

The Village of Northfield

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2012

Mayor Jesse Nehez called the meeting to order at 7:32PM following the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll was called by Finance Director, Monica A. James, with the following Councilpersons present: Beatrice Greenlee, Karyn Selle, Mary Volny, John Schlueter, John Bolek and Linda Bowen. Law Director Brad Bryan, Police Lt. Jamie Mackie and Village Engineer Richard Wasosky were also present.

The Moose Lodge presented Lt. Mackie of the Village of Northfield police department and Lt. Moss of the Village of Northfield fire department with a check for each of their associations. Both Lt. Mackie and Lt. Moss thanked the Moose Lodge.

Mayor Nehez asked for a motion to to approve the May 23, 2012 regular council meeting minutes. A motion was made by Beatrice Greenlee and seconded by Linda Bowen and carried with 6 ayes.

Mayor Nehez asked for a motion to to approve the May 30, 2012 special council meeting minutes. A motion was made by Beatrice Greenlee and seconded by Linda Bowen and carried with 6 ayes.

There was no business of petitions, memorials and remonstrances.

Mayor Nehez reported that there is a lot going on in the Village. All of the new flags have gone up on Route 8, the service department did a great job. The service department is newly painted and looks nice. Mayor Nehez stated that Jason and the service department have been cleaning up around the building. Meadow Ln. and Ledge Rd. have been repaved and looks nice, and Mayor Nehez stated he has received many thank you's from residents. Mayor Nehez met with Brock Milstein, owner of Northfield Park and Dave Hart regarding zoning and building codes and they are moving forward. Brad Bryan stated that Dave Hart stated with updates last week. Mayor Nehez stated that he will be meeting with Brock Milstein and Jim Allen next Thursday regarding racinos.

Finance Director Monica James had no report. Monica did invite anyone who would like to come and sit with her to see what her job entails, learn the programs and ask any questions. Monica stated that Mary Volny has come in twice to sit with her. John Bolek stated that he asked previously for the information on the internet cafe income. Monica stated that she did give it to John Bolek for the year. John Bolek stated that he asked for it by month. Monica apologized and stated that she will get him the monthly breakdown.

Village Engineer, Richard Wasosky gave his report. (See attached) Rich asked for a motion to be made to approve the lot split on Vincent. Linda Bowen made the motion and Beatrice Greenlee seconded the motion. John Bolek asked who assigns the parcel number and Rich Wasosky stated that the county will assign another permanent parcel number. It passed with 6 ayes. Mayor Nehez stated that we received a good pricing for both paving projects. John Bolek stated that they are an aggressive company in Macedonia that gave us a great discount.

Brad Bryan had no report. John Bolek asked how we were moving along on the brown tarp house. Brad stated that Jason inspected the property and wrote up all of the violations and she has until August 31 to either have all of the violations fully completely or sold with new owners agreeing to complete the repairs. If she doesn't have this done then she must have it torn down by September 31, and if this is not done, then she has to repay the money for legal expenses to the Village. John Bolek asked why we gave her a four month extension. Brad stated that we got firm deadlines so this is what everyone is comfortable with in speaking with Jason and the Mayor. Mary Volny stated that a resident asked her what is going on with the blue tarp house. Brad stated that house is under sheriff's sale for some time in August, the bank does not own it at this time, it is in limbo. John Bolek stated that everyone has been hearing that in Cuyahoga County the internet cafes are being shut down, and there is a ruling in court Monday and the State is pushing to make them illegal state wide. Brad stated that the bill for a moratorium for the State of Ohio at this point has passed, so no new cafes can open in the State of Ohio. The legislation to outlaw them won't happen until after the elections. The attorney generals office shut down the ones in Cuyahoga County that had a certain kind of software that is deemed gambling, the cafes here don't use that software. Linda Bowen stated that 10 of the cafe's in Cuyahoga County were in violation, those are the ones that were shut down. John Bolek stated they are in front of a judge today to get them reopened. John Bolek asked Brad to keep everyone updated, because if we wake up one day and the Village's internet cafe's are closed, that is a significant dollar issue to the Village.

