

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 20, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Town of Northampton was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2013. Supervisor Kemper called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building at 412 South Main St., Northville, NY.

**PRESENT:** Supervisor: Linda Kemper  
Councilmen: Bob Ellsworth, William Gritsavage,  
Darryl Roosa and Ivar Anderson

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Elaine Mihalik-Town Clerk

**ALSO PRESENT:** Matthew Ginter, Code Enforcer  
Ken Cramer, Water/Sewer Maintenance Operator  
Grant Preston, Frontier Representative  
Carla Kolbe, Sacandaga Express  
Donald Ferguson, Arthur Simmons, Steve Norris, and Chris Doyle

Councilman Gritsavage: We did not approve the minutes of January 16, 2013 and I came in this morning and listened to the tape of that meeting. On page 6 of those minutes which dealt with the website committee. I would like it to reflect that "that I was meeting with Cristen Shepard". Cristen and I had a discussion to meet on a certain date to discuss the website and I did meet with her on that date.

Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve the January 16, 2013 with corrections and to table the February 20, 2013 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Councilman Ellsworth and passed by, 5-Ayes: Kemper, Ellsworth, Anderson, Gritsavage and Roosa 0-Nays

Councilman Roosa approved paying the warrants, as presented to the board, seconded by Councilman Anderson, and passed by, 5-Ayes: Kemper, Ellsworth, Anderson, Roosa and Gritsavage 0-Nays

**March 20, 2013 Warrants**

General	\$10,812.18
Highway	23,467.28
Sacandaga Fire District	0.00
Sacandaga Lighting	2,106.39
Sacandaga Water District	1,931.57
Sacandaga Sewer District	<u>700.91</u>
<b>Total Warrants</b>	<b>\$39,018.33</b>

**Frontier Speaker:** Grant Preston is here to do a presentation stated the Supervisor. Mr. Preston explained that he had been contacted and was told that we were having trouble with the current phone system not routing correctly. He met with some Council members and the Town Clerk. They expressed the issues that they've encountered with the phone system. Mr. Preston stated that the company that handled the current system is no longer in business. It is out of warranty, and the refurbish cost for a replacement would be \$539, it comes with a 90 warranty, plus a \$75 installation fee. The downside of that is

- 1- It may fix the problem, if that is what we think it is. It would be installed and put on line but we're not sure, we only have a 90 day warranty. After that 90 day warranty passes and something happens to it, we're then going back to square one.
- 2- Leave everything the same

Councilman Ellsworth: We were talking about disconnecting the router.

Grant Preston: You can simply remove the whole auto attendant feature. It was estimated to be a four hour job at \$75 an hour. You're looking at \$300. It may fix it but it may not.

Councilman Ellsworth: That would leave us with a system that you would still transfer calls but there would be no auto pilot. When you called in and press one --, press two --. You would just get a person and the ability to transfer calls?

Mr. Preston: Yes, you have the ability to do that with your phones now. You would just go straight to that phone and you would get a person.

Councilman Ellsworth: But, if you got a person and you wanted someone else they can transfer them?

Mr. Preston: Yes, you could. You have the capability to do that with your phones now. So, that would not change.

Supervisor Kemper: You won't need the auto attend to be able to do that?

Response: No.

Supervisor Kemper: Is the problem we are having with the system because it is installed in the furnace room?

Grant Preston: No.

- 3- You could get a new system. With money being tight it's a difficult concept. I think that what we can work out for you, you would get a whole phone system that would cover the offices in this building and tie in the Second Street Assessor and Justice office. Have the auto attendant here at town hall. They would get voice mails off of here. You would be able to transfer to them on Second Street but they would not be able to transfer to the town hall, it's one way.

Mr. Preston has provided literature for the board to review on a Mitel 3000 communications system. The system you can dial into the auto attend then your call can get routed to the village and then to the town clerk.

Everyone in the town hall would get new phones. This system is digital, it comes with voice mail, the ability to call transfer call forward, and the display for caller id.

What we offer, because the system would be installed here at the offices, the new phones would not be for over at the justice office. They would keep what they have now or we could talk about options for a new phone for them.

- The cash price for the new system including all the phones is \$4,135.13 with a 1 year warranty, if you pay up front and that includes installation.
- To lease it. There is a five year lease with a full five year warranty included at a cost of \$134 monthly.
- Another benefit of a system like this is the voice-mail is already included. I believe you have 5 voice-mails now. You're paying \$9.95 a voice mail which is a typical charge of \$60 a month.

Councilman Ellsworth: If we buy the new system, will you let us amend the current contract?

Mr. Preston: If the Town buys a new system that would knock off the \$60 a month.

Steve Norris: You have a blanket unlimited local, long distance and voice mail all in one package for each phone.

