

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON
REGULAR MEETING
March 18, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Town of Northampton was held on Wednesday, March 18, 2015. Supervisor Groff called the meeting to order and let the salute to the flag at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building at 412 South Main St., Northville, NY.

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

RECORDING SECRETARY: Elaine Mihalik-Town Clerk

Other Town department representatives in attendance were:

Matthew Ginter-Code Enforcement Officer; Kip Richardson-Highway Superintendent, Bookkeeper-Nathanial Matthews, Water/Sewer Plant Operator-Ken Cramer

ALSO PRESENT: Frank Bendl, Steve Norris and Sheila Cramer,

Supervisor Groff **opened for Public Comment at 7:01 p.m.** Having no one wanting to speak at the moment, the Supervisor will leave the public comment session open and continued with the meeting.

MOTION: Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the February 18, 2015 Regular Town Board meeting, as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Simmons and Adopted by a vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Anderson, Simmons and Roosa
Councilman Gritsavage Abstained-he was not present at the February 2015 meeting

MOTION ON WARRANTS

Councilman Gritsavage approved paying the warrants, Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by, 5-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Gritsavage, Anderson and Simmons 0-Nays

March 2015 Warrants

General Fund "A"	\$32,526.63
General Fund "B"	4,325.61
Highway	33,315.90
Sacandaga Lighting District	1,788.50
Sacandaga Sewer District	1,684.41
Sacandaga Water District	2,311.93
Fire Protection – "SF"	0.00
Trust and Agency Fund – "TA"	<u>567.80</u>
Total Warrants	\$ 76,520.78

RES. #2015- 12:RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN ACCOUNTS TO MEET CERTAIN CONTRACTUAL EXPENSES FOR ACCOUNTS PAYABLE FROM 2015 BUDGET LINE ITEMS

Councilman Anderson offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motion.

WHEREAS, within the budget certain appropriated amounts are insufficient to meet certain accounts payable expenses from Budget line items from 2015 Budget for the March transfers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor be authorized to transfer the below indicated funds from within existing accounts of the 2015 budget to cover anticipated expenses;

March 2015

\$3,500.00

From: A1950.4 – Judgements & Claims

To: A4540.402 – Ambulance Repairs/Maint

\$2,500.00

From: DB5130.2 – Machinery - Equipment

To: DB5142.2 – Snow Removal – Equipment

\$8,500.00

From: DB5148.406 – Service – Other Gov’t Contractual

To: DB5142.406 – Snow Removal – Diesel

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	Ivar Anderson	Aye
William Gritsavage	Aye	Art Simmons	Aye
Darryl Roosa	Aye		

Discussion on Resolution #2015-13

Nathanial Matthews: This resolution is a program that is a way for the banks to move away for collateralizing the large deposits that exceed the FDIC insurance. They are taking a large account, such as \$1M and instead of putting it out to a third party collateralization, they are spreading it to multiple banks where every depository account stays under the \$250,000. In essence what this is allowing them to do is for paying less in fees at the bank level so they are able to pass along some of that savings and give us a larger interest rate. Currently, it will be between three or four times greater interest than what we are currently making.

RES. #2015-13:RESOLUTION TO EXPAND FDIC COVERAGE ONPUBLIC DEPOSITS THROUGH THE USE OF A QUALIFIED RECIPROCAL DEPOSIT PROGRAM

Councilman Roosa offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motion.

WHEREAS, the Town of Northampton wishes to comply with NYS General Municipal Law regarding the security of public deposits that it has on deposit at any bank, **and**

WHEREAS, the Town of Northampton wishes to utilize a qualified Reciprocal Deposit Program as allowed under Chapter 128 of the NYS Laws of 2012 to increase the effective FDIC coverage and the rate of return on its public deposits, **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, that the Chief Fiscal Officer is authorized to execute a Deposit Placement Agreement with NBT Bank to increase the FDIC insurance on those public deposits that the Town of Northampton invests in a qualified New York State-approved Reciprocal Deposit Program.

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	Ivar Anderson	Aye
William Gritsavage	Aye	Art Simmons	Aye
Darryl Roosa	Aye		

COMMUNICATIONS

- Monthly Report of Revenues and Expenditures
- Monthly Transfers for Abstract of Audited vouchers
- Fulton/Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce Newline March 2015 issue
- Supervisor Groff: I did speak with Time Warner. Councilmen Gritsavage and Simmons are going to set up a teleconference with Time Warner Cable to discuss the 2015 Franchise Agreement to provide Cable Television Services between Town of Northampton and Time Warner Cable Northeast LLC c/b/a/ Time Warner Cable.

Councilman Simmons: We have been trying to set up a meeting with Time Warner for five months now. A call the Public Service Commission got some very quick results.

