

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON  
REGULAR MEETING  
May 20, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Town of Northampton was held on Wednesday, May 20, 2015. 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

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

**Other Town department representatives in attendance were:** Bookkeeper-Nathaniel Matthews;  
Highway Superintendent-Christopher (Kip) Richardson; and Matthew Ginter-Code Enforcement Officer

**ALSO PRESENT:** Steven Norris

**MOTION:** Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the April 22, 2015 Regular meeting minutes with the correct made on page 4 of 11 motion under Highway "BID OPENING" to read: **"I am prudent and would take the low bidder. But the fact Michael Junquera was not the lowest bidder but because of the small discrepancies and it is the Town Boards choice."**

Councilman Anderson moved to accept the quote from Michael Junquera 673 Co Hwy 152, Mayfield, NY in the amount of \$4,650.00 for the excavation work for the back filling of the frost wall and grading the floor the construction of the new structure (building) at the Town of Northampton/Village of Northville property at the corner of State Highway 30 and High Rock Road **"because he is a Town resident and pays taxes in our town. It is the Town Boards decision to accept."** Seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and

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

Discussion on the April 22, 2015 Highway "BID OPENING MOTION:

Councilman Anderson: The only reason that I want the correction is because we did not take the low bidder for the excavation work for the back filling of the frost wall and grading the floor for the construction of the new structure (building) at the Town of Northampton/Village of Northville property at the corner of State Highway 30 and High Rock Road. I did say that **"I am prudent and would take the low bidder. But the fact Michael Junquera was not the lowest bidder but because of the small discrepancies and it is the Town Boards choice.** I move that we accept Michael Junquera's bid because **he is a Town resident and pays taxes in our town. It the Town Boards decision to accept."**

**MOTION ON WARRANTS**

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

**May 2015 Warrants**

General Fund "A"	\$21,388.67
General Fund "B"	435.00

Highway “DB”	6,648.84
Sacandaga Lighting District “SL”	1,219.68
Sacandaga Water District “SW”	2,895.16
Sacandaga Sewer District “SS”	1,293.37
Trust and Agency Fund “TA”	0.00
Trust – Cemeteries – Expendable “TE”	<u>0.00</u>
Total Warrants	\$33,880.72

Supervisor Groff opened Public Comment at 7:04 p.m.

Steven Norris:

1. What is the “total cost” of the new MITEL telephone system?

Response: I had that information at the last meeting stated Nathaniel Matthews. I would have to look it up.

2. Does the new MITEL telephone system include an extended warrantee like we had on the old system?

Response: I believe it does, stated Supervisor Groff. It’s a new system. I am not going to sit here and argue because of the way we did it.

I am a taxpayer and I have a right to an answer to know and have an answer to that question stated Mr. Norris. We paid for the old system with a 5 year warrantee and that is why I am asking.

Supervisor Groff: I can’t give you it right now and I will check into it.

3. Who negotiated the contract with Frontier to get the new MITEL telephone system?

Response: Nathaniel Matthews and I did, stated Supervisor Groff.

Steve Norris: You were directly involved?

Response: Yes, because we had to do something with the phone system stated the Supervisor. The phone system wasn’t working properly.

Steve Norris: The phone system did not work a year ago and that is why we had an extended warrantee. As Bob Ellsworth had told me, “if the phone system does not work then we paid for an extended warrantee. You get them in here to fix it.” That is their (Frontier) fault and not the Towns.

Supervisor Groff: They did not have the parts. It is not a new system. It is an antiquated system that they sold us. That was the answers that we had gotten and that is why we went to the new system.

Steve Norris: I don’t fault you for that at all. I am not arguing with you at all. You took it upon yourself without consulting with any of the Board members and you did not have a resolution to expend the approximately \$2,000.00 for that new system.

Supervisor Groff: The system needed to be fixed. If I did something wrong. So be it.

4. What was the total cost for the renovations of the new Assessor’s Office?

Nathaniel Matthews: We have not received all the invoices yet. So I don’t have a total of everything.

5. What is the maximum amount that can be expended on a project before the board has to have a resolution of approval to spend money on a project?

Supervisor Groff: I believe it is \$5,000.00 but I am not sure.

