

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON  
REGULAR MEETING  
September 24, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Town of Northampton was held on Wednesday, September 24, 2014. Supervisor Groff called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building at 412 South Main St., Northville, NY. Supervisor Groff led the salute to the flag.

**PRESENT:** Supervisor: James Groff  
Councilmen: Darryl Roosa, Ivar Anderson, Art Simmons and  
William Gritsavage-Excused

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

**Other Town department representatives in attendance was:** Bookkeeper-Nathanial Matthews

**ALSO PRESENT:** Skip Taylor  
Caroline Murray-Recorder Newspaper

**MOTION:** Councilman Simmons motioned to approve the August 20, 2014 Regular meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk, seconded by Councilman Roosa and  
Adopted by a vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Anderson, Roosa, and Simmons

**MOTION ON WARRANTS**

Councilman Roosa approved paying the warrants as set forth, seconded by Councilman Anderson and  
Adopted by a vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Anderson, and Simmons 0-Nays

**September 2014 Warrants**

General Fund "A"	\$21,991.55
General Fund "B"	6,498.44
Highway "DB"	108,154.86
Sacandaga Lighting District "SL"	1,148.37
Sacandaga Water District "SW"	4,181.66
Sacandaga Sewer District "SS"	11,001.04
Trust & Agency Fund	452.60
Trust – Cemeteries – Expendable "TE"	<u>00.00</u>
Total Warrants	\$153,428.52

**Resolution #2014-13:** Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds within Accounts to Meet Certain Contractual Expenses for Accounts Payable from 2014 Budget Items.

Councilman Anderson offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Councilman Roosa seconded the motion.

WHEREAS, within the budget certain appropriated amounts are insufficient to meet certain accounts payable expenses from Budget line items from 2014 Budget for the September transfers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor be authorized to transfer the below indicated funds from within existing accounts of the 2014 budget to cover anticipated expenses;

Transfers

September

\$1,500.00

From: B8160.1 – Refuse/Garbage – Personal Services

To: B8160.4 – Refuse/Garbage – Contractual Exp.

Reason – to cover repairs

\$5,000.00

From: A1620.2 – Buildings - Equipment

To: A1620.4 – Buildings - Contractual Exp.

Reason – to cover expenses through end of year

AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this resolution be recorded in the Town Clerk’s minutes and be a permanent record of the Town.

Roll Call Vote:

James Groff	Aye	William Gritsavage	Absent
Ivar Anderson	Aye	Art Simmons	Aye
Darryl Roosa	Aye		

Supervisor Groff asked if anyone wanted to address the Town Board. Having no one from the public wanting to speak Supervisor Groff continued on with the regular meeting.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- Monthly Report of Revenues and Expenditures as of 8/13/ 2014
- Monthly Transfers for Abstract of Audited vouchers
- Association of Towns 2014 Personnel Management School-in Town of Amherst, NY on Friday 11/14/2014
- Letter dated 9/13/2014 from Sacandaga Seniors Travel Committee request for donation for Northampton/Northville residents who traveled with the Sacandaga Seniors Travel Group-2014 Supervisor Groff: I feel that would not be a good idea to make any monetary donation at this time. We are on a very tight Budget. Possibly we could make a donation to them from the 2015 Budget.
- APA Major project Public Notice, Application Received, APA Project No.2014-149
- Letter from NYS Department of Public Service- asking to help raise awareness of the Lifeline Discount Telephone Service Program and encouraging eligible consumers to enroll. September 8-14 2014 has been designated as National Lifeline Awareness Week.
- Received from the Dept. of the Army - Permit Application No. NAN-2014-00956-UDE by Barry Ward
- Helping Hands requesting permission to hold their meetings in the Town Hall.

All board members present were in favor Helping Hands holding their meetings in the town hall. They must provide the town with an insurance policy naming the Town of Northampton. They must write a letter to the town listing the date and time in which they plan on holding meetings in the Town hall.

## Petition for Reduce Speed limit on McKinley Ave, Sacandaga Park District

Supervisor Groff stated that he was approached by the residents that live on McKinley Ave asking about reducing the speed on their street and putting in speed bumps.

