

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON  
REGULAR MEETING**

**December 30, 2019**

The regular meeting and Public Hearing of the Town of Northampton originally scheduled for Wednesday, December 18, 2019 had to be rescheduled due to lack of a quorum and was then held on Monday, December 30, 2019. Supervisor Groff called the meeting to order at 6:41 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 Molly Zullo  
Excused: Art Simmons

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

**Other Town department representatives in attendance were:**

Nathaniel Matthews-Bookkeeper  
Excused: Anthony Fancher – Code Enforcement Officer  
Ken Cramer – Highway Superintendent/Water & Sewer Maintenance Operator  
Excused: Town Attorney-Honorable Michael Albanese

**ALSO PRESENT:** Andrew Kovalovich and Warren (Skip) Taylor

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve the November 13, 2019 Regular Town Board meeting and the Public Hearing for the 2020 Preliminary Budget and the 2020 Fire Contracts with the Village of Northville and Broadalbin Kennyetto Fire Co. Inc. minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and

Adopted by a vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Zullo 0-Nays

**Res. #2019-15:** Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds within Accounts to meet certain contractual expenses for Accounts Payable from 2019 Budget Line Items

Councilman Gritsavage offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Councilwoman Zullo seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

James Groff	Aye	William Gritsavage	Aye
Art Simmons	Absent	Darryl Roosa	Aye
Molly Zullo	Aye		

**MOTION ON WARRANTS**

Councilman Roosa approved paying the warrants, Seconded by Councilwoman Zullo and passed by, A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Zullo 0-Nays

**2019 Warrants**

General Fund "A"	\$ 33,263.25
General Fund "B"	3,013.68
Highway	26,975.49

Sacandaga Lighting District	1,232.50
Sacandaga Sewer District	2,381.33
Sacandaga Water District	<u>146,120.83</u>
Total Warrants	\$212,987.08

Supervisor Groff opened the Public comment at 6:42 p.m.

Skip Taylor asked if the board did anything with the ambulance.

Councilman Gritsavage commented that the board received the ambulance survey report approximately two months ago. We are hopefully going to discuss it soon and hopefully have a public meeting where people can come in and comment. The ambulance study is now on the Town website. Please feel free to look at it. In fact I encourage you to.

Is this about combining with Benson and Northville asked Mr. Taylor?

Yes and no, basically there is a number of recommendations and I would like (Gritsavage) and would hope that the board feels the same the way I do. To get it out to the public and let the public know first of all is what the situation is. Secondly, the proposals for what might be helpful in the future.

We would love to hear comments stated Councilman Gritsavage.

Coming in time for a Public Hearing we would like to do it a little later in the year while the snow birds are here.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- Monthly Transfers for Abstract of Audited vouchers
- Monthly Report of Revenues & Expenditures
- Charter Communication – Upcoming changes
- Newslines-November 2019
- Joint Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Northampton, Town Board of the Town of Benson and the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Northville to Conduct a Joint Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the Northville Central School
- Letter of request for donation (\$150) to the Northern Forest Center.

The board unanimously agreed to table this until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

- Boy Scout Troop 55 of Northville, NY requesting a letter or certificate of acknowledging achievement for Eagle Scout John Sira.
- Received from Bookkeeper Nathaniel Matthews the Amended 2020 Budget

## CODE ENFORCEMENT:

7 permits were issued during the month of - November 2019. #086-19 Alterations/Repair; #088-19 Deck; Building receipt #00000789 Renewal permit; #091-19 Water Wells; #092-19 Major Alterations/Repairs; #093-19 Deck under 150sf; and #094-19 Res Storage Building under 500sf.

Total Fees Collected \$477.50.

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the Code Enforcement Report as presented by the Code Enforcer. Councilman Roosa seconded the motioned and passed by,

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

## HIGHWAY:

It was asked what the Shared Service Agreement between NYSDOT and the Town of Northampton was about. They are trying to get some participation from the towns stated Ken Cramer. It has to be a town within Fulton County. They would like to consider enter into a Shared Service Agreement where right

now if something happens with one of our trucks or a piece of equipment. I could contact them and they would supply the machinery (something like that). I think a lot of this stems from the Halloween storm in October where it cost a lot of money contracting private contractors to haul all their materials for them. It's basically like our agreement with the Village. I presented to the Town Board for your review and comment on it.

The proposed Shared Service Agreement was unanimously tabled and it was asked if someone from the NYSDOT would come to the next Town Board meeting to explain this to the Board.

