



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, August 8th, 2013 @ 6:30 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

700 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212

The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 6:30 PM with Mayor Atkinson inviting everyone present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Mayor Mark Atkinson, Deputy Mayor Chuck Henry and Trustee Gary Butterfield were all present. Trustee Paul Linnertz was out of town and Trustee Ferguson was absent – medical.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Dianne Kufel, Parks Director Teresa Roth, DPW Sup't. Gary Wilmer, Codes Enforcement Officer Pam DiCarlo, Police Chief Michael Crowell, Fire Chief Pat Brennan, Village Engineer James Trasher, Village Attorney Scott Chatfield.

RESOLUTION # 332-13

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Butterfield made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 25th, 2013 Board Meeting. Deputy Mayor Henry seconded the motion. The motion was carried with Mayor Atkinson, Deputy Mayor Henry and Trustee Butterfield voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 333-13

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Butterfield made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract #05 in the amount of \$160,543.02 covering Voucher #204 to Voucher #287; the motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Henry. The motion was carried with Mayor Atkinson, Deputy Mayor Henry and Trustee Butterfield voting in favor of the same.

CITIZENS' VOICE: Mayor Atkinson introduced Margaret DeLeo from the North Syracuse Chamber and Nadine Tischenko. Margaret presented the Mayor with a generous donation and a plaque thanking the Village for this collaborated effort for the first year "911 Rescue Pet" event. The Mayor explained that the "911 Rescue Fund" was created when animals in North Syracuse get hurt, and we can't determine who the owner is. He continued to say that rather than the Village paying for these few instances we tried to be creative and come up with a way to offset the cost similar to the way the Village accepts donations for the Village hanging flowers. Margaret spoke of her and her associate are eager to try this again next year.

NEW BUSINESS:



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AWARD BID FOR THE CENTERVILLE PARK PROJECT

Mayor Atkinson explained that the bid opening was held on Thursday, Aug. 1st at 10:00 AM for the Centerville Park Project. He continued to say that monies from the Save the Rain Grant and Community Development would be used for this project. The Mayor spoke of the bid coming in slightly lower than was anticipated; therefore some extra monies could be earmarked for another purpose. Parks Director Teresa Roth spoke of her recommendations. She suggested redoing the basketball court rather than just repairing and resurfacing to alleviate the dips and puddle areas; this would fix that; she also suggested adding some more playground equipment at this park. Village Engineer James Trasher spoke of "Save the Rain" money whereas unless it is the intent to save the rain, he did not feel that playground equipment could be used to save the rain. James suggested awarding the project and talking/discussing the opportunities on how to get additional stormwater to the system we are installing and the initial preconstruction meeting. Mayor Atkinson made a motion authorizing to award the bid and sign the necessary documents to EZ Paving for \$67,790.00. The motion was seconded by Trustee Butterfield. The motion was carried with Mayor Mark Atkinson, Deputy Mayor Henry and Trustee Butterfield voting in favor of the same.

SCBA'S – SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS

Mayor Atkinson explained that we have been awarded some grant money to the Village's Fire Dept., and the Mayor looked to the Fire chief. The Fire Dept. put some specifications together to go out to bid for self-contained breathing apparatus. Sean Carroll from Onondaga County Purchasing explained that we have received (2) bids on that public bid. (1) bid has been received and there is some question as to whether they have met the specifications of the bid, because the bid required 2013 standards from the NFPA to be applied to the equipment. The first vendor, who is the low vendor, noted that those standards are not ready yet therefore they are going to bid on the 2007 standard. The other vendor did indeed bid based on the 2013 compliance/standards. The one vendor did not necessarily meet the specifications; because they bid on the 2007 certified equipment. The vendor who is a little more expensive did indeed bid the correct equipment but can't commit to the delivery date of the equipment that was important and established by the North Syracuse Fire Department. Sean Carroll from County Purchasing explained a few options. He continued to say that we could rebid it – and could have a response within a few weeks. We wouldn't leave time for questions this time; we would clean up the language this time; whether someone gives us loaner equipment, or perhaps replacement equipment until the 2013 equipment comes in, and is available. Sean referenced the Town of Oswego contract that was put out just a short time ago, also. This is a contract that we could evaluate and perhaps we could purchase off of this contract; or we could attempt to figure out which way to award this bid. The Town of Oswego has the same problem as we do with these 2013 standards. They have awarded based on the 2013 standards with the approval pending. Further discussions took place about a late fee being paid by the vendor for every day they were late in providing this equipment to the Village. The County is prepared to put this out to bid again if they need to. Sean spoke of their biggest concern is making sure that the firemen do not go into a fire with



