

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON
REGULAR MEETING
February 17, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Town of Northampton was held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021. 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, William Gritsavage, Art Simmons
Molly Zullo-Excused

RECORDING SECRETARY: Elaine Mihalik-Town Clerk

Other Town department representatives in attendance were:

Ken Cramer-Sacandaga Park Water/Sewer Maintenance Operator/Highway Superintendent
Bookkeeper- Nathaniel Matthews and Attorney-Michael Albanese

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve the January 20, 2021 meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and Adopted by a vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Simmons, and Roosa

Nays-0
Abstain-0

Discussion on Resolution 2021-06

This transfer is for the Emergency Repairs for the RBC Unit which is part of the treatment process explained Ken Cramer. We've gotten nearly 30 years out of this system. After the discussion a motion was made as follows:

RES. #2021-06: Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Whereas, within the budget certain appropriated amounts are insufficient to meet certain accounts payable expenses from Budget line items from 2021 Budget for the February transfers.

\$25,000

From: SS8130.2 – Sewer Trans/Distribution - Equipment

To: SS8130.4 – Sewer Trans/Distribution - Contractual

Reason: To cover sewer plant repairs

Councilman Roosa seconded the motion and passed by a ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Nays-0

Abstain-0

MOTION ON WARRANTS

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

Nays-0

Abstain-0

February 2021 Warrants

General Fund "A"	\$26,438.09
General Fund "B"	21,798.22
Highway	25,903.78
Sacandaga Lighting District	1,442.72
Sacandaga Sewer District	54,672.39
Sacandaga Water District	<u>5,462.56</u>
Total Warrants	\$135,717.76

COMMUNICATIONS

- Monthly Transfers for Abstract of Audited vouchers
- Monthly Report of Revenues & Expenditures
- Charter Communications - Upcoming changes

CABLE CONTRACT

Councilman Simmons mentioned that he had call Kevin Egan, Director, Government Affairs, Charter Communications in Latham and asked him why the free cable hadn't been installed in the ambulance building, the Town and Village Office building and the Fire District. Mr. Egan didn't give me a reason why. His response was, "oh geez that hasn't been done". We went over the addresses of where it was supposed to be and he (Egan) said that he was going to take care of it. He then stated "we do not have a signed contract". So, he is supposed to be emailing or mailing a contract to the Town hall for the Town of Northampton.

Councilman Gritsavage mentioned that we went over this approximately four years ago, didn't we? We sent them a contract then and we never heard back from them.

Yes, responded Councilman Simmons. Mr. Egan went over the old contract and that they were supposed to install this at no charge. Mr. Egan stated that he would take care of it. I am going to give Mr. Egan two weeks and if don't hear anything I'll call him back.

There was another law firm back then who looked at the contract and they sent a letter with objections to that contract and I don't believe it was ever responded to explained Honorable Albanese.

SVAN request for \$700 for the 2021 Concert Season

Discussion: It was asked if a donation was given in 2020. The response was no because of COVID there was no Concert Season in 2020.

It was asked what was paid in the past to SVAN for their previous Concert Seasons and what was budgeted in the 2021 Budget.

Response was the Town donated \$600 in 2019 and \$500 in 2015-2018. After the discussion a motion was made as follows.

MOTION: Councilman Simmons motioned to approve the sum of \$600 to donate to SVAN for the 2021 Concert Season as what was budgeted in the 2021 budget.

A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, Gritsavage, and Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

Discussion on Resolution #2021-07

Councilman Simmons asked if the figures on Councilwoman Zullo's were different for him.

