

VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, July 8th, 2021 @ 6:30 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

600 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY

The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 6:30 P.M. with Mayor Gary Butterfield asking everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Mayor Gary Butterfield, Trustee LouAnn St. Germain, Trustee Chris Strong, Trustee Fred Wilmer, and Dep. Mayor Gustafson.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Dianne Kufel, CEO Brian Johnstone, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Fire Chief Patrick Brennan, Parks Director Tony Burkinshaw, Village Attorney Robert Germain, and Amy Franco Village Engineer.

Personnel Absent: Police Chief William Becker (Vacation).

Business of the Month: The Mayor presented a certificate of recognition to "Ferguson Funeral Home." He thanked the owners; Pat and Bill Ferguson for being a local business and asked them to give a few words on how long they have been in business and little bit about themselves. Mr. Ferguson stated pretty much everyone in here has been to Ferguson Funeral Home at one time or other. He continued they were honored to receive this, and thanked the Mayor and Trustees. He added they have been here since 1826, not necessarily as a funeral home, but predated the Village by about 100 yrs. He shared the Village anniversary is October 7th, 1925 and the 1st Board Meeting was held here when it was a Fire House at 8:00 PM. He spoke of being actively involved in the community in the Housing Authority, Tree City and Village Historian on top of your funeral needs; we do preplanning as well as estate planning.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Mayor stated next is to approve the Board Meeting Minutes for June 24th, 2021. He continued entertained a motion, but believed there was a correction that he that we need to make. He added the \$5,000 for the drainage work on Rt. 11 from Dog Daze up to Ferguson, the sum not to exceed. He explained what we were trying to pass was for the design of the swale that was for CHA to do a design; it was not for money being spent to do the work that we already authorized and told verbally. He went on that we had an agreement with Ulster Paving or whoever that was, to do drainage work. He stated we had a meeting several of the DOT members, DPW Sup't Ware and himself; we agreed that we could do this, it is not going to totally solve the problem, but it will help. He added that is why the correction needs to be made, because that money was to be spent on the design for the potential swale, so if you would accept that correction. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel stated she did not get a chance to read them. Trustee Strong stated it was not what was presented; it was what he brought up at the last



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meeting. Mayor Butterfield entertained a motion to approve the minutes with that correction. Dep. Mayor Gustafson stated she was going to abstain from voting, because she did not see the minutes for some reason. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel continued they just came through. The Mayor stated they were late. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel added we could hold off approving them, she would really like to read them too. The Mayor continued we will table the approval until next meeting.

RESOLUTION # 126-21

GENERAL FUND NEW BUDGET ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve Abstract #3 New Budget in the amount of \$133,848.94 covering voucher #120 thru #194. The motion was seconded Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 127-21

SEWER FUND NEW BUDGET ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #03 New Budget in the amount of \$70.16 covering Voucher #26 thru #27. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 128-21

PERSONNEL APPOINTMENT(S)

The Mayor stated next we go to personnel appointments for the year, you have seen the sheet attached, he entertained a motion authorizing the appointments, anyone that is on the list needs to come to Village Hall and sign the Oath of Office; you have 30 days to complete.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion authorizing the appointments filling new terms on the list attached as "Exhibit A" effective July 1st, 2021. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer with discussion. Discussion went back and forth about a few new appointment terms had not been confirmed as well as adding the Police Reform to the annual policies; and discussion took place of perhaps having only 1 meeting a month during the summer although this was not well received. The Mayor was prepared to table this until we confirmed the new appointments.

