

The Village of Northfield

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 23, 2014

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

ROLL CALL was read by Admin. Assistant, Lisa Rodriguez. The following were present: Beatrice Greenlee, Linda Bowen, Nicholas Magistrelli, Gary Vojtush, Alan E. Hipps and Ethan Miladinovic. In addition, Law Director, Brad Bryan, Interim Finance Director Tricia LeWalk-Ingrassia, Police Lt. Jamie Mackie, Fire Chief Jason Buss and Service/Building Supervisor, Jason Walters were also present. Village Engineer Richard Wasosky was not present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion for approval of the April 9, 2014 minutes was made by Alan E. Hipps and seconded by Gary Vojtush, passed with 6 ayes.

Mayor Nehez had Law Director Brad Bryan read a Proclamation that he presented to the Fire Chief Jason Buss and the members of the fire department honoring them for the results of the 2013 ISO rating of 3. Beatrice Greenlee made the motion for approval and Alan Hipps seconded the motion and it passed with 6 aye votes. Chief Buss thanked everyone involved.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES:

Jim Pavlish of Mr. Money Bags spoke stating that the Ordinance 2014-15 that Council would discuss today regarding secondhand dealers would, if passed, severely cripple their business, especially the 14 day rule. He apologized for their poor record keeping but stated it has improved. Brad Bryan stated that the police department requested this ordinance and Mr. Pavlish had talks with the police department. Mr. Bryan stated that Mr. Pavlish's business is not a pawn shop, but the issue of stolen goods being sold has come up and the police department has been investigating. Mr. Bryan also stated that Mr. Pavlish assured the Village that they would not sell items out of the store, but an issue came up a couple weeks ago with a samurai sword and machete being sold. Lt. Mackie stated that Mr. Money Bags sought out the meeting with the police department and feels that nothing that was discussed in the meeting was adhered to on their part, this is why he feels the legislation is necessary. Mr. Bryan stated that the reason for the 14 day hold period, is that some times people don't know the item is missing. Mr. Bryan stated that it is his understanding that Chief Wentz did give a copy of this legislation to the two businesses affected, and the police desire to get something in place as soon as possible. Mr. Pavlish stated they are getting licenses now and taking pictures now, the record keeping now is light years ahead of how it was before. Mr. Pavlish fully agrees with Lt. Mackie, that the record keeping was sloppy and now is better, would like to work with the law enforcement. Lt. Mackie stated that this was a week ago, that the samurai sword was bought, the receipt had no picture, no description or color, it just said "knife". Mr. Pavlish said that if they know what to write down on the receipts, they will do it. With large lots, they will catalog the items and put them on disk now.

Gary Vojtush asked Mr. Pavlish what the certain items are that they are concerned with the 14 day rule, such as precious metals. Mr. Pavlish said yes precious metals. Gary Vojtush stated he would like to sit down and have a work session with Mr. Pavlish and discuss further. Mr. Pavlish stated that to label one or two items is no problem, but a lot of many is too hard to label many items, could take a picture of it and label them as a group. Mr. Bryan said that other store in the village just hand their books over and everything is labeled and marked, but our officers have said when they go into Mr. Money Bags that the information isn't handed over, people ask

what they are looking for. Mr. Pavlish stated that the other business is more advanced and has been around longer, that his business is going through growing pains. Mr. Pavlish stated again that he wants to cooperate with law enforcement in regards with theft and helping.

Beatrice Greenlee stated that she personally would like to look at their book keeping system and see how they are doing in the store and if the rule is 14 days, then that is the law.

Mrs. Greenlee suggested that this Ordinance go on 3rd reading at a later date, and she stated that Mr. Pavlish is a business man, we need to give him a chance and also for him to give us a chance to get acquainted with his store. Mayor Nehez stated to Mr. Pavlish that Mrs. Greenlee and Mr. Vojtush will be visiting his store. Brad recapped: 1. 14 days requirement to hold items and the lack of cash flow from that requirement 2. Lack of storage for those items.