Supervisor Kemper: Our billing is not broken down on the costs right now.

Councilman Ellsworth: Is there a cash price on the five year warranty?  
If you are going to buy it out right and you want to add another 4 years because it comes with the one year. It would be another \$2,220.00. You would then have a total of \$6,355.13.

After the five years you only have two options

1. You can do a buy out. For two months of whatever you pay a month, it comes to \$268 a one time payment to buy the system.

Councilman Ellsworth: So in five years, we don't own it unless we pay in it?

Supervisor Kemper: But you don't have maintenance on it either.

Mr. Preston: Right.

2. The other option is an annual maintenance plan. This is where we cover the system and if the phone breaks or the system breaks we fix it. The cost is approximately \$110.00 a month. I can double check the numbers in the system.

**Discussion:**

Councilman Ellsworth: I think that before the Town commits to anything we should check to see if the Village is in on this with us. I think that we should just pay for it and not pay for it by the month. That's if we decide to do it.

The Village is interested stated Mr. Ginter, representing as the Village Trustee.

Councilman Gritsavage: The only thing about paying by the month is you get the maintenance free.

Councilman Ellsworth: You can pay extra and save \$60. Roughly if it were split the \$6,355.13 with the Village we would each pay approximately \$3,200.00 and we're done. That would save us approximately \$800 each entity.

When Councilman Gritsavage and I were talking about this it was not about a new system at all.

Mr. Preston: Frontier has met with several towns and has done a presentation on this system with them. You can contact the Village of Fonda ask them any questions because they've had this system for a few months now.

Councilman Gritsavage: How many sets do we get for it?

Mr. Preston: It would cover the phones in this location and it would be seven. We would offer six of these as basic phones and give the Town Clerk, who takes most of the calls, an up grade to have the ability to have the programmable key instead of the four that this phone has.

The only consideration would be is if you want to do any thing on top of that for Second Street. They can use what they have or if they wanted to rent or buy a new phone. It would be a different phone than that. But I do have options for that too.

Supervisor Kemper: How many transfer numbers with the Town Clerk have?

Mr. Preston: There are four on the basic phones and eight on the Town Clerks.

Supervisor Kemper: We all have 8 right now.

Mr. Ginter: How about an additional line if I want it for my fax machine?

Councilman Ellsworth: Didn't we find an extra line with the Tech was here?

Mr. Preston: From what I understand there were a couple of lines that we don't know where they go. I believe there are 11 lines in the town hall including the village. With this system we can

actually use less phone lines. I believe with this proposal we were giving you six because not everyone is going to be on the phone at the same time and this is going to route the calls for you. The monthly bill on the voice side of it could be some savings.

Supervisor Kemper: Right now with her phone being the main router in this system, it does tie up the Town Clerks phone a lot. Is there a way to get around that?

Mr. Preston: Yes, her number would not tie it up because of the auto attendant feature. She shouldn't be receiving the majority of the calls. If it becomes an issue and most of the people are calling for the clerk's office. You can have a second line in her office and she can either put them on hold or it can connect up with the other line.

With the new system the calls will go through the auto attend and it is not going to tie up the Town Clerk's line at all.

Supervisor Kemper: Or they can call an individual direct phone line?

Mr. Preston: Yes

Councilman Anderson: I believe between the Town and the Village we have three lines that are just dial-up and at both the water pumping plant and wastewater plant. Is that included in this?

Mr. Preston: No, those are just a stand alone on the phone lines that are in this building. We can tie in Second Street by putting those two numbers on the auto attend.

Supervisor Kemper: With the ambulance I think it would make it three phone numbers. The ambulance has a private line coming in.

Councilman Ellsworth: Is the Village in a position to buy the phone system out right instead of monthly?

Mr. Ginter: Yes

Councilman Gritsavage: We should have a mini meeting with the Village to firm this up.

Mr. Preston: I will send you a more formal proposal.

Councilman Anderson: Going back to the three lines, the Town water plant, the Town wastewater plant and the Village water plant, they are only dial ups. Do we get any special rate on those? They are not used for long distance or a phone line.

Mr. Preston: I think there is a long distance block.

Councilman Anderson: I'm not sure what the rate is either. If we don't break it down, we don't know.

Councilman Ellsworth: We would still like to meet with someone from Frontier and go over the bill. We need the Supervisor to approve someone to talk with you. We would like them to go over the bill line item by line item.

Mr. Preston: I forgot before we left the office, a letter of authorization. I will come into you tomorrow.

Steve Norris: what is the length of the battery back-up for that system?

Mr. Preston: I didn't include a battery back-up option in the proposal and I can. It's usually an hour.