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 129-21

FIRE DEPT. NEW PUMPER: APPROVE FINANCING/TERMS

Trustee Wilmer made a motion for discussion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Colden Agreement for \$640,000 with terms of 10 yrs. at 1.75%. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor



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Gustafson. The Mayor shared model options, costs and terms and explained it is subject to Permissive Referendum there is a time frame with 20 days for the estoppel period. Much discussion went back and forth with the Board regarding: 1) Svc. contract with svc. dept. being far away; service truck will be here within 12 hrs. of the call until facility set up in Onondaga Cty, 2) Sub frame different design will not experience problems as in past, 3) Document lists 2 yr. warrantee, have incorporated total of a 3 yr. bumper to bumper warrantee, 4) Paint issues show up between 1 and 2 yrs., all manufacturers have a minimum of 5 yrs. on the paint warrantee, 5) Fire Dept. would like \$640,000 option with 10 yrs. financing at 1.75%; will fit in their Budget shared between Village and both towns, 6) Fire apparatus goes by NFPA, not OSHA/PESH not in document; OSHA not requirement for fire vehicles coming off the line in US as standard, but in compliance with PESH. The Board trusts Fire Chief Brennan and his committee they will have a problem free engine. Chief Brennan agreed. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting favor of the same.

**ONON. CTY. COMM. DEV. 2021 FUNDING FOR
BASEMENT AT COMM. CTR.**

The Mayor stated next on the agenda is Onon. Comm. Dev. 2021 Funding for Basement at Comm. Ctr.: This is just a follow up on this request "ear-marked" we have been told that we have got the money. He continued it is a good thing, but we do not have it officially yet, but we have the money for that. Dep. Mayor Gustafson asked if we can start repairs or do we have to wait. The Mayor added it would be nice to have the document in our possession. Village Clerk-Treasurer stated it has to be done by December 31, 2022 it has to be done.

ADD'L. COMM. DEV. FROM CLAY: EARMARKED FOR GAZEBO

The Mayor stated the next item is Comm. Dev. from Clay, this was something that a came to us a few months ago, we just got word this week that those funds will not be available/released until February of 2022. He shared the Town of Clay reached out to him asking what we wanted to do and made a mistake listing the Gazebo which is in the Town of Cicero, so we may or may not get it from the Town of Clay. Dep. Mayor Gustafson asked if we could present them with another project. The Mayor continued sure. Dep. Mayor Gustafson asked about the walk way is by Maxwell and that was also in the Town of Cicero. The Mayor added just this week we got a call from Town of Clay that it is not available. He went on to say we also got a call from the Town of Cicero saying they got more money than they thought and send me a list of a couple of items.

Therefore, in summary the following items were discussed:



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Town of Clay: Gazebo (although not in Clay)

Town of Cicero: Crosswalk (Maxwell/Grove/South Bay) and the Gazebo. Amy Franco to put together proposals.

Main Street Grant: \$500,000 and up. Looking for a “developer to invest”

County Monies/Improvements: \$200,000 Put together a list of project.

Senator May: Village Hall Façade enhancements. A. Franco to prepare

SMTC: Green/Reduce Pollution: Village wide sidewalks/Solar Energy for Charging Stations

Other: Lucians Front Exterior – Eye sore

Mobil Gas Station: Buy/Environmental contamination

Pickle Ball Court

Solar Panels on top of roof

Trustee Strong suggested that we do a work session. Work Session was decided to be held at Lonergan Park on July 14th, 2021 at 5:00 PM.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION #130-21

**DISCUSS/APPROVE CHA AGREEMENT EFFECTIVE
6/01/21-5/31/2022**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the CHA Agreement effective 6/01/21-5/31/22 with same hourly rates and services as previous year. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #131-21

**ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF J. KEYES-ALTERNATE FOR
THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

The Mayor stated next item is to accept the resignation of Jacklyn Keyes as an Alternate for Zoning Board of Appeals. He continued the Village rec'd a letter from Jacklyn Keyes that she has decided to move out of stated, thereby turning in her resignation. Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to accept the resignation of Jacklyn Keyes. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #132-21

**APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF TAMMY RIVERA AS
AN ALTERNATE FOR THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**



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Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve the appointment of Tammy Rivera replacing J. Keyes on the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate; her term will expire in 5 yrs. in 2026. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. Dep. Mayor Gustafson stated she is an excellent candidate, she knows is involved with the Village and has worked with the Festival Committee. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all in favor of the same.

