



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, August 10th, 2023 @ 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 LouAnn St. Germain, Trustee Chris Strong, Trustee John Bolton, and Dep. Mayor Gustafson.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Asst. Fire Chief John Linnertz, Parks Director Tony Burkinshaw, and Interim Police Chief Jeffrey Raub.

Personnel Absent: Codes Enf. Officer (Vacant), Village Engineer Amy Franco, and Village Attorney Robert Germain.

RESOLUTION # 181-23

APPROVAL OF WORK SESSION-JULY 25TH, 2023

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Work Session of July 25th, 2023 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 182-23

APPROVAL OF REG. BD. MTG. -JULY 27TH, 2023

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve the minutes (Facebook Livestreamed) from the July 27th, 2023, Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 183-23

GENERAL FUND NEW BUDGET ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve General Fund New Budget Abstract #06 in the amount of \$119,114.54 covering voucher #272 thru #351. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 184-23

SEWER FUND BUDGET ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve Sewer Fund Budget Abstract #6 in the amount of \$31.20 covering voucher #20. The motion was seconded Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, August 10th, 2023 6:30 PM

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 185-23

**UPDATE: BID OPENING FOR PAVILION/COMM. CTR. PROJECT
WAS ON 7/27/23 AT 3:00 PM-DISCUSS RESULTS**

The Board rec'd the results, we had 6 total quotes and the instructions in the RFP were not to include the pavilion. He continued 1 of the bidders did include the pavilion, so we checked with legal counsel, and asked from that bid and they stated it was O.K. to subtract the value of this; so the low bidder turned out to be Drulyk Construction at \$62,756. He added the next low bidder is Upstate Restoration at \$69,800, he thought Mrs. Franco was going to be here, she sent an email this afternoon that she was going to be out of town. Discussion went back and forth re: Not following instructions of the bid, whether to rebid and time it would push it out to rebid. Trustee Strong made a motion to reject the RFP, and rebid with all of the items in that we are looking for. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS SENIOR TAX EXEMPTION: SEE RESOLUTION #169-23-JULY 13TH, 2023

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is discuss Senior Tax Exemption: We passed Resolution #169-23 on July 13th, 2023: The Board passed a resolution to raise the Senior Tax Limit from \$37,400 to \$50,000. He clarified the number came from Cicero and we are not a taxing authority anyway. He continued and the Cty. has increased it to \$58,399, and since we have Town of Clay and Town of Cicero that we are within both of those Vlg. He added he got a call from the Town of Assessor from the Town of Clay and the Assessor from Cicero. He explained it is complicated because the School is involved in this as well. He stated we have passed a resolution to raise it to \$50,000, Clay wanted it lower he believed and Cicero had some ideas. He stated we actually have the Assessor from Cicero Karen Sgroi she explained how it currently is billed and the new Schedule K meant to simplify the way we add income, the differences on how it would affect the outcome for seniors. Discussion went back and forth about both ways and how it would affect the seniors and the loss that the Village would incur. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel stated but that is clearly going to increase, if we currently have 69 now, if you are raising that to that new income level, that is going to clearly increase. Assessor Sgroi stated it is going from \$37,400 to \$58,400, spoke of a sliding scale and Schedule K involves the Social Security Income, the IRA Income, and the Medical Expenses. Also, how it will affect the tax payers too, the seniors, if you decide not count IRA Distributions; you are going to kick a lot of them off with the old schedule. The Mayor added well we have another mtg. in 2 wks., so we could rescind and pass the resolution to eliminate the medical, and



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, August 10th, 2023 6:30 PM

include the IRA. Assessor Sgroi added yes, Census says 1,200, but she did not know if they live in housing or their own home. She proposed, if nothing else, that the Board eliminate “medical” and include IRA monies, The Board wanted more information along with some samples.

NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSS/REVIEW FOIL FEE SCHEDULE: LAST ADOPTED 6/09/2016

The Mayor spoke of us having a FOIL Fee Schedule last Adopted 6/9/2016: Lately we have been getting many FOIL requests which takes away from our daily tasks, some are more involved. We are looking to update to increase the costs as many times these are time intensive. He continued if you send them electronically no fee can be collected, but if we send them copies a fee can be charged, we should review that fee; basically, we are getting hurt if we have to provide with paper copies, it is costing us money plus it is costing us time to do it. Much discussion went back and forth re: Time req’d to located information, scan or copy and follow thru and sometimes they do not want to pay for it after all that work. Board would like information on what other municipalities are doing and charging and maybe mirror them. While others felt proposed increases were not high enough to go with rising labor costs. The Mayor tabled this until the next mtg.