Steve Norris: This is a digital system and if the power goes out, you've lost your phones. Is it possible to use one of the analog jack lines so that they can use a regular phone? So they can use it in case the power goes out.

Mr. Preston: Yes, and this is only addressing the voice line in the system. The fax line won't be affected so we will leave them out of the system.

Supervisor Kemper: So that you can plug a phone into it in the event there is power outage.

Mr. Preston: Both the Town and the Village will have that option.

**The Supervisor has opened to public comment at 6:55 p.m.**

Donald Ferguson: I heard that the Solid Rock Ranch is advertising on line for a Concert for sometime in May. The Solid Rock Ranch is Zoned Residential. According to current Zoning Laws such events are not permitted on Residential property. I would like to know, if this is planned concert is going to be disallowed?

Chris Doyle: I also heard a good deal about the planning of the upcoming events from both through the younger crowd in town and through where I work on the Solid Rock Ranch. I do have some concerns. I don't know where the board is at, I am being proactive with making sure that kind of stuff stays contained. We've had some verified problems up there in the past. I would like to know where we stand. Is it legally where we stand with what the town should or shouldn't do? Being forced into this situation, where we are turning it over part of the time to drunken folks and druggies, I don't think that is what we want to advocate with these social events in our community.

Supervisor Kemper: We have been discussing this and we have done research on this.

Mr. Ginter: I have notified via a letter Ms. Bant of the current Town Zoning Laws and because the event is being advertised not specifically by her but the organizer of it. Ms. Bant has picked up an application for Special Event Permitting Law. I have not received it back with the fee. In the owners opinion it is her fourth year having an event.

Councilman Gritsavage: That is not something that is grandfathered in because it is zoned. Right now you haven't had the application come back.

Chris Doyle: I kind of agree with Councilman Gritsavage on that. I would like to say that there are members of the community out there who do believe that is the right track is to put some appropriate boundaries on what is okay and what is not okay in the community. So while you are in that process, there are a few of us that have a vested interest, not just in the community, but that being in close proximity that are willing to stand behind more on the decisions that they make that are for the betterment of the community, not for keeping activities. But for making sure that they stay, for what the community stands for, and for the safety. We did run into some issues in past years where police, firemen, and EMS which were not notified prior to what was going on. So the potential of a problem is there. Nobody wants to deal with the consequents if something gets out of hand. What do we do with no preparation?

**Supervisor Kemper closed the Public comment at 7:07 p.m.**

**Reentered Phone system discussion:**

Steve Norris: Is the system stored in memory if the system loses power? He suggested getting a proposal for a battery back-up for the digital communications system.

Mr. Preston: It is my understanding that it is stored. I will verify that.

Supervisor Kemper: Mr. Ginter is currently moving offices to the basement. Would we need to contact a technician because he had placed a wire so a fax can be possibly placed in his office or is that something you can help us out with?

Mr. Ginter: Everything is ready. If you knew a head of time that one of them could be used as a fax, I would say do it now.

Councilman Ellsworth: Is there a service charge to do that?

Mr. Preston: I'll waive it. I'll put that job in the system tomorrow and let Mr. Ginter know, so that he is aware of when the technician can do that.

Mr. Ginter: We are going to try our best to get the category 5 so that we can get DSL hooked up in the basement.

Mr. Preston: You have installed the line into your office correct?

Mr. Ginter: Yes

Discussion ensued on the new phones and their features.

Councilman Ellsworth: Do we have enough money which is half the cost of the system?

Supervisor Kemper: I would have to check into that.

Councilman Ellsworth: We would pay \$3,200.00 and the Village would pay \$3,200 for the other half. The other option would be, is to fix the current system for \$300.00. You are only looking at \$2,900 more to buy the new system for five years and never have to work on it out of our pocket again for five years. If we get the approval that the \$3,200 is available to purchase the new system then we can move forward and meet with the Village to discuss this because they are pretty much on board with it because we have to fix the phone system one way or another.

**MOTION:**

Councilman Ellsworth motioned that if the Town can't afford half of the cost that being \$3,200 and the Village paying the other half of the cost \$3,200 to purchase the new phone system, then the Town would agree to rent the system for \$300.00 monthly. With the understanding if this was my place I would buy the new system outright. After I receive a phone call from the Supervisor saying whether or not we have the funds in the Town Budget that would determine whether we rent the system monthly or we purchase the new system outright, and this is subject to the proposal from Frontier, seconded by Councilman Anderson and passed by,

5-Ayes: Kemper, Gritsavage, Ellsworth, Roosa and Anderson 0-Nays

**February 2013:**

**Water:** February-2012-usage, 1,173,000 gallons pumped.

February-2013-usage, 1,776,000 gallons pumped

**Repairs/Maintenance:**

- No problems to report
- Review of engineering proposals for rate structure

**Wastewater:** February 2012 daily average flow 23,300 gallons.

February 2013- daily average flow 57,300 gallons.

