

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON/VILLAGE OF NORTHVILLE
JOINT YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING
February 11, 2016**

Chair Gritsavage opened the Northampton/Northville Joint Youth Commission meeting on Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 7:02 p.m. at 412 South Main Street, Northville, New York.

PRESENT: Town Board members: Chairman-William Gritsavage and Darryl Roosa
Village Trustees: Deb Ellsworth
Mayor John Spaeth
NCS Board Trustee: John Sira
Excused: Trustee-Patrick Barnett; Supervisor James Groff; NCS Board Trustee-Michael Feldman; and Village Treasurer: Nathaniel Matthews

RECORDING SECRETARY: Elaine Mihalik – Town Clerk

ALSO PRESENT: Art Simmons

MINUTES

Councilman Darryl Roosa motioned to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2015 Joint Youth Commission meeting as presented by Town Clerk, Elaine Mihalik, seconded by Trustee Deb Ellsworth, and passed by

4 Ayes: Deb Ellsworth, William Gritsavage, and John Sira 0-Nays

Chair William Gritsavage mentioned the need to hire a new Youth Director to replace Molly Whittaker who retired as of December 2015.

Mayor John Spaeth stated that he had gotten from Molly a list of the activities from both this year and some on what was done in the previous years on our Joint Youth Program. She has a comprehensive list of what she had done as the Director and the approximate hours she spent as Director for the program for the year. In our conversation with Molly she made it quite clear that if we didn't have anyone to help with the 2016 Easter Egg Hunt that she would do it.

Regarding the hours provided to me that Molly has given to me I feel that they were under estimated. After discussion this with Molly we came up with approximately 500 hours that Molly has worked as a Joint Youth Director. That includes all of the paperwork, all of the planning, phone calls, plus most of the beach time (she is on call). We do not have a person as head of the of the beach but we do have a head lifeguard.

I called Mayfield and it is low cost they pay the Director \$2,000.00 for a 5 day a week for a 4-week summer program plus one week prior to get prepared for the program and one week after the program to do all of the final closing paperwork of the program. They have a separate person that runs their beach. They pay their counselors minimum wage. They do have a different program than what we are providing.

Supervisor Groff called Broadalbin and they pay their Director \$4,000.00 for their program. They run the beach program, the summer program, a football program, a basketball program. They have all sorts of sports programs. They do a lot. A lot is done with volunteers. A lot is done with the churches. Their commission is made of the Town Supervisor, the Village Mayor, the School Superintendent and the pastors of all the churches. They also do a ton of fund raisers. They all get involved and they have a \$90,000.00 budget. I do not have any information on their hours; duties; or their responsibilities here with me tonight.

Do we want to keep our Joint Youth program as it is or do we want to have just a summer program asked Mayor Spaeth? Mayor Spaeth discussed hourly wage as opposed to a salaried position.

Mayor Spaeth also has the work description for a Youth Commission Director which he is looking at critiquing for our Director because some of the things that do not pertain to our program.

With the other programs that we are running are we getting enough participation from enough children to justify to having a year round position Director in order to support those programs asked Trustee Deb Ellsworth? A few years ago many of the spring activities were cancelled because children signed up but there were maybe three or four children to play soccer. We're talking all that time, the setting up, getting equipment ready, and the children done show.

Molly has approximately 63 signed up this year stated Mayor Spaeth.

I would like to see some sort of fall program and have the new Youth Director identify it and bring it to the Youth Commission stated Mayor Spaeth.

I am not opposed to having a year round program and I would like to see how it works with the new Director stated Trustee Deb Ellsworth. I think that we need a little more accountability. I would like to see how many children participated in the program, not just how many signed up but the actual number that participated, for example, the soccer, T-ball, the basketball and baseball. Maybe if they are not well attended then maybe we should reconsider the year round program or reconsider if there is an optional program.

Possibly a bowling program in the fall or winter was suggested by Mayor Spaeth.

Possibly a skiing program or maybe coordinate something with the YMCA.

After each program there should be a written report with attendance included.

Everyone present tonight agreed to have the new Director's salary position start at \$6,500 with a probationary period of one year and to have a pay scale up to \$7,400.00 or \$7,500.00. To have an evaluation of the Director's position and the program after the one-year cycle has been completed. To maintain the program with what we currently have and there will be a fall program and the new Director will determine what it is. The new Director is to evaluate the Joint Youth program and present to the Joint Youth Commission possible suggestions.

