

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 17, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Town of Northampton was held on Wednesday, June 17, 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, Ken Cramer-Highway Superintendent and Water/Sewer Maintenance Operator, Anthony Fancher-CEO and Honorably Michael Albanese

**MOTION:** Councilman Roosa motioned to approve the May 20, 2020 Regular Town Board meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Simmons and Adopted by a vote of 5-Ayes: Groff, Simmons, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Zullo 0-Nays

**MOTION ON WARRANTS**

Councilman Gritsavage approved paying the June 2020 warrants, Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by,

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

**June 2020 Warrants**

General Fund "A"	\$23,192.66
General Fund "B"	6,889.14
Highway	1,801.72
Sacandaga Lighting District	957.25
Sacandaga Sewer District	2,655.34
Sacandaga Water District	<u>3,968.14</u>
Total Warrants	\$ 39,464.25

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- Monthly Transfers for Abstract of Audited vouchers
- Monthly Report of Revenues & Expenditures
- Charter Communications – Upcoming changes  
Supervisor Groff asked if any of the board members had a new Contract with Charter. He spoke with them and we need a new contract. Councilman Gritsavage mentioned that they have been a real pain in the neck and I don't think that we signed a contract in a long time.
- Northville Rotary Club – Rotary Woodworking and Fine Arts Show July 17-19, 2020 has been cancelled.
- The Northville Rotary Club is rescheduling the Twelfth Annual Woodworking and Fine Arts Show the weekend of July 16-18, 2021. Set up will be held on July 15, 2021. The Rotary Club is requesting approval for the use of the Town Hall and the Town Park of this event.

**MOTION:**

Councilman Roosa motioned approval of the Northville Rotary Club holding its Twelfth Annual Woodworking and Fine Arts Show the weekend of July 16-18, 2021. Set up will be held on July 15,

2021. Pending the submission to the Town of Northampton Town Board the Municipal Facility Use application along with their insurance policy naming the Town of Northampton. Councilwoman Zullo seconded the motion and passed by,

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

0-Nays

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

\*May 2020 - 21 permits were issued during the month of May. #024-20 Addition to home; #025-20 Deck over 150sf front porch and back deck over 150sf; #026-20 License renewal (Silver Maple Park, LLC); #024-19 Single Family Residence renewal fee; #027-20 Major Alterations/repair over \$1000; #028-20 Temporary Use Permit; #007-19 Single Family Residence Renewal fee; #029-20 Fence; #031-20 Fence; #032-20 Septic System new/repair; #033-20 Major Alterations/Repair over \$1000; #034-20 Foundation/slab; 020-15 Single Family Residence; #035-20 Septic System/repair; #036-20 Swimming pool; #037-20 Deck under 150sf; 4 Municipal Searches and 1 ZBA application. \$1,897.50 collected in fees.

**MOTION:** Councilman Simmons motioned to accept the Code Enforcement May 2020 Report as presented by the Code Enforcer. Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motioned and passed by,

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

0-Nays

### **HIGHWAY:**

Ken Cramer Highway Superintendent mentioned that they did paving on Seven Hills Road. He did receive notification that they are getting CHIPS money. Is the Board looking at rolling the money over for next year or do you want him to use it somewhere?

Is there somewhere you would use it asked Councilman Gritsavage?

Yes, I would do a couple of smaller roads. Dan Reidell mentioned doing half of Skiff Road. Ken thought maybe we could do our half approximately 12 or 15 hundred feet. Smith Beach Road is another road we could use it on. It would cost approximately \$20,000 to \$25,000 for each road maybe. Ken would have to get the prices together to do those two projects.

Supervisor Groff and Councilman Gritsavage both felt that the Highway Superintendent should use the money because they are not sure if we are going to get any more CHIPS money in the future. After discussion a motion was made as follows.

**MOTION:** Councilman Gritsavage motioned for Highway Superintendent Ken Cramer to go ahead with the 2 projects for paving Smith Beach Road and the Town portion of Skiff Road. Councilman Simmons seconded the motion and passed by,

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

0-Nays

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

Discussion: Highway Superintendent Ken Cramer inquired about the County Mowing contract asking if the board is going to discuss it or hold off on it. It was discussed at the budget work session you mentioned that you going to rent a mower because ours is inoperable. I can rent it for a month or a week. It depends if the board is going to approve the contract or not. Do you want us to do the county roads and do you want us to continue to do the town roads with it? The equipment is reserved until the end of June but I need to let them know one way or the other.

The County knows how we feel stated Supervisor Groff. We either need to pay for it with the Town Budget or with the County to mow their road stated Ken Cramer.



The Town Board has received Resolution #129 -Resolution Abolishing a part-time transfer station attendant and creating two alternating Transfer Station Attendants (Northampton Transfer Station) approved by the Board of Supervisor of Fulton County on May 11, 2020. Ronald Colasanti and Donald Arsenault have been appointed by the Fulton County Department of Solid Waste as alternate Northampton Transfer Station Attendants.

