



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

March 26, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

700 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY

YouTube Livestreamed

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

Roll Call: Deputy Mayor Robinson, Trustee J. Bolton, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee L. St. Germain. Mayor G. Butterfield resigned.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk-Treasurer N. Zarzecki, Deputy Fire Chief J. Asztalos, Police Chief C. Fieldson, Parks Director D. Radell, DPW Asst. Superintendent G. Stevens, Engineer A. Franco. Excused: Village Attorney R. Germain, Codes Director L. Nestell.

Public Hearing #1 held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of North Syracuse on the 26th day of March 2025 at 5:28 PM regarding community input for application of and update to the Village's 5-year plan. Amy Franco (CHA) was present to explain that this is to get public input for smaller (approximately \$50,000) community development projects (last year was sidewalks, before that was Heritage Park pickleball courts). This time it is for playground equipment in Lonergan Park. No comments from attendees. Public Hearing was closed.

Public Hearing #2 held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of North Syracuse on the 26th day of March 2025 at 5:29 PM regarding Local Law #1 of 2026: passing a tax-levy exceeding the 2% tax limit for FY 26/27. This is done each year; specifics on tax limit raises will be more accurate at the April 9th Budget Hearing. Tentative budget will be posted on the Village website for resident review prior to that April 9th meeting.

- Resident Lisa Liotto (256 Chestnut St) commented that while she is aware the levy will likely be raised much more than 2%, she encourages the Board to do research, look at all information, and use common sense moving forward.
- Deputy Mayor Robinson clarified that intent is for the Board to maintain the current level of services the Village has now and identify things that "would be nice to do". Public is invited to work sessions.
- Resident Carol Murphy (Slindes Woods) commented that this is a small village, and the taxes are really outrageous. Requested that the Board consider that many cannot afford taxes to go up.

Public Hearing was closed.

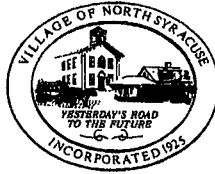
RESOLUTION # 59-26

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF MAYOR G. BUTTERFIELD

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to accept the resignation of Mayor Gary Butterfield effective 3/13/2026. Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. Gary Butterfield has served the Village for over 20 years. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

MOTION TO APPOINT NEW MAYOR

Trustee St. Germain made a motion, with discussion, to vote to replace Deputy Mayor Robinson as acting mayor after Mayor Butterfield's resignation. Motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. Trustee St. Germain explained her reasoning for voting for David Robinson as interim Mayor of the Village of North Syracuse; both Trustee Bolton and Deputy Mayor Robinson have passion and knowledge. After much consideration, she decided that "time" was the deciding factor, with Trustee Deputy Mayor Robinson having lived and served more in the Village - served more time on committees, heading



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
March 26, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

different boards. Trustee St. Germain made a motion to elect Deputy Mayor Robinson as interim mayor. Trustee Bolton stated that he has been a trustee for three years and would like to be considered to be the mayor of the Village of North Syracuse until the election in June. Trustee Wilmer seconded the motion to elect Deputy Mayor Robinson. Trustee St. Germain and Deputy Mayor Robinson voted in favor of; Trustee Wilmer and Trustee Bolton voted against.

Trustee Bolton made a motion to be considered for the mayor of the Village of North Syracuse. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. Trustee Wilmer and Trustee Bolton voted in favor of; Trustee St. Germain and Deputy Mayor Robinson voted against.

Village law states that the Deputy Mayor shall remain in the position until the decision is resolved because electing a new interim mayor requires 3 of the 4 Board members to agree. If no decision can be made amongst the Board, the decision will be made at the June special election. This position will also require an election to occur in June 2027 (the commencement of Mayor Butterfield's original term).

SWEARING IN POLICE OFFICERS J. DAVIS & C. BRAGMAN

Chief Fieldson held a Swearing-In of new recruit Police Officers Justin Davis & Cameron Bragman. The recruit officers will begin their police training on Monday, March 30th at the Oswego County Police Academy. This marks the beginning of a challenging, demanding, and deeply rewarding career that requires integrity, sacrifice, discipline, and a commitment to service. Clerk-Treasurer N. Zarzecki performed the reading of the Oath. Chief Fieldson offered advice that the academy will be physically, mentally, and emotionally demanding and will shape the individuals that will return to the Village. The department looks forward to their return to make a positive difference in the Village. His hope is for them to come back and help the North Syracuse Police Department fulfil their mission. He offered his support and welcomed them to the Department.

RESOLUTION # 60-26

APPROVAL OF REG. BD. MTG. MINUTES– 3/12/2026

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2026 Board Meeting. Motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

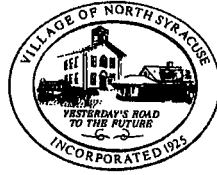
RESOLUTION # 61-26

ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve General Fund Abstract #21 in the amount of \$150,555.23, covering voucher #1282 through #1331. Included in the abstract is a payment of \$36,035.81 to CHA for fees related to the Sidewalk project which is part of the TAP Grant. Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

BUDGET TRANSFER(s)

It was decided to defer approving any budget transfer(s) until the next meeting as information was not readily available to Deputy Mayor Robinson. Deferment will not negatively impact licensing for Heritage Park.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
March 26, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

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

LISA LIOTO (256 CHESTNUT ST) Stated the following:

- Questioned why Citizens Voice was not at the beginning of the meeting, before resolutions regarding Mayor.
- Thank you to DPW and Police Department; there was a one-vehicle car accident in her yard today (4:45pm) and they quickly responded.

