



## **VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE**

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

Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 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 4:30 P.M. with Mayor Gary Butterfield asking everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Mayor Gary Butterfield, Trustee John Bolton, Trustee LouAnn St. Germain, and Dep. Mayor Gustafson.

**Personnel Present:** Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Parks Director Tony Burkinshaw, and Police Chief Chance Fieldson, and Village Engineer Amy Franco, and Village Attorney Robert Germain.

**Personnel Absent:** Trustee Chris Strong (Excused), and Fire Chief Richard Allen (Absent).

### **RESOLUTION # 239-23**

### **APPROVAL OF REG. BD. MTG. -OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the minutes (Facebook Livestreamed) from the October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Board Meeting. 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 #240-23**

### **GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve General Fund Abstract #11 in the amount of \$115,423.50 covering voucher #672 thru #750. 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 #241-23**

### **SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve Sewer Fund Abstract #11 in the amount of \$36.87 covering voucher #25. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **UPDATE: COMMUNITY CTR. PAVILION AND ENTRANCE PROJECT/AWARD**

The Mayor stated that we have awarded and the excavation has been started, we will have a little more



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information later on. He continued there was work scheduled to be started at the entrance way, but has not started yet; we are in conversations with the contractor.

**UPDATE FOR 118 GROVE STREET/130 VAN MARA DRIVE**

The Mayor stated that he has not driven by 118 Grove St., but understands there is some plywood on there, but we will continue to watch and see; the difficulty is going to come when it is time to get a C of O. He continued 130 Van Mara Dr. Code Enf. Officer Rohm has done some site visits, as for an update. Code Enf. Officer Rohm stated that property is dangerous, we had an engineering study done, they recommended it be torn down. He added recently we ended up with a sticker on there for a management co., there is still a mortgage company. He shared we had a letter we were going to prepare, but there was a little difficulty, so that is a work in progress. He stated we have our new Codes Enf. Officer who is working on that, so that is the latest.

**UPDATE: GENERATOR MTC. FOR DPW/VILLAGE HALL/FIRE DEPT.**

The Mayor asked DPW Sup't Ware where if he has any further information. DPW Sup't Ware stated he spoke with Penn Power today, they were going to look at the Fire Dept. Agreement, as they svc. the Fire Dept. He continued the other company did not reach back with an estimate, neither has Penn Power, for 1 yr.; we want to look into a once a yr. svc. and inspection. He added that is what they recommend which would be 2 visits and that is what the Fire Dept. does. He explained as soon as he gets that together he will get that to the Board. He stated with the Police Dept. still be at Vlg. Hall, the Comm. Ctr. has a 5 yr. warrantee which he believes still has 2 or 3 yrs. left on that warrantee. He continued once that is up, we will add that to the regiment, but we are all essential. He added just like the Fire Dept., the DPW needs to get out to do their svcs., Police need to get out to do theirs; Vlg. Hall needs power to keep their computers going to do business. He suggested once he gets all the information together that we do a better svc. on inspections to make sure we are up to par.

**UPDATE: 115 CHESTNUT STREET: BID OPENINGS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL  
AND DEMOLITION ARE SCHEDULED**

The Mayor stated they have been posted, we are having a good response and he asked the date for the bid opening. Mrs. Franco stated Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, and the Pre-Bid Opening on Monday, at the site. The Mayor continued we will see how that comes out, so once that happens, hopefully by the end of the yr.; we will have an empty lot and we can continue on.