Steve Norris: I would like to see if you could get me that answer.

6. Read a quote in the October 1, 2014 Town minutes at the budget work session.  
“Nathanial Matthews: We started off the year with a considerably budget deficit of approximately \$130,000 in the hole. Our main focus with this year and next is to try and close that gap. Limit spending every which way we can to make it work.” I don’t see that happening stated Steve Norris. You have expended \$2,000 for a new phone system, I think it will be approximately \$1,500.00 for the office renovations that were not actually necessary but meanwhile you increased the tax levy. The purpose of that tax levy was to create a larger fund balance and I don’t have a problem with that. But you’re supposed to be conserving what you are spending. I don’t see that. You are spending money on things that are not absolutely necessary. I would have gotten Frontier to come in here to talk with the whole Town Board. Have them explain to you why the phone system that the Town had paid \$1,600 for was not working properly.

Supervisor Groff: It was junk. It is a problem when they can’t fix it. We had Frontier tech in here numerous times. We have a job to do and we need to get our calls. We needed a phone system because neither I nor Elaine were getting our messages and we were getting dropped calls. I was not getting anywhere with the phone company. So we changed the system. Unfortunately, you are not happy. I think that everybody else is. We needed to do something and we needed to move ahead.

As far as the office is concerned, it is easier for Mr. Matthews to work out of one office and not to be running back and forth changing phones, being in one office in the morning and in another office in the afternoon and going back and forth. When Mr. Matthews moved, we felt it would be easier to get the Assessor upstairs. And yes, I took it upon myself because I felt we needed to get the Assessor upstairs because of the STAR program and there was more space there than what I needed for an office. Mr. Ginter can do the work so we went ahead and did it. I did talk with a few of the Board members before we went and did it. Yes, we did not have a motion before the Board but I took it upon myself.

Steve Norris: You did inform some of the Board members as they showed up in your office.

Supervisor Groff: We will get your answers to your questions to you (Norris).

Matthew Ginter: Didn’t Frontier credit the Town for the \$6,000?

Supervisor Groff: Yes, they did give us credit for the whole \$6,000.00

Steve Norris: With the extended warrantee?

Supervisor Groff: I was in the original agreement. We will check on it. We will send the response certified mail to make sure that you get it.

Steve Norris: I will pick it up and pay for it.

Supervisor Groff: I will mail it to you so I don’t hear any nonsense.

Councilman Anderson: In my opinion, if we were to go after Frontier it would cost us more than the +\$1,900.00 with our Attorney’s trying to get that money back.

Steve Norris: I wasn’t suggesting that. I was suggesting that you have Frontier Representative Grant and his boss come before the Town Board (just like Grant did when he presented the old system). Get him in here and face the Town Board and explain what and why. I think that would be very good leverage to get them to replace the system for nothing.

Councilman Anderson: Then we would be going backwards for several months because nobody is getting their work done.

Nathaniel Matthews: I wanted to let you know that the phone system is split between the Village of Northville and the Town of Northampton. It is not just \$1,900 and change on the Town of Northampton.

Steve Norris: I understand that.

Supervisor Groff: It needed to be fixed.

Steve Norris: I don't agree.

Supervisor Groff: That's because you weren't here using it every day and some of us needed it.

Councilman Simmons: I think that we got taken to the cleaners by Frontier. They are unethical. I think that what they did to us was wrong. I have told Mr. Whelan my own personal feelings. I can't speak for everyone else.

Supervisor Groff: I have told Grant the same thing. We did get it down to where we were credited the \$6,000 and they gave us the new system. We have a better system and it works. We could have debated it for six months and been without phone calls and without service. I took it upon myself with Nathaniel's help to go ahead and do it.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- Monthly Report of Revenues and Expenditures as of April 30, 2015
- Monthly Transfers for Abstract of Audited vouchers
- NYS Department of State Grant information for local waterfront Revitalization Program (EPF LWRP)
- Time Warner
- Spring 2015 GPI Insider Newsletter
- Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of commerce Newslite
- The Historic Northville, NY Calendar of Events for 2015 is available in the Town Clerk's Office
- Northville Rotary Club requesting Town Board approval for July 15-17, 2016 Eighth Annual Woodworking and Fine Arts Weekend Event to be held in the Town Park

**MOTION:** Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the Northville Rotary Club to hold their July 15-17, 2016 - Eighth Annual Woodworking and Fine Arts Weekend Event to be held in the Town Park and the Northville Rotary must provide proof of insurance for this event naming the Town of Northampton, seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and passed by,

5-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Gritsavage, Anderson, and Simmons

0-Nays

Discussion on the motion:

Councilman Simmons: Will we be asking for their proof of insurance?