Bookkeeper Matthews responded, absolutely. After the discussion a motion was made as follows:

RES. #2021-07: Resolution to Report Established Standard Reportable Work Day for each Elected and Appointed Position in the Town of Northampton (Zullo)

The foregoing resolution was made by Councilman Roosa and seconded by Councilman Simmons and passed by a ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Highway:

Roads:

- Continued roadside brush cutting/bucket truck
- Winter road maintenance

Repairs/Maintenance

- New motor and throttle control assembly installed on the 2013 Hyland Jr truck sander
- Replaced two separate blown hydraulic lines on truck #3
- New stop/signal light assembly installed on Caterpillar Bucket loader

New Business:

- Notice for intension to post roads for weight limit needs to be posted in local newspaper.
- Spillway bridge (NY Bridge)

Bridge NY Program

Discussion: Ken Cramer mentioned that he was contacted by Mark Yost, Fulton County Highway Superintendent. Mr. Yost had indicated to Ken that the Town stands a good chance to get funding through the Bridge NY Program from the State to possibly do work on the Spillway Bridge. I was given a contact phone number to Andy Bell from A.S. Bell Engineering that the County used. I was told that Mr. Bell has done quite a few of these projects and is familiar with the “Bridge NY” program. Ken Cramer mentioned that there are pros and cons on doing this program. It’s expensive and it is not a guarantee. You are at the mercy of the State saying that you qualify for it and then it is a 75% reimbursement. The Town would be responsible for the 25% and I’m not sure the cost of hiring an engineer. Mr. Bell stated that he would be interested in doing this for the Town if the Town would like to apply for the program.

Councilman Gritsavage asked why the bridge is the Towns responsibility and not the Village?

Supervisor Groff responded that it’s the Towns responsibility even though it is within the Village because it is over 20 feet.

Councilman Gritsavage mentioned that the Village is doing a local Waterfront Rehabilitation Program that they have been working on and they had sent out surveys. Why aren’t they doing this because a big part of that plan is redoing the spillway?

Ken Cramer mentioned that Mr. Bell did mention that he was aware of the Village of Northville Project and has seen what is going on with the Village end of it.

The Village of Northville has a big program that is going on and they aren’t even talking about it explained Councilman Gritsavage. What if they were planning on expanding, or putting in more lanes, or making the bridge wider so we could have a bicycle path asked Councilman Gritsavage?

Ken Cramer said he mentioned this to Mr. Bell and Mr. Bell stated that he could absolutely design that to be wider without touching the footprint.

Isn't that the whole idea of the Lakefront/Waterfront Rehabilitation Program is all about asked Councilman Gritsavage? They have been doing this for two years now and nothing has been done yet. The Town of Edinburg has gotten approval for two of their bridges to be done this summer explained Ken Cramer.

After discussion the Town Board members have asked Ken Cramer to speak with Andy Bell and set up a meeting to discuss the Bridge NY Program.

Justice:

MOTION: Councilman Roosa motioned to accept the Justices' Report, there were a total of 15 cases handled and \$1,586.00 was collected in fines for the month, seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Simmons, and Roosa

Nays – 0

Abstain - 0

Code Enforcement: A total of \$647.50 was collected in fees for the month of January 2021. A total of (4) permits were issued in January 2021; 2-Single Family homes, Solar Panels, and 1-Major Alterations/Repair.

MOTION: Councilman Roosa motioned to accept the Code Enforcement Officers January Report, seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Simmons, and Roosa

Nays – 0

Abstain - 0

Election: Positions running in the General Election for the Town of Northampton – Supervisor, 2-Councilman seats, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Justice, and Highway Superintendent. Councilman Art Simmonds announced that he will not be running this year for the Councilman seat.

Zoning: The next scheduled Zoning Board meeting is February 24, 2021.

Planning Board: The February 3rd, 2021 meeting was cancelled. The next scheduled meeting is March 3, 2021 at 5 p.m.

Youth/Rec: The Town of Northampton/Village of Northville Joint Youth Commission meeting held via ZOOM on Wednesday, February 03, 2021. The Commission doesn't know if there is going to be a Joint Youth Program this year because of COVID stated Councilman Gritsavage. The Commission has decided to move ahead and post for positions for the program and see how things shake out in the next couple of months. Our plan is to offer the positions to the individuals who were offered last summer but never were hired because of the COVID pandemic.

It was mentioned to the board that on the News today that the Governor has just announced opening camps at a percentage capacity.

Historic: Northville Northampton Historical News Letter entitled "Water Street".

Ambulance: Councilman Simmons noted that the ambulance committee did have a meeting with Jack Farquhar, Ambulance Coordinator.

Refuse: County Recycling pick up resumed today in the Town of Northampton.

