

MINUTES
JANUARY 2, 2024 – 6:00 PM.
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF NORTHPORT
REGULAR MEETING

Meeting was held live at Village Hall, 224 Main Street Northport, NY 11768 and also via Zoom.

PRESENT: Mayor Koch, Deputy Mayor Dolan, Trustee Weber, Trustee Sabia, Trustee Pucillo, Attorney John Bennett, Treasurer Siobhan Costello, Deputy Treasurer Janine D’Orio, Village Clerk Georgina Cavagnaro

ABSENT: Chief Hughes, Assistant to the Mayor Don Tesoriero, Village Administrator Roland Buzard

ZOOM ATTENDANTS: Donald Tesoriero, May Silberstein, Sue Stillwagon, Phyllis Weber, Judy Stamod, Judy Stamos, Tom McCarthy, J W, B H, Joanne Kountourakis, Joseph Cavagnaro, Jennifer Borden, Cynthia Mack, Chrissy Ruggeri, Deborah Frueh, Abigail Adams, Elaine Meyburg, Susan Suvall, Donald Blixt, Ralph Notaristefano, Darrell Padilla

OPEN MEETING: Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

PRESENTATION: None

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Dolan, a motion was made to open the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Please take notice that a public hearing of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Northport will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in Village Hall, 224 Main Street, Northport, NY, to consider the tentative budget for fiscal year March 1, 2024 to February 28, 2025.

A copy of the Tentative Budget is available at the office of the Village Clerk where it can be inspected by any interested person during normal business hours.

The proposed compensation to each Board member shall be as follows:

Mayor \$22,739.00 annually
Trustee \$11,370.00 annually

Treasurer Siobhan Costello made the following report on the proposed budget;

Revenues:

- Village taxes will increase 1.44% across the board, well below the NYS mandated tax cap law and previous years budgets
- Revenue from a PILOT in the amount of \$42,000 has been added
- Revenue from the Town of Huntington and the Village of Asharoken for fire protection districts will increase by 2% from previous year plus an additional reimbursement for paramedic services
- Appropriates fund balance of \$800,000 to help offset tax increases and is to be transferred to the Capital Fund to fund Capital Improvements

Expenditures:

- Provides for a general negotiated Collective Bargaining Agreement which includes salary increases of 2.75% across the board for all village union workers, administrative staff, Mayor and Trustees, as well as the PBA contract that provides for a 2.75% increase
- Continues funding to the Fire Department LOSAP (volunteer retirement fund). The total annual funding is \$325,000
- Provides funding for an additional Village vehicle in the Police Department, Highway Department and Sewer Department
- Provides funding to fully fund the Fire Department equipment reserve account
- Provides funding for 24-hour paramedic services
- Provides funding for part-time Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's)
- Provides for renewing the existing Refuse Collection Contract with a 0% increase for the next year.

Trustee Pucillo expressed his concerns with the budget regarding miscellaneous expenses.

Senior Fire House Attendant, John McKenna reported the following on Fire Department miscellaneous expenses;

Original 2024-2025 budget reflected a 19.57% increase. The budget was revised **7 times** and ultimately submitted w/ 3.47% increase. The village finance committee further reduced that to 2.16%.

The department deleted several requested/needed items from their proposed budget, including:

- \$1500.00 in hardware
- \$300.00 from fire chiefs' cell phones
- \$500.00 from fire hose repair
- \$35,838.09 from misc. equipment

ie: deleted officer hand lights
 deleted hand tool replacement
 deleted cordless impact gun & sockets
 deleted chimney pole/brush replacement
 reduced commissioner's expenses
 deleted life safety rescue ropes & bags
 reduced amount for turnout gear maint.
 reduced amount for turnout boots, hoods & gloves
 reduced amount for extrication gloves
 reduced amount for scba batteries
 reduced amount for firefighter physicals

\$4000.00 from bls EMS equipment

\$600.00 from fire police equipment

\$5000.00 from fire dept recruitment & training

\$7500.00 from outside truck repair

AND MORE.

0409 line includes everything that does not fall into the State's other defined lines.

This is an **example** of **some** of the content of the 0409-line submitted for the 2024-2025 budget:

MISC. EXPENSES	\$ 20,000.00
COMMISSIONERS EXPENSES	\$ 2,500.00
FIREFIGHTER PHYSICALS	\$10,000.00
- INCLUDING HEP. B AND TB TITERS	
TURNOUT GEAR - STRUCTURAL FF GEAR	\$45,000.00
TURNOUT GEAR - MAINT AND REPAIR	\$ 8,500.00
TURNOUT GEAR - RESCUE SQUAD SETS	\$ 7,000.00
TURNOUT GEAR - BOOTS, GLOVES, HOODS	\$ 7,000.00
EXTRICATION GLOVES	\$ 1,300.00
SCOTT PACK PARTS AND ACCYS	\$ 3,500.00
SCOTT PACK BATTERIES	\$ 1,500.00
SCOTT MASK REPLACEMENT AV 3000	\$ 2,500.00
SCOTT BOTTLE REPLACEMENT	\$13,760.00
HAND TOOL REPLACEMENT (TRUCKS)	\$ 2,000.00
STREAMLIGHT BATTS AND PARTS	\$ 1,500.00
ANNUAL INSPECTION, INSTALLATION & AWARDS DINNER	\$20,000.00
2 - RAD 57 COHqb METERS	\$ 1,000.00
2 - DRAEGER MULTI GAS METERS	\$ 4,000.00

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Pucillo, and agreed by all, a motion was made for the public hearing to be held open until the January 16, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting. A budget workshop will be held on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 9:00 AM. Recording of public hearing available on village website northportny.gov

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Recording available on Village website; Northportny.gov

BOARD APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Dolan, the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Governmental Funds bills 1/2/24 in the amount of \$112,346.78

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Dolan, the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Payroll week 12/29/23 General Fund \$377,180.59

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

Payroll week 12/29/23 Sewer Fund \$14,634.70

BUSINESS/COMMISSIONERS REPORTS: No reports

TREASURER REPORT: Nothing further to report

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REQUESTS: None

RESOLUTIONS:

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Dolan, the following resolution was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2024 – 1 ~ APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED, the minutes of the December 19, 2023 meeting are hereby accepted.

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

RESOLUTION 2024 – 2 ~ 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 19, 2024 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. The polling place for each election district shall be Village Hall, 224 Main Street, Northport, NY 11768.

The following resolution was placed on hold.

RESOLUTION 2024 - 3 ~ APPROVAL OF 2024 - 2025 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, 2024 to February 28, 2025, as hereinafter set forth is hereby adopted and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there is hereby levied a tax of \$13,637,520.00 for said fiscal year, to which said budget is applicable upon the last completed assessment roll, and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT 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.

The following resolution was placed on hold.

RESOLUTION 2024 – 4 ~ AUDITING FIRM

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 firm of Nawrocki Smith is hereby retained to assist the Village for the fiscal year ending 2/29/2024 audit in an amount not to exceed \$36,000.00 (Thirty-Six Thousand dollars).

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 6:00 PM with a continuation of the public hearing on the tentative budget for fiscal year March 1, 2024 to February 28, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Georgina Cavagnaro
Village Clerk