Councilman Gritsavage: Have you heard anything back from the Attorney on the proposed changes that were made to the 2015 Franchise Agreement to provide Cable Television Services between Town of Northampton and Time Warner Cable Northeast LLC c/b/a/ Time Warner Cable? I think we should contact the Attorney first to see what he suggests and then set up a date and time for the teleconference with Time Warner.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Matthew Ginter collected \$0 in fees. The total Estimated Project Cost was \$5,000.00. One permit was issued in February 2015; #003-15Sacandaga Beach Development-Retail store.

I have been to training and I am set for another year for my required hours.

NYS is now requiring a notification of truss construction to be submitted for residential construction. I have created a form and gave a presentation at the Fire Department as I am required to give them a copy when trusses are used in floors or roofs.

Matthew Ginter: Do you have any questions on the proposed Zoning Law?

Councilman Simmons: We are just waiting to set up a meeting between the Board members and the Planning and Zoning boards closer to summer?

Mr. Ginter: Yes, we would have a Public Hearing.

HIGHWAY: A legal notice on posting of Town of Northampton of all town roads to a (4) ton limit upon erection of signs and will remain so until signs are remove, was posted in the Leader Herald on Feb 27, 2015.

Kip Richardson: The tractor needs to be separated and it needs to be repaired. The wheel shaft sheared off from the transmission. We won't know the extent of it until it is separated.

2015 County Contract for mowing

Discussion: It was noted that the sum is for \$4,000, which is the exact amount as last year's contract.

MOTION:Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the 2015 County Contract between the Department of Highways and Facilities and the Town of Northampton for mowing certain Highway Rights-Of-Way, County Roads 113, 123, 130, 143, and 152 and to pay the Town the sum not to exceed \$4,000. Seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and
Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Anderson, Simmons, Gritsavage and Roosa

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:The March 25, 2015 meeting has been cancelled due to no new business coming before the board
The next tentative scheduled meeting is April 20, 2015 at 7 pm

PLANNING BOARD:P03-15 Arie Monster; the board did not meet in March due to a paperwork issue that needs to be resolved.
Next scheduled meeting of the Planning Board is April 21, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Justice Report:

MOTION: Councilman Anderson motioned to accept the Justice report, there were a total of 25 cases handled and \$5,376.00 was collected in fines for the month, seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and passed by, 5-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Anderson, Gritsavage and Simmons 0-Nays

Councilman Simmons: Is there anything that we need to go over regarding the liability insurance on the Magistrates group?
Supervisor Groff: I looked into that. Anybody that is elected is under the blanket coverage as long as you are within your duties of the office.

Youth/Rec:Councilman Gritsavage: We held a meeting on February 9, 2015. We approved the 2015 Budget. We are looking at possibly going to a four day week instead of a five day week program. It would be the same amount of time for the children except Thursday would be a full day for going on trips. Molly has been working on some new programs.

Councilman Simmons: As I mentioned at the Joint Youth meeting, I am all for the youth and doing things for them. I think the Molly is doing a pretty good job with the program. I voted "no" on the Budget simply because I think that the Town should not be putting any more money into the program than we are now.

For the amount of time that they have been working on coming up on new ideas, I guess I expected more.
Councilman Gritsavage: I think it was a little bit of difference in philosophy, I guess. The feeling that I had and I think the majority of the board was we did cut (5) sixteen to eleven. There has been no increase for funding from the Town or the Village in ten years. The funding increase that we did vote for was for the amount of \$3, 500.00.

Nathaniel Matthews: \$3,500.00 was the funding increase. Split will be 1/3rd the Village and 2/3rd the Town. The additional \$1,500 we were utilizing the savings from the Councilors positions and others.

Councilman Gritsavage: I felt that the program was so important and it was such a small increase it works out to less than a penny per thousand in the taxes.

Nathaniel Matthews: The total increase that the Youth Commission is looking for from the Town would be \$2,000.00. I took the total \$3,500.00 and divided it. If the board approves the Town's contributions would go from \$19,000.00 to \$21,000.00 paid out of the "B" Fund. I wouldn't have to be budgeted until the Town's next budget cycle. We wouldn't have to find it in this current budget. That is what this board has to discuss if they want. The Village would like to know ahead of time because that would dictate the programming to some degree.

Supervisor Groff: The 70% Town and 30% Village is because of the increased assessed values in the Town. It should be 75% Town and 25% Village.

MOTION:Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the proposed **Joint Youth**Budget as presented, with the Town portion 2/3rd(\$21,000.00) and the Village portion 1/3rd. Seconded by Councilman Anderson and
Adopted by a vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Anderson, Gritsavage and Roosa
1-Nay: Simmons

Steve Norris: I have no idea what the Joint Youth Committee does. It would be nice if the Committee put out some sort of flyer saying what they do.

