

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON
REGULAR MEETING
May 20, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Town of Northampton was held on Wednesday, May 20, 2020. Supervisor Groff called the meeting to order at 7:01 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, Art Simmons, Molly Zullo and William Gritsavage,

RECORDING SECRETARY: Elaine Mihalik-Town Clerk
Other Town department representatives in attendance were:
Nathanial Matthews-Bookkeeper

ALSO PRESENT: Honorably Michael Albanese

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve the January 15, 2020 Organizational Town Board meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilwoman Simmons and Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Simmons, Zullo and Roosa 0-Nays

MOTION: Councilman Roosa motioned to approve the January 15, 2020 Regular Town Board meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Simmons, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Zullo 0-Nays

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve the February 19, 2020 Regular Town Board meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Simmons, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Zullo 0-Nays

The regular Town Board meetings March 18, 2020 and April 15, 2020 were cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Res. #2020-05: Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds

Councilman Simmons offered the following resolution and moved it adoption. Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motion.

\$10,000.00

From: A9961.9 – Interfund Trans – Ambulance Reserve

To: A4540.4 - Ambulance – Contractual Exp

Reason: To cover stretcher extended warranty

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION ON WARRANTS

Councilman Gritsavage approved paying the March 2020 warrants, Seconded by Councilwoman Zullo and passed by,

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

0-Nays

March 2020 Warrants

General Fund "A"	\$ 31,315.62
General Fund "B"	6,868.89
Highway	57,815.36
Sacandaga Fire	30.00
Sacandaga Lighting District	1,200.17
Sacandaga Sewer District	12,043.31
Sacandaga Water District	<u>12,800.14</u>
Total Warrants	\$122,073.49

Councilman Roosa approved paying the April 2020 warrants, Seconded by Councilman Zullo and passed by,

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

0-Nays

April 2020 Warrants

General Fund "A"	\$ 27,458.99
General Fund "B"	6,985.15
Highway	3,536.24
Sacandaga Lighting District	1,137.42
Sacandaga Sewer District	2,889.09
Sacandaga Water District	<u>3,010.42</u>
Total Warrants	\$45,017.31

Councilman Gritsavage approved paying the May 2020 warrants, Seconded by Councilwoman Zullo and passed by,

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

0-Nays

May 2020 Warrants

General Fund "A"	\$ 36,898.51
General Fund "B"	7,228.40
Highway	114,431.58
Sacandaga Lighting District	1,075.12
Sacandaga Sewer District	7,344.12
Sacandaga Water District	<u>4,521.94</u>
Total Warrants	\$171,499.57

COMMUNICATIONS

- Monthly Transfers for Abstract of Audited vouchers
- Monthly Report of Revenues & Expenditures
- Charter Communications – Upcoming changes
- Census Day is April 1, 2020
- Association of Towns’ Legislative Newsletter
- Newline March and April 2020 issue
- Adirondack Explorer March/April 2020
- 23rd Annual Adirondack Park Local Government Conference, 4/29, 4/30, 2020 in Lake Placid has been canceled.
- Fulton County Workers Compensation Plan Participations

- 2019-220 Roosevelt Terrance snowplowing
- The Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Dues \$308.00 covers period from 5/1/2020 to 4/30/2021

Discussion: We've paid them the money for publicity and they dropped the ball. The board unanimously agreed that they would like the Chamber of Commerce to explain what they are doing for us. When they joined with Montgomery, they do a lot more down there than here.

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to table the request from the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership dues for 6 months. Councilwoman Zullo seconded the motion and passed by,

A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, Simmons and Zullo 0-Nays

- Analysis of Sales Tax Distribution 1st Quarter 2020

JUSTICE:

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the three Justice Reports.

-There were a total of 18 cases handled and \$2,986.00 was collected in fines for the month of February 2020.

-There were a total of 21 cases handled and \$2,571.00 was collected in fines for the month of March 2020.

- There were a total of 7 cases handled and \$1,248.00 was collected in fines for the month of April 2020.

Councilman Roosa seconded the motion and passed by,

A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, Simmons and Zullo 0-Nays

There was discussion on the size of the court house and the need for a larger one. DA night both Justices are there and it is crowded. That was so noted years ago the size was mentioned when that building was being renovated. Now with COVID-19 and the social distancing it's tough with the size of our court house.