**Repairs/Maintenance:**

Quotes received for a new flow meter are as follows:

Total Control System Services, Inc.-8163 Boston State Rd, Hamburg, NY 14075 provided two quotes and purchase orders from this quote should be made payable to (Hach Company, 2207 Collections Center Dr., Chicago, IL 60693)

• Quote #1	1-US9003 In-Pipe Ultrasonic Sensor for FL90X, 30 ft. cable	\$1,164.00
	1-FL901.97VX Logger with Modem	\$4,952.82
	1-Antenna, Mini-Wing, Quad (824-960, 1710-2170 MHz)	65.00
		<b><u>\$6,181.82</u></b>
	1-FS-DATAXFR Wireless Monthly Fee	\$50 per month
	1-FS-Hosting Monthly Fee (FSDATA)	\$50 per month
• Quote #2	1-Sigma 950 Bubbler Flow Meter p/n 2672	\$3,900.86
	-Includes sampler port & resettable totalizer	
	1-AC Power Supply 100-120V p/n 4455100	320.83
	1-4-20mA Output Option p/n 2676	393.14
	1-First 4-20mA with 25' Cable p/n 2924	55.00
	1-Stainless Steel Bubble Tube, 2 ft. p/n 2891	31.62
	1-Vinyl Bubble Tubing, 100 ft. p/n 2921	63.25
	<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$4,764.70</u></b>

**Discussion on Flow meter:**

Ken Cramer: Currently I am using a loner Flow meter from Hach Company for approximately a month now. The second Quote of \$4,764.70 is the same system as what we currently have. It is an obsolete model but it works and we are all set up for it. We would keep our current flow chart and it would be a matter of unhooking it and hooking it up and calibrating it. The down fall is it is an obsolete model. If something happens to it they might or might not be able to repair it. Our flow meter system we have lasted 15 years and if we can get another 15 years out of another one, we'd be in pretty good shape.

The alternative sonar system is pretty advanced. It doesn't fit our needs greatly. It basically is used for a manhole measuring the I&I. It's a data delivery system, it records everything and I can receive the information on my phone or my computer. The plus to that system is that you wouldn't have to go out and do all the sampling but I still have to go out do the sampling anyway. I am not gaining anything by getting that system.

I spoke with Councilman Anderson and he would like to check around for other flow meter systems and get quotes. I don't mind him checking them out but I really would like to give this company an answer, as soon as possible, because they are letting me borrow their flow meter.

Councilman Anderson: I did look at the cost, it's not outlandish and he does have a state contract.

Councilman Ellsworth: Does this price include installation?

Councilman Anderson: It does state on the quote that there is factory training, startup and installation available with a separate quote.

Ken Cramer: Yes. I don't need the training because it's the same system I already have. They will set up the calibration.

Councilman Anderson: Taking it in and out might be just a set of gaskets that's about all.

Supervisor Kemper: The first quote is a monthly fee and the second one doesn't have that.

Ken Cramer: That's because it is done with a wireless modem and the information is stored in a cloud. That's fine but I don't have a hard copy of my flow chart unless I print it off my computer daily. If we were dealing with a new plant and a new system, this would be a great way to go. But right now I don't see any reason to spend that extra money.

The \$4,764.70 system is a new system not a reconditioned system. The Hach Company has two of the Sigma 950 Bubbler Flow Meter's left on the shelf. They are just not making that model anymore.

**MOTION:** Councilman Anderson motioned to accept the bid of \$4,764.70 and purchase the Flow meter from Total Control System Services, Inc.-8163 Boston State Rd, Hamburg, NY 14075 and purchase orders from this quote should be made payable to (Hach Company, 2207 Collections Center Dr., Chicago, IL 60693)

1-Sigma 950 Bubbler Flow Meter p/n 2672	\$3,900.86
-Includes sampler port & re-settable totalizer	
1-AC Power Supply 100-120V p/n 4455100	320.83
1-4-20mA Output Option p/n 2676	393.14
1-First 4-20mA with 25' Cable p/n 2924	55.00
1-Stainless Steel Bubble Tube, 2 ft. p/n 2891	31.62
1-Vinyl Bubble Tubing, 100 ft. p/n 2921	63.25
Total	<b><u>\$4,764.70</u></b>

Seconded by Councilman Roosa, and passed by,  
5-Ayes: Kemper, Gritsavage, Ellsworth, Roosa and Anderson

0-Nays

The Sacandaga Park Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2012 is available for review.

