

## **VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE**

### ***Regular Board Meeting***

Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 @ 4:30 PM

**North Syracuse Community Center**

600 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY

***Facebook Livestreamed (Audio Problem)***

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 St. Germain, Trustee Chris Strong and Dep. Mayor Gustafson.

**Personnel Present:** Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel, Codes Enf. Officer Brandy Fry, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Parks Director Tony Burkinshaw, Fire Chief William Becker, and Village Attorney Robert Germain.

**Personnel Absent:** Trustee Fred Wilmer (Excused), Fire Chief Patrick Brennan (Absent) and Village Engineer Amy Franco (Absent).

### **RESOLUTION # 031-23**

### **APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES-FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the minutes (Facebook Livestreamed) from the February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

### **RESOLUTION # 032-23**

### **GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve General Fund Abstract #20 in the amount of \$95,670.69 covering voucher #1220 thru #1311. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. Trustee Strong stated he had spoken with Trustee Wilmer, he mentioned we just got that backhoe and what were the issues that we are repairing. DPW Sup't Ware stated Joel Klaisle informed him the heater sensor needed to be replaced, it was not working. He continued so we replaced it, and got the money back for a core charge, it was a minor repair. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

### **RESOLUTION # 033-23**

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve Community Devel. Fund Abstract #20 in the amount of \$4,933.01 covering voucher #04. The motion was seconded Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

### **RESOLUTION # 034-23**

### **BUDGET TRANSFER(S)**



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The Mayor stated the transfer is for "Emergency Repairs". Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the budget transfers from A7180.12 Pool and Lifeguards-Staffing in the amount of \$1,072.50 to increase A7181.29 Community Ctr. Hot Water Tank. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**RESOLUTION # 035-23**

**BUDGET TRANSFER(S)**

The Mayor stated the transfer is cover cost for the bonding-fiscal advisors. Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve the budget transfers from A1990.4 Contingency in the amount of \$3,226.00 to increase A3410.25 New Eng. 4 Fees-Bonding. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION # 036-23**

**DISCUSS BASKETBALL HOOPS-THEIR POSITIONING/ROADWAYS**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is discuss Basketball Hoops-their positioning in roadways: The Board Received samples from Robert Germain, Highway Law 319. He continued Section 319 prohibits owners of adjoining property from obstructing the right of way and further authorizes the Village Highway Department to remove the obstruction. Discussion went back and forth regarding: Current law vs. a proposed Local Law having fines for non-compliance, education on law as well as friendly notices/citations process to move obstructions. Trustee Strong made the motion to set a public hearing to discuss a new local law for Basketball Hoops, their positioning in Roadways to be held April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:29 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**RESOLUTION # 037-23**

**DISCUSS HAVING A LOCAL LAW FOR "NO CIVIL ACTIONS AGAINST THE VILLAGE UNLESS A NOTICE HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE CLERK SUPERINTENDENT FOR NOTICE OF HIGHWAY DEFECTS"**  
**(RECOMMENDATION FROM NYMIR)**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is to discuss having a Local Law for "No Civil Actions Against the Village with the Clerk/Superintendent for Notice of Highway Defects": The Board rec'd. the 7sample from NYMIR; he opened it up for discussion. He continued this is like an insurance policy, if we pass this. Atty. Germain stated you should most definitely. Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to set a Public Hearing to Discuss having a Local Law for "No Civil Actions Against the Village Unless A Notice Has Been Filed with the Clerk/Superintendent for Notice of Highway Defects" for Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:28 PM. The motion was seconded Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain,



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Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION # 038-23**

**DISCUSS/APPOINT NEW PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER-A. WILLIAMS  
EFFECTIVE FEB. 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2023-SPEC. RATE**

Trustee Strong made a motion to authorize the appointment of a new Part-Time Police Officer-A. Williams Effective Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023-Spec. Rate of \$20/hr. The motion was seconded Dep. Mayor Gustafson. Discussion went back and forth clarifying a memo sent out and that the salary was correct for his FTO Program. Police Chief Becker explained: Prior to anything being sent out it was going to be \$20, to \$23, he can stay 1 yr. on Part-Time and then go to \$25, then go 5 yrs. he would go to \$27. Trustee Strong spoke of him interviewing extremely well, he was glad to be part of the process. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**RESOLUTION # 039-23**

**SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR LOCAL LAW #1-2023 ALLOWING  
FOR A PROPERTY TAX CAP OVERRIDE**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to Set Public Hearing for Local Law #1-2023 Allowing for a 2.0% Property Tax Cap Override to be held on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:27 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**DISCUSS SCANNING AND LASERFICHE FOR 3 YRS. OF PAYROLL/MINUTES-ALL BUDGETED**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is Scanning and Laserfiche for 3 yrs. of Payroll/Minutes- it is budgeted: He explained this information has been forwarded to the Board, this basically scans and encapsulates all the information into a Laserfiche. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel stated plenty of boxes, with many documents including Police Payroll, W-2's; everything is scanned, this makes it much easier when people want to buy time back. She continued, General Code they have used, and they would do Board Minutes as well. She added this is already budgeted, it is about \$7,200 and we need to find monies for about \$1,200 ourselves, for like 4 yrs. of documents; this is just informational.

**RESOLUTION # 040-23**

**APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF NORTH SYRACUSE  
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER-D. MALLARO**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to Approve the Appointment of N. Syracuse Vol. Firefighter-



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Dante Mallaro as a N. Syracuse Vol. Firefighter. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**INFORMATIONAL-DL MANUFACTURING-PILOT FOR 10 YRS. ON RECENT PROJECTS RPTL 412-a**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is informational-DL Manufacturing who finished a project this past yr., and granted a PILOT for 10 yrs. on their Recent Projects RPTL 412a: He continued this came as a surprise to us and he turned it over to Atty. Germain. Atty Germain stated he deals with the IDA (Industrial Devel. Agency), Cty. agency that has ability to enter in PILOT Agreements, with or without your consent. He explained how this works, the difference of affects on school districts depending on Industrial vs. Residential projects. He explained our end is very small because you are getting a PILOT payment anyway and being the Vlg. your end of the tax bill is not that great to begin with in comparison to the Cty. Atty. Germain explained that he likes to ask: The Planning Commission, ZBA, Town Boards; and Zone Changes a project, we like to ask developers if they are going to be seeking Tax Benefits. He stated that cannot change your map or the waying of your decision on land use, but it is interesting to know. He continued this 1, is not 1, we would normally fight; because it is industrial., this is legitimate from his point of view. Trustee Strong asked about getting a comparison. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel stated she would try to find that out for him. Trustee Strong spoke of decades we have lost with Malta House and Malta Manor. Village Clerk- Treasurer Kufel asked if that question can be asked by the Planning and the Zoning; do they have to be honest about it. Atty. Germain continued no, he stated the normal answer you may get is we may seek benefits out there, we might seek. The Mayor continued you see this all the time, all the tax breaks that are given, for somebody to come here; DL Manufacturing was already here, they are a great company. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel continued and it is just on the add'l monies, she thought it was \$1,486,000; she asked if he knew. Atty. Germain continued he had no idea, but that is what it is for, because they will say we are retaining jobs; or we would move out, or have to agree to add extra jobs, that is what they are for and a legitimate use.

**VILLAGE HALL-GRAND OPENING-MARCH 10, 2023 @1:00 PM**

**CHANGED TO MARCH 24th, 2023 @ 1:00 PM**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is we had set a Grand Opening Date of ~~March 10<sup>th</sup>~~, and this is something that he wanted to do: A Grand Opening, Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, so the folks that live in our Vlg.; could come and see Vlg. Hall, and what we have done. He continued the ~~March 10<sup>th</sup>~~ date is not working, so we are thinking of March 24<sup>th</sup>, to have an open house on Friday afternoon. He added we could have the Ribbon Cutting at 1:00 PM. He shared we can advertise it, so residents can come, and see the Vlg. Hall; maybe stay open until 5:00 or 6:00 PM and have some refreshments.

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



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**Pat Ferguson of 215 S. Main St.** thanked Atty. for being instrumental in getting the 501C "Friends of the Vlg. of N. Syracuse" set up; it is functional. Has been working to help fund Bunny Breakfast for Festival, folks can now pay with credit card. She shared Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 is Arbor Day.

**Lisa Lioto of 356 Chestnut St.** asked about notices/citations and fairness regarding Basketball Hoops obstructing the road and shared concern of fairness. She also asked about PILOTs, including in Planning documentation and about the applicant being truthful.

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):** No Report (Absent).

