

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON
REGULAR MEETING
June 19, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Town of Northampton was held on Wednesday, June 19, 2019. 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, and William Gritsavage, and Ivar Anderson
Excused Councilman: Art Simmons

RECORDING SECRETARY: Elaine Mihalik-Town Clerk

Other Town department representatives in attendance were:

Nathanial Matthews-Bookkeeper and Matthew Ginter-CEO
Town Attorney-Honorable Michael Albanese

ALSO PRESENT: Sheila and Bob Anderson, Sue Sedon, Janet Mitchell, Mike Warner, Melissa Ellsworth, John and Chantal Daigneult, Guy Poulin, Elfriede Parker, Terry Molar and Warren (Skip) Taylor

MOTION: Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the May 15, 2019 Regular Town Board meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and Adopted by a vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Anderson and Roosa 0-Nays

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve the May 07, 2019 Special Ambulance/Town Board meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and Adopted by a vote of 3-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, and Roosa 0-Nays
Abstained - Councilman Anderson because he was not present at this meeting

MOTION ON WARRANTS

Councilman Gritsavage approved paying the warrants, Seconded by Councilman Anderson and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes 0-Nays

May 2019 Warrants

General Fund "A"	\$ 40,999.26
General Fund "B"	3,69.45
Highway	5,611.99
Sacandaga Lighting District	1,008.27
Sacandaga Sewer District	1,474.56
Sacandaga Water District	<u>3,820.84</u>
Total Warrants	\$ 53,284.37

Open to Public Comment at 7:01 p.m.

Sacandaga Garden Club

Janet Mitchell, President of the Sacandaga Garden Club explained that the Club was seeking Town Board approval to work in the area of the Blue Star Marker out by the sidewalk in front of the Town Municipal Building on 412 Main Street which the Garden Club had created in the past. Ms. Mitchell went on to explain that when facing the Blue Star, the area to the right of the Blue Star was never developed. They would like to develop that area a little more, so it is more symmetrical, they would like to put more flowers in there, and to remove the little bush that is to the far left because it is dying (see diagram). Terry Molar stated that the club members would also like to replace the stones around the big rock with a ground cover.

The Town Board members present were all in favor of the Sacandaga Garden Club maintaining, cleaning up the Blue Star area and removing the little bush to the far left that was placed by the Sacandaga Garden Club originally.

Northville Rotary Club proposed Walk of Honor

Sheila Anderson, a member of the Northville Rotary recapping a vision of placing on the Town Municipal Building property at 412 South Main St., a "Walk of Honor" that she had proposed without the building in the picture at the last Town Board meeting. She would like to get the Town Board approval to have this placed in the back of the town hall property by the lake before she presents this project to the Northville Rotary Club. It would be 120 square feet total area. It would be a 3-foot side walk that would come out with bricks placed in the walkway. The bricks would be made of red clay to last longer. The bricks would have a person depicted on a brick for the "Walk of Honor". The monument would be approximately a 24" x 24" x 63 inches high and on the top would be a blue stone. On top of the blue stone we would place some sort of a statue but not religious, no angels, or anything like that. We would have an inch of stone dust, then pavers and sand stone on top. In the other areas there would be top soil with flowers and bushes. You don't want something that would be growing over, none invasive types of plants. Mrs. Anderson mentioned that the markers are still out in the lawn from the last meeting and she wasn't sure if any of the board members were able to check it out. As the Northville Rotary we would maintain the Walk of Honor and we would take care of the pavers. If this proposed project is granted then I would move forward and present it to the Rotary Club members.

Councilman Gritsavage reiterated that last month you mentioned about the cost of a brick as being approximately \$50 a brick. Who collects the money for the bricks and where does the money go? Rotary would collect the money.

Mrs. Anderson responded that the money would go to the Rotary and somebody like myself would have the brick engraved. The blank brick would be installed as the order while we would have the other bricks engraved twice a year. The Rotary would retain responsibility for that. There are two other people that are on this committee including myself. Thomas would be doing part of the excavation where you would enter.

You weren't sure last month of what type of statue would go on top stated Councilman Gritsavage. We do not know until we actual pursue this project stated Mrs. Anderson. One of artist would be doing that, like a bird bath or something that is garden related. Possibly a beautiful eagle, something that would be classy. Last month I mentioned a ball with lattice type work in it with a light inside of it. There are different ideas that we could develop that would fit.

How do people qualify for a brick asked Councilman Gritsavage?

Anybody can buy a brick responded Mrs. Anderson. If you want to buy a brick for somebody in your family or for yourself. We would like a section for the Rotarians, a section for Veterans, and an area for the public. The projected area for this project would be placed in the back of the Town hall near the lake. It would not be on the HRBRRD land.

Supervisor Groff stated that his concern is whether there is a leech field or drain field in that area. There was discussion of where the septic might be.

Is this something that you might want to do in the town park asked Supervisor Groff?

Mrs. Anderson responded that the only thing about the town park is with the Woodworking and Fine Arts Weekend Show that the bushes grow. We were trying to have something that people could memorialize someone without the bushes over growing and then have to have them cut down in the future. I (Anderson) was thinking maybe going to the right of that area, that is another option.

The biggest thing is to see where the drain field/septic system is explained Supervisor Groff.

If it were to the right it wouldn't even involve the drainage stated Mrs. Anderson.

I'm concerned about the legality of it expressed Councilman Gritsavage. We have a memorial put in by the Rotary and then they are collecting the money for the bricks, is that legal?

Attorney Albanese responded yes. As long as they are not co-mingling with the town's money. It is separate money.

Can it also be a fund raiser project for the Rotary because we do a lot of community projects, asked Mrs. Anderson?

I don't see a problem with it stated Attorney Albanese. The town is not the collecting the money.

But it is on Town property stated Councilman Gritsavage.

It is a donation to the town on town property explained Attorney Albanese.

I would like to see a little more in the way of the design and the location stated Councilman Gritsavage.

Mrs. Anderson responded that it would be 10-foot-long to the center and 3 foot wide. There will be a total of approximately 540 pavers in a 120-foot square area.

I would like to see a little more detail stated Councilman Gritsavage.

It was agreed that Mrs. Anderson would meet with Councilmen Gritsavage, Anderson and Roosa this Friday, June 21, 2019 at 9 a.m. out in the park to go over the vision of the proposed Walk of Honor project.

Would we wait until the follow town board meeting for a vote asked Mrs. Anderson?

The response was, yes.

Third Street-Village of Northville

A resident who lives on Third Street in the Village of Northville has a matter of concern she wanted to bring to the Boards attention. When I have to drive onto Bridge Street and I look west I can see perfectly. But if I look the other way the house on the corner, you cannot see around that corner.

Supervisor Groff informed the Village resident that she is at the wrong board meeting. She needed to come to the Village Board meeting that was held here last night in the Town hall.

Formal Written Signed Complaint Petition

Sue Sedon wanted to speak on behalf of the formal written complaint petition. There are a number of us in the Village of Northville that have a concern about a very loud cannon like explosion that occurs randomly on Friday and Saturday evenings between the hours of 10 and 11 p.m. Mrs. Sedon explained that it vibrates the house in which she lives in on Main Street. The people whom signed this petition can

attest to the same sound. The first time it occurred was two weekends ago. I thought it was propane explosion, it was that loud.

That is a violation of the Penal Law Section 220, subdivision 2, explained Supervisor Groff. It is a disorderly conduct, it is a Penal Law situation, you have to report it to the police. Somebody has to complain. We can pass an ordinance. You still have to have a complaint.

We don't need an ordinance stated Councilman Gritsavage.

Sue Sedon stated, if we do not know the exact details, we complain as to "it's coming from".

I been told its coming from several places stated Supervisor Groff. If someone has a cannon, there are three sections of law, there is "Conservation Law" within 500 feet of a residence, there is a section under "Fireworks" and the section under the "Penal Law". These are all police related items explained Supervisor Groff. You need to call 911 and sign a formal complaint. Discuss ensued.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Monthly Transfers for Abstract of Audited vouchers
- Monthly Report of Revenues & Expenditures
- Thank you letter from Sacandaga Senior Citizens
- HRBRRD Spring 2019 Newsletter
- 2019 Newslne
- Charter Communications – Upcoming changes
- Call of the Loon Adirondack Council Newsletter-Spring 2019
- Adirondack Lakes Alliance, Inc. inquiring if the Town Board is interested the 2019 membership? After discussion the Board has decided to table any decision and to bring this back to discuss at the next scheduled Town Board meeting which will be held on Wednesday, July 17, 2019.

Northville Rotary Club 2020 Annual Woodworking and Fine Arts Weekend Event

MOTION: Councilman Roosa motioned to approve the Northville Rotary Club to hold their 2020 Annual Woodworking and Fine Arts Weekend Event in the Town Park and in the Town Hall municipal building at 412 S. Main Street on July 17 thru 19, 2020. Along with the July 17th, 2020 "Meet the Artists" event on Friday. The Northville Rotary must provide proof of insurance for this event naming the Town of Northampton. Seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and was passed by, A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Anderson 0-Nays

CODE ENFORCEMENT: 21 permits were issued during the month of May. #020-15 Permit Renewal; #007-16 Permit renewal; #015-17 Permit renewal; #024-18 Permit Renewal; #028-18 Permit Renewal; #022-19 Storage building; #023-19 Septic system; #024-19 Single Family Home; #025-19 Deck; #026-19 Foundation; #027-19 Alterations; #028-19 Addition; #029-19 Water well; ##030-19 Temporary Use Permit; #031-19 Manufactured home; #032-19 Carport; #033-19 Addition; #034-19 Deck #035-19 Fence; #036-19 Storage building and #037-19 Temporary Use Permit. Project Totals \$513,640.00 and Total Fees Collected \$1,512.00.

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the Code Enforcement Report as presented by the Code Enforcement Officer. Councilman Anderson seconded the motioned and passed by, A Vote of 4-Ayes 0-Nays

Mr. Ginter updated the town board saying that the NYSERTA LED lighting project is done at the court house and the ambulance building and the majority of the town hall is done..

Letter of Resignation

The Town Clerk has received a letter of resignation from Matthew Ginter as Town of Northampton Code Enforcement Officer effective June 26, 2019.

MOTION: Councilman Anderson motioned to accept reluctantly the letter of resignation received on June 4, 2019 from Matthew Ginter as Town of Northampton Code Enforcement Officer date effective June 26, 2019. Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motion and passed by a
Vote of: 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Anderson 0-Nays

HIGHWAY: Bunker Hill Road is currently being paved.

JUSTICE

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the Justice Report. There was a total of 28 cases handled and \$3,105.00 was collected in fines for the month. Seconded by Councilman Anderson and passed by, A Vote of 4-Ayes 0-Nays

ASSESSOR: Grievance Day was held Tuesday, May 28, 2019.
The Final State Equalization for the Town of Northampton is *65.00 percent*

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting that is scheduled for July 24, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Councilman Anderson suggested looking into doing another re-evaluation.

Letter of Resignation

The Town Clerk has received a letter of resignation from Dennis Miller as member on the Town of Northampton Zoning Board of Appeals effective June 24, 2019.

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the letter of resignation received on May 28, 2019 from Dennis Miller as member on the Town of Northampton Zoning Board of Appeals to take effect June 24, 2019. Councilman Roosa seconded the motion and passed by a
Vote of: 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Anderson 0-Nays

PLANNING BOARD: The next scheduled meeting is July 9, 2019 at 7 p.m.

HISTORIAN: Historian Gail Cramer has provided the board members with the May 2019 Issue of the Northville Northampton Historical Society News Letter titled “Willard Bros Hall”.

YOUTH & RECREATION: Councilman Gritsavage stated that they need to have a meeting to discuss some addition funding needed for the 4th of July Doins’ for some of the people who need to work the bouncy houses.

**AMBULANCE:
NEW MEMBER**

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve Kathryn Coupas as a new member on the Northampton Ambulance Service. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion and passed by a
Vote: 4-Ayes: Groff, Anderson, Gritsavage, and Roosa 0-Nays

REFUSE & GARBAGE:

- Fulton Co. Latex Paint Exchange Saturdays-7:30-11:30 a.m. June-July & August and The Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day – Saturday, August 10, 2019-7 a.m. to noon held at the Fulton Co. Solid Waste Dept.
- All Transfer Stations will be CLOSED on THURSDAY, July 4, 2019. The transfer station will be OPEN regular hours on FRIDAY, July 5, 2019

Hardfill Site: The hardfill site opened in May 2019 and has collected \$50.00 in fees for tires and there was a total of 83 vehicles come into to the site.

HAULING FEES: The month of May 2019 fees were as follows:

County Transfer	117.91 Ton @ \$53	\$6,249.23
Curbside Recycling	8.91 Ton @ \$20	\$ 178.20
Transfer Station Recycling	3.79 Ton @ \$10	\$ 37.90
Metal Hauling Fee	5.43 Ton @ \$20	\$ 108.60
Electronics	0.85 Ton @ \$00	<u>\$ 00.00</u>
Total		\$6,573.93

SACANDAGA PARK WATER & SEWER: No report

NORTHVILLE FIRE DEPT: The May 2019 monthly Fire Report. There was a total of 11 Alarms and a total of 242.56 Man-Hours reported. The Village of Northville had 2-Illegal Burn; 1-Landing Zone and 1-EMS Assist. The Town of Northampton had 1-Hazardous Condition; 1-MVA with injuries and 1-Illegal Burn/Garage Fire. Town of Edinburg had 1-Alarm Activation and 1-Landing Zone. The Town of Hope had 1-Search (Missing child) and 1-MVA. There was 3-Mutual Aid Given and 2-Mutual Aid Received.

- Members manned the station on several Saturdays for recruitment, Is There a Fire In You (state wide program).
- Interior Firefighters did Search and Rescue Op’s at NFD.
- Members Tried out Battery Operated JAWS units while doing Mock car accident drill. Edinburg and Hope participated (Done at site of Skip’s Service Station).
- Pre-K Fire Department tour was held with a brief Fire Prevention class.

TOWN CLERK:

MOTION: Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the Town Clerk’s May 2019 monthly report as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by,
A Vote of 4-Ayes 0-Nays

06/01/2019

**Town Clerk Monthly Report
May 01, 2019 - May 31, 2019**

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Account#	Account Description	Fee Description	Qty	Local Share
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1. With regard to payment of monthly bills. I vote the way I want and that's the way I expect it to be recorded. 2. I mentioned at the last Town Board meeting that Stu at the cemetery spoke with me regarding getting more help and a truck problem. Supervisor Groff asked "Then why isn't he here? Does it really matter? Perhaps he would rather deal with me? 3. There's been no further discussion that I'm aware of on the Old Ambulance so, let's sell it. 4. Rotary Club walk of honor. Other than the addition to the Historical Society museum and possible front sign. I am against any further projects of this or any other type at the back, front, or side of the town office building. There may be HRBRD issue here. Who approved the rotary cleanup last year? The rotary would gain more exposure by putting it on the village green, or another location. My vote is no. 5. My understanding is the village is not renewing their marketing contract at this time. I believe that the town contract for the same was to run until the end of 2018 on a "let's see what happens basis." We should end the contract and not renew at the present time with anyone. If the town decides to continue in the future, it should be based on the town needs and not just because the village wants it. The town needs to put a plan together. Then if this the route we want to go, hire someone to implement this, or is it more important to use these funds for a faltering ambulance. 6. New LED sign for front of town office building. Please give me two dates when you will be available in July and I will be the guy from the Saratoga Co. on one of those days to do a demo and answer questions. 7. I will be out of town for a week and will not be at the June 16, 2019 meeting. 8. With regard to the Friday-Saturday night 10 p.m. – 11 p.m. cannon loud noise from the area of the Sacandaga Park – it needs to be stopped. 9. With regards to last year's and the year before complaints about speeding and noisy boats on the lake – Councilman Gritsavage has got info from the Town of Day. What are we doing? 10. Code Enforcement Officer, Matt Ginter resignation, we should hire our own person. And let the village do their own thing. The position when and if available, needs to be heavily advertised.

CEMETERY: Supervisor Groff responded to the request for more cemetery help is needed. Last year the board decided not to hire a third person at the cemetery and we gave Craig a raise. Ken Cramer and the Highway Crew has got all the cemeteries mowed and everything is in good shape. Personally, I (Groff) think we should continue this they way we are going stated the Supervisor. Did you get the truck squared away asked Councilman Roosa? I believe Ken Cramer did responded Supervisor Groff.

AMBULANCE:

Ambulance study proposal

Councilman Gritsavage: We have received a Proposal from Ron Graner Public Safety Consultant for Consulting Services for a Comprehensive Review of Emergency Medical Services and Capabilities of the Northampton Ambulance Service for the Town of Northampton, NY. It is a nine (9) week study that he would do. Councilman Gritsavage has reviewed the proposal and would recommend the Town Board look at it and accept it. The goal is to provide guidance to the public safety agencies and communities that will successfully aid their efforts to improve efficiency effectiveness and safety for both the community and its emergency responders. Councilman Gritsavage stated that having been on the Ambulance Committee for a number of years I have been concerned as we all have. We happen to have a very good Ambulance Service. Part of the problem has been the lack of volunteers or maybe part of the problem is the lack of participation. We did discuss this several years ago as to whether we should go to a paid ambulance service meaning billings. Most of which would be paid for by insurance as opposed to our current service which is strictly volunteering and donations. That doesn't mean that we wouldn't have volunteers. Obviously, we will, explained Councilman Gritsavage. The purpose for the consultant is to look into it is to see, are we doing a good job and what can we do better. I am sure none of us on the Town Board have the expertise to study this. Here is an opportunity to have a nine-week study and we will get reports and there will be surveys done. The cost would be Four Thousand five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500); SC discount 20% a Total Base Price \$3,600.00. I think with the situations that are now going on in this area in Fulton County and Saratoga County. We don't have Providence anymore; we lost Fulton County Ambulance Service and JAVAC is no longer in service. We are relying in GAVAC which is out of Amsterdam to provide us at least back up services. Frankly, they are stretched pretty thin because they are providing their services up to the Town of Piseco. There is a crisis which we haven't felt it that much until now. But I think we need to move forward and do something to determine what the strength and weakness are within our own Ambulance Service. There is a lot of strength and good people there.

I suspect that a lot of the reports that the consulting service might come out with will be positive stated

Councilman Gritsavage. But I think that they can help us get a grip on this as we as a Town Board and all of us in the community can do to assure that we have a good Ambulance Service within the Town of Northampton and Village of Northville.

Supervisor Groff informed the Board that right now Empire has taken over GAVAC territory and Fulton County territory but they are not providing ALS. They are providing BLS. Nobody knows where that seems to be going. They just got the notification last week. They are the third call if no one is available with GAVAC or Johnstown Fire Department. We do not know how much they will be responding. They will be working out of a Fulton County Building. The County is still working on it. There was discussion on the "Certificate of Need".

I believe we are the only volunteer run Ambulance Service left in the county stated Councilman Gritsavage.

Councilman Anderson would like to review the proposal because the Supervisor is saying that there are other things that are coming up down at the County too that might change by next month.

I'm thinking of the big picture of the county and that we are just the little guy up here. We are the only one that has survived.

This is what we can do locally at what we can keep what we have locally stated Councilman Gritsavage. There is also a part in this document that talks about working with the county.

Discussion on the motion

Councilman Anderson noted that he would vote for the proposal because anything like this for our Ambulance Service would be worthwhile.

We should get together and appoint a Project Coordinator stated Councilman Gritsavage.

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the Proposal from Ron Graner Public Safety Consultant for Consulting Services for a Comprehensive Review of Emergency Medical Services and Capabilities of the Northampton Ambulance Service for the Town of Northampton, NY. At a cost of Three Thousand six Hundred Dollars (\$3,600) for a Consulting fee. Councilman Roosa seconded the motioned and passed by

A Vote: 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa and Anderson 0-Nays

Supervisor Groff motioned to table opening the applicants that submitted for the Town of Northampton Code Enforcement Officers position until we know exactly what we are going to do. Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motion and passed by,

A Vote: 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa and Anderson 0-Nays

Skip Taylor stated that his wife is doing well and he wanted to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers. He would like to know when he can start looking at his metered water bill?

We are hopefully looking at the end of this year the beginning of next year stated the Supervisor.

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Adjourn: With no further business coming before the board, Councilman Anderson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Councilman Roosa seconded the motion and passed by a

Vote: 4-Ayes 0-Nays

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik, Town Clerk