



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

February 12, 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, Deputy Mayor D. Robinson, Trustee J. Bolton. Excused: Trustee L. St. Germain and Trustee F. Wilmer.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer N. Zarzecki, Deputy Fire Chief J. Asztalos, Police Chief C. Fieldson, Parks Director D. Radell, DPW Sup't. E. Ware, Engineer A. Franco. Excused: Codes Director L. Nestell, Village Attorney Robert Germain.

RESOLUTION # 028-26

APPROVAL OF REG. BD. MTG. MINUTES- 1/23/2026

Deputy Mayor Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2026 Board Meeting. Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton both voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 29-26

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve General Fund Abstract #18 in the amount of \$128,695.84, covering voucher #1131 through #1195. Included in the abstract is a payment of \$17,608.75 for 300 tons of road salt. Motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Robinson. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton both voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 30-26

BUDGET TRANSFER

Deputy Mayor Robinson made a motion for a budget transfer from A7020.13 (Recreation Supervision Salary) to A7181.23 (South Bay Windows) in the amount of \$2,200 to cover the cost of replacing three windows at the Community Center. Trustee Bolton asks Clerk-Treasurer if the Board was provided with these Budget Transfers (Clerk-Treasurer advised they may not have been). Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton both voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 31-26

BUDGET TRANSFER

Trustee Bolton made a motion for a budget transfer from A2680 (Insurance Recoveries) to A5182.22 (Metered/ Unmetered LED Lights) in the amount of \$7,776.39 to cover the cost of replacing the light post on Main St. Motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Robinson. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton both voting in favor of the same.



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CITIZENS VOICE: (This is the first of four meetings in a trial period to move the Citizens Voice ahead of business being discussed.)

Lisa Lioto (356 Chestnut St) Stated the following:

- Has there been any discussion about creating Codes related to residential solar panels?
 - Mayor advised that there has been talk around them because Meals on Wheels is putting in a solar farm. As far as residential conversations – Larry is excused from this meeting- but there has been talk about this.
 - There are more and more houses with them; she has an adjacent neighbor in the back and she believes there should be follow-up and Codes related to them.
- Regarding plowing the fire hydrants – Mary is not present and she coordinated the last efforts – but could DPW help, or Parks & Recreation could coordinate an “Adopt a Hydrant” with families, community members, groups that rent the Community Center (maybe a stipend towards what they pay)? It would also be a way to build community.
- She had a hard time getting on the last Board Meeting via Facebook. Has there been any consideration for streaming the meetings on YouTube? Town of Cicero does and she can get on every time to listen to their meetings without issues with sound or community members asking questions.
- She asked about the status of the Codes software being transferred – Is it done? Has the bill been paid in full, and where was the money taken from – General Fund?
 - Mayor advised that he is aware it was underway but without Larry present, does not have an update. He believes there was a previously discussed budget transfer for the payment but cannot recall for sure off the top of his head.
 - Citizen stated she would come back to this next meeting.

Ben Haywood (100 Park Lane) Stated the following:

- Requesting to know the DPW procedure regarding snowplows, when pushing back banks. Do they pick up the plow before driveways or push into driveways?
 - DPW Sup’t Ware advised that while “shelving” the banks back to make room for more snow, they do try to avoid pushing it into driveways (lifting wing before driveway and dropping it after), but sometimes this is not entirely possible.
 - It was clarified that as the citizen does live close to a corner, that may be part of the issue he is having. Mayor advised citizen that he may also call DPW and leave a message to let them know.



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Ken Ryan (211 Herman Drive) Stated the following:

- Questions why pool went from being abandoned to “they are going to try to fix it” with no filters, fencing, hygiene. How did it go from State Code saying it had to be filled in to not doing? Requested that since Larry is not present and he will not talk to citizen, maybe the Mayor could find out.
 - Mayor stated that his understanding was that this matter went to a judge and that was the judge’s decision.
 - Citizen stated that he was present at the hearing and the judge asked what the village wanted, to which Larry said the village was okay with allowing it to be put back in operation. Larry decided, not the judge.

