

The Village of Northfield

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

October 23, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jesse J. Nehez at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited

ROLL CALL: The Roll Call was taken by the Finance Director, Monica James. The following were present: Mayor Jesse J. Nehez; Mary Volny, John Schlueter, Linda Bowen, Karyn Selle, and Beatrice Greenlee. In addition, Law Director, Brad Bryan, Finance Director Monica James, Fire Chief Jason Buss and Service/Building Supervisor Jason Walters were present. Councilman Nick Magistrelli, Village Engineer Richard Wasosky and Police Chief Mark Wentz were not present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion for approval of the October 9, 2013 minutes was made by Karyn Selle seconded by Mary Volny, passed with 5 ayes, Nick Magistrelli was absent.

GUEST SPEAKER: ReWorks Executive Director, Yolanda Walker - The Draft Solid Waste Plan
Was unable to be present

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES:

Teddy Kursik/250 Summit Ave stated that the former Mayor and Fire Chief promised to replace his metal poles that had been destroyed by an emergency vehicle.

Mr. Walters stated he would replace the poles but due to Village Ordinances, they cannot be erected. Mr. Walters also asked if he would like the poles painted.

Mr. Kursik stated no they do not need to be painted and he had not problem with the poles not being replaced in the yard.

Mayor Nehez announced would deviate from the Agenda.

Council President, MaryVolny stated Council would vote on all eight Resolutions as a whole.

Resolution 2013-113 – 1st Reading – An Emergency Resolution Confirming The Mayor/Director Of Public Safety's Appointment Of Paul Celinski As a Part-Time Firefighter.

Resolution 2013-114 – 1st Reading – An Emergency Resolution Confirming The Mayor/Director Of Public Safety's Appointment of Russell Harris As A Part-Time Firefighter

Resolution 2013-115 – 1st Reading – An Emergency Resolution Confirming The Mayor/Director Of Public Safety's Appointment of David Johnson As A Part-Time Firefighter

Resolution 2013-116 – 1st Reading – An Emergency Resolution Confirming The Mayor/Director Of Public Safety's Appointment Of Daniel Lane As a Part-Time Firefighter

Resolution 2013-117 – 1st Reading – An Emergency Resolution Confirming The Mayor/Director Of Public Safety's Appointment Of Joseph Lanigan As a Part-Time Firefighter

Resolution 2013-118 – 1st Reading – An Emergency Resolution Confirming The Mayor/Director Of Public Safety's Appointment Of Ryan Milligan As a Part-Time Firefighter

Resolution 2013-119 – 1st Reading – An Emergency Resolution Confirming The Mayor/Director Of Public Safety's Appointment Of Christian Roe As a Part-Time Firefighter

Resolution 2013-120 – 1st Reading – An Emergency Resolution Confirming The Mayor/Director Of Public Safety's Appointment Of Ryan Sholtis As a Part-Time Firefighter

A motion to suspend the three reading rules was made by Linda Bowen seconded by Mary Volny, passed with 5 ayes, Nick Magistrelli absent.

A motion for passage was made by Beatrice Greenlee seconded by John Schlueter, passed with 5 ayes, Nick Magistrelli absent

New members of the Fire Department were sworn-in by Chief Jason Buss

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS:

- A. MAYOR JESSE J. NEHEZ** stated the \$1 million to be received from the State should be presented for payment in the next 5-7 business days. The second \$1million should be received 6 months after that date. Mayor Nehez also stated he has been working with Mr. Walters, looking at signs for along Route 8
- B. FINANCE DIRECTOR MONICA A. JAMES** stated she had attended the State Auditor's Continuing Education in Hudson, OH. The Training class was very informative, especially the updates to OPERS. One change is employees that are paid per (anything), is no longer considered earnable salary. Only employees paid per hour can continue to have OPERS taken from their payroll. Mrs. James stated she would contact Mr. Wasosky and Mr. Walters; any contract awarded by the Village, the contractor must sign paperwork acknowledging they are not entitled to OPERS.

Mrs. James also explained the reasons the Payable Ordinance is higher than normal. The payments for the CPR equipment, \$78,464.00 and yearly payment for the Fire Department Building Loan, \$25,099.00 are included. Mrs. James further explained that even though the Fire Department received a Grant for the equipment, the Village received the funds from the Grant; the Village in turn pays the entire invoice.