It would probably be easier to put in speed bumps than it would be to get the State to reduce the speed on that road, stated the Supervisor. I asked them to go door to door to every resident on their Street with a petition for this request because these people are going to be driving over the speed bumps every day. If

they want to sign the petition then the Town Board will look at that possibility. I have spoken with Marc Yost and he stated that McKinley Ave. is a Town road and that wasn't a problem. I have received from the residents of McKinley Ave. a signed Petition requesting for Reduced Speed on McKinley Ave, Sacandaga Park District and to put in speed bumps along their road and that petition is to be made a part of this record. Supervisor Groff stated that he would like to Budget the cost of a couple of speed bumps and signage in the 2015 Budget.

**MOTION:** Councilman Anderson motioned to budget the cost of a couple of speed bumps and signage in the 2015 Budget for McKinley Avenue, Sacandaga Park District, seconded by Councilman Roosa and Adopted by a vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Anderson, and Simmons 0-Nays

**Cross walk on the corner of McKinley and Co Hwy 152 in the Sacandaga Park**

Supervisor Groff: According to Marc Yost the County Highway Department does not do cross walks. The county does not have a paint machine. The Village does have a paint machine.

Councilman Anderson: Who put the cross walks at the Golf Course? Do they put their own in?

Supervisor Groff: Mr. Yost will put up signs that say "crosswalk" and is not opposed to the Town putting in cross walks. Marc Yost had told the Supervisor that he does not put in crosswalks in anywhere else in the county. For the Town to do it, it would have to be done in the spring. He (Yost) would come up in April 2015 and both he and I can figure out where to put in the crosswalks if that is alright with the Town Board.

The full board present was in favor of putting in the crosswalk walk on the corner of McKinley and Co Hwy 152 in the Sacandaga Park.

**Handicap curb cut from Co Hwy 152 to the North side of the Northville Bridge**

Supervisor Groff: I have had people coming to me saying that they are coming into the Village from the Sacandaga Park in a wheelchair and they cannot get up onto the sidewalk on the north side of the bridge. I have been asked if the town could please look into putting in a handicap curb cut at the end of the sidewalk so that they can get up and onto the sidewalk to cross the bridge into the Village of Northville. I told them that I could write a letter to the Utica DOT on this issue and see if they would do this for us.

The full board present was in favor of Supervisor Groff call the DOT in Utica and then send the DOT a follow up letter requesting putting in a handicap curb cut at the end of the sidewalk from Co Hwy 152 to the north side of the Northville Bridge.

**Discussion on possible speed reduction on certain streets in the Town of Northampton**

Councilman Anderson stated that he has been collecting petitions to lower the speed limit on County Highway 152, from Houseman Street to where it meets the intersection of County Highway 152 extension and County Highway 152 where there are no 30 MPH zones. If the committee can collect the petition and then sit down some time in February or March of 2015 with the Troopers and the DOT and everybody that is involved in this, to see if we can or cannot change the speed limit.

Supervisor Groff: I was going to put together a resolution with all the streets that need to have their speed limit reduced. We should also follow through on Ridge Road and County Highway 143.

Discussion ensued on what had transpired on an application on changing the speed limit on County Highway 113 to the Edinburg Co road and to include that also.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Matthew Ginter collected \$832.50 in fees in August. The total Estimated Project Costs was \$125,700.00. A total of (14) permits were issued in August 2014; #048-14-Major Alterations; #049-14-Addition; #050-14 HVAC; #051-14-Major Alterations; #052-14 Swimming Pool; #053-14 Minor Alterations; #054-142 Car Garage; #055-14 2 Car Garage; #056-13 Storage Building; #057-143R2 Permit Renewal; #057-14 2 Car Garage; #058-14 1 Car Garage; #59-14 Storage Building #061-13R1 Permit renewal and 2 Municipal Searches.

Matthew Ginter stated that his goal of bringing the Town's bars, restaurants and businesses to compliance with NYS Codes has been challenging but nearly complete.