Would we pledge the \$10,000 asked Councilman Gritsavage? Mr. Cramer explained that they are not looking for money. It would be a breakdown of how much a day's worth of trucking would be and the cost of an operator up to a \$10,000 amount.

Are we going to get reimbursed for that? No, what they are saying that they are going to max it out to \$10,000. I'll have more information after this next meeting and I will invite them up to talk with the board stated Mr. Cramer.

## **Report**

### **November 2019**

#### Roads:

- Winter Preparation
- Hauling/stockpile ice control sand
- Ground/Aerial brush/tree limb removal

#### Repair/Maintenance

- New front tire/tube on backhoe.
- Replaced solenoid on pickup truck sander
- Repaired broken front spring on truck #2
- Replaced both air tanks on truck #2
- Serviced backhoe oil change/all filters

#### New Business

- NYS shared services agreement
- Lincoln Ave. R.O.W. issues
- Would like board approval to proceed with pickup truck replacement. We normally replace it every four years, it's the fifth year we are going on it.

Do you have any idea what the cost is going to be asked the Supervisor? I have pricing on all that. Between Chevy and Ford. Chevy makes a dual wheel drive, one-ton pickup truck, like the Ford does. They are actually within \$400 of each other. The Ford has a dual wheel like we have now. The State contracting price is pricing out \$35,488.00 and is just for the truck. The State contract for the plow is another \$6,000.00. I will need the Town Board approval with a letter of intent. Right now it is a five month wait for the truck. That would put me into another calendar year.

How does it look for us financially for that Nate asked Councilman Gritsavage?

We have the funds budgeted for the 2020 calendar year replied Mr. Matthews.

We were going to do that last year but we used that money for other things stated Mr. Cramer. So we put it off for a year.

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned for Ken Cramer to move forward, to at least look into it and give the Town Board whatever information we need. And further to get a letter of intent.

Councilwoman Zullo seconded the motioned and passed by,

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

- (2015) Ford F350 with plow and sander. Letter of intent.
- Board approval to order new Backhoe (\$111,500) NYS contract price (John Deere 410L)
- Fulton County Emergency Management (October 31<sup>st</sup> storm) update. They did pass that so the President signed it so we should be recouping some of that money.

Do you have any idea how much asked Supervisor Groff? Mr. Cramer stated that he has all the paperwork and hours information. I do not have the calculations as far as a truck. They reimburse you for every piece of equipment you used throughout. It is not finished for the temporary repairs that I have done so far. My preliminary amount was approximately \$20,000. Now we have put down approximately \$2,000 in material that he used.

Have you heard any more on the excavator or is that a dead issue asked the Supervisor?

Mr. Cramer mentioned that he calls him every month and I get the same story. Right now with the Democrats holding the majority they won't even speak with the Republican minority. They won't even contact them on paper. They can't even communicate with each other and to tell me that every month. They have never seen this go so far in the process and not be approved.

If we approve the backhoe we are going to have to bond it stated Supervisor Groff. We don't have the means to do it right now and I don't want to have the bond come due next year because we are still paying on the dump truck. So we should get our stuff in order. How soon do you have to get that approved asked Supervisor Groff? How long is that price good for?

Until the end of the month, tomorrow responded Mr. Cramer. That is State contract price on that too. If it would be alright I would just as soon wait until the first of the year stated the Supervisor, to move ahead on that.

Are you getting anywhere on Lincoln Avenue? Mr. Cramer stated that he had spoken with him and this person is going to make a correction to it. He's feuding with everybody. He did come to the conclusion that he can't have that and has come to an agreement. I'll move it if I have to. I would rather that he does it cordially. He has agreed to move every part of it. At this point it probably won't be done until spring time.

## **JUSTICE**

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the Justice Report. There was a total of 21 cases handled and \$2,608.00 was collected in fines for the month. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by, A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Zullo                      0-Nays

We probably won't see any of this money next year because of the bail reform stated the Supervisor.

**ELECTION:** Official results of the November 5, 2019 General Election are received

**ASSESSOR:** The Assessor is requesting a pay cut because she will be doing less here in lieu of her new position at the County stated Councilman Gritsavage.

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to adjust the Assessor’s salary starting January 1, 2020 in the amount of \$17,000. Seconded by Councilwoman Zullo and passed by

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

**CEMETERIES:** Supervisor Groff reported that the vault is all locked up and we are using it. It is paid for and done. Supposedly we will be tearing down the old vault next year because I don’t see us using it.

