

# The Village of Northfield

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

November 11, 2015

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

The Pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Nehez.

ROLL CALL was read by Tim Clymer. The following were present: Mayor Nehez, Councilpersons Beatrice Greenlee, Linda Bowen, Alan E. Hipps, Gary Vojtush and Jim Daugherty. Law Director Brad Bryan, Fire Chief Jason Buss, Police Chief Mark Wentz and Engineer Richard Wasosky were also present. Councilman Nick Magistrelli and Jason Walters were absent.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Councilwoman Bowen made a motion to approve the October 28, 2015 minutes, seconded by Council President Greenlee. All in favor, zero opposed. Minutes approved.

### **RESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES:**

Mayor Nehez thanked all the Veterans who served and are serving our Country.

### **REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS:**

**MAYOR JESSE J. NEHEZ** - No report.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR TIM CLYMER** - No report.

**ENGINEER RICHARD WASOSKY** - Report attached.

Councilman Daugherty asked about how long the Ledge Road project would take (concrete road, curbs and sidewalks). Rich stated it would take approximately 4 months, depending on the weather. Councilman Vojtush asked if Rich recommends that we wait until the school year ends to start this project. Rich stated he is leaving it up to Council to make that decision. Rich said the decision does not have to be made tonight. There is time to think about it. Rich reported we have to buy temporary right of ways from six property owners.

Mayor Nehez asked Rich to explain this to the audience. Rich advised we can't do the work inside the existing right away unless we build retaining walls. We are not buying a permanent right of way; we are buying the right to go on someone's property while the work is being performed.

Councilman Hipps asked after we give notice to proceed on the project, how long does the contractor have to start? Rich stated ten days. Councilman Hipps asked if we get all the paperwork done and signed, mid-July, that would result in a complete road closure roughly when school starts. Rich said it will not be a complete road closure at that time. Hopefully within two months, we will have a gravel surface that we can get traffic over. Councilman Hipps stated that we would have a month from mid-July to mid-August where the road would be closed. Rich stated yes, depending on the weather. If we get a lot of rain, we can't put dirt on top of mud. Chief Wentz asked Rich if he is shutting the road down completely how is Mr. Salemi going to get access to his property? Rich stated he will provide access to Mr. Salemi. A temporary driveway will be provided to get into his place.

Mayor Nehez stated he would like to explore Issue 1 funding for McKinley to see if we can generate enough points to do the road. Rich stated he thinks we have a fair chance of getting loan money. Grant money will depend on how much Akron asks for. Rich stated over the past 25 years, we have got our fair share of

Issue 1 money. Comparing Northfield's size and population to the amount of money we have received, we cannot complain. There are communities in the County that have not received one dollar in twenty five years from Issue 1. Rich stated thanks to former Mayor Consolo, he got Rich on the Board representing all Villages in Summit County, and it turned out very well for the Village. Mayor Nehez, Rich, and Jason have been doing research on the Presidential Streets and are trying to come up with a plan to start the roads back there and explore as many options as we can. The Presidential Streets are on their agenda, and they are trying to come up with funding.

**LAW DIRECTOR BRADRIC BRYAN-** No report.

### **DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**Police Department, Chief Mark Wentz-** Report attached.

Chief Wentz thanked everyone for another successful Halloween Party.

Chief Wentz shared an e-mail from a man who received a citation and expressed how professional Officer Dziak was during the traffic stop.

Chief Wentz also addressed a few topics that were brought up at the previous Council Meeting pertaining to Officers talking car to car in parking lots for extended periods of time, Chief Wentz made it clear that he did not tell the officers to find better hiding spots and read the e-mail that he sent out to the officers.

