

The Village of Northfield

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

July 14, 2010

Mayor Milani called the meeting to order at 7:32PM following the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called by Robert Riedel with the following present: Mrs. Greenlee, Mrs. Selle, Mr. Nehez, Mr. Bolek and Mrs. Bowen. Mr. Noack was absent. Law Director Brad Bryan, Village Engineer Richard Wasosky and Fire Chief Gary Vojtush were present.

In the business of Petitions, Memorials or Remonstrances Mr. Tony Discenza from Waste Management thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the Village for at least the past five years and he stated that with the new bid coming up they were happy to say that they were able to keep the same prices that the Village has had in the past for trash pickup, except for the one increase in 2009. Mr. Discenza said that this new three year proposal includes curbside bin recycling and he said that residents won't see any interruption in service at all, but would see an increase in service. Mr. Bolek said that under the Village's current contract with Waste Management they are required to keep track of all complaints and issues that the residents report, he asked Mr. Discenza if they have been keeping track of them and if so could submit a copy to the Village. Mr. Bolek said due to the fact that there have been numerous times where residents garbage hasn't been picked up, or times residents have called a head of time to have a couch picked up and the driver just went by and didn't pick it up, it sat there for a couple days, the police noticed it and contacted the residents and told the resident that they couldn't just leave the couch sit there at the curb. The resident said they contacted Waste Management like they were supposed to, and Waste Management said if we have to send another truck out again, then the homeowner will have to pay another \$80 or it will sit until the next weeks pickup. Mr. Bolek said that is not the way it is supposed to be, and these are direct quotes from Police Chief Wentz. Mr. Discenza said that is called "bulk pickup", if the driver can't fit the item in the front bucket, then the driver calls dispatch to tell them to send a bulk truck to pick up the item. The dispatcher then makes a note and is supposed to dispatch out a bulk truck. Mr. Discenza said he will go back and see if he can query our 1,000 or so residents for these types of complaints. Mr. Discenza said that with those types of calls they guarantee that the pickup will be within 24 hrs, and Mr. Bolek said that is not happening. Mr. Discenza asked for specifics so that he may research it because that is the standard to pickup within 24 hrs and not leave it on the curb.

Mayor Milani asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2010 Regular Council meeting. A motion to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2010 Regular Council meeting made by Mrs. Greenlee and seconded by Mrs. Bowen. Mr. Bolek asked for discussion. Mr. Bolek said that he would like the minutes to reflect that Councilman Mr. Noack's addressed the Nordonia Hills Club ladies about Village willing to give any money being. Mr. Bolek said that Mr. Noack very rude and unprofessional to Kerry Wichert from the Nordonia Hills Garden Club before she even gave Council the presentation. Mr. Bolek said that the minutes don't reflect this and said that he was appalled at the lack of respect given to someone making a presentation. Mr. Bryan said that he feels that Mr. Noack was under the impression that they were asking for way more money that they did ask for. Mr. Bolek said that Mr. Noack did all that before they made their presentation and the minutes don't reflect that. Mr. Bolek said that Mr. Noack went off on her about how he felt it was a bad economy, and that the Village can't afford it don't ask us for any money, it is not in the budget. Mr. Bolek felt it was very rude to treat someone who spent a lot of time and effort raising money for Northfield Village. Mr. Bolek made a motion to be made for the minutes to be amended to reflect Mr. Noack's exact words, and Mrs. Selle seconded it. Mr. Bolek said he feels that it is a rule of a Councilperson to listen and to make it's decisions based on the information given to them and Mr. Bolek felt that Mr. Noack just attacked her and made the Village and Council as a whole look horrible. Mr. Bolek said that he is surprised they didn't take their money and go elsewhere. Mayor Milani said it is not fair to pick on someone who isn't there also. Mr. Bolek asked to have the motion tabled, and Council agreed with 5 ayes.

Mayor Milani reported that Congressman LaTourette is unable to attend the 75th Anniversary celebration on August 14th, but he will be in town on August 9th to present the Village with a check for \$260,000 at 12noon at the Village Fire Department, and all of Council is encouraged to attend. Mayor Milani said that everyone should have received information in their mailbox from the Ohio Lottery Commission, which is great news. This next Monday the Ohio Lottery Commission is going to set down the guidelines to bring the video lottery terminals to the seven tracks. Mayor Milani said we will just have to wait and see what happens and there is a good chance that something positive will come out of that meeting. Mayor Milani met with the owner of Little Caesars, Jim Asmar and he said that they will be open in two weeks and they are very please with the area and have had many inquires into open jobs.

