



## **VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE**

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

Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 @ 5:30 PM

**North Syracuse Community Center**

600 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY

***Facebook Livestreamed***

The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 5:30 P.M. with Mayor Gary Butterfield asking everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Personnel Present:** Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, and Fire Chief Richard Allen.

**Personnel Absent:** Trustee LouAnn St. Germain (Excused), Trustee Chris Strong (Excused), Codes Enf. Officer Nicholas Rohm (Excused), Parks Director Tony Burkinshaw (Excused), Police Chief Chance Fieldson (Excused), Village Engineer Amy Franco (Excused) and Village Attorney Robert Germain (Excused).

### **APPROVAL OF REG. BD. MTG. -FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is Approval of Reg. Bd. Mtg.-February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, that is postponed; because of vacations, we are short staffed.

### **RESOLUTION #028-24**

### **GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve General Fund Abstract #20 in the amount of \$84,335.40 covering voucher #1311 thru #1397. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, Gustafson, and Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **RESOLUTION # 029-24**

### **APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF (2) NORTH SYR. VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS: K. SANDERSON/J. KLAISLE**

Trustee Bolton made a motion to Approve the Appointment of K. Sanderson and J. Klaisle as new members to North Syr. Vol. Fire Dept. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, Gustafson, and Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

### **RESOLUTION #: 030-24**

### **CALLING FOR AN INCREASE IN AIM FUNDING**

The Mayor stated this is for information, NYCOM requested yesterday that we review/process and approve the following in order to get an increase in AIM (Aid and Incentives for Municipalities) Funding:



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**Whereas**, the Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) program plays a critical role in funding essential municipal services for cities and villages across New York State; and

**Whereas**, city and village officials share the same priorities as our state leaders which is to make New York safer and more affordable; and

**Whereas**, New York's local governments, who are on the frontlines of controlling property tax affordability and ensuring public safety, are integral to achieving those goals; and

**Whereas**, the State has not increased AIM funding in 15 years and according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, inflation has increased by nearly 45% during that same period; and

**Whereas**, this neglect from the State has led to rising municipal tax burdens and harmful disinvestment in essential municipal services and staff; and

**Whereas**, the property tax cap further limits the ability of local governments to properly fund the services their residents need; and

**Whereas**, the challenges of rising inflation, the increasing costs of labor and supplies, and the end of extraordinary federal aid, only accentuate the need for an increase in AIM funding; and

**Whereas**, the Governor's 2024-25 Executive Budget proposes to keep AIM funding flat; and

**Whereas**, an increase in AIM funding would reduce the local tax burden and help revitalize communities across New York;

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the **Village of North Syracuse** urges Governor Hochul to work with the leaders of the Senate and Assembly and increase AIM funding in the 2024-25 adopted State Budget.

Mayor Butterfield – Aye  
Trustee Bolton – Aye  
Deputy Mayor Gustafson – Aye  
Trustee Strong – Excused  
Trustee St. Germain - Excused

A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Senator Mannion, Assemblymember Stirpe and the



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New York State Conference of Mayors.

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

**Pat Fergerson of 215 S. Main St.** stated you need to have these dates on the calendar:  
3/24 Bunny Breakfast at Applebee's-tickets are presale for Bunny Breakfast, cutoff date 3/17  
4/26 Arbor Day  
5/25 Festival-everyone is working on that

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

**ATTORNEY REPORT:** (Robert Germain): No Report. Excused.

**ENGINEER REPORT:** (Amy Franco): No Report. Excused.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Police Department:** (Police Chief Chance Fieldson): No Report. Excused.

**Fire Department:** (Fire Chief Richard Allen): He stated the following:

- 115 Chestnut St.: Progress being made on expansion, more to come soon

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

- Going smooth; doing bldg., equipment, and street maintenance

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

**Codes Department:** (Codes Enforcement Officer: Nicholas Rohm): No Report. Excused.

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

- Put out 1<sup>st</sup> Model of Budget, a bit more than anticipated, at least 1 more Model or 2; more to follow on that

**DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:**

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



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**Trustee Strong:** No Report. Excused.

**Trustee Bolton:** No Report.

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

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

The Mayor stated he attend Mayor's Mtg. last night, it was an open mtg. with good discussion, on problems that all Vlg. face.; progress made, and made sense with more to come. He continued we discussed grants; we have quite a few, and did a list of the grants we have rec'd for the last few yrs., surprising how much money we have brought in. He explained the Fire Dept., Police Dept. have gotten some grants on their own and the Vlg. has gotten several grants as well. He stated we want to continue to go for grants, but sometimes there are too many that come our way, it is hard to sort them out as it takes a lot of work to put the grants together. He continued an example is AARP: For about 5 yrs., we tried, and were turned down every yr., so he does not think we are going to continue to try to get grants from AARP.

Trustee Bolton made a motion to adjourn at 5:38 P.M. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, Gustafson, and Butterfield, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel  
Village Clerk-Treasurer



