

VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE

Regular Board Meeting

July 23, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

North Syracuse Community Center

700 South Bay Road, North Syracuse, NY

YouTube Livestreamed

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

Roll Call: Mayor J. Bolton, Trustee F. Wilmer, Trustee L. Lioto, Trustee K. Ryan. **Excused:** Trustee L. St. Germain

Personnel Present: Village Clerk-Treasurer N. Zarzecki, Fire Chief J. Asztalos, Police Chief C. Fieldson, Parks Director D. Radell, DPW Superintendent G. Stevens, Engineer A. Franco, Village Attorney R. Germain. **Excused:** Engineer A. Franco, Village Attorney R. Germain, Codes Director L. Nestell

Swearing in of Village of North Syracuse Police Sergeant Phillip Knittel

Sergeant Knittel began his Law Enforcement career in 2014 and is transitioning from a part-time police officer with the Village of North Syracuse to a full-time police sergeant. He brings great skill, specialized certifications, and experience to the PD. Clerk-Treasurer N. Zarzecki performed the swearing in and photos were taken with Sergeant Knittel and the Board Members/Mayor.

CITIZENS VOICE first after Roll Call - and Public Hearing(s), if applicable - and then again after Old & New Business being discussed, before Department Head or Attorney Reports.

- **Ric Wahl (Slindes Woods Circle)** Stated the following:
 - Thank you to DPW all their work tidying up the Village. It is looking good and he is proud to be a resident again.

RESOLUTION # 141-26

APPROVE 7/9/2026 REGUALR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Trustee Wilmer made a motion, with discussion, to approve the July 9, 2026 Regular Board and Annual Meeting Minutes. Resolution #137-26 needs to be changed from 1409 Fairfield to 109 Fairfield. Mayor Bolton also wanted to clarify that his comments in the last Minutes do not mean that a personnel issue was holding up the Rental Registry. Motion was seconded by Trustee Ryan. The motion was approved: Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Lioto, and Trustee Ryan all voting in favor of the same.

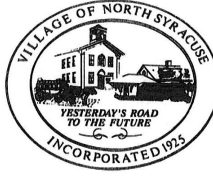
RESOLUTION # 142-26

ABSTRACT APPROVAL

Trustee Wilmer made a motion, with discussion, to approve General Fund Abstract #004 in the amount of \$83,129.84, covering voucher #161 through #216. Included in the abstract is a payment of \$47,176.20 to Butler Disposal for monthly village trash pick-up. Discussion included Trustees Wilmer reiterating that regarding Voucher 208, he requested to give up his cell phone stipend. Clerk-Treasurer confirmed that he had reversed recent checks and would remove this one from Abstract. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lioto. The motion was approved: Trustee Wilmer, Trustee Lioto, and Trustee Ryan all voting in favor of the same.

OLD BUSINESS

Announcement: Mayor Bolton announced the appointment of Trustee Wilmer to the position of Deputy Mayor for the Village of North Syracuse.



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NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION # 143-26

APPROVE & SIGN CHA MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT

Trustee Ryan made a motion to approve and sign the CHA Municipal Agreement for fiscal year 2026/2027 engineering services. The contract has been reviewed by Legal Counsel and approved for Board review. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lioto. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Wilmer, Trustee Lioto, and Trustee Ryan all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 144-26

ADOPT ONON. CO.'S MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Trustee Lioto made a motion to adopt Onondaga County's Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Wilmer. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Wilmer, Trustee Lioto, and Trustee Ryan all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 145-26

APPROVE HIRING OF NEW DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER EFF. 7/27/26

Deputy Mayor Wilmer made a motion approve hiring of new Deputy Clerk-Treasurer effective 7/27/26. Motion was seconded by Trustee Ryan. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Wilmer, Trustee Lioto, and Trustee Ryan all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 146-26

APPROVE T. HAWKINS AS NEW MEMBER OF NSFD

Trustee Ryan made a motion to approve Timothy Hawkins as a new member of the North Syracuse Fire Department. Motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Wilmer. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Wilmer, Trustee Lioto, and Trustee Ryan all voting in favor of the same.