Supervisor Groff: It states that they have insurance proof.

- The Town Historian wanted the Town Board to see the walking Tour of Historic Northville booklet that they have put together.
- E-mail from Nancy Bassett-TOPS leader. Would like to replace a tree they planted that did not survive the winter

The Town Board unanimously approved TOPS replacing the tree that did not survive the winter, which was previous planted by the Northville TOPS, in the Town Park.

- As part of the Governor's continued efforts the New York State 2015 Consolidated Funding Application Environmental Protection Fund Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Grants are coming out and completed applications are due July 31, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

### **Discussion on the design of the water project in the Sacandaga Park Water District**

Supervisor Groff: I would like to suggest that we (the Town) already have AES who has done our preliminary study on what needs to be done on the water system. I would like to do the funding to do the design of the water project in the Sacandaga Park Water District.

AES are the Engineers who the Town hired and had done the preliminary study of the Water/Sewer District. AES would take a portion of the Grant if we are successful.

Councilman Gritsavage: I think that AES has given us a good service.

**MOTION:** Councilman Anderson motioned to hire AES to apply for the New York State 2015 Consolidated Funding Application Environmental Protection Fund Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Grants for the design of the Sacandaga Park Water District, seconded by Councilman Roosa and Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Simmons, Roosa and Anderson

AES Representatives were here today to do a walk through and follow-up on the sewer project on McKinley Avenue Ext. in the Sacandaga Park stated Supervisor Groff.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Matthew Ginter collected \$285.00 in fees in April. The total Estimated Project Costs was \$32,699.00. A total of (7) permits were issued in April 2015; #013-15 Major alterations; #014-15 Minor Alterations; #015-15 Storage Building; #016-15 Fence; #018-15 Fence; #019-15 Minor alterations; and #021-15 Storage Building; and 1 Municipal Search.

Matthew Ginter announced that he was appointed as a member on the Fulton County Planning Board by the County Board of Supervisors. The Fulton County Planning Board meets the third Tuesday during the day of every month.

Councilman Anderson suggested with summer here now a few notices should go out because there are a few mess's around.

Matthew Ginter: It is a never ending battle and I have been on it. It is relatively clean.

Councilman Anderson: Maybe we should go back to our Community Enhancement Officer for a few hours a week.

Matthew Ginter: That is something that the Town Board would have to act on. They chose to take that out of the budget to save some funding. It is very time consuming with all of the paperwork. There is quite an expense to have people served and to remind the Board we have never collected one penny in fines. This is not something that you make money on. It is something that you definitely spend it on and you hope for the best with the results.

**HIGHWAY:** Kip Richardson: We have to definitely do something about the 1991 tractor. I have called the County to see if we could borrow something for the year. They do not have anything. Either we have to fix our tractor to mow or we are not going to get things mowed and give the County back their money that they pay us to mow.

Supervisor Groff: What did you approximately figure to fix the tractor?

Kip Richardson: The estimate cost from H & M is somewhere between \$3,500 and \$5,000 and that is without tearing the tractor apart. Explaining the problem with the tractor that is what they figured for an approximate cost. Whether the cost will be more than that, I don't know. I won't know until I take it apart.

Councilman Gritsavage: What does a new tractor cost?

Kip Richardson: An average tractor with a mower on it you're talking between \$60,000 - \$70,000 and you are going to use it maybe two or three months a year.

If it cost us \$4,000.00 to repair this tractor it would be a wash because that is what it would cost for us to mow this year.

Councilman Simmons: Is there money in the budget to fix the tractor?

Kip Richardson: The County pays the Town \$4,000 to mow the roads this year and it would take care of our roads too.

Nathaniel Matthews: Yes, there is money in the budget for repairs. We may have to transfer from within another line item. In the highway budget there is.

