

Town of Norfolk  
Norfolk Town Board Meeting  
August 12, 2021

The Norfolk Town Board held its Monthly Meeting on Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 6:00 PM at the Norfolk Town Hall.

Present: Supervisor Charles Pernice, Deputy Supervisor Robert Harvey, Councilwoman Jean Gang, Councilman Donald Purvis and Councilman Paul Paige.

Also in attendance: Budget Officer William Dashnaw

**PLEDGE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Supervisor Pernice called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the July 15, 2021 Town Board Meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted with a motion by Councilwoman Gang and Councilman Purvis. All in Favor - Carried

**2022 BUDGET INITIAL DISCUSSION**

Budget Officer Bill Dashnaw opened the discussion by giving an overview of the steps and deadlines for development and approval of the 2022 Town of Norfolk Budget. He requested everyone get their numbers to him as soon as possible so he can prepare the Tentative 2022 Budget for next meeting and have it be as complete as possible. Next budget work session will be Thursday September 9, 2021 at 5:00pm at the Norfolk Town Hall. With that, he requested the board make salary decisions now so they can be firmed up and included in the worksheets prior to the next budget work session.

Supervisor Pernice noted that the premium increase for MVP Health Insurance is 1.3% (the lowest in quite some time).

A 2.5% salary increase for all town employees and elected officials was proposed by Supervisor Pernice and approved with a motion by Councilman Paige and Councilwoman Gang. All in Favor - Carried.

A proposed change to remove the \$500 paid annually to the Deputy Town Supervisor and instead pay to the Town Board was made with a motion by Councilwoman Gang and Councilman Paige.

Roll call vote requested by Supervisor Pernice.

Supervisor Pernice	No
Councilwoman Gang	Yes
Councilman Purvis	Yes
Deputy Supervisor Harvey	No
Councilman Paige	Yes

Motion Carried with 3 Yes and 2 No votes.

There was discussion as to exactly who made up the Town Board in the preceding motion. Town Supervisor included making it split 5 ways or Town Supervisor excluded, allocating the \$500 to the 4 councilman/councilwoman. Town Clerk Jill Molnar clarified that the motion was worded as the Town Board (of which the Town Supervisor is a member) therefore allocating the \$500 be split 5 ways at @\$100 ea.

A proposed a change to eliminate the \$500 paid annually to the Town Board (per the preceding motion) was made with a motion by Supervisor Pernice and Deputy Supervisor Harvey.

Roll call vote requested by Supervisor Pernice.

Supervisor Pernice	Yes
Councilwoman Gang	No
Councilman Purvis	No
Deputy Supervisor Harvey	Yes
Councilman Paige	No

Motion Denied with 2 Yes and 3 No votes.

There was more discussion.

A proposed change to specify that the \$500 allocated to the Town Board be allocated to the Town Board's 4 councilmen/councilwoman @ 125\$ ea and not to include the Town Supervisor was approved with a motion by Councilwoman Gang and Councilman Paige.

Roll call vote requested by Supervisor Pernice.

Supervisor Pernice	No
Councilwoman Gang	Yes
Councilman Purvis	Yes
Deputy Supervisor Harvey	No
Councilman Paige	Yes

Motion Carried with 3 Yes and 2 No votes.

Update regarding the American Rescue Plan / Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds that have been applied for:

- A check for \$224,620.71 has been received and deposited into a separate NBT account (basically acts as a reserve account).
- Funds may be used to:
  - address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency
    - cost of extra time off for highway crew
  - replace lost public sector revenue
    - court revenue, arena revenue
  - provide premium pay for essential workers
  - invest in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure
- There are specific procedures that need to be followed to be able to use the funds. Needs to be looked into further.

Other projects to be considered for the budget

- more sidewalk repair / replacement work?
- upgrade computers / infrastructure / support?
  - Councilwoman Gang recommended using a graduate student from Clarkson – she will look into that.

The 2022 Budget Initial Discussion was closed with a motion by Councilwoman Gang and Councilman Purvis. All in Favor – Carried.

## **SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE**

- Supervisor Pernice noted that the building permit mandate for roof work was discussed at the June 17, 2021 Town Board Meeting and pointed out that just having discussions about changing our requirements was not enough to actually change the requirement. Therefore unless and until the Town Board takes such action, the current requirement that all roof work requires and building permit to be applied for and issued will remain in effect. (churches also must obtain a building permit but we don't charge a fee)
  
- Supervisor Pernice also noted that an area variance has been applied for by the property owner at 3 Island Street to build a garage in the front yard that is too big to meet setback requirements and also noted that it would actually cover up an existing manhole that is within the 25' town right of way. This cannot be allowed.