Finance Director, Robert Riedel asked for a motion to accept the bank reconciliations and Financial Statements as submitted. Mrs. Bowen made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bolek. Mr. Bolek asked Mr. Riedel about the year to date summary sheet for Village of Northfield prepared by the CCA division of taxation that reflects at -45% change in the totals of classification and a -20.6% year to date, Mr. Riedel said that is what the receipts are down from prior year and that has no reflection on the financial statements. Mr. Bolek said yes, at this point, but if this continues it is going to affect us next year, and Mr. Riedel said yes definitely, that is why we need to bring in \$100,000 per month to hit our mark. Mr. Bolek said this is the second or third one in a row that is down significantly and he asked Mr. Riedel how long it is until we have to amend our budget or what his plans are. Mr. Riedel said he has already told Mayor Milani and the department heads ago to start watching their pennies a couple months ago. Mr. Bolek said that this is a wall that is hitting us and it is coming fast. The motion carried with 5 ayes. Mr. Riedel said that one of the resolutions you will see a renewal of the insurance policy for the Village; he received three quotes from Government Underwriters, Ramsburg and Jackson Deacon. Mr. Riedel said that the existing premium for the past two years was guaranteed premium \$24,751.00. Jackson Deacon came in with a three year rate guarantee of \$24,559; Government Underwriters came in with a three year rate guarantee of \$22,982 and Ramsburg came in with \$36,615. Mr. Riedel said on Resolution 2010-36 for council to approve the blanket purchase orders for the police department on a quarterly basis of \$5,000, we have been doing this for 10 years, but the auditors are requesting that Council approve this Resolution, even though the Finance Committee approves it monthly and Council approves at the monthly. Mr. Bolek asked if the Insurance Resolution 39 was covering the Village if anyone gets hurt and what exactly does it cover. Mr. Riedel said that it is liability and covers everything. Mr. Riedel said they are doing the health insurance next week.

Village Engineer, Richard Wasosky gave his report at this time. (see attached) Mr. Bolek asked how J & J would work on the Route 8 project, work on one side and close the other and then switch, Mr. Wasosky said yes that is their plan. Mr. Bolek said that the curb is to be tied into the road, but clearly it is not because it is buckling. Mr. Wasosky said that he doesn't know who approved of it, and maybe they made a field decision to make the change. Mr. Bolek asked if we should notify someone in Columbus that it isn't done right, Mr. Wasosky said that all they care about is that we fix it. Mr. Riedel said that we have already appropriated the money for the permissive tax, we will have to transfer money from the general fund into the permissive tax fund on a loan basis, and when we get the money from the permissive tax fund then we can pay back the general fund. Mr. Bolek said since there is some doubt we will receive the permissive tax monies, can't we just bill the property owners for the project and save the money for some other permissive tax project. Mr. Bryan said we have so few projects that you can use the permissive taxes for. Mr. Bolek said that hopefully we will have some big projects down the road at the race track. Mr. Nehez said that the only thing that he is really worried about is that we are saying we are getting all these new people and buildings, can our storm sewer handle all of this and the Village is looking at Mr. Wasosky for guidance. Mr. Wasosky said that it is up to Mayor Milani and Council what if any help you want to put in an infrastructure you want to put in for industry. Mr. Wasosky said if they build a big hotel it will affect the sanitary sewers, most of there sewage goes to Cuyahoga County but there is a small section that comes to our Elm pump station.. Mr. Wasosky said we might have to rebuild the sanitary sewer on route 8 to get down Houghton Rd and at the bottom of Houghton Rd we have a 16" sanitary sewer that will handle it, we just need to get it there. Mr. Wasosky said if we get it deep enough you can get rid of the Elm pump station.

