

The Village of Northfield

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

August 9, 2017

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Nehez.

ROLL CALL was read by Tricia Ingrassia. The following were present: Mayor Nehez, Council Persons Nick Magistrelli, Jenn Domzalski, Alan Hipps, Renell Noack, and Gary Vojtush. Also present were Law Director Brad Bryan, Village Engineer Rich Wasosky, and Sgt. John Zoligus.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

A motion to approve the Minutes of the July 26, 2017 Council Meeting was made by Ms. Noack, seconded by Mr. Hipps. All were in favor of approving the Minutes from the July 26, 2017 Council Meeting, none opposed.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, AND REMONSTRANCES: None.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS:

Mayor Jesse Nehez – Mayor Nehez stated he will appoint the Ward B Council Seat by the August 23rd Regular Council Meeting.

Finance Director, Tricia Ingrassia – Ms. Ingrassia requested a motion for acknowledgment of receipt of the July 2017 month end reconciliation and reports. A motion for acknowledgement was made by Mr. Vojtush, seconded by Mr. Magistrelli. All were in favor of acknowledgement of receipt, none opposed.

Engineer, Rich Wasosky – Report attached.

Regarding the commercial property at 10412 Northfield Road, Russo's Restaurant, a meeting was scheduled to discuss the storm water issues for Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Regarding the failing catch basin on Victory Boulevard and Houghton Road, Mr. Wasosky stated that the roadway is caving in due to an unsupported catch basin over a 48" sanitary sewer.

Regarding the ponding water at the driveway apron at 125 Rosewood Avenue, Mr. Wasosky stated Mid-Ohio Asphalt would be able to grind out the pavement and correct the asphalt, and the Service Department could install the scupper drain. Ms. Noack asked what the cost of installing the scupper drain would be. Mr. Wasosky answered the cost of the drain itself would be approximately \$300.00. Mayor Nehez asked what the permanent fix would be for this driveway apron. Mr. Wasosky replied grinding down the asphalt and installing the scupper drain would be a permanent solution to the problem and would cost approximately \$2,800.00. Mr. Vojtush asked what caused the problem at this address. Mr. Wasosky answered when the road was widened in 2007 or 2009 the road was made very flat. Mr. Hipps added there is no lip on

the edge of the driveway apron, which causes the water to pool/puddle at the base of the driveway apron and concrete. Mr. Wasosky continued the lot this affects used to be vacant, but now a home has been built on it. Mr. Wasosky added this pooling water was never an issue due to the lot being vacant. Mr. Magistrelli made the suggestion that we just add the drain and mill the asphalt later as we have the Presidential Subdivision project upcoming with many unknown circumstances. Mr. Magistrelli suggested we have the work done in house to correct the issue as the work is always done in a cost effective manner and properly. Mr. Wasosky added he hopes everyone on Council realizes what a great Service Department the Village has. He continued the crew always does any job correctly because they truly care about the work they do.

Law Director, Brad Bryan – Mr. Bryan read the Northfield Village Mayor's Court disbursal for the month of July 2017 (report attached). A motion for acceptance was made by Mr. Magistrelli, seconded by Ms. Noack. All were in favor of acceptance, none opposed.

Mr. Bryan stated he will be out of the office Tuesday, August 15th through Sunday August 20th. He added he would be accessible by email and cell phone should anyone need him.

Mr. Bryan discussed the possible legislation regarding medical marijuana establishments within the Village either accepting them with regulations imposed by Mayor and Council or banning them in the Village altogether. Mr. Bryan stated this is not something that Council needs to decide this evening but should be thinking about in the near future.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Police Department, Sgt. John Zolcus – Report attached.

Fire Department, Chief Jason Buss – Chief Buss will be in attendance at the next regular meeting of Council.

Service Department, Jason Walters – Mr. Walters will be at the next regular meeting of Council.

REPORTS OF THE MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Planning Commission, Mr. Hipps – Mr. Hipps stated the kick-off meeting for the zoning overlay district project was held this evening with both the Planning Commission and members of Council, and it went very well. Mr. Hipps added the committee plans on holding open meetings with regard to the zoning overlay district and will be open to suggestions from the residents.

Recreation Board, Mayor Nehez – Mayor Nehez stated the next Recreation Board meeting will be held Thursday, August 10th at 6:30 to discuss the movie being played for the Movie in the Park event scheduled for Saturday, August 19th.

Cemetery Board, Mr. Magistrelli – No report.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES:

Finance, Mr. Magistrelli – No report.

