

The Village of Northfield

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

July 25, 2012

Mayor Jesse Nehez called the meeting to order at 7:30PM 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, Fire Chief Gary Vojtush, Assistant Service Superintendent Chris While were also present.

Mayor Nehez asked for a motion to approve the July 11, 2012 regular council meeting minutes. Beatrice Greenlee made the motion and it was seconded by Linda Bowen and carried with 6 ayes.

In the business of petitions, memorials and remonstrances, Bill Romer of Summit County Council attended the meeting to keep abreast of topics of discussions.

Howard Shafron of New Plaza Management thanked Fire Chief Vojtush for pointing out some of the issues at Jackpots. Mr. Shafron thanks John Bolek for being a patron of Jackpots. Mr. Shafron read a letter from the Building Inspector regarding the Village of Northfield Ordinance on temporary signs. Mr. Shafron stated that he feels that even with the poor economy the Village decided to make matters even worse by enforcing this temporary sign ordinance, which is making obstacles for local businesses to overcome, by limiting temporary signs. Mr. Shafron stated that he feels the Village is being discourteous and has mean spirit to the local businesses with regards to the temporary sign ordinance in giving only 10 days to comply, which in the past has not been strictly enforced. Mr. Shafron stated that stopping him from using the arrow sign for Jackpots will damage his business, and cannot budget for another type of sign. Mr. Shafron asked Mayor Nehez and Council to take another look at this sign ordinance.

Nick Gale of Seasoned Grill stated that he feels the same as Mr. Shafron with regards to the temporary sign Ordinance. Mr. Gale stated that the Village has done this quickly and hasn't given anyone time to correct. John Bolek stated that the temporary sign at Seasoned Grill is in the view of people pulling out and Jason Walters stated that the previous administration told them that Seasoned Grill could leave that sign up as long as they want. John Bolek stated this is what prompted the letters. Mr. Gale stated that there are many problems on Route 8 like at Romitos and Northfield Tire. John Bolek stated that in the past there was a pizza shop that put up 36 signs that they were told to take down. Mr. Gale stated that there are a lot of businesses and the streets in the Village that need work. Mr. Gale stated that the businesses need time to comply. John Bolek stated that businesses like Sherwin Williams do their three-day sale, the sign goes up and then three days later it comes down, but other businesses turn their temporary signs into permanent signs, this is why the Building/Zoning Inspector Jason Walters sent these letters out. John Bolek stated that maybe businesses need to do other ways of advertising besides signs.

Mayor Nehez had no report.

Finance Director Monica James stated to Council that she has been receiving a lot of the sewer invoices returned with payment, started with 50 returned in the beginning and then 25 on the following days, which the Village should be able to take over the sewer invoices instead of using the lock box. John Bolek asked what would be a good date to shut off the lock box, maybe before the next mailing. Monica James stated that she would like to extend it 60 days beyond the mailing with a notice about the lock box being shut down, included in the sewer mailing. Monica James stated that the residents are excited that they can drop off the payment so maybe we can purchase a drop box for outside so that Lisa Rodriguez won't have to handle these being dropped off. Karyn Selle asked Monica if she suggested that the next mailing just have the Village address on it. Monica James stated yes. John Bolek asked if Monica James could report back with a projected date the lock box will be closed.

Mayor Nehez stated that Monica James has done a fantastic job with reconciling the books from November 2011. Mary Volny thanked Monica also. Brad Bryan said he will look into canceling the contract.

Law Director Brad Bryan stated he was asked to look into the mosquito spraying and he spoke with Terry Tuttle from the County, and he stated that a fax is sent out the prior Friday, notifying towns when the spraying will be done. Brad Bryan stated that when Lisa Rodriguez receives the fax she puts it onto the website. Mr. Tuttle stated that he didn't receive a fax confirmation for the June spraying that was done. Brad Bryan stated that Lisa Rodriguez didn't see the June fax come across her desk.

Brad Bryan stated that 2012-52, an emergency Ordinance amending, repealing, or establishing section 1220, 1270 and 1278 of the zoning code relating to the c-1 zoning district, conditionally permitted special uses, and the

authority of the planning commission related thereto. Brad Bryan stated that the plan was to put on first reading today and put is on third reading on August 8th so that we are not holding back the track with their plans. Brad Bryan stated that they have to hold a special meeting between this meeting and the August 8th meeting. Brad Bryan suggested that August 6th at 7:30pm for the special council meeting. Council agreed.

Brad Bryan stated that the NEORSD sewer district met in July to pass the latest revisions to the storm water program and discuss resolving the matter with Summit County. Brad Bryan stated that today they received a draft and it will be discussed. John Bolek asked if we should be talking with the owners of this impervious space such as the Plaza and Northfield Park. Brad Bryan stated that there is a provision with a graduated scale depending on the size of the property.

John Bolek asked if there was any update on the brown tarp house. Brad Bryan stated that there are no new updates.

