

MINUTES
January 4th, 2022 – 6:00 PM.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF NORTHPORT
REGULAR MEETING

Please note – this meeting was held via Zoom video conferencing.

PRESENT: Mayor McMullen, Trustee Milligan, Trustee Kehoe, Trustee Weber, Village Attorney Stuart Besen, Treasurer Len Marchese, Police Chief Chris Hughes, Village Administrator Roland Buzard, Assistant to the Mayor Don Tesoriero, Village Clerk Amy Grandy.
Absent: Village Attorney Edward Gathman

OPEN MEETING: Meeting called to order at 6:04pm by Mayor McMullen

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PROCLAMATIONS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Clerk Grandy read a synopsis of the launch of the NYS Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) to support homeowners who have experienced financial hardship — either a loss of income or increase in living expenses — as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic. Mayor McMullen recommended placing this information of the Village’s website.

PRESENTATIONS: None

REQUESTS: A request was received from Tim Hess of Shipwreck diner stating that Senator Gaughran nominated the diner for landmark status and Tim requested a letter to support his application. Clerk Grandy stated she had received information detailing some of the history from Stephen King the village historian. The mayor and board agreed to support the application.

PUBLIC HEARING:

On the motion of Trustee Kehoe and seconded by Trustee Weber, the following public hearing was opened.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES – McMullen, Milligan, Kehoe, Weber
 NOES - None

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: that a public hearing of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Northport will be held remotely on Tuesday, January 4th, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

to consider the tentative budget for said Village for the fiscal year
March 1, 2022 to February 28, 2023.

Mayor McMullen started the discussion and presented the budget as the fiscal plan for the following year within the New York State 2% tax cap guidelines while controlling expenses. He asked Treasurer Len Marchese to give more details and Mr. Marchese added that the budget provides for managing the fund balance to a level of 18-20% of expenditures, funding the LOSAP contribution, contractual staff raises, and capital improvements. He spoke of the Village's major initiatives: the street lighting program, the expansion of the Bluff Point sewer system- which will be paid by a NYS grant, improvements to the village dock substructure- which will be paid with the final allocation of the federal stimulus funding and the acquisition of a much needed police vehicle.

There were no board comments at this point.

The first resident to speak was Donna Koch who asked for a breakdown of how the Federal Stimulus was spent. Treasurer Marchese didn't have the exact breakdown but said it was spent on the park equipment, the police patrol boat and dock repairs. Ms. Koch also asked about the Local 342 contract which Mr. Marchese responded that it expires at the end of March and negotiations have begun. He projected that it would be ready for board review in 4-6 weeks. Trustee Kehoe commented that during his first years on the Board in 2006 the union wouldn't negotiate so there were three years of zero increase so he is glad to see that negotiations have already started.

The next resident to speak was Joseph Sabia who commented again that he felt with the increased income and the increased expenses on the public, he felt the village should not raise taxes this year.

Resident Michael Bento asked what type of fund the fireman's pension is held in and what the fee structure was, The Mayor asked Mr. Marchese to respond and he stated that it is managed by a third party – Capital Trust and is invested conservatively with half in mutual funds and half in bonds. It averages 6-7% annual returns and is charged a flat fee of 50 basis points.

Resident Jeff Moses asked what capital projects are planned for the next five years. The mayor responded by listing the street light project, dock refurbishment, sewer expansion and road repair and Mr. Marchese added drainage on Main Street and the bulkhead north of the dock but these projects may qualify for state or federal funding or cost share with Huntington.

The Mayor made a final statement that the budget is in good shape and that the village has a double A plus rating which allow us to borrow money at a low rate if needed and he thanked the treasury department for their hard work and the other departments for their care in how the spend the residents' money. He also stated that the federal funding was a one-time opportunity and spending on major infrastructure projects was the best choice for those funds.

On the motion of Trustee Milligan and seconded by Trustee Weber, the following public hearing was opened.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES – McMullen, Milligan, Kehoe, Weber
 NOES – None

The mayor asked Clerk Grandy to do the vote on the Budget resolution at this time.