Supervisor Groff: The meeting minutes are on the website and the meetings are open to the public.

AMBULANCE:The annual ambulance appreciation dinner has been tentatively set for April 18th. The ambulance was out of service for four or five days. They had a major repair.

Councilman Anderson: We didn't have the breakdown of the repairs on the bill attached to the voucher.

Councilman Roosa: I would think that like a Town truck you would have a break down in the bill of all the repairs.

Councilman Simmons: Mr. Farquhar did tell me what they did and roughly what the cost would be.

Supervisor Groff: Mr. Farquhar came to me and there were some problems with it being out of the warrantee. We tried to go through Ford because they had problems with this engine. It was out of warrantee. They had a class action suit where they would pay for up to eight years and ours is nine years old and they wouldn't give us a dime. I told Mr. Farquhar to go ahead and get the ambulance fixed because we had to get it fixed.

HARDFILL:The hardfill site will tentatively be opening on April 18, 2015 weather permitting.

HAULING FEES: The month of February 2015 fees are as follows:

County Transfer	52.910 Ton @ \$53	\$2,804.23
Curbside Recycling	8.300Ton @ \$20	\$ 166.00
Transfer Station Recycling	0.970 Ton @ \$10	\$ 9.70
Metal Hauling Fee	5.560 Ton @ \$20	<u>\$ 111.20</u>
Total		\$3,091.13

Northville Fire Department: For the month of February 2015 there were a total of 5 responses and a total of 56 man hours made by the Northville Fire Department. The Village of Northville there was 1-Co Detector activation. The Town of Northampton had 1-Motor Vehicle Accident and 1-Smoke Detector activation. Town of Benson there was 1-Motor Vehicle Accident. Town of Hope there was 1-Utility pole fire. Mutual Aid there was 1- the Town of Hope; 1-Town of Benson; and Mutual Aid Received as 2.

Department Note:

1. Members responded to one smoke detector activation due to a leaking toilet, one vehicle fire, one utility pole fire, one motor vehicle accident and one Co detector activation due to a dead battery.
2. Northville Fire Department participated in the following training:
On February 9-Response Safety and Chimney Fires. 16 members present.

On February 14-Conducted the annual Surface Ice Rescue Training exercise with surrounding agencies. 13 members present.

On February 16-Members reviewed the HAZ MAT Emergency Response Guide book and discussed different scenarios. 20 members present..

On February 23-Members reviewed radio communication procedures. 14 members present.

3. On February 14-Members conducted air pack checks.

SACANDAGA PARK WATER & SEWER:

February 2015

Water:

-February 2014 usage -1,255,000gallons pumped

-February 2015 usage- 700,000 gallons pumped

Meters:

-No problems to report

Repairs/Maintenance:

- One water leak discovered on a residential service line that was repaired.

Wastewater:

-February 2014- daily average flow 38,200 gallons

-February-2015- daily average flow 16,200 gallons

Repair/Maintenance:

-No issues to report

-The Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for the 2014 Town of Northampton Sacandaga Park Water District is available for inspection. A copy will be distributed to property owners with the April 1st water/sewer billing.

Ken Cramer: There was an issue with a pipe freezing on McKinley Avenue Extension; I just don't know where in the line it is frozen. It is such a long span. I'm waiting to see what happens when it begins to thaw. The way it was explained to me was that they were able to go about 30 feet into the line before it is believed they hit galvanized line. That was a 1" copper line that was put in before I started working in the water district. I can't imagine they left a section of the pipe galvanized but nothing does surprises me. They felt like it was an obstruction and not ice per say. He felt like it was some sort of obstruction. I think they couldn't get through the curve valve and I don't know how sharp of a turn it is. Their sewer also froze and they were able to thaw that out. That is the only person on that line out to Vic's.

Discussion on the motion

Ken Cramer: I hadn't turned the water off at Margaret Howell at 104 Riverside Blvd. However, it appears to have been off. I went back in my records of meter readings and they have all been the same reading. I do know that the family comes up but apparently they are using the water. I'm not sure.