CHRISTOPHER STRONG (202 LYNNHURST) Stated the following:

- Questioned who current Village legal counsel is (Mr. Germain) and why he is not present at such an unprecedented meeting. (Deputy Mayor Robinson confirmed that he has had Mr. Germain's input)
- Moving Citizens Voice to earlier for transparency purposes was a good move. During his six-year tenure as a Village Trustee, he knows of two opportunities where he brought up motions during Trustee Report. During last meeting, three resolutions were made during the Trustee Report. One was to the tune of costing the Village potentially \$40,000 in audits, even though the CPA that did the initial audit is bonded and would be required to report any issues and notify Comptroller. Some trustees and the citizens did not know about these resolutions before the meeting and now potentially \$40,000 has been committed without any input. Suggests that motions and resolutions should not be done that way.
- Additionally, in that same meeting, in the Mayor Report, the DPW was denied their motion even though there were three quotes provided. These actions are along the lines of being hypocritical.

KEN RYAN (211 HERMAN DRIVE) Stated the following:

- It has been mentioned multiple times to have Citizens Voice at beginning and end of meeting for input where it is appropriate.

BENJAMIN HAYWOOD (100 Park Lane) Stated the following:

- Regarding the accident at Chestnut and Park Lane that Lisa mentioned, it was nice to have the police response because it made people stop. In the past six months, there was another accident there. Is it possible to make changes to remedy this? (This should be looked at by the Public Safety Committee).

OLD BUSINESS

FIRE TRUCK 1 ESTOPPEL NOTICE

Review of Estoppel Notice for Proposed Fire Truck #1 – Expiration of Estoppel 4/12/26 and establish Bonding Term Length (7/10/12 – years financing). The Clerk- Treasurer's Office published notice of this and the public has until April 12th to come forward to raise issue with that bonding.

RESOLUTION # 62-26

DISCUSS/APPROVE TOWN OF CICERO FIRE SERVICE CONTRACT

Trustee Bolton made a motion to have Deputy Mayor Robinson sign the Town of Cicero Fire Service Contract. Motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
March 26, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

RESOLUTION # 63-26

DISCUSS/APPROVE DPW REPLACEMENT GENERATOR QUOTES

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve DPW generator replacement quote. Motion was seconded, with discussion, by Trustee Bolton. Trustee Wilmer worked with DPW to recommend the correct piece of equipment, as this is an area of his expertise. The generator chosen is different from the original one that was originally requested at the last meeting; it better meets the needs as it has better warranty and service options. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION # 64-26

ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF C. JOHNSTONE (DPW)

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to accept the resignation of DPW employee Christian Johnstone effective 3/25/2026. Motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

INFORMATIONAL

OPEN DPW POSITIONS

Promotion of Mr. Stevens to Deputy Superintendent of DPW and resignation of C. Johnstone, they lost two employees. Open CDL Maintenance and Laborer 1 openings with DPW; please refer anyone interested to DPW.

INFORMATIONAL

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 2026/2027 BUDGET

Discuss Schedule of Public Hearings related to 2026/2027 Budget: this schedule has shifted and will shift as some Department Heads are not available at originally scheduled times. These meetings begin 2/27 (2pm with DPW, 3pm for Parks - Don will not be available, 4pm for Clerk-Admin Bundle) and two more on the 30th (Codes at 2pm, Police at 4:30pm, and Fire after. Tentative times), and a summary meeting on April 4th. The public is welcome to sit in at these. Trustee Bolton expressed concern with not having set times for these meetings so that the public can possibly attend.

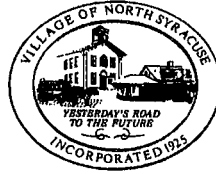
RESOLUTION # 65-26

**DISCUSS/APPROVE HOLDING TWO CITIZENS VOICE
SESSIONS AT BOARD MEETINGS**

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to hold Citizens Voice twice at Board Meetings; beginning and end, for a trial period of four weeks. Motion was seconded, with discussion, by Trustee Bolton. Trustee Bolton clarified the timing as follows: Citizens Voice will take place after Roll Call, unless there are any Public Hearings, and then again after New Business, before Department or Attorney Reports. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

ENGINEER: AMY FRANCO Stated the following:



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
March 26, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

- Needs a resolution to submit application for Lonergan Park; \$50,000 grant with a 25% (\$12,500) Village match (typically) for playground equipment. Have to apply, but has been received every time. Match can be material, labor, etc. Does not have to be monies specifically.
 - Trustee Wilmer added that the playground equipment that is there now is in need of repair. It has been repaired twice before, should not really have been repaired.