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

RESOLUTION 2022 - 2 ~ APPROVAL OF 2022-2023~ 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, 2022 to February 28, 2023, as hereinafter set forth is hereby adopted and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That there is hereby levied a tax of \$13,250,068 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.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES – McMullen, Milligan, Kehoe, Weber
 NOES - none

BOARD APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:

On the motion of Trustee Milligan and seconded by Trustee Kehoe, the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Fiscal Year 2021/2022 General Fund bills in the amount of \$94,476.23

On the motion of Trustee Kehoe and seconded by Trustee Weber, the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$4,063.02

On the motion of Trustee Kehoe and seconded by Trustee Milligan, the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Payroll Week (12/30/21) General Fund \$252,589.03

On the motion of Trustee Milligan and seconded by Trustee Kehoe, the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Payroll Week (12/30/21) Sewer Fund \$15,311.23

BUSINESS/COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

Trustee Kehoe reported that he has once again addressed the issue at the shopping center at 395 Ft. Salonga Road and that the Village Administrator and Code Compliance have also become involved.

Trustee Milligan started by recognizing the outstanding effort of the Police department through the holiday season. He also reported on the update of the pump-out agreement with the Town of Huntington. TOH has plans to redo the Woodbine bulkhead and he is working on a joint effort for pump-out facilities for this summer which will again be paid for by grant so it will not be a burden on the taxpayers.

Trustee Weber reported that he was working with Clerk Grandy in conjunction with The Building department to develop a set of procedures to document and track complaints, which

had not been done in the past. A system is being worked on so that complaints can be tracked and follow up monitored.

TREASURER REPORT: none

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT: Chief Hughes reported that in December the Police department responded to 418 calls for service, issued 110 summonses and made 15 arrests. Chief Hughes also reported on one arrest that merited special recognition. He detailed how on Christmas morning a 9-1-1 call was received from a resident who woke to find her back door open and the Christmas gifts missing. Officer Devin Gerow and Patrick O'Brien responded, interviewed the resident and began a canvas of the area. They noticed a white van parked in the vicinity. When they approached the van, they observed one subject sleeping in the front seat and can see another subject in the rear of the van with several gifts that had obviously just been unwrapped. Upon assistance from Detective Kerekes and after further investigation, the gifts were determined to be those that were taken from the home of the caller and both subjects were arrested; one being charged with burglary and one charged with criminal possession of stolen property. Detective Kerekes and Police Officers Gerow and O'Brien have been recognized by the department and have been cited for exceptional police duty.

Chief Hughes also reported that the new dispatcher started her training this week and is currently training and that the department taken delivery of the new police vehicle that had been ordered last March. It will be on the road shortly, and the vehicle it's replacing will be repurposed for the Building Department.

CORRESPONDENCE: none

NOTICES: none

RESOLUTIONS:

On the motion of Trustee Kehoe and seconded by Trustee Milligan, the following resolution was unanimously approved with correction.

RESOLUTION: 2022 – 1 ~ APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED: The minutes of the December 21st, 2021 meeting are hereby accepted.

A correction was noted on resolution 2021-275 that Easter had been left off the Holiday Calendar.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES – McMullen, Milligan, Kehoe, Weber
 NOES - none

RESOLUTION 2022 - 2 ~ APPROVAL OF 2022-2023~ BUDGET –

Note: approved earlier in the meeting.

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

RESOLUTION 2022 – 3 ~ BUDGET TRANSFER

BE IT RESOLVED: The Village Treasurer is hereby authorized to make the following budget transfers; see annexed Schedule “A”.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES – McMullen, Milligan, Kehoe, Weber
 NOES - none

On the motion of Trustee Weber and seconded by Trustee Kehoe, the following resolution was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION: 2021 – 4 ~ SEWER RENT FEES CORRECTION

WHEREAS, an error was found in the initial reporting of the annual sewer rate at the Board of Trustees meeting of October 19, 2021 and the rate of 4.75 was entered into the record at that time (Resolution 2021-235)

BE IT RESOLVED: the rate factor on Sewer Rent Fees for the period of 7//2020-6/30/2021 was calculated at 4.47 per 1,000 gallons of water effective October 1st 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES – McMullen, Milligan, Kehoe, Weber
 NOES - none

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

RESOLUTION: 2022 – 5 ~ AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH TROY AND BANKS CONSULTANTS LLC

WHEREAS, the Village of Northport is desirous to enter into an agreement with Troy and Banks Consultants LLC to conduct a cable television franchise fee compliance audit for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of the franchise fees paid or due to the Client

WHEREAS, compensation for this service will be a contingency fee of fifty percent (50%) of the underpayments identified and recoverable and,

WHEREAS, the execution of an agreement is a Type II action pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Section 617.5(c) (18)(21), and therefore no further SEQRA review is required.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Northport Village Board hereby authorizes the Mayor to execute an agreement with Troy and Banks Consultants LLC subject to attorney review for form and content.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES – McMullen, Milligan, Kehoe, Weber
 NOES - none

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

RESOLUTION 2022 – 6 ~ POLLING PLACE AND HOURS OF ELECTION

BE IT RESOLVED: that the General Election for the Incorporated Village of Northport will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2022 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

The polling place for each election district shall be the Village Hall, 224 Main Street, Northport, NY 11768.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES – McMullen, Milligan, Kehoe, Weber
NOES - none

The following two resolutions were added to the agenda during the meeting.

