



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, September 14th, 2023 @ 4:30 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 John Bolton and Dep. Mayor Gustafson.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Asst. Fire Chief John Linnertz, and Police Chief Chance Fieldson, and Village Engineer Amy Franco.

Personnel Absent: Codes Enf. Officer (Vacant), Trustee Chris Strong (Vacation), Parks Director Tony Burkinshaw (Absent), and Village Attorney Robert Germain (Absent).

FORMAL INTRODUCTION OF POLICE CHIEF FIELDSON/ACTING CHIEF RAUB DEPARTED ON 8/31/2023

The Mayor invited Police Chief Chance Fieldson to come, he welcomed him and shared he was glad to have him on board. Police Chief Fieldson thanked him.

MOVE TO NEW BUSINESS LETTERS (B) AND (C):

RESOLUTION # 202-23

DISCUSS/APPROVE THE PROMOTION OF GEOFFREY LINSTRUTH TO POLICE SGT. EFFECTIVE 09/09/23

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the promotion of Geoffrey Linstruth to Police Sgt. Effective 09/09/23. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 203-23

DISCUSS/APPROVE THE PROMOTION OF JORDAN PANNELL TO POLICE SGT. EFFECTIVE 9/10/23

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve the promotion of Jordan Pannell to Police Sgt. Effective 9/10/23. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same. Police Chief Fieldson welcomed our new sergeants. He stated that these 2 men stood out among the rest, and they are men that are going to help him in developing our younger officers, in the days, mos.; and yrs. to come. He thanked the Board for their support of them. He thanked the sergeants for taking the tasks knowing that will be a lot of work, but knowing your efforts are going to be instrumental in the young officers, Officer Darrow and the rest to a path to success.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14th, 2023 6:30 PM

MOVE TO NEW BUSINESS LETTERS (F):

RESOLUTION # 204-23

**APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF PT POLICE OFFICER SHAWN DARROW
TO FT POLICE OFFICER EFF. 9/09/23**

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve appointment of PT Police Officer Shawn Darrow to FT Police Officer Eff. 9/9/23. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Police Chief Fieldson stated Officer Darrow comes to us with a private experience, but he is interested in the public sector and brings to us a skillset from the private world that we could use here in the public world. He continued at the same time these fine men are going to be teaching the ropes of Law Enforcement, so we are excited for Officer Darrow too.

APPROVAL OF REG. BD. MTG. -AUG 24TH, 2023

The Mayor stated the minute approval since the person that does the minutes is on vacation, we will post pone those to our next mtg. the August 24th, 2023.

RESOLUTION #205-23

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve General Fund Abstract #08 in the amount of \$239,619.96 covering voucher #448 thru #540. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 206-23

SEWER FUND BUDGET ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve Sewer Fund Budget Abstract #8 in the amount of \$178.53 covering voucher #21 thru #23. The motion was seconded Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 207-23

BUDGET TRANSFER(S)

The Mayor stated the transfer of monies in order to purchase 3 MCT's. Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve the budget transfers from A3410.420 Fire Dept. Response Equip. in the amount of \$3,260.44 to increase A3410.240 Fire Dept. Radios. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14th, 2023 6:30 PM

RESOLUTION # 208-23

BUDGET TRANSFER(S)

The Mayor stated the transfer monies to purchase halloween candy. Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the budget transfers from A3389U Walmart Grant Monies Rec'd. in the amount of \$89.75 to increase A3120.479 Police Walmart Grant Supplies. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 209-23

**DISCUSS BID OPENING (9/13 @ 2 PM) FOR THE COMMUNITY
CTR. PAVILION AND ENTRANCE PROJECT/AWARD**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is discuss bid opening, we received 2 quotes and we have SAM Grant money to cover this and we have a recommendation from our Engineer. Trustee Bolton made a motion to award this Bid for Comm. Ctr. and Entrance Project to Drulyk Construction. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS OPENINGS IN CODES: FULL TIME CODES OFFICER/PART TIME FIRE INSPECTION FOR CODES

The Mayor stated the next item is to discuss openings in "Codes", we are going to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues.