Chief Wentz also addressed a complaint from a resident who got into an altercation with a neighbor while walking his dog. Officers Jones, Grams, and Beltrami responded. The resident was completely off the wall. Chief Wentz invited anyone who wants to watch the audio and video of the incident to let him know. The officers were very professional and tried to calm the man down. The resident came in the following day with breakfast sandwiches for all the officers and apologized for the way he acted. He advised he was off his medication. He also called the 9-1-1 Dispatchers and apologized to them. Brad Bryan advised the man also called him and apologized. The information another resident relayed to Councilman Vojtush was completely wrong. Chief Wentz received a voicemail from Councilman Vojtush saying this man came in to file a report and the Police ran all his information for background, followed him outside, ran his mother's license plate, and one of our Officers had his hand on his gun the entire time. Chief Wentz advised the matter was looked into, statements were taken, and the video was watched. None of the alleged conduct occurred. Officers were tied up and time was wasted for an alleged incident that never occurred. Chief Wentz reported this gentleman who got into the altercation with a neighbor has medical problems and took two separate events and put them into one. The other incident occurred a year ago in another City. We did assist the Sheriff's Department with the incident, but the arrest was by the Summit County Sheriff's Department.

Councilman Vojtush thanked Chief Wentz for the Halloween Party.

**Fire Department, Fire Chief Jason Buss-** Report attached.

Chief Buss reported as of December 1, the Medical Center in Sagamore Hills will no longer be an emergency room that we can transport patients to. The facility will be an express care. Chief Buss asked Council if he could purchase ballistic gear with a blanket P.O. that has money not used for the Fire Department. Councilman Vojtush made a motion to move forward with it, seconded by Councilman Daugherty. Mayor Nehez thanked Council for making this purchase. It will be great for the Fire Department. All in favor, zero opposed. Motion passed. Chief Buss thanked everyone.

**Service/Building Supervisor, Jason Walters-** No report.

## **REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

**PLANNING COMMISSION, ALAN E. HIPPS-** No report.

**RECREATION BOARD, MAYOR NEHEZ-**Mayor Nehez reported the recreation board is working on Christmas. Jason Buss advised the Fire Department will be going around the Village December 13. The next scheduled meeting is December 3 at 7:30.

**CEMETERY BOARD, BEATRICE GREENLEE-** No report.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**FINANCE: LINDA BOWEN-** Next finance meeting will be November 23 at 6:30.

**ROADS/PUBLIC WORKS: JIM DAUGHERTY -** No report.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE: GARY VOJTUSH -** No report.

**WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS: NICHOLAS MAGISTRELLI-** No report.

**FIRE AND SAFETY: BEATRICE GREENLEE-** No report.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: ALAN HIPPS-** No report.

## **LEGISLATION**

**2015-70-** An Emergency Ordinance Amending Chapter 618 of the Criminal Code Relating to Animals. A revised version will go on the next Council Meeting agenda.

## **OLD BUSINESS; ANNOUNCEMENTS; NEW BUSINESS;**

Mayor Nehez stated he has talked to Jason (Walters) about Route 8. He wants him to be strict with everyone. Mayor Nehez said he feels strongly about beautification. We need hold to our ordinances, and he hopes Council will stand behind him on this. We need to clean up Route 8. We have done some clean up but need to go further.

Brad Bryan advised Council talked about changing a couple of dates for Council meetings due to the holidays. The Council Meeting dates are Monday November 23 (instead of Wednesday November 25) and Wednesday December 30 (instead of Wednesday December 23).

Chief Wentz told Council that Roy Meadows wanted to do a presentation for them on the E-Vac 9-1-1 Plan. Council President Greenlee suggested December 9 at 6:30. All agreed.

Councilwoman Bowen wanted to announce that not as Councilperson, but as a citizen, Block Watch is still in effect and will meet November 18 at 6pm. The residents have requested the Fire Department to speak to them. Chief Buss has made arrangements for Lt. Joe Zemek to speak to the group. Chief Jason Buss advised he will be on vacation November 26-December 6, and Lt. Zemek will be the Fire Department point of contact while he is gone.

Mayor Nehez stated that even though there are three more meetings, he wanted to state it has been a pleasure to serve with Councilwomen Greenlee and Bowen. They have been together since 2005, and they will really be missed on Council.

Councilman Daugherty wanted to know when they can advertise for the vacant Council seat. Mayor Nehez stated any time after January 1, 2016. Brad Bryan stated they can take resumes, but Council can't take action until January 1 when the seat is vacant. Council will then have 30 days to fill the seat. If it is not filled by Council within that 30 days, then the appointment will revert to the Mayor.

**ADJOURNMENT** -Motion by Council President Greenlee, seconded by Councilwoman Bowen. All in favor, zero opposed. Meeting adjourned at 8:28pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Timothy Clymer  
Clerk of Council