

The Village of Northfield

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

February 8, 2012

Mayor Jesse Nehez called the meeting to order at 7:30PM following the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll was called by Finance Director, Bill Day with the following Councilpersons present: Beatrice Greenlee, Karyn Selle, Mary Volny, John Schlueter, John Bolek and Linda Bowen. Law Director Brad Bryan, Police Chief Mark Wentz, Fire Chief Gary Vojtush and Village Engineer Richard Wasosky were also present.

Mayor Nehez asked for a motion to to approve the amended December 28, 2011 council meeting minutes. A motion was made by Linda Bowen and seconded by Beatrice Greenlee and carried with 6 ayes.

There was no business of petitions, memorials and remonstrances.

Mayor Nehez reported that on February 9th at 7:30pm he will attend a meeting with Northfield Center and Sagamore Hills along with Mayor Hurst of Walton Hills regarding the fire district. Pictures were taken of the employees at Village Hall today for the Village website and everything went wonderful.

Finance Director, Bill Day had no report and stated we have gotten through some illness here but everything is going well.

Village Engineer Richard Wasosky gave his report. (See attached) John Bolek asked what Richard Wasosky is recommendation was regarding Visconsi. Rich stated that his recommendation is that Council can pass it if Visconsi complied. Rich stated that he will email to let us know if he received it before his vacation.

Richard Wasosky discussed the drainage problem in the rear area of the residents on May Ave. Mayor Nehez asked if it was caused by Eaton Estates? Rich stated no. John Bolek asked what the problem was. Richard Wasosky stated that the problem this year is that we have had 65" of rain. A swail drain should have been installed behind Aldi's. John Bolek asked if it needs a water retention basin installed and Mr. Wasosky stated no they need a swail and that is private property. The Village should not be spending any money there at all. John Bolek stated that there is a new part on the bill with a new fee. Richard Wasosky stated that they said next January. Brad Bryan stated that Summit County is working on a program.

Law Director Brad Bryan had no report.

Police Chief Mark Wentz stated that he gave everyone copies of the Watch Captains Guide Book of the Block Watch program. Everything in that book will be available online for use. Officer Fred Jones will be your contact for this program, working along with Officer Zajac, Officer Olesinski and Officer Grams. Chief Wentz suggested to setup an organizational meeting with Officer Jones and go from there. John Bolek stated that years ago with the Block Watch when children didn't feel safe, will we still have a contact house. Chief Wentz and Beatrice Greenlee stated that will all be discussed during these organizational meetings as a community. Mayor Nehez thanked Chief Wentz for his professional job like he always does.

Chief Wentz heard that in regards to the school levy, he has heard that bussing is not coming back. So the parking on the Ledge Rd. berm has become our problem. Jason Walters has received many nasty phone calls regarding this matter. Chief Wentz and Lt. Mackie have a meeting Friday morning with the school superintendent to get this sorted out. Chief Wentz stated that he already discussed with them that the Village cannot provide them with law enforcement traffic control on a daily basis. Mary Volny stated, what if there was a fire. They will have to have alternative directions. John Bolek stated that there has to have traffic flow for emergency vehicles to be able to get through.

Fire Chief Gary Vojtush had no report. Dino's Tattooz is opened and Red's Fitness should be opening soon. Chief Vojtush stated that they had a meeting with the County regarding the fire district. There are a couple places that need suppressed this year and a couple next year, with a 10 year plan for all. Whenever they get ready to put a new tenant into the Plaza they will put in a fire detection system and then they can't put a new person in until the suppression is done. Chief Vojtush stated that they are waiting for Mr. Shafron's attorney to put together the documentation. John Bolek stated this 10 year plan was done in the past and wasn't followed and are there specific penalties put in this? Chief Vojtush stated no penalties were discussed and 10 years down the road we could be in the same boat. Brad Bryan stated the question is, is this really right? Chief Vojtush stated that for safety wise he would like the whole Plaza done, and they are about 2/3's of the way done now. Karyn Selle asked if the fitness center has a suppression, and Chief Vojtush stated yes. John Bolek stated that Plaza Management stated that they were being singled out that they were having to comply when other people weren't and that there is some international fire code that they already

meet. Chief Vojtush stated that there is a code, but Plaza Mgmt. was trying to state that they were covered walls and this is why the County gave them the change to put a in sprinkler system this time. John Bolek asked if the businesses in the Village are required to provide the fire department with the MSDS products that are in their building? Chief Vojtush said yes they are but they don't get many of them, that they do ask when they do their inspection.

Beatrice Greenlee of the Planning Commission stated there will be a Planning Commission meeting on February 15th at 7:30pm.

Linda Bowen, of the Finance committee stated that there will be a finance committee meeting at 6:30pm on Wednesday, February 22, 2012.

Karyn Selle, of the Roads and Public Works Committee had no report.

Mary Volny, of the Health and Welfare Committee had no report.

John Bolek of the Building and Grounds Committee stated that they had a meeting tonight and asked to have maps submitted for all of the Village's parks with all playgrounds, fields and fences etc...and Jason Walters stated that he has never seen a map with those items on them. Richard Wasosky stated that we don't have maps. Huntington Park we have a plan of improvements since Mr. Wasosky has been with the Village. Smith Park they have a plan of the driveway and parking lot area, but not ball field or pavilion. Pitluk Preserve they have the plat and parking area off of Electric. John Bolek asked Rich Wasosky if he could obtain copies of the park maps for the Mayor and recreation board, so that they can see if they are utilizing their parks to the best of their ability by asking the residents and maybe refiguring some of the parks and their uses. John Bolek asked how would we contract Conrail to see if they would give us an easement on the end of our park. Rich Wasosky stated that Conrail is out of Jacksonville Florida, and that it is in Macedonia. It takes them forever to get anything through. Mary Volny said that it would be nice to have a parking area for the people that utilize the ball field, instead of them parking on the street.

