

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON  
REGULAR MEETING  
August 18, 2021**

The Regular meeting of the Town of Northampton was held on Wednesday, August 18, 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  
Councilwoman: Molly Zullo entered 7:02 p.m.

**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, Howard Aison, Evan Lessick, Warren (Skip) Taylor

**MOTION:** Councilman William Gritsavage motioned to approve the July 21, 2021 meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Darryl Roosa and Adopted by  
A vote of 4-Ayes: James Groff, William Gritsavage, Art Simmons, and Darryl Roosa  
Nays-0  
Abstain-0  
Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Councilman Darryl Roosa motioned to approve the July 28, 2021 Special meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Art Simmons and Adopted by  
A vote of 4-Ayes: James Groff, William Gritsavage, Art Simmons, and Darryl Roosa  
Nays-0  
Abstain-0  
Motion Carried

**MOTION ON WARRANTS**

Councilman Darryl Roosa approved paying the warrants, Seconded by Councilman Art Simmons and passed by,  
A Vote of 5-Ayes: James Groff, Darryl Roosa, William Gritsavage, and Art Simmons  
Nays-0  
Abstain-0  
Motion Carried

<u><b>2021 Warrants</b></u>	
General Fund "A"	\$ 15,237.58
General Fund "B"	768.84
Highway	15,612.78
Sacandaga Lighting District	1,110.78
Sacandaga Sewer District	4,996.08
Sacandaga Water District	<u>2,700.97</u>
Total Warrants	\$ 40,427.03

Supervisor Groff opened the meeting for Public Comment at 7:15 p.m.

Evan Lessick explained he had heard a lot of talk of the noise levels and the speed of the boats on the Great Sacandaga Lake. It has gotten a lot worse every year and this year it has been incredibly bad. Is there anything that we can do? I know that there is a speed limit under the Northville Bridge and one in the Town of Day. Is there any way to enforce the noise limit which I guess there are.

Councilman William Gritsavage responded the answer is yes. The noise issue –a lot of the boats that you hear out on the lake are probably in violation of the State Law regarding the amount of decibels. It is part of the Navigation Law and there should be enforcement.

The speed issue I feel we should move forward with it. That is to lower and set a speed limit on the Sacandaga. The problem is that where we are located up to the northern end of the lake where it narrows down. These people do not slow down there. Maybe in Mayfield and Broadalbin these boats are not heard because they are out in the wide open part of the lake.

We already have a speed limit on the lake and that is not enforced stated Supervisor Groff. Discussion ensued of the speed limit from the bridge going north on the river. There is a Law that you can't go over 5 MPH within 500' of the shore, a pier, a boat, or a dock and is with a jet ski and that is not enforced. You cannot go up the river without being within 500' of the shore.

The lack of enforcement is on the police stated Councilman William Gritsavage.

The Laws are there explained Supervisor Groff.

It was asked how the Town of Day got their speed limit?

Councilman William Gritsavage stated that he was not sure and has not had the chance to call their Justice to see how many tickets have been issued in their jurisdiction.

You can tax the people around the lake and do a commission like Lake George responded Supervisor Groff. Do you think if we start charging a fee that these people aren't going to come to the Town upset?

It was stated by the Attorney that Lake George charges for your boat whether it be a day, a week or the season and they charge people a fee for their docks. They use that money and they have a Park Commission. You would first have to start with the State in order to pass a special State Law Legislation to create the Commission. You would have to get all the towns on the lake to agree with it.

Evan Lessick stated that if you had gotten whatever agency here for two weeks to tickets every speeding boat, he feels that the people won't be doing it any more. If they knew that they were handing out tickets. Especially for every loud boat that went by.

Councilman Art Simmons asked if it would be advisable for the Town Board to contact the State Police and the Sheriff's Department and invite them here to a meeting to tell them that there is a problem.

Supervisor Groff stated that there are Laws but the enforcement is the whole problem.

Warren (Skip) Taylor stated that there are people who could call the State Police and say that they are concerned about the speed on the Sacandaga Lake.

Councilman William Gritsavage would like to have the Attorney draft a proposed law for a 45 MPH speed limit on the lake for the Town Board so they can discuss it, study it and have a Public Hearing if need be. Discussion ensued.

The Attorney stated that he will try and get sample laws from other jurisdictions.

Councilman Darryl Roosa asked what was going to be done about the noise on the lake.

Response: That is already in the Navigation Law.

After discussion a motion was made as follows:

**Great Sacandaga Lake regarding Speed limit**

**MOTION:** Councilman William Gritsavage motioned to have the Town Attorney draw up a Local Law of a 45 MPH Speed limit on the Great Sacandaga Lake within the area of the Town of Northampton.

