



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

January 22, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

700 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY

Facebook Livestreamed

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

Roll Call: Mayor Butterfield, Trustee L. St. Germain, Trustee F. Wilmer, Trustee D. Robinson, Trustee J. Bolton

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer N. Zarzecki, Deputy Fire Chief J. Asztalos, Police Chief C. Fieldson, Parks Director D. Radell, DPW Supt. E. Ware, Engineer A. Franco. Excused: Codes Director L. Nestell, Village Attorney Robert Germain.

RESOLUTION # 018-26

APPROVAL OF REG. BD. MTG. MINUTES – 01/08/2026

Trustee Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2026 Board Meeting. Trustee Bolton seconded with comment that in previous minutes under R-007-26 when Deputy Chief Asztalos was speaking, he made reference to Senator Ryan's representative was sitting in the crowd; however, he does not remember that. (Clerk-Treasurer states this was a mistake; Deputy Chief Asztalos was referring to Fire Association Board Member, Ken Ryan. The minutes will be corrected). The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 019-26

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve General Fund Abstract #17 in the amount of \$70,419.99, covering voucher #1065 thru #1130. Included in the abstract is a payment of \$22,400.00 for a new "Livescan" police software system for fingerprinting, mugshots, etc. Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 020-26

BUDGET TRANSFER

Trustee Wilmer made a motion for a budget transfer from A7020.11 (Director Salary) to A7181.25 (Dehumidifier/Basement) in the amount of \$1,753.00 to cover the cost of new cameras in the downstairs room at the Community Center. Motion was seconded by Trustee Robinson. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 021-26

BUDGET TRANSFER

Trustee St. Germain made a motion for a budget transfer from A7020.11 (Director Salary) to A7550.20 (Pole Decoration) in the amount of \$2,865.00 to cover the cost of new "Happy Holidays" decoration place at Applebee's. Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.



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OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 022-26

**REVISIT TABLED AMENDMENT OF NORTH SYRACUSE VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION 803 NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION LAW**

Trustee Robinson made a motion to approve a previously tabled amendment to change the status of the fire association to a fire company. The board had questions. Fire Association board has approved the change; Board of Trustees approval is needed to move onto the next step with the State Attorney General's Office. Mayor indicated that he reached out to the president of the association but has not heard back. Mayor also reached out to counsel who advised that the amendment seems okay. Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. Trustee Wilmer stated that he did not know anything about this topic as he was not at last meeting; former Chief Strong is present as representative of the Fire Association to answer Mayor's questions: First about requesting a "clean copy" of the existing by-laws – there are many edits, items "scratched out", a call for dissolution, changes to scope of what the association can do, etc. on the copy he received. Previous Fireman's Association has bought stuff, spent money, installed things in the Fire Department; he does not see that with the change in intent, that that is allowed. Strong stated that Board President, Alan Lamica, who could not make it, did speak to counsel and sent email that the Village Board may not have seen before meeting. He clarified that since the formation in 1949, there have been many amendment and law changes that may not have been caught/changes had not been made. There may have been more than one company; changes needed to be updated.

Mayor asked about number of directors; there were five signatures as "Director", but document talks about having three. How many do they have, how many do they want, is there a cap? Strong advised that currently there is an Executive Board – President, Vice President, Secretary, etc. There is also a five-person Board of Directors and they nominate & appoint a chairperson for that. Counsel told them that they are in good standing to move forward with this document and continue to work with the village. Mayor confirmed that village attorney also confirmed that he was okay with it.

Mayor questioned wording of "charitable spending only" since the Fireman's Association has contributed to the Fire Department in items that have become real property. Language in document does not state that is allowed. Installation of lockers and upcoming kitchen renovation were mentioned, as was ability to spend money (as opposed to "offer help"). Mayor's concern is that using specific terms could limit documents capabilities.