Kip Richardson: That's if we get it apart and it's not more extensive than what they think. If it is, it is.

Councilman Roosa: Once it's apart you can't stop.

Kip Richardson: That was a quote from H & M. I am hoping to have Cooper to come to do it the shop and maybe done cheaper. We can take it apart and if the cost gets to high we can leave it apart.

Hopefully, we can fix it for what we would get paid from what the County pays us to do the mowing.

Councilman Simmons: What if you take it apart and can't fix it? How about buying a used tractor?

Kip Richardson: That would be the next step.

**MOTION:** Councilman Roosa motioned to approved Highway Superintendent Christopher (Kip) Richardson at his (Richardson's) discretion to repair the Town 1991 Ford tractor, seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and

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

**Discussion on the Town and Cemetery lawn mowers:**

Kip Richardson: Both the Cemetery and the Town lawn mower are shot. I have repaired the deck multiple times and it smokes.

Councilman Simmons: You are proposing one lawn mower for the Cemetery and one for the Town?

Kip Richardson: Yes.

Supervisor Groff: The mower for the Cemetery will come out of the Cemetery account.

Kip Richardson: To repair only the deck on the mower the cost is close to \$1,000.

Councilman Gritsavage: If we purchased the new mowers could we sell the old mowers?

Kip Richardson: The cemetery mower no. The Town mower you could sell if you wanted to.

Councilman Gritsavage: But you want to hold on to it for a back-up.

Kip Richardson: For what you would get out of it. The cemetery used our mower most of the summer because theirs was down and we had to borrow the Villages to get ready for the weekend. The Villages lawn mower broke a belt and I fixed it.

Councilman Gritsavage: I would prefer the mowers from B & B. They're local and it's only a matter of a \$50 difference.

**BIDS received for Lawn mowers for both the Town and the Cemetery are as follows:**

1. B & B Equipment Co., Inc. at 3279 State Highway 30, Gloversville, NY 12078  
Quoted at a cost for the Town lawn mower \$1,999.99 and a cost for the Cemetery lawn mower \$2,499.99
2. Emerich Sales & Service at 1369 Route 9 Saratoga Rd., S. Glens Falls, NY 12828  
Quote at a cost for the Town lawn mower \$1,949.00 and a cost forthe Cemetery lawn mower \$2,599.99

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the bid from B & B Equipment Co., Inc. at 3279 State Highway 30, Gloversville, NY 12078 at a cost of \$1,999.99 for the Town lawn mower and the Cemetery lawn mower at a cost of \$2,499.99. Seconded by Councilman Anderson and Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, Simmons and Anderson

Supervisor Groff: Did you guys get closed up on Circle Drive in the Sacandaga Park?

Kip Richardson: We have it all back filled and we have to make the road passable for the weekend. There was discussion on reseeded and then putting in a roadway for them.

Supervisor Groff: We can use the stone dust from the Village if we have to.

Kip Richardson: There is a message on the machine that they changed their minds and now they want millings. They said, if it makes a better base road they want the millings.

Supervisor Groff: If the millings will work better then put it down.

The speed bumps purchased will be placed on McKinley Avenue in the Sacandaga Park District tomorrow morning.

**JUSTICE:** Councilman Anderson motioned to accept the Justice report, there were a total of 35 cases handled and \$4,800.00 was collected in fines for the month, seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and passed by, 5-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Gritsavage, Anderson, and Simmons 0-Nays

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER:** Vernon Duesler handled two animal complaints over the last couple of weeks.

**ELECTION:** Discussion on Alternate/Emergency for the two polling sites in the Town of Northampton.

Councilman Gritsavage: The Methodist Church would be a good site.

There was discussion on the Fish House Community Center. Supervisor Groff will write a letter and check with the two entities.

~Process on what to do if the Polling Site must be vacated

~2015 Political Calendar is now available

**ASSESSOR:** The Assessor's office should be done by next week and it should be a week or more before she is moved into her new office.

A notice has been posted in the newspaper that a certified copy of the Town of Northampton 2015 Tentative Roll has been filed in the Town Clerk's office and is available for inspection and may be seen and may examined by any interested person(s) during regular business hours.

