



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, April 14th, 2022 @ 6:28 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

600 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY

Facebook not Livestreamed, audio problem

The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 6:28 P.M. with Mayor Gary Butterfield asking everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Dianne Kufel, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Dep. Chief John Linnertz, Parks Director Tony Burkinshaw, Police Chief William Becker, and Village Attorney Neil Germain.

Personnel Absent: Trustee Fred Wilmer (Excused), CEO Brian Johnstone (Excused) and Village Engineer Amy Franco (Absent).

Public Hearing #1: Please take notice that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of North Syracuse regarding the "FY 2022-2023" Tentative Budget on Thursday, April 14th, 2022 at 6:28 PM and the Board will meet at said time and place and will hear all persons in support of such matters or any objections thereto.

The Mayor stated we are working on our Tentative Budget, we have to have the Budget approved by the end of the month, each Dept. has details; typically the 1st Model that comes out is over our project Budget limits. He added we are obligated by the state to have a 2% Tax Cap, although we passed a motion to allow us to go over that, but we do not want to; we have some work to do to get where we want to be. He stated if anyone would like to speak for or against the Tentative Budget, he invited them to the microphone to speak to the Board. He asked again, if anyone would like to speak for or against the Tentative Budget. He continued it has been posted. Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel stated yes, it is online, it is available. He asked a 3rd time if anyone would like to speak for or against our proposed Budget, again it is a work in progress, we believe we will get to the 2% Tax Cap; with no response, he closed Public Hearing #1.

Public Hearing #2: Please take notice that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of North Syracuse to consider the adoption of Local Law #3 modifying the Parks Code §165-2 on Thursday, April 14th at 6:29 PM and the Board will meet at said time and place regarding parking after the parks are closed in the Village of North Syracuse, and will hear all persons in support of such matters or any objections thereto.



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The Mayor continued there is a proposed language change that would change the regulations in the parks as to what time they are closed. He added we can open this up for discussion, anyone that would like to speak for or against this proposed law. He asked again if anyone would like to speak for or against this proposed law. Darlene Piper of 106 1/2 Northfield Dr. asked if they could give some details, she understood what the intent was, however; she was just at the park picking up garbage. She continued she realized there is like a swab of people meeting at the park, getting into somebodys car; kind of like a ride share thing. She added so now they are going to get their car towed if they are beyond dark. She explained she understands the intention, obviously people roam the parks, but you can also have that flip side of people using it and not realizing it; you are going to have all that posting it too. The Mayor deferred to Parks Dir. Burkinshaw. Parks Dir. Burkinshaw stated so the issue comes up is the fact that there is nothing good that comes up having the cars there overnight. Mrs. Piper reiterated overnight, O.K. Parks Dir. Burkinshaw clarified they cannot park overnight; it is just to protect the parks. He explained it also allows our local law enforcement, if they do see a car in there and it is past the hours, they do have the right to go in there and check on it and make sure there is nothing funny going on in the parks past our curfews. He added they also have the right to remove the car, if there is no one around, so this just helps them enforce the local law; all we are doing is changing the verbiage stating that there is no staying there unless there are prior arrangements made for them. He stated at dark there is no reason why the car should be there. Mrs. Piper reiterated again if someone is doing the ride share and thought that was a safe spot, so she assumed they are going to have to put signs up. Trustee Strong stated just to tag on, one of the things that came up at the last meeting was folks that go in before it opens back up, that would also give law enforcement the flexibility; it is not a 100% it has to be towed or we have to do something. She continued it gives them the flexibility if they are doing something shady after hours, then they have the opportunity to tow it and take action. He added there would be signs, because some people are walking their dogs and doing other things prior to a 6:00 AM, if that is what time it opens. The Mayor asked if anyone else would like to speak for or against, with no response he stated Public Hearing #2 is closed.

RESOLUTION # 085-22

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES-MARCH 24TH, 2022

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 24th, 2022, Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 086-22

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve Abstract #23 in the amount of \$95,343.35 covering voucher #1547 thru #1632. The motion was seconded Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St.



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Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 087-22

SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve Sewer Fund Abstract #23 in the amount of \$31.23 covering voucher #14. The motion was seconded Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 088-22

**RESCIND MOTION REGARDING THE 2022 COMM. DEV.
FUNDING TO BE UTILIZED IN 2023**

The Mayor stated this gets a little confusing, we want to rescind the 2022 Comm. Dev. Funding to be utilized in 2023: We made a motion before with these funds because of issue downstairs, but we cannot receive those funds until 2023, so this is a safety issue; it needs to be addressed sooner, so he entertained a motion to rescind this. Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to Rescind Motion regarding the 2022 Comm. Dev. Funding to be utilized in 2023. The motion was seconded Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 089-22