**Discussion on the phones used for the Well house and the telemetry station.**

Those phones are digital and only used to collect data on them. I believe there are three lines. Councilman Ellsworth: We need to get this information to Frontier and for them to verify what is needed over there. We're just concerned about the dial up and making sure they don't disconnect it. I will contact Frontier.

Ken Cramer: I would like to be part of the process with talking with the proposed Engineers that will be meeting with the board members to discuss their fee and time schedule for the water and wastewater rate study.

Response: Both you and the Town Clerk will be a part of that process.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- Time Warner Rate Notification for 2013 and Programming Notice
- Fulton Co NY Tourism Department
- Fulton Co Supervisor Resolution #96 Resolution authorizing the Purchase of Citrix software and related Accessories to improve the Co RPT Services Central Database System
- Report of February 2013 Revenues and Expenditures
- Letter from the Community Preparedness Association
- Historian Gail Cramer requesting to attend the annual State Conference of Assoc. of Public Historians.

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve Historian Gail Cramer attending the annual State Conference of Association of Public Historians with the stipulation, as long as, she is within the travel policy limits, seconded by Councilman Anderson, and passed by,  
5-Ayes: Kemper, Gritsavage, Ellsworth, Roosa and Anderson      0-Nays

- A letter was received and has been made a permanent part of the record from Bookkeeper Carol Roberts verify her completion of various files filing, and having no outstanding work to be done in her office as of February 28, 2013.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Matthew Ginter collected \$367.50 in fees + \$23.80 for ZBA reimbursements mailing and legal notice and has issued (4) permits in February 1-28 2013; #03-13 Pellet stove install permit; #04-13 Alterations permit; #05-13 Bathroom renovations and #65-

11 Renewal, plus 2 cases for Lot Line Adjustments. The total Estimated Project Costs was \$107,110.00.

Fire Inspections are almost complete.

BAS has installed the Building permit software.

I have been attending training classes and the next class will be held on April 2-4.

### **Basement Offices**

Matthew Ginter: I have started building the new offices downstairs.

The board unanimously approved Mr. Ginter getting signage for the Office doors.

Mr. Ginter will try and contact George Bailey on making the signage.

**SPECIAL EVENTS PERMIT LAW:** An e-mail was received today from Deborah Bant on the Mama Strawberry Jam event at the Solid Rock Ranch.

Discussion:

There are three options:

1. Do nothing, which appears it is not a popular way to go; 2. Write a permit even though it is a Residential property, this way the Town can put tight controls on it; or 3. Get an injunction.

Councilman Gritsavage: The injunction would be if they became actively involved. I think the first thing would be a "seek and assist letter" on the part of the Attorneys. If it looks like they are moving ahead. We would have to be looking at action by getting a temporary restraining order followed by a temporary injunction, then a permanent injunction. It seems to me that would be the way to go. I'm not impressed by saying "I'm grandfathered in". I think that we owe it to these people who have come to us. The law is the law. It is a violation of the Zoning Law. I feel we should move forward and request the Attorneys to do whatever the next step is. They have not come and picked up an application. It is clearly stated in fact in the e-mail that they are going to move forward with this event.

Councilman Gritsavage read this e-mail out loud from Deborah Bant. We have it in writing that she is going to move forward with this event and I feel that this e-mail should be turned over to our attorneys and they should take the appropriate action. I would be happy to meet with the Attorney to get whatever needs to be done and proceed.

Councilman Ellsworth: Based on the past history of the problems we've had with this event. I'm in agreement with Councilman Gritsavage. It's unfortunate but we've tried being nice. Ms. Bant doesn't reason and has managed to irritate the neighbors.

Councilman Gritsavage: I think we have a legal obligation.

Councilman Ellsworth: I think we have to say to Ms. Bant, if she comes in with an application and a check. We should say that this has been referred to the Attorney and we are not going to accept your application. It is my opinion that there is no reason to take the money because it's not going to happen. I don't see how she can apply because the Law states it doesn't apply for Residential property. So, if you want to be consistent, it's denied as soon as it hits the table, end of discussion. According to the law, we can't do that.

Matthew Ginter: Ms. Bant obviously anticipates that, according to her e-mail.

I brought up about the Law to our attorney and she stated that the Board could make an exception and we do not have to abide by that prohibited in Residential. If you felt it would be easier to let Ms. Bant apply, if the board wanted to they could enforce restrictions. It's not that you can't apply in a Residential it's just that it is not permitted in a Residential. The Board has to over ride

the provisions of the law. You could make a provision if there should be this wedding Ms. Bant refers to.

Councilman Ellsworth: Based on past history, there haven't been any neighbors saying that it's an awesome event. Maybe the attendees liked it.

Councilman Anderson: I don't see a benefit to the Town or the Village.

Matthew Ginter: The board needs to pass a resolution authorizing legal action.