## **REPORTS**

\*Monthly Police Report: The report of the Police Department was reviewed and approved as submitted with a motion by Councilman Purvis and Deputy Supervisor Harvey. All in Favor – Carried

\*Monthly Code Enforcement Report: The monthly report of CEO Leonard Halpern was reviewed and approved as submitted with a motion by Deputy Supervisor Harvey and Councilwoman Gang. All in Favor – Carried

\*Monthly Town Clerk Report: The monthly report of Town Clerk Jill Molnar was reviewed and approved as submitted with a motion by Councilwoman Gang and Deputy Supervisor Harvey. All in Favor - Carried

\*Monthly Dog Control Report: The monthly report of Dog Control Officer James McConkey was reviewed and approved with a motion by Councilman Purvis and Councilwoman Gang. All in Favor – Carried

\*Monthly Court Report: The monthly court report was reviewed and approved with a motion by Councilwoman Gang and Supervisor Pernice. All in Favor – Carried

- Supervisor Pernice also noted that court revenue is way down.

\*Verbal Highway Report: Highway Superintendent Peter Darabon noted the following:

- New boiler for the Town Hall bldg has been ordered
- Got Sewer Plant ready for inspection
- Magnesium has been put on all the dirt roads (4)
- Doing annual maintenance on all the fire hydrants, paint's been ordered and the NFD will do the painting
- Shouldered Sober Street
- Hauled blacktop for Waddington
- Repaired water main break at intersection of Morris & Hutchins Streets

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

## **ACTION ITEMS**

\* Matthew Tessier (Raquette River Racing) gave an update on a race they are putting together for 3/26/2022. It would be a marathon qualifying course and hopefully certified by the Boston Marathon. The course would start at Pine Street Arena in Potsdam, come through Norfolk on Sober Street, West Main Street, River Road to Hwy 310 in Raymondville where the runners would then turn and run the return course back the same route back to the starting point. Town Board was in agreement to provide Town Police resources to help with traffic control and 1-2 portable toilets.

\* Revisions to Town Code Chapter 150 Land Use and Development / Article X Special Uses / K Recreational, commercial and Chapter 150 Land Use and Development / Article XII Terminology – Public Utility were approved with a motion by Supervisor Pernice and Deputy Supervisor Harvey. All in Favor – Carried

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilwoman Gang asked where we were with getting the Sexual Harassment Training set up. Supervisor Pernice noted that we are working on it. Looking for date(s) from Kate Chepeleff (CITEC).

Councilman Paige asked where we were with getting new signs in Raymondville. Supervisor Pernice noted that we need to get measurements and the poles need to be replaced.

## **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

The August Abstract of Vouchers in the amount of \$ **427,562.62** was reviewed and approved for payment with a motion by Councilwoman Gang and Deputy Supervisor Harvey. All in Favor – Carried

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Norfolk Fall Festival

- Dates 9/30/21 – 10/3/21
- Kickoff with Spaghetti Dinner at NFD
- Fireworks, rides, craft/vendor fair, etc. being planned
- Block Dance – looking into whether or not to serve alcohol
- Majority of activities planned to be held in and around the arena

Decision to approve \$5,000 for the event was approved with a motion by Councilman Purvis and Councilwoman Gang. All in Favor – Carried

Illegal ATV Traffic on Murphy Road

- There is a significant increase in unsafe ATV/ Side by side traffic on the Murphy Road that is loud and potentially dangerous. In the afternoon and also late at night. Town Police have been made aware.

County Legislator John Burke noted that funding has been received for combating invasive species in Black Lack and asked if there were any local waterways that needed attention. There were none noted.

County Legislator Jon Burke also noted that the SLIC had lost their case in court for reduced assessment and was appealing to the NYS supreme court. The County Legislature has requested that the county attorney work with the local attorneys to fight this.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Supervisor Pernice and Deputy Supervisor Harvey. All in Favor – Carried

Supervisor – Charles Pernice  
Deputy Supervisor – Robert Harvey  
Councilman – Donald Purvis  
Councilwoman – Jean Gang  
Councilman – Paul Paige

Dated: August 24, 2021

Jill M. Molnar – Norfolk Town Clerk