



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, December 11th, 2014 @ 6:29 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

700 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212

The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 6:29 PM with Mayor Mark Atkinson inviting everyone present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing # 01:

Mayor Atkinson began by stating that this Public Hearing is being held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of North Syracuse to consider a new Chapter 108 to be titled "Fees and Collection Procedures" in the Village of North Syracuse, and will hear all persons in support of such matters, or objections thereto.

Mayor Atkinson stated that the Board was copied on the proposed legislation that provides a way to tack on the Village Business' Tax Bill for unpaid inspection fees that are initiated from the Codes Department doing their Fire Inspections either annually or every three (3) years, whichever is applicable. Public Assemblies are every year, and multi-dwellings are every three (3) years. Village Attorney Chatfield explained that Village taxpayers incur costs to do these mandatory inspections; the law permits us to collect the cost from the people that benefit from the inspections. The problem is that we have had many instances where the businesses fail to pay for this safety inspection service so this will allow us to collect it when they are billed for their taxes. Furthermore, since the costs of the inspections are relatively inexpensive, adding unpaid fees to the tax bill is the most cost efficient way to collect past due payment.

Mayor Atkinson asked if there were any questions, support, or objections for this public hearing. There was no response. Mayor Atkinson closed the public hearing at 6:31 PM.

Roll Call: Mayor Mark Atkinson, Trustee Gary Butterfield, and Trustee Fred Fergerson, and Trustee Linnertz. Deputy Mayor Henry is absent due to illness.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Dianne Kufel, DPW Superintendent Gary Wilmer, Parks Director Teresa Roth, Codes Enforcement Officer Pam DiCarlo, Police Chief Crowell, Village Attorney Scott Chatfield, and Village Engineer Amy Franco.



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RESOLUTION # 224-14

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Trustee Linnertz made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 25th, 2014 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was approved with Trustee Ferguson, Trustee Butterfield, and Mayor Atkinson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 225 -14

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Ferguson made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract # 14 in the amount of \$137,656.22 covering voucher # 769 to voucher # 834. The motion was seconded by Trustee Linnertz. The motion was approved with Trustee Linnertz, Trustee Butterfield, and Mayor Atkinson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 226 -14

SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Butterfield made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract # 14 in the amount of \$288.13 covering voucher # 6 to voucher # 7. The motion was seconded by Trustee Linnertz. The motion was approved with Trustee Linnertz, Trustee Ferguson, and Mayor Atkinson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 227 -14

CAPITAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Ferguson made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract # 14 in the amount of \$151,083.13 covering voucher # 1. This is the first application for payment for the Streetscape Project. The motion was seconded by Trustee Butterfield. The motion was approved with Trustee Linnertz, Trustee Butterfield, and Mayor Atkinson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 228 -14

BUDGET TRANSFER

Trustee Linnertz made a motion to transfer \$300.00 from A3389C Child Passenger Safety Grant Revenue to A3120.27 Police Department Car Seats. This is revenue received from Child Passenger Safety allows for an increase in the line item to purchase car seats. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was approved with Trustee Ferguson, Trustee Butterfield, and Mayor Atkinson, all voting in favor of the same.

CITIZENS' VOICE: None.



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OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 229-14

LOCAL LAW # 5 of 2014: FEES AND COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Mayor Atkinson recalled that a Public Hearing was held moments ago to discuss this issue which focuses on the Village being able to collect the fees that are associated with the Safety of our Business structures and multi-dwelling units, so that the Village is a safe place to live. Mayor Atkinson made a motion to adopt Local Law # 5 for 2014 that adds a new Chapter 108 Fees and Collection Procedures. The motion was seconded by Trustee Butterfield. The motion was approved with Trustee Ferguson, Trustee Butterfield, and Trustee Linnertz, all voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS TEAMSTERS 317 AGREEMENT 6/01/13 – 5/31/18

Mayor Atkinson stated there is a consensus in principle but there are some financial issues that need to be resolved. This matter is tabled until the agreement is ready to be signed.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 230-14

AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT FOR ANIMAL CONTROL / SPCA FOR 2015

Mayor Atkinson acknowledged the Board received the new SPCA agreement for 2015. He explained that upon research and receiving quotes from Animal Kingdom located on Route 31 in Cicero, the SPCA remains the best choice. The SPCA has a better pricing structure and allows us to negotiate a lower price for first time offenders. Trustee Linnertz made a motion to allow the Mayor to sign the aforementioned agreement. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was approved with Trustee Ferguson, Trustee Butterfield, and Mayor Atkinson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 231-14

**AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT FOR INSTALLMENT LEASE DOCUMENTS FOR
2015 INT'L SNOWPLOW**

Mayor Atkinson reminded the Board of the purchase of the 2015 International Snowplow which is in last year's budget process. The five (5) year lease-to-own agreement costs approximately \$37,000 per year. Trustee Linnertz made a motion for Mayor Atkinson to sign the lease agreement. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was approved with Trustee Ferguson, Trustee Butterfield, and Mayor Atkinson, all voting in favor of the same.