C. ENGINEER RICHARD WASOSKY, was not present

D. LAW DIRECTOR BRADRIC BRYAN, had nothing to report

E. DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- 1. Police Department, Chief Mark Wentz**, had nothing to report.
- 2. Fire Department, Fire Chief Jason Buss**, see attached report. Chief Buss stated this information is in response to questions that are being raised by residents due to information they are receiving from a former employee, a candidate running for Village Council.
- 3. Service/Bldg Dept. Supervisor, Jason Walters**, see attached report. In addition, Mr. Walters stated a relative that lives in Northfield Village also had questions about information that was received by this former employee running for Village Council. Mr. Walters further stated he has been an employee of the Village for over 20 years and this is the best working relationship that he has seen between Mayor, Council and the employees.

Based on the comments made by Fire Chief Buss and Mr. Walters regarding information that is circulating in campaign literature:

- Mr. Schlueter and Mrs. Volny both stated they have heard rumors that the newsletter will be cancelled once the election is over. Everyone agrees that the news letter is beneficial and no one has any intention of getting rid of it, once the election is over. In fact, ideas to make it better and possible contain more information are all ready being researched.
- Buildings are needed for now and future growth of the Village. Because of the purchase on Ledge road, more room for storage, more comfortable environment for employees to work.
- Vehicles are on are regular maintenance schedule
- An open house of all building may be scheduled to allow the residents to see the accomplishments
- For now, once the purchase of the building next door is finalized, can be torn down and used for much needed parking spaces, especially when Mayor's Court is held

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

- A. **PLANNING COMMISSION**, KARYN SELLE, stated the Planning Commission met on Tuesday, October 15 for a non-standard meeting to discuss the Landscaping Ordinance. Letters were sent to area business and residents, inviting them to the meeting, only 3 residents and 3 land owners were present. Was hoping to receive more input regarding the proposed Landscaping Ordinance. May have another non-standard meeting scheduled for November.
- B. **CEMETERY BOARD**, BEATRICE GREENLEE, had nothing to report.
- C. **RECREATION BOARD**, MAYOR NEHEZ, is still discussing a Village Flag design.
- D. **CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION**, MAYOR NEHEZ stated they were finished for the year.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

- A. **FINANCE**, Karyn Selle stated the Committee had met tonight and the next meeting would be on November 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Ordinance 2013-124 - 1st Reading – An Emergency Ordinance Approving The Payment of Invoices for the 2nd Half of October 2013 in the amount of \$156,778.89

A motion for passage was made by Karyn Selle seconded by John Schlueter, passed with 5 ayes, Nick Magistrelli absent.

The next Finance Committee Meeting will be November 13, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

- B. **ROADS/PUBLIC WORKS**, John Schlueter, wanted to thank Mr. Wasosky and Mr. Walters for the through reports that are presented each week. It is easier to keep informed of matters happening in the Village. Mr. Schlueter asked if the senior's that took advantage of the snow plowing last year were contacted about signing up for this year.
Mr. Walters will have Lisa Rodriguez contact
- C. **HEALTH AND WELFARE**, Beatrice Greenlee, had nothing to report but will be obtaining more information regarding benefits and part-time employees
- D. **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**, Karyn Selle, had nothing to report.
- E. **WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS**, Linda Bowen, had nothing to report

F. FIRE AND SAFETY, Mary Volny, had nothing to report

LEGISLATION:

Ordinance 2013-110 – 1st Reading – An Emergency Ordinance Amending Sections 1266.07, 1266.075 And 1278.01 Of The Planning And Zoning Code Relating To Driveways And Parking Areas

Will be on 3rd reading at the November 13, 2013 meeting

Resolution 2013-121 – 1st Reading – An Emergency Resolution Authorizing Certain Amendments To The Annual Appropriation Ordinance.

A motion was made to suspend the three reading rule was made by Beatrice Greenlee seconded by Linda Bowen, passed with 5 ayes, Nick Magistrelli was absent.

A motion for passage was made by Beatrice Greenlee seconded by Linda Bowen, passed with 5 ayes, Nick Magistrelli was absent.