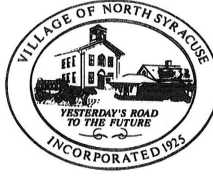
RESOLUTION # 147-26

APPROVE DEPARTMENT LIASON APPOINTMENTS

Trustee Lioto made a motion to approve the following appointments:

- Trustee Lioto as liaison to the Fire Department
- Trustee Ryan as liaison to the Police Department
- Deputy Mayor Wilmer as liaison to the DPW
- Trustee St. Germain as liaison to the Parks and Recreation Department
- Mayor Bolton as liaison to the Codes Department

Motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Wilmer. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Wilmer, Trustee Lioto, and Trustee Ryan all voting in favor of the same.



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RESOLUTION # 148-26

APPROVE M. HEWITT/A. THOMASINO AS A MEMBER/ALT OF THE ZONING BOARD

Trustee Ryan made a motion to approve and appoint Mary Hewitt as a member of the Zoning Board (term expires 7/1/2030) and Angelica Thomasino as an alternate member of the Zoning Board. Mary was previously an alternate member. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lioto. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Wilmer, Trustee Lioto, and Trustee Ryan all voting in favor of the same.

RESOLUTION # 149-26

APPROVE S. ARTHUR AS A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Deputy Mayor Wilmer made a motion to approve and appoint Sean Arthur as a member of the Public Safety Committee. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lioto. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Wilmer, Trustee Lioto, and Trustee Ryan all voting in favor of the same.

DISCUSS ALLOWING ETHICS BOARD TO MAKE COMPLAINT INQUIRY/RECOMMENDATION

Mayor Bolton asked for a motion regarding allowing the Board of Ethics (BOE) to make inquiries and recommendations to the Board of Trustees in regard to personnel matters. He asked BOE member Dave Robinson to speak about whether the Board of Ethics should make complaint inquiries or a recommendation with respect to a recent complaint. The BOE is governed by Chapter 19 of the North Syracuse Code and also by Chapter 18 of the NYS Municipal Law. They primarily deal with financial and fraud matters; however, if asked to by the Board of Trustees, the BOE would broaden their range to review a personnel issue.

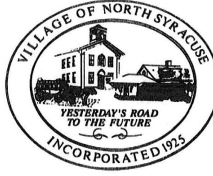
Mayor Bolton stated that his understanding is that when there is an issue, the person involved should go to their supervisor. If their supervisor cannot resolve the issue, it should be taken to the Mayor who would then present it to the Board and the Board would make a recommendation on how to handle. Dave Robinson stated that he disagreed for the purpose of these two complaints; the first sentences of Chapter 19 imply the scope being ethical conduct for public officers and employees. If the BOE cannot weigh in on matters potentially involving the Board of Trustees, who will? Trustee Wilmer stated that without further information, he thinks personnel matters should eventually go to the Mayor. Dave Robinson added that one complaint is regarding someone who could be inferred as an employee and the other is a trustee who does not answer to the Mayor. Trustee Ryan stated that as a former BOE member, he believes the BOE should review the matters and refer them to the Board of Trustees. Dave Robinson agreed.

Mayor Bolton asked if he had a motion, to which no Board of Trustees members responded. Motion failed.

CITIZENS VOICE

- **Patience Fryinger (102 Oakley)** Stated the following:
 - Thanked Deputy Mayor Wilmer for not taking the cell phone stipend – this is a great leadership move.