UPDATE FOR 118 GROVE STREET/130 VAN MARA DR

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is an Update for 118 Grove Street and 130 Van Mara Dr.: The Board rec'd the report from our engineer on 130 Van Mara Dr., it is dangerous. He continued he spoke with our Atty. today, about Van Mara Dr., and Grove St.; he stated these need to be initiated by our Codes Dept. and Codes Officer. He added since we are without a Codes Officer, it is kind of difficult to get traction with these, but Mrs. Fuller will be back from vacation on Monday. He explained the history on 118 Grove St., the efforts made to work with the family, extensive length of time it has been exposed to the weather without a roof as well as the mold potentially in the house; and being ready to move on to the best of our ability. He added the same thing with the Van Mara property: He spoke of being in contact with the Atty, efforts to locate residents or survivors, the process to follow to move toward demo, if no response; moving forward to do so. He continued the property is a danger, the foundation is caving in.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14th, 2023 6:30 PM

RESOLUTION # 210-23

**DISCUSS ANOTHER NEED TO EXTEND AND APPROVE ADD'L
MONIES FOR CODES ASSISTANCE FROM CLAY**

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to extend and approve an add'l \$5,000 for "Codes" assistance from Clay. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. Discussion: How long has she been working for this \$5, 000. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel stated since June. Dep. Mayor Gustafson clarified for 3 mos., and asked if the Mayor anticipated another 3 mos. without an officer. The Mayor stated he did not have an answer, we have got to keep going as best we can until we find someone. Dep. Mayor Gustafson stated she has done a great job; she is catching us up at least. The Mayor agreed she has done a great job, but we are hanging like this and if she was not here, we would have lost our grip. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS BUCKET TRUCK

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is discuss bucket truck: DPW Sup't Ware wanted this on the agenda, so we will turn it over to him. DPW Sup't Ware stated he has 2 trucks that he is looking at, he was hoping for a firm answer on it, so he could put it before the Board; not this mtg., but the next mtg. He continued at this time he does not have the information to give the Board, so he is going to move it off for now.

UPDATE: CLOSING OF 115 CHESTNUT STREET (ON ABSTRACT)

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda Update: Closing of 115 Chestnut Street: We signed the papers this morning, so we own 115 Chestnut St. He continued DPW has already knocked down the shrubs that were encroaching on the sidewalk, removed an old tree that was there. He added the garage has been secured, people were in there at the last minute for an old car in there, the power was on; so, we have to get the power turned off. DPW Sup't Ware stated they boarded up the window that was open and secured the back door. Turkey vultures have been living in the 2nd flr. of the garage for a while. The Mayor explained next we will entertain some demo contractors; start the process and we do have grant money to cover that. He stated we will work on that to get some designs going, and shared the whole reason for that was enhance our DPW and Fire Dept., by having that lot. Dep. Mayor Gustafson asked the grant that we have, is that for the purchase or the demolition. The Mayor continued it is for both, we have another grant, all together we have \$250,000 grants. He added the 1st grant will cover what we just bought, hopefully the demolition and maybe a little bit of architectural engineering work; the next grant will continue on.

NEW BUSINESS:



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14th, 2023 6:30 PM

RESOLUTION # 211-23 **DISCUSS/APPROVE THE NEW HIRE APPT. OF GILBERT STEVENS EFFECTIVE TUESDAY, 10/10/23 MTC. WORKER**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the new hire appt. of Gilbert Stevens effective Tuesday, 10/10/23 as a Mtc. Worker. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. Dep. Mayor Gustafson stated she was in the interview and it sounds like he will be a good fit, very qualified. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS/APPROVE ADDITIONAL MOA FOR THE TEAMSTERS 1149 AGREEMENT RE: RETENTION/SIGN-ON

The Mayor stated next on the agenda additional MOA for the Teamsters 1149 Agreement Re: Retention/Sign-on: This is item D, we already did B and C, we are going to talk about that in Executive Session.

DISCUSS GENERATOR MTC. FOR DPW/VILLAGE HALL/FIRE DEPT.

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is discuss generator mtc. For DPW/Village Hall/Fire Dept.: The Village needs to put maintenance agreements in place for the DPW and Village Hall, so DPW Sup't Ware has been working on this, so he turned it over to DPW Sup't Ware. DPW Sup't Ware stated he reached out to the company that the Fire Dept. uses, Pen Power and he is waiting for a quote from them, he did get 1 from another company; but thought it would be better to use the same company as the Fire Dept., that way we are all on the same page and can be done at the same time.

RESOLUTION # 212-23 **DISCUSS/APPROVE THE HIRING OF SEAN WALLACE-PART-TIME TO ASSIST WITH BACKGROUND CHECKS**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the hiring of part-time Officer Sean Wallace to assist with background checks effective 09/16/23 at \$30.00/hr. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 213-23 **DISCUSS/APPROVE THE HIRING OF ZACHARY MISZTAL-PART-TIME TO ASSIST WITH THE EVIDENCE ROOM**

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve the hiring of Zachary Misztal Part-time to assist with the evidence room effective 09/16/23 at \$30.00/hr. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14th, 2023 6:30 PM

RESOLUTION # 214-23

DISCUSS/APPROVE THE HIRING OF BRANDON LUMMIS-PART-TIME TO ASSIST WITH THE POLICE ACCREDITATION

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve the hiring of Brandon Lummis part-time to assist with the Police Accreditation effective 9/16/23 at \$30.00/hr. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 215-23

APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF JONATHAN POLHAMUS AS A JUNIOR VOL. FIREFIGHTER FOR THE FIRE DEPT.