**JUSTICE:** Councilman Anderson motioned to accept the Justice report, there were a total of 40 cases handled and \$6,081.00 was collected in fines for the month, seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by, 4-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Anderson, and Simmons 0-Nays

**Resolution #2014-14: Resolution in Support of Application of the 2014-2015 Town Justices Court Assistance Program**

The foregoing resolution was made by Councilman Anderson and seconded by Councilman Roosa  
WHEREAS: the Unified Court System has notified the Town of Northampton Town Court of the Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP); and

WHEREAS: in order to complete the ongoing reconstruction project work (to remove the existing contaminated ceiling and insulating system which has been compromised by the old leaking roof. Spray foam the entire roof structure with 4 inches of material to achieve an R-44 rated system in combination with the roof replacement previously done. A lay in grid ceiling shall then be reinstalled of moderate quality with existing lighting to be reinstalled) at the Justice Court of the Town of Northampton;  
NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: that the Town Board of the Town of Northampton hereby authorizes the applicant to request up to the maximum available (\$30,000.00) and hereby authorizes its full support of the application to the Justice Court Assistance Program. The application shall not be submitted until it has been reviewed by the Town Board in its entirety; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED: that each and every thing be done to further the purport of this resolution and that it be recorded in the Town Clerk's minutes and be a permanent record of the Town.

Roll Call Vote:

James Groff	Aye	William Gritsavage	Absent
Ivar Anderson	Aye	Art Simmons	Aye
Darryl Roosa	Aye		

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AMBULANCE:**

Supervisor Groff stated that he wished Mr. Farquhar was here tonight so that we could discuss his letter to Sheriff Thomas J. Lorey requesting for a change of dispatch procedure with him. I am not in favor of the verbiage in the letter to Sheriff Lorey, stated the Supervisor. How does the Board members feel about it?

Councilman Anderson: I have to agree that we do not have an agreement with Benson right now. So, therefore there is no reason for us to be called out on a first responder.

Supervisor Groff: I have no problem with that. The problem I have is, if Fulton County calls and says that they want mutual aid. Then we GO. Just because Edinburg is saying ALS and not Mutual Aid, they won't go. I think that our neighbor who does have an ambulance, who is willing to help us anytime and we help them. If they get a call from Edinburg then we should go. I know that it is a problem with the way that they dispatch. It could be one of us that could need help. We need clarification from Mr. Farquhar on this verbiage. Councilmen Simmons and Gritsavage should discuss this with the Ambulance Committee and Mr. Farquhar.

Councilman Anderson: It should read ALS/Mutual Aid.

**MOTION:** Councilman Anderson motioned the approval of the two new members Eric DesJardins and Holly Downing on the Town of Northampton Ambulance Service. Seconded by Councilman Simmons and Adopted by a vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Anderson, and Simmons 0-Nays

**ELECTION:** Matthew Ginter has built new screens for privacy to be used during the Elections.

**YOUTH /REC:**The Joint Youth Commission original meeting of September 8, 2014 was rescheduled and held on Wednesday, September 17, 2014 at 7 p.m.

Councilman Simmons: Reported that what it basically is is that the Mayor is handling it. We (the Committee) are an Advisory Board and no further meetings have been scheduled at this time.  
Supervisor Groff: They are going to get together and report on a whole year of the Recreational Program so the Committee can look at it.

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:**The August 27, 2014 and September 24, 2014 meetings were cancelled due to no new business coming before the board  
The next scheduled ZBA meeting is October 22, 2014 in the Town hall at 7 p.m.

**PLANNING BOARD:**The Planning Board held a meeting on Tuesday, September 9, 2014, where they met with the Town Board and reviewed the proposed changes to the Town of Northampton Zoning and Subdivision Law.

The Adirondack Escape subdivision has been completed and approved.

The Planning Board is reviewing a Lot Line Adjustment Application between Craig Yaddaw and Larry Cramer.

The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the Town hall.

**Transfer Station: Monday, October 13, 2014** is an Official holiday, Columbus Day. The transfer station will be closed.

**HARDFILL:**For the month of August 2014 there were a total of 59 vehicles that had come to the Hardfill site and a total of \$44.00 was collected.

**HAULING FEES:** The month of August fees are as follows:

County Transfer	107.070 Ton @ \$53	\$5,674.71
Curbside Recycling	15.370 Ton @ \$25	\$ 84.25
Transfer Station Recycling	4.130 Ton @ \$12.50	\$ 51.63
Metal Hauling	74.700 Ton @ \$20	<u>\$ 94.00</u>
Total		\$6,204.59

**NORTHVILLE FIRE DEPT.:**For the month of August 2014 the Northville Fire Department reported a total of 5 responses and a total of 106 man hours.

Village of Northville had 1 Hazardous Conditions and 1 Standby; the Town of Northampton had 1 Hazardous Materials; Mutual Aid given 1-Edinburg and 1 Hope.