The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 23-26

REVISIT DISCUSSION ON REPLACEMENT OF TRUCK 1 FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve purchase of replacement Truck 1 for the Village of North Syracuse Fire Department. Initial presentation was made at the October 23, 2025 Board Meeting. Subject was tabled to allow Trustees time to review specifications and financial aspects of approving the vehicle. Mayor stated that he is not ready since the



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village has many upcoming obligations; furthermore, even if this is approved, it will be two to three years before the Fire Department sees the truck. Mayor continued that his additional concerns include:

- only receiving one quote when normally, for a purchase of this size, the village obtains three
 - Deputy Chief Asztalos explained that because this apparatus is being sourced through Sourcewell, both major ladder manufacturers – Premier and Pierce – were considered. The Pierce model was more expensive and did not meet Fire Department needs as well as the Premier model. There is no third manufacturer to consider that meets required specs.
- the village has the Sidewalk Project coming up, as well as the renovation/new build for the Fire Department which was already approved for up to \$5 million. Current truck arrived in service in 2007 and is coming up on its 20-year recommended replacement date in 2027. Mayor would prefer to hold off on this purchase until further along on other expenditures.
 - Deputy Chief Asztalos addressed concerns by stating that the bond payment for Rescue 7 matures as of next year and with normal increases of 5.5% that the Fire Department expects from the village, from the Town of Cicero, and the Town of Clay, they can absorb that payment without additional funding from the village. The Fire Department is very financially responsible and they are confident the cost can be absorbed. Additionally, the cost of the truck will continue to increase (has gone up \$80,000 since October). The new truck would not be delivered until current truck is 21 or 22 years old and it is already the truck that needs the most maintenance. If this purchase is put off for two or three years, the current truck will be 25 or 26 years old before it is replaced. He suspects it will not last that long. (Mayor notes that he believes there are two bond payments left on Rescue 7). Deputy Chief also anticipates that selling the existing truck will take care of at least the first year's bond payment and the village would not see a bond payment that they have to pay until three to five years from now. The last repair to this truck was \$8,700 and future repairs will be costly; not likely that this vehicle can be extended out to 23 or 24 years old.
- Trustee Bolton, as liaison to Fire Department, echoes what Deputy Chief Asztalos said regarding financial side. "We could foresee three years of no payments on Rescue 7 and that money could be allocated and put into a special reserve for the purchase of this truck. The other thing that we want to keep in mind is the public safety and our support to the other municipalities that rely on us to be at, sometimes the first truck in with a ladder, and we want to make sure that we're able to fulfill those expectations. So, with that being said, I make a motion to accept the bid dated December 23, 2025 from Premier Fire Apparatus Incorporated, authorizing the Mayor to sign the contract with Premier Fire Apparatus Incorporated and to adopt the bond resolution authorizing the acquisition of a new E-ONE ladder truck for the North Syracuse Fire Department at a base price of the proposed model of \$1,938,211.00 using E-ONE REV Group Sourcewell, contract number 082025-RVG, Village of North Syracuse, Sourcewell, member number 149910, and authorizing the issuance of serial bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$2 million to pay the cost thereof. And further directing the Village Clerk to publish the estoppel notice as provided by New York State Local Finance Law."
- Trustee Robinson questions if the Deputy Chief is saying that the expiring payments will expire before this new payment starts (Deputy Chief Asztalos confirms this is correct) and if the new payment is larger than the expiring one (Deputy Chief Asztalos states that the payments are a 12-year bond and the difference is around \$100,000;



