

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON**  
**REGULAR MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING**  
**August 17, 2016**

Supervisor Groff called the regular Town Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building at 412 South Main St., Northville, NY. on Wednesday, August 17, 2016 and led the salute to the flag.

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

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

Other Town department representatives in attendance were Matthew Ginter-Code Enforcement Officer; Kip Richardson-Highway Superintendent; Nathaniel Matthews-Bookkeeper, Honorable Michael Albanese-Town Attorney  
Also Present: Michael Warner, Janet Meuwissen, and MaryAnn Evans

**MOTION:** Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the July 20, 2016 Regular Town Board meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and  
Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Anderson, Simmons and Roosa                      0-Nays

**MOTION on Warrants**

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage approved paying the warrants. Seconded by Councilman Simmons and passed by, A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Gritsavage, Anderson and Simmons                      0-Nays

**2016 Warrants**

General Fund "A"	\$ 52,640.66
General Ambulance Fund Account "AA"	11,849.85
General Fund "B"	26,557.38
Highway Fund Outside Village "DB"	113,824.23
Sacandaga Lighting District	903.08
Sacandaga Sewer District	2,161.47
Sacandaga Water District	<u>34,228.58</u>
Total Warrants	\$242,165.25

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- Monthly Report of Revenues and Expenditures
- Monthly Transfers for Abstract of Audited vouchers
- August 2016 Fulton Co Regional Chamber of Commerce Newsline
- NYMIR 2015 Annual Report
- Received a copy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2016 Workers Compensation Report
- Letter dated 8/1/2016 from Charter (cable TV)
- Literature on the basics on an education program by the Alzheimer's Association

Supervisor Groff opened the floor for Public Comment at 7:01 P.M. stating that there has been some complaints and criticism to the \$5,000 the Town has spent toward the Chamber of Commerce for promoting our area. I have asked Janet Meuwissen and MaryAnn Evans to explain what they have accomplished.

Janet Meuwissen explained that she and MaryAnn Evans are members of the Community Collaboration Council (CCC). They have been working together since September 26, 2013. The CCC is a group of non-profit organizations in the

community. We publicly try to communicate the achievements of everyone. We try to work together because we figure working together we can get some things done. The purpose is to improve the quality of life for the Northville and Northampton community, its residents, for economic and community development. We do this by increasing communications among groups of individuals and individuals in the community, participating in community projects, and coordinating seasonal events.

We are a working group which means that we agree among ourselves and we are going to work together for a period of time. We look at what we said what we are going to do over that period of time. We started out with four groups: the Northville Merchants Association (NMA), the Sacandaga Task for Senior Living (STFSL), the Sacandaga Valley Arts Network (SVAN), the Northville Rotary Club (NRC). This happened in September as my year as the President of the Rotary Club. We then added Elected Officials, Village of Northville Mayor John Spaeth and Town of Northville Supervisor James Groff. Now the Northville Central School and the Civic Association have since been added. We have open meetings and our meetings are every third Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. which are held in the Bradt Municipal Building. We send out a reminder to the public, so we post it on the website; Facebook; and in the newspaper. There is a public comment portion in the beginning of each one of our meetings and have published minutes. The minutes are sent to the extended membership of the founding group and anyone who requests minutes to be sent to them.

We have provided a forum for connections and for work on completing projects with volunteer labor and little cost. This all happened in 2013 when we decided to promote this a four season community and to get better communication amongst the groups in Northville so that we can get things done.

We started with the Winterfest, to demonstrate that we are a Four Season Community. We needed this because a lot of times we did not know what events were going on and when. We decided to put together a Calendar of Events and MaryAnn is the one that is instrumental in getting that put together.

We've put together a contact list also. There are approximately 50 non-profits in Northville and Northampton.

Family Dollar submitted a request with the Village Planning Board. The Town hall was packed. Members from this group brought in others interested in exploring alternatives to Family Dollar's plan. As a result of this Family Dollar assault on our community, it became evident that some changes were needed to be made.

One of the first things that happened because we didn't have the Zoning to prevent them from coming we implemented a Historic District which was the result of a project that started back in the 1980's but had not been brought to fruition because of getting a lot of people involved we are now able to have a Historic District in Northville.