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ATTORNEY REPORT: Village Attorney suggested a way to streamline the process the Mayor can use a procedure to streamline routine matters such as abstract approvals he can just say for example "in respect to abstract # 14 - I will deem it approved without objection", then pause for three seconds to see if there are any objections, if not then you can move on. Mayor Atkinson thanked him for his input.

ENGINEER REPORT: Village Engineer Franco spoke of the Streetscape project has stopped for the season. The construction is expected to resume March 1, 2015. Mayor Atkinson asked about lights because there was some traffic back and forth about the lighting. Village Engineer Franco responded they will resume that in the spring 2015 because there is a 12 week lead time with the order.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: Chief Crowell reported that the Police Training Committee finalized all topics and dates from 2015. He extended a conditional offer to an individual for the open position of full-time Police Officer, pending passing examinations. He continued that he is gearing up efforts toward state accreditations by April 2015.

Highway Department: DPW Superintendent Wilmer thanked the Board and the Public for their patience while his crew cleared the recent heavy snow.

Parks & Recreation: Parks Director Roth reported that the holiday parade was successful and thanked all volunteers and sponsors. She said the playground equipment that was damaged at Heritage Park will be replaced spring 2015. She went on to say that it seems favorable that we will receive the Al Stirpe grant for Lonergan Park.

Fire Department: Absent.

Codes: Codes Enforcement Officer DiCarlo reported an incident on Park Lane in the evening of December 5th when a resident tried to adjust his own plumbing and which created a flood. She also stated that the hookah lounge on 102 North Main will be opening soon.

Clerk/Treasurer – Clerk Treasurer Kufel reported she will be meeting with the auditors for LOSAP regarding FY 2012 whereas they are catching up for due diligence and will be conferencing with our Attorney next week. She is also meeting with Onondaga Purchasing to see if we can save on other items such as fuel and insurance. She went on to state that she is addressing concern with our



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Worker's Comp carrier regarding chronic delays in payments of bills for medical treatments.

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee Ferguson: Spoke of the Public Safety Meeting that took place on Monday, December 8th, 2014. He said the meeting minutes will be released next week. There were four requests for stop signs in the Village. He said he will address each request but noted that statistically stop signs do not slow people down. Mayor Atkinson added that the Engineers have told him that stop signs are not effective traffic calming techniques. Trustee Ferguson stated the requests for stop signs are denied.

There is a request for a sign for a deaf child on Maxwell Avenue which needs to be followed up on. Also there may be a law that will have to be made to prohibit parking on the Teacher's Road near the CNS Junior High School. The next Public Safety meeting will take place on March 2nd, 2015.

Trustee Linnertz: Affirmed that it seems that the holiday parade seems to be gaining more popularity each year and that the cold weather did not seem to deter the many participants. He thanked Parks Director Roth.

Trustee Butterfield: Expressed he was pleasantly surprised with all the progress made on the west side of the Streetscape project. He requested to have the validity of a stop sign at Reed Road and Palmer to be possibly removed. It was installed when a daycare facility entered the location but this business has since closed several years ago.

Deputy Mayor Henry: Absent.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Atkinson spoke of Fred Wilmer's road to recovery. He said Fred is making progress. He asked that everyone keep him in their thoughts.

He mentioned that the Streetscape Project is 50% done and he is pleased with this first phase and looking forward to completion in spring 2015.

He mentioned the Justice Court Date sent to the Board which detailed that over the years beginning with 2002 the Village has been receiving fewer funds and the County and State are receiving more. This is an issue that may be explored further at a later date.



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There is a Consensus Meeting at Minoa where they are gathering all information to review the cost and efficiency of small government. There are fifteen (15) listed Villages on the report. We are the second largest Village. A good indication that we are managing ourselves well is that our per capita cost is \$652 and we are one of the lowest cost per capita from the entire list. There are Villages that offer half the services we do and charge much more than us. The bottom line is that Village of North Syracuse looks good.

The Staff meeting and Employee Safety meeting this week many items were discussed. He stated he wants to make sure the lines of communication remain open. He was pleased to state the holiday party was a success.

Mayor Atkinson made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss an employment issue. He does not expect to take any action upon their return. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was approved with Trustee Butterfield, Trustee Ferguson, and Trustee Linnertz, all voting in favor of the same. The Board went into Executive Session at 6:50 PM. In attendance were Mayor Atkinson, Trustee Linnertz, Trustee Ferguson, Trustee Butterfield, Village Attorney Chatfield, and Village Clerk Treasurer Kufel. The determination prepared by the Village Counsel based on the previous discussion with the Board at the last meeting was discussed and debated.

Mayor Atkinson made a motion to return to regular session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Butterfield. The motion was approved with Trustee Butterfield, Trustee Ferguson, and Trustee Linnertz, all voting in favor of the same. The Board returned to regular session at 7:00 PM.

Trustee Butterfield made a motion to adjourn at 7:02 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was approved with Trustee Ferguson, Mayor Atkinson, and Trustee Linnertz, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,


Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk/Treasurer