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equipment that fails and that our Fire Department does not have equipment that fails; he needs to rely on the Village Fire Dept. and Board on what condition your equipment is at this point. Mayor Atkinson spoke of the appreciation he has for the service that the County is providing and really wants the County to protect the Village and protecting the process and the liability exposed to the Village of North Syracuse. The Mayor continued to say that the Fire Department are the experts on this equipment and turned this over to the Fire Chief. The Chief discussed with the county officials at great length and put some other options out there. The Chief suggested he would like to table this and does not feel we are in a position to award this. There are a couple of more things for us to explore and to see if perhaps the bid in Oswego County couldn't save the Village more money. The Fire Dept would like to do some more research on this and will work closely with the County to discuss this further; but would like to table this for now and hope that by the next board meeting we can make a decision. The grant that the Fire Department was awarded is available until March 2014. Sean suggested not having any conversations regarding specifics on the bids received. Trustee Butterfield had a question on the deadline before the end of the year and a penalty clause. It was noted that the manufacturer that bid it and the company along with the manufacturer they both knew that. Trustee Butterfield suggested that they are at the mercy of the testing agency that is going to approve. Mayor Atkinson spoke of no action being taken on this tonight and we will have to closely monitor this for the next two weeks. Sean suggested that the Fire Chief would have more information to the Board prior to this date. Deputy Mayor inquired about the reliability of the existing equipment. The Chief said this was discussed in depth today whereas the life expectancy is 15 years. Chief Brennan continued to say they are approaching that; and the manufacturer of the airpacks have stopped producing certain parts of the airpack (5) years ago - so now they have breakdowns and we have to go to companies on line to buy parts from them as they are not readily available anymore. Sean spoke of a certification process that they go thru every year. Each piece we have right now has passed certification. Sean will be coming up with some sort of plan. There is training involved with the new airpacks and if half the crew is on a new airpack and half on the old, this could be a problem. Mayor Atkinson asked if there were any more comments. The Mayor then suggested putting this on "Old Business" and is hopeful we will have more information to address this at our next meeting.

RESOLUTION #: 335-13 NEW MEMBERS OF THE NORTH SYRACUSE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Atkinson made a motion approving Brooke Bliss, Patrick Pawlewitz, Jacob Herbert and Paul Voutsinas as new members of the North Syracuse Fire Dept.; the motion was seconded by Trustee Butterfield. The motion was approved with Mayor Atkinson, Deputy Mayor Henry and Trustee Butterfield all voting in favor of the same.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No report

ENGINEERING REPORT: No report

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:



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Police Department: Police Chief Mike Crowell mentioned how busy his department has been and his vehicle was most recently out of service. He made mention of the booking room almost completed and estimates another few weeks for total completion.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Pat Brennan spoke of a preapproval submitted recently regarding necessary repairs for Truck 1. He continued to speak on how the aerial inspection failed a few items; and as per the manufacturer it has to be repaired coupled with some body work that needs to be repaired. Pat referenced some as being warranty work and the vehicle is 7 years old now, therefore \$14,000 is needed in repairs and we will split and pay \$7,000 with the other half being covered under the warranty. Chief Brennan continued to reference a citizen that came to board meetings numerous times regarding open burning on Chestnut Street and did not get the results they were looking for. He spoke of one of the Fire Department's Codes Enforcement Officers put together this form (he handed out a copy to each of the Board members and the Clerk/Treasurer). He discussed that this elaborates on what can be done according to the law and what can't be done. The Mayor spoke of his comments being noted and the Codes Dept. will review this form regarding open burning, along with Legal, and the Police Chief. Deputy Mayor Henry inquired if the Fire Dept. Codes Enforcement Officers will work with Pam DiCarlo on open burning fires; asking are they Codes Officers, Fire Marshals, etc. Pat explained Pam has the authority or jurisdiction over the Village but they are Codes Enforcement Officers as well, but they do not have the authority to write any violations. Pat continued to say that this is nothing more than a notification for the Town of Cicero, Town of Clay, and Village of North Syracuse. The Fire Department does not have the authority to cite, the Codes Enforcement Officer of the Village is the only one that can do this. Pat continued to discuss a requisition that was being held at Village Hall and not being signed regarding some training for (3) of the Codes Enforcement Officers within the Fire Department. It appears that it was approved for (2) to attend, although the third was not approved. Pat spoke of a firefighter (past Chief Paul Linnertz) has been doing Codes Enforcement for the Fire Department for 30 years. Mayor Atkinson said the question that was proposed to him was are you sure this was not for the City of Syracuse; and he could not answer this. Mayor Atkinson spoke of signing this assuming it was for the Village of North Syracuse although other Board members raised a valid question that he could not answer. Chief Brennan continued to say that he reviews the building plans, along with the (2) newer Codes Enforcement Officers along with the Town of Cicero and Town of Clay. The Mayor said your comments are noted; and asked if there was anything else he needed to address the Board. Chief Brennan said this would conclude his report.