**DISCUSS NEW MOTION REGARDING 2022 COMM. DEV.
FUNDING TO BE UTILIZED IN 2023**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion for dialogue on New Motion regarding the 2022 Comm. Dev. Funding to be utilized in 2023, so possibly perhaps for the 2022, for the basement and judge's chambers. Trustee Strong seconded the motion. Much discussion went on back and forth regarding: If we had performance deadlines, that we had to submit it, and it got submitted; so we are good there. The Mayor explained basically we are flip flopping, because of the downstairs is timely, the basement not so much. He stated regarding the Comm. Dev. Funding to be utilized in 2023; we will rescind it and at a later date we can flip flop. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 090-22

**DISCUSS/REVIEW/APPROVE LOCAL LAW #3 REGARDING
THE MODIFICATIONS OF THE PARKS CODE**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to adopt the change to the Modification of the Parks Code as Local Law #3. The motion was seconded Trustee St. Germain. Trustee Strong thanked Parks Dir. Burkinshaw for the research on this, collaborating with the Police Dept. and Counsel. He continued



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hopefully we can stop some of what we have been seeing on the camera and folks after hours. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 091-22

**DISCUSSION OF AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF CLAY
REGARDING SIDEWALKS 2022-2023 WINTER SEASON**

Trustee Strong made a motion authorizing the Discussion of Agreement with the Town of Clay regarding sidewalks 2022-2023 Winter Season, if they are O.K. with it. The motion was seconded Dep. Mayor Gustafson. Much discussion went back and forth regarding: It being a good deal, beneficial, not best case or worst case scenario of laborer, wear and tear on equipment. DPW Sup't Ware felt they could do it, spoke of benefits to the Vlg. and Town of Clay; municipal agreements and the Bombadier being able to handle the heavier snow and cleaning up sidewalks well. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

REVIEW/DISCUSS DRAINAGE ISSUE: CATCH BASINS/STORM DRAINS

The Mayor stated next item on the agenda is Review/Discuss Drainage Issue: Catch Basins/Storm Drains, DPW Sup't Ware and Kristy Harris from CHA have been working together to follow up with targeted areas and asked DPW Sup't to give an update on this. DPW Sup't Ware stated he met with Mrs. Harris and we looked at the storm drains, they are not really storm drains as it does not flow anywhere on Herman. He continued we cleaned them out, she has a couple of ideas we might be working with on those. He added himself and another employee went out and mapped all the Stormwater going to Centerville which it goes all the way from Church St. all around Walgreens Drug Store and around Malta Lane and comes together right there. He explained all that surface area is draining over to South Bay Rd., so it is kind of back flowing up down thru. He stated he reached out to the NYS DOT and they showed him where their boarder line is or their easement up to the properties. He shared part of that is their responsibility on Gateway, Mrs. Harris is going to reach out to them, and see what they can do for us.

**UPDATE: SMTC GRANT FILED (SIDEWALKS RT. 11) SCHUMER
GRANT FILED (CENTERVILLE PARK BATHROOMS)
FEMA GO-GRANT-GENERATOR/COMM. CTR.**

Mayor Updated Grants: We are waiting on the following grants, if we get will be busy:

- SMTC Grant (Sidewalks Rt. 11): Just put together, rec'd yesterday, so did not get to see; declined, our contribution over \$1,000,000; saving all paperwork for another opportunity.
- Schumer Grant Filed for Centerville Park Bathrooms: Has gone in
- Update: FEMA Go Grant: Has been filed for Comm. Ctr. Generator.



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NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 092-22

APPROVE/APPOINT NEW POLICE OFFICER J. MURRAY III
EFFECTIVE 4/18/2022 AT \$47,064 ANNUALLY

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve the appointment of John Murray III as a North Syracuse Police Officer effective Monday, 4/18/2022 at \$47,064/yr. The Mayor asked for discussion, and invited John Murray III to come up and introduce himself. Police Officer Murray shared of his career in Chittenango in Madison Cty., prior to that he was a supervisor for 10 yrs. and spoke of his work ethic being instilled from his father and working with him. He stated he was happy to be aboard and looked forward to working with everyone. The motion was seconded Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 093-22

REVIEW/APPROVE THE TRAVEL EXPENSES RELATED FOR
FIREFIGHTER A. LAMICA TO ATTEND NAT'L FIRE ACAD.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve the travel expenses for firefighter A. Lamica to attend the Nat'l Fire Acad. for April 29th thru May 1st at a cost of approximately \$500 for food/car/gas. The motion was seconded Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 094-22

REVIEW/MODIFY COMM. CTR. REHAB PROJECT-2021
COMM. DEV. FUNDS TO BE UTILIZED IN 2022

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to open up for dialogue to Review/Modify Comm. Ctr. Rehab Project-2021 Comm. Dev. Funds to be utilized in 2022 and to authorize us to spend the money where it is needed 1st with the 2020-2021 money. The motion was seconded Dep. Mayor Gustafson. Much discussion went back and forth regarding: The choice is to handle the flooring downstairs; we already have a quote for it, somebody ready to go; this is a safety issue. They spoke of somebody who had potential tripping at Seniors Meeting about a month ago, and caught their toes in the laminate flooring. If there are funds left after the flooring, we are working on the stairs and there are plenty of things to do. We need to would authorize us to spend the money where it is needed 1st with the 2020-2021 money. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 095-22

ACCEPT ELECTED/APPOINTED OFFICERS FOR THE FIRE DEPT.

