

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON
REGULAR MEETING
June 16, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Town of Northampton was held on Wednesday, June 16, 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
Absent - Councilwoman: Molly Zullo

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

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Warner and Colleen Cordone

MOTION: Councilman William Gritsavage motioned to approve the May 19, 2021 meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Darryl Roosa and

Adopted by a vote of 4-Ayes: Groff, Gritsavage, Simmons, and Roosa

Nays-0

Abstain-0

Motion Carried

RES. #2021-10: Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds

Councilman Art Simmons offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Councilman Darryl Roosa seconded the motion.

WHEREAS, within the budget certain appropriated amounts are insufficient to meet certain accounts payable expenses from Budget line items from 2021 Budget for the June transfers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor be authorized to transfer the below indicated funds from within existing accounts of the 2021 budget to cover anticipated expenses;

Transfers

June 2021

\$800.00

From: SW8340.4 – Water Trans/Distribution - Contractual

To: SW8340.2 – Water Trans/Distribution - Equipment

Reason: To cover purchase of meter reader equipment

AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this resolution be recorded in the Town Clerk's minutes and be a permanent record of the Town and a copy be filed with the Supervisors records for auditing purposes.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Supervisor James K. Groff Aye

Councilman Art Simmons Aye
 Councilman William Gritsavage Aye
 Councilman Darryl Roosa Aye
 Councilwoman Molly Zullo Absent
 Nay-0
 Abstain-0

MOTION ON WARRANTS

Councilman Art Simmons approved paying the warrants, Seconded by Councilman William Gritsavage and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: James Groff, Darryl Roosa, William Gritsavage, and Art Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

Motion Carried

June 2021 Warrants

General Fund “A”	\$ 27,591.76
General Fund “B”	25,699.78
Highway	6,196.02
Sacandaga Lighting District	1,024.60
Sacandaga Sewer District	2,433.57
Sacandaga Water District	<u>2,567.34</u>
Total Warrants	\$ 65,513.07

Marijuana Legalization:

The Public Hearing that was originally scheduled by the Town Board for tonight’s meeting on Local Law #2 of the Year 2021 “Opting out of Licensing and Establishing Retail Cannabis Dispensaries and/or On-Site Cannabis Consumption Establishments within the Town of Northampton” was cancelled due to the Clerk not receiving the Resolution and Local Law in a timely manner and therefore, she was unable to post the notice in the official newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Northampton.

The Town Board members present unanimously agreed to have the Town Clerk post a Public Hearing notice in the official newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Northampton for July 21, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. on Local Law #2 of the Year 2021 “Opting out of Licensing and Establishing Retail Cannabis Dispensaries and/or On-Site Cannabis Consumption Establishments within the Town of Northampton”

COMMUNICATIONS

- Monthly Transfers for Abstract of Audited vouchers
- Monthly Report of Revenues & Expenditures
- Charter Communications - Upcoming changes
- A letter was submitted from Sue Owens on behalf of the Northville Rotary Club regarding the 2022 Woodworking & Fine Arts Weekend – July 15th thru July 17th, 2022.

Discussion:

Councilman Art Simmons suggested that the Rotary or anyone else who uses the Town Property without permission can’t be taking shrubbery down and/or trees down. He explained that there has been a problem in the past.

Supervisor Groff stated that they trim some which they do every year and they have never taken anything down without my permission. I have spoken with Ken Cramer and he has removed a couple of the trees.

MOTION: Councilman William Gritsavage motioned to approve the Northville Rotary request of Use of Municipal Facility for the 2022 Woodworking & Fine Arts Weekend to be held July 15th thru July 17th, 2022 pending an application of Use of Municipal Facility and insurance policy to be filed with the Town Clerk naming the Town of Northampton as insured prior to the Event. Seconded by Councilman Art Simmons and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: James Groff, Darryl Roosa, William Gritsavage, and Art Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

Motion Carried

Code Enforcement: A total of \$1447.50 was collected in fees and a total of (14) permits were issued in May 2021; 5-Renewal Permits; 1-Renewal Trailer Park (Silver Maple Park LLC) permit; 1-Gazebo; 1-Deck; 2-Septic Systems; 1-Single-Family Residence; 1-porch permit; and 1-Renovation.