There was an election in the Village for a new Mayor when James Groff was elected as the new Supervisor. It was also a call for an updated Village Master Plan which expected to be finish in November 2016. The Zoning will then be reviewed.

The CCC members have helped with the Trails Day and the Northville Rotary Clubs Woodworking and Fine Arts Weekend.

This is the Hamlet Economic Planning Assistance (HEPA) plan that was offered free to us by the Adirondack Park Agency (APA). This was \$30,000 of free technical assistance. We put together this group who put together all the information about the Village and the Town and came up with this plan. "Protect what we value most through commercial and residential growth", the thing is we have to market our community. The way we market our community is very important. We want to maintain what we have but also to make sure we have a number of people to take over should some of us move. The marketing plan that we set out to do was the Historic Business Walking Tour. We have plaques on buildings. We have brochures and you will be seeing the Cycle Adirondacks this year on August 26<sup>th</sup> is we do walking tours. This is a result of getting this group together to help the Historian do this.

The Pilot plan or a marketing specialist, though the Village and the Town have hired for a year to see what that is going do as far as helping us in our community and what we have discovered is that there are a lot of things that they know that

we don't know. We are working on branding and we have gathered the different types of brands of all of the different organizations. Different Businesses have used throughout the community; we are trying to use this as it was done for the Northville Rotary Club Woodworking & Fine Arts weekend. When you see the certain colors, the certain font, and certain types of pictures you know that is what you are looking at. We would always want it to look the same.

The Village of Northville now has a website. They didn't have a website previously. If we want to have the millennials to come to Northville, one of the things we need to have is a website and a website and a "Visit Northville, New York" which is a Facebook page.

MaryAnn Evans: The Senior Task Force has been working on the Senior Housing for 10 years. They had three or four developers and in the end it was decided that Northville wasn't big enough. We found one more developer and they were interested but in the end they stated that we were not big enough. Though the CCC group they came up with an idea to make it more interesting, the developer came back in February and they were excited about an enlarged project. It wasn't just Senior Housing; it was apartments for young working people. The school is looking for housing for new teachers. Because the CCC is involved we know which person the developer needs to talk to when they have a question and get the information that they need. Specifically, to the Chamber person I was getting tired of spending six months trying to put that all together and they have taken that over. They do all that tedious work that a volunteer shouldn't have to do. I think that the Council has benefited all of our organizations and it has benefited the Village and the Town. Having the Chamber involved has been really good for us.

All of this is about connecting with more and more people and we have seen results in terms of the number of people that come into the town. Such as the SVAN concerts. Every year there are more people coming into the village. We need that if we are going to stay alive. Going up north you can see how many villages are dying and we do not want that to happen.

Janet Meuwissen: We are having Cyclist Adirondacks coming into town. There are approximately 265 cyclist coming in a week from Friday. When it was brought to our group, different organizations are taking on different pieces of getting that done. If we didn't have everyone together it would be pretty hard to try and pinpoint who you are going to get to help you. Especially when you are relying on a lot of volunteers to help you get things done.

All of the PR is being done by the Chamber of Commerce. The Marketing Specialist went to each of the business people trying to get them to do something special for the cyclist.

Though all this we discovered having this CCC has put Northville/Northampton in good position to become a Pilot Project for the Market Specialist which has become a lesser price than a lot of places are paying to get the job done. It is also putting us in a good position to apply for grants. Joining everyone to help assist council members and also the government entities getting things done. Finding solutions to easy or complex problems. All of these projects have improved the quality of life in Northville/Northampton and community members. All community members are welcome to attend our next meeting September 20<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. in the Bradt Municipal Building.

Supervisor Groff mentioned that we have been in three different magazine articles though out the Adirondack Park and thorough the APA with the Economic Development people. I think that is why the Adirondack Council had their meeting with 250 people here. I have made some good contact with them regarding our sewer and water system that we need help with in the Sacandaga Park and that is all a part of this.

Councilman Simmons: I think that your group has done some wonderful things for the community. I have two problems one being with the Chamber of Commerce. The other you mention that your meetings are open to the public. I tried to go in February to one of your meetings and was told that the meets are closed to the public. If that were not the case, then

I have had numerous conversations with Mr. Conkling and he just recently stated that I would be happy to know, that he is polling the CCC to have your regular meetings open to the public. You do have a couple of other meetings during the year that are open but I had a problem wanting to go one of your regular meetings and was told it was closed to the public. MaryAnn Evans, who did you ask?