Pat Ferguson (215 South Main St) Stated the following:

- Thank you to Police Department and Fire Department; they were indispensable the other night. The situation was not pretty; however, they were effective, nice, kind, and they would not have survived without them.
- Also thank you to the police officers that were able to attend the funeral for one of the village’s really early officers – Number Seven, Ted Orzell. It was nice that they were able to come show respect for an officer that was active and well-remembered in the ‘60s and ‘70s.

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 32-26

REVIEW PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR NEW DUMP TRUCK

Trustee Bolton made the motion to approve \$18,924.10 to be paid in interest on the delivery of the new DPW dump truck. Conversation between Mayor and Trustee Bolton included confirming that the board originally approved \$181,369 for the truck (years back), but now the Village has obtained financing from M & T Bank to “Lease to Own” (per clarification from bank) in the amount of \$200,293. The amortization schedule is five annual payments of \$40,058.62 due March 1st through 2030. The vehicle is inspected and insured, and documents to register the vehicle were received on 2/12/26. Trustee Bolton questions whether the additional interest amount needs to be approved, as technically it has not been. Motioned was seconded by Deputy Mayor Robinson. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton both voting in favor of the same.



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NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 33-26

RENEW PARTICIPATION IN CNY STORMWATER COALITION
STAFF & SERVICES EDUCATION COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE

Deputy Mayor Robinson made a motion to approve signing the renewal of the Central New York Stormwater Coalition Staff Services and Education Compliance Assistance. The Village has participated in this program for many years; fees are used for direct municipal assistance, public education and outreach, grant funding and administration, and staff and support. The fee is \$3,600 and has remained the same for quite a while. All municipalities in the county contribute the same amount. Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton both voting in favor of the same.

REVIEW SALES TAX INFRASTRUCTURE 2025

The Village must send proof that enough money was spent, according to the 2025 financials on trash, tipping & hauling, street lighting, etc., as well as a projected forecast for 2026 that will support the upcoming funds the Village anticipates receiving. Village used to receive \$1.2 million; has recently been approximately \$750,000 when country stopped disbursing a share of sales taxes to towns and villages.

RESOLUTION # 34-26

DESIGNATE NORTH SYRACUSE COMMUNITY CENTER
AS A POLLING PLACE FOR UPCOMING VILLAGE ELECTION

Deputy Mayor Bolton made a motion to designate the North Syracuse Community Center (700 South Bay Road) as a polling place for the upcoming village election. Motion was seconded by Trustee Robinson. Trustee Bolton asked if the date of the election was known and suggested that the Parks and Recreation Director confirm that the Community Center has not already been booked for that date to avoid running into issues as he stated have occurred in the past. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton both voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 35-26

ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF P/T FD CARETAKER DAVID BROOKS

Deputy Mayor Robinson made a motion to accept the resignation of Part-time Fire Department Caretaker David Brooks effective 1/24/2026. The Fire Chiefs were given the resignation on 1/24/26 and in it, he thanked the Fire Department for the opportunity to assist in the protection of the Village. Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton both voting in favor of the same.



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RESOLUTION # 36-26

DISCUSS/APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF MARK
J. PETTERELLI AS P/T ADMIN. ASST. IN PD

Trustee Bolton made a motion, with discussion, to discuss and approve the appointment of Mark J. Petterelli as a part-time Administrative Assistant in the Police Department. Mark is retired from law enforcement, has some specialized skill in law enforcement, and he wants to stay engaged, so he will be a real benefit to the Village. His wage will be set at \$32 an hour with an effective hire date of 2/13/26. The motion was seconded by Trustee Robinson. Trustee Bolton's discussion asked Police Chief Fieldson to confirm that this would be able to be absorbed into the Police Department budget. Chief Fieldson confirmed that it would be this budget cycle, FY 25-26 but that may change for FY 26-27. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton both voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS/APPROVE NEW LABOR AGREEMENT FOR POLICE CHIEF FIELDSON

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Robinson to discuss/approve a new Labor Agreement for Police Chief Chance Fieldson. Contract will be retroactive to September 1, 2024, runs through September 1st, 2028, and the Trustees were all provided with a copy of that contract. Trustee Bolton seconded the motion. Deputy Mayor Robinson and Mayor Butterfield both voting in favor of the same, Trustee Bolton abstaining.

