



VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, July 25th, 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, and Dep. Mayor Gustafson.

Personnel Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Kufel, DPW Superintendent Ed Ware, Fire Chief Patrick Brennan, and Parks Dir. Anthony Burkinshaw, Codes Nick Rohm.

Personnel Absent: Trustee Chris Strong, (Excused) Police Chief Fieldson, (Excused)

Resolution #141-24

APPROVAL OF REG. BD. MTG. – JUNE 13, 2024

Mayor Butterfield made a motion to approve the minutes (Facebook Livestreamed) from the June 13, 2024, Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee John Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Resolution #142-24

APPROVED OF REG. BD. MTG. – JUNE 27, 2024

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve the minutes (Facebook Livestreamed) from the June 27, 2024, Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved by Gustafson, Bolton and St. Germain, all voting in favor of the same.

Resolution #143-24

GENERAL FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee St. Germain made a motion to approve General Fund Abstract #4 in the amount of \$90,210.92 covering voucher #182 – 273. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain, and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Resolution # 144-24

SEWER FUND ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Deputy Mayor Gustafson made a motion to approve Sewer Fund Abstract #4 in the amount of \$187.48 covering Vouchers 3 & 4. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: Gustafson, St. Germain and Bolton, all voting in favor of the same.

Resolution # 145-24

BUDGET TRANSFER(S)

Trustee St. Germain made the motion to transfer monies in the amount of \$146.46 from A3389E – Burdick Donation Therapy Dog to A3120.400 Dog Crate. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Bolton and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, July 25th, 2024 5:30 PM

Resolution # 146-24

BUDGET TRANSFER (S)

Deputy Mayor Gustafson made a motion to transfer monies in the amount of \$63.46 from A3389E – Burdick Donation Therapy Dog to A3120.400 Nova Bed and Brush. The motion was seconded by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was approved: St. Germain, Bolton and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

Resolution # 147-24

BUDGET TRANSFER (S)

Trustee Bolton made a motion to transfer monies from A3389W Burdick Donation, Police Department Tech Grant in the amount of \$4992.50 to increase A3120.445 Software Maintenance/Power time. Monies can be covered by this Grant – Power DMS. The motion was seconded by Gustafson. The motion was approved: Bolton, St. Germain and Gustafson, all voting in favor of the same.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMM. DEV. 2023 HERITAGE/PICKLEBALL/LIGHTING GRANT

The Mayor gave an update on the Community Development 2023 Monies. Grant award was \$87,051. To date we have spent \$57,315. He has tasked Park Director T. Burkinshaw to explore other possibilities for the remainder of the grant funds. Possibilities are Parking Lot Strip/Seal, Backboards, Extend Dog Fence, Playground Equipment, Extend Pavilion etc. Discussion ensued regarding additional lighting, security cameras. The mayor stated that neighbors, in the past, have complained about the bright lighting illuminating their properties at night.

COMM. DEV. 2022 COMMUNITY CTR. BASEMENT/DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT

The Mayor gave an update on the Community Development 2022 Monies. Grant award was \$50,000. To date we have spent \$36,260. We are looking at doors, and Elevator upgrades. For the doors, we have two price quotes so far. Pricing is around \$7000.00. We will be finalizing and requesting Board approval at the next meeting.

SAM GRANT – FIRE DEPT. ACQUISITION OF 115 CHESTNUT ST.

The Mayor gave an update regarding the SAM Grant. Grant award was \$150,000. To date we have spent \$191,260. This grant is a(2) part grant, tied to the addition of 109 Chestnut St. Station 1.

SAM GRANT – FIRE DEPT. ADDITION 109 CHESTNUT ST. STATION 1

The Mayor gave an update regarding the SAM Grant. Grant award was \$150,000. To date we have spent \$10,500 (Architect and Surveyor). Discussion occurred regarding DASNY requiring more detailed information for this Grant before they will reimburse any monies tied to either Grant.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, July 25th, 2024 5:30 PM

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 148-24

INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR MS4 STORMWATER PERMIT

Trustee Bolton made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Inter-Municipal Agreement for MS4 Stormwater Permit. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved. Bolton, Gustafson, and St. Germain, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 149-24

PAVING SCHEDULE AND REPAIR WORK RECOMMENDED FROM DPW SUP'T.

Superintendent Ed Ware gave an update on the 2024 CHIPS paving schedule and repair work for streets Oakley, Wells Ave. East, Keith Dr. Sandra Ln. and West St. Trustee St. Germain inquired about the Village doing the paving last year. Sup't Ware recommended Riccelli Northern to do the repairs as this would move the project along faster than the DPW would be able to do. The total cost would be \$157,639.00. The motion was made by Trustee St. Germain. The motion was seconded by Dep. Mayor Gustafson. The motion was approved. Bolton, Gustafson, and St. Germain, all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 150-24

APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF D. ERARD – FIRE DEPT./PT CARETAKER

Trustee Bolton made a motion to approve the appointment of D. Erard to the N. Syr. Fire Dept. as a part-time Caretaker, effective 7/26/2024 at \$18.50/hr. The motion was seconded by St. Germain. The motion was approved. Bolton, Gustafson, and St. Germain all voting in favor of the same.