TREE BOARD: REVIEW/DISCUSS 104 WADSWORTH ROAD

The Mayor stated next on the agenda is Tree Board: Review/Discuss 104 Wadsworth Road, he thinks there was some dialogue going back and forth. He continued he is going to table this as we just recently rec'd the other side of the story. Trustee Strong asked if it would be the 1st. meeting in August as the subject requested a month. The Mayor added yes.

DISCUSS/APPROVE MOU-DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS:
CLASSIFICATION OF EMPLOYEES AS PWMW

The Mayor stated next is to discuss and potentially approve the MOU-Dept. of Public Works: classification of employees as PWMW: Well, conversations have gone back and forth. He shared he had a conversation with DPW Sup't Ware who stated they were losing their newest employee who had been with them almost 1 yr. to start his own business. The Mayor suggested eliminating Laborer I. and Laborer II. of which some are classified as right now. It was suggested to replace with Public Works Maintenance Worker, so they can do anything; be on a vehicle, piece of equipment or using a rake or shovel; they can do it all. The Mayor spoke of a conversation with DPW Sup't Ware, suggesting we take all the employees we have, bringing them up to Maintenance Worker starting at \$21/ hr. He added this gives us a better opportunity when we go to hire somebody if we can find somebody with skills; they can do more instead of somebody just starting out that is just a Laborer, not for retaining someone that wants to leave. He stated the other issue is the Firehouse Caretaker. He had spoken with Frank Antonocci from the Union, who stated we can exempt him, because he is not a Maintenance Worker; he is a Caretaker. Trustee Strong stated his concerns: not enough time to dive into documents, no listing of a step schedule and how that would be done, and felt it should be dealt with during contract negotiations in January. DPW Sup't Ware stated he had it in his Budget this yr. when we were doing our Budget to bring 2 Laborer II. up to Maintenance Workers. He continued they are working out very well in their positions and the Laborer I. he was going to move up to a Laborer II, because he rec'd his CDL and he is learning the routine on the jobs that needs to be done. He added the person that is leaving; he would leave no matter what. The Mayor added we do not have to vote tonight, but when he brought it up to DPW Sup't Ware; he agreed he would like to do that and so he reached out to Mr. Antonocci and he stated there would be no problem. He stated when the negotiations come up we



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can incorporate it, but in the meantime, he does not have a problem with it and neither did DPW Sup't Ware, so it is going to impact 3 or maybe 4. DPW Sup't Ware stated yes. Trustee Wilmer stated he thinks getting ready of Laborer I. and Laborer II. is a mistake, he worked there and it is more of a training. He continued going from a Laborer I. to a Laborer II. and then to a Maintenance Worker was the main plan when he worked there, that was talked about. Trustee St. Germain stated it would be an attractive position to a lot more than you think if they knew that they had something to reach towards. She continued it is a small Village and she used McDonalds, it could be Burger King or whatever, but it is not what it is; it is a reputable position. DPW Sup't Ware stated there are a lot of things that you do not get in a normal job with the Village. Trustee St. Germain stated she thinks it is great if somebody comes in and they have that opportunity to better themselves. The Mayor stated we will table it.

DISCUSS SAM GRANT: DPW RENOVATIONS/ROOF

The Mayor stated next item we already talked about the SAM Grant for the DPW Roof Renovation that has already been submitted.

**DISCUSS MAIN STREET FUNDING REQUEST: DUE
AUGUST 13TH, 2021**

The Mayor stated the Main Street Funding Request: Due August 13th, 2021, we talked about that. Trustee Strong asked if the document that came out, were you able to eliminate the crosswalks, because the document that we got had the 2, so it is just down to the DPW. Mrs. Franco stated yes, the Mayor reached out.

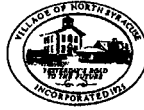
**DISCUSS ONON. CTY. ARP FUNDING REQUEST:
DUE JULY 31ST, 2021**

The Mayor stated next is Discuss Onon. Cty. ARP Funding Request: Due July 31st, 2021, we already talked about that.

