



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, June 13th, 2024 @ 5:30 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

600 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY

Facebook Livestreamed

The Village of North Syracuse Regular Board Meeting began at 5:30 P.M. with Mayor Gary Butterfield asking everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel, Codes Enf. Officer Nicholas Rohm, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Fire Chief Patrick Brennan, Parks Dir. Anthony Burkinshaw, Police Chief Chance Fieldson, and Village Engineer Amy Franco.

Personnel Absent: Village Attorney Robert Germain (Excused).

SWEARING IN CEREMONY:

NEWLY APPOINTED RECRUIT OFFICER TIMOTHY MOSHER

PROMOTION OF OFFICER ZACHARY MISZTAL TO LIEUTENANT-PART-TIME

Police Chief Fieldson introduced Lieutenant Zachary Misztal and Officer Timothy Mosher and their families. He shared some history of both gentlemen and they were both sworn in. He welcomed them both to the Police Dept. They were congratulated and welcomed by the Mayor and the Vlg. Board.

APPROVAL OF REG. BD. MTG. -MAY 23RD, 2024

The Mayor stated the minutes for the May 23rd, 2024 mtg. are not ready yet, so we will approve those at the next mtg.

RESOLUTION #108-24

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL-OLD BUDGET

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve General Fund Old Budget Abstract #27 in the amount of \$177,650.12 covering voucher #1801 thru #1861. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. Discussion took place about "Clay – Codes Officer" and the costs; Codes Officer Nick Rohm explained in the New Budget Yr., it is a line item within the Budget, and have \$2,000 budgeted as an as needed type thing. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #109-24

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL-NEW BUDGET

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve General Fund New Budget Abstract #1 in the amount of



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\$152,885.04 covering voucher #1 thru #45. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #110-24

SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL-NEW BUDGET

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve Sewer Fund New Budget Abstract #1 in the amount of \$31.22 covering voucher #1. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #111-24

BUDGET TRANSFER(S)-OLD BUDGET

The Mayor stated the transfer is from the old budget, monies from insurance covering the new lettering for 2018 Ford. Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve the budget transfers from A2680 Insurance Recoveries, Old Budget in the amount of \$1,305 to increase A3120.476 Vehicle Maintenance. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #112-24

BUDGET TRANSFER(S)-OLD BUDGET

The Mayor stated the transfer is Old Budget, from costs associated with Nova-Highland Animal Hospital. Trustee Strong made a motion to approve the budget transfers, from A3389 Burdick Donation Therapy Dog, Old Budget in the amount of \$213 to increase A3120.400 Police Miscellaneous. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

OLD BUSINESS:

RENTAL REGISTRY-IN PROGRESS-MAYOR AND CODES ENF. OFFICER

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is Rental Registry-In Progress-Mayor and Codes Enf. Officer: We started this process in just the last couple of days, from Albany came some information about recent legislation. He continued that has been circling about short term rentals, and rental registry, so this is an ongoing process; we will see what the state is going to tell us, just so you know this is something we are working on.

DISCUSS 118 GROVE STREET-BUILDING PERMIT HAS EXPIRED

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda: Discuss 118 Grove Street- Building Permit Has Expired:



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Codes Enf. Officer Rohm is working with our attys. Codes Enf. Officer Rohm stated he is working with the attys., he has typed up a report and they are currently looking it over, to make sure it is all good to present. He continued then we will proceed with the demolition of the house on the property. He added it is dangerous, he has a report from 2021 that Codes Enf. Officer Johnstone submitted to the Board at that time. He explained the house has not improved, well there is a new roof on it, it is still structurally failing, and dangerous.