HAULING FEES: The month of January 2021 fees were as follows:

County Transfer Haul	21.55 Ton @ \$53	\$1,142.15
Municipal Direct Haul	55.15 Ton @ \$33	\$1,819.95
Transfer Station Recycling	4.74 Ton @ \$20	\$ 94.80
Metal Hauling Fee	1.76 Ton @ \$20	\$ 35.20
Electronics-Transfer Station	1.21 Ton @ \$00	<u>\$ 00.00</u>
Total		\$3,092.10

SACANDAGA PARK WATER & SEWER:

January 2021

Water:

-January 2020 usage – 1,061,000 gallons pumped

-January 2021 usage – 981,000 gallons pumped

Meters

-Working on minor issues

Repairs/Maintenance

-Repaired Two separate water main breaks on McKinley Ave.

One 4” cast Iron and one 2” galvanized.

Wastewater

-January 2020 daily average flow – 67,100 gallons

-January 2021 daily average flow – 22,123 gallons

Repairs/Maintenance:

-Repaired to the RBC drive shaft have been completed

MRX System water meter reader

Discussion: The Village of Northville Water District and the Town of Northampton Water District are looking into purchasing and sharing the cost together for an MRX System water meter reader and Ken Cramer stated that he is seeking board approval to move forward with the purchase. This would include the cost of the meter reader, the software, yearly maintenance agreement and upgrades explained Bookkeeper Nathan Matthews. Bookkeeper Nathan Matthews also explained the difference of the upgrade of this MRX Meter Reader as to the one that is being used currently. There is going to be a lot of time savings with the new system and noted that this is going to be a good upgrade. Mr. Matthews explained that the Northville Village Board approved moving forward with this last night at their Board meeting if the Town moves forward with it as well. After the discussion a motion was made as follows.

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve Ken Cramer to move forward with the MRX System water meter reader. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

TOWN CLERK:

MOTION: Councilman Roosa motioned to approve the Town Clerk’s January 2021 monthly report as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Simmons and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

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**Town Clerk Monthly Report
January 01, 2021 - January 31, 2021**

:

Account#	Account Description	Fee Description	Qty
Local Share			
A1255 4.70	Conservation	Conservation	5
	Death Certificate 400.00	Death Certificate	40
	Registrar Fee 22.00	Registrar Fee	1
		Sub-Total:	
		\$426.70	
A2130 2,610.00	Transfer Station	Transfer Station	261
		Sub-Total:	
		\$2,610.00	
A2770 7.75	Photo Copy	Photo Copy	31
		Sub-Total:	
		\$7.75	
B2555 647.50	Building Permits	Building Permits	4
		Sub-Total:	
		\$647.50	
		Total Local Shares Remitted:	
		\$3,691.95	
Amount paid to:	NYS Environmental Conservation		80.30
Total State, County & Local Revenues:	\$3,772.25	Total Non-Local Revenues:	
\$80.30			

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:

Garage repair for damages done by plow truck

Supervisor Groff mentioned that he had a bill in the amount of \$1,679.19 for the cost of repair for damages done to a garage by the Town plow truck. After discussion a motioned was made as follows.

MOTION: Councilman Gritsavage motioned to approve to pay the cost of \$1,679.19 for garage repair for damages done to the garage. Seconded by Councilman Roosa and passed by,
A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

ANNUAL 2020 FINANCIAL REPORTS

A Legal notice has been posted that the Town Clerk has received the Town of Northampton Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020. The report is available for review in the Town Clerk's Office.

MOTION: Councilman Simmons motioned to approve the 2020 Annual Financial Report for the Town of Northampton for the purpose of audit by the Town of Northampton Town Board.

Councilman Gritsavage seconded the motioned and it carried with a vote as follows:
4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 7 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Gritsavage motioned to enter into Executive Session at 7:34 p.m.to discuss privileged attorney-client communication. Seconded by Councilman Simmons and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

Councilman Roosa motioned to exit out of Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. with no action taken. Seconded by Councilman Gritsavage and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Roosa, and Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

Adjourn: All Board members present were in favor of adjourning the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik
Town Clerk