RESOLUTION # 186-23

**DISCUSS/REVIEW/APPROVE THE PROMOTION OF ERICK MCCONNELL TO
MTC. WORKER AT \$22.50 EFFECTIVE 8/11/2023**

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve the Promotion of Erick McConnell to Mtc. Worker at \$22.50 effective 8/11/23. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 187-23

**DISCUSS/REVIEW STREET PAVING SCHEDULE FOR APPROVAL AND
AWARD PAVING COMPANY TO PERFORM**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve and award the bid for the Asphalt Work to Riccelli Northern at \$109,664 to Perform the Street Paving. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. Discussion went back and forth about were these all exactly the same, what they were all told and the follow-up that was done with the low bids and the lists of roads given to do including the section of S. Bay Rd., and Main St., on Pleasant Ave. as well as monitoring the work to avoid problems of lips being left, chipping, puddling by driveways and breakage in the roads with some being so thin. The Mayor stated all in favor to awarding to Riccelli Northern. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same. The Mayor stated DPW Sup’t Ware recommends



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, August 10th, 2023 6:30 PM

Woods Rd., Reed Rd., Pleasant Ave., and Herbert St. are the roads to be paved this yr.

RESOLUTION # 188-23

DISCUSS STATUS ON THE BUCKET TRUCK

The Mayor turned it over to DPW Sup't Ware. DPW Sup't Ware stated the Bucket Truck that we awarded is 5yrs. out, it is definitely 60 to 64 mos. out. He continued he is currently working with other vendors; it is not the Cty. bid, it is the national bid. He explained we can get 1 cheaper or around the same price; there is 1 right now that is available that is cheaper, we could get it at the end of the yr. with the CHIPS money. DPW Sup't Ware added they have 1 available right now that does not have the operators, or the cam protector and a couple of the other options like the outrigger to stabilize the truck when you are leaning over the side, it does not rock the truck as much. He added the option of having the outriggers and torsion bar: If you are just going straight up to put a decoration up, you do not have to stop the truck to set the outriggers up, put the decoration up; pick the outriggers up and drive to the next location. The Mayor stated so the 1 that is available maybe by the end of the yr., does not have the torsion bar or the outriggers. DPW Sup't Ware explained it has the torsion bar, but does not have the outriggers. He stated the capability if we have a tree in a storm, to lean over the truck further out on the side, kind of like a Fire Truck. The Mayor continued so what does the Board think, should we wait for 1 without riggers, or get 1 that is available. DPW Sup't Ware shared he does not have a price at the moment, he would like to wait until he had the price for everything to put in front of the Board and let them know the information, but he would like to cancel the order that we have in. Trustee Strong made a motion to rescind the orig. purchase order of 5yrs. for the Bucket Truck. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. Discussion went back and forth about renting a Bucket Truck vs. purchasing, the amount it is used, and problems that arise as well as safety and length of time required being 10 yrs. with CHIPS funds to hang on to. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**DISCUSS/APPOINT TENTATIVE POLICE CHIEF PENDING SALARY
AND BENEFITS PACKAGE**

The Mayor stated next on the agenda is Discuss/Appoint Tentative Police Chief Pending Salary and Benefits Package: This will be discussed in Executive Session.

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

Barb Griffith of 402 Single Dr. spoke of 421 Single Dr. being an eyesore, and a fire hazard.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, August 10th, 2023 6:30 PM

Eric Schmidt and Patricia Schmidt of 419 Single Dr. spoke of 421 have no railing and not up to code.

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

ATTORNEY REPORT: (Robert Germain): No Report. (Absent).

ENGINEER REPORT: (Amy Franco): No Report. (Absent).

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: (Interim Police Chief Jeff Raub): He stated the following:

- Summer Camp: Sent Officer Chad Thompson over to talk with the kids
- Pursuit from Dewitt, thru Vlg. high rate of speed, ended with no one getting hurt
- So far for July: 425 Total Calls for service, 15 Domestic, 14 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 83 Traffic Stops, 46 Traffic Tickets, 12 Criminal Arrests

Fire Department: (Asst. Fire Chief John Linnertz): He stated the following:

- Steady calls,
- Firefighter ill in training, doing better
- Rollover at Single and Chestnut this afternoon, extraction, no injury; just checkup
- Parking lot issue-working on getting resolved

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

- Busy picking up Bulk Trash
- Some repairs on our Truck
- Repairs on Storms drains with major rain, located near end of pipe in woods
- Problem at 103 Watson Rd: Water is moving, evacuating area, event with that much rain, no system is going to take it, flows into Town of Clay and their water is not flowing any better than ours
- He shared all 4 of the down spouts on the Colonial Laundromat are pointed toward their yard, there yard is lower elevation at 103 Watson Rd., the water takes a little bit to clear out
- Centerville: Flood severely; shut road down and within an hr. after rain stop, cleared up

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

- Thinks he has got the adjustments for the mics, appreciates them talking in mics
- Summer Camp: Ends Friday, it was successful, 6 wks., 130 kids; hired 16 staff



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, August 10th, 2023 6:30 PM

- Summer Concerts: 2 left-both make up dates; 8/16 Scottish-Irish Syracuse Pipe Band,
- 8/17: Mood Swing will be back

Codes Department: (Codes Enforcement Officer: Vacant): No Report.

