



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, October 24th, 2013 @ 4:30 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

700 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212

The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 4:30 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, Police Chief Michael Crowell, Fire Chief Pat Brennan, Codes Enforcement Officer Pam DiCarlo, and Village Attorney Scott Chatfield.

RESOLUTION # 358-13

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Butterfield made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 10th, 2013 Board Meeting. Trustee Ferguson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION # 359-13

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Ferguson made a motion to approve the General Fund Abstract #10 in the amount of \$53,500.75 covering Voucher #590 to Voucher #646; the motion was seconded by Trustee Butterfield. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION # 360-13

SEWER ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Linnertz made a motion to approve the Sewer Abstract #10 in the amount of \$55.00 covering voucher #8; the motion was seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was unanimously approved.

CITIZENS' VOICE: No response.

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 361 -13

APPROVE MODIFIED SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE SCBA'S AND SET BID DATE

Mayor Atkinson explained that this is the final version of the revised specification and thanked the County for attending the many meetings assisting us with this procurement. Sean Carroll from



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Onondaga County Purchasing suggested that the Board of Trustee pass this if they are comfortable with the revised specification contingent upon the Fire Chief's approval. Sean continued to say that it is his understanding that this encapsulates in its entirety all that was requested by the Fire Dept. The Mayor continued to say that the main cause of delay and revised specifications was because of the NIOSH standards that were changed in the middle of this process. He would like to pass this tonight based on the final approval from the Fire Chief. Trustee Ferguson spoke of talking to Assistant Chief Strong yesterday and he was pleased with this modified specification. Mayor Atkinson made a motion to accept this bid proposal for furnishing self contained breathing apparatus and accessories for the Village of North Syracuse with bid results to be received at the Office of Purchasing Director up until 2:00 PM on Tuesday, November 12, 2013 pending the Fire Chief's approval. The motion was seconded by Trustee Linnertz. The motion was unanimously approved. Sean Carroll continued to say that assuming there is no objection the County will be advertising this on Tuesday, October 29th, 2013.

RESOLUTION # 362-13

SKUNK/WOODCHUCK REMOVAL SERVICE

Mayor Atkinson spoke of the contiguous communities and what they pay and charge for this service. He explained what the Village had paid in the past for this service. He defined the charges to be \$65 for the first call to the Village whereas the Village pays \$45 and the homeowner pays \$20; thereafter the same year, \$10 to the homeowner for each subsequent time they come back out in that same year. The Mayor continued to say that he spoke with Berry's Wildlife and tried to see if he could do a combined service with Town of Cicero, hoping to reduce the price, but it was a negative response. Mayor did not see a substantial amount that would impact the budget. Trustee Butterfield spoke of an instance that he had at his residence and thought it was an unpredictable large amount of money if the homeowner has to absorb \$175 to rid them of this nuisance because the Village does not currently provide this service. The Mayor made a motion to approve a \$65 charge whereas the homeowner pays \$20, and the Village pays \$45, every call thereafter would be \$10 to the homeowner and \$55 to the Village for woodchuck and skunk removal. The motion was seconded by Trustee Butterfield. The motion was unanimously approved.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Scott Chatfield spoke of the proposed information that the Board of Trustees has received for the local law regarding sex offenders and noted that he modeled it after the Town of Cicero Law. Scott mentioned the teen/canteen; it was further confirmed that this is in the Town of Cicero and not in the Village of North Syracuse. Attorney Chatfield continued to say that if the Board is comfortable with this content we could move forward and schedule a public hearing. Trustee Butterfield confirmed that the one mile radius from any school will almost cover the whole village adhering to these clear zones as defined. Police Chief Crowell inquired about the current residents that live in the Village and discussion took place about the exemptions; and whether the Village



