

The Village of Northfield

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 26, 2006

Mayor Milani called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM following the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called by Bob Riedel with the following present: Mrs. Greenlee, Mr. Barber, Mr. Nehez, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Lewis and Mrs. Bowen. Law Director Brad Bryan, Fire Chief Gary Vojtush, and Service/Building Superintendent Jason Walters were also present.

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2006 Council meeting was made by Mr. Lewis and seconded by Mrs. Bowen. It carried with 5 ayes and an abstention by Mr. Stewart.

At this time, Mrs. Greenlee made a motion to approve the naming and dedication of the street running from the Fire Department on Route 8 back to the nursing home as Joseph Francus Drive, in honor of Michael Francus's father. Mrs. Bowen seconded, and the street dedication was approved with 6 aye votes. Joseph Francus's widow Connie was presented with a sign in honor of her late husband, and photos were taken to commemorate the event.

In Petitions, Memorials and Remonstrances, Mike McNutt, Watershed Coordinator for the newly formed Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners, introduced himself and spoke about the organization, which fosters environmental stewardship, offering technical, educational and NPDES assistance to communities in the watershed district.

Mayor Milani reported that he had met Monday with Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson to discuss the gambling Issue. Mayor Jackson offered some assurance that he would attempt to change the wording of the issue from "county seat" to "host city" to ensure that the Village would receive revenues from Northfield Park's up-front licensing fee. Estimated revenues would be between \$2½ and \$3 million per year, based on \$400,000,000 profits. It will cost the Village in the neighborhood of \$300,000 to accommodate the plan. The Sunoco station is set to open May 1st, provided the revised prints are okayed by the County. Also pending County approval, Willie Trowsdell's empty white building will begin to be occupied on June 1st. The Mayor concluded his report with the news that Village revenues for the year are up.

Finance Director Bob Riedel had nothing to report at this time. Mrs. Greenlee made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Bowen, to approve the disposal of Cheryl's old computer. The motion carried with 6 ayes.

The Mayor announced that the Cemetery Association meeting is set for Thursday, May 11th at 7:00 PM at Macedonia Town Hall. Mr. Stewart reported that the Cemetery Assn. had underestimated the cost of an addition to their garage to the tune of \$60,000 initially. They are apparently attempting to recoup the difference, as our bill from the Association is up by \$5000.00.

Law Director Brad Bryan had no report. Fire Chief Gary Vojtush had no written report, but reminded Council that fire hydrant testing will begin on May 1st.

Service/Building Superintendent Jason Walters presented his report, a copy of which is attached. Jason thanked the Mayor and Council for the flowers for his grandfather's funeral. He reported that the new dump truck is now in service. Pot holes have been cold patched, and hot patching will begin in mid-May. About 20 catch basins need rebuilding. Half of the 20 will be completely torn out. Six picnic tables are being stained for use at the parks, and bleachers have been set up. Jessica Prescott of 146 Fell Avenue has fired Palsa Development, and Palsa will be banned by the Village as a registered contractor due to numerous problems.

Mrs. Greenlee reported that Planning Commission met on April 19th and recommended Council approval of Howard Shafron's proposed expansion of the fenced play area at the Nordonia Hills Daycare by an additional 1000 square feet. Mr. Nehez asked if this would be the same as the existing fence, and Jason answered that it is. Mrs. Greenlee made a motion for approval, Mrs. Bowen seconded, and the motion carried with 6 ayes. At this time, there is no Planning Commission meeting scheduled for May.

Brad read Ordinance 2006-17, an emergency Ordinance approving the payment of bills for the month of April, 2006. A motion for passage was made by Mrs. Greenlee and seconded by Mrs. Bowen, and the payments were approved with 6 aye votes.

There were no reports from Roads and Public Works or Health and Welfare. Mr. Stewart reported that the Buildings and Grounds committee had met on Monday night. Mrs. Bowen wanted it on record that Peter had been negligent in not calling her, Bea Greenlee, or Brian Barber to notify them of the meeting. She stated this is in violation of the Sunshine Law. Mr. Stewart stated he hadn't realized it was required, and in turn questioned Linda's abilities to run the committee in the past. He called for a work session on Monday, May 15th at 7:30 PM, and the Mayor suggested discussing the Fire District proposal at the work session as well. Mr. Lewis retorted that he was informed of the cancellation of the Tuesday fire consortium meeting, but had never been informed that a meeting had been scheduled in the first place. The Mayor stated that he thought the Fire meeting had been announced at a Council meeting and that it had definitely been reported in the local newspapers. Mr. Lewis apparently felt that he and certain others had been slighted in not having been notified of the meeting which had, in any event, been cancelled.

There were no reports from Wages and Working Conditions or Fire and Safety. In Old Business, Jesse Nehez thanked the Mayor, Arch Milani, Roger Stone, and everyone else who was involved in planting the ten trees graciously donated by Mr. Nehez for the parks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM following a motion by Mrs. Greenlee and second by Mrs. Bowen. The motion carried with 6 ayes.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Cheryl Kennon, Administrative Clerk

Attest:

President of Council _____

Clerk of Council