**UPDATE: COMM. DEV. 2022- COMM. CTR. -DOWNSTAIRS PROJECT/JUDGES CHAMBERS**



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The Mayor stated we have started some work, we are working on some quotes for some other work, and that is kind of a design build for us. He added basically we want to eliminate the moisture problem in that lower level, so we have got 2 or 3 different ideas and we are working through that.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION # 242-23**

**DISCUSS/APPROVE THE ACCESS AGREEMENT WITH ROYAL  
WASH DEVELOPMENT LLC.**

Trustee Bolton made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Access Agreement with Royal Wash Development LLC. 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 # 243-23**

**DISCUSS/APPROVE THE TRAVEL COSTS FOR DPW SUP'T TO  
ATTEND THE U-DIG CONFERENCE IN BATAVIA**

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve the travel costs for DPW Sup't Ware to attend The U-Dig Conference in Batavia for 2 nights at \$196 total. 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 # 244-23**

**DISCUSS/APPROVE THE ANNUAL COALITION AGREEMENT  
FOR THE CNY STORMWATER-\$3,600**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to authorizing the Mayor to sign the Annual Coalition Agreement for the CNY Stormwater for \$3,600. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**RESOLUTION # 245-23**

**RESCIND THE RESOLUTION REGARDING SMOKE SHOPS:  
MEETING OF 10/12/23**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to rescind the resolution regarding Smoke Shops from Meeting of 10/12/23. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**DISCUSS NEW LEGISLATION REGARDING THE REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO  
SMOKE SHOPS IN VILLAGE (SET A PUBLIC HEARING -WILL BE LOCAL LAW #5)**



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The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is discuss new legislation regarding the Regulations Pertaining to Smoke Shops in Village: In order to do that we need to Set a Public Hearing, it will be Local Law #5: The information was sent out, there were some suggestions made, this has been going on for a while. He continued then suggestions were made by the Trustees, and he is in favor of entertaining a work session with our counsel. Discussion went back and forth re: Being complicated, holding a work session to make changes to the drafted proposed ordinance, and having to follow the Local Law Process. Possible changes: 1) Adding nicotine to law as some new drugs contain nicotine, 2) Require the applicant to come in every 12 mos. for renewal, instead of 24 mos., for better control; and 3) Increase the dollar amount that existing smoke shops, have to prove they had spent, in order to take bright lights down that are affecting public safety in a public way to \$300. Also, we do not want to discourage convenience stores, but some other stuff is added after opening. Safety concerns of some lighting causing seizures while flashing. Hoping to set up work session soon.

**RESOLUTION # 246-23    DISCUSS LOCAL LAW #1 OF 2022-AMEND 240-11 (REMOVE ITEM B4), 240-12 (REMOVED B9), 240-13 (REMOVE B7) REGARDING SPECIAL PERMIT IN ZONING DISTRICTS C-1, C-2, AND C-3**

Trustee Bolton made a motion to set a public hearing for Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:29 PM to clean up Local Law 1 of 2022. 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 # 247-23    DISCUSS/REVIEW CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR COMM. CTR. PAVILION PROJECT**

Trustee Bolton made a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign Change Order #1 for Comm. Ctr. Pavilion and Entrance Project. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. Discussion took place re: What extra \$16,000 is going for: Remove existing sidewalk that is down there and replace with new, this door here is new, but does not have a window in it so, somebody could go out that door and open it as somebody else is walking out the main entrance. Also, a crack in the brick where water gets in, so they are going to handle that, by putting a sleeve under the new pad. Another project is basement issue: We are doing a central down spout, dig through, and dump water into a catch basin over here on other side. The Mayor hoped we can get approval to do the other as well; the basement work. 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.

**Vera Desimone of 304 Belmore Dr.** thanked the DPW for doing a nice job. She stated they have started



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the mtgs. for Friends of North Syracuse, mtg. monthly, they are trying to address what the Vlg. is doing and it will certainly be nice.

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.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

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

- So far for October: 76 Property Checks, 12 Domestics, 11 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 312 Traffic Stops, 115 Traffic Tickets, 10 Criminal Arrests
- Full-time Off. Austin Baker just finished Field Training and will be wkg. the afternoon shift
- Actively engaged in other background checks for other candidates for Full-time positions
- 2 Supervisors sent to Transformational Leadership Class
- Thanked Parks Dir. Burkinshaw for communications; participated in Trunk or Treat good time

**Fire Department: Fire Chief Richard Allen):** No Report. (Absent).

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

- Leafer out 1<sup>st</sup> time this yr., went smooth
- Brush Pickup: Making progress, starting to slow down
- Bulk Trash: Done for the yr.
- Everything else going smooth, after Halloween, will be out putting out plow markers
- Our equipment is ready for the winter