Mayor Spaeth will work on the actual job description of the Joint Youth Director.

William Gritsavage suggested putting out a press release on the need of filling the position of Joint Youth Director and advertisement for the position.

I would like Councilman Gritsavage and myself (Mayor Spaeth) do the interview process so both the Town of Northampton and Village of Northville full Commission are represented.

Mayor Spaeth stated that he will call Leslie Ford from the NCS and see if they would like to get involved in the interview process.

Art Simmons: Where do you intend to place the paid advertisement for this position? Are you looking at a small classified ad that nobody sees or a decent size ad in the Leader Herald in the main part of the paper that more people might see?

There are approximately four papers that we have been advertising in for positions in the Village stated Mayor Spaeth.

I wouldn't object to a ¼ page ad in the Edinburg Newsletter stated Mayor Spaeth.

It was agreed to advertise in the

When do we start advertising for the summer counselors asked Deb Ellsworth? Could we incorporate them in one ad? Wouldn't it be more cost effect to do one large advertisement for separate positions as to just the one position?

William Gritsavage noted that he would like to keep the notices for each position separate.

We need to have a separate meeting just to hire the counselors and the lifeguards stated Mayor Spaeth. Discussion ensued on last year's process for hiring of the counselors and the lifeguards.

Discussion on the non-Town of Northampton or Village of Northville attendance.

Mayor Spaeth: Regarding a full year program, I asked Nathaniel to put together numbers based on what we spent, including the bus transportation and the \$5 per child for the ski program. We have it pro-rated forward. I asked him how much we spent on the Youth Program, how many children actually participated for the summer program and how much are we as taxpayers of Northville and Northampton paying per child to come to the program? As opposed to what we are charging Edinburg, Benson. We done this before based on the cost of the summer program none of the other things counted. This coming year we are charging the outlying children's towns based on last year's attendance \$245 a child. It cost us in the Town and the Village approximately \$320 a child based on our contribution to the Joint Youth Program. Benson and Edinburg are pretty much getting an \$80 break on this program. I am not sure if the Joint Youth Commission wants to do anything about that. Whether we want to look at the possibility of to participate in Youth activity it would cost you this much per child. Just have a standard rate that might change every year or it might not. I figured it out if we charged approximately \$300.00 per child we pretty much balanced out.

We are all here representing the residents of the Town of Northampton and the Village of Northville stated Mayor Spaeth. The inflation costs are all figured in except for the Ski Program, the mini soccer, and extra sports along with the transportation to any of these things. If we do have the Bowling program, there is also going to be a cost getting to the bowling alley, a cost for them bowling or maybe we can contribute something or maybe they have to pay for their own. If all that we are basing the charge for our children on is who attends them is the cost for summer recreation. Then that cost to the taxpayers of the Town of Northampton and Village of Northville is just going to get higher and higher. As oppose to taking into account the balance of the whole program and charge based on the whole program. We do want to capture as much of the real attendance as we can. Discussion ensued on the Ski Program this year. I would like to see a report on the attendance of the children that attended this winter Ski Program stated Mayor Spaeth. We are spending approximately \$1,000.00 more since we added the Ski Program.

Art Simmons: So you are saying the children from the Town of Northampton and the Village of Northville you are paying more than the Towns of Benson and Edinburg are paying per child?

The Town of Northampton and the Village of Northville are paying more for each of those children than the Towns of Benson and Edinburg stated Mayor Spaeth.

What was the final decision from the Town of Hope and did I hear something about the Town of Day being involved questioned Art Simmons?

There was one child that participated in the program from the Town of Day this year that paid and I believe that the Town of Day signed a contract this year stated Mayor Spaeth. The Town of Hope is not participating in the program. The fee we charge is based on the \$245 total cost of the summer program and divided by the number of children which is what the summer program cost. Discussion ensued on the Fire Department between the Village of Northville and the Town of Benson.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 7 p.m.

ADJOURN: With no further business coming before the Joint Youth Commission Board, William Gritsavage motioned to adjourn at 8:06 p.m. Seconded by Darryl Roosa and passed by, 4 Ayes: William Gritsavage, Deb Ellsworth, Darryl Roosa, and Mayor John Spaeth
0-Nays

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik
Town Clerk