Highway Department: Gary Wilmer spoke of the meeting offered by the County regarding the emerald ash borer beetle. He continued to say that they are here and have been found in Dewitt and East wood and within 1 year or 1 ½ year they will be fully engaged in the area; and within 3 years some trees will die. Discussion took place of treating them to stop the infection although the cost can be expensive, and eventually they will die. National Grid is being proactive because many of these trees are in close proximity to their power lines. The Mayor continued to speak on the "marking" of these trees.



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Parks and Recreation: Teresa Roth spoke of the summer programs and that summer camp will be ending on Friday, Aug. 16th. Teresa continued to say that swim lessons ended last Friday with an attendance of approximately 100; and that the concert series has 2 more weeks remaining. The attendance was great last night, there was free pizza offered by the Village's corporate sponsor, Solvay Bank.

Codes Enforcement Dept.: No report

Clerk-Treasurer: Dianne Kufel referenced her closing of the books and it is looking very favorable and very good; it appears that the total expenses are down by \$160,000 and revenues are up by approximately \$160,000, therefore roughly \$300,000 will be added to the Village's fund balance. She continued to say that of course all final numbers will have the checks and balances of the year-end audit. She spoke of the Police Dept. playing a major role in the cost savings of less spending. Mayor Atkinson added that this was good financial management by the Police Department.

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEES REPORTS:

Deputy Mayor Henry: Deputy Mayor Henry referenced the next EOP meeting to be held on Monday, August 12th at 2:30 PM; whereas we are getting closer to completion. He continued to say that a plan will be in place soon for a tabletop exercise.

Trustee Butterfield: No report

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Atkinson spoke of the work session to be held on Wednesday, August 14th at the Community Center regarding the review of the zoning maps. He referenced Trustee Butterfield as the "go-to" person for this effort as well as Pam DiCarlo. The Mayor continued to mention the Mobile Farmers Market that is taking place at the PACE facility from 11 AM thru 1 PM on Wednesday's thru mid-October. Mayor Atkinson spoke of his effort to look into some energy savings with perhaps locking in on a fixed rate for the National Grid – electricity and gas usage. He will follow up on this. He made a comment on the Village's pulling together with the County legislators and it appears that some results may come forward on retrieving a portion of some sales tax monies; this would be earmarked for infrastructure improvements. It appears that we are making progress and we will be submitting a list of shovel ready projects – working with the Dept. Heads and the Board of Trustees for their thoughts. He said more to follow on this, as well. Mayor Atkinson referenced the Canteen Organization and these folks will be attending an upcoming Board Meeting to offer results and statistical numbers. They are thankful for the Village's contribution to this organization over the past several years. At one point, the Village contributed \$8,000 per year and most recently it has been scaled down to \$5,000.



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The Mayor spoke of how he feels this is a great organization and it creates many “saves” within our youth. He also mentioned that we are partnering with the CNY Regional Planning Board on a grant, and submitting cost associated with local planning and zoning expenses.

Trustee Butterfield adjourned at 7:05 PM. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Henry. The motion was carried with Mayor Atkinson, Deputy Mayor Henry and Trustee Butterfield all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk/Treasurer