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would like to grandfather certain individuals. Trustee Linnertz inquired to legal counsel of the differences of the state law and if this was redundant. Discussion took place on specific conditions with probation. The Mayor encouraged the trustees to look at the website and similar communities to see the high numbers that are in this area. Further discussion took place on the date referenced of November 29, 2006. It was confirmed that Level 2 and 3 are the more serious levels. There is also a level "P" which is pending as it is unknown. The Police Chief confirmed that there are four levels. It was discussed that we are not saying that they can't live in the Village of North Syracuse, just not in the specified clear zones. The Mayor said we are in the discussion stage of this process. Another possibility is that we do not have to identify a date at all. He said it is a possibility that if they live here, they could stay here, and eliminate the date. The Mayor continued to say also that we do not have to push this through fast, we can take our time and clearly think this out. The Mayor requested that all of the Trustees look at this and focus on the date also, and see if we want a date or "no date" perhaps. Mayor spoke of discussing this at our next meeting and if the Board is ready we will perhaps move forward with scheduling a public hearing. The next meeting we can further discuss this and ask more questions; and if decided we can schedule a public hearing at the meeting of November 14th.

Attorney Chatfield spoke of his next task was to draft an amendment to the Peddlers and Solicitors in the Village Code. There are (3) Articles to this topic with the First and Third Articles are pertaining to food sales. The First Article relates to food sales on Village Property, and the Third Article is pertaining to food sales in mobile cars and mobile stands. Article 2 is pertaining to Peddlers/Solicitors. They are required to apply for license. It further stipulates that they need to post a cash deposit or bond through a surety company of at least \$1,000 or \$5,000 if it is a company/organization; which is kept for 90 days after they are gone that could be used if there is a need for recourse as reimbursement from that bond. It makes it possible for a company or individual to solicit but makes it extremely difficult; this is what is in place right now. Rather than prohibiting solicitation, the current code makes it extremely difficult to solicit with following the required cash deposit and bonding restrictions, ultimately the same net result. It requires that you apply for a license. It is probably unconstitutional to totally prohibit solicitation in the Village. If you put it in the entrance of the Village, it raises constitutional questions. The Village has a reasonable right, to the extent possible, to protect their citizens so that they are not the target of unscrupulous individuals of unwanted solicitation; also if there is a sign prohibiting solicitors on a specific property, the solicitor cannot go to that residence, the statute covers this as well. Further discussion took place regarding the nonprofit. There is a clear challenge to anyone who may want to press the issue whereas having a process in place that makes it possible with several steps to follow may have the same net result. The Village could also add the costs associated with the background check fees so that the Village is not incurring extra cost associated with these. Not for Profits are exempt of the bonding/cash deposit requirements. This will remain on Old Business.



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DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: Police Chief Crowell spoke of the luncheon at Loretto/Malta House. The Police and Fire Dept. were invited, as well as agencies around the county, to a luncheon. The Police and Fire Dept. were both presented with awards. Chief Crowell continued to say that his department was awarded a grant from the Department of Justice, an award for bullet proof vests with 50% reimbursement. The award was for \$3,126 which is significant as (7) employees in the department need them and this is a contractual requirement. He further mentioned that his department is ready for Halloween, gearing up with extra patrols out to keep the children safe.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Pat Brennan thanked Sean Carroll for working with Assistant Chief Strong and giving him some guidance offering a better product this time around and a better price for the Village taxpayers. Mayor Atkinson mentioned the motion was made contingent on the Chief's approval of the final specification that was submitted with a bid opening of November 12th at 2:00 PM. Chief Brennan agreed to the latest specification. Chief Brennan spoke of being in the North Syracuse Fire District and in the Village beginning at 5:00 PM for a safe Halloween evening for the children. He continued to say that it was a very successful safety day and thanked the Village Departments, the local communities along with NAVAC and Police Department; it was successful for this community. Chief Brennan reminded all of a fire (10 – 12) years ago. This fire on Chestnut Street involved a child, whereas the child had learned from a safety day exercise, to close the door as the fire started in his bedroom. This ultimately saved the house. This public education pays dividends, or minimizes the impact so the education is so important. Chief Brennan also spoke of some upgrades at the firehouse relating to the HVAC and will have more information on this within the next month.