Roll Call Vote:

James Groff	Aye	William Gritsavage	Absent
Ivar Anderson	Aye	Art Simmons	Aye
Darryl Roosa	Aye		

**Proposal of Local Law #1 of the Year 2014**

Nathaniel Matthews: What you have before you is a proposed Local Law #1 of the Year 2014 which is a local law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c. The Local Law is not saying that you must override the Tax Cap. If the board stays within the Tax Cap, we can repeal it. But in order to have the Law in place for the Budget adoption we need to start this process now. As it looks now, if the Board does not override the Tax Cap then this would only be a precaution because we will be close to the Tax Cap.

**MOTION:** Councilman Anderson motioned to proceed with the process of Local Law #1 of the Year 2014 entitled "A Local Law Authorizing a Property Tax Levy in Excess of the Limit Established in General Municipal Law §3-c, seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by  
3-Ayes: Groff, Roosa and Anderson      1-Nay: Simmons

Councilman Anderson: On reading the Town Topics: Control your energy costs. Apparently it is free to find out if we can save any money on any of our energy bills. Should we look into it?

Supervisor Groff: I think that anything that we can do to cut costs.

Councilman Anderson will look into this.

**Proposal for Winter Indoor Market**

There has been interest both from the public and vendors of the Farmers' Market to conduct a winter market. Winter markets have been successful in the Amsterdam area as well as other areas across the state. The proposed Market Time would be Fridays November 1, 2014 through March 28, 2015 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (depending on success/attendance at market, the dates could be shortened or extended) in the Conference Room of the Bradt Building (Town Hall).

Councilman Roosa: If they are to use the Conference Room, everything in the rooms needs to be put back and cleaned up the way they found them, so that either the Town Clerk or the Cleaner of the building is not doing the cleaning up after them.

Councilman Anderson: Why do the Winter Indoor Market on a Friday instead of Saturday?

Saratoga Market is held on a Saturday during the winter months.

Nathaniel Matthews: Historically, the Market has always been done on a Friday also Carolee (Cleaner) cleans the building on Saturdays. We are trying not to interfere with the Cleaners schedule at all.

Councilman Roosa: Do any of the vendors have a Saturday commitment?

Nathaniel Matthews: I honestly don't know.

**MOTION:** Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the Village of Northville to hold a Winter Indoor Market on Fridays starting November 1, 2014 through March 28, 2015 from 2 p.m. through 5 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Bradt Building (Town hall). The building is to be cleaned and put back after each and every Winter Indoor Market, Seconded by Councilman Roosa, passed by  
4-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Anderson, and Simmons      0-Nays

~ Councilman Simmons: I would like to see the Town Board make a serious commitment to get the local cable channel up and running again. I believe it changed when the library changed computer systems. I would like to see it tied in with the NCS.

Councilman Anderson: When Time Warner was here they stated that was available at that time and they were willing to set it up.

Councilman Simmons has been approved by the board present to inquire on this.

Councilman Roosa: It was great to have that channel because we were able to inform the residents of upcoming events and functions in the area. I would think that the Northville Central School would be the lead in this endeavor.

Councilman Anderson: Our webmaster has complained because no one is contacting her to place upcoming events or function on the Town website.

Councilman Simmons: It was discussed during the committee meeting last week to redo the Village Master Plan was Village and Town possibly sharing a part time Tourism/Publicity person. That would have were all the people who hold events would filter the information into this one person who would then disperse it thought the newspapers, the TV, etc. The Town Clerk shouldn't have to worry about doing that.

~ Supervisor Groff: The Village of Northville has asked the Town Board to motion to do a study on the possibility of combining both the Village and Town Planning Boards as one board and combining both the Village and Town Zoning Board of Appeals Boards as one board.

Councilman Anderson: We should get together and have a joint Town and Village Inter-municipal Committee meeting because there are still agreements, i.e. equipment and such, which needs to be signed by both municipalities.

**MOTION:**Councilman Anderson motioned to allow a study to be done on the possibility of merging both the Village of Northville and Town of Northampton Planning Boards as one board and combining both the Village and Town Zoning Board of Appeals Boards as one board. Seconded by Councilman Roosa, passed by,

4-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Anderson, and Simmons                      0-Nays

The 2015 Proposed Budget Work Session will be held on Wednesday, October 1, 2014 at 3 p.m.

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at 7 p.m.

Councilman Anderson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Councilman Roosa seconded the motion. All board members present were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik  
Town Clerk