MOTION: Councilman William Gritsavage approved the April 2021 Code Enforcement Report as presented, Seconded by Councilman Art Simmons and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: James Groff, Darryl Roosa, William Gritsavage, and Art Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

Motion Carried

Councilman William Gritsavage would like to see in the CEO report on how many of the building permits are for construction of a new home.

Highway:

Roads:

- Did the first round of paving on the second ½ of Bunker Hill Road. That is complete other than the shoulders.
- The Highway Crew will be helping the Town of Edinburg next week with paving.
- The Highway Crew is short-handed two crew members. Crew members (Alex) has left and (Lou) is in the hospital. Things are going to be a little tight with what we get done explained Ken Cramer, Highway Superintendent.
It was asked if he was looking at replacing? Ken responded: Yes, but picking is slim. Those that he has spoken with do not have a license and they are not qualified.
- They are half way through the first round of mowing on the road side and that will be done by the 4th of July.
- We are trying to get a lot of road work done in a short amount of time.

Cemeteries:

Ken Cramer mentioned that they completed digging of two graves for the two funerals that will take place this week. Supervisor Groff informed Mr. Cramer that he can utilize Craig part time helping with the Highway Crew because he is already on the Town payroll. Ken stated that Craig is helping him on garbage pickup day.

Ken noted that he will talk with Craig about helping out with the Highway Crew and also with mowing of the cemetery.

Justice:

MOTION: Councilman William Gritsavage motioned to accept the Justices' Report, there were a total of 28 cases handled and \$4,158.00 was collected in fines for the month, seconded by Councilman Art Simmons and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: James Groff, William Gritsavage, Art Simmons, and Darryl Roosa

Nays – 0

Abstain – 0

Motion Carried

Election: The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, June 22, 2021. This will be a Republican only Primary. Registered voters will be voting for the County Treasurers' position. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Zoning: The Zoning Board meeting scheduled for May 26, 2021 was cancelled due to no new business. The next scheduled Zoning Board meeting is June 23, 2021.

Planning Board: The Planning Board held a Public Hearing in the Town Municipal Building on Wednesday, June 9th, 2021 regarding the proposed Amendments to the 2007 Town of Northampton Comprehensive Plan.

Youth/Rec: A Town of Northampton/Village of Northville Joint Youth Commission held a Special meeting Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. to go over the information gathered to make a decision whether to open the beach this year or not. It was decided to not open the beach this year. The problem was that now the government says yeah now go ahead and you can do everything. I believe we could have done it but because of the time restraint to get all of your certification and file all the required paperwork. When we examined everything and looked at what was required. The cost to hire people to be gatekeepers. It was going to be approximately \$12,000 over budget of what it would normally cost. It was decided that we just couldn't do it this year explained Councilman William Gritsavage. It's unfortunate. Next year we are hoping to have a full Summer Program.

Colleen Cordone asked where the money comes from to fund the Summer Program.

Supervisor Groff stated that it comes from the Town of Northampton and the Village of Northville.

When children participate from the adjoining towns, we then bill their Towns at a cost per child explained Councilman William Gritsavage.

Nathanial Matthews explained, that we have contracts with all the adjoining Towns and they are charged on the actual costs per camper that participates in the program. The beach and all the other year-round activities such as (movie night, easter egg hunt, etc..) are funded primarily through the School, the Village of Northville and the Town of Northampton.

Both the Town of Northampton and the Village of Northville are named on the beach permit and HRBRRD owns the property explained Supervisor Groff.

Historic: The Historian has provided the Northville Northampton Historical News Letter entitled "Floyd and Mabel Arnold".