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is to accept Elected/Appointed Officers for the Fire Dept.,



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the Board rec'd a copy of the memo from the Fire Chief; congratulations to all. Dep. Chief Linnertz stated the appointments: Pat Brennan-Fire Chief, John Linnertz- Dep. Chief, Richard Allen- Asst. Chief, Casey Daugard-District Chief (appointed by the Fire Counsel), Wayne Rochette-Captain, Lieutenants: Christopher Strong, Brevin Nicholson, Jozsef Asztalos, Scott Gratien and Fire Wardens: Peter Dromms, and Paul Linnertz. The Mayor continued we accept the Appointed Officers. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 096-22

SURPLUS ITEMS-FIRE DEPT.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to Surplus Items for Fire Dept. as follows: 5 lengths 5" supply line, 4 pair firefighting pants, 2 firefights coats, and 5 pair firefighting boots. The motion was seconded Trustee St. Germain. Dep. Mayor Gustafson asked where they are at with the Chief's Car, that you were taking the details off, because that was not included in the list. Dep. Chief Linnertz explained the car was ready to go to auction, but with Casey Daugard being appointed as District Chief, the Fire Chief and myself staying another to move the leadership along, we are holding that for now, it should go in April 2023. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 097-22

SET ARBOR DAY OBSERVANCE-FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH, 2022 AT 4:00 PM

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve and set Friday, April 29th, 2022 at 4:00 PM as the Arbor Day Observance in the Village of North Syracuse. The motion was seconded Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting 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.

Pat Fergerson of 215 N. Main St. thanked them for setting the Arbor Day Observance and everybody is welcome at 4:00 PM right over there. She shared the Vlg. Festival is the end of May and encourage all to part take. She thanked everyone for their help with the Bunny Breakfast. She will go around for financial support for the Festival; she has raffle tickets for the jewelry donate from Welch's Jewelry.

Ken Ryan of 211 Herman Dr. stated he saw the new leafier; little disappointed but hoped it runs good. He spoke of the following regarding trees: Tree Board and codes regarding the trees, sizes of the trees, and various trees he felt should come down; as well as billing the property owners.

John Coleman of 232 Elm St. spoke of drainage work being done over by Richardson and asked how it is going to affect his catch basin. The Mayor stated it should not affect him in a negative way. DPW Sup't Ware stated the water from Richardson comes from the apartments, so that the Town of Clay side,



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coming into the Village and then goes back to Clay. He asked about future maintenance so to alleviate or lesson the flooding in his yard.

Darlene Piper of 106 ½ Northfield Dr. asked prior to the plowing agreement with the Town of Clay for Allen Road and Taft Rd if they could send residents a notice not to allow plow guys to block and expressed concern that it would be difficult for Vlg. to do. DPW Sup't Ware reassured they could do the plowing, do stop and tell them that they cannot push it across the road or into the sidewalk. Mrs. Piper continued about the floor downstairs, and if it was the product. She stated the roof on the Toll Rd. House is in desperate need of being repaired. She offered her services to not just pick up the garbage, but tending to the trees and the flowers. She spoke of it being mentioned last yr. of helping homeowners with their yards, and asked can that idea be applied to the parks. The Mayor spoke of the Block Builders is going to be kicked off again, that is the program for the yards, stoops, walkways.

The Mayor asked if anyone else would like to speak and closed Citizen's Voice.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No Report.

ENGINEER REPORT: (Amy Franco): No Report (Absent).

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: (Police Chief William Becker): He stated the following:

- Thanked the Board for approving our new officer

Fire Department: (Dep. Chief John Linnertz) He stated the following:

- Fire Dept. has been busy doing calls
- Rescue tools, we have 2 out of 3 signatures, spoke of all the steel that cutters have to be cable of cutting, spreaders have to spread in standard car in 2022

The Mayor stated per the report submitted, our Jaws of Life, both cutters and spreaders are not up to task to cutting the new steel and new pieces, so Fire Dept. submitted req. for the upgraded; he signed today and assumed they will get another signature.