DISCUSS 102 HIGHLAND AVE-VACANT

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda: Discuss 102 Highland Ave-Vacant: Again, Codes Enf. Officer Rohm is working with the attys., on that project. Codes Enf. Officer Rohm stated along with 118 Grove, because it is a dilapidated bldg., it is collapsing. He continued he is starting the process with the attys., for the report as well, to have submitted to them for their review; before presenting it. He added we are looking to do the same with that, there is probably no abatement, but look to demolish it.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 113-24

**DISCUSS/APPROVE AUTH. MAYOR TO SIGN CONTRACT FOR THE
TRAINING OF NOVA-NO. SYR. POLICE DEPT. THERAPY DOG**

Trustee Strong made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign contract for the training of Nova, No. Syr. Police Dept. Therapy Dog. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. Discussion took place on the cost and the schedule for the payments. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 114-24

**DISCUSS/REVIEW/MOTION FOR WORKERS COMP CARRIER
QUOTES: PERMA/NYS MUNICIPAL COMP ALLIANCE**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve going with Comp Alliance as Workers Comp Carrier effective 6/1/24 at \$55,960 plus the NYS Assessment fee of \$3,925 for \$59,885 total. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. Discussion back and forth: \$20,000 over 2 yrs./\$20,000 savings per yr.; clarification was per/yr., and questioned better performance than yrs. past. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same. Opposed: Strong.

RESOLUTION #: 115-24

**DISCUSS/REVIEW SEQR FOR THE NY SWIM GRANT-TYPE II-NO FURTHER
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**



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Trustee Strong made a motion to approve the SEQR for the NY Swim Grant, Type II, No Further Environmental Review. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #: 116-24

**DISCUSS/APPROVE THE NSCSD FUEL AND WASH AGREEMENT:
JULY 1ST, 2024-JULY 31, 2025**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to Approve the NSCSD Fuel and Wash Agreement: July 1st, 2024-July 31, 2025. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #: 117-24

**DISCUSS/APPROVE THE NSCSD BURNELL PARKWAY
AGREEMENT: JULY 1ST, 2024-JULY 31, 2025**

Trustee Strong made a motion to Approve the NSCSD Burnell Parkway Agreement: July 1st, 2024-July 31, 2025. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**DISCUSS/APPROVE THE MOU AS DESCRIBED FOR THE POLICE
DEPT. TEAMSTERS 1149 AGREEMENT**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is Discuss/Approve the MOU as Described for the Police Dept. Teamsters 1149 Agreement: We are working with our Police Dept. on a MOU, we have had an MOU, and the Police Contract has actually run out; so, we are in negotiations, the May 31st was the end of the contract. He continued so we are revising the MOU, we rec'd word about some language changes today, in the MOU; so, we will push out until next mtg.

RESOLUTION #: 118-24

**AUTHORIZE CLERK TREASURER TO DO YEAR-END BUDGET
TRANSFERS IN ORDER TO CLOSE THE BOOKS**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to authorize Clerk Treasurer to do year-end budget transfers in order to close the books. The motion was seconded by Trustee Strong. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

**DISCUSS/REVIEW MODIFIED DISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT
POLICY-MODIFICATIONS HIGHLIGHTED**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is Discuss/Review Modified Discrimination/Harassment



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Policy-Modifications Highlight: The Board rec'd the policy with the highlighted changes as specified by NYMIR, once this is approved, we will see that each employee receives and signs this new policy. The Mayor added there are changes and some highlights made for us to look at, so we will push that up to the next mtg.

DISCUSS DPW-ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE WORKER

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is Discuss DPW-Additional Maintenance Worker: We discussed it at our staff mtg., and he opened it up for discussion. He continued the issue we have is 1 of our DPW workers is a very good mechanic and he is often used by the other depts., to take care of the vehicles. Much discussion back and forth re: Various Depts. vehicles Joel works on and the time taken away from the duties for DPW, the need for hiring another person as either Laborer 1, Laborer 2 or Maintenance Wrkr., CDL's and training requirement changes. This was not in budget, but the need has become apparent. We will follow up with further discussion.