ASSESSOR:

Town of Northampton Grievance Day will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 via Teleconference 1-3 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

*FEBRUARY - 8 permits were issued during the month of February. #001-20 Water Well; #004-20 Manufactured Home; #006-20 Major Alterations/Repair; #005-20 Renewal; #083-18 Additon renewal; #002-20 License renewal Mobile Home Park; #007-20 License renewal Mobile Home Park; #078-18 Major Alterations/Repair Renewal. 2- Municipal searches and 1-Planning Board application. \$1,715.00 collected in fees.

*MARCH - 4 permits were issued during the month of March. #008-20 License renewal Mobile Home Park; #009-20 Single Family Residence; #010-20 Demolition and #011-20 Non-Res Commercial and 1- Municipal search. \$1,240.00 collected in fees.

*APRIL - 10 permits were issued during the month of April. #013-20 Single Family Residence; #014-20 New Septic; #016-20 Res Storage #017-20 Septic System/Repair; #018-20 Res Storage building; #019-20 Temporary Use Permit; #020-20 Major Alterations/Repair; #021-20 Fence; #022-20 Septic System/Repair and #023-20 Major Alterations/Repair. \$1,145.00 collected in fees.

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to accept the Code Enforcement February 2020, March 2020 and April 2020 Reports as presented by the Code Enforcer. Councilman Roosa seconded the motioned and passed by,

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

0-Nays

Councilman Gritsavage asked if any building permits have been filed with the Code Enforcer on Winne's Pond. They were just selling the lots explained Supervisor Groff.

HIGHWAY:

February Report

Roads:

- Continued snow plowing/sanding
- Ground/Aerial brush/tree limb trimming.
- Hauling snow from Ambulance building to snow dump

Repairs/Maintenance

- Replaced broken/worn out sander chain on truck #4
- Calibrated sanders on truck #2, #3, #4 for straight salt usage.

New Business

- Backhoe replacement Ok from Town Board.

March Report

Roads:

- Roads posted to 4 Ton Max Limit
- Making necessary pot hole repairs
- Bucket truck limb work on Various roads
- Plowing Snow

Repairs/Maintenance

- New live body driveshaft install with sprocket on Truck #3
- Repaired Broken sander chain on Truck #3
- NYS Inspection Truck #6

New Business

- New Ford 2020 F350 pick up arrived.
- Placed order for 2020 John Deere 410L Backhoe with arrival date of end of April.
- Need board approval to replace Retired employee. (John Whitman)
- Ad placed in Leader Herald and Gazette
- COVID-19 Epidemic

It was noted by Supervisor Groff that he spoke with the Highway Superintendent about holding off on hiring someone until October so he can save some money and he was okay with it. Given what has happened with the COVID-19 it would be prudent thing to do stated Councilman Gritsavage.

If he could keep within the CHIPS funding it would be extremely helpful this year stated Mr. Matthews.

Fulton County Resolution #123 authorizing contracts for mowing of county right-of-way in the Town of Northampton

Discussion: Is it worth the time and effort? It was discussion to incline not to do it for a year because they do not clean the brush off the sides of the road, or clean the ditches. There is a tree that has been hanging on the guard rail on Water Street and Ridge Road for three years and they never cleaned it up. There are a couple of other places where there are trees down and brush. They only came up here to pave. I've received calls about potholes by Co. Hwy 152 explained Supervisor Groff and he call the County. Mr. Yost claimed they were here and they didn't see the pothole that the Supervisor was reporting. After discussion a motion was made as follows.

MOTION: Supervisor Groff motioned to postponing a decision until he has spoken with the Town Highway Superintendent. Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motion and passed by,
A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, Simmons and Zullo 0-Nays

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

The scheduled Zoning Board meetings scheduled for March 25, 2020 and April 22, 2020 were cancelled. The ZBA board would like to hold their next meeting on May 27, 2020. They would like to review the 2 applications they have received. The Town Board has approved the ZBA members holding a meeting by themselves providing they keep social distancing, they are to talk to the homeowners via telephone at this time, and they follow protocol.

PLANNING BOARD: The Planning Board April 14, 2020 meeting was cancelled and the May 19, 2020 meeting was held.

Youth/Rec: Joint Youth Commission held a meeting on March 16, 2020. The 2020 Joint Youth Program has been cancelled. The Beach will be closed. A news release will be forth coming. There have been new guidelines for opening a beach that the Director has just received which both he and I (Gritsavage) will be reviewing. It appears it will cost more than we can afford to do stated Councilman Gritsavage.

HISTORIC: The Board members received the Northville Northampton Historical Society February 2020 issue titled "Missing Main Street Store. The March 2020 issue titled "Northampton Ambulance Service". The April 2020 issue titled "Some Places We Never Forget".