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however, with the anticipated average increase of 5.5%, they can absorb that cost). Deputy Chief Asztalos advises that this new payment will run concurrently with the other bond payment that is not expiring, but it will not reflect in the budget beyond the 5.5% increase typically received. The Mayor clarifies that this 5.5% also includes the overall expenses of the Fire Department. Fire Department anticipates that the Town of Cicero and Town of Clay will also contribute, per usual. Mayor would prefer that counsel to look at the contract, and confirmation that Cicero and Clay will contribute. Trustee Robinson states that the \$100,000 will have to be offset from someplace and is concerned that other things may come up; the financial impact. Trustee Bolton clarified that Rescue 7s current bond payment is \$86,000 and the anticipated new bond payment (per Dianne) is \$212,000 – a difference of \$126,000 above and beyond what we presently pay for Rescue 7. The impact on each tax base for Cicero and Clay and the Village is \$42,000. The price has already increased a little over \$80,000 in less than a year. Trustee Bolton is confident, based on the relationship the Village has with Clay and Cicero, that we will be able to have this payment be made. He understands that the purchase falls on the village, but does not foresee that happening. The Mayor reminded the Board that the \$3- \$5 million Fire Station Addition will also be occurring at that same time. That means another \$307,000 payment for 30 years. We will have to go ask Clay and Cicero to contribute a third and a third; we are not giving them any more service- we are going to give them a new truck. Total is \$400,000 (\$126,000 plus \$307,000). That is just the Fire Department, not the overall increases to the Village and Fire Department budget. Nervous to overcommit as Sidewalk Project also coming up (another \$200,000 out of pocket). When go to get bonded, Clay and Cicero are not going with us, it is just us. Trustee St. Germain inputs that she feels the plan to pay is very well thought out and we won't have to pay for approximately three years. While that is happening, we are saving the money that we are no longer paying for original one. "When you are paying more to fix your vehicle than it would be to get a new one, then it is time." We have to have a truck to fulfill our obligations to Clay and Cicero; if it is down or needs repairs, we are not fulfilling what they are paying the Village for now. Trustee St. Germain thinks we need to make this purchase.

- Mayor states concern on voting without Village attorney looking at this.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 024-26
CO.

ON-CALL REPAIR CONTRACT FROM SYRACUSE SIGNAL

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve signing new contract for DPW's contract with Syracuse Signal Co. for services from 1/1/2026-12/31/2026. Monthly rate has increased from \$236.75/month to \$275.00/month, billed quarterly. Motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.



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RESOLUTION # 025-26

**NEW VFIS LOSAP INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY:
TRANSITION TO NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE**

Trustee Bolton made a motion to switch providers for their LOSAP from Hartford Life to National Life Group. Hartford Life offers a 3% fixed rate on funds and National is offering a 4.25% on the initial investment and a variable rate, based on the market, for future deposits. National will use a "last in first out" policy on paying claims, so the initial 4.25% investment will be the last funds withdrawn from the account. This request is time-sensitive because it is only valid until 1/31/2026. Since the Village is Plan Administrator, Board approval is required to make the switch. Trustee Robinson questions if there is any liability on the Village itself. Deputy Chief Asztalos clarified that this has only to do with their LOSAP plan; it is simply a better return on their investments. Motion was seconded by Trustee Robinson. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 026-26

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FOR NEW DPW DUMP TRUCK

Trustee Robinson made a motion to approve payment for DPW dump truck ordered in June 2023. DPW is set to accept delivery of the vehicle on Monday, January 26, 2026. The Village has been in communication with M & T Bank to finance truck for five years with first payment scheduled in March 2026. Forms and documents have been sent to M & T to establish an amortization schedule. Trustee Bolton asked Clerk-Treasure to clarify with M & T about their use of the term "lease" (vs. purchase) in their email. (Lease is spreading payments over 3/5 years to better fiscally absorb payments. Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION # 027-26

MOVE CITIZENS VOICE DURING BOARD MEETINGS

Trustee Robinson revisited the moving of Citizens Voice. Trustee Robinson made a motion to move Citizens Voice to occur prior to Old Business for a trial of four meetings. If it does not work, it will be "sunsetting". Same standards apply; citizens are limited to three minutes to speak. Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

CITIZENS VOICE:

CHRISTOPHER STRONG (202 Lynhurst Ave) Stated the following:

- Thank you for moving Citizens Voice to give them that opportunity.
- Attended Center State CEO Breakfast this morning at Civic Center. Kudos to Mayor, Board, Amy regarding hearing the optimism in the room about long-range opportunities and possibilities due to geography. Things to be done with single story buildings, strip malls, Post Office. Setting themselves up to potentially be part of that.