ATTORNEY REPORT (Excused)



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ENGINEER REPORT (Excused)

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT: D. RADELL Stated the following:

- Week 4 of Summer Camp begins Monday. Thanked NSPD for their increased presence at camp. Canadian wildfire smoke kept kids inside a couple of days.
- Partnering with DPW for beautification of Memorial Park, cleaning fence line at Kennedy Park to Grove Street.
- Looking into ways to move Board Meetings back upstairs; audio and video options.
- Concert Series are every Wednesday (6-8pm) at Lonergan Park. On 7/29 is The Strangers. Ice cream, 50/50 raffle (to support Meals on Wheels next week).

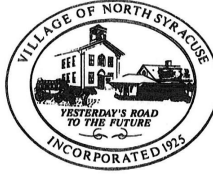
CODES DEPARTMENT: Excused

FIRE DEPARTMENT: CHIEF J. ASZTALOS Stated the following:

- FD has responded to 576 calls to service this year; 79 in June and 81 so far in July.
- Two recent calls that highlight the volunteers performing exceptionally well:
 - On 7/15 the NSFD was the primary rescue agency on a traumatic motorcycle accident. The hospital trauma doctor said that the efforts of NVAC Ambulance and NSFD saved this individual's life.
 - On 7/20 NS Truck 1 responded to Cobblestone Dr (off South Bay) in Town of Cicero to an apartment fire. Entire building burned to ground. Quick response time meant that although 8 families were displaced, no one was hurt or killed.
- A factor that concerns Cicero FD as well as NSFD was the lack of water pressure on South Bay Rd. Working with Cicero FD and OCWA to hopefully resolve this.
- Happy to have new firefighter and four bunk-ins, with a potential live-in.
- Congratulations to Deputy Mayor Wilmer.

DPW: SUPERINTENDENT G. STEVENS Stated the following:

- Been out doing Bulk Brush. Tuesday, the truck broke down again. After two days, Joel was able to get it repaired and it is going back out tomorrow.
- Joel has also been working on police cars and catching up on some maintenance of some vehicles in the building.
- Have been rebuilding storm drains for a couple of months now. 12 completed, a lot more to go.
- A tree came down on Herman Dr on 7/12 that took down wires and a telephone pole.
- Had two mow orders and a board-up order for Taft Rd - the old gas station by Summit.
- Repairing stop signs, fixing crosswalk sign at Rte 11 (State will come out and fix that sign).
- Been landscaping, dress up parks. Thanks to Don & Parks.
- Started cleaning and inspecting storm drains; started on Allen St yesterday and plan to do every single one of them for MS4. Hoping to get a 5-year sequence going to reinspect all and complete required paperwork.



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- 8/3 will be next Bulk Trash pick-up; call the Friday before by noon to get on the list for that or mattresses.
- Everything is up on the auctions website. Have four days left. Two police cars are also on there.
<https://www.auctionsinternational.com/>

POLICE DEPARTMENT: CHIEF C. FIELDSON Stated the following:

- Excited to have Sergeant Knittel join the NSPD.
- Snapshot of what the department deals with on a day-to-day basis:
 - Called to a location the dept is familiar with and an eviction had taken place; three individuals were located unlawfully inside. They were taken into custody; one had a quantity of cocaine on them, one had an active warrant with NYSP and one had an active warrant with NSPD.
 - Reports of nighttime burglaries at various commercial locations over past few weeks. One was at a cell tower site. Area sustained damage as well as theft.
 - Officers located two Broome County missing 13-year-olds that were runaways from a children's home.
 - Local business owner had a knife pulled on and swung at him, incidents at local parks including broken windows.
- National 7-11 Day was a great success; met community members and provided Child IDs.
- Last Wednesday, NSPD participated in First Responder Recruiting Day event at Regional Market.
- Last Friday, NSPD went to a Meet & Greet with Nova, the therapy dog, at NS Public Library.
- Brought multiple Quick Guides from the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee regarding eBikes and eScooter laws.