Councilman Simmons responded, from Supervisor Groff who indicated he was told by John. If your meetings are not closed, why then I have had several conversations with Mr. Conkling stating that the meetings are closed? Two weeks ago he tells me that he is polling the CCC to get the regular meetings open.

MaryAnn Evans: We are sorry that happened. We never understood that the CCC meetings were closed.

It was never really a question because it was the members of the group and not a public forum stated Supervisor Groff. It is a group of organizations working together, so there was never any question about whether or not they were open to the public. People were invited to the meeting.

Could you confirm that conversation that we had that day asked Councilman Simmons? You called me and stated that John said the meeting was closed. Supervisor Groff, yes.

MaryAnn Evans noted that we will have revisit that.

The most important thing about what I (Simmons) just said, while I do have some differences in some of the things that are going on here. I think that you do a wonderful job for the Community stated Councilman Simmons.

We did have a public meeting that was advertised and nobody showed up stated the Supervisor.

We are just a group of community volunteers stated Mrs. Meuwissen. We do not get paid for anything, it just an agreement among ourselves to meet and consequently what we do is all of what I've said.

Supervisor Groff opened the Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m. in the Municipal Building at 412 South Main St., Northville, NY. on Wednesday, August 17, 2016 to hear public comment on proposed Local Law #3 of 2016 Entitled "Smoking Law of the Town of Northampton, County of Fulton".

***Discussion on proposed Local Law #3 of 2016 Entitled "Smoking Law of the Town of Northampton, County of Fulton".***

Councilman Anderson stated that he would like to add a few things to the Smoking Law. The second line typo should be ETS not ~~ETC~~. Also because it is become wide spread, under Definitions "Tobacco Use" he would like to include **E-cigarettes** with chewing of tobacco.

The Town Board unanimously agreed to the aforementioned changes.

**Department Reports:**

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Matthew Ginter collected \$1,152.50 in fees. A total of 15 permits were issued in July 2016; #03-15 Permit renewal; #043-16 Single family home; #044-16 Water well; #045-16 Single family home; #046-16 Storage building; #047-16 Permit renewal; #048-16 Deck; #049-16 Deck; #050 Septic system; #051-13 Permit Renewal; #051-16 Single family home; #052-16 Demolition; #053-16 Water well; #054-16 Addition; and #055-16 1 car garage.

Mr. Ginter stated that he has attended a class at the Fulton County Emergency Operation Center in Johnstown. The class topic was the new building codes and was approved by the NYS Codes Division. The new codes have been adopted and are officially enforceable October 3, 2016.

**MOTION:** Councilman Roosa motioned to accept the Code Enforcement Report for the month of July 2016.

Seconded by Councilman Anderson and passed by

A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Simmons, Gritsavage, Anderson and Roosa

0-Nays

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:** No meeting was held in July 2016. The next scheduled meeting is August 24, 2016 at 7 p.m.





		Female, Spayed	9	63.00
		Female, Unspayed	1	13.00
		Male, Neutered	8	56.00
		Male, Unneutered	2	26.00
		Replacement Tags	2	6.00
		<b>Sub-Total:</b>		<b>\$164.00</b>
A2770	Minor Sales	Fax	7	7.00
	Photo Copy	Photo Copy	17	4.25
		<b>Sub-Total:</b>		<b>\$11.25</b>
B2555	Building Permits	Building Permits	15	1,152.50
		<b>Sub-Total:</b>		<b>\$1,152.50</b>
			<b>Total Local Shares Remitted:</b>	<b>\$2,170.33</b>
Amount paid to:		New York State DOH for Marriage Licenses		45.00
Amount paid to:		NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program		26.00
Amount paid to:		NYS Environmental Conservation		943.92
<b>Total State, County &amp; Local Revenues:</b>		<b>\$3,185.25</b>	<b>Total Non-Local Revenues:</b>	<b>\$1,014.92</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

Town Clerk has received a letter from NYS Department of State stating that both Local Law #1 of 2016 Entitled "Town of Northampton, New York – Zoning and Subdivision Law" and Local Law #2 of 2016 Entitled "Dog Licensing and Control Law of the Town of Northampton, County of Fulton" were filed on August 10, 2016 with the NYS Department of State.