Roads/Public Works – No report.

Health and Welfare, Mrs. Noack – No report.

Wages and Working Conditions, Mr. Vojtush – No report.

Fire and Safety, Mrs. Domzalski – No report.

Buildings and Grounds, Mr. Hipps – No report.

2017-63 – An Emergency Resolution Authorizing the Mayor/Director of Public Safety to Contract with the City of Solon to Utilize the City of Solon Jail as a Back-up Jail Facility to the City of Macedonia (First Reading). A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Mr. Magistrelli, seconded by Mr. Vojtush. All were in favor of suspending the three reading rule, none opposed. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Vojtush, seconded by Mr. Magistrelli. All were in favor of passage, none opposed.

2017-64 – An Emergency Resolution Confirming the Mayor's Appointment of Denise Lewis to the Planning Commission (First Reading). A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Mr. Hipps, seconded by Mr. Magistrelli. All were in favor of suspending the three reading rule, none opposed. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Hipps, seconded by Ms. Noack. All were in favor of passage, none opposed.

2017-65 – An Emergency Ordinance Amending Sections 660.17 and 660.18 of the Codified Ordinances Relating to Weed and Grass Control (First Reading). Mr. Bryan stated Mayor Nehez asked that he update the weed and grass ordinance. Mr. Bryan outlined the major changes, but he added this is a work in progress and will need revisions as this is an important and complex problem. Mr. Magistrelli asked if this code update would include vacant properties. Mr. Bryan replied it would. Mr. Bryan stated with vacant properties enforcement could be different as far as citing the property owner and cutting the grass and billing the property owner because tracking down the owner to serve a charge may be an issue. Mayor Nehez asked for clarification on the process of enforcement of violating this section of the code. Mr. Bryan stated that the Service Department would be in charge of the initial decision of which properties are in violation of this section of the code, but the Police Department can assist with issuing tickets and the notices to appear in Court. Mayor Nehez asked that the language of the code update specify which department is responsible in handling every aspect of the process so there is no question as to whom or which department is responsible in enforcing this section of the code. Mr. Bryan stated the Police Department is not authorized to enforce areas in the Building and Zoning Code, but they can enforce the Criminal and Business Regulation portions of the Code. Mr. Bryan stated this portion of the code can be enforced by the Service and Building Department or the Police Department. Ms. Noack asked for clarification on the number of citations a property would receive a year. Mr. Bryan outlined the current process of notification for failure to properly maintain a property's lawn/yard. He stated the property owner is fined and/or is assessed for the maintenance the Service Department performs on behalf of the property owner when compliance to the code isn't met. Ms. Domzalski stated she feels the property owners should be both fined

and charged for the grass cutting/yard maintenance that the Service Department completes to their yard. Mr. Bryan agreed that was the approach to take, but in some circumstances, it is difficult to cite a property owner into court because of the difficulty of personally serving them with the complaint, especially if the property owner is out of state. Mr. Bryan also stated that in there is the issue of bank-owned properties and not having the appropriate name listed on the notifications being sent and getting to the correct person for payment and/or citations. Mayor Nehez asked if this process could be solely handled by the Service Department. Mr. Bryan stated when it comes to citing the property owner, utilizing the Police Department to write the tickets and serve owners after work hours would be beneficial and more effective than the Service Department handling that part of the process. Mr. Bryan continued that often having a uniformed member of the Police Department accompany Mr. Walters is more official and more authoritative. Ms. Domzalski suggested that the enforcement of this code be a team effort between the Service and Police Department. Ms. Domzalski suggested a work session to further discuss this item. Mr. Bryan asked if Council would like him to draft a policy in cooperation with the Service Director and Officer in Charge of the Police Department regarding how this ordinance should be administered. Council agreed. The Mayor stated he needs both departments to work together on this issue. Sgt. Zoligus mentioned that he and his Department always work with the Service Department in any situation they are called to assist in matters of enforcing code throughout the Village. Mayor Nehez stated he wasn't trying to put down any Department, but he was just looking for clarification so that everyone knows what they are supposed to do in enforcing this ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS; NEW BUSINESS; ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Nehez thanked Mr. Magistrelli for filling in for him while he was on vacation.

Mayor Nehez also extended his sympathy to Officer Warren Olesinski's family as his mother passed away suddenly.

Mr. Vojtush announced the Mothers of Multiples is holding their annual membership drive, and he would like fliers put out at Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Domzalski, seconded by Mr. Vojtush. All were in favor of adjournment, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Tricia Ingrassia, Clerk of Council