Police Lt. Jamie Mackie gave a report. (See attached) Lt. Mackie stated that he received a phone call regarding the Rapid ID he

has been working on obtaining for the department to identify persons quickly by fingerprinting. Lt. Mackie stated that we were chosen to be part of a district so others can come and use the equipment here. John Bolek asked it that would include children and Lt. Mackie stated that he thinks it is only for adults, and does not include juveniles. Mayor Nehez stated that he was very impressed by Lt. Mackie's quickness and reply to Dusk Til Dawn's situations they were having and also congratulating the police department on catching the person who committed the break-ins in the Cranbrook & Coventry area. Lt. Mackie said that Det. Carlile has done a great job with that situation. Brad Bryan stated that most of the property has been recovered and Lt. Mackie stated that a portion of the bigger items had. Lt. Mackie stated that they are still working on the break-ins in the May Ave. area. This Friday Lt. Mackie stated that he is attending a meeting with Howard Shafron along with Jason Walters and Chief Vojtush regarding parking lot issues. Lt. Mackie stated that the Plaza is private property and ultimately up to Mr. Shafron and his group to comply. Brad stated that the building and zoning has some ordinances.

Mary Volny stated that a resident contacted her who lives by Huntington & Milford regarding an issue with people flying threw the stop sign there. This resident wanted a police officer to sit there all of the time and Mary said that she will inform them that the police can't just sit there. Mary thanked Lt. Mackie for his quick response on the email and stated that she is going to encourage this resident to sign up for the block watch. Mary stated that this resident also said that she and her friends can not find a parking spot by Dollar General, so maybe Mr. Shafron could earmark some parking spaces. Lt. Mackie states that is entirely up to the landlord and the Dolphin has some concerns regarding fire lanes. John Bolek stated that the other day when he drove by the Dolphin there was a car parking in the middle of the roadway, parked next to a police cruiser which was in a parking space. Lt. Mackie stated that they cannot issue citations for not being parked in a parking space, per the ordinance. But Lt. Mackie said that he ordered the police department to not issue citations to patrons parking at the Plaza until the paving and striping is done, so that it is clearer because right now it isn't fair to the patrons of the establishments. John Bolek stated that at the other end of the building, one of the tenants at the hair cut place every day parks her vehicle in an illegal place. Lt. Mackie stated that the parking there is limited, and they don't know what they will come up with for a solution. Lt. Mackie stated as far as the police are concerned, as long as they can get their vehicles can get in an out in an emergency situation to assist, he doesn't mind giving latitude for the parking. But if they feel it is a problem and can't respond, then they will address the issues. Lt. Mackie stated that as a group they will assess the situation and address the issues this Friday. John Bolek stated that many years ago there was parking in front of each of the stores, but eliminated that years ago and put a fire lane in. In front of the other smaller plazas there is no fire lane, so how can you enforce a fire lane on the Plaza when it isn't enforced on the smaller properties. Lt. Mackie agreed that they need to be fair across the board.

Linda Bowen of the Block Watch Committee stated that their next meeting will be held on June 20th at 6:00pm.

Beatrice Greenlee of the Planning Commission has no meeting scheduled for June at time. John Bolek stated that he spoke with someone at the track saying that they have a 60 day window from when they start a project and it goes to council and it hinders their work. John Bolek stated that if they do bring this to Council they can call a special Planning Commission meeting. Mayor Nehez stated that he has told this to Brock Milstein.

Beatrice Greenlee of the Cemetery Board had no report.

Mayor Nehez stated that the Recreation Board came before Council on June 6th and showed Council what their ideas are for the signs at the Village parks. Mayor Nehez stated he doesn't know where the funds will come from, maybe donations, but he stated he is very impressed with their ideas. Rich Wasosky stated that the parks have received money from Nature Works and there is a sign that needs to be displayed per the agreement through ODNR. Mayor Nehez stated that he will make sure that we will purchase new signs and put them up. Mary Volny stated that when the donations for the bricks are made from the residents, we need to make sure that we include both parks.