Trustee Bolton abstained from voting because he has been informed that any type of contract negotiations are approved by the Mayor and do not need to be approved by the Board. He does not understand why they're being asked to approve a negotiated contract that they don't need to approve. Mayor stated that Board support would be nice. Trustee Bolton continued by saying that he fully supports Chief Fieldson; he has done an admirable job, an outstanding job, and it is great that the Village will be retaining him. He still abstains from voting on the position that according to New York State Municipal Law, the Board does not need to approve. Similar to other contracts that are negotiated by the Chief Negotiation Officer that we don't need to approve. Trustee Bolton withdrew his second, Deputy Mayor Robinson withdrew his motion. Deputy Mayor Robinson made a motion to withdraw the motion. Trustee Bolton seconded the motion to withdraw the motion.

Trustee Bolton stated that the Mayor had previously educated him back when the Mayor approved the police contract and the Board did not agree. Conversation was had telling the Board that they do not have to approve any type of negotiations for a contract because the Mayor is the Chief Negotiating Officer; any contract that comes up can just be approved by the Mayor. The Mayor was not sure that was an accurate statement made by Trustee Bolton, and Trustee Bolton stated they must go back and revisit the police contract because that was never approved by the Board. The Mayor confirmed that despite two differences



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in opinion, the contract was approved and most motions are approved by the Board. Trustee Bolton stated that if the contract needs approving, he has no issue approving it – this is nothing against the Chief, it is a comment about the procedure of approving a negotiated contract.

[Mayor took a short pause to review the New York State Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials “Handbook for Elected Village Officials”] Mayor stated that he will have to look into this matter further as he does not have the applicable village law immediately available (4-400) and he will find out.

The motion was withdrawn.

RESOLUTION # 37-26

DISCUSS/APPROVE SENDING POLICE VEHICLE 100 TO AUCTION

A motion was made by Trustee Bolton to approve sending Police Vehicle 100 (2019 Ford Explorer) to auction. The vehicle has critical engine issues and is no longer in use; sending it to auction will recoup some value. Motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Robinson. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton both voting in favor of the same.

ATTORNEY REPORT: N/A - Excused

ENGINEER REPORT (A. Franco) Stated the following:

- Grant application to redo Kennedy Park bathrooms was submitted on Monday. Should get determination at end of summer/fall.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Parks & Recreation (D. Radell) Stated the following:

- Cardboard Sled event is Sunday. Still taking registrations.
- Windows have been ordered (1 broken and 2 adjacent) and are scheduled to be installed 3/16.
- Finishing RFP for HVAC unit so it can be sent to potential bidders.
- Early voting is June 16th for village elections; may also be the date of village elections. There will be voting equipment in the Community Center that date.
- Elevator work is scheduled for the last week of February. Deconstruction and construction set to begin 2/27.



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Fire Department (Deputy Chief J. Asztalos) Stated the following:

- Regrading fire hydrants – they have received many calls. While DPW does a fantastic job (have been going out with backhoe to help FD), residents are encouraged to adopt a hydrant. The FD nor DPW does not have a specific vehicle or responsibility to maintain the hydrants and while they certainly try, it would be impossible for them to maintain all 500+ hydrants. The FD is volunteers. Please work with neighbors to try to keep those clear so the FD can access them in an emergency.
- Mayor had a follow-up asking if wooden stakes he saw on Maple Manor could be marking a hydrant? Deputy Chief Asztalos advised that the FD does not use stakes for marking hydrants (tend to get in the way of operation) but a plow company may have staked something so they don't hit it.

DPW (Sup't E. Ware) Stated the following:

- DPW has been very busy; guys are tired with all of the overtime they are getting.
- Starting to have equipment issues – trying to stay on top of everything with their own repairs and maintenance as well as that of the police and fire departments.
- Doing a good job; using a lot of overtime and a lot of salt.

Police Department (Chief C. Fieldson) Stated the following:

- Stats for January:
 - 608 total events
 - 229 property checks
 - 17 domestic incidents investigated
 - 28 motor vehicle crashes
 - 78 traffic stops
 - 30 traffic tickets
 - 10 criminal arrests
 - 7 larcenies investigated
- DPW was phenomenal during water main break on North Main St. – showed up quickly with barricades/cones/detour signs. Thank you to Ed. Fire Chief checked it out also.
- On 2/11, Police Department assisted at Luther Memorial Church's "Lunch with Luther" monthly event for the community.
 - Last month they had a meteorologist. This month, Chief spoke about various issues including scams. Thanked the church for inviting them.