**INFORMATIONAL: TEAMSTERS 1149 NEGOTIATIONS
ARE IN FORCE-CONTRACT EXPIRED 5/31/2024**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is Informational: Teamsters 1149 Negotiations Are In Force-Contract Expired 5/31/2024: Negotiations are ongoing, we are working quickly on resolving the differences that we have. He continued obviously the union represents what they would like to see and the two of us of the Vlg. Board that are negotiating, Trustee Strong and himself. He added we will respond back with what we think is fair, we want to be fair to both parties. He explained hopefully we can get this cleaned up in a short period of time.

**DISCUSS POTENTIAL OFFERING OF HEALTH INSURANCE TO
PART-TIMERS: 100% PAID BY THE EMPLOYEE**

The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is discuss potential offering of Health Insurance to part-timers: 100% Paid by the Employee: There is 1 person that is particularly interested in this, this part-time would be willing to pay this entire cost premium themselves and with no cost to the Vlg. Much discussion went back and forth re: employee paying full premium, whether offering to 1 or 6 or all part-timers and how it would affect the costs, benefits to employee and retention opportunity as long as no cost to the Vlg.

**INFORMATIONAL: POLICE DEPT. AWARDED \$205,189:
EQUIPMENT/CAMERAS/PLATE READERS ETC.**



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The Mayor stated the next item on the agenda is Informational: Police Dept. Awarded \$205,189: Equipment/Cameras/Plate Readers Etc.: This is information and turned it over to Police Chief Fieldson. Police Chief Fieldson announced the No. Syr. Police Dept. was awarded a Law Enforcement Technology Grant for \$205,189 as of May 31st, 2024. He continued applied for the grant in the fall, the state recognized our needs in terms of technology. He shared will help us with many of our outdated technology items, car computers, body camera equipment and electronic finger print equipment. He added it will assist us with accreditation software funds, that we actually part of a plan for the next couple of yrs. He stated we are excited about this; it is going to cover other parts that would likely fall upon the taxpayers.

RESOLUTION #: 119-24 **DISCUSS/REVIEW-POLICE PURCHASE 2024 FORD UTILITY-BUDGETED ITEM**

Trustee Strong made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign documents for Police Purchase 2024 Ford Utility including all upfitting with total cost of \$58,000. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #: 120-24 **DISCUSS/REVIEW/AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN-INSTALLMENT PURCHASE FOR THE 2024 FORD UTILITY**

Trustee Strong made a motion the Mayor to sign installment purchase for the 2024 Ford Utility at 6.61% with Community Leasing Partners. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION #: 121-24 **DISCUSS/REVIEW THE HIRING OF PARKS SEASONAL REC. AIDE (REPLACE PREV. HIRE) \$15/HR**

Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion Approve/Authorize the Hiring of Parks Seasonal Rec. Aide to S. Fleming to replace prev. hire at \$15/hr. effective June 25th, 2024. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, 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. The Mayor asked if anyone would like to speak and closed Citizen's Voice.

Brian Badger of 129 Oakley Dr. spoke of the strip of road that runs between Oakley and Wells Ave E.: Having significant dumping and street light out, now with wall on 81 extremely dark. He asked for the light to be fixed and more Police patrolling of the area.



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Pat Fergerson of 215 S. Main St. thanked Officer Darrow for his assistance.

David Ellithorpe of 118 Grove St. thanked the Board for their encouragement and support for trying to give him a chance to resolve the situation.

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

ATTORNEY REPORT: (Robert Germain): No Report.

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: (Police Chief Chance Fieldson): He stated the following:

- Arrested 19 yr. old and 20 yr. old females for criminal mischief at Lonergan and on Millen Dr.-2 incidents connected, thanked Parks Dir. Burkinshaw for his assistance
- Staffing: 1 Full-time Officer in Field Training, Officer Mosher will start Field Training shortly
- Trying to extend lateral incentive to try to fill final position
- Community Police: Participated in Main St. School Event
- Spoke at Comm. Ctr. at AARP Driving Class re: Fraud
- Attended No. Syr. Family Festival, 2 calls: Someone almost passed out/missing person, provided Child ID's and had DUI Simulator available
- The Totals for May: 824 Total Calls for service, 223 Property checks, 15 Domestic, 30 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 257 Traffic Stops, 149 Traffic Tickets, 22 Criminal Arrests