CITIZEN'S 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.

Kathy Trupia of 208 Elm St. stated that she has lived at her address for 50 years. She has noticed that her mail is address to Syracuse and not N. Syracuse. The Mayor stated she might want to contact the Post Office.

Ken Ryan of 211 Herman Dr. spoke of trees overhanging properties around the parks. He spoke of the Village helping these property owners out with costs involved to reduce them.

ATTORNEY REPORT: (Robert Germain): No Report. Excused

ENGINEER REPORT: (Amy Franco): No Report

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

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

- The Board needs to follow up with the individual who streams our meetings on Facebook Live so that he knows he is supposed to be here.



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, July 25th, 2024 5:30 PM

- Grants update: Still looking into doing more, and the pricing of things. I have pricing on the front doors, hopefully that will be wrapped up to discuss at the next meeting.
- At the next Board meeting, I will have information on a substitute lifeguard. We have some Lifeguards who are competitive swimmers, they will be going off to compete, and we need to fill their vacancies.
- Cameras are fixed, and working at the Parks and Community Center. Police Station and DPW should be working, along with phones.
- We are wrapping up the Summer Camp Program, and Session Two of the Swimming Program.
- The Mayor gave an update on the Elevator at the Community Center. It has outlived its useful life. He has asked Tony to get pricing on replacing it. Tony stated it is on lockout right now, and a company is attempting to fix it.
- We are using the Community Center as a cooling station, and are adding it as a warming station as well. He would like safety to establish guidelines for this plan.

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

- Akina Sushi is approved, they are going into Bear Road Plaza. They are currently working on Building Permits.
- Twin Trees extension for their Sunset Clause has been granted.
- Brolex permits have been granted and extended. They have to adhere to some stipulations. The Fire Chief sent a letter and an email stating he is satisfied with answers to concerns. Will be working with Brolex to satisfy these conditions.

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

- We have been working brush pick up
- A drainage was done for the pond in the back of Lonergan Park.
- Repaired the exit for Lonergan Park, added stone and paving

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

- Committee met for Station 1 renovations. Architect provided the 1st phase needs assessment. Four decisions were given. Will reconvene committee after options are discussed.
- Deputy Chief working on a grant for AED's. Fire Dept's AED's are in the end of life cycle according to the manufacturer. We need to be aligned with the Parks and Police Dept. with the AED's. We are looking for a grant for AED's, with Dianne's help.
- Thank you to Nick for working with us on Brolex. Chief has concerns with the site not being secured, as is required during construction. He has concerns safety regarding utilizing the electricity from the apartment complex next door. The biggest concern the Fire Dept has since



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, July 25th, 2024 5:30 PM

- the inception of this project is the first task is the infrastructure must be put in. The Fire Dept cannot access that facility if an emergency arises. They need the original site plan for the roadway to be completed as it was approved three years ago. The Fire Chief is asking the Village Board to take action to address the original site plan to be enforced.

Clerk-Treasurer: (Village Clerk-Treasurer Kufel): No Report

DEPUTY MAYOR-TRUSTEES REPORT:

Trustee St. Germain:

- Requested the person who is the point of contact for the Brolex project address the Board. Codes Director N. Rohm will give the contact information to Trustee St. Germain.

Trustee Bolton: He stated the following:

- Arts Grants: Concerns regarding the Church St. Bridge murals of flags; if we will be able to encompass all Village residents, and their heritage on these flags.
- Arts Grants: Can we utilize this grant monies to paint murals at our Parks. Also questioned whether or not the Grant funding is best utilized to paint the pots on Main St.
- Brolex. Planning Board put out a structure of eight topics the developer needs to address. Securing the site is not being done, the agreement is not being adhered to. There are concerns about Fire Department equipment access, public access to the site during off hours. Are the fire hydrants in working order, and is the building inside safe for Fireman to enter should an emergency arise.

Deputy Mayor Gustafson: She stated the following:

- Safety Committee met on Tuesday. Traffic study was done at Belmore. It showed there is not enough traffic to warrant a Stop Sign. Talked about possibly installing a "Children at Play" sign.
- Crosswalk at Nesticos on Route 11. Complaint that it is hard to see people walking at night. NYS Dept of Transportation stated it would be late summer or fall before this could be addressed. DPW is going to trim back some of the branches to help with visibility.
- Speeding complaint from resident on Highland Ave. Chief Fieldson will have regular patrols in the area.
- Community Center is now marked as a heating and cooling center. Looking into putting a plan in place to utilize that center; this also includes fixing the elevators.