Mr. Dave Klein, the owner Scoreboards asked Mayor and Council if anyone had any questions regarding his plans for the fence and acoustic materials. Mayor Nehez stated that the plans Mr. Klein submitted are incredible to upgrade his space. Mayor asked Mr. Klein for the pictures of the fence Alan Hipps stated that at the last Planning Commission meeting the plan for Scoreboards was approved and that they have professional recommendation for the acoustic material and the 10' high fence. The total job should cost around \$15,000.00 after all is said and done. Mr. Bryan said that that is a lot of money for Mr. Klein to spend to resolve the noise issues. A motion was made by Alan Hipps and seconded by Nick Magistrelli, to approve the variance for 10' high fence per the plans that were submitted to the Planning/Zoning Department. It carried with 6 aye votes. Gary Vojtush stated it will be good for the residents who live behind there.

GUEST SPEAKER: NONE

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS:

- A. **MAYOR JESSE J. NEHEZ** reported that he is very proud of Chief Jason Buss and the whole department, that they have done an outstanding job.
- B. **FINANCE DIRECTOR TRICIA LEWALK-INGRASSIA** reported that they had the budget meeting on Monday and if there are any further questions that need to be addressed to let her know.
- C. **ENGINEER RICHARD WASOSKY**, was not at this meeting.
- D. **LAW DIRECTOR BRADRIC BRYAN** stated that Mr. Wasosky discussed with Council a motion to authorize up to an additional \$25,000.00 for the Summit Road Repair Project. Rich reconfigured the grant money to use for resurfacing the project other than the original plan. Alan Hipps stated that it was in case we went over. Gary Vojtush asked if this was this additional cost was due to the heavy machinery. Mr. Bryan stated they were worried about the curb collapsing. A motion was made by Alan Hipps and seconded by Ethan Miladinovic, carried with 6 ayes.

E. DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- 1. **Police Department, Chief Mark Wentz**, was absent, but Lt. Jamie Mackie attending in the chief's place and presented his department report-see attached.. Gary Vojtush asked Lt. Mackie if this was the complete list of items to dispose of and Lt. Mackie stated yes. Gary Vojtush asked if there was any way of receiving any funding for those items and Lt. Mackie stated no that they are pretty much useless. Lt. Mackie requested the motion and Brad Bryan read the list of items. A motion was made by Gary Vojtush and seconded by Linda Bowen. Nick Magistrelli asked where and how was the police

department disposing of these items. Mr. Magistrelli asked if he and Lt. Mackie could speak later about ideas for disposal. This passed with 6 ayes.

2. **Fire Department, Fire Chief Jason Buss**, presented his department report-see attached. Gary Vojtush asked what the cost was for the 10 radios and where was it in his budget, Chief Buss stated that they are around \$36,000.00 and he will find out where it is in his budget and let him know. Mr. Vojtush also asked if the FEMA grant is in the budget. Chief Buss said most likely will come out of the general fund, because you don't budget for grants because it isn't guaranteed.

Mr. Vojtush congratulated Chief Buss and the fire department on the rating of 3 ISO. He stated that in April of 2000 it took Mayor and Council to go out on a limb to build the department where it is today and he recommends that they do something for those men and women who served on the department who had excessive time away from family and friends to make the department what it is today.

3. **Service/Building Supervisor, Jason Walters**, presented his department report-see attached. Gary Vojtush thanked Jason for the street sweeping. Gary stated that he received a call from a resident about the streets and he noticed it was completed. Jason discussed with Mayor a situation at 9010 Cambridge and he approved to fix the situation by the end of the week.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

- A. **PLANNING COMMISSION: ALAN HIPPS**, discussed items at the meeting: Scoreboards, tower that was discussed with AT & T, Crown Castle and Rich Wasosky, Village Engineer. Alan stated that they requested more information from the two companies regarding the tower. Jason said he spoke with Rich and that there is no reason to hold them up and they already have the same generator unit there from another company and the communication gets switched out, so there is no reason to hold them up. A motion was made by Alan Hipps. Brad Bryan asked for a second for preliminary approval of the site plan for Joe Salemi and Redi Storage to move ahead with Engineers and get drawings made. Brad Bryan stated that the final plans are always subject to review. The motion was seconded by Nick Magistrelli. Gary Vojtush asked what part of the property, Alan Hipps stated that it is the south side of the right away.
- B. **RECREATION BOARD: MAYOR NEHEZ**, stated that the recreation board will meet on May 1st at 7:30pm.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