Fire Chief Gary Vojtush gave his report. (See attached) Chief Vojtush said that the Fire Association will have a clam bake on October 6, 2012. Chief Vojtush stated his wife and friends are participating in a walk for autism on August 19th and asked for a donation. Chief Vojtush stated that he knows they have cut back on donations but just recently donated to a golf outing so he figured he would ask. Chief Vojtush asked what the status was on the fire department raises and asked for a Fire and Safety Committee meeting since there are some issues to discuss.

Council decided to discuss the possibility of August 14th at 7:30pm at the fire department for the fire and safety committee meeting. John Bolek stated that they have 39 on the roster at this time, 29 firefighters and 5 officers which is 34. Chief Vojtush stated that 1 has been going through physical therapy and decided that down the road this isn't a job for him, and 1 other has decided to terminate employment. Chief Vojtush said that the others who haven't worked, haven't filled out a time card. John Bolek asked how long will it be before we ask the 9 others to leave. Chief Vojtush stated that it isn't costing us anything to keep them on the roster. Chief Vojtush stated that the guys are starting to find other jobs due to their hours being cut back, but he is looking at one person. Brad Bryan asked how many he thinks he needs with the staffing the way it is right now. Chief Vojtush stated that it doesn't hurt to have extra people on the roster, but they do need to attend the trainings to keep them up to speed. John Bolek stated that he personally doesn't want someone who hasn't come to training showing up to work and going to a scene. Chief Vojtush agrees and stated that also none of them come from home to a scene. Chief Vojtush stated that they just need to look at things a little bit different than before. John Bolek asked Chief Vojtush to report back on this matter. John Bolek stated he doesn't want someone who hasn't been to work in 5 months to go to a scene. Mary Volny asked if the 9 inactive are working somewhere else. Chief Vojtush stated that one is in Iraq and the majority of others work for other departments. Chief Vojtush stated that he is looking into a pick-up truck as a replacement vehicle. Mayor Nehez asked Chief Vojtush to get the quotes to him so that they can be discussed with Monica James. Mary Volny asked Chief Vojtush if he wanted to talk about what equipment he wants to dispose of. Chief Vojtush stated he needs to clear some room of the old equipment. John Bolek asked Chief Vojtush to put together a list for Council to review.

Beatrice Greenlee made a motion to donation \$100.00 to the autism walk and Linda Bowen seconded the motion and it carried with 4 ayes. Karyn Selle voted nay due to the fact that she made a private donation herself. John Bolek voted nay.

Assistant Service Superintendent Chris While gave the report that Jason Walters prepared. (See attached). Mayor Nehez and Beatrice Greenlee both stated that the fire hydrants look excellent. John Bolek asked with the heat was the asphalt easier to work with. Chris While said yes and no. Mayor Nehez asked how they were coming along with putting up the Block Watch signs. Chris stated that the whole west side was complete and there are 8 signs left to put up. John Bolek asked why signs were put up increasing the weight limit signs. Chris stated that on the main roads the ordinance was changed and the signs just weren't changed. John Bolek stated that it is very clear to him that they need to address staffing levels in the building department and it has become a full time job, more bodies are needed. John Bolek stated it isn't fair in his opinion to go up and down the streets and give violations, and they are given 30 days even when others haven't been inspected, it isn't right, we just don't have the people to get the job done quickly. Mary Volny asked what the issue was with one persons time being up on an inspection before others are even inspected. Mary Volny stated it is a sliding scale, they will never be the same. John Bolek said, that Jason started on one side of the street, went down and came back up the other side. Mary Volny stated that he inspects the ones he deems to be the worst. Mary Volny stated it is completely fine. John Bolek said he just doesn't want someone coming back saying that why am I getting picked on and got inspected while others haven't been inspected yet. Mary Volny said that everyone gets inspected, but maybe some were brought to our attention. Brad Bryan stated that everyone does get inspected and each individual circumstance is taken into account for the time to reply. Mayor Nehez stated that he will get all of them done. Mary Volny stated that he is almost done, and she is thrilled that the Village is looking better. Chris While stated that they can always use more workers. Mary Volny thanked the service department for having Ledge Rd. striped. John Bolek thanked the service department for doing the

parks. Mayor Nehez stated that he and Lisa Rodriguez have been receiving continuous phone calls thanking the service department for the work that they do.

Beatrice Greenlee of the Planning Commission stated that they had a meeting discussing Ordinance 2012-52. Brad

Bryan read Ordinance 2012-52, an emergency Ordinance amending, repealing, or establishing section 1220, 1270, 1272 and 1278 of the zoning code relating to the c-1 zoning district, conditionally permitted special uses, and the authority of the planning commission related thereto. Brad Bryan stated that tonight it will be put on first reading, then have a special meeting on August 6th and be put on 2nd reading and then pass the ordinance at the August 8th council meeting. John Bolek asked if the ordinance can be available to the public.

Beatrice Greenlee of the Cemetery Board had no report.

Mayor Nehez stated that the Recreation Board did have a meeting discussing signage and will have their next meeting on August 2nd at 