Seconded by Councilman Art Simmons and passed by,

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

Abstain-0

Motion Carried

Warren (Skip) Taylor noted that there are a few problems with Code Enforcement. Having him one day a week he stated has to be creating a problem. He is unaware of the overlay. Mr. Taylor talked of a three story building in the Sacandaga Park, a shed on McKinley Ave. being demolished. There is another house in the Village that has been designated historic thru the Landmark Commission and that can be a problem because the Landmark Commission is not in operation right now.

Discussion ensued on the home in the Sacandaga Park because it met all the codes.

Do you think we should restore the Historic Landmark asked Mr. Taylor?

Response: It was thought that there was a group in the Sacandaga Park that took care of that.

Mr. Taylor stated that no there was not. He would like to see them put together a Town of Northampton Historic Landmark Commission and would encourage the Village of Northville to join.

Mr. Taylor stated that he will gather letters from people who would be interested.

It is extremely hard to find a Code Enforcement Officer and it was stated that the Town was very lucky to get Todd.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- Monthly Transfers for Abstract of Audited vouchers
- Monthly Report of Revenues & Expenditures
- Charter Communications - Upcoming changes
- Fulton Co. Board of Supervisors Resolution 247: Resolution Revising the Pay Schedule for Election Inspectors (Board of Elections)

**Code Enforcement:** A total of \$1,330.00 was collected in fees and a total of (11) permits were issued in July 2021; 1- Well/septic; 1-Garage/well; 1-Home renovation; 1-Single home; 1-3-Car Garage; 1-Demolition; 1-New roof/siding; 1-Storage Building; 1-Storage Building; 1-Well; 1-Fence; 1- 2-Story Home; and 3-Municipal Searches.

**MOTION:** Councilman Darryl Roosa approved the July 2021 Code Enforcement Report as presented.

Seconded by Councilwoman Molly Zullo and passed by,

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

Abstain-0

Motion Carried

**Highway: July 2021 Report**

**Roads:**

-Replaced 160 feet culverts

-Repair numerous road washouts

- Ground 9 roadside tree stumps on Collins Gifford Valley Road
- Completed 4 miles of roadside ditching
- Scheduled paving for Collins Gifford Valley Road
- Completed crack sealing on Skiff Road, Horton Road, Tennantville Road and one half of the Bunker Hill Road

**Repairs/Maintenance**

- Serviced 2020 Ford F-350
- Truck #2 repairs
- Truck #3 accident helping the Town of Providence with paving – that is in the hands of the insurance adjustor right now and we are waiting to hear back. We are looking at two years down the road for a new truck. That is one of our main plow trucks and I have be in contact a couple other towns and the State if we do have to borrow or rent in the meantime.
- Supervisor Groff inquired about hiring road crew. Mr. Cramer stated that he has received 2 applications and is reviewing them.

**Justice:**

**MOTION:** Councilman William Gritsavage motioned to accept the Justices’ Report, there were a total of 23 cases handled and \$2,968.00 was collected in fines for the month, seconded by Councilwoman Molly Zullo and passed by,

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

Abstain – 0

Motion Carried

**Zoning:** The Zoning Board meeting scheduled for July 28, 2021 has been cancelled due to no new business coming before the board.

**Planning Board:** The Town of Northampton Planning Board cancelled the August 2021 meeting due to no new business coming before the board.

**Ambulance:** The Town Attorney will provide information that he has gathered regarding the Ambulance Contract for the Town Board for the next regular Board meeting.

**Hardfill:** The month of July 2021 a total of \$45.00 was collected in Tire fees.  
Monday and Tuesday it will be open 8 a.m. to 12 noon.  
Friday and Saturday will remain regular hours.

**Refuse and Garbage:** Monday, September 6, 2021, Labor Day, is an official holiday, the transfer station will be **closed**.

September 10<sup>th</sup> will be the last Friday of the summer schedule. The winter hours for the station will take effect Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup> and run through May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Monday	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saturday	8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**HAULING FEES:** The month of July 2021 fees were as follows:

County Transfer Haul	55.02 Ton @ \$53	\$2,916.06
Municipal Direct Haul	77.36 Ton @ \$33	\$2,552.88
Curbside Recycling	13.74 Ton @ \$30	\$ 412.20
Transfer Station Recycling	3.85 Ton @ \$20	\$ 77.00
Metal Hauling Fee	4.87 Ton @ \$20	\$ 97.40
Total		\$6,055.54

**SACANDAGA PARK WATER & SEWER:**

**July 2021**

**Water:**

-July 2020 usage – 2,096,000 gallons pumped

-July 2021 usage –1,531,000 gallons pumped

**Meters**

-Reading meters and billing according to usage.

