



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, September 12th, 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, Trustee Gary Butterfield, Trustee Fred Ferguson and Trustee Paul Linnertz were all present.

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, Assistant Fire Chief Chris Strong, Village Engineer Brian Bouchard and Village Attorney Scott Chatfield.

RESOLUTION # 341-13

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Ferguson made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 22nd, 2013 Board Meeting. Trustee Butterfield seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION # 342-13

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Ferguson made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract #06 in the amount of \$96,567.22 covering Voucher #367 to Voucher #428; the motion was seconded by Trustee Butterfield. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION # 343-13

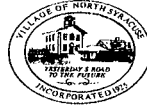
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Linnertz made a motion to approve the Veteran's Memorial Park Abstract #07 in the amount of \$14.00 covering voucher #1; the motion was seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION #344-13

BUDGET TRANSFER

Trustee Ferguson made a motion to transfer \$23,206 from the General Fund – Fund Balance (A201) to the Fire Department Reserve (A231F). This signifies the unspent monies left from FY 2012/2013 under the Department's budget that has been requested to be placed in the Fire Dept. Capital Reserve Account. The motion was seconded by Trustee Linnertz. The motion was unanimously approved.



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CITIZENS' VOICE: No response

OLD BUSINESS:

MODIFIED SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE SCBA'S – FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Atkinson explained of a delay as we are still waiting for clarification on the new standards change. Assistant Chief Strong also spoke of still awaiting for information back from the NFPA which is forthcoming and a communication from DHS regarding the grant process appears to be accepting an extension. He continued to say that this will be finalized but no specific dates have been released. He also communicated that they have been in touch with County Purchasing throughout this process.

RESOLUTION # 345-13

CICERO CANTEEN BUDGET CONTRIBUTION

Mayor Atkinson explained of the long lasting relationship the Village has had with the Cicero Canteen. He continued to say that back 5 to 10 years ago the Village donated \$8,000/ year to this youth center, although due to recent economic hardships on the municipalities, we scaled this down to \$5,000 per year. The Mayor introduced Jody Rogers (Director of Parks and Recreation Youth Bureau), Toni Brauchle (Coordinator of Youth Services and oversees the Canteen) and Vince Hollopeter (Chairperson of the Greater Syracuse Youth Board). The Mayor continued to say that this is a great program and keeps many kids out of trouble; it is hard to measure how many kids don't get in trouble because they went thru this program but feels that this is money well invested to the future of our youth. The Mayor turned this over to the representatives of the Canteen. Jody Rogers explained her administrative role and she is tasked with putting the annual budget together that ranges from \$110,000 to \$170,000 in good days, although now it has decreased to \$125,000 per year. In the past, they had approximately 20 to 25 permanent attendees; although today it has increased to approximately 80. The numbers continue to stay high with their new facility, whereas the location is perfect. The State and County monies have been reduced significantly. She continued to say that they are requesting an increase in their municipal partners as well as friends of the canteen. They are requesting them to also raise more money. The monies funded for this program are split – one third from the municipal partners, one-third from friends of the canteen, and one-third from the County/State share. Jody continued with some factual information, The new facility opened in 2012 – 66 kids from village - 17 from the Cicero side and 49 from the Clay side. To date in 2013, 41 Village youth - 32 from Clay and 9 from Cicero side of Village. She was thankful to the Board for their past participation and is currently requesting an additional \$1,000 for the 2014 Town Budget year. Toni Brauchle spoke of the facility having 85 kids there today, it is a very busy place. She continued to say that there is a cross section of different types of kids, not just struggling youth, they also have very well gifted academically although they just can't socialize with their peers. This is the home away from home for many kids - we are the shoulder to let them get through. Toni emphasized the impact we (Towns and Villages) have on these kids assisting them through school and their graduating, by supporting them.



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Vince Hollopeter thanked the Board for all their support over the last years – with this support they would not have been able to exist. The Mayor also mentioned the assistance from the canteen – they helped with several community events, the family festival, bunny breakfast, and the Holiday Parade, they helped us out tremendously. Trustee Ferguson commented that he is in favor of increasing \$1,000 and inquired as to how much money would be lost from the County/State. Jody said they will be losing \$32,000 from the County/State, whereas they are filtering much of the money to the city programs. Many of the kids from the suburbs have some of the same issues as the city kids. Toni Brauchle confirmed that the kids are only charged for the field trips, otherwise they are not charged a fee. Deputy Mayor Henry commented and thanked them for keeping this alive from when it was the Teen Center.