Law Director, Brad Bryan said that he did a summary of the rubbish contract bids and included the pertinent parts of each package and Mr. Riedel has the full bid packages. Mr. Bryan said that timing wise and to be fair to the bidders, we should award the bidders at the next Council meeting on July 28th, so we should setup a work session to make a decision. Everyone made a bid with and without curbside recycling. Mr. Bryan said that Mr. Nehez asked about possible expansion at the track and around route 8 if the gambling goes through, and we expand. Mr. Bryan was asked to prepare certain architectural design standards and we should take a look at it by the end of the year as the target. Mr. Bryan said he was asked to base it on Macedonia standards, but keep in mind we are a different type of community. Mr. Bryan said he tried to make it as complete as possible on what we have a possibility of enforcing, and then discuss as a work session, then turn it over to the planning commission for their review and recommendations and then back to Council for final decision. Mr. Bryan said regarding Ordinance 2010-41 he was asked at the last meeting by Council and Jason Walters to prepare an Ordinance to deal with the foreclosed and run down properties. Mr. Bryan said that the existing ordinance dealing with dangerous busidings that are falling apart: to go in and fix. This Ordinance helps Jason Walters deal with house that might not be falling down, but have broken widows and locks, but it is unsecured gives Jason permission to go in and board the house up. Mrs. Bowen asked about 154 May Ave, and Mayor Milani said that the letter from the Summit County Health Department said that they have 30 days, which is July 25th to fix all problems or it will be demolished.

Fire Chief Vojtush gave his report at this time. (see attached) Chief Vojtush said he would like to get into the house at 154 May before they demolish it to setup some testing. Mrs. Greenlee said that they will discuss this later at a fire and safety meeting. Chief Vojtush commended the Nordonia Hills Garden Club on the outstanding job that they did with the beautification project at the fire department. Mayor Milani said he would like to do a proclamation for the garden club at the July 28th meeting since Kerry Wichert and her group did an outstanding job. Mr. Bolek said that a plaque needs to be purchased to put at the fire department. Mayor Milani said that Chief Vojtush needs to get a picture of the fire department staff with the landscaping to commend the garden club and put it in the News Leader, and Chief Vojtush said that is what he is going to do.

Mr. Riedel said that Jason Walters asked him to present to Council regarding Lisa Rodriguez's sick time. It is in the union contract they are allowed to give their sick time to any individual. So Jason Walters would like to give 40 hrs of his sick time to Lisa since she is running out of sick time due to the fact she had surgery and an infection. Mrs. Bowen made a motion and Mr. Bolek seconded the motion to give Lisa Rodriguez 40 hr hours of sick time from Jason Walters, and it passed with 5 ayes. Mr. Bolek said it is nice to see people working together. Mrs. Greenlee said that Jason probably misses her, and Mayor Milani said yes as we all do. Mr. Bolek said that he delivered the basketball hoop and stand to the service department to assemble and they can put it at whatever park they like. Mayor Milani thanked Mr. Bolek for his donation of the portable basketball hoop.

Mrs. Greenlee of the Planning Commission had no report.

Mrs. Bowen of the Finance committee said that there will be a Finance meeting on July 28, 2010 at 6:30p.

Mr. Noack of Roads and Public Works Committee was absent.

Mrs. Selle from Health and Welfare had no report.

Mr. Nehez of the Building and Grounds Committee said that he agreed with Mayor Milani on presenting the Nordonia Hills Garden Club with a proclamation on their outstanding job they did at the fire department with the beautification project.

Mr. Bolek of Wages and Working said that he asked Mr. Riedel to give Mrs. Bowen, Mr. Noack and himself copies of the current negotiating contracts so that they may go over them to be prepared before they have negotiations in a couple months, so he is asking for a wages and working meeting on July 28, 2010 at 7pm. Mr. Bryan said that the service department contract is up in October and the police contract is up the end of the calendar year. Mr. Bolek said it will be a short meeting just so that they can familiarize themselves with what they have right now before the negotiations come. Mr. Bolek said that everyone is invited to attend the meeting if they like.

Mrs. Greenlee of the Fire and Safety committee said that she know that the police department has been writing tickets for loud music and for out of town people use our dumpsters for dumping their trash. Mayor Milani said that some Macedonia residents dumping their garbage and the police caught them. Mr. Bolek asked what kind of penalties are in place for that. Mr. Bryan said that they will be charged with trespassing. Mrs. Greenlee said that they attended the fire department celebration. Mrs. Greenlee said that the police department still has that car for sale from the fleeing case. Mr. Bryan said that if it is \$500 they have the authority to sell. Mr. Bolek said that he as noticed lately that there are quite a few juveniles congregated under stop lights at around 10p, and he said he thought we enforcing a rule at 10p that they need to be at home. Mrs. Greenlee said she has been checking the playgrounds at 9-930p and the gates have been locked. Mr. Bryan said he has seen some warnings for curfew and charges on juveniles, but he doesn't handle them. Mr. Bolek asked if they continue to see this should they contact the police department, and Mayor Milani said yes. Mrs. Greenlee said that there is some memorabilia at the fire department from the open house, and the past fire Chief Kurt Pavlik returned for the celebration. Mrs. Greenlee set a Council work session for July 26, 2010 at 7:30p.

