

The Village of Northfield

COUNCIL WORK SESSION

March 19, 2014

The Work Session was called to order by Council President, Beatrice Greenlee at 6:30 p.m.

The purpose of the work session is to discuss the proposed 2014 Permanent Appropriations.

ROLL CALL: The following were present: Mayor Jesse J. Nehez; Beatrice Greenlee, Linda Bowen, Alan Hipps, Gary Vojtush, Nicholas Magistrelli and Ethan Miladinovic. In addition, Finance Director Monica James, and Asst. Finance Director, Tricia Ingrassia were present.

Mr. Vojtush stated that he has not had an opportunity to review the latest revision. He had a lot of questions concerning the 2nd revision but not sure if they still apply. One are of concern was the fire department budget. There is approximately a \$140,000.00 difference between the carry over in the Fire Department Annual Report and the number presented by the Finance Director.

Mrs. James stated that she could not explain the difference, because she had not received a copy of the Annual Report from the Fire Department, if she had a copy, she could compare numbers to determine the difference.

Mr. Vojtush asked why the Fire Department proposed wage increase by over \$100,000.00 yet, if Council were to pass the proposed pay increase, it would only amount to approximately \$6,000.00 for the year.

Mrs. James stated that the wages had not increased by that amount; it was still at \$350,000.00. Mrs. James explained, Council was given a proposed budget from the Police and Fire Departments. These reports are more of the wish list for the departments. Mrs. James further explained the Mayor and she met individually with Chief Wentz, Chief Buss and Jason Walters. As a result of these discussions, the proposed 2014 Permanent Appropriations were given to the Mayor and Council, yesterday.

Mr. Hipps was confused by the many figures for Parks, L&B, Roads and P & Z Funds in the 2013 column, yet there were not in the 2014 column.

Mrs. James explained that in 2013 the Service Department works under the various funds but due to the difficulty in dealing with the numerous funds, it was decided to consolidate all the departments into one category of Public Service.

Mr. Hipps asked if the same funds to could be grouped together to better determine how much was spend in each category.

Mrs. James stated she would provide this in the revision.

Mrs. Bowen asked if the balances from 2013 are not correct, how Council is supposed to pass a Budget for 2014.

Mrs. Ingrassia explained Council can pass the 2014 Budget in order to comply with the O.R.C. and once the 2013 books have been completed can revise the 2014 budget and resubmit.

Many members of Council were not comfortable passing a Budget when they do not know what the true numbers are.

Mr. Hipps and Mr. Vojtush did a preliminary addition of the 2013 figures and they do not total the numbers that Mrs. James is reciting.

Mrs. James could not explain why the numbers did not add-up.

Council requested that the 2014 Proposed Permanent Appropriations be revised and represented to Council. A new work session will be held on Monday, March 24, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Nehez informed Mrs. James to have the revisions to Council by noon on Thursday, March 20, 2014.
Mrs. James stated she would get the revisions to Council by noon, tomorrow.

A motion for adjournment at 7:30 p.m. was made by Beatrice Greenlee, seconded by Alan Hipps, passed with 6 ayes

Respectfully submitted by:

Attest:

Beatrice Greenlee
President of Council

Monica James
Clerk of Council