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

- Look at Fuel Agreement you signed tonight: Last updated in 2004, Section B: Basically Fire Dept., is providing all inspections at facilities within fire district at no charge; Fire Dept does not do that any longer, we do what we need to with school district
- Busy, 81 calls for May
- Had ISO Insp. waiting for report
- Had NYS Dept of Health gave recertification for our ALS (Advanced Life Support) and BLS for Fire Dept., Report came in: Dept. well prepared, no known deficiencies-KUDDOS Dep. Chief
- 6/1- 4 hrs. with Police and NAVAC attended Main Street Safety Day
- 6/1- Attended Cicero Chiefs Mtg.
- 6/2-6 hrs. attending Defensive Driving Course with Firehouse and Members
- 6/2-3 hrs. Officers Mtg.



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- 6/3-Walk thru with 2 committee members for Firehouse Addition over to Sta. 2 relocating recruitment trailer
- 6/8-3 hrs. Took apparatus to DPW Garage in Town of Cicero working with 5 depts./full crew
- Working with Codes over on Slindes Woods
- Just installed a lockbox on Rt. 11
- Looking to assist an employee with non-paid time off; more to follow
- Looking to have another mtg. with committee for expansion

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

- 5/30-5/31 Storm drain completed on Millen Dr. out of Old Budget; went well
- Kennedy Park: Water line went well
- Busy picking up brush, bulk trash and mowing
- Mow orders are trickling in, mowing as they come
- Things going fairly smooth

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

- Kennedy Project: Wrapped up, pipe in ground connect to the back house and front house, waiting for chemicals to settle; so, we can open pool
- Heritage: Basketball, Pickle Ball and Tennis cts. started today
- Pool passes/swim lessons available; residents free, non-residents family pass \$150 up to 5
- Backflow did pass inspection thru OCWA, look at heating, need certified yrly.

Codes Department: (Codes Enforcement Officer: Nicholas Rohm): He stated the following:

- Brolex, 444 S. Main St.: Rec'd letter, 7/18/24 Extend Sunset Clause before Plan. Comm.
- Alkina Sushi, 709 N Main St.: 7/18/24 before Plan. Comm.
- Complaints: Nice out, everyone is looking at the neighbor's property, busy on those
- 118 Grove St./102 Highland Ave.: Doing a lot of research with attys.
- Pkg. Lot behind Rev-Fit: Confirmed is finished and in conformance with Site Plan

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

- Dept. Busy, new Budget Cycle: Old Budget/New Budget Pay Period and Abstracts
- Working on Mechanic Spreadsheet, if choose to allocate sometime to other depts if you choose to would absorb sometime
- Workers Comp: Looked into, went back and forth, here during PERMA; they are going to offer different training, starting to have safety mtgs. again, substantial \$20,000 savings/2 yr. price guarantee; PERMA would not, plus they wanted to audit who is doing what truck, Comp Alliance not going to do



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- FOIL Requests quite a few
- Canvas Police, big task, 19 interested; looking for extension on list
- New emails for all the Trustees, next Monday roll out to northsyracuseny.
- Updated Grants:
 - \$50,000 Basement almost wrapped up; balance \$16,000; request submitted for payment
 - Main St./Just 1 Bite, coming along quite rapidly, Grant reduced \$500,000 to \$89,000
 - Tapp Grant Sidewalks throughout the Village, \$1.5 million granted, Mayor mtg. Friday
 - Main St. Front Façade Enhancements:
 - Ferguson Funeral Home
 - Nestico's
 - Mickey's Bait Shop-Still waiting to hear
 - Community Development 2023: Pickle Ball Improvements-Heritage-starting now
 - Front Façade Enhancements 2024-Michael LaFlair-Some of the monies distributed
 - No. Syracuse Power House
 - Dr. McPherson's
 - Karp Law Offices
 - DASNY Police Camera's \$125,000 pending/holding
 - No. Syr. Toll Road Schoolhouse-Approved-work begins 2025
 - SMTC Study Planning-Crosswalk: S. Bay, 6/3 Mtg. with Mike Alexander; progressing
 - Brandon Williams: Decontamination Vol. Fire Equipment-Not Awarded-Following up
 - Comprehensive Plan Update: Robin Coon reaching out to Mayor \$50,000
 - CNY Arts: Still working on sculptures/murals on columns of bridge near Meals On Wheels and planters
 - DASNY Fire Dept. Grant-Submitted things with new plan-looking for reimbursement
 - Comm. Ctr. Pavilion Entrance Way: Almost done; holding retention-reimbursement submitted
 - Police Grant Award for \$205,000