Mayor Nehez stated that the Charter Review Commission is complete for the year and we will be review some of their legislation tonight.

Karyn Selle, of the Roads and Public Works Committee stated that the Village hall parking lot was sealed and striped. The service department is still patching pot holes around town. The service department have been sending out weed and violations as well as property violation for exterior maintenance around town. They are currently taking care of 15-20 vacant properties in the Village and all is going well. John Bolek asked if they have had complaints about the last house on Kennedy about overgrown trees. He stated that Jason and his department went out and cut the limbs back from in front of the stop sign. John Bolek stated that we do the work and the other resident gets the work done for free due to the fact that the ordinances don't reflect it. Jason told John that it is in the right of way and they don't charge for that. John said that we need to look at the ordinances so that the residents who don't take care of their property don't think they get this work done for free. Brad stated that we can put something into the ordinances regarding this matter. Mayor Nehez asked Brad to look into this also.

Mary Volny, of the Health and Welfare Committee stated that they had a meet and greet with Peggy Weaver regarding saving money on insurance. Once all information is received they will have another Health and Welfare meeting. John Bolek asked if Mary could write a letter to all of the union representatives for all of our unions, that the Village is looking into options for health care insurance and that we encourage them to bring some vendors to the table also. Brad Bryan stated that once we have all of the information, then have a meeting to discuss the options. Mary Volny stated that a resident contacted her about a 40lb raccoon getting into her trash. Mary stated that they need to stress to the residents to keep their garbage cans inside. John Bolek stated that he contact Jason regarding trapping animals and they refer residents to Greg Miller Animal control for trapping since the service department doesn't trap any more. Mayor Nehez stated to Mary Volny that she has really taken the Health and Welfare Committee to the next level with reports that they have never had before.

John Bolek, of the Building and Grounds Committee had no report.

John Schlueter, of the Wages and Working Committee stated that they have had discussions with the fire department regarding how many people to employ and whether there should be raises or not and also one promotion. Mayor Nehez stated that he and Monica James will be meeting to discuss her figures tomorrow morning and then will report back

Beatrice Greenlee, of the Fire and Safety Committee stated that they had a good meeting at the fire station last night and they got to hear how everyone felt. Mary Volny stated it was a good meeting and maybe they should have this meeting every 6 months to keep the communication lines open. John Bolek stated that after this meeting they now they know how unsafe the vehicle the fire department is driving, he said that no one had come to council to tell them, and now Council knows after this meeting. John Schlueter stated that a meeting at the fire department we are on their level and it is their home turf, we are all on the same level away from the Council Chambers, so maybe they feel more comfortable and open up and share. John Schlueter said that Chief Vojtush was very prepared and able to answer the questions and did a good job to inform us. Mayor Nehez thanked Cpt. Jason Buss for putting together the informative.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-33, which is on 2nd reading- An emergency Ordinance establishing section 1266.075 of the codified ordinances relating to the parking and storage of recreational motor vehicles and equipment, trailers, and construction or landscaping vehicles equipment, on residential property. John Bolek asked if they could have some more time so that Council is able to discuss this further with residents in their wards. John Schlueter asked if they can clarify more, if they can have more than one recreation vehicle. Brad said that the way that it reads yes. John Schlueter stated that some people have a RV and a boat so they can't do this. Brad stated that is correct, they cannot. John Bolek stated that some residents have a camper and a small boat and we don't want to tell residents that they can get rid of this. Mary Volny stated that maybe we need to change it to read one in the back yard. Mayor Nehez asked Council to add Commercial properties also on what should be limited. John Bolek stated the property on Houghton who for display purposes has a big farm tractor in the front yard all of the time, that is used, but isn't dealt with in this legislation. Mary Volny asked if commercial should be dealt with as a separate piece of legislation. Brad Bryan agreed and said they will do legislation that specifically applies to commercial properties. Mayor Nehez just asked Council to consider it. John Schlueter said that a small camper and a small boat doesn't take up as much room as a large RV, so it can be done neatly and nicely, but at the same time you can get too many things that are recreational. Mary Volny stated that she has a pop up camper that she puts in the back, on the driveway, in the back and not parked in the front yard. John Bolek stated that the property in his ward is a corner yard so technically don't have a backyard. John Bolek said that they have a big RV and a small 14' row boat, and has had them for years and is always neat and clean, you could technically say their back yard is the front, so maybe that needs to be looked at. Brad Bryan stated that Council should have a work session to discuss.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-36, an emergency Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of an amendment of section 4.04 of the Charter clarifying when Council elects the President Pro-Tem of Council. Council put this on second reading.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-37, an emergency Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of an amendment of section 4.05 of the Charter removing the requirement that the Finance Director also serve as the Clerk of Council and replacing the word "journal" with "minutes". Council put this on second reading.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-38, an emergency Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of an amendment of section 4.06 of the Charter removing the requirement that the voting on any ordinance, resolution or motion shall be by roll call when the vote is unanimous among those Council members present and replacing the word "journal" with "minutes". Council put this on second reading.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-39, an emergency Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of an