Ordinance 2013-122 – 1st Reading- An Emergency Ordinance Amending Section 892.01(a) Of the Business Regulation And Taxation Code Relating To The Admissions Tax.

Mr. Walters asked for permission to speak which was granted by Council.

Mr. Walters question the legislation. It seems that a lot of leniency has been given to the Casino project, is a matter of Big Business vs. employees.

Mrs. Volny explained the decrease is only for two (2) years and is more in line with other venues in the area.

Mr. Bryan explained Live Nations attended a work session and explained the Bands decide where and when they will perform, based on the money they will make. If have to pay more in taxes and fees, will look for other venues in the area.

A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Linda Bowen, seconded by Mary Volny, passed with 5 ayes, Nick Magistrelli absent.

A motion for passage was made by Karyn Selle seconded by Linda Bowen, passed with 5 ayes, Nick Magistrelli absent.

Ordinance 2013-123 – 1st Reading – An Emergency Ordinance Amending Section 440.99 Of The Traffic Code Relating To Penalties For Overweight Trucks

A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Mary Volny seconded by Karyn Selle, passed with 5 ayes, Nick Magistrelli absent

A motion for passage was made by Linda Bowen seconded by Mary Volny, passed with 5 ayes, Nick Magistrelli absent.

OLD BUSINESS; NEW BUSINESS; ANNOUNCEMENTS; ADJOURNMENT

Mayor stated with the upcoming Holidays, will need to reschedule some Council Meetings.

Council agrees to hold the meetings on the Monday prior to the Holiday, November 25 and December 23, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

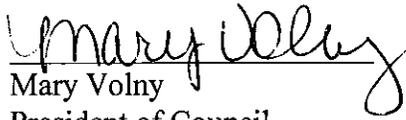
Mrs. Bowen stated the next Blockwatch meeting will be held on November 20 and the guest speakers will be 2 Prosecutors

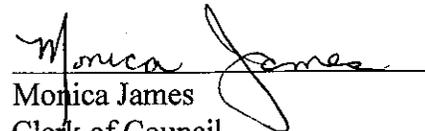
Mr. Schlueter asked that the \$1 million does be kept separate to show how the money is spent.
Mr. Bryan stated has all ready discussed with the Finance Director, Monica James.

A motion was made by Beatrice Greenlee seconded by Linda Bowen for adjournment at 9:23 p.m.,
passed with 5 ayes, Nick Magistrelli absent.

Respectfully submitted by:

Attest:


Mary Volny
President of Council


Monica James
Clerk of Council

The Village of Northfield Fire Department

10271 Northfield Road
Northfield, OH 44067
330-467-7139 ext 22 330-467-7152 FAX
Chief Jason L Buss
330-523-9422 Business Cell
firechief@northfieldvillage-oh.gov

Highlights of Recent Events in 2013

Manpower:

- As of 10/23/2013, there are 40 part time employees of the fire department
- Two employee retirements, six employees moved on to full time positions with other cities, and two employees were let go in 2013 (Total of ten employees)
- NVFD has hired 22 part time employees in the past year
- NVFD has promoted two Captains and two Lieutenants (Pradco Assessment Center)
- NVFD has hired a salaried, part time chief
- NVFD has a part time fire inspector
- Beginning October 27, NVFD will begin to expand staffing, moving the current 9-5 position into a 24 hour position. At the end of this change NVFD will be staffed by three firefighters 24/7
- NVFD now complies with Fair Labor Standards Act laws by having established work periods. NVFD now pays overtime where the law requires it, pays holiday rates to its employees to match what the city's union workers receive, and has made arrangements to comply with the Affordable Care Act.