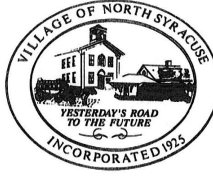
CLERK-TREASURER: N. ZARZECKI Stated the following:

- Addressing staffing issues at Village Hall:
 - New Deputy Clerk-Treasurer starting Monday
 - New Clerical Assistant started this week

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEES REPORTS

TRUSTEE LIOTO Stated the following:

- Thank you and Welcome to new members of committees and boards.
- Congratulations to Deputy Mayor Wilmer.
- Busy couple of weeks:
 - Attended National 7-11 festivities. Met neighbors and spend time with NSFD and NSPD.
 - Shoutout to Brett – a bunk-in at the Fire Department. Enthusiastic and positive about his first year there. Also to Firefighter Sanderson for time and collaborative discussion.
 - Spent a lot of time at Village Hall learning processes and fundamentals.
 - Spent time with Don and Michael getting overview of Parks and future plans for the community.
 - Thank you to Chief Fieldson for time spent with her and Trustee Ryan – tour and important dialogue on various topics. Looking forward to future ride-alongs.



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- Thank you to Chief Asztalos, Deputy Chief Mallaro, and Assistant Chief Strong for meeting with her and welcoming her. Encouraged chiefs to share more with the community about what they do because it is a lot. Went to Lowe's with Chief Asztalos – they donated a new grill to the fire station. Attended a recent Fire Chief's meeting with other departments.
- On 7/15 attended Law Enforcement and Fire Department Recruitment Event at Regional Market.
- Attended two informative meetings with Mayor Bolton regarding village financials and needs.
- Experience as a trustee has been very positive and rewarding. Grateful for difficult but necessary dialogue.
- For the record, also declined the phone stipend.

TRUSTEE RYAN Stated the following:

- Welcomed everyone appointed to new positions in the Village.
- Also, with Lisa, met with Chief Fieldson – got tour, learned about changes over the years, met with a good group of the officers.
- Interacted with crews that handled tree down on Herman Drive. They did a great job of cleaning it up. Hats off to the DPW.
- Attended Chamber of Commerce meeting with Mayor Bolton to see what the businesses could do for us and us for them. Interesting meeting.
- For the record, also declined the phone stipend.
- Spent time with Nick at Village Hall – learned about abstracts, invoices, showed him around.
- Congratulations to Deputy Mayor Wilmer.

DEPUTY MAYOR'S REPORT

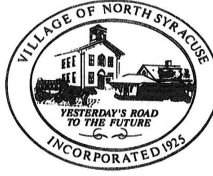
Deputy Mayor Wilmer Stated the following:

- Past two weeks have been busy:
 - Spent numerous hours with Mayor Bolton and Gil Stevens.
 - Spent time with Mayor and Codes (Larry)
 - Spent time at the Village Hall
 - Many phone conversations with new trustees, helping them where he could.
 - Things are looking bright, if you ask him.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bolton Stated the following:

- Spoke at Chamber of Commerce event about how he got to the position he is in, what his goals are, what he would like to improve/change/remain the same.



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- Attended meeting at Fire Station with CHA and Hueber Breuer Construction to continue the discussion of the proposed Fire Station addition. Should have prints back any day and can move on to next steps.
- Please look at Village website (www.northsyracuse.ny.gov). Amy at Village Hall has been making changes to keep the website updated, fluent, active. Can go there to get answers to questions.
- Regarding financial situation and audits:
 - Have gotten all three proposals from the companies they want to do the audit. Have found that there is no purpose in doing the audit until 25/26 financials are completed (apx five months behind now).
 - Looking at the three companies to get those financials current, get the Annual Financial Report to the Comptroller's Office current. Have been granted an extension on AFR to end of August.
 - The audit has nothing to do with this year's fiscal budget. Will not be an overnight process; could take 4-10 days. Will have financials current in no more than a couple of months.

Trustee Ryan made the motion to adjourn at 6:27pm. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Wilmer. The motion was approved: Deputy Mayor Wilmer, Trustee Lioto, and Trustee Ryan all voting in favor of the same.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nick Zarzecki
Village Clerk-Treasurer