Parks and Recreation: Parks Director Teresa Roth reminded all of the Village Halloween party is that is tomorrow night, St. Rose from 6:00 PM thru 8:30 PM. She continued to say that the attendance is down for registered kids. Teresa continued to say that they set a date for another family candy bingo night at the Community Center on November 22nd, a Friday night; this is a free event but you must bring a candy bar to receive a bingo card. She continued to speak on a Boaters Safety Course she will be offering as a new law is in effect as of May 1st, 2014. She plans to offer this in March 2014. She also thanked Andrews Memorial Church. This is the third or fourth year in a row, that they recruit volunteers from their Church to do projects. They approached the Village and they painted the entire building at Heritage Park. It is called Mission Sunday.

Codes Department: Codes Enforcement Officer Pam DiCarlo spoke of Basil Leaf and it has successfully opened; they acquired their permit for their sign. The Grotto is opening tomorrow with a soft opening. She continued to speak regarding 102 South Main Street as it is not opened yet, as a



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structural issue needs to be addressed before they receive their Certificate of Compliance. She spoke of the basketball hoops in the Village being an issue in the street, protruding into the roadway whereas it may be a vehicle and traffic law issue. Chief Brennan spoke of Pam reaching out to the Codes Dept. in Cicero as they have had to address this issue with the Fire Apparatus as it has been damaged by these, and the Police Dept. has been handling these issues up in the Town of Cicero. Mayor Atkinson spoke of including this as an item for the next Staff Meeting.

Clerk Treasurer: Clerk Treasurer Dianne Kufel spoke of the auditors still reviewing the year-end books with concentrations on the Justice Court as required by NYS Office of Court Administration. They have noted that we are in a good position with our balance sheet and our debt is diminishing; just a good place to be, we are financial sound. She continued to say that she is preparing the Sales Tax Infrastructure package that substantiates the grant that we have received throughout the year amounting to \$489,000. The grant relates to the Sales Tax Revenue that we receive but we are required to substantiate proof to support this money received and forward it to the County.

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee Linnertz: No report

Trustee Ferguson: spoke of the next Public Safety Meeting to be held on Monday, December 2nd at 4:00 PM at the Community Center. He continued to speak on the event of the inaugural bible for President George Washington whereas he did his oath of office; to be held on Saturday, November 9th at the Center of Progress Building from 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM, there is no charge although there will be no flash photography. It was mentioned previously to be at the Masonic Center although this is sold out/closed. This is historical memorabilia.

Trustee Butterfield: No report

Deputy Mayor Henry: congratulated the first responders that received awards from the Police Dept. and Fire Dept.; this was a very nice luncheon and well attended. He continued to say that he and Trustee Ferguson attended the last Mayor's meeting and went to OCRRA to tour the facility. He was totally amazed at the plant, recycling of trash and the process of generating electricity. Deputy Mayor Henry spoke of the next EOP meeting to be held on November 12th at 2:30PM at Village Hall. The Village is very close to finishing this.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Atkinson mentioned the luncheon sponsored by Loretto saying it was well done and the



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recognition ceremony for first responders is getting bigger and better every year with nice gifts for the Police and Fire Depts. and NAVAC. He continued to mention the Community Business to Business Showcase on November 7th – Thursday from 5:30PM til 8:30PM at the Community Center. The is the Village and the Village Mayor working in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce to meet and showcase their wares, the businesses in the central area. The feedback seems good, plan to fill up both floors of the building so it should be a good endeavor. Mayor also interviewed a person for animal control as a part-time individual, whereas our back up person from Cicero is going South for the winter. The Mayor spoke of the Save the Rain Grant that was awarded to the Village has been reduced from what was originally spoke of. CHA representative Mary Burgoon will be attending the next meeting to discuss this grant in detail. The Mayor mentioned that the next few meetings will be showing appreciation to employees that have 25 and plus years of service and notably recognize their dedication to this Village. He also continued to remind all of the Village Staff Holiday Party will be on Friday, December 13th at 4:30 PM – Friday at VFW Post #7290.

Trustee Butterfield made a motion to adjourn at 5:17 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ferguson. The motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk/Treasurer