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to authorize the Code Enforcer to contact the Legal Counsel of Miller, Mannix, and Schachner & Hafner Law Firm to inform Counsel that the Town Board members are not accepting an application or fee from Debra Bant. To see if Counsel would like to meet with the Town Board to discuss the process appropriate for legal action, seconded by Councilman Anderson and passed by,  
5-Ayes: Kemper, Gritsavage, Ellsworth, Roosa and Anderson 0-Nays

Supervisor Kemper: Are you going to follow the same process with the wedding and be consistent?

Matthew Ginter: To be consistent when it comes to zoning issues, I usually follow up on a complaint. Zoning issues are typically that someone has built something too close to the line or if somebody wants to build close to the line. When I see that some has done something, I usually give them 14 days to fix it. Discuss ensued on examples of what Mr. Ginter refers to. Based on our zoning if this becomes an issue, what's a reasonable time; it's a three day event?

**JUSTICE REPORT:** Councilman Anderson motioned to accept the Justice report, of a total of 38 cases were handled and \$4,867.00 collected in fines for the month, seconded by Councilman Ellsworth, and passed by,

5-Ayes: Kemper, Gritsavage, Ellsworth, Roosa and Anderson 0-Nays

#### **ELECTIONS:**

Tentative Election Date for the 2013 Elections

Primary Election – September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013 12 o'clock noon – 9:00 p.m.

General Election – November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 6 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### **JOINT YOUTH:**

Held a meeting on March 14, 2013

- We approved the budget and Mr. Matthews has put a little extra in salaries, in the event minimum wage goes up and it is required to be raised.
- The Town of Benson is pulling out this year. Since Northville Central School provides approximately 10% of the budget. We decided that in the event a child from Benson wants to participate in the program they would have to pay the cost and we would give them a 10% discount, since they are part of the Northville Central School District.

Question: If a resident of Benson has a child participate in the program and they pay for it, does that entitle them to use the Beach?

Response: No, it's only during Summer Camp; it is not for their resident's to use. Residents of the Town of Northampton/Village of Northville are free and everyone else has to pay to use the beach.

- The Town of Hope has pre-paid for several years.
- We discussed
  - The Upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 30, 2013 at 10 m in the Village Park.
  - Hiring of lifeguards and counselors

- There will be a Northville-Northampton Youth Program Mini Soccer signup on March 26<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Bradt Building.

**CEMETERIES:** Cemetery Caretaker Gerald “Stu” VanNostrand has a recommended Richard Canfield as an individual that he has chosen to work as Cemetery grounds Maintenance worker. Mr. Canfield has expressed an interest in learning the cemetery maps which a huge asset. It’s been said that he is a hard worker

**MOTION:** Councilman Ellsworth has motioned approval of hiring Richard Canfield as Town of Northampton Cemetery grounds Maintenance worker, seconded by Councilman Anderson, and passed by

5-Ayes: Kemper, Gritsavage, Ellsworth, Roosa and Anderson                      0-Nays

**Committee Reports**

**ZONING:** We have a Use Variance that was denied by the Town ZBA for Walter Santucci. Mr. Santucci did get a home occupation for Gunsmithing. However, he is not following up with the proper application because the ATF already gave him his permit before I approved him Home Occupation. I have contacted Mr. Santucci several times and at some point I will be contacting the ATF if I don’t hear from him (Santucci).

There was discussion on resident on Co 113 that has put up a fence without a permit. It was suppose to go thru the ZBA. He has never submitted a completed ZBA application and upon further investigation the fence is on County property and I have sent him a letter to take down the fence immediately.

Discussion ensued saying that this is a violation on a couple of zoning sections.

There are no new cases coming before the ZBA.

**Discussion on Town Planning Board vacancy**

Anyone interested in applying should submit a letter of interest.

Councilman Ellsworth: James Conkling has shown interest on being a member on the Town of Northampton Planning Board.

Supervisor Kemper: Mr. Conkling has a lot of back ground and experience and he helped work on the Town Comprehensive plan.

**MOTION ON PLANNING BOARD MEMBER:** Councilman Ellsworth motioned to approve James Conkling as member on the Town of Northampton Planning Board pending Mr. Conkling accepting the position, seconded by Supervisor Kemper, and passed by,

5-Ayes: Kemper, Gritsavage, Ellsworth, Roosa and Anderson                      0-Nays

**AMBULANCE:** During February 2013 members responded to 7 calls in the Town of Northampton, 3 calls in the Village of Northville, and 1 in the Town of Hope They volunteered 74 man hours and traveled 137miles through the month.

Councilmen Ellsworth and Gritsavage are requesting board approval for travel expenses for them to meet with individuals in Speculator and Indian Lake inquiring and gathering information about their ambulance billing process. The board unanimously agreed that this information and data is needed to be collected on ambulance billing process.