Ambulance: Zoll monitor defibrillator

Supervisor Groff explained that the Jack Farquhar, Ambulance Coordinator has spoken with him regarding the Zoll defibrillator monitor which is currently owned by the Ambulance Service. They would like to purchase a new one and the cost is \$40,000. The Ambulance Service has the money to purchase a new one stated Supervisor Groff and there will be no cost to the Town. The Ambulance Service would

like approval from the Town to use the current monitor defibrillator as trade in or sell it for the new defibrillator.

MOTION: Councilman William Gritsavage motioned to allow the Northampton Ambulance Service to either trade in or sell the current Zoll monitor defibrillator for a new monitor defibrillator. Councilman Art Simmons seconded the motion and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: James Groff, William Gritsavage, Art Simmons, and Darryl Roosa

Nays – 0

Abstain – 0

Motion Carried

Refuse and Garbage: The Transfer Station will be CLOSED on Monday, July 5, 2021 for the Independence Day Holiday.

Hardfill: There were a total of 34 vehicles and no fees collected for Tires for the month of April. There was a total of 43 vehicles and \$6.00 in fees were collected for Tires for the month of May.

Hauling Fees: The month of June 2021 fees were as follows:

County Transfer Haul	24.64 Ton @ \$53	\$1,305.92
Municipal Direct Haul	69.71 Ton @ \$33	\$2,300.43
Curbside Recycling	11.05 Ton @ \$30	\$ 331.50
Transfer Station Recycling	4.89 Ton @ \$20	\$ 97.80
Metal Hauling Fee	5.58 Ton @ \$20	<u>\$ 111.60</u>
Total		\$4,147.25

TOWN CLERK:

MOTION: Councilman Darryl Roosa motioned to approve the Town Clerk’s May 2021 monthly report as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman William Gritsavage and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: James Groff, William Gritsavage, Darryl Roosa, and Art Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

Motion Carried

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

:

Account#	Account Description	Fee Description	Qty
Local Share			
A1255	Conservation	Conservation	12
12.16	Death Certificate	Death Certificate	1
	10.00		

	Town Clerk Fees 12.50	Marriage License	1
			Sub-Total: \$34.66
A2130 1,080.00	Transfer Station	Transfer Station	108
			Sub-Total: \$1,080.00
A2544 14.00	Dog Licensing	Male, Neutered	2
			Sub-Total: \$14.00
A2770 3.00	Minor Sales	Fax	3
	Photo Copy 4.75	Photo Copy	19
			Sub-Total: \$7.75
B2555 1,447.50	Building Permits	Building Permits	14
			Sub-Total: \$1,447.50

**Total Local Shares Remitted:
\$2,583.91**

Amount paid to:	New York State DOH for Marriage Licenses	22.50
Amount paid to:	NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program	2.00
Amount paid to:	NYS Environmental Conservation	207.84

Total State, County & Local Revenues: \$2,816.25
\$232.34

Total Non-Local Revenues:

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
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SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Groff mentioned that he received notice from the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance that the Town of Northampton Final State Equalization Rate for the 2021 Assessment Road is 60.00. It was asked what the Town is going to do, possibly do a reassessment next year? Possibly stated Supervisor Groff or maybe the County is going to do one. One was done back in 2006 by the Town but they never followed through with it.

2021 Online Auctions International Contract

MOTION: Councilman Art Simmons motioned to approve Supervisor James Groff to sign the 2021 Online Auctions International Contract – agreement for sale of Government Assets by Online Auction. Seconded by Councilman William Gritsavage and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: James Groff, William Gritsavage, Darryl Roosa, and Art Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

Motion Carried

OLD BUSINESS:

Franchise renewal Agreement between the Town of Northampton, NY and Spectrum Northeast, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of Charter Communications, Inc.

Attorney Albanese suggested that the Town Board read all the material that has been provided that was negotiated back in 2015 and the current agreement. Now they have sent a complete new agreement with different language which the Attorney has highlighted some of the differences. Some of the paragraphs have been replaced by new paragraphs. After the Town Board reviews the material the Attorney asked that the Town Board let him know what they would like him to do.

My remembrance of this is that they totally blew off what we wanted to do explained Councilman Art Simmons.