-Replacing meters with reading errors and correcting backward running meters as necessary.

**Repairs/Maintenance**

-No problems to report.

**Wastewater**

-July 2020 daily average flow – 4,900 gallons

-July 2021 daily average flow – 43,343 gallons

**Repairs/Maintenance:**

-Still waiting for computer for wastewater treatment plant to enable me to connect to flow meter.

-Removed 5 truckloads sludge from treatment plant

-Had a wastewater plant inspection done today. A bracket is broken and it is affecting the flow. The outflow is supposed to be perfectly level and I already had it in the works to be repaired. Welding needs to be done.

-Mr. Cramer stated that he has not heard anything from Andy Bell regarding the NY Bridge Grant application for the Spillway repairs/replacement on S. Main St. on whether we made it or not with the first round.

Bookkeeper Nathaniel Matthews was asked if he has heard anything on the American Rescue Act (ARPA) COVID Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. Mr. Matthews stated that the 50% of main allocation (Summer 2021) was received in the amount of \$77,171.87 to the Town but they have not given us the okay to what the actual guidelines are on how we can use the money.

**TOWN CLERK:**

**MOTION:** Councilman William Gritsavage motioned to approve the Town Clerk’s July 2021 monthly report as presented by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Councilman Darryl Roosa and passed by, A Vote of 5-Ayes: James Groff, William Gritsavage, Darryl Roosa, Art Simmons and Molly Zullo  
Nays-0

Abstain-0

Motion Carried

**08/01/2021**

**Town Clerk Monthly Report  
July 01, 2021 - July 31, 2021  
:**

Account# Local Share	Account Description	Fee Description	Qty
A1255 28.49	Conservation	Conservation	18
	Death Certificate 50.00	Death Certificate	5
	Town Clerk Fees 50.00	Marriage License	4
		<b>Sub-Total:</b>	
		<b>\$128.49</b>	
A2130 520.00	Transfer Station	Transfer Station	52
		<b>Sub-Total:</b>	
		<b>\$520.00</b>	
A2544 0.00	Dog Licensing	Exempt Dogs	1
		Female, Spayed 105.00	15
		Female, Unspayed 13.00	1
		Male, Neutered 70.00	10
		Male, Unneutered 39.00	3
		<b>Sub-Total:</b>	
		<b>\$227.00</b>	
A2770 3.00	Photo Copy	Photo Copy	12
		<b>Sub-Total:</b>	
		<b>\$3.00</b>	
B2555 1,255.00	Building Permits	Building Permits	11
		<b>Sub-Total:</b>	
		<b>\$1,255.00</b>	
B2770 75.00	Municipal Searches	Municipal Searches	3
		<b>Sub-Total:</b>	
		<b>\$75.00</b>	
		<b>Total Local Shares Remitted:</b>	
		<b>\$2,208.49</b>	
Amount paid to:	New York State DOH for Marriage Licenses		90.00

Amount paid to: NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program	37.00
Amount paid to: NYS Environmental Conservation	792.51

<b>Total State, County &amp; Local Revenues:</b>	<b>\$3,128.00</b>	<b>Total Non-Local Revenues:</b>
<b>\$919.51</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
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**RES. #2021-13: Fulton County Highway Department 2021-2022 Snow Removal and Ice Control Contract.**

Councilman Darryl Roosa offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Councilman Art Simmons seconded the motion.

Acceptance of proposal by Town of Northampton to undertake Snow Removal and Ice Control for the winter of 2021-2022 on County Roads designated as follows-

Co Road No.	113	Miles	1.46
	123		1.91
	130		0.52
	143		1.56
	149		1.16
	152		<u>3.02</u>

Total Miles: 9.63

Price Per Mile: \$5,000.00

Total Contract: \$48,150.00

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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

0-Nays

0-Abstain

**OLD BUSINESS:** Attorney Michael Albanese has drafted a letter regarding the Franchise Agreement – Town of Northampton for the Town Board based on the Town Board discussion last month and for approval for him to forward the letter on the Charter Communication.

The Board unanimously agreed for Attorney Albanese to send the letter out to Charter Communication.

The Attorney stated that when he receives the Contract with these changes in it he will then present it to the Town Board for their review and approval.

The Town Board will be holding a Special meeting on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. to review the proposed Town of Northampton Comprehensive Plan, the proposed amendments to the Town of Northampton Zoning and Subdivision Law and the proposed Campground/Park and any other business that comes before the board.

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 7 p.m.

**Adjourn:** Councilman William Gritsavage motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Art Simmons.

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

Nays-0

Abstain-0

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik

Town Clerk