RESOLUTION #133-21

**DISCUSS/APPROVE MOU-DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS:
ADDING OF THE JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY**

The Mayor stated the next is when he talked to Frank Antonocci from CSEA, the MOU for the Dept. of Public Works: Adding of the Juneteenth Holiday. He continued when that whole thing came up, we do have 3 unions, so this will be the 1st union to have that added; we need to reach out to the other unions and then do the Personnel Policy, so it is legal. He added for this yr. it will be a floating holiday for DPW



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for this yr. and starting next yr. it will be a holiday that everybody gets. Trustee Wilmer stated this will be a Comp Day that everybody gets. DPW Sup't Ware stated it will be a floater this yr., then next yr. we will observe it on the holiday. Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the MOU-Dept. of Public Works: adding the Juneteenth Holiday to their CSEA contract effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #134-21

APPROVE PARKS PART-TIME LABORER INCREASE: D. LONKEY

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to approve an increase to \$13.75/hr. for Parks Part-time Laborer, D. Lonkey effective 06/01/2021. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #135-21

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CLERK-TREASURER TO DO
BUDGET TRANSFERS TO CLOSE THE FY 5/31/21**

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to authorize the Clerk-Treasurer to do necessary Budget Transfers to close out the FY 5/31/21. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all in favor of the same.

CITIZENS' VOICE: The Mayor invited anyone that would like to share concerns or thoughts via Facebook to address the Board.

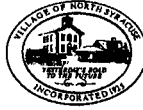
Ken Ryan of 211 Herman Dr. spoke of keeping DPW Classifications and incentives of Village benefits.

Jessica Jenkins of 14 Pine Ridge Cir. spoke of curve from Chestnut to Allen, visual unclear, add Stop Sign (Town of Clay).

John Coleman of 232 Elm St. stated if you raise pay for entry level; need to raise pay up higher for other people too. He continued rules vs. laws as far as CDL License, what you do and do not need, OSHA rules and laws.

David Robinson of 163 Slindes Woods Cir. stated he teaches AARP Driver Safety, as of September 1st, we are going to be allowed to teach based on what AARP says. He continued we have 7 classes through Parks and Rec. bucketed through December; 1st class full.

Pat Fergerson of 215 South Main St. thanked the Board for the recognition this evening and DPW; the young man you were talking about who is the transfer flagged the trash guys down when she was



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having trouble putting the trash out and made them do what they were supposed to do. The Mayor asked if anyone else would like to speak and closed Citizen's Voice.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No Report.

ENGINEER REPORT: She stated the following:

- Thank you for the renewal for next yr. with CHA
- Putting list together with all the outstanding grants, hopes and dreams list, to get better idea of due dates and what projects we have; plus add Pickle Ball, have 1 Work Session before the 1st one is due on the 31st
- Mayor asked Atty. Germain how to make Work Session happen and Atty. Germain stated you have to advertise it as an open meeting, open to the public

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: (Police Chief: William Becker): On Vacation; Mayor shared:

- Major bust at 1 of the stores, St. Tripp went around to other stores and gave them the law, difference between law and order, it is illegal to sell flavored vapes; some selling it, made aware of what law is
- Big drug bust yesterday, Atty. General here, 2 in Village; arrests/indictments started by former police who is now in Madison Cty., KUDDOS

Fire Department: (Fire Chief: Patrick Brennan) He stated the following:

- Started annual maintenance, hose and ladder testing, so busy at Firehouse

Public Works Department: (DPW Sup't.: Ed Ware) He stated the following:

- Fwd. Email about Parking at dead end on Roxann Ave. stating use to be no parking sign; no record of, but Board may want to consider putting signs up with other no parking areas, to solve problem with the neighbors who cannot get out because of neighbors across street, so would like to come up with something for that so Police could enforce or do something about
- Rt. 11 moving along, added a lot of sidewalks by Harbor Freight Plaza, front of Mobil, they have done a lot of repairs helping us out, i.e. cracks, trip hazards, other obstacles for residents
- 7/12 Rt. 11 work at night may cause issues with lights and equip. running; safer for all at night
- Everything else is moving a long, equip. repairs and staying busy

Parks and Recreation Department: (Parks Director: Anthony Burkinshaw) He stated the following:



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- Thanked Trustee Wilmer for help over holiday weekend with pool incident
- Over 400+ resident pool passes issued through the Dept. for Village Residents, numbers up
- 1st week of swim lessons, Saturday will start Saturday Swim Lessons
- Another successful concert series, that was 2 of 10 shows that are going on; last wks. concert got moved to make up date: September 1st for Mood Swings
- Wrapping Wk. 2 of Summer Camp; going well, things moving along and staying busy

Codes Department: (CEO: Brian Johnstone) He stated the following:

- Still working on documentation for 118 Grove St., will inform Board when it goes out
- Permit issued for 444 S. Main St. Apartment Project yesterday, today they were there busy, with road paving good doing at night; a lot of equip. will be going in and out of that site

Clerk-Treasurer: (Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel) She stated the following:

- Judy, girl at front desk through Staff Kings, had to work certain number of hours; very pleased with her, think toward the end of July would like to bring her on to Village, very cheerful brings good experience, helpful, received compliments on answering the phones
- Still working on LOSAP, how it was passed with the Village election 62 to 60, still working on getting substantial numbers type of an increase that would be

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee St. Germain: She stated the following:

- She stated the dialogue about a lot of subjects, for a small Village taking everybody's specific considerations/thoughts to heart; and the importance to us, good we meet 2 times or more a month, if we need to. She continued it is a good Village and very prosperous with everybody we have working for us and in the Village is out for everybody, she appreciates being here.

Trustee Strong: He stated the following:

- We should maintain 2 meetings, consider changing the 2nd, 4:30 meeting to later, so more could attend/stream or do Saturday meeting quarterly, so people could potentially come
- Asked to search and to check out Pickle Ball; growing across country, tennis courts not used
- Police Chief, Sgt. Fieldson, the Mayor and himself accepted \$8,000 donation from Roger Burdick to start cadet youth police group, Sgt. Fieldson to kick that off and lead program
- Thanked DPW and CEO Johnstone, rec'd 3 calls from residents on Oakley and Wells ecstatic back area cleared, can use their backyards now; KUDDOS

Trustee Wilmer: No Report.



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Dep. Mayor Gustafson: She stated the following:

- Complemented Parks Dir. Burkinshaw on how well the pool is running, had grandchildren there for swim lessons and at night; people are pleased with it

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor stated 113 Herman Dr. Tree, we rec'd the report and the Board has been copied, it is hard to read; what he gathered is the risk is moderate. He continued it was recommended to examine it another 2 yrs., so he does not think it is an imminent danger, so read it. He added it may be beyond the Right-of-way. DPW Sup't Ware stated it is a 60' road, so would be 30' from the center of the road. He stated Cannabis, we have not done anything with that, the Police Chief told us of a meeting he attend, there is probably not going to be an opportunity for a retail consumption place on Rt. 11, because of the proximity to schools and churches; we do not have anything in writing on that. He continued we need to get something from somebody that actually documents that, opt out or just let it go, so that is something to think about. Trustee Strong stated the chief did mention former Syracuse Police Chief DeVaul is heading up the company that does that; they believe he now has that document.

The Mayor stated he would like to entertain a motion to go into executive session to discuss a Collective Bargaining issue. He continued did not think they would be doing any business after executive session.

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to enter into **Executive Session** at 8:05 P.M. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting favor of the same.

Trustee Strong made a motion to return to **Regular Session** at 8:17 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wilmer. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting favor of the same.

Trustee Wilmer made a motion to adjourn at 8:18 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, Wilmer, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk-Treasurer

VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

DATE: July 8th, 2021

PLEASE SIGN IN

Name

Address

D ROBINSON
P. Fergersan Bill Fergersan

163 SLINDERS Woods
215 So Main St. 13212 3100

Tammy Rivera

107 DON DR. N. 13212

John Coleman

232 Elm St.

L Loto

356 Chestnut St

KEN RYAN

211 HERMAN DR

Jessica Jenkin

14 Pine Ridge Cir

James Berg

14 Pine Ridge Cir

John Linen

109 Chestnut St