Councilman Gritsavage: We definitely do not have any preconceived idea we need the information.

**HAULING FEES** for the month of February 2013 are as follows:

County Transfer	59.900 Ton @ \$53.00	\$3,174.70
Curbside Recycling	10.400 Ton @ \$25.00	\$ 260.00
Transfer Station Recycling	.880 Ton @ \$12.50	\$ 11.00
Total		<u>\$3,445.70</u>

**TOWN CLERK:**

**MOTION:** Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the Town Clerk's February 2013 monthly report as presented and seconded by Councilman Roosa, and passed by,  
5-Ayes: Kemper, Roosa, Ellsworth, Anderson, and Gritsavage 0-Nays



## **SUPERVISOR**

Supervisor Kemper noted that she filed a preliminary Consolidated Funding application for the Sacandaga Park Water and Sewer it was due March 8<sup>th</sup> 2013. I've been working with AES and the Fulton County Planning Department. We're trying to get funding for two projects for McKinley Ave and Lincoln Ave and the section by Vic's. For the two projects together I filed for \$1.1M.

When the Counsel meets and they read through the preliminary application and if we get notification then we will have to complete an entire application process, which AES will help us out with it. This is done through the Regional Counsel for infrastructure. It is a 60/40 match. The Town share would be 60 which can be done through bonding or you could leverage different things. They would provide 40 it's not the best but right now, it is the only thing that we can look for.

Councilman Anderson: I think we might have done a duplicate because I put an application in for \$450,000 for the Sacandaga Park Sewer. Using the \$116,000 that we had in reserve it came up to \$566,000.

Supervisor Kemper: Did you work with AES on that because they updated the figures on it?

Councilman Anderson: No, I just put something in to the Public Facilities Infrastructure NYCDBG Program submission form, so that we would have some kind of number in.

Discussion ensued on the updating of the calculations needed to apply and an answer should be made sometime in April.

If we don't get anything with the preliminary Consolidated Funding, then the \$116,000 we do have, the only thing we can do with it is do the section by Vic's. It's not enough to do the other section in the Park.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Councilman Ellsworth: Can please give us an update on the Bookkeeper.

Supervisor Kemper: Carol Roberts has been working with me on weekends on payroll. Patti Guy has been helping with the Fund accounting; she knows the program and the process. She has been hired and has been coming in on weekends and meeting with Carol to go over the General ledgers, vouchers among other things. Mrs. Guy was the Budget Officer for the County and is retired. She's worked here, I believe, this was her second weekend. She gets paid the same as Cristen was.

Councilman Ellsworth: Is Carol getting paid for this?

Supervisor Kemper: Carol will continue to work on an "as needed" basis or if we need assistance in order to assure a smooth transition of bookkeeping for the Town as stated in the Organizational meeting. We do pay her for the few hours that she comes in on the weekend and she works with me.

Patti Guy doesn't feel it necessary to come in every day. She will do the Bookkeeping but she won't do the payroll. I do that.

Councilman Gritsavage: Could we be advised when these things happen so that we can be brought up to date. I would have liked to be told when Patti Guy started.

We weren't sure how things were going to work out because Pattie Guy currently works in the Town of Johnstown and she is helping her daughter. We weren't sure as to what degree we would work for us. After speaking with Pattie she said with it being an election year she would work with me. The board has made it clear that whoever I put in may not be who they have if I don't win an election. So, Mrs. Guy stated that she would train someone in that event.

Councilman Ellsworth: This board never said that this person you appoint would not come over.

Supervisor Kemper: I believe this was said at the Organizational meeting that was said. She will train someone if it too much of what she wants to do.

Councilman Ellsworth: I would have been nice if we had gotten an e-mail from you when Cristen left. I think a lot of the animosity would go away if we are informed.

Supervisor Kemper: If we had a definitive answer on that position then you probably would have been informed.

### **WEBSITE**

Councilman Ellsworth: We interviewed two people for working on the website. One was extremely professional but would cost more money then we want to spend at \$50 an hour and there was a set-up fee of \$2,400. The other individual works on the Northville Central School website, is a member of the community and is extremely reasonable at \$50 a month up to 5 hours a time and then \$10 an hour after that.

Supervisor Kemper: The \$50 an hour is not budgeted.

Councilman Gritsavage and I felt everything should come through the website committee and then sent on to the website contact person. Dylan is more then happy to see the Town hire someone to do the website.

Question: Are you going to put the minutes up as unapproved?

Response: We can put them up unapproved or as a draft.

There was brief discussion on the billing of the website domain. Dylan will do whatever needs to be done to switch it over to the Town and he will work with the new webmaster.