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- A lot of research was done regarding fire truck. Be cautious of a single-axel vehicle, turn radius based on vehicle owned by neighbors to East. (CANNOT HEAR WELL)

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

ENGINEERS REPORT: AMY FRANCO Stated the following:

- Touch base about if the Village still wanted to pursue a grant opportunity. End of year/beginning of next year. Same price looked at before for SWIMs Grant.
 - Mayor: We applied for it twice; this is a different opportunity. Village would need to come up with money (10%). Trustee St. Germain asked why we did not get this twice before. Franco explained that the way the application was submitted was not correct.
 - Due February 9th to resubmit. Village contribution is the same; everything is ready. Very competitive. Trustee Bolton states that he looks at it as spending \$30,000 to get \$100,000, the village is basically \$70,000 free. Have to come up with \$30,000 match, but would be missing an opportunity because Kennedy does need bathroom renovations, along with additional work. That park gets used a lot.

RESOLUTION # 027-26

PURSUE NEW YORK STATE MUNICIPAL PARKS & RECREATION GRANT DUE 2/9/26

Trustee Bolton made a motion to pursue New York State Municipal Parks & Recreation Grant. Motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same. Trustee Robinson voting against.

PARKS DEPARTMENT: D. RADELL Stated the following:

- Spent 1.5 hours working on audio for this meeting.
- Father-Daughter Dance on February 2nd is sold out.
- Still looking for additional participants for Carboard Sled Race on February 15th at 11am (Centerville Park).
- Cameras in this room will be installed Friday, January 24th. Will forward app info with DPW and Police Department.
- Email received today regarding elevator. Slated to begin demolition and installation on February 27th.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: J. ASZTELOS Stated the following:

- Believes Chief Mallaro will be entering the Cardboard Sled Race on behalf of the Fire Department with a team of four. ●
- Thank you to board for supporting the purchase of the ladder truck.
- Thank you to Nick for coming to the quarterly Caretakers Meeting at the Fire Department last night to go over the payroll system. Looking forward to putting paper timesheets behind them.
- Fire Department has been busy: responded to 64 calls so far in January (2-3/day); including mutual aid Cicero/S. Bay with the vehicle driving into the Circle K yesterday.

DPW: E. WARE Stated the following:



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- Been busy, as can be seen by snow piles.
- Cleaned out cul-de-sacs so emergency vehicles can get in.
- Expecting 2023 "new" dump truck.
- Guys and equipment are holding up good.

POLICE: C. FIELDSON Stated the following:

- No report.

CLERK-TREASURER: N. ZARZECKI Stated the following:

- Fire Department welcomed him to show them payroll system.
- Implementation of Paychex mostly went well; everybody got paid (accurately).
- Will confirm with M & T about dump truck payments.
- Will get with Mayor to have LOSAP paper signed and over to courier tomorrow.

CODES DEPARTMENT:

- N/A

ATTORNEY REPORT:

- N/A

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEES REPORTS:

TRUSTEE BOLTON Stated the following:

- Utmost importance to get that paperwork signed/sent for LOSAP.
- Shout-out to Highway Department- the way the winter has been coming, it is not easy. Roads look good, great job

TRUSTEE ROBINSON Stated the following:

- Voted for the firetruck, but still takes the position that the Village needs to be careful about what we are "putting on the card" because sooner or later, it comes due.

TRUSTEE St. GERMAIN Stated the following:

- Thank you to DPW for clearing cul-de-sacs.

TRUSTEE WILMER Stated the following:

- DG Store on Main Street has been approved.

MAYOR'S REPORT



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Mayor Butterfield Stated the following:

- TAP Grant – Sidewalks – DOT is said to be holding that up, waiting for their final approval. Village needs to come up with \$266,531 when that happens.
- Comprehensive Plan draft received, a meeting was held and plan was tweaked/feedback was provided. If revisions are good, the Village will approve it. #2 goal was Economic Development – lots of good ideas to repurpose land.
- The Trustee seat occupied by David Robinson will be up for election in June. Notices were sent to Board of Elections and local newspapers.

Trustee Wilmer made the motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:26pm to discuss a personnel issue. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved; Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

Trustee Bolton made the motion to end Executive Session, and move to Regular Board Meeting at 7:50 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Robinson. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same. In attendance for Executive Session was Mayor, Butterfield, Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton. Police Chief Fieldson was in attendance for approximately 15 minutes of the Executive Session.

Trustee Bolton made the motion to adjourn at 7:50 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Robinson. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Robinson and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nick Zarzecki
Village Clerk-Treasurer