

**THE MINUTES
FOR THE JANUARY 2, 2019
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF NORTHPORT
REGULAR MEETING
6:30 PM.**

PRESENT: Mayor McMullen, Trustees Kehoe, Maline, Milligan and Smith, Village Clerk Donna Koch, Village Attorney Stuart Besen, Village Administrator Tim Brojer, Treasurer Len Marchese Police Chief Bill Ricca.

PRESENTATIONS: no presentations.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: That a public hearing of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Northport will be held on January 2, 2019 at 6:30 PM in the Northport Village Hall 224 Main Street to consider the 2019-2020 tentative budget.

On the motion of Trustee Maline and seconded by Trustee Milligan the public hearing was open:

Treasurer Len Marchese gave some of the highlights to the 2019 - 2020 budget:

This budget does not include any new positions. It funds all contractual raises and salary increases. Eliminates the full time Building Inspectors positions and creates two part time positions, one part time building inspector and one part time plans examiner. Increases in compensation to the Mayor and Trustees. It also funds the new ladder truck and raises for the EMTs. It provides funding for the Wellness Program as well as funding for the 125th Village Anniversary. It comes in at less than a 2% increase and appropriates our reserves at 1.8 million dollars. (primarily to pay for the fire truck and police department pay raises).

Trustee Kehoe stated the article in today's Newsday was a misprint and that Mayor stipend will be raised to \$20,000 and the Trustee raised to \$10,000. Newsday had the Trustees at \$40,000 apiece.

Trustee Maline proposed that the Mayor and Trustee stipend be increased to \$5,000 for each Trustee and \$15,000 to the Mayor, going forward our increase should mirror what the non-bargaining employees get. If we pierce the cap we would not be entitled to any increase.

Mr. Beaudet, asked if the stipend could be done in steps, why such a big increase all at once? Mayor McMullen stated its been over twelve years since any increase. We have researched other Villages and are now on the low side of the average. Mr. Beaudet, questioned if the Mayor drives a Village vehicle. Mayor McMullen answered yes, he drives an older police vehicle when he is on Village business, such as meetings in Huntington. Mr. Beaudet asked if the Mayor or Trustee get mileage reimbursement or

have an expense account. Mayor McMullen responded he does not but Trustee Kehoe does put in for mileage reimbursement when he attends meeting or seminars out east. Brian O’Rielly explained that he serves on the board of a public company and it is very difficult for a governing board to increase their own stipend and he commended the Board with taking this issue on. Mr. O’Reilly felt it was well deserved.

Kathleen Rielly, questioned if the decision of an increase should have been made before the election. Hence maybe then you would get more people interested in running. Mayor McMullen explained that was part of the reason for the increase. As an incentive for other people who might want to run for office. The Village has a lot of projects coming down the road and decisions will have to be made and they may be made by another board besides the one before you.

Sherry Pavone, stated she the supports Trustee Maline suggestion.

Kevin Morris, questioned the need for a new ladder truck. Mr. Brojer explained the present one is over 20 years old and continues to fail inspections.

On the motion of Trustee Kehoe and seconded by Trustee smith the Public Hearing was closed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Sherry Pavone, stated she was disappointed that the owners of 20 James Street failed to follow through with the Villages demands to secure the premises. Mr. Brojer stated they had sent a contractor to board up the windows and straighten up the fence. This was not done to the Villages satisfaction. Mr. Besen is going to write to the owners stating they are deficient. Mayor McMullen stated one of the issues is ownership keeps changing hands. Mr. Brojer explained after the public hearing it is now up to the Board to instruct us to go to the next level. We can issue daily fines at \$200.00 a day. Mayor McMullen stated he felt it was he consensus of the Board to start imposing the fines. Trustee Maline stated it has to be for each violation. It would go before the Village Justice. Every violation would be a misdemeanor under state code.

Josephine Rozzoni, stated the abandoned boat down at Scudder Park remains. They know who the owner is and the owner is working on getting it removed. Mayor McMullen stated since we know who the owner is, we have to follow certain procedure. Impounding a boat is different than impounding a car.

Sherry Pavone complimented the New Year’s Eve fireworks displayed out on by Northport, Centerport Yacht Clubs.

Brian O’Rielly complimented the Village Police and Fire Department on a recent call to The Ritz Restaurant on Woodbine. A patron suffered a medical emergency and the Police were there in ninety seconds. Medical personnel were there in under three minutes.

BOARD APPROVAL OF WARRANT:

On the motion of Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Milligan the following bills were approved for payment.

Fiscal Year 2018/2019 General Fund bills in the amount of \$162,984.85

On the motion of Trustee Milligan and seconded by Trustee Smith the following bills were approved for payment.

Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Capital Fund bills in the amount of \$12,250.00

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Trustee Maline, reported we have posted the two part time positions for the building department.

Trustee Smith, thanked everyone for the kick off of the 125th anniversary of the Village beginning with the New Year's Eve Fireworks.

Trustee Kehoe had nothing to report this evening.

Trustee Milligan reported the Clerk's office was busy fielding phone calls regarding recycling. Huntington's robo call did not help the Village when it stated recycling would be cans and bottles where in fact it is the opposite.

Mayor McMullen had no report this evening.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT:

In December of 2018 the Northport Police Department responded to 374 calls for service, issued 147 summonses and made 6 arrests.

Detective Peter Howard and Police Officer Robert Ramonetti were presented with departmental Life Saving Award for reviving an overdose victim who was unconscious, not breathing and who had no pulse.

Attached is the 2018 Police Department Annual Report. The highlight of the report is that crime rates continue to fall after hitting a peak in 2016. Criminal Mischief (damage to property) and Petit Larceny (theft of property) are down significantly. Also showing large drops are drug, marijuana and DWI offenses as well as overall arrests and Motor Vehicle Crashes. In 2018 Nassau County saw an overall crime drop of 6.3% and Suffolk County a drop of 12%. In Northport we enjoyed a drop of 38.4% of overall crime in 2018. That is on top of a 25% drop in 2017, from the 2016 numbers.

I attribute this large decline to several factors. First, the relentless pursuit of drug dealers' users by the Northport Police Department. We have choked off their industry and the side effects of crime that is committed to fuel the habit. Secondly, the department has an intimate working relationship with our law enforcement partners throughout Suffolk County allowing us to share intelligence and resources. And lastly, our continued use of technology such as video surveillance, license plate readers and state of the art computer networks of our own and that of our county wide partners.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT: nothing to report this evening.

TREASURER’S REPORT: report given during public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS: no new business.

OLD BUSINESS: no old business.

CORRESPONDENCE:

REQUESTS: 1. Request from Visiting Nurse Services to hold “Run for the Health of It” Saturday May 11, 2019 from 8:00 am till 10:30 am. The Board approved this request.

RESOLUTIONS:

On the motion of Trustee Maline and seconded by Trustee Milligan the following resolution was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2019 -1 ~ APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 19, 2018 MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED: The minutes of the December 19, 2018, meeting are hereby accepted.

The following resolution was put to a roll call vote:

Trustee Maline ~ YES

Trustee Milligan ~ YES

Trustee Smith ~ YES

Mayor McMullen ~ YES

Trustee Kehoe ~ YES

RESOLUTION 2019 - 2 ~ APPROVAL OF 2019-2020~ BUDGET

WHEREAS: The Board of Trustees has met at the time and place specified in the notice of hearing on the tentative budget and heard all persons desiring to be heard therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED: That the tentative budget for the fiscal year March 1, 2019 to February 28, 2020, as hereinafter set forth is hereby adopted and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That there is hereby levied a tax of \$12,485,574. for said fiscal year, to which said budget is applicable upon the last completed assessment roll, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Village Clerk is authorized to extend and carry out upon the tax roll the amount to be collected from each of the persons named thereon.

On the motion of Trustee Milligan and seconded by Trustee Smith the following resolution was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2019 –3 ~ PARAMEDIC

BE IT RESOLVED: Kristofer Martin, has been approved pending the completion of background check, for hire as paid Paramedic in the Incorporated Village of Northport, and

WHEREAS: each Paramedic will work no more than 17.5 hours a week at a rate of pay of \$25.00 per hour

On the motion of Trustee Milligan and seconded by Trustee Smith the following resolution was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2019 – 4 ~ 20 JAMES STREET

WHEREAS: Michael Bode, Attorney for the property owners of 20 James Street Northport was to appear at the continuation of the Public hearing on said property January 2, 2019 and failed to appear, and

WHEREAS: Pursuant to the continuation of the hearing the owners of 20 James St. have not complied with the directive of the Village of Northport Board of Trustees to erect a security fence around said property for the health and welfare of the general public, so

BE IT RESOLVED: The Village of Northport hereby directs the property owner of 20 James St. to secure said property by the close of business January 4th, 2019, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: If the owner fails to do so by said date and time the Northport Village Board of Trustees hereby instructs the Village Administrator to commence the securing of said property by erecting a chain link fence on said property to the satisfaction of the Administrator. And to take all steps necessary to ensure the safety and welfare of the general public.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on January 15, 2019 at 6:30 P.M

A RESOLUTION FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION: if necessary, for personnel and/or litigation matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Koch
Village Clerk