Law Director Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2010-35, An emergency Ordinance amending Chapters 804 and 892 of the codified ordinances relating to amusement devices. Council put on a third reading. Mr. Bryan read Resolution 2010-36, an emergency resolution authorizing the Finance director to prepare quarterly blanket purchase order certificates for the use by the police department in an amount not to exceed \$5,000. A motion to suspend the three-reading rule was made by Mrs. Bowen and seconded by Mrs. Greenlee. Mr. Bolek asked why we were going to this. Mr. Riedel said that this was an auditor request, and we still need an ordinance passed. A motion for passage was made by Mrs. Bowen and seconded by Mr. Greenlee, it carried with 5 ayes. Mr. Bryan read Ordinance 2010-37, An emergency Ordinance accepting the bid of J & J Enterprise service Inc. for the Northfield Road Curb, sidewalk and catch basin reconstruction and replacement project and

declaring an emergency. A motion to suspend the three-reading rule was made by Mr. Bolek and seconded by Mrs. Selle. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Bolek and seconded by Mrs. Selle and passed with 5 ayes. Mr. Bryan read Resolution 2010-38, an emergency Resolution adopting the budget of the Village of Northfield, Ohio for the fiscal year beginning January 2, 2011 and submitting the same to the county fiscal officer. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Mrs. Greenlee and seconded by Mrs. Bowen. Mr. Bolek asked if this was just a formality that we have to put out for the following year, and Mr. Riedel said yes. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Bolek and seconded by Mrs. Greenlee and it carried with 5 aye votes. Mr. Bryan read Resolution 2010-39, an emergency Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract for renewal of the Village's insurance policies with Argonaut Insurance Company through Government Underwriters of America, Inc. A motion was made by Mr. Bolek and seconded by Mrs. Greenlee to suspend the three reading rule. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Bolek and seconded by Mrs. Selle and passed with 5 ayes. Mr. Bolek said he was glad to see a saving here, every dollar counts. Mr. Bryan read Resolution 2010-40, an emergency Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute three grant agreements with NOPEC. The air conditioning was done already, the street lights won't be done until we get them the money and Jason said he still has to meet with the insulation people. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Mr. Nehez and seconded by Mr. Bolek. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Nehez and seconded by Mr. Bolek. Mr. Bryan read Ordinance 2010-41, an emergency Ordinance amending sections 1440.25 through 1440.30 of the building code relating to unsecured buildings. Mrs. Bowen made a motion to suspend the three reading rule and Mrs. Greenlee seconded it. Mr. Bolek asked for a couple minutes to read through this Ordinance, but he did agree it is important to secure our buildings. A motion was made by Mrs. Greenlee and seconded by Mr. Nehez for passage and it carried with 5 ayes.

In the Old business, Mr. Nehez said he wanted to mention that Plaza Management is doing a horrible job with their landscaping at the Plaza. There weeds everywhere, and the dumpsters in back are broken and Mr. Shafron doesn't want to hear any more that they don't have money. Mr. Nehez said that they need to follow our rules that we have on the books, and he is just upset with how the Plaza looks, it brings down the Village. Mr. Bolek said we allowed a temporary sign that went up next to Handel's for the market place and they didn't get a permit, they just put it up and over the past couple of weeks they have added above and below of this sign and Mr. Bolek said that he would like to remove temporary signs from our books. Mr. Bolek said that it has been up for over 10 days and he feels it needs to come down, they need to be fined, and apparently anyone can just do what they want. Mr. Bolek said he feels that we need to start enforcing the rules that we have. The sign is duct taped there and they never got a permit and no one has made them take it down, no one has written them to come to court. Mr. Bolek said he doesn't know whose job it is to make sure the ordinances are followed, but I think that it is indicative of this community to start making them follow the laws that are on the books. Mr. Bolek said it is horrible and looks bad.

In the New business, Mayor Milani and Council express their condolences to Summit County Councilman Nick Kostandaras on his wife who recently passed away.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48PM following a motion by Mr. Bolek and seconded by Mrs. Bowen. The motion carried with 5 ayes.

Respectfully Submitted by; _____

Lisa M. Rodriguez, Administrative Clerk

Attest:

President of Council

Clerk of Council