**Hardfill:** Mr. Luckey was hired to work the Hardfill site and he never showed up explained Supervisor Groff. Larry Johnson worked the Hardfill site but due to medical issues he had to quit. A Hardfill site attendant is needed. Lou has been filling in on Fridays for us stated Supervisor Groff. Robin Wilson is willing to work at the Hardfill site and Skip Wilson would be a backup. Skip is willing to help at the cemetery or highway when needed. After discussion a motion was made as follows:

**MOTION:** Councilman Roosa has motioned to appoint Robin Wilson as Hardfill Attendant and Skip Wilson as backup Attendant and to help at the cemetery or highway department when needed.

Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motion and passed by,

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

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

County Transfer	33.64 Ton @ \$53	\$1,782.92
Municipal Direct Haul	73.68 Ton @ \$33	\$2,431.44
Curbside Recycling	11.46 Ton @ \$30	\$ 343.80
Transfer Station Recycling	8.22 Ton @ \$20	\$ 164.40
Metal Hauling Fee	4.89 Ton @ \$20	\$ 97.80
Transfer Station Electronics	0.69 Ton @ \$0	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total		\$4,820.36

**SACANDAGA PARK WATER & SEWER**

Ken Cramer reported the following:

Sewer: We had a meltdown in May. With the wet well, part of the pumps both check valves has failed in the wet well. It was a fuel failure in one of the pumps. This whole thing is out dated. We got it temporarily working. I got a portable pump to piggy back off the other two pumps. Ken explained what was happening when the pumps kick off, without the check valve everything is flowing back into the pump house as fast as it is pumping out. We had to replace two floats in the wet well. I have the pumps staggered so both pumps kick on at the same time while normally they are alternating pumps.

Adirondack Septic is getting me prices to pretty much fix that wet well. New control panel, new check valves. I do have to replace the pump.

Water: Ken Cramer mentioned that he did a reading last week and he explained that we have some issues still with some of the meters. I (Ken) spoke with Supervisor Groff and he mentioned if I needed help getting caught up I can contact Allen and Palmer, which I (Ken) did. Hopefully, those issues will be taken care of in the near future. Some of the meters need to be changed out. Some of the meters are reading backwards. It sounds simple but it is not always the case of the meter was installed backwards explained Ken.

Ken Cramer also mentioned that there is still the issue on State Highway 30N. Supervisor Groff stated that he mentioned this to Chris Murphy to see what he might be able to come up with. There was



## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Energy Survey**

Nathanial Matthews explained that an energy audit was performed by the NYSERTA Grant. This is regarding spend down of the \$50,000 Grant before they dry up. L & S Energy Services came in with a full audit which each board member has a copy. In it are the different replacement things. I went through the reports a couple of different times with the NYSERTA people and a local rep. To identify on what we are going to be able to fix and the easiest in the payback period and also within the monies that are available. We did use some of the grant money for the lighting. Obviously using the money for a ground source heat pump for \$103,000 with a payback period of 22 years is not really realistic. We only have \$15,000 in grant money still available. There were a few items we came up with, 1. To finish any remaining lighting that was not switched to LED. 2. WIFI thermostats to remote WIFI thermostats. 3. Insulation on the heating pipe. 4. Replacing the condensing unit.

Looking at a more efficient boiler didn't seem to have the payback period which was 14 years and the cost was high. To replace the AC unit the payback period was way too long.

All that they recommended came shy of \$12,000. They are hoping that the estimated cost will come under the cost and the remainder of the money can be hopefully be used utilized for another some other small project. They want to get us the closest to the \$50,000 grant as possible. After discussion a motion was made as follows:

**MOTION:** Councilman Roosa motion to proceed with the following recommendation to finish up the LED lighting in the town hall, the WIFI thermostat, to insulate the water heater, and air source heat pump from the monies remaining from the \$50,000 NYSERTA Grant.

Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motioned and passed by

A Vote of 5-Ayes: James Groff, Art Simmons, William Gritsavage, Darryl Roosa and Molly Zullo  
0-Nays

Councilman Simmons mentioned that in the letter that the Town sends to anybody whom wants to use the Town property about alterations to the property are not permitted without the approval of the Supervisor or the Town Board. If someone comes in and cuts a tree down they should get permission to do that from the Supervisor or from the Town Board.

On the letter that we are sending the applicant we are asking about their insurance and I think that 30 days prior to an event they should be able to provide it. I am talking about anybody who wants to use the property they need to provide a copy of their insurance policy with a letter from their carrier. It shouldn't be just a verbal we have insurance. That would be for anybody who wants to use the Town property.

Supervisor Groff mentioned that there is a problem with the Golf Course. The owner put dirt out to the road. Our Zoning Law has a section on this and we need a letter sent to have the owner remove it. The attorney will draw up a letter for the board to review prior to sending it.

## **ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**MOTION:** Councilman Simmons motioned to approve the 2019 Annual Financial Report for the Town of Northampton, as received from the Town Bookkeeper and reviewed by the Town of Northampton Town Board. Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motion and passed by

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

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 7 p.m.

**Adjourn:** Councilwoman Zullo motioned to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik, Town Clerk