MAYOR'S REPORT:



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, July 25th, 2024 5:30 PM

The Mayor stated he talked with the developer of the Just One Bite property. They will be returning to the property, they have a lease already signed. They need to finish the inside of that property. He doesn't know what is happening to the building next door, or who is going to lease it. The negotiations are continuing with Police 1149 to settle a new contract, we are meeting tomorrow. We have two candidates for the Codes Enforcement Officer. Thank you to Trustee St. Germain for her help with investigating. We have a meeting Monday and Tuesday. I had a meeting with someone from the County regarding housing opportunities in the Village, they are called Plan Onondaga. They stated we have the most up to date, comprehensive plan of any city/county in the country right now. The National Planner sent me an email to set up a meeting. So, I have some ideas and am interested in hearing what he has to say. Next, the 100th year Anniversary I would like some Arts. A year ago, I was approached about the Revitalization. I wanted to do something regarding the Public Arts. I did reach out to the State to get permission. About the flags, we don't necessarily need every flag, in detail, we have a concept. Also, the pots, we have a concept, it will be up to the artist. The same thing with the sculpture. CNY Arts gave us some ideas, and they told us we had to fine tune them. We don't have the grants yet, but at least one of them we stand a good chance of getting. Brolex started in 2020, and it has been a nightmare since day one. We have put stop work orders on at times. I met with Tom Oot for the first time a year and a half ago. I told him then that this is an eyesore, and an embarrassment. The only time I am aware of, we put a stop order on, and put a chain and lock up on that fence. That's the only time I know of that they worked to get the stop order released. I We have put at least two stop orders on, they have gone to court. It's almost like a derelict project, it was started wrong. I am a contractor, I know how projects are supposed to work. I talked to their architect, I think Pam was there. I told them you have a tiger by the tail, there are code violations in turn. you have Today, they opened up walls so we could see the insulation. We looked at the trusses, the architect opened up the drawings and they appear to be ok. So, they are doing things but it's the same old story. I told them a long time ago, that I want someone from CHA to see the site work is being done as planned. As far as I can see, they don't have a plan. There is a lot of incompetence, as far as I can see. I have talked to the owner several times. I have talked to our legal counsel, I can't tell you how many times, asking what can we do. We can issue a stop work order, which shuts it down again. Robert Germain sent an email to all of us that we can sign a see of oath. Then he would have to complete it based on site plan, architectural drawings, plumbing, electrical. It would all have to be inspected. Hopefully, he is serious this time. Codes released them from the stop work order when they recently sent a check. They have a sunset clause for one year, and they have one year for their permit. They have got to get done. I am as frustrated as all of you guys, and we have tried. Our Codes Department is the one that has control. We have controls, as a private developer our controls are limited. We don't have the authority, other than shutting it down. Discussion ensued about shutting them down until they do what they are supposed to do. The Mayor stated we have to let them work also. He talked about a split ownership now, and that there might be one person who wants to ensure this is finished. Codes Officer N. Rohm stated their building permit just was renewed today. They have been working on getting lighting into the area. They have been working on being in compliance with inspections. The list of the eight conditions some of them have dates of completion. Discussion by Trustee St. Germain about being in compliance and meeting these conditions. The mayor stated they have had replacement with supervisors for the project. He again reiterated the multiple issues with compliance, and what the Village has control of. Trustee Bolton questioned that they have not secured the sight. He stated every time the site is not secure, can we padlock it and issue a stop work order. The mayor stated he does not know that we have the authority to



Village of North Syracuse
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, July 25th, 2024 5:30 PM

do that. Codes Ofc. N. Rohm stated the way he interprets that document is that they have 90 days to come into compliance if a condition is not met. Discussion about the language about the security personnel at night. Discussion continued about a person being at the sight all night, and not just someone periodically checking the property. Discussion continued about issuing a stop work order if no security is present, and when it would be lifted, and if there would be a cost involved. Codes Ofc. Rohm stated stop work orders carry a \$100 fee. Trustee Bolton wanted to get clarification about a 90-day stipulation. Trustee Bolton also talked about the 45-day stipulation to be able to get safety apparatus on the property. The Mayor stated the stipulations that were put on by planning he has never seen before on a project. He stated lighting and security may not be within code. He talked about adherence to this, could it be opening the Village to a lawsuit, as it may not be legal. Trustee Bolton stated that Atty. Germain is the one who drafted these conditions, he stated we were within our rights because it is infringing on public safety. Trustee Bolton stated that they had a choice, either put the lighting up to deter, or have a security on premises at night. The Mayor stated we know what he has to do, if he doesn't follow through, the only remedy we have is to issue a stop work order. He stated he had one more thought to make. There was prior discussion about an Ethics Committee meeting in August. Atty Germain said he will head it up and explain the services of this committee. He will reach out to the members to set that up. Dep. Mayor Gustafson made a motion to adjourn at 6:40 P.M. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bolton. The motion was approved: Gustafson, Bolton, St. Germain, all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Kufel
Village Clerk-Treasurer

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

PLEASE SIGN IN

ADDRESS

119 WYLSHIRE DR
208 ELM ST
211 HERMAN DR

