

The Village of Northfield

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

January 26, 2011

Council President, Beatrice Greenlee called the meeting to order at 7:34PM following the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called by Lisa Rodriguez with the following present: Mrs. Greenlee, Mrs. Selle, Mr. Nehez, Mr. Bolek and Mrs. Bowen. Mr. Noack was absent. Law Director Brad Bryan, Fire Chief Gary Vojtush and were present.

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2011 Regular Council meeting, made by Mrs. Bowen and seconded by Mr. Bolek. The motion carried with 5 ayes.

There was no business of petitions, memorials and remonstrances.

Council president, Mrs. Greenlee had Law Director Mr. Bryan read Resolution 2011-11 through Resolution 2011-22, an emergency Resolution confirming the Mayor's appointment of Stephanie Balochko, Daniel Dopslaf, Matthew Hendrickson, Joshua Jarzab, Steve Keyser, Paul Nees, John Petro, Brian Pearson, Jeffrey Regets, Seth Robinson, Jeff Vidmar and Kelly Whapham as a part-time fire fighters with the Village's fire department. Mr. Bolek made a motion and seconded by Mrs. Greenlee, to suspend the three-reading rule, it carried with 5 ayes. A motion for passage was made by Mrs. Greenlee and seconded by Mrs. Bowen and it passed with 5 ayes. Chief Vojtush administered oath of office to all twelve new fire department candidates and welcomed them to the fire department.

Council President, Mrs. Greenlee had nothing for the Mayor's report.

Finance Director, Robert Riedel was absent so Administrative Assistant, Lisa Rodriguez asked for a motion to accept the Mayor's Court report for December 2010 as submitted, motion made by Mrs. Bowen and seconded by Mrs. Greenlee, carried with 5 aye votes.

Law Director Brad Bryan had no report. Mr. Bolek asked where we were at with Plaza Management, he said he knows that they went to court and paid \$300 in fines, if they don't do what we need them to do are we going to charge them again and Mr. Bryan said yes we will charge them again if they are not doing what they supposed to be doing. Mr. Bryan said the sign stuff is taken care of, they have done some of the painting, obviously that can't deal with that now and they will deal with that when the weather breaks. Mr. Bolek said ok so we are following up with that. Mr. Nehez asked if we every found out about the Goodwill awning since it was crushed and it looks horrible. Mr. Bolek said that due to the weather they probably can't fix it, Mrs. Greenlee said most likely in the spring, and Mr. Bolek said yes, it does look like a truck hit it.

Fire Chief Vojtush had no report but did say that the call volume if it stays the way it is, we will end up with about 950 calls for the year. Mr. Bolek asked Chief Vojtush if he could provide a report like the mayor's court report on a monthly basis, what we bill and what we brought in for ambulance billing. Chief Vojtush said no he can not, but the billing company does report that to Bob. Mr. Bolek asked that when a Walton Hills person needs an ambulance we don't bill their insurance, and Chief Vojtush said we bill everyones insurance. Mr. Bryan said that he did some research and we can send people to collections and the residents of Northfield Village and Walton Hills and businesses can be treated differently. Chief Vojtush said we will need to talk to the Mayor. Mrs. Greenlee said that maybe we could have a meeting to discuss that.

Mrs. Greenlee of the Planning commission had no report.

Mrs. Bowen of the Finance committee had Mr. Bryan read Ordinance 2011-08, an emergency Ordinance approving the payment of bills for the month of January 2011. Motion made by Mrs. Bowen and seconded by Mrs. Greenlee and carried with 5 ayes.

Mrs. Selle of the Road and Public Works Committee said that she spoke to Jason Walters before the meeting and he intended to attend but it was his 20 year wedding anniversary and his kids had a surprise for him and his wife. Mr. Walters told her that they have had some small vehicle repairs, they have been plowing and salting the roads and they are full with salt and she didn't get a tonage count from Jason on how much salt has been used. Mr. Walters told Mrs. Selle that most of the guys are sick and trying to get better.

Mr. Bolek of the Health and Welfare Committee had no report.

Mr. Nehez of the Building and Grounds Committee had no report.

Mr. Noack of Wages and Working was absent.

Mrs. Greenlee of the Fire and Safety committee gave her report. (See attached) Mrs. Greenlee asked Chief Vojtush if Council could attend the training session at 6:30pm on next Tuesday. Chief Vojtush said they could attend but most likely with all of the trainees Council won't be able to try the equipment but could be there to watch and be in the picture. Chief Vojtush told Mrs. Greenlee that he hopes to have the new fire truck in service next Tuesday night. Mrs. Greenlee asked Chief Vojtush if we were definitely staying with Macedonia for dispatching, and Chief Vojtush said yes. Chief Vojtush said that had discussions about Walton Hills to dispatch their own calls, that way it doesn't cost us anything extra going through Macedonia, because we pay them per call and whatever the rate is. Walton Hills has been working on the radio over there to get the up and working and maybe by Monday it will be done. Chief Vojtush said by their buildings over there it is like a dead zone. Mr. Bryan said it would be a little faster, and Chief Vojtush said then we don't have to relay from Macedonia on the phone, and Walton Hills is very open to this, they want to be able to do this, and they did that for Oakwood.

Mr. Bryan read Resolution 2011-09, an emergency Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a loan agreement with Key Government Finance, Inc. in connection with the purchase of the pierce 1500 gpm fire truck. A motion to suspend the three-reading rule was made by Mrs. Bowen and seconded by Mrs. Greenlee, and carried with 5 ayes. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Nehez and seconded by Mr. Bolek and passed with 5 aye votes. Mr. Bryan read Resolution 2011-10, an emergency Resolution authorizing certain amendments to the temporary appropriation ordinance. Mr. Bryan said that this is related to the fire department and the Walton Hills issues and also an increase in the state improvement fund, to pay something. A motion to suspend the three-reading rule was made by Mrs. Bowen and seconded by Mrs. Greenlee, and carried with 5 ayes. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Nehez and seconded by Mrs. Greenlee and passed with 5 aye votes.