MOTION: Councilman Anderson motioned to waive the January 2015 Water/Sewer billing for Margaret Howell at 104 Riverside Blvd. in the Sacandaga Park Water/Sewer District on parcel #32.13-2-10. Amount waived on bill #01-51 is Water \$47.49 plus \$4.74 penalty + Sewer \$55.92 plus \$5.59 penalty with a total amount waived \$113.75. Ken Cramer, Water/Sewer Maintenance Operator verified that the water is off at the aforementioned property. Seconded by Councilman Simmons and

Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Simmons, Gritsavage and Anderson 0-Nays

TOWN CLERK:

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve the Town Clerk’s February 2015 monthly report as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by, 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, Anderson and Simmons 0-Nays

03/01/2015

Page 1

**Town Clerk Monthly Report
February 01, 2015 - February 28, 2015**

Account#	Account Description	Fee Description	Qty	Local Share
A1255	Conservation	Conservation	4	7.16
	Marriage Certificate	Marriage Certificate	1	10.00
	Sub-Total:			\$17.16
A2130	Transfer Station	Transfer Station	39	390.00
Sub-Total:			\$390.00	
A2544	Dog Licensing	Female, Spayed	1	7.00
		Male, Neutered	1	7.00
Sub-Total:			\$14.00	
A2770	Photo Copy	Photo Copy	3	0.75
Sub-Total:			\$0.75	
Total Local Shares Remitted:				\$421.91
Amount paid to: NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program				2.00
Amount paid to: NYS Environmental Conservation				122.84
Total State, County & Local Revenues:		\$546.75	Total Non-Local Revenues: \$124.84	

To the Supervisor:

Pursuant to Section 27, Sub 1, of the Town Law, I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full and true statement of all fees and monies received by me, Elaine Mihalik, Town Clerk, Town of Northampton during the period stated above, in connection with my office, excepting only such fees and monies, the application of which are otherwise provided for by law.

Supervisor

Date

Town Clerk

Date

SUPERVISOR: I have nothing to report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Simmons: Do we still have openings on the various boards? Are we still looking for volunteers? Randy Palmateer has shown some interest.

Supervisor Groff: Yes, Zoning and Planning Board members. We put an ad in the newspaper and put a notice out for those positions. If he is interested in any of those positions he need to send a letter to the Town saying that he is interested.

Councilman Simmons: I hear that there are some problems with the phone system in the Town hall again.

Supervisor Groff: Yes

Councilman Simmons: It just seems to me after all the money that we've paid and Nate or someone had stated that they won't come up right away and fix it; they won't give us an upgrade; we have to keep calling them.

Nathaniel Matthews: They are actually pretty good about coming up when the troubles are arising. The most current status is that, Grant the Supervisor for Frontier; he is in discussion with MITEL trying to get us a new system. Either to get the system replaced or very deeply discounted. Grant's Superiors are also working at trying to get them to replace this system through MITEL. Right now we are waiting on MITEL. They said when it does come time that the Town does decide to move in that direction, their installation would be waived, there would not be any labor cost. Just whatever MITEL comes up with.

Steve Norris: May I ask a question to that?

Supervisor Groff: Yes

Steve Norris: Only because Councilman Bob Ellsworth and I worked on that. We were one of those who negotiated the contract for the phone system. Several months ago there was a \$700.00 bill to the Town for upgrades. Bob and I were scratching our heads because we were under the impression that this was going to resolve all the problems with the phone system.

Supervisor Groff: From what information Nate and I got out of it. Is that it is an outdated antiquated system.

Steve Norris: But it is brand new two years ago.

Supervisor Groff: They didn't upgrade the whole system.

Nathaniel Matthews: It was a discontinued system that they put it.

Steve Norris: They never told **us** that.

Supervisor Groff: We will see if we can get it taken care of.

Councilman Roosa: I tried calling the Clerk last week regarding a leak in the water district and I couldn't get her line.

Elaine Mihalik: I had to keep disconnecting the phone line and reconnecting it to try to get it to reboot itself.

Nathaniel Matthews: There are quite a few issues that are present.

Councilman Roosa: Besides that one.

Matthew Ginter: If I'm on the phone and you call me (Code Enforcement Officer) you get a busy signal.

Nathaniel Matthews: That's an internal programming issue and it depends on where it is rolling over too and if the other person is on the other line. The issues that we are having are more hardware related that we are trying to deal with. The actual hand sets are powering off, for whatever reason, and it is happening to multiple phones. We would have to unplug the phone and power cycle it. We are having issues with voice mails just vanishing or coming back later from who knows where. We are having a lot of random issues that they can't pin point and figure out what it is.

Elaine Mihalik: The Tax Collector's screen on her phone has "timeout" written across it. There is no such thing on any of our phones that say "timeout" that I know of and she can't receive calls. The calls come to the Town Clerk's phone and I try to transfer them to her with her there at her desk and the call goes nowhere. She never receives the call.

Councilman Simmons: Last week I tried calling the Town Clerk's Office over an hour's time. It would just ring two times and the line would go dead silent.

Elaine Mihalik: I will actually get two rings on my phone, answer it and the line is dead silent.

Nathaniel Matthews: I will keep pursuing.

Supervisor Groff closed the Public Session at 7:30 p.m.

Due to a conflict, the next Town Board meeting for April 15, 2015 has been rescheduled for April 22, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Councilman Anderson motioned to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Councilman Simmons seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik
Town Clerk