- A. **FINANCE: LINDA BOWEN**, she had Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2014-23, an Emergency Ordinance approving payment of the bills for the month ending April 2014 in the amount of \$121,486.17. A motion was made by Linda Bowen, seconded by Beatrice Greenlee and carried with 6 ayes. Linda said that the next Finance meeting will be May 28th, 2014 at 6:30pm.
- B. **ROADS/PUBLIC WORKS: ETHAN MILADINOVIC** had nothing to report
- C. **HEALTH AND WELFARE: GARY VOJTUSH**, had nothing to report.
- D. **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: ALAN HIPPS**, had no report.
- E. **WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS: NICHOLAS MAGISTRELLI** had no report.
- F. **FIRE AND SAFETY: BEATRICE GREENLEE** had nothing to report

LEGISLATION:

Resolution 2014-12 - 1st reading – an emergency Resolution setting forth the appropriations for the fiscal year 2014 and submitting the same to the county fiscal officer. A motion to suspend the three-reading rule was made by Beatrice Greenlee and seconded by Alan Hipps, carried with a 5 aye vote, 1 nay vote from Gary Vojtush. A motion for passage was made by Alan Hipps and seconded by Beatrice Greenlee. Gary Vojtush stated that he thought at previous council meetings they decided that they wouldn't pass the appropriations until they received the audit back and that is the reason why we have held up the fire department pay raises. Also Gary asked if we have a time when we are receiving the audit back. Brad Bryan stated that his conversation with the auditors office, they stated everything has been completed as far as reconciliations, they received what was spent last year and the revenue. The only thing that isn't completed is the financial statements, but we have the numbers 2012 is completed and they will give us that copy later, 2013 they requested an additional piece of information and we are waiting for local government services to get the work done, there is no time table. Brad said that we do have a deadline of the end of the month and we have to pass the budget because we can't not get an extension.

Tricia LeWalk-Ingrassia stated that this is not an audit, it is completely separate of an audit, this is a reconciliation and the financial statements that are required to be filed by the Village to the Auditor States office and presented to the public for review.

Brad Bryan said that the firm has been selected for the 2012-2013 audit, the contract hasn't been signed and we are still waiting for the paperwork from the State Auditors office. Brad said this will be an independent company and they should be starting over the next couple of months.

Tricia stated that what has been completed thus far she will get a copy to Gary after the meeting. Gary stated on budgets the that they had received, at the April 9th, 2014 council meeting, he said Tricia stated that the carryover was \$317,000.00 and then on the last budget you gave us it shows over \$400,000.00. Tricia said that you have to take into account for outstanding checks that haven't been cashed. Gary asked how soon we would be paying \$230,000.00 of the bills from last year, Tricia stated that they were paid on the pay ordinance this evening. Brad stated that it actually was more than that amount, because they don't have to list some items such as payment of fire dept. bldg. Linda Bowen asked Tricia if she used the numbers that were given to her to give to the auditors. Tricia stated yes and Jay Mutter has the list of errors that need fixed on their end so they can keep moving on.

Alan Hipps thanked all of the department heads and finance department for the conservative budget. Alan said it is a budget, but we do have the ability to amend it if needed.

Beatrice Greenlee said she spoke with every department head before the meeting and they told her that it could be better, but they will accept it for it is. Linda Bowen stated that just because an item is in the budget, doesn't mean we need to spend it, if we don't have it. A motion for passage was made by Alan Hipps and seconded by Beatrice Greenlee, carried with 5 aye votes, and 1 nay vote by Mr. Vojtush.

Ordinance 2014-15 – 3rd Reading – An emergency Ordinance Establishing Chapter 869 Of The Codified Ordinances Relating To Secondhand Dealers. Brad Bryan stated that on May 14th council meeting this ordinance will be placed on 3rd reading.

OLD BUSINESS; NEW BUSINESS; ANNOUNCEMENTS; ADJOURNMENT

No old business.

New business: Mayor Nehez asked Gary Vojtush how the autism awareness fundraiser was coming along with the Rocksino. Mayor Nehez said he would like to put the information on the website. Gary said that he thinks it is sold out.

Jason Walters said that he has received a lot of calls regarding Cranbrook, and the bid package still needs to be put together but it won't be happening anytime soon. They have a lot to make sure is right along the lines of the storm sewer.

A motion for adjournment at 8:31p.m. was made by Beatrice Greenlee and seconded by Ethan Miladinovic, passed with 6 ayes

Respectfully submitted by:

Attest:

Beatrice Greenlee
President of Council

Lisa M. Rodriguez
Clerk of Council