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

RESOLUTION: 2022 – 7 ~ AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT WITH NORTHPORT ROTARY

BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign a contract agreement with the Northport Rotary to solicit, collect and donate funds from the sale of bricks for the maintenance of the Village’s FLUPSY dock (Oyster floating, upwelling system), subject to Attorney review for form and content

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the execution of an agreement is a Type II action pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Section 617.5(c) (18)(21), and therefore no further SEQRA review is required.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES – McMullen, Milligan, Kehoe, Weber
NOES - none

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

RESOLUTION: 2022– 8 ~ PURCHASE OF COVID TESTS KITS

WHEREAS: The Village Administrator has determined the need for the village to have access to rapid Covid Tests for employee use

WHEREAS: The Village Administrator has found available tests thru CenMed Enterprises at a rate of \$5280.00 for 300 2-piece test kits

WHEREAS: The tests kits are not current available thru state contract sources

WHEREAS: this is a type II action pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Section 617.5(c)(31), and, therefore, no further SEQRA review is required, now therefore.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Village Board has determined that this purchase is an emergency purchase, pursuant to the Village of Northport Procurement Policy - item 6b, and that the Village Board of Trustees authorizes the Village Administrator to purchase said tests.

Trustee Kehoe commented that he had received an email regarding bulk sales for municipalities and Mayor McMullen responded that Joy Nygren has tried to purchase them but they are either unavailable or there is a long waiting period or the price was too high. He continued that He stated that it is important to continue to be proactive in acquiring supplies such as gloves, sanitizer and masks and now tests to keep the village government running through the pandemic.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES – McMullen, Milligan, Kehoe, Weber
NOES - none

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- The first resident to speak was Josephine Rizzoni who asked if the results from the forensic audit were ready. Mayor McMullen responded that they were expected in another week or so and would be shared at that time.
- Next to speak was Gina Paveglio. She referred to an email she had sent the previous day and asked the Mayor to commit to a date to respond. The Mayor requested that Clerk Grandy follow up.
- Next to speak was Joseph Sabia who thanked the police department for their continued responses to the Fish Market situation and also asked for more information on the situation at Guinta's and when the tent at Robkes would be coming down. The Mayor responded that the issue at the shopping center was with garbage overflow and the Village administrator and Code enforcement were taking care of it. In response to the Robke's question, the Mayor responded that the guidelines are still changing but he would follow up with the Village Administrator.
- Next to speak was Effie Huber who asked when the village garbage carter contract is up and also raised an issue with E-waste items again being left on curbs and being picked up by truck drivers. Mayor McMullen stated that we are in the last year of the three year contract and said that we still have the recycling service at Scudder Beach and that he would contact the carter again to remind them. She also asked a general question about a recent police hire currently attending the Police academy. Mayor McMullen responded that the two recent hires were a new dispatcher and a part-time seasonal cadet who is unpaid.
- Next to speak was Donna Koch who read a statement regarding an off camera conversation that she felt was improper for lack of transparency although it had been confirmed a legal with the village attorney.
- Blair Beaudet asked again about the cost of the fence at the Fish market property. Mayor McMullen responded that no supplies were purchased, only two additional sections of fence were installed and that it wasn't a curb cut but an added curb to control water flow. Trustee Weber added that the project cost \$3300 and \$5906.40 and was submitted for CHIPS funding so there was no cost to taxpayers. Village Administrator Buzard responded that CHIPS funding is at 100%. Mr. Beaudet also asked about who pays for the police cadets training and Chief Hughes responded that the Police Academy is paid for through county police services. This cadet was sponsored by the Village due to her experience as a village detention attendant. The academy is four nights a week on Saturdays and she attends on her own time and is not paid.