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve the appointment of Jonathan Polhamus as Junior Vol. Firefighter for Fire Dept. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 216-23

APPROVE TRAINING FOR 5 VOL. FIREFIGHTERS TO ATTEND TRAINING IN CORTLAND \$325 EACH/\$1,625

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve the training for (5) Vol. Firefighters to attend training in Cortland at \$325 ea./\$1,625 total as per Travel Policy. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS/REVIEW THE BUDGET PROVIDED BY THE FIRE DEPT. FOR FY 24/25

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is to review the Budget prepared by the Fire Dept for FY 24/25: Budget was rec'd from Fire Administrator at the last Board mtg., that has been a couple of changes, so an updated version has been resubmitted. He continued this is just a review of what they sent over to the towns, he believed we were O.K. with them sending it over to the towns, they need it before we need it; but their budget actually gets approved at our budget time.

RESOLUTION # 217-23

DISCUSS/APPROVE TRAINING "TAKE THE DOOR" OCTOBER 17TH- 4 HOUR SESSIONS (2) GIVEN-\$2,250

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to Approve Training "Take the Door" on 10/17/23 - 4 Hr. Session (2) for a total of \$2,250. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. Trustee Bolton asked is this for entire dept. or just a select few. Asst. Fire Chief Linnertz stated it is an annual requirement for live fire training. Dep. Mayor Gustafson clarified 4 hrs. is 4 hrs. on night and 4 hours the next night or an 8 hrs.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14th, 2023 6:30 PM

session. Asst. Fire Chief John Linnertz continued it is a morning and an evening session, we do our trainings in 9:00 AM for people that works nights, and then our trainings at night at 7:00 PM. He added it is up at the Clay Town which is a combined training facility, that the Vlg. is part of. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, 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.

Ken Ryan of 211 Herman Dr. spoke of the members of the Ethics committee and when meeting.

Pat Ferguson of 215 S. Main St. thanked DPW for prompt tree cleanup. She spoke of how nice it was to see the Police and Fire Dept. show up in full dress for Mrs. Abulencia.

Eric Schmidt of 420 Single Dr. spoke of 421 Single Dr., is better, but there is overgrowth again, and landlord does not care or take care of his property.

David Robinson of 163 Slindes Woods Cir. congratulated Police Chief Fieldson and the other officers. He congratulated the Board on hiring within, it makes sense. He spoke of concern of adding people in good entry level jobs, to train, build their resume and they are gone; but not doing something about retention. He stated good at keeping under the "budget cap", but time to put some money in here, so people do not leave as much. He spoke the Comprehensive Plan, how many check it and where we are going and if we were still on track, he thinks not. He suggested we need to inform the residents about what we do, how many Police calls are made, and what we do that they do not know about. He suggested a small article briefly explaining the stuff the departments have been doing to inform the community what is new in N. Syracuse. He continued he thinks that we need to go back to the basics and put things in place, so that when we hire, and we train; we retain.

Monty Esposito was invited to come up by the Mayor. Monty introduced himself and stated he is the artist that recently painted the mural here in the Village of N. Syracuse. He continued he was born, raised here, and truly it was a great experience working with Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel and the Mayor. He added painting the Mural was a true pleasure for him, because he got to revisit a lot of the places, he got to enjoy growing up in N. Syracuse. He explained his wish is maybe they could work together and maybe he could paint another mural in the Vlg. of N. Syracuse.

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

ATTORNEY REPORT: (Robert Germain): Absent



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14th, 2023 6:30 PM

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

- \$12,000 Tree Plan Senator Schumer has pushed for the Cty., application not out yet, but Parks Dir. Burkinshaw is interested; because it involves trees and parks along with park improvements

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: (Police Chief Chance Fieldson): He stated the following:

- Formally thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the Community and trusting him with this position; also thanked for the part-time appointments tonight
- Part-time positions will help strategically in areas: Accreditation, Evidence, Grants
- Thanked Monty for the beautiful mural
- Office of Cannabis Mgmt. conducted stop inspection at Cauli Cloud Smoke Shop today at 432 S. Main St., able to secure illicit merchandise from the store, now have sign not allowed to take down unless want to pay \$5,000 fine; cease and desist order from state to stop selling illegal merchandise at that location
- So far for September: 188 Total Calls for service, 18 Property checks, 3 Domestic, 7 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 53 Traffic Stops, 24 Traffic Tickets, 4 Criminal Arrests

Fire Department: (Asst. Fire Chief John Linnertz): No Report.