Mayor made a motion increasing the appropriation from \$5,000 to \$6,000 for the youth bureau. Trustee Ferguson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

SKUNK/WOODCHUCK REMOVAL SERVICE

Mayor started a discussion of the skunk service whereas the Village previously supplied a service to its residents. He continued to speak on the service and cost whereas 90% was absorbed by the Village and 10% was paid by the resident. We had eliminated this from the budget when budget cuts were made. The Mayor spoke of most recently we have been receiving many calls. He explained the costs associated with this service - \$1,000 FY 2010 and \$2,000 in FY 2011. The mayor said he would like to bring this service back, and decide perhaps that the ratio between the Village and resident portion can change. Trustee Butterfield spoke of having an issue himself with a skunk in his lawn and was required to pay \$175. He continued to say that we can trap them, but legally we can't remove it from the property. Trustee Butterfield feels that the Village resident should not have to pay that kind of money to remove a skunk. Deputy Mayor Henry spoke of seeing many more skunks this year than any other year. Trustee Linnertz inquired as to if this is really what government is meant to do; take care of or remove skunks from the Village residents' properties. The mayor suggested that the Village should provide more services than Towns and Counties or ultimately we really don't need Villages. The mayor was asking to have approval to negotiate a service with Berry's Wildlife for a service and leave it at that or present his findings back to the Board. Further discussions went on regarding Cicero and Salina whereas they use Berry's Wildlife. Town of Clay has their own Personnel that handle this service. Discussion took place about part-town or full-town services. Trustee Linnertz inquired about piggy-backing on with the County or Town Service. Trustee Butterfield used the analogy of calling 911 – if you wait for the County Sheriff verses the Village officer you will be waiting a lot longer for the County. Trustee Butterfield spoke of his preference to have someone come quicker in the Village, this is a worthwhile service, even if we have additional service with the Town of Clay. Trustee Butterfield started a motion to authorize the mayor to make the best deal, however it turns out, whether it is a shared service or the Village contracting with Berry's Wildlife. Trustee Linnertz wanted to know how much the resident pays and how much the Village pays. The Mayor said we can



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figure that out right now the percentage -10 or 25%. The Mayor said he will get more information on this and check to see if the County has a skunk patrol. This will be on our agenda for Old Business.

ATAXIA DAY – SEPTEMBER 25, 2013

Mayor Atkinson explained that they have a proclamation for the local Ataxia coordinator. This affects approximately 150,000 individuals by hereditary and sporadic ataxia in the United States and is often a fatal degenerative neurological disorder that affects balance, coordination and speech. The mayor spoke of Ataxia Day in the Village is being recognized as September 25th, 2013. The ceremony will be at the Community Center on September 28th, 2013 whereas we will be presenting a proclamation. We actually have a local resident inflicted with this. The Mayor continued to say that this will go down in the minutes that we recognize the disease and nationally recognized date. We will bring some recognition to this crippling disease.

RESOLUTION #346-13

CENTERVILLE PARK CHANGE ORDER #01

The Mayor spoke of the initial pricing of the contract and we were actually \$30,000 below what we thought it could be done for. He continued to say that discussion took place on redoing the Basketball Court until such time that they dug up the existing parking lot area. Essentially, as they expanded on the parking lot, the plan was to mil and overlay with asphalt on top; although when they began to trench it, the sub-base was just dirt with a small amount of stone. At this time, it was recommended to remove this area from the mil and overlay, and do a full-depth reconstruction, box out using a stone sub-base and pave over. The trees and posts are in, grass is planted, the drainage structure and pipe is in, and the final coat of asphalt is in, as well. Brian Bouchard expanded on this in depth on the parking lot; for the full-depth reconstruction, excavation, and referenced a cost savings as well as this will last for quite some time. Trustee Ferguson made a motion authorizing the mayor to sign the change order #01 for \$29,985. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Henry. The motion was carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Chatfield discussed the recent meeting at Town of Clay Planning Commission regarding the sign and the free standing sign for the new Basil Leaf at the Fresno's location. The Mayor suggested some coordination between the Town of Clay and the Village of North Syracuse. Pam will follow up with this.

ENGINEERING REPORT: Engineer Brian Bouchard spoke of the near completion of the work at Centerville Park. He continued to say that there is some cleanup left, some sealing, and paint striping of the parking lot. He made mention of the Round 2 of the Save the Rain – focusing on the Main Street in the Village and the Board should start considering the costs they want to front as well and earmark for this; as this is a considerable large project.



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DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: Police Chief Crowell commented on his department and the calls and complaints are slowing down a bit. He made mention of a few interns that he is interested in and will be able to assist with a few loose ends. He continued to mention the speed sign and Gary was able to assist him with getting this up and operational again.