RESOLUTION # 66-26

**DISCUSS/APPROVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 2026 GRANT APPLICATION
LONERGAN PARK PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT**

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to have application submitted for a \$50,000 grant with a 25% (\$12,500) Village match (typically) for playground equipment at Lonergan Park. Trustee Bolton seconded the motion, with discussion. Trustee Bolton stated that we should not be considering taking playground equipment out of our parks; it is worth it to spend \$12,500 to get \$50,000. The motion was approved: Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

PARKS DEPARTMENT: DON RADELL Stated the following:

- Bunny Breakfast is coming up on Saturday, 9-11am, at Just-One-Bite.
- Have been interviewing for Summer Camp Positions.
- Have had a couple of responses to canvas letters for open Rec Supervisor position. Will set up interviews when he returns on Monday.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF J. ASZTALOS Stated the following:

- North Syracuse Fire Department continues to grow its partnership with the 174th Attack Wing and the Syracuse Airport Fire Department Staff. Held a productive drill on Tuesday at the airport. NSFD is the first due aerial device to the airport. The airport FD has also come to NSFD and is willing to be a mutual aid partner and come to large scale incidents to assist. Happy to be fostering that partnership and looking forward to future events with them.

DPW: DEPUTY SUP'T. GILL STEVENS Stated the following:

- Started brush pickup on March 16th. Went well until the brush truck went down at the same time the loader went down. Thankful to Joel who got them both back running. Two to three days behind schedule.
- Bulk trash pick-up begins April 6th. Call DPW office on/before April 3rd at 3:30pm to get on list.
- Working at the firehouse with Ray's tree service and Joel to cut down a lot of the trees.
- Will be sending crews around starting Friday to work on lawn damage. Monday if too wet.

CLERK-TREASURER: READ BY DEPUTY MAYOR ROBINSON Stated the following:

- Continuing to receive flower donations; have received \$2,845 from local businesses to support the project.
- Public work sessions are coming up. Challenging time at the office; two staff are out on medical and vacation.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: CHIEF CHANCE FIELDSON Stated the following:

- Thank you to the Board for space to do the swearing-in. It is a meaningful time to officers and their families.

ATTORNEY REPORT (EXCUSED)

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEES REPORTS

Trustee Bolton Stated the following:

- DPW has done a fantastic job at the fire station tree removal. Had to be done by March 31st because there are special bats that may decide to roost around there and the timing prevents them from being disturbed.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
March 26, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

- Attended Onondaga County Mayor's Association Meeting last week. Valuable information re: Niagara Mohawk and attempts to work with the Governor, read bill, where energy comes from. NYCOM also involved.
- The Board wants citizen input; check website regularly, attempting to update more regularly.
- Met with Mayor of Marcellus. He talked about a large grant (\$4,5M) they received; Trustee Bolton is looking into grants for the village that do not have a match requirement.

TRUSTEE WILMER: NO REPORT

TRUSTEE ST. GERMAIN Stated the following:

- CODES REPORT: Took in almost \$1,400 in permit fees for 9 permits.
- The Board has always asked for transparency. If they can have that, it will be good for everyone.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Deputy Mayor Robinson Stated the following:

- Comprehensive Plan Update: Draft is basically finished- 1 meeting to go. Will be presented to the Board first or second meeting of April. Grant for \$50,000.
- Election for Mayor will be June 16th with a one-year term to finish Mayor Butterfield's term. Independent Nominee Petitions can start being signed March 31st and first day to file a petition to cause permissive referendum to appear on the ballot is April 1st.
- Clay Community Development Grant to replace the Community Center Elevator - it needed radon testing and removal of old elevator and update electrical. Added costs. Coming along.
- Paid out \$51,222 on the Onondaga County Sculpture Grant. The balance remaining is to cover the bronze plaque. Estimated completion in Spring 2026.

Trustee Wilmer made the motion to adjourn at 6:45pm to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved; Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

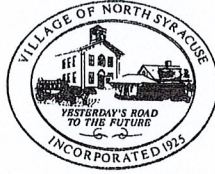
Police Chief C. Fieldson, Deputy Mayor Robinson, Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, and Trustee Bolton were in attendance for the Executive Session. A discussion was held. A motion was made by Trustee Wilmer and seconded by Trustee Bolton to end Executive Session and move to Regular Board Meeting at 9:00pm.

RESOLUTION # 67-26

DISCUSS/APPROVE POLICE DEPARTMENT DISCIPLINARY ACTION

A motion to was made and seconded to suspend a North Syracuse Police Department police officer without pay for a period of 30 days, promulgated by Chief Fieldson as permitted by law and the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Village of North Syracuse and Teamsters Local 1149. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson, Trustee St. Germain, Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.

A motion was made by Trustee Wilmer to adjourn at 9:02pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Robinson, Trustee Wilmer, and Trustee Bolton all voting in favor of the same.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
March 26, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nick Zarzecki". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Nick Zarzecki
Village Clerk-Treasurer