In the old business, Mr. Nehez said that the Plaza car wash is ugly and ready to fall down. He said that the sign is falling off, there are pieces of the roofing all over, cones, bikes, weeds on the back side when you exit. Mr. Nehez asked if there was anything that could be done, tear it down or do something because it is discusting. Mr. Bryan said that we have legislation on the books where we can site them for exterior conditions, problems, we can go in board it up and charge them. Mr. Bryan said as far as causing them to knock it down, if it is some kind of safety hazard we could but if it is not, then we would have to get Summit County involved. Mr. Nehez said he doesn't ever see it becoming a car wash again and Mrs. Greenlee agreed. Mr. Nehez said he doesn't see anyone retrofitting that building into a bank, so there is no purpose for it and it needs to be torn down. Mr. Bolek said that we can't get a condemned house torn down let a lone a commercial building. Mrs. Rodriguez said that she received two more calls on that house on May Ave from potential buyers. Mr. Bolek said that it is a shame because the new style car washes where you drive your car in and it electronically washes your car, Mr. Bolek said the Village could use one of those, and there isn't one in the area anywhere, it is too bad. Mr. Nehez said that the On The Go Gas Station that is closed, needs to take down their sign. Mrs. Greenlee asked Mr. Bryan if there is anything that can be done with the Plaza Car Wash, and Mr. Bryan said yes we have ordinances that address appearance of exteriors and property, Mr. Nehez said it is cheaper to tear it down. Mr. Bolek said that there is a building in Northfield Center that has been boarded up for 30 years, and Mr. Nehez said he doesn't want to see this car wash boarded up for 30 years, I just wanted to see something done with it. Mrs. Rodriguez said to Mrs. Greenlee that Mr. Walters did take pictures of the car wash, and she said she would forward the pictures to Mr. Nehez and Mr. Bryan. Mr. Bolek asked about the Across the Nation that has been open for awhile and the sign is still up for Coming Soon and a temporary sign up which needs to be addresssed and the Dollar General sign is half lit and half not. Mr. Bolek said that the new gambling place in the Village seems to be doing very well, and Mr. Bryan said we will see when December's revenue statement comes in and Mrs. Greenlee said how often will we get those and Mr. Bryan said monthly. Mr. Bolek said that Dusk Til Dawn is one of the only businesses in town that doesn't have a sign that says open, because their sign actually works. Mr. Nehez said that Across the Nation needs to purchase a good sign to go up on the building, Mr. Bolek said that they bought the sign from the high school and Lisa Rodriguez said that Jason Walters told them absolutely not, and they are going through Classic Designs for the signage now. Mr. Bryan said atleast one call a day he receives about other people interested in putting an internet cafe here, and Lisa Rodriguez said that she receives atleast a couple a week and she directs those calls to Mr. Bryan to talk to. Mrs. Greenlee said that they are making money. Mr. Nehez said that he understands that Jason is an extremely busy person and the four guys they do an amazing job but the Plaza doesn't make it any easier for him at all, for any of us. Mr. Nehez said that we are only trying to help the Plaza to bring in more business, and if I was opening a business and I saw a run down car wash and these weeds everywhere and torn down flapping signs, well the rent is cheap that is why I am going elsewhere. Mr. Nehez said that there are three poles out front by Handel's that can be taken down, how hard is it to get Mr. Chaney out there to cut down the signs. Mr. Nehez said how hard is it to get a dumpster, put it behind the Plaza and throw all of the garbage in the dumpster, Mr. Nehez said he doesn't understand why this is so hard. Mr. Bolek said it is because they choose to not do it. Mr. Nehez said that maybe we need to pass something by Council on where they need to pay more, obviously the \$300 isn't scaring them one bit. Mrs. Greenlee asked Mr. Bryan if we have ordinance on what we can actually charge, and Mr. Bryan said it depends on the actual offense and the maximum was \$100 and they were charged the maximum. Mr. Bolek said it is almost like we need to ask Jason to go around one day a week going around citing people, and there is surely enough things in this town to

cite people for but he just doesn't have the time and staff, and that has been an issue for years now is that they don't have enough employees. Mr. Nehez said Mr. Walters does a great job at what he does, and I am not saying that he is looking over it or anything like that, he does an incredible job for what he has, but Mr. Nehez said he gets so many complaints about this Plaza he is just sick of it. Mr. Bolek said that atleast with the winter you don't have to look at the weeds, and Mr. Nehez said that everyone says it is a ghetto plaza. Mr. Bolek said atleast by them opening the new gambling place they atleast moved the dumpster, and Mrs. Greenlee said that truck is still sitting there and Mr. Bolek said yes there is. Mr. Nehez said it is actually going to help their business by fixing it up and maybe can charge a little bit more for rent because people would want to move there.

Mrs. Greenlee said that Mayor Milani is feeling pretty well today when she spoke with him, and Mrs. Rodriguez said yes he is doing his therapy couple times and Mrs. Greenlee said that we wish him well. Mr. Nehez said he didn't come back in the three weeks, and Mrs. Greenlee said no he hasn't.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06PM following a motion by Mr. Bolek and seconded by Mrs. Greenlee. The motion carried with 5 ayes.

Respectfully Submitted by; _____
Lisa M. Rodriguez, Administrative Clerk

Attest:

President of Council

Clerk of Council