Fire Department: Assistant Fire Chief Chris Strong spoke of his department going on 8 calls on Tuesday and 2 or 3 today. He mentioned that 4 new firefighters have finished their NYS training and they are in the process of doing the required in-house training. He also mentioned the upcoming Safety Day is October 5th scheduled at the Firehouse on Chestnut street.

Highway Department: DPW Sup't. Gary Wilmer spoke of the Village streets and the paving will begin on Monday. His department has been busy raising the manhole covers and they also have been busy in the parks.

Parks and Recreation: Parks Director Teresa Roth spoke of the summer coming to an end and all programs are completed and she distributed final reports. She continued to say that it was a very successful summer for camp, swim lessons, and the pool. She was proud to say there were no major incidents and great feedback on the survey from the participants and parents. She made mention of a 12 week yoga program on Tuesday nights and is trying to recruit new members for a chorus group that meets on Tuesday. A large bustrip has been planned for next week – they will be going apple picking - 55 people, The Halloween Event is set for Friday night from 6:00 PM until 8:30 PM on October 25th to be held at St. Rose of Lima Church.

Codes Department: Codes Officer Pam DiCarlo explained that Crossfit will be moving in the old Shamrock's building on Taft Rd. She continued to say that she has currently put a stop work order in and they will be in front of the Planning Board to help the procedure move ahead with this new business. She continued to say that she spoke with the people that are managing the Old Dollar Store next to Post Office and they removed the trailer and are looking to repair the roof on that structure.

Clerk Treasurer: Dianne Kufel spoke of the auditors doing their fiscal review of both the Municipal Funds as well as the Court. She expects them to be present at Village Hall next week and will continue to be in the building for 3 to 4 weeks periodically. She continued to say that she will be concentrating on the proper documentation and reimbursement procedures for this first phase of the Save the Rain which will follow thru for the second phase of the Save the Rain Round 2, as well. She thanked the Board for the increased budget amount for the youth bureau as they assist the Village when needed in so many ways.



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DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee Linnertz: Made mention of a significant fire in the Town of Clay – large 2 story pole barn fire whereas the firefighters did a great job. Paul made mention of his absence at the last two Board Meetings in August. The first he missed as it was his daughter's wedding in Virginia and the 2nd meeting the President was in town and had an obligation there. He was lucky enough to meet the president and was lucky enough to be one of 5 people from the public safety sector that was able to meet him and shake his hand. It was very impressive.

Trustee Ferguson: Mentioned the recent Public Safety Meeting that was held on Monday, September 9th and the minutes were distributed and are also available on the Village website. He referenced an item of concern to be the speed sign on South Bay Road.

Trustee Butterfield: No report

Deputy Mayor Henry: He mentioned the EOP meeting coming up at 2:30 PM on Monday, September 16th at Village Hall. He communicated that we are nearing closure with this.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Atkinson mentioned the Parks Dept. and the great summer. He continued to say that he always looks at how many learned to swim at the program as this is a service that is so beneficial. This year 101 learned how to swim. This is hard to measure the success of this also, but if 100 kids learn to swim each summer for 20 years, he is certain that at some point some of them (or knew someone) have gotten in trouble in the water and have used this at some point or another in their lifetime. The Mayor is happy on the progress that has been coming from the Public Safety Committee – Fred has taken charge and has good continual meetings and feedback – keep up the good work. The Mayor reminded all of the question on the website. He is looking for feedback on the poll question. He also mentioned the Chamber of Commerce and his recent involvement; trying to pull this business organization together. The Mayor also mentioned the event this Saturday at the VFW – a pig roast. The Mayor explained the success of Round 1 of Save the Rain Grant at Centerville Park. Save the Rain Round 2 was even a larger package focusing on Village Center – Main Street, curbing, grass areas, and trees. We have been awarded up to \$454,000, they will match us \$1 for \$1, so theoretically we could have \$900,000 added to the center of our Village. Mayor is eager and anxious to see this come to fruition. The Mayor spoke of the healthy and fiscal condition of this Village. The Mayor spoke of working with Dianne and looking to analyze the fund balance and our debt bond schedule where our debt is very minimal. He feels this is going to be a great success story for North Syracuse. He continued to say that Basil Leaf is moving out of the Village center and is moving into the Fresno's building in mid-October. A place called Grotto is moving into the 'old' Basil Leaf – a similar Italian eatery. There is also a new owner for Highway Oil. Trustee Linnertz had a comment on the outside tables in front of



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the 'old' Basil Leaf and the chairs in the sidewalk area. Mayor suggested he would have Pam look into the sidewalk and grass area.

Trustee Butterfield made a motion to adjourn at 7:25 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Linnertz. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk/Treasurer