### **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for December has been cancelled due to no new business coming before the board.

### **PLANNING BOARD**

The scheduled Planning Board meeting for December 10, 2019 was cancelled.

**HISTORIAN:** Historian Gail Cramer has provided the board members with the November 2019 Issue of the Northville Northampton Historical Society News Letter titled “IORM”.

**AMBULANCE:** The Annual meeting of the Northampton Ambulance Service 12/10/2019 the following officers were elected – Secretary-Kimberly Sakadolsky; Representative-Jo Allen; Representative-Tom Fifield; Representative-Jerry Wildermuth.; Alt. Representative- Lori Driscoll

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the following officers to the Northampton Ambulance Service – Secretary-Kimberly Sakadolsky; Representative-Jo Allen; Representative-Tom Fifield; Representative-Jerry Wildermuth.; Alt. Representative- Lori Driscoll. Seconded by Councilwoman Zullo and passed by

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

Request was made of the following officers to be reappointed by the Town Board:  
Jack Farquhar-EMS Chief; Jonathan VanAlstyne- 1<sup>st</sup> Ass. EMS Chief; and open position-2<sup>nd</sup> EMS.

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept and reappoint the following officers to the Northampton Ambulance Service: Jack Farquhar-EMS Chief; Jonathan VanAlstyne- 1<sup>st</sup> Ass. EMS Chief; and open position-2<sup>nd</sup> EMS. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by

A Vote of 3-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, and Roosa                                      Zullo-Abstain

The Northampton Ambulance held their regularly scheduled meeting on December 10, 2019 with 13 members attending. Calls responded to in November are as follows: Town of Northampton 4, Village of Northville 6, Town of Hope 2 and Mayfield 1.

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve the Town of Hope/Town of Northampton Ambulance 2020 Agreement. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by

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

**REFUSE & GARBAGE:** The transfer station will be OPEN 8 AM – Noon on Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Eve and Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, New Year’s Eve.

The transfer station will be CLOSED on Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day & Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, New Year’s Day.

The transfer station will be OPEN 8 AM – 4 PM on Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Monday, January 20, 2010 is an official holiday, Martin Luther King Day. The transfer station will be closed.

The station will be open on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 regular hours.

**2020 Landfill Use Renewal**

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve the 2020 Landfill Use Renewal, Terms of Use Agreement. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by

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

**Hardfill:** October collected \$5.00 in fees and November collected \$36.50 in fees.

**HAULING FEES:** The month of November fees were as follows:

County Transfer	59.06 Ton @ \$53	\$3,130.18
Municipal Direct Haul	25.80 Ton @ \$33	\$ 851.30
Curbside Recycling	10.31 Ton @ \$20	\$ 206.20
Transfer Station Recycling	1.02 Ton @ \$10	\$ 10.20
Metal Hauling Fee	2.18 Ton @ \$20	\$ 43.60
Ground Wood Chips	120.92 Ton @ \$00	<u>\$ 00.00</u>
Total		\$4,241.58
Municipal Direct Hall	7.56 Ton @ \$33	\$ 249.48

**SACANDAGA PARK WATER & SEWER:**

**November 2019**

Water:

- November-2018 usage 815,000 gallons pumped
- November-2019 usage 1,173,000 gallons pumped

Meters: making necessary changes to meters with reading errors.

Repairs/Maintenance:

- Lane Christenson Co. removed broken off well pump from well #4  
Performed well rehab on well #4 and installed new well pump and motor in well #4.
- DOH annual site inspection.

Wastewater:

- November-2018 daily average flow 49,500 gallons
- November-2019 daily average flow 74,700 gallons

Repairs/Maintenance:

- No new issues to report

How big is the tank, 100,000 gallons that has a serious leak, asked Supervisor Groff? Response, yes. I was told that it was time that we need to address it.

We will get together to discuss the two options we can look at stated the Supervisor. To see if we could come up with some type of a program.

What would be the remedy asked Councilman Gritsavage?

Probably a new tank or to repair that one responded the Supervisor. We have a serious issue on the upper part of State Hwy 30 with low pressure in the summer. We just talked about possibly doing a line from Mountain Road down State Highway 30 and incorporating it into a project with the tank and go after some this Facilities money to do most of it out there. They have \$600,000 and if we put together a plan and maybe apply for some of the money after the first of the year stated Supervisor Groff.