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

- Having roads paved, finishing up on Herbert St. as we speak; everything went smooth, roads paved: Pleasant, Woods, Reed and Herbert
- Did work around Firehouse, the work around the bushes, the storm drain, and apron was collapsing; everything went smooth there
- Busy, continue to pick up brush, the brush truck is on road 4 wks. in the mo.; picking up either brush or garbage, being used heavily, very nice piece of equipment we have

Parks and Recreation Department: (Parks Director: Anthony Burkinshaw): No Report. (Absent).

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

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

- 1 yr. to date Vlg. has had charging stations, to date made \$390
- Focus on Finance, need to close April, May books and open new yr.

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14th, 2023 6:30 PM

Trustee St. Germain: She stated the following:

- They did an awesome job paving her street, crew polite and beautiful
- Mural is extraordinary
- She is happy we have a Police Dept., would have been easy to have someone scoop us up, people look here; because they are trained well, Police Chief Fieldson and those guys dug heels in are staying. Good feeling to see those cars going down those streets.

Trustee Strong: No Report. (Absent).

Trustee Bolton: He stated the following:

- He echoed what Trustee St. Germain stated, people will question why taking so long, why is not anything happening; a lot goes on behind the scenes.
- To the Police Dept. we had some issues, but we are back stronger than ever, the Police Chief has gotten some individuals who are going to help us a lot; hats off to you Police Chief Fieldson and welcome aboard
- Mural: Fantastic job, will look at other places maybe that we could do those, to highlight what the Vlg. does
- He agreed with Mr. Robinson, we have a great Vlg., and need to let people know what we are doing; it is onward, upward from here and everything takes time
- Everyone needs to understand: We hear you; we listen, we will take care of you

Dep. Mayor Gustafson: She stated the following:

- Mural: Uplifting, excited to see the beautiful colors, and try to pick out everything on there; she thanked Monty for doing a wonderful job

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor welcomed the new positions and thank you. He continued an update on the Smoke Shop and Just 1 Bite property: There are several calls, people are interested, all we can do is keep following up on the leads that come to us; hopefully we will have something happening there. He added Brolex which is the apartment complex being built, he has had several conversations with their leadership reminding them that they have a lot of work left to do and they cannot ignore; we are going to be watching everything they do. He explained with engineering when they get to the site portion of it. He stated again, without a Codes person we are doing the best that we can with Brolex and other issues. He continued we are not keeping up, but we are making progress in other areas and we will make progress with Codes; pretty soon that is going to be behind us. He added the Sidewalk Project that we were awarded a grant for some existing sidewalks that are narrow are going to be torn up and redone,



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14th, 2023 6:30 PM

and some new sections of sidewalk, going to have a Crosswalk on South Bay Rd. He explained where people can try to get across from the Grove, Van Mara area, over to the Rt. 11 side to get to shops, etc. He stated he agrees as well, we probably should communicate better, maybe an update to our Website; so, we can get stuff out there. He spoke of those who know him, know he is not a great communicator, putting stuff out all the time; when things are pertinent, and newsworthy he will say something. He explained otherwise he is kind of quiet, he is not that much of an extrovert, that is who he is; we will try to do better.

The Mayor stated he would like to entertain a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel of potentials hires, there may be business when we come back out, but the meeting is over and you can go home. Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to enter into **Executive Session** at 7:12 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting favor of the same. It is noted that Trustee Strong was conferenced in for the Exec. Session.

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to return to **Regular Session** at 8:20 P.M. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 218-23

**DISCUSS/APPROVE ADDITIONAL MOA FOR THE TEAMSTERS
1149 AGREEMENT RE: RETENTION/SIGN-ON**

Trustee Bolton made a motion to sign the MOA for the Police Dept. relating to the retention of existing police officers and attracting new officers. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved by Mayor Butterfield, Trustee Bolton, and Dep. Mayor Gustafson. Opposed: Trustee St. Germain, remarking that she was in favor of the Police Officer component, not in favor of the Communications component. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 219-23

**DISCUSS/APPROVE PART-TIME APPOINTMENT OF M.
REDHEAD AS FIRE INSPECTOR**

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve the part-time appointment of Michael Redhead as a Fire Inspector to maintain the Fire Dept. Inspections throughout the Village at \$25/hr. and a cap of 12 hrs./wk. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved with all in favor of the same.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14th, 2023 6:30 PM

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to adjourn at 8:25 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, 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: Sept. 14, 2023

*Need
New
Sign
in
Sheet*

PLEASE SIGN IN

NAME

ADDRESS

D. ROBINSON

SLIMES Woods

KEN RYAN

211 HERMAN DR

JOHN LINTNER

NSD

Pat Ferguson

215 So Main St. N. Syracuse, NY 13212-3100

Julie Butterfield

224 Chestnut Street

Phyllis Butterfield

"