Grievance Day will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 between the hours of 1pm-4pm and 6pm-9pm in the Town of Northampton Municipal Office, 412 S. Main St., Northville, NY.

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:**The Area Variance for Peter Cucchi was approved.

The Zoning Board of Appeals next scheduled meeting is May 27, 2015

**PLANNING BOARD:**The Lot Line Adjustment for Willem Monster was approved.

~The regularly scheduled Planning Board meeting for the **second Tuesday** of the month has been changed to June 23, 2015 at 7 p.m. that is if a couple of applications come in. There are a few outstanding ones. A lot of our members are very busy and it's hard getting a quorum. We do not have any alternates to fill in. We may have to adjust meeting nights during the summer just to have enough members to have a quorum.

~The Planning Board would like the Town Board to proceed where we left off with the proposed changes to the Town of Northampton Zoning and Subdivision Law. More people are back in the area and I think that the next thing would be to schedule Public Hearings.

Councilman Simmons: Wouldn't the Town Board review what came out of the last meeting that was held in September 2014 before we have the Public Hearing?

Matthew Ginter: I provided the Town Board with that information in the fall for that purpose.

There may be a few additions but everything there is still on the docket.

One change was to possibly eliminate the temporary use permit for campers. The one permit we did issue the person disagrees with the way it is written and will not abide to what was approved to them. So it's back to the enforcement end of it. I would need Board approval because there are attorney's fees and court and spending a lot of money.

The other change would have to do with the Sacandaga Park overly District. All building permits have to go before the Planning Board approval. Originally when the Zoning started there were a lot of criteria to look at, from the type of siding, to the colors of the siding, etc. After a lot of discussion most of all of that wording was taken out. It is basically down to the where the requirements are that a building has to be 1 ½ to 2 stories tall, wood framed and have a hip a gable roof. You try to get Planning Board members in here for a meeting that lasts for maybe two minutes because everybody builds a wood frame. That's all that they look at. The feeling is that those three items could be something that I just simply check before I issue. It's a lot of time and we are paying Mr. Henze to come up, with putting agenda together, and review something that there is hardly any bite left in that whole review process.

**YOUTH /REC:** We held a meeting on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 to discuss the hires for the Summer Program among other business, stated Councilman Gritsavage. We did cut back on counselor positions, We reviewed the proposed programs and we had quite a discussion on the beach. There will be an open beach this year with no fees charged but a permit will be required. We cut the program back from 5 days to 4 days.

Councilman Simmons: One of the things you mentioned to me when we were talking the other day was apparently Perth Joint Youth wants to bring a bus full of children here now. They were going to Mayfield beach but there is a conflict with the beach opening hours schedule and they were paying Mayfield for the use of their beach. They want to bring these children here to our beach and we are not going to charge them.

Councilman Gritsavage: Perth wanted to use our beach for 6 weeks for 1 ½ hours on Tuesdays. They have been paying Mayfield \$240 for the use of their beach. We had a motion to assure that they could use our beach for 6 weeks for an hour and a half on a Tuesday afternoon. They were bringing their own instructors and Counselors and it would happen to be a time when our lifeguards would be there. We discussed the fee and decided to round the fee to \$250. That was the original plan. Then we got into a discussion concerning the permits. We decided to go with the permits, yes, but free permits. Then there was a question on how we could charge Perth a fee for the use of the beach when everybody else was

using it fee. So, we rescinded the motion and changed the motion to, yes, Perth can use the beach. It would be free but if they would like to give the Town/Village Recreation Commission a donation, we would accept it.

Councilman Simmons: Everything that you had said up to now, I agree to. That I don't, I think that Perth Joint Youth should have to pay. They paid Mayfield; they can pay us, the cost to maintain that.

That was a discussion it would not cost us extra because the lifeguards would be there anyway. They were bringing their own instructors and Counselors anyway. It is not going to cost us anything extra.

Councilman Simmons: Don't we as a Town Board have the final say?

Response: I suppose you could over rule it.

Councilman Simmons: The Commission can say what they want. What is the final say on it?

Supervisor Groff: If the Village Board approves it then you don't have anything. If you would like to make a motion then go ahead a make a motion, it is your prerogative.