Public Awareness:

- NVFD has instituted a residential lock box program
- NVFD has created a Facebook page to help improve community knowledge about the department and spread fire safety awareness
- NVFD participates in the quarterly newsletter sent to residents
- Fire Safety Inspector is now working with businesses and residents. He has a dedicated email and phone
- The fire chief has a dedicated city email and phone and is available for contact at any time

Budget:

- NVFD budget for 2013 is about \$612,000 (About 10% less than 2012)
(2010-\$439,476, 2011-\$1,319,072*, 2012-\$683,657*, 2013-\$612,000, Prelim 2014-\$771K)
- In 2011 and part of 2012 NVFD provided fire protection services to Walton Hills. This contract generated over \$400,000 a year of funds for the fire department. This contract was lost in 2012 when Walton Hills desired to contract with Oakwood Fire after being unhappy that services promised, like fire prevention, were not be delivered to the community. The loss of this contract is the major reason why NVFD's budget



THE VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD

199 LEDGE RD.
NORTHFIELD VILLAGE, OHIO 44067
330-467-7139 #20
Fax: 330-908-7014

J. Jason Walters

Service, Building and Zoning Superintendent

October 23, 2013 Council meeting: Service, Building and Zoning Department report:

1. **HOUGHTON RD SEWER PROJECT:** Testing will take place on November 1st as long as it passes, excavation of the sewer trench will begin immediately after and then they would hope to have the asphalt repair complete within the first week to second week of November.
2. **SUMMIT SEWER PROJECT:** This project started on Monday, October 21st with the cutting of the trench down the center of the road. Excavation should begin by the end of the week or start of the following week at the latest.
3. **RACINO STREET LIGHT PROJECT:** This project is near completion. The changes have been made that the owner requested and they are now working on the technical details.
4. **LEDGE RD. SCHOOL ZONE PROJECT:** They are waiting for the new sign pedestals to come in so that they may be installed.
5. **LEDGE RD. TRUCK TRAFFIC:** After working with Sgt. Zolcus on the Ledge Rd. trucking issue, we have installed more signage warning truckers of our load limit with Ordinance #. We have two signs now in Macedonia so that when trucks are exiting Freeway Dr., they are well aware that it is not legal for them to use Ledge Rd., if they are over the 5 ton weight limit. The truck traffic has really damaged Ledge Rd., and I did not realize just how many trucks were using Ledge Rd., until we moved into our building. It is very important that the police enforce this Ordinance.
6. **FRONT END LOADER:** The front end load has been repaired and it was an electrical component issue. The repair cost us just over \$1,800. This was a huge relief.
7. **INFORMATION SIGN AT VILLAGE HALL:** We have met with sign companies and have received one quote and are waiting on others for an electronic digital reader board. This would be to remove the existing panels and replace with digital panels that can be controlled through wi-fi from Lisa Rodriguez's computer. This would reduce labor time and also be a huge improvement on Route 8 and may even prompt other businesses to want to do the same. We will also be able to get a lot more information out to the residents.

8. **ROAD REPAIRS:** We are nearing the end of road work for the season. If anyone has a specific area or issue that must be addressed, it must be before the plants close. Please let me know as soon as possible.
9. **RADIO TOWER AT 68 HOUGHTON RD:** The existing radio tower at Houghton Rd., service department is inadequate and in poor condition. The radio company that is working with us, informed us that the tower must be upgraded in order for our system to work properly. The cost to have the tower installed by a contractor was near \$5,000. We are installing it in-house for around half of that cost or less.
10. **2014 BUDGET:** I did submit my initial 2014 budget as requested by our finance director. I included all projects that have been discussed or I know had the potential of needing to be done in 2014. We will need to discuss in detail what needs to be done, as supposed to what projects can wait.
11. **PROJECTS UPDATE ON WEBSITE:** Weekly I have been update the residents with the project information on the Village website on the revised service department page so that everyone is aware of the project going on currently in the Village.
12. **LEAF PICKUPS:** Leaf pickups for residents start Monday, November 4th and continue through Wednesday, November 27th.
13. **SENIOR SNOW PLOW PROGRAM:** We have a total of 60 senior residents signed up as of today. Last year we had a total of 106. The deadline to sign up for this program is November 1st , please help me make our senior residents aware of this deadline.
14. **ID BADGES:** I have had Lisa Rodriguez look into getting my department ID badges as the Mayor has requested.

Ward C election: I have been questioned by several residents about many topics being brought to their attention by candidate Gary Vojtush. I would prefer to stay out of the political race between our two candidates, but with being said, there is a lot of information being given to our residents. This concerns me that it is allegedly not factual information, concerning my departments, especially with regards to my budget and how funds are being spent along with wages. I plan on addressing these issues with Council in this meeting, so that the public has a chance hear or reading factual information regarding these topics.

Thank you,
Harold J. Walters