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

- Working on getting ready for spring, picking up plow markers, putting equipment away

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



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- Thanked everyone who stepped while out last weekend, even his office during the Easter
- Egg Hunt, over 100 kids, good success for the number of people they had
- Thanked Police Dept. for helping with that and partnering with us
- Thanked Festival Committee, Trustees, and everyone that helped with Bunny Breakfast; biggest turnout in yrs., big fundraiser for Family Fest
- 4/23 Shred Day Event, he thanked everyone who is volunteering for that event, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM at Comm. Ctr.
- 4/23 Earth Day Event, looking for volunteers to help in parks, to clean, so can open parks; 10 AM-12:00 PM, call office and we can assign them to a park
- 4/29 Arbor Day, Tree Planting: Working with DPW to get in
- 5/2 Summer Camp Registration starts for Residents, can register at Comm. Pass
- 5/9 Summer Camp Registration starts for Non-Residents
- Toll Rd. School House, been talking, not certain what we are going to do with it

Codes Department: (CEO: Brian Johnstone) No Report (Excused).

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

- Budget: Not many questions/conversation; hope to fine tune at next mtg. to have more palatable model the Village can sustain.
 - Labor units get a 2.5% increase, there alone hard to stay under the 2%
 - Trash is a big component of this Budget
 - Health Insurance big component, labor negotiated item, focusing on it with better employee contributions.
 - NYS Retirement System did go down for the Employees Retirement System
 - NYS Retirement Police and Fire did not go down much; bigger component of the Budget.
 - Not a lot new: Leafer and mower.
 - ARP Funds Earmarked: Sealing, striping pkg. lots, Police Dept. according to rotation of vehicles, a couple of vehicles and radios for them, does not impact this Budget at all.

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee St. Germain: She stated the following:

- She wished everyone a safe, and Happy Easter!
- Congratulated Chief Becker on new hire, good we still have people that want to come and protect everybody else, in light of the way the world is.

Trustee Strong: He stated the following:



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- Bunny Breakfast: The line was out the door, cannot say enough about young folks from Canteen; wonderful, polite and professional offering help
- Vlg. Police Comm. email went out to Citizens Comm. to get a mtg. together, annual Police Report is out
- Junior Cadet Program status, it is Budget season, so where we go in the future
- Fire Dept. this is a transition yr., pointed out he has recused himself from certain topics, is giving full disclosure; cleared with Mayor, has been asked to help out with young guys taking over Lieutenant Spots and is giving extra hours to help out.

Trustee Wilmer: No Report (Absent).

Dep. Mayor Gustafson: She stated the following:

- Thank you for Bunny Breakfast, Easter Egg Hunt, she stated it was Parks Dir. Burkinshaw organization; it is a sign of a good organization when the person is not there and everybody else just follows it. She thanked everyone else, but Pat Ferguson is big part of Bunny Breakfast, so thank you to you.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

He stated annually we have Vlg. flowers that are based on donations from citizens and businesses. He continued last yr. we sent a letter stating we would handle the it ourselves this yr., because of the financial struggles the people were having, so we had the flowers last yr.; but the Vlg. paid for them. He added this yr. went sent out letters for the flowers asking for donations, we are way ahead of any other yr. He thanked the businesses and the few residents; we are probably 35% above what we have ever gotten for flowers. He stated he is still looking and have not rec'd any names for the Ethics Committee for the Vlg. of which we need to put together, so trustees if you could each come up with a couple of names. He continued ongoing negotiations with the CSEA and the Teamsters 317 are in progress. He added he already mentioned the grants, but we are working on several plus we have some that we have already gotten or gone through the paperwork trying to get with all the dots and "T's" in place, so we can officially start. He shared anybody that wants to come to the meetings, all the items are posted ahead of time so you can view them from your easy chair or wherever you want to watch them from. He stated we talked about the Budget, this is a difficult yr., we do not know where we are going to be, some unforeseen; just to give the residents that are here and those that are listening, our Vlg. is in good shape. He continued financially we have low debt svc; we have a sufficient fund balance, we get rated every yr. by the state and we are rated highly both for fiscal and environmental stress ratings, so we will get through this Budget. He added the Fulton-Oswego Block Builders that we started a committee 2 yrs. ago, were pre-pandemic and there was some excitement



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about taking 1 street, even 1 side of the street and doing some improvements. He stated they found in Oswego and Fulton that it is contagious, once 1 street starts it, the other side of the street; they will do some things. He explained it is small grants for the front yard, painting, landscaping; a new porch or whatever. He continued he got invited on April 29th, to a meeting up in Fulton and it says it is nationally recognized, the Fulton-Oswego Block Builders. He spoke of going to be a presentation and he will probably come back with lots of energy to get it started again.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to adjourn at 7:23 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Strong, 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: April 14, 2022

PLEASE SIGN IN

Name

Address

Pat Fergerson

215 So Main St N. Syr. NY 13212

KEN RYAN

211 HERMAN DR

Dale L. Lee

106 1/2 Northfield Dr

John Coleman

237 Elm St

John Linerbach

FIRE DEPT.