Councilman Simmons motioned that we charge the Perth Joint Youth the \$240 that they were paying Mayfield. There was no second to the motion.

Isn't that what Mayor Spaeth wanted?

Councilman Gritsavage: No, Mayor Spaeth wanted a completely open beach. Then we would have nothing to say about it. Perth could have brought theirs up, Amsterdam could have brought their up, Herkimer could have brought their up. They still can but they would need a permit.

Supervisor Groff: With the amount of use over there. I think that we have plenty of room.

Councilman Gritsavage. There is absolutely no extra expense to us.

Councilman Anderson: And it is sharing services.

**CEMETERY:** Nathaniel Matthews has provided verbiage needed to amend the motion to appoint Cemetery Caretaker Stu VanNostrand, to include, "beginning with the first full payroll of April 2015 and ending December 2015".

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motion to amend the 2015 Organization meeting motion to read: A motion to appoint Gerald VanNostrand, Sr. as Cemetery Caretaker with a salary of \$877.20 bi-weekly **beginning with the first full payroll of April 2015 and ending December 2015;** Craig Warner be appointed as Laborer at a salary of \$11.96 per hour and Lincoln Cramer at a salary of \$10.20 per hour for 2015. Second by Councilman Simmons and Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, Simmons and Anderson

**AMBULANCE:** During April 2015 members responded to 6 calls in the Town of Northampton, 5 calls in the Village of Northville, and 1 call in the Town of Hope.

The Northampton Ambulance Service (NAS) held their coin drop on Garage Sale weekend and they thank everyone who donated to their cause.

The NAS is asking that your house number is plainly visible from the road/street with excellent contrast to assist them in locating your residence.

NAS thanks all who drop off their refundable bottles and cans in their bin located in the yard of their station on 112 South Second Street.

**GRANT application regarding Ferno iNXi Ntergrated Patient Transport and Loading System**

The Northampton Ambulance is requesting permission to apply for a grant in the name of “Town of Northampton” for a Ferno iNXiNtergrated Patient Transport and Loading System.

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve the Northampton Ambulance Service to apply for a GRANT in the name of the “Town of Northampton” for a Ferno iNXiNtergrated Patient Transport and Loading System. Seconded by Councilman Anderson and Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, Simmons and Anderson

**HARDFILL:** For the month of April 2015 there were a total of 33 vehicles that had come to the Hardfill site and \$11.50 was collected in fees.

**Refuse and Garbage:**

- Monday, May 25, 2015 is an official holiday, Memorial Day. The transfer station will be closed.
- As of Monday, June 1, 2015, the Transfer Station will begin its summer hours of operation. The hours for the station will be as follows and will run until the Friday after Labor Day, September 11, 2015.

Monday, Tuesday and Friday:	8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Saturday:	8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**BRUSH**

Kip Richardson had taken NYS DEC Officer Kevin Wood, P.E. up to the Prospect Hill Cemetery today. They are going to issue us the NYS DEC permits allowing the Village of Northville and the Town of Northampton Highway to bring brush and chipped brush and dropping it off behind the Prospect Hill Cemetery. He didn't see any problem it is on town land within the Village and we would not be encroaching on anybody's property. He will be sending us the permit application and we will send it back completed. It would mostly benefit the Village because the Town doesn't pick up brush anymore. The brush would be thrown over the bank. The Cemetery is always going to be a cemetery and the Town is never going to sell it. This permit will allow ONLY for the Village and Town Highway Superintendent to dispose of brush and chipped brush roadside; this is not, in anyway, for public use. Supervisor Groff: This would be used if the Town has a tree that falls down in the road and they cut it up the brush and debris from the tree would be brought up there.

We also discussed the mulch pile that we have up there. How we use the leaf vacuum and we recycle it. He stated that there is a lot of grant money out there for equipment to recycle. So if you ever wanted to replace the machine that we have now there are grants out there for recycling to help you replace the machinery. He will be sending that information to Dan Reynolds Village Highway Superintendent. Nathaniel Matthews: Would they recycle lawn clippings. I'm wondering if we could somehow tie that in with the mower purchase. With it being recycled and composted?

Kip Richardson: I don't know about that. I don't think so.

By picking up the leaves, dropping it off and having the mulch pile turning into topsoil and reusing the top soil. It's recycling and there are grants out there for equipment.