Public Safety: Corona virus update and proposed Town of Northampton/Village of Northville "Reopening Plan" for discussion.

CEMETERY: Cemeteries have opened 04/08/2020.

Refuse and Garbage: As of Monday, June 1st, the Northampton 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 11th.

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

We have a new attendant at the Transfer Station.

Due to the NY on-Pause and social distancing concerns, the annual Latex Paint Exchange has been cancelled for this year.

Hardfill: Hardfill site attendant is needed. Lou has been filling in on Fridays for us stated Supervisor Groff.

HAULING FEES: The month of February fees were as follows:

County Transfer	7.37 Ton @ \$53	\$ 390.61
Municipal Direct Haul	44.42 Ton @ \$33	\$1,465.86
Curbside Recycling	7.11 Ton @ \$20	\$ 213.30
Transfer Station Electronics	0.86 Ton @ \$0	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total		\$2,069.77

Municipal Direct Haul	5.02 Ton @ \$33	\$ 165.66
Municipal Direct Haul	6.69 Ton @ \$33	\$ 220.77

HAULING FEES: The month of March fees were as follows:

County Transfer	13.73 Ton @ \$53	\$ 727.69
Municipal Direct Haul	66.16 Ton @ \$33	\$2,117.28
Curbside Recycling	6.15 Ton @ \$30	\$ 184.50
Transfer Station Recycling	4.45 Ton @ \$20	\$ 89.00
Metal Hauling Fee	3.99 Ton @ \$20	\$ 79.80
Transfer Station Electronics	0.92 Ton @ \$0	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total		\$3,198.27

HAULING FEES: The month of April fees were as follows:

County Transfer	39.22 Ton @ \$53	\$2,078.66
Municipal Direct Haul	64.28 Ton @ \$33	\$2,121.24
Curbside Recycling	8.56 Ton @ \$30	\$ 256.80
Transfer Station Recycling	5.37 Ton @ \$20	\$ 107.40
Metal Hauling Fee	6.57 Ton @ \$20	\$ 131.40
Transfer Station Electronics	1.52 Ton @ \$0	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total		\$4,695.50

ROBISON ROAD

A call came in from Attorney Michael Poulin regarding Robison Road at 7:22 p.m.

Honorable Poulin explained that Robison Road was turned over to the Town of Northampton by the Hudson River/Black River from the taking line forward. It would be subject to Garber's having right-of-way. If there is a fire issue from that point they would have access for fire to water and for fire or rescue or anything like that. The landowners have been plowing it and maintaining it for years. That is all we are asking for at this point. Is a quick claim deed and it says whatever interest the Town has to turn it over to Richard and Leslie Garber.

Councilman Gritsavage asked if the Town Board were to do that, would anybody be cut off?

No, they would not stated Honorable Poulin.

Looking at the map Councilman Gritsavage asked if east of Robison Road is the Garber property?

That is correct responded Honorable Poulin. After that is somebody else and they have a right to use that road also. Anyone North, East, South or West would have a right to use that road also, it is a matter of Law stated Honorable Poulin.

Honorable Albanese has anybody objected to any of that asked Councilman Gritsavage.

No one has contacted his office with any objections and he believes nobody has contacted Supervisor Groff with any objections, stated Honorable Albanese.

How does the Town Highway Superintendent feel about this asked Councilman Gritsavage?
The response was that the road would have to come off the town roll. You're talking about approximately 500 feet. Richard Garber's is the longest point. It would affect the CHIPS money the town receives.

Supervisor Groff noted that you would have to contact the lady in the back so she knows that if she ever sells her house the new owners and anyone else would always have access on that right-of-way road to get back there.

Honorable Albanese stated that he has no position one way or the other. Clearly the Town can do it. It would have to come off of the Town inventory of roads. The Highway Superintendent, Mr. Cramer was here when this was first discussed and he did bring up his concern of the CHIPS money.

After discussion a motion was made as follows:

MOTION: Councilman Simmons motioned the approval for James Groff, Supervisor to sign the quick deed between the Town of Northampton, a municipal corporation located in the County of Fulton, State of NY, with offices located at South Main Street, P.O. Box 479, Northville, New York 12134 part(ies) of the first part and Richard and Leslie Garber, husband and wife, residing at 777 Bunker Hill Road, Mayfield, NY 12117. Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motion and passed by

ROLL CALL VOTE:

James Groff	Aye	William Gritsavage	Aye
Darryl Roosa	Aye	Molly Zullo	Aye
Art Simmons	Aye		
Nays	0		

SACANDAGA PARK WATER & SEWER

February 2020

Water:

- February 2019 usage – 745,000 gallons pumped
 - February 2020 usage – 1,120,000 gallons pumped
- Changed several meter heads that were reading errors

Repairs/Maintenance

- Continued lack of pressure issue for Route 30 North customers.

