, at the door \$10. He stated the Police Chief was up in Cicero today with the other Police Chief up there, with Senator Mannion, and Assemblyman Stirpe; the Mayor asked him to ask about our 2 grant applications, if you get a chance to see him, so he put in the plug. The Mayor continued because we have got 1 for Kennedy Pk., and 1 for the Pavilion and he guess they chuckled. He thanked Codes Enf. Johnstone for his 5 yrs. of svc. to us.

Trustee Strong made a motion to adjourn at 7:16 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,
Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk-Treasurer