**SUPERVISOR:** Niagra Mohawk has called me about doing an Energy Audit for changing over to LED lights in the Town Hall. If you noticed our hall lights keep going out. Niagra Mohawk came back with an estimated cost of \$19,793.00 for just the Town hall building and we would get our money back in 83 months. We would contribute \$16,000.00 and they would contribute \$3,700.00 stated the Supervisor. That's crazy.

Matt and I have talked about looking for LED drop in units or something that we can replace ourselves as we go along. I think we can save ourselves a lot more money.

In the Justice Court the savings for the lighting would take such a long time when we have Niagra Mohawk do the work there would be a payback period of 234 months. Discussion ensued.

I wish National Grid would fix the lights in the Village and the Town stated Councilman Simmons.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilman Simmons stated that in the last month or two I have seen several times, private and county trucks operating in the Village and Town with loose gravel and materials uncovered. Some of the gravel was falling out of the truck.

Councilman Simmons stated that the Tourism Booth on State Highway 30 that has been run by the Merchants Association for approximately 20 some years. The Merchants have a permit from State DOT in Utica to have the Tourism Booth on State land on State Hwy 30. I have mentioned to them at their meetings as far back as four years ago that the roof needs to be fixed. Shingles have fallen off the roof and are a hazard. I don't know if there is anything we can do or not as far as closing it off until it is fixed; taking to them saying they next to fix this it's a liability. It's on State land. It was suggested to talk with Mike Intrabatola.

Chuck Swatling has filed an application and documentation with the Town Clerk to present to the Town Board for Use of Municipal Facility for Sportsman Education.

Discussion: After review of the application and deeming it complete by the Town Board.

Who is responsible for cleaning up the graffiti under the Northville Bridge asked Councilman Gritsavage?

**MOTION:**Councilman William Gritsavage motioned to approve Chuck Swatling request for the use of the Municipal Facility for Sportsman Education on Saturday, September 10, 2016. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by, A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Simmons, Anderson and Roosa 0-Nays

A letter dated 8/15/2016 was received from Tammy-Jo Warner. She is requesting the Town Board to consider waiving the Facility Use Requirements #3 “Intoxicants shall not be brought onto municipal property at any time”. She has a preapproved application for Use of Municipal Facility for September 16<sup>th</sup> wedding event.

**MOTION:**Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the request from Tammy-Jo Warner of waiving #3 of the Facility Use Requirements for her September 16<sup>th</sup> wedding event with the following terms and conditions from the Town Board to include that “No minors are to be served”. Councilman Simmons seconded the motion and passed by, A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Simmons, Anderson and Roosa 0-Nays

***Closing of Public Hearing on Local Law #3 of 2016***

**MOTION:** Hearing no further comments Councilman Gritsavage motioned to close the Public Hearing at 7:39 P.M. session on the proposed Local Law #3 of 2016 Entitled “Smoking Law of the Town of Northampton, County of Fulton”. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by, A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Simmons, Gritsavage, Anderson and Roosa 0-Nays

**RES. 2016-13: Resolution Adopting Local Law #3 of 2016 Entitled: “SMOKING LAW OF THE TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON, COUNTY OF FULTON:**

**MOTION**on Local Law #3 of 2016 Entitled “Smoking Law of the Town of Northampton, County of Fulton”. Councilman Roosa motioned to adopt Local Law #3 of 2016 Entitled “Smoking Law of the Town of Northampton, County of Fulton” with the minor changes in correction of spelling in first paragraph “This legislature hereby finds and determines that human health is seriously threatened by exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (ETC) to read (ETS)” and to include E-cigarettes under Definitions “TOBACCO USE – includes smoking; E-cigarettes; and the chewing of tobacco.” Seconded by Councilman Anderson and passed by, A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Simmons, Gritsavage, Anderson and Roosa 0-Nays

The next Town Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

**Adjourn:**Having no further business come before the Board, Councilman Gritsavage motioned to adjourn at 7:44p.m. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion and passed by, A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Simmons, Anderson and Roosa 0-Nays

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik  
Town Clerk