On the motion of Trustee Kehoe and seconded by Trustee Milligan, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02pm.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES – McMullen, Milligan, Kehoe, Weber
 NOES - none

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be January 18, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Please note: this meeting will be held via virtual Zoom video conference and not at Village Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Grandy , Village Clerk

Inc. Village of		Schedule A	
Northport		1/4/2022	
Budget Transfers		2021	
AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION LINE	APPROPRIATION LINE	AMOUNT
	FROM	TO	
\$ 7,000.00	A.1110.0411	A.1110.0400	\$ 7,000.00
	Justice - Reimb NYS	Justice Contractual Exp	
\$ 9,500.00	A.1325.0100	A.1325.0101	\$ 8,200.00
	Treasurer Salaries	Treasurer's Overtime	
		A.1325.0112	\$ 1,300.00
		Treasurer's Paid Benefits	
\$ 13,000.00	A.9901.0900	A.1440.0400	\$ 13,000.00
	Transfer to Other Funds	Contractual Expenses	
\$ 15,000.00	A.1620.0409.0001	A.1620.0409	\$ 7,300.00
	Village Buildings - R & M	Village Hall Bld. Misc	
		A.1620.0401	\$ 3,700.00
		Village Utilites	
		A.1620.0409.0002	\$ 4,000.00
		Misc Expense Beach Ave	
\$ 15,500.00	A.1640.0411	A.1640.0403	\$ 15,500.00
	Repairs to Equipment	Highway Gas, Diesel Fuel	
\$ 4,700.00	A.9901.0900	A.1640.0409	\$ 4,700.00
	Transfer to Other Funds	Garage Misc Expense	

\$ 4,000.00	A.9901.0900	A.1910.0400	\$ 4,000.00
	Transfer to Other Funds	Insurance Premiums	
\$ 8,700.00	A.3120.0409	A.3120.0200.0001	\$ 8,700.00
	Police Misc Exp	Equipment Computer Upgrade	
\$ 23,500.00	A.0000.2706	A.3120.0211	\$ 23,500.00
	Grants - local Gov't 911	E911 Grant Equipment	
\$ 47,000.00	A.3410.0100	A.3410.0101	\$ 35,000.00
	Fire Houseman Salaries	Fire Houseman Overtime	
		A.3410.0111	\$ 12,000.00
		Temporary Houseman Salaries	
\$ 1,500.00	A.3410.0401.0001	A.3410.0401	\$ 1,500.00
	Substation Utilites	Fire Department Utilites	
\$ 600.00	A.3410.0444	A..3410.0414	\$ 600.00
	Substation Expenses	Fire Department Bldg	
\$ 1,500.00	A.3620.0100	A.3620.0111	\$ 1,500.00
	BLDG Housing Salaries	BLDG/Housing P/T Sal	
\$ 20,000.00	A.5110.0100	A.5110.0101	\$ 15,000.00
	Highway Salaries	Highway Overtime	
		A.5110.0112	\$ 5,000.00
		Highway Paid Benefits	

\$ 10,000.00	A.5110.0407	A.5110.0409	\$ 13,000.00
	Street Signs and Posts	Highway Misc Exp	
		A.5110.0423	\$ 1,500.00
\$ 5,000.00	A.5110.0406	Highway Uniforms	
	Patching & Paving Supply	A.5110.0420	\$ 500.00
		Highway Auto Insurance	

\$ 11,500.00	A.5182.0200	A.5182.0400	\$ 11,500.00
	Street Lighting Equip	Street Lights Contractors	
\$ 7,500.00	A.7140.0409.0003	A.7140.0409	\$ 7,500.00
	Parks Garden Expense	Park Misc Expenses	
\$ 3,000.00	A.8540.0400.0001	A.8540.0400	\$ 3,000.00
	Expense Storm Water Lab	Drainage Contractual	
\$ 1,000.00	A.9901.0900	A.8989.0400	\$ 1,000.00
	Transfer to Other Funds	Aches Expense	
\$ 46,000.00	A.9901.0900	A.9010.0801	\$ 46,000.00
	Transfer to Other Funds	NYS Retirment	
\$ 2,100.00	G.0000.2122.0002	G.0000.2128	\$ 2,100.00
	Sewer Service	Int/Penal/Sewer	
\$ 12,500.00	G.8130.0401	G.1650.0400	\$ 12,500.00
	Sewer Plant Utilites	Telephone Bills	
\$ 2,000.00	G.8120.0409	G.8120.0401	\$ 2,000.00
	Misc Expense	Sewer Lines Utilites	
\$ 10,000.00	G.8130.0404	G.8130.0400	\$ 16,000.00
	Sewer Plant Chemicals	Sewer Plant Repairs	
\$ 6,000.00	G.8130.0404.0001		
	Sewer Plant Lab		
\$ 5,000.00	G.8130.0404.0001	G.8130.0405	\$ 5,000.00
	Sewer Plant Lab	Materials Sludge & Grit Removal	
\$ 151,000.00	A.0000.03501	A.5112.0200	\$ 151,000.00
	Chips Program	Chips /Perm/Improve	