amendment of section 5.02 of the Charter pertaining to the timing of the redistricting of wards and repealing section 5.03 of the Charter containing the ward descriptions and proving that the ward descriptions be contained in the Codified Ordinances. Brad said this explains more clearly in the charter, that we are moving the ward descriptions from the charter to the codified ordinance which is where they should have been. Karyn Selle asked if there is a place in the codified ordinances for this, is this duplicated in the charter and the ordinances. Brad stated that the charter would pass, then through legislation put in a code section with the wards as they are listed now, and then 10 years from now we revisit it again and amend it with legislation. Council put this on second reading.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-40, an emergency Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of an amendment of section 8.01 of the Charter that requires that the Mayor serve as the Director of Public Safety. Council put this on second reading.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-41, an emergency Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of an amendment of section 8.04 of the Charter providing for the method of removal of the Fire Chief and method of appointment of officers and members of the Fire Department. Council put this on second reading.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-42, an emergency Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of an amendment of section 18.05 of the Charter pertaining to the time frame for the setting the rate of compensation for elective offices and the reimbursement of reasonable expenses to officers and employees. Council put this on second reading.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-43, an emergency Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of an amendment to the Charter to make the format consistent, correct spelling and grammatical errors, make the titles of positions consistent, and establish gender neutral content throughout. Council put this on second reading.

John Bolek asked if Brad if he submits ballot language to the Board of Elections. Brad said no, that once Council decides on what they want to send and then we submit, we can then adjust the language.

There was no old business.

In the new business, John Bolek asked to invite our State Representative, Marilyn Slaby and State Senator Frank LaRose to our meeting since we haven't seen them for awhile and we can update them on the things going on.

Linda Bowen stated that there will be a block watch meeting at 6:00pm on June 20th at Village Hall.

John Bolek stated that July 7th late afternoon or early evening, Ward D will be having their block party. They will close off the majority of Grant and invite the department heads to talk with the residents, maybe from 4p-7p. Providing hamburgers and hotdogs and bottled water, also sending out a flier to invite everyone to bring a covered dish, to meet your neighbors. Mary Volny stated that she is planning a block party around August 25th at Huntington Park. Mary stated that she is going to have a table set up for block watch information and also for the Vials of Life. Lt. Mackie asked how the information was going to get out to the residents. Council stated that it is on the website, on the board out front and hand out fliers door to door.

Mayor Nehez stated that he and Karyn Selle are going to be in the Special Olympics plane pull, on a team sponsored by Spennato's and all proceeds go to the Special Olympics. Mayor Nehez stated that it is a great family event and he has participated for three years in this event.

John Bolek reminded everyone that it is Marine week downtown.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49pm. with a motion by Beatrice Greenlee and seconded by Linda Bowen and passed with 6 ayes.

Respectfully Submitted by;

Attest:

Lisa M. Rodriguez, Administrative Clerk

President of Council

Clerk of Council