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- Thank you again to Senator Ryan for helping with a \$55,000 taser Grant for Less Lethal Weapons.
 - Will begin rolling them out and conducting department-wide training. Chief reflects on the expense of these and the grant that made it possible.
- Sent condolences to Ted Orzel's family. He was 99 years old this week; this was the funeral service that the department attended. Local residents do still mention him, he is known amongst the community.

Clerk-Treasurer (N. Zarzecki) Stated the following:

- Had a meeting on 2/11 with an SU student, Gianna Gugliano. She will be starting as an intern; 1 (7 hours) day per week through March.
- Budgets were provided to Department Heads. Budget time is coming soon.

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEES REPORTS:

Trustee Bolton Stated the following:

- If you can get to the Carboard Sled Race, do. He has some highly confidential pictures of sleds being manufactured and it looks like a fun time.
- He has posted many times on his Facebook page to please shovel hydrants, shown pictures and diagrams of expected size, etc. He took a ride around the village this weekend and found a couple that needed work (many on major routes or at businesses).
 - He has begun research for the future on what a municipality can do regarding clearing hydrants. While he is not in favor of this option, he encourages anyone who is interested to Google Plug Hug.
 - While nothing will be presented this late in the season, he will continue to do research because he believes the village has to come up with a way to keep the hydrants clear in the event of a fire.

Deputy Mayor Robinson Stated the following:

- Intentions were to commend DPW for doing a heck of a job moving snow, be positive. Still accurate; however, he visited the DPW garage today and saw three pieces of equipment "belly-up". Two sidewalk machines are not operational. Will need to do something to get a temporary fix for the sidewalks.
 - DPW Sup't E. Ware stated that he has been looking into possibly borrowing neighboring municipalities' equipment for a couple of days while a village piece is repaired.



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- Stated that at the last meeting, he voted in favor of buying the new fire truck without the benefit of the village attorney's letter. That came a couple of days later and raised concerns that he would like to ask Deputy Fire Chief Asztalos about and report back on.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Butterfield Stated the following:

- Also went to DPW today. Believes their Bombardier (yellow thing on tracks that runs around sidewalks) will need to be retired. It is 28 years old, was bought at auction and it has served us well; however, the electrical system is shot and it has been reworked many times, may start a fire at this point. Can send to auction and get some monies for it. Doing research on another machine, also looking at one-month rental. Also have a need for another piece of equipment, but as always, budget concerns.
 - Shout-out to Joel – said it has been hard two weeks with two things broke on plow trucks (all put back together), loader (radiator blew, but was able to find replacement part, will be fixed), Bombardier, Tool Cat, plus a police vehicle on the lift (needed new radiator). Joel was in good spirits, but beside himself with the issues.
 - DPW needs a new piece of equipment and police have need for at least one more police car (if not two more). Again, budget concerns, but trying to get some money.
 - DPW was able to get out and clean up Village Center, a lot of big snowbanks are gone.
- Signing letters to be sent to over 200 businesses in the Village for flowers. Money goes to Friends of the Village because a municipality cannot solicit funds.
- Don is working on completing second radon test (first results were inconclusive) in order to get the monies released for elevator that is currently sitting on a slab, waiting to go in.
- Surveyors will be putting pins in at the west lot/side of 115 Chestnut St; requested a rush on it.

Deputy Mayor Robinson made the motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:22pm to discuss a personnel issue. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved; Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton voting in favor of the same. In attendance for Executive Session were Mayor Butterfield, Deputy Mayor Robinson, Trustee Bolton, and Police Chief Fieldson.

Deputy Mayor Robinson made the motion to end Executive Session and move to Regular Board Meeting at 7:11pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: The motion was approved; Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton voting in favor of the same.



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Trustee Bolton made the motion to adjourn at 7:13pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Robinson. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson and Trustee Bolton voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nick Zarzecki
Village Clerk-Treasurer