John Schlueter, of the Wages and Working Committee reported that he and Brad Bryan stated that the draft of the contract for the police department is good and he just mailed it off, and once it is signed then Council can approve. John Schlueter stated that they are still thinking about the fire department raise and the training session went well with the Village fire department at John Schlueter's place of work in Walton Hills.

Mayor Nehez had Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-08, an emergency Resolution pertaining to the rate of pay for the Chief of Police. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Beatrice Greenlee and seconded by Linda Bowen. A motion for passage was made by Beatrice Greenlee and seconded by Linda Bowen and carried with 6 aye votes.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-09, an emergency Resolution pertaining to the rate of pay for the Building and Zoning Inspector. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by John Bolek and seconded by Karyn Selle. A motion for passage was made by John Bolek and seconded by Karyn Selle and carried with 6 aye votes.

Brad Bryan read 2012-10, an emergency Resolution pertaining to the rate of pay for the Director of Law. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Linda Bowen and seconded by Beatrice Greenlee. A motion for passage was made by Beatrice Greenlee and seconded by Linda Bowen. John Bolek thanked Brad Bryan for putting together his memorandum regarding the information from the surrounding communities Law Director's, he stated it was very informative. John Bolek asked for this piece of legislation be amended to add "not to exceed under the hourly, \$50,000 plus the \$27,000 to make it \$77,000, then Brad Bryan can come back to us before we exceeded that amount". John Bolek noticed that the hourly rate of \$113.00 is very conservative. Brad Bryan stated that he has always tried to make the billing as reasonable as possible and over the past several years he has cut the monthly bill by a substantial amount. Karyn Selle asked for more of an explanation. John Bolek stated that at the end of last year he was concerned with the line item that went from \$115,000 to \$120,000 for the Law Director. John Bolek stated that Brad Bryan did state that the bills were \$80,000-\$90,000 so John stated he didn't understand why we were going from \$115,000 to \$120,000 when we were only paying \$90,000. Brad Bryan stated that the \$90,000 was the budget for the department. Which consists of the Magistrate's pay, taxes, PERS, settlement for lawsuits that would have been paid, appraiser and expert fees. Brad Bryan said that last year there was more litigation going on the prior year. There would be a cap of \$18,000 less than last year. John Schlueter stated that he feels that Brad Bryan has always done a great job and is always quick to respond to phone calls. Mayor Nehez and Linda Bowen agreed. Mayor Nehez stated that he appreciates the time that Brad Bryan always takes to help people even when he is on vacation. There was no second for the amendment. The motion carried with 5 aye votes from Karyn Selle, Mary Volny, John Schlueter, Beatrice Greenlee and Linda Bowen; 1 nay from John Bolek.

Beatrice Greenlee of the Fire and Safety Committee asked Chief Vojtush if he sold the washing machine and he stated yes on Friday it will be moved. Beatrice Greenlee confirmed that the selling price was \$500 and Chief Vojtush stated yes. Beatrice Greenlee stated that Chief Wentz will be looking for a part-timer to replace Eric Gregus who is going to Lorain County and Marc Smith will be leaving in April or May. Chief Wentz stated that they are looking for one part-time officer.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-11, an emergency Ordinance adopting and implementing the procedures set forth in sections 5722.02 through 5722.15 of the Ohio Revised Code to facilitate the effective reutilization of nonproductive land in the Village of Northfield. Brad Bryan stated that this allows us to opt into the Ohio Revised Codes provisions. If this piece of legislation is approved, they will send us a list of all lands and properties that are under foreclosure currently and any future foreclosures as they arise, and we would have priority rites to get the property in some circumstances, but in other circumstances it could go to foreclosure. This gives us an important tool to control nonproductive properties in the Village. John Schlueter asked if we do acquire a property by purchasing it, can we keep it or sell it? Brad Bryan stated yes we can do either depending on the circumstances.

John Bolek stated that we do want to make a component piece to add to this legislation when we pass it, is to declare that we want to apply for grants, to followup with this piece. Karyn Selle stated that there are many grants available to municipalities. Mayor Nehez stated that this is the first step to that, and there are a lot of things that we can do with this piece of legislation. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by John Bolek and seconded by Karyn Selle. A motion for passage was made by John Bolek and seconded by Karyn Selle. John Bolek stated that this is a great opportunity for the Village. It carried with 6 aye votes.

In the new business, Mayor Nehez stated that he would like Council to schedule a special council meeting. The Mayor stated that there is a consultant that is involved with the revamping of Route 8 who would like to speak to Council. John Bolek asked if it would benefit everyone to present this information at a regular Council meeting. Mayor Nehez stated that he doesn't want a regular meeting tied up. Everyone decided they will meet at 6:30pm on March 14th before the next council meeting.

John Bolek stated that almost 500 people in this Village were without hot water yesterday for over 20 hours, and he feels that Council should address this and produce some legislation to protect tenants.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm. following a motion by Beatrice Greenlee and seconded by Karyn Selle. The motion carried with 6 ayes.

Respectfully Submitted by;

Attest:

Lisa M. Rodriguez, Administrative Clerk
Council

President of Council

Clerk of