Wastewater:

- February 2019- daily average flow 30,700 gallons
- February 2020- daily average flow 49,600 gallons
- Replaced (3) drive belts on RBC drive shaft unit.

March 2020

Water:

- March 2019 usage – 943,00 gallons pumped
- March 2020 usage – 1,095,000 gallons pumped

Meters

No new issues to report.

Repairs/Maintenance

- Agreement to us Travis Mitchel for consultant on water.
- Continued water pressure complaints from Route 30 North customers.

Wastewater:

			Sub-Total:	\$1,415.00
B2770	Municipal Searches	Municipal Searches	2	50.00
			Sub-Total:	\$50.00
			Total Local Shares Remitted:	\$2,404.64
	Amount paid to: NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program			3.00
	Amount paid to: NYS Environmental Conservation			70.86
Total State, County & Local Revenues:	\$2,478.50	Total Non-Local Revenues:		\$73.86

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	Page	1
04/01/2020				:	
	Town Clerk Monthly Report				
	March 01, 2020 - March 31, 2020				

Account#	Account Description	Fee Description	Qty	Local Share
A1255	Conservation	Conservation	1	0.28
	Death Certificate	Death Certificate	4	40.00
			Sub-Total:	\$40.28
A2130	Transfer Station	Transfer Station	32	320.00
			Sub-Total:	\$320.00
A2544	Dog Licensing	Replacement Tags	1	3.00
			Sub-Total:	\$3.00
A2770	Photo Copy	Photo Copy	56	14.00
			Sub-Total:	\$14.00
B2110	Zoning Application	Zoning Application	1	80.00
			Sub-Total:	\$80.00
B2555	Building Permits	Building Permits	4	1,135.00
			Sub-Total:	\$1,135.00
B2770	Municipal Searches	Municipal Searches	1	25.00
			Sub-Total:	\$25.00
			Total Local Shares Remitted:	\$1,617.28
	Amount paid to: NYS Environmental Conservation			4.72
Total State, County & Local Revenues:	\$1,622.00	Total Non-Local Revenues:		\$4.72

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Supervisor	Date	Town Clerk	Date	
05/01/2020			Page 1	
	Town Clerk Monthly Report		:	
	April 01, 2020 - April 30, 2020			
Account#	Account Description	Fee Description	Qty	Local Share
A1255	Death Certificate	Death Certificate	12	120.00
	Marriage Certificate	Marriage Certificate	1	10.00
		Sub-Total:		\$130.00
A2130	Transfer Station	Transfer Station	49	490.00
		Sub-Total:		\$490.00
A2544	Dog Licensing	Female, Spayed	1	7.00
		Male, Neutered	1	7.00
		Sub-Total:		\$14.00
A2770	Photo Copy	Photo Copy	14	3.50
		Sub-Total:		\$3.50
B2555	Building Permits	Building Permits	10	1,145.00
		Sub-Total:		\$1,145.00
		Total Local Shares Remitted:		\$1,782.50
Amount paid to:	NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program			2.00
Total State, County & Local Revenues:	\$1,784.50	Total Non-Local Revenues:		\$2.00

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Supervisor	Date	Town Clerk	Date
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Supervisor's Report:

*NYS Department of Taxation & Finance Office of Real Property Tax Services Certificate of the Final State Final Equalization Rate for the Town of Northampton for the 2020 Assessment Roll (62.00).
At one point we are going to have to redo the data collection. Discussion ensued on a re-valuation.

*NY Rural Water Association honoring the Town of Northampton for being a member for 20 years.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilman Simmons asked what was going on with the Town hall Phone system. Mayor Spaeth and Nate have been trying to get Spectrum to fix the problem. Councilman Simmons suggested maybe we should call Kevin Egan at Spectrum.

Executive Session

Councilman Gritsavage motioned to enter into Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. to discuss personnel. Attorney Albanese was asked to remain. Councilman Roosa seconded the motion and was passed by, A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Simmons, Zullo, Gritsavage, and Roosa 0-Nays

Councilman Gritsavage motioned to exit out of executive Session at 8:24 p.m. with “no action taken”. Councilman Roosa seconded the motion and was passed by, A Vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Simmons, Zullo, Gritsavage, and Roosa 0-Nays

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at 7 p.m.

Adjourn: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Councilman Roosa seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik, Town Clerk