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee St. Germain: No Report.

Trustee Strong: He stated the following:

- Information from NYS re: Rental properties/Air B n B's-Trustee Bolton forwarded information from conference he attended, should have meeting to review; work in progress
- Thanked DPW and Codes for addressing excessive grass
- Former Dr. Office in 300 block of Chestnut is being address, not forgotten



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- Heartfelt Condolences to Dep. Mayor Gustafson for loss of her family
- Congratulations: Andrew Thomas on High School Graduation, he is Seasonal DPW Employee and member of Vol. Fire Dept., attending OCC for Fire Protection and Technology
- Reminder to celebrate Father's Day this weekend and recognize Juneteenth next wk.

Trustee Bolton: He stated the following:

- Where do we stand with DPW Sup't Ware being allowed to hire somebody, is a motion req'd, his personal opinion we need to let him hire somebody
- Police Chief Fieldson great job on obtaining grant
- 1st yr. for Family Fest, had blast, met a lot of people; happy took on this role and look forward to events every yr.

Dep. Mayor Gustafson: She stated the following:

- Apologized for being out of the Vlg. business for a couple of mos., the Mayor and Vlg. Clerk-Treasurer did a marvelous job keeping her up to date. She lost a very important family member, but hopes things can get back to normal.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor stated Just One Bite Property: They are working fairly quickly, the amount of the award was reduced, because we had a much larger project; work done so far makes bldgs. look much better. He continued he has been told that the Just One Bite Owner will be moving back, so will have that restaurant again. He added they are adding an apartment above the Just One Bite Property. He explained the other space is going to be for lease and there are already apartments at that property. He continued to speak of the Art/Culture Grants, we just need to come up with some sketches for them, we have not been awarded; but they are encouraging us to submit more details, so it looks like we are going to get some of those Art/Culture Awards. He continued the Crosswalk on Van Mara/South Bay/Maxwell: He asked SMTC to do a study, not so much the Crosswalk, because that is already apart of the new Sidewalk Grant that we have. He added because there are 5 roads that come into 1 spot, if we had more land, it would be an ideal spot to do a rotary, but that is not going to happen. He explained we are trying to make motorists aware, because there are a lot of illegal activity, the guy from SMTC stayed there for a little while and saw people making illegal turns; clearing do not enter, no left turn and they just ignore it. He stated they will give us a report and that is a help He continued we are having a kickoff mtg. tomorrow at 11:00 A.M. with CHA, and do a video with the Dept. of Transportation, so that will get us started. He added the Comprehensive Grant, it for our new long-range plan for Planning and they are going to be reaching out to us. He explained our 100th Anniversary is going to be sneaking up on us, we are going to need some help to make that happen. He stated it



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was good to see our new Police Officers, it is good to see us getting back to full staffing status.

Trustee Bolton made a motion to adjourn at 6:29 P.M. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, Strong, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk-Treasurer

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

PLEASE SIGN IN

ADDRESS

ADDRESS

123 Catherine St.

118 Grove St

211 HERMAN DR.

50. NIDES Woods

215 La Man St

356 Chestnut

129 OAKLEY DRIVE