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

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

- So far for February: 762 Total Calls for service, 400 Property Checks, 10 Domestic, 12 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 96 Traffic Stops, 67 Traffic Tickets, 11 Criminal Arrests
- 2/27/23-3/3/23 Officers: Chaney and Ewald all set to attend DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) Course in Buffalo and 3/6/23-3/10/23, Graduation in FL. 3/20/23-3/24/20; all paid by NYS
- Sheriff's Dept. Change with new Admin, used to have CAD Support for cars and plate readers, no longer able to support local agencies; looking into training for in house support

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

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

- Please call DPW ahead of time to schedule your Bulk Trash pickups
- There is a \$15 fee for mattresses
- Thanked Atty. Germain for all the help he has given him and tools that he has to move telephone poles as well as Basketball Hoops-Great issue with safety for some of that
- DPW Roof: 80%-90% complete; waiting for metal to be installed on that
- Have not rec'd Change Order fee for blocking they had to put above office
- Break Room: No longer leaking on the tables
- Spoke of the strange weather this week and coming on the weekend; we are prepared for it

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



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- Valentines Dance very successful, had 40 couples
- 4/1/23 Easter Egg Hunt
- 4/2/23 Bunny Breakfast, getting credit card capability
- 4/22/23 Earth Day Event, still looking for people
- Already have vendors for Family Festival, moving forward, getting credit card capability
- 4/28/23 Have dedications already for Arbor Day set, willing to add if people want to plant tree in memory of someone

**Codes Department: (Codes Enforcement Officer: Brandy Fry):** She stated the following:

- Friendly Reminder: Bulk Pickup is for March 6<sup>th</sup>, and April 3<sup>rd</sup> for the next 2 mos.; there seems to be a lot of things out right now that are for heavy pickup, therefore there will be quite a few courtesy calls from Code Enforcement to work in conjunction with DPW
- Right-of-way is a pretty big deal, currently we have somethings going on already, beyond Basketball Hoops; so, you need to be informed, if you do not know feel free to reach out, we would be more than happy to provide it for you.

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

- Budget worksheets out to Dept. Heads, for their Spending and Capital Projects
- Do not have all books closed to give them numbers of where there spending is now, trying to move fwd. with all of that
- Closing down some of these grants, spreadsheets going on status of where we stand on each, getting reimbursed; a lot of capital projects this past yr.

**DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:**

**Trustee St. Germain:** No Report.

**Trustee Strong:** He stated the following:

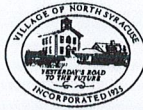
- Basketball Hoops: Understands both sides of comments; hoped no one was thinking we got to stop these kids from playing Basketball. If you are going to play Basketball, be responsible for children and the children have to be responsible as well, when done - drop the hoop over.

**Trustee Wilmer:** No Report. (Absent).

**Dep. Mayor Gustafson:** No Report.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**





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He stated Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, is Mandatory Staff Meeting, for our bldg.; we have a lot of stuff going on, a lot of issues; so, want to talk about that. He continued Heavy Trash has already been mentioned, it starts March 6<sup>th</sup>. He added we have another Comm. Dev. Grant: Deals with Basement of this bldg., but flip flopped them, because of the life; safety issue downstairs with potential trip hazards. He explained still working on the Pavilion, still waiting for official word on Kennedy Pk. Improvements. He stated we are moving forward with our Sidewalk Project. He continued he met with Amanda Manzoni from CNY Regional Planning, and we are a Clean Energy Community; we can continue on to be a Climate Smart Community, if we want to be. He added she sent information, so we can continue on; somethings we have already done and will help us, if we want to be a Climate Smart Community. He spoke of the heating and cooling equipment in this bldg., and Vlg. Hall, we may be able to get help with Energy Audit; all 3 of the units are a little old, so hopefully we can make something happen there.

The Mayor stated he would entertain a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Collective Bargaining Agreement, we may make a motion after that.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to enter into **Executive Session** at 5:25 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting favor of the same.

Trustee Strong made a motion to return to **Regular Session** at 6:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting favor of the same.


**RESOLUTION # 041-23**

**DISCUSS/APPOINT NEW PART TIME DISPATCH AID - J. LAUTH-EMERY**  
**EFFECTIVE FEB. 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 @\$15.84/HR.**

Trustee Strong made a motion to authorize Appointment of New Part-Time Dispatch Aid-Jasmine Lauth-Emery Effective Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at a rate of \$15.84/hr. The motion was seconded Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to adjourn at 6:02 PM. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Dianne M. Kufel  
Village Clerk-Treasurer





## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

**PLEASE SIGN IN**

Wala Wala

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