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

- 10/27: Start painting upstairs of Comm. Ctr., wkg. with Home Depot Outreach Program with some volunteers, and supply us with supplies and paint
- 12/3: Annual Holiday Parade starts at 5:00 PM, following will be the Annual Tree Lighting
- Projects started here at the Comm. Ctr.: Going back and forth on how to do it; complicate

**Codes Department: (Codes Enforcement Officer: Nicholas Rohm):** He stated the following:

- FOILs processed and sent out
- Working on properties that seem to be an issue for the Vlg. and neighbors
- 445-447 S. Main St: Plasma Ctr.: Trucks there, stopped out, starting the demo on the bldg.



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- Met with a potential developer; more to come eventually
- 517-519 S. Main St: Posted property with no admittance sign, notified Police Dept., sent multiple violations; overgrowth, scattered trash, his understanding owner is out of country; trying to contact him or somebody-actively wkg. on that

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

- Herself and staff updating Bulk Trash Flyer, taking updates if you have any
- Her dept. wkg. on scanning payroll documents, Linda assisting with that
- NYS Retirement System increasing rates for us, for contributions, Employees Retirement System: Us, Vlg. Hall, DPW, Firehouse Caretakers; going from 13.1% to 15.2%, so for every \$1 we spend on payroll, the village contributes 15.2 cents; and for Police and Fire it is going up to 27.1% to 31.2% for every \$1 we pay officers – the Village pays 31.2 cents.
- Catching up, things are rolling

**DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:**

**Trustee St. Germain:** She stated the following:

- Spoke of citizen concerns: No Codes, no Police, assured we were wkg. on it; we have Codes, and Police. She welcomed new Codes Off., have Police out actively wkg.
- With Retirement going up, that is a good thing

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

**Trustee Bolton:** He stated the following:

- Welcomed Codes Off. Rohm, great to have you on board
- Attended Fire Training at Clay Fire Tower with Fire Dept. last wk., wanted him to wear mask and go into smoky part of bldg., to experience what Fireman go through; great opportunity, they train under all kind of situations
- Trunk or Treat: Enjoyed representing Vlg., great time
- 517 S. Main St: Old Furniture Bldg.: concern is roof is caving in, huge hole in roof, not as bad as 130 Van Mara; need to look at, Police called: Kids climbing/jumping from demolished roof to flat roof, front door wide open-severe, need to focus on that

**Dep. Mayor Gustafson:** She stated the following:

- She welcomed Codes Off. Rohm
- Congratulate Officer Baker



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**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

The Mayor stated they already mention there is equipment at the old bowling alley. He continued there was a Mayor's Mtg. scheduled for last wk. with the new President of NYCOM, but it was cancelled the day of the mtg. He added we had a Staff Mtg. last wk., 1<sup>st</sup> that we have had in while since we have some new members of staff, he thought it went well with good discussion back and forth. He shared this afternoon we met with a developer who stated he does have a contract in place for the property where Just 1 Bite and the old Smoke Shop are. He explained that is going to be quite a process, but looks like there will be some progress, that was good news. The Mayor updated Brolex apartments, have been under construction for 2 yrs., it seemed to slow down to a crawl, he has had conversations with the owner; we will continue on with that. He spoke of cold weather and homeless people in our Vlg., and concern of breaking in and starting a little fire. He stated we have already gone through some issues in the Vlg., but are on the uptick of that.

The Mayor entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue.

Trustee Bolton made a motion to enter into **Executive Session** at 5:05 P.M. to discuss a personnel issue. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to return to **Regular Session** at 5:29 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to adjourn at 5:36 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel  
Village Clerk-Treasurer





## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

PLEASE SIGN IN

David Allithorpe  
KEN RYAN  
ROBINSON  
Vera Resumore

118 GOLF  
211 HERMAN DR  
SLINDERS WOODS  
304 Beldor Dr. No Sign