MOTION: Councilman William Gritsavage motioned to table a decision on the Franchise renewal Agreement to allow the Board members to review the proposed contract and material provided. Seconded by Councilman Art Simmons and passed by,

A Vote of 4-Ayes: James Groff, William Gritsavage, Darryl Roosa, and Art Simmons

Nays-0

Abstain-0

Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS: Councilman William Gritsavage has brought up the subject of the noise on the lake and stated that we really need to do something about the noise.

Suggestions he has made were as follows:

- 1-The Town Board should write to the Law Enforcement Agency and request that they enforce the Noise Law. Sheriff Giardino three years ago told the GSLA that he had had equipment that was provided to him by the Association and he was going to train people and they were going to follow through with that.
- 2-What the Board needs to do is start thinking about a speed limit on the lake. He feels it is extremely dangerous in the northern part of the lake in Northampton. He feels it is a more populated area. We have had speed boats racing last week and he felt that that Town Board needs to move on this.

Discussion:

Supervisor Groff mentioned that there is a speed limit on the lake right now and nobody is enforcing it. There is a speed limit along the river and they don't enforce that either. There is only one State Police boat and one Sheriff's boat to patrol the whole lake. Discussion ensued on the noise that vehicles make on the road; along with the new laws. Someone mentioned about the cannon that someone is setting off. Councilman Art Simmons mentioned that he noticed some low flying and noisy airplanes that he never noticed before. It was mentioned that you would have to contact the FAA.

MOTION: Councilman William Gritsavage motioned the Supervisor writing a letter to the Law Enforcement Agency stating that we want the noise restriction enforced and to quote the law and section. Seconded by Councilman Art Simmons and passed by,

A Vote of 3-Ayes: William Gritsavage, Darryl Roosa, and Art Simmons

Nays-1: James Groff

Abstain-0

Motion Carried

Res. #2021-11: Resolution Opposing Legislative Agenda of Certain Adirondack Environmental Groups Seeking to Decouple Broadband and Cellular Expansion Coverage in the Adirondack Park.

Motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman William Gritsavage. Seconded by Councilman Art Simmons

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this Board that there is a desire within Adirondack Environmental groups to decouple support for broadband expansion and cellular telephone coverage for communities of the Adirondack Park in that they would advocate for resourcing broadband initiative if local government would not advocate for cellular coverage expansion; and WHEREAS, access to cellular telephone coverage and broadband internet access are as vital and necessary in the 21st century economic vitality and public safety as any other public service utility akin to electricity and running water; and

WHEREAS, all citizens of New York State deserve equal access to 21st century technology, that discrimination against residents and communities of the Adirondack Park shall not be tolerated in this regard; and

WHEREAS, the restrictive policies on technological access embraced by Adirondack environmental groups have the demographic effect of depopulating younger and working age residents and families, discourage economic investment, and are a considerable impediment to residential diversity; and

WHEREAS, decoupling broadband and cellular technology is counter to the technological convergence of these systems in future developmental generations of these systems; and

WHEREAS, this is blatantly a strike against providing an environment of equity of access for all New Yorkers,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Northampton Board stands ardently opposed to separating any components of technological access regarding cellular and broadband expansion and access with the State or Federal government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the following: Senator James Tedisco, Assemblyman Robert Smullen, Public Service Commission, New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) and Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages (AATV).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Supervisor James K. Groff	Aye
Councilman Art Simmons	Aye
Councilman William Gritsavage	Aye
Councilman Darryl Roosa	Aye
Councilwoman Molly Zullo	Absent

Nay-0
Abstain-0

Councilman Art Simmons is inquiring about the Electric Charging station at the Town hall and if anyone has gotten signs posted? Ken Cramer responded that he has gotten signs this week and has to post them out by the street.

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Adjourn: Councilman Art Simmons motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Seconded by Councilman William Gritsavage.

A Vote of 4-Ayes: James Groff, William Gritsavage, Darryl Roosa, and Art Simmons

Nays-0
Abstain-0

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik,
Town Clerk