Councilman Roosa: Are there any grants for screening the topsoil?

Kip Richardson: He didn't mention anything about that.

Councilman Roosa: That is what needs to be done and then you would have a marketable product.

Kip Richardson: That is something to think about if the leaf vacuum needs to be replaced, to apply for a grant for. Discuss ensued.



B2555	Building Permits	Building Permits	7	260.00
			<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>\$260.00</b>
B2770	Municipal Searches	Municipal Searches	1	25.00
			<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
			<b>Total Local Shares Remitted:</b>	<b>\$1,216.12</b>
Amount paid to:	New York State DOH for Marriage Licenses			22.50
Amount paid to:	NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program			9.00
Amount paid to:	NYS Environmental Conservation			429.88
<b>Total State, County &amp; Local Revenues:</b>	<b>\$1,677.50</b>	<b>Total Non-Local Revenues:</b>		<b>\$461.38</b>

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:** There has been discussion on the circumstances on the possible Marijuana Medical Plant that they want to install in the Tryon Industrial Park. This is a growing operation but they use the bud and they extract compounds from the plant to produce pills, aerosols, salves, and injections. There are only five licenses that are going to be granted in the State of New York to actually product the product. They are all going to be union jobs. They will start with approximately 50 employees. They have to be producing by next January. Within the first year they hope it will be within a couple of hundred thousand dollars profit for the County. There is going to be 7% excise tax on everything that they sell. Of that 7% excise tax 22.5% goes to the County. Once they are up and running there should be over 100 employees. They are looking at producing several million dollars in revenue to the County every year. The company that has applied for the license is a licensed company in Minnesota. The Minnesota law is what New York has copied their law. We are hoping that these people have a pretty good chance of getting approval. Plus, they have an up and running operation in Minnesota. This would help patients suffering from a wide variety of medical conditions including ALS, epilepsy, Huntington disease, cancer and other terminal diseases. This drug is nothing that you would smoke. It is all medicine.

Steve Norris: Is this to just to supply New York State or outside?

Supervisor Groff: I think it is to supply just New York State. There is going to be five distribution places and five manufacturers.

Matthew Ginter: Each license comes with four dispensaries and they do not anticipate any dispensaries around here. They were talking about a couple in New York City, Syracuse and Buffalo maybe. The manufacturing end of it would be here.

Supervisor Groff: They had three different locations and they have dropped the other two locations. If they get it they want to move into Tryon.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Update on 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 Gritsavage: Councilman Simmons and I had gotten a hold of David Whelan and spoke with him. One of the things that we requested was that we have a map of where Time Warner covers within the Town and he is going to provide us with that. We also asked about the Franchise fee and asked if 3% is

standard. Mr. Whelan advised us that it depends on the Town. We can go as low at 1% and as high at 5%. But, whatever the Franchise fee is it is passed on directly to the consumer and it appears on their bill. It is a user fee basically.

We got into a discussion about public access television channel. Mr. Whelan was helpful on the phone but we will see what happens. But Mr. Whelan has agreed to reach out to the School and also to the Library to determine some information that we had given to him. Councilman Gritsavage gave example of the Library having the public access television channel until they upgraded their computers and it was no longer compatible with the equipment that Time Warner had. Mr. Whelan was surprised and stated that he will look into that and get back to us on that.

We had also indicated to Mr. Whelan that we had met with the Northville Central School and that they might be interested in running the public access television channel. Mr. Whelan noted that was very popular and that other municipalities did that and he (Whelan) is going to reach out to Dr. Ford of the Northville Central School and discuss the public access television channel with her further.

We also asked if we could get free internet for the municipality which is the Village and the Town. Mr. Whelan stated that under a new law because of the taxes that have been levied on it. It is illegal for them to do that. He said that they would if they could.

We told Mr. Whelan that we have modified the Contract and that we had spoken with the Attorney's and the Attorney's had sent us a modification of the contract. Mr. Whelan asked us to send it to him and that they would take a look at it. The Clerk will forward that to them.

Councilman Simmons: Councilman Gritsavage and I have previously met with the Northville Central School in October 2014. The sense that we have that the TV station is much better off in the school than the Library. It is going to be a good education tool for the students.