I was just in the Elaine's (Clerk) listening to a tape of a previous meeting on her tape recorder. This tape recorder sounds horrible. We think that we should, once we get the website up and running get. We definitely need a new recorder that has higher quality. I think that we might like to patch the meeting right into the website. So people can actually listen to the meeting.

**MOTION WEBMASTER:** Councilman Ellsworth motioned to approve hiring Peggy Young as Town of Northampton webmaster at \$50 a month + \$10 an hour, seconded by Councilman Gritsavage, and passed by, 5-Ayes: Kemper, Roosa, Ellsworth, Anderson, and Gritsavage  
0-Nays

**NEW BUSINESS:** Councilman Anderson has received three individual proposals - Letter form of agreement from CT Male Associates; Chazen Companies; and LaMont Engineers for revision of the Sacandaga Park Water and Wastewater rates.

**MOTION:** Councilman Ellsworth motioned to approve both Councilmen Anderson and Roosa along with Ken Cramer and Town Clerk, Elaine Mihalik to meet and interview the three contractors, CT Male Associates; Chazen Companies; and LaMont Engineers regarding the Sacandaga Park Water and Wastewater rates. And to come back to the board with their recommendations, seconded by Councilman Gritsavage, and passed by, 5-Ayes: Kemper, Anderson, Roosa, Gritsavage, and Ellsworth 0-Nays

Steven Norris: Did you ask Dylan about the domain and whether they provide e-mail addresses?

Councilman Ellsworth: I'll let Mrs. Young check it out. Most domains you can tack on e-mail addresses automatically.

Supervisor Kemper: After speaking with Grant Preston he explained that it can be done but the problem is there is only one password for the town. So I do know the correct process. If different passwords are to be used on separate accounts, then I have to input them.

Councilman Ellsworth: We should wait to see if we can piggy back on the domain, it looks more professional.

Councilman Anderson: It seems other towns do it that way.

Elaine Mihalik: I have received two companies that are interested in the bid for the roof CD and I have sent the CD to them along with Addendum #1 with the opening date changed to April 8<sup>th</sup>.

I've had others interested but have not heard anything back from them.

Supervisor Kemper: I've received several calls that are inquiring about the anticipated cost. I spoke with Councilman Anderson on this that many of them are asking if there is going to be a pre-bid meeting. I've explained to the individuals that have called, to pick up the CD, it is pretty much self explanatory, and they can do a walk through. One individual mentioned that they didn't have a pre-paid FEDEX or UPS account. I mentioned that someone can come to the office on the weekend if they wanted to come up and pick up the CD or do a walk through.

Supervisor Kemper: The Board members should have gotten the draft audit report today. It is "strictly confidential". It is not foil-able. There is an exit conference scheduled for Elaine and myself next Wednesday. I will then have a certain timeline in which to respond. There are timelines to be followed and until it is posted publicly there maybe changes to it because it is just a draft.

Councilman Ellsworth: Can the board attend?

Supervisor Kemper: It's just for the Clerk and myself according to the Auditor.

Councilman Gritsavage: Can a Councilman response?

Supervisor Kemper: Remember is it confidential. Read the e-mail there is something in there about responding I believe.

#### **Open to public comment 8:46 p.m.**

Steven Norris: I have to ask because I am very disturbed on what I heard about the last board meeting. Councilman Ellsworth I would like to know why you left the meeting.

Councilman Ellsworth: We were in Executive Session for employment history. There were some things that I didn't agree with and I didn't think they were factual. I was tired, I had enough, and I got up and walked out.

Councilman Gritsavage: There were also some things that may not have been properly part of the Executive Session.

Councilman Ellsworth: We didn't discuss it for long because I mentioned it wasn't part of the Executive Session and we did end that discussion. It was concerning website duties. I'm not sure how that even started because we went into employment history.

It was during the portion of the employment history I got disgusted and the Supervisor was saying some things that I didn't agree with and I don't believe that they were factual. It was discussion on how things had gone with the past bookkeeper. I conducted my exit and I absolutely didn't agree with and I was tired of listening to it. So I excused myself and left.

Steven Norris: I have trouble with the board going into Executive Session and discussing things that are not to remain a part of Executive Session. This is not the first time that this has happened. I really strenuously object to it. I think that you board members need to start taking control and say that this is something that the public has a right to know.

Councilman Ellsworth: It's a good point and it is well taken.

Supervisor Kemper closed the public comment at 8:48 p.m.

The next **regular board meeting** will be **Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.**

**ADJOURN:** Not having any more business before the board, Anderson motioned to **adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m.**, seconded by Councilman Roosa, and passed by,

5-Ayes: Kemper, Anderson, Roosa, Gritsavage, and Ellsworth 0-Nays

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik, RMC  
Town Clerk