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

- Letter out today for other 67 Candidates on the list we canvas
- FY 23/24 Budget – distributed to all
- Working on PILOTs, 2 in Vlg.: Centerville Ct., Toll Rd. Senior Plank Rd. Senior Living
- Centerville Ct: Closing books, PILOT we have never rec'd; ours \$28,000, schools \$68,000; Tax Cap based on our PILOT
- Toll Rd (Two Plus Four): Call yrly., need rental and utility information
- Trustee Email addresses everyone on same with north Syracuse NY; due to Cyber Security- no fwd to personal email, would be totally separate, better spam filter; more professional

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee St. Germain: No Report.

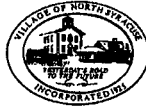
Trustee Strong: He stated the following:

- Attempted to address NYDOT when did work in front of Dog Daze, once again effected unfortunately, 2nd time in recent rains with water into the store
- Brolex: Road compaction and 2nd hydrant yet any word

Mayor: Have not started yet, surveyors need to get in and layout, will call owners as working inside; Codes Officer comes at 4:30 PM, wants to set up other mtg with her. She was there 3 wks. ago and did walk thru, issues inside that need to be addressed and whole outside. Last MS4 Insp. comments made, fwd to Board, clearly once starts have to have supervision there. He did reach out to Paul Linnertz to talk about the hydrant and other issues. 3 loads of stone dumped, have to do stone, and site work properly; they will be watched. Talked to CHA to bring Civil Eng. to make sure done properly. Inside: Only got insulation insp. for 3rd flr., we will make sure not trying to sheetrock where they have not gotten further insp.; have not call for further insp.

Trustee Bolton: He stated the following:

- Station 1 – Parking Lot: Looking for Grant money, options, have to fix where sunken in now; other options cannot do overnight
- 8/15: Attending Seminar in E. Syracuse, "Death of the Volunteer Fire Svc. and What the Town Can Do About It"



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, August 10th, 2023 6:30 PM

- KUDDOS to Summer Playground Staff

Dep. Mayor Gustafson: She stated the following:

- Spoke of discussion with Codes Officer Di Carlo re: 118 Grove St.: 2 mtgs. ago roof would be on, no roof. Code Officer Di Carlo not meet with owner; did meet with contractor who offered to buy it and told Codes Officer roof will be on in 2 wks., still no roof. Asked about options to have removed, cost, process to remove and condition of house with the weather for yrs. being exposed. The Mayor spoke of that house and another on Van Mara we need to deal with which is a danger, it could collapse, so we have our work cut out for us.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor stated several of the eyesore properties have been mowed and tidied up, but with all the rain and issues it is summer long battle. He added Herman St. - neighbor did mow the back yard. He continued Brolex, we kind of already address; he is staying on top of that as best he can. He added unfortunately the Codes Officer that we were going to interview on Monday let us know today, that he took another job. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel shared there was someone else that called and just asked if he could fill out an application which we have it all now online, forms and documents, where they can go right in; that was a few days ago and has not seen it yet. He explained Codes Officer Di Carlo is doing a good job and limited the time, but we have got a lot of things as you hear; he does not know what we are going to do. He suggested perhaps reaching out to Cicero again, and try to have them help. He stated fortunately the monies that we have authorized for the Temporary Codes have not been totally used up yet, so she is here 3 or 4 nights and comes in on Saturdays. He continued this is a problem, there are not enough Codes Officers to go around. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel continued there is nobody else on the list. The Mayor added that was the only one on the list, but if anybody knows anybody, we can do a provisional hire, but then they have got to take the test and pass the test. Trustee St. Germain spoke of what she learned from Baldwinsville Codes when they went to meeting, few taking training, test difficult, and many do not pass it. asked when the next Codes test is, do you know. The Mayor explained another issue they do not give the tests often. Trustee St. Germain asked if they give them if you call for 1. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel explained she has never done that. The Mayor stated this is an item we are going to continued to work on and hopefully we can find somebody in the meantime. He added he would reach out to Clay and re reach out to Cicero and see what kind of help we can get.

The Mayor stated he would like to entertain a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss about the Tentative Police Chief, we may or may not do business when come back out.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, August 10th, 2023 6:30 PM

Trustee Bolton made a motion to enter into **Executive Session** at 7:50 P.M. to discuss the Tentative Police Chief. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to return to **Regular Session** at 9:32 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 189-23

**DISCUSS/APPOINT TENTATIVE POLICE CHIEF PENDING SALARY
AND BENEFITS PACKAGE**

Trustee Bolton made a motion to appoint Chance Fieldson the Vlg. of N. Syracuse Police Chief, effective August 12, 2023, contingent upon negotiating the salary and benefits package with the committee comprised of Trustee Strong and Trustee Bolton as the Committee. The motion was seconded Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to adjourn at 9:35 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk-Treasurer

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

DATE: August 10th, 2023

NAME _____

ROBINSON

Joe Hampton

Barb Griffith,

JOHN LINCOLN

Eve Schmitt

Patry Schmitt

ADDRESS

ADDRESS
SLIDES Wood

Visitors

Single Dr

18 PD

419 Single Dr.

419 Single DR.