The Franchise fee had talked about if we increased it we could get more revenue in the Village but as Mr. Whelan explained they are only going to pass it on to the consumer and their rates are high enough now. I think that Councilman Gritsavage and I had a good talk with Mr. Whelan. It was very productive.

Steve Norris: I already knew that they couldn't give you internet for free because I asked Jean Raymond. But could they at least give the Town a discounted fee for the internet?

Councilman Gritsavage: We are going to have more conversations with Mr. Whelan and we can ask.

Supervisor Groff: We do have a burning ban until tomorrow.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Councilman Simmons:

1. I am uncomfortable with this cold storage building where we voted to spend the money. We opened the bid for the slab work. I feel that the \$70,000 figure is what was in the initial proposal. It's in the resolution, it's in writing on paper, and that is the figure. We can sit and say that we meant this and that. That's what we put out to the people.
2. There has been talk for the last three or four years about the Village and Town sharing a part-time Tourism Director. I am starting to get e-mails on that. Apparently the Supervisor had a meeting with John Spaeth and the Collaborative Committee?

Supervisor Groff: I wasn't part of that discussion. They are trying to get the Chamber to do some of the promotions for us. Part of the problem is a lot of the Merchants are not a member of the Chamber. That was the last discussion that I had with them.

Councilman Simmons: The point that I am making is if the Town and the Village end up with a shared Tourism Director while I respect the Fulton County Chamber. I think that a lot of the decision should be made right here because part of the problem we have right now is relying on the Fulton County Chamber. They have gotten so big that they cannot concentrate on this area.

Supervisor Groff: There has only been discussion on the possibility and we really are no out to spend any money on hiring anybody to work as a Tourism Director. We are just trying to get our name out for the purpose of bring people to the community. We are trying to do it through the Chamber because they are the County.

Councilman Simmons: That question is on the survey that the Committee that is redoing the Village Master Plan is involved in. It will be interesting to see what the people say about it.

3. I think that Elaine Mihalik, Town Clerk is doing a great job and is a tremendous asset to the Town. I appreciate all the help that she gives me. I think I am see times when she might be somewhat overwhelmed. Going back to the possibility of a Deputy Clerk. I know it's the Town Clerk's call. Should we help her advertise?

Supervisor Groff: I think we should wait and see if she asks us to do something.

Supervisor Groff: As far as the cold storage building. That was already agreed upon because there was ground work that needed to be done. The bids came in higher than expected because we made some changes from a regular pole barn to a pole barn with a floor for better storage. It was \$4,900 and Kip Richardson doesn't feel that his back hoe would do the work. He asked if we would see if the Town could get somebody to do it cheaper. So we put it out to an extra bid. We got three quotes back and Mr. Junquera was not the cheapest but he is a local resident. This was done through the Town Board and not decided behind closed doors or in Executive Session. It is something that is needed.

Councilman Anderson: When is it going to get started?

Matthew Ginter: I believe Dan told me either Friday or Monday, very shortly.

### **Renovations to the Townhall**

Supervisor Groff: We had discussed changing the door in the conference room. The front door we have been having problems with it and we have been leaving it open. Today it blew open and ripped the screws out of the framing again and it's rusted. We have put aside \$30,000 out of a building fund that has to be used for the building. To also replace the front door with a window and to build a canopy over the doors.

We have received two quotes for replacing the main entrance outside door and back outside door into the Town hall. In the Conference Room: replace the front outside door with a window and replace the side outside door. Also, to build a canopy over the three outside doors.

### **QUOTES ON RENOVATIONS TO THE TOWNHALL**

A quotes received are as follows:

Aura Contracting, Gloversville, NY with a quote of \$29,536

Art Georgelus Contractor, Scotia, NY with a quote of \$37,500

### **MOTION**

Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the low bid from Aura Contracting, Gloversville, NY in the amount of \$29,536 for replacing the main entrance outside door and back outside door into the Town hall. In the Conference Room: replace the front outside door with a window and replace the side outside door. Also, to build a canopy over the three outside doors. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, Simmons and Anderson

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2014 at 7 p.m.

Councilman Anderson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motion. All board members present were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik  
Town Clerk