**NORTHVILLE FIRE DEPT:** The November 2019 monthly Fire Report. There was a total of 14 Responses and a Total Man hour of 7.5. The Village of Northville had 3-Alarm Activations. The Town of Northampton had 1-MVA PI; 2-Hazardous Conditions; 1-Chimney Fire; and 1-MVA/Pedestrian. Town of Edinburg had 2-MVA PI; 1-Structure Fire and 1-Hazardous Conditions/Brush Fire. The Town of Hope had 2-Rescue; and 1-Stand by Hazardous Conditions). There were 7-Mutual Aid Given and 3-Mutual Aid Received. 1- Injuries-Civilian: (Fatality) MVA/Pedestrian Nature of Calls: 2-Fire; 4-MVA/PI; 3-Fire Alarm Activations; 2-Rescue; and 3-Hazardous Conditions. Total Calls July-November 5 Fire Calls; 3-Rescue; 11-MVA; 9-Fire Alarm Activations; 9-Hazardous Conditions; 3-EMS Assist; 1-Water/Pump Out and 1-Water/Drowning.

1. Mustang Suits for Ice Rescue were tested to see if in working order.
2. Unable to give man hours due to the Flood situation in Hope and our responses/Stand By. Hope Communication System was down and were given permission to use Fulton County Communications
3. Detours were set up for Route 30 just North of Northville, Due to road erosion in Hope (caused by flooding).
4. Monthly meeting of the Department was held. Spec'ing the new truck continues. Truck checks and pack checks were completed.
5. Dival's annual SCBA inspection was completed, and packs and Spare cylinders serviced.
6. New Gas meter will be sent out for repair. It reads CO but not reading )2 correctly. The meter is under warranty.

**TOWN CLERK:**

**MOTION:** Councilman Roosa motioned to approve the Town Clerk's Amended November 2019 monthly report as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and passed by, A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Gritsavage and Zullo 0-Nays

12/01/2019

**Town Clerk Monthly Report  
November 01, 2019 - November 30, 2019**

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Account#	Account Description	Fee Description	Qty	Local Share
A1255	Conservation	Conservation	13	29.32
	Death Certificate	Death Certificate	10	100.00

	Marriage Certificate	Marriage Certificate	1	10.00
			<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>\$139.32</b>
A2130	Hardfill Site	Hardfill Site	1	28.50
	Transfer Station	Transfer Station	7	70.00
			<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>\$98.50</b>
A2544	Dog Licensing	Female, Spayed	1	7.00
		Female, Unspayed	1	13.00
		Replacement Tags	1	3.00
			<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>\$23.00</b>
A2770	Minor Sales	Fax	10	10.00
			<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
B2555	Building Permits	Building Permits	7	477.50
			<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>\$477.50</b>
			<b>Total Local Shares Remitted:</b>	<b>\$748.32</b>
	Amount paid to: NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program			4.00
	Amount paid to: NYS Environmental Conservation			502.68
<b>Total State, County &amp; Local Revenues:</b>	<b>\$1,255.00</b>	<b>Total Non-Local Revenues:</b>		<b>\$506.68</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	Date	Town Clerk	Date

- The Clerk has received the 2020 Rabies Clinic schedule from Fulton County Public Health.

### Discharge of Mortgage

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage has approved Discharge of Mortgage for property at 286 High Rock, County of Fulton, Northville, NY. Seconded by Councilman Zullo and passed by, A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Gritsavage and Zullo 0-Nays

**SUPERVISOR:** Received paperwork from NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation – RE: NYS Revolving Fund Project No: D0-15399 Town of Northampton bond is now paid in full. Received completed speed study for a lower speed limit on Sinclair Road from the Saratoga County line to Elmer Brown Road, in the Town of Northampton. Notice of Order to establish the 40 MPH linear speed limit on the above-mentioned road. To be effective when the required signs are in place.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Councilman Simmons wanted it to be documented and be part of the record that he is in favor of the Joint Fire District stated Supervisor Groff.



A notice has been posted that the Town Board of the Town of Northampton, Town Board of the Town of Benson and the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Northville, with the Northville Fire Department will be holding a Public Hearing meeting regarding the proposed establishment of a Joint Fire District on January 07, 2020 at 7 p.m. in the Northville Central School.

The 2020 Organizational meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. and it will be followed by the Town Board meeting at 7 p.m. and closing of town books.

**Adjourn:** With no further business coming before the board, Councilman Gritsavage motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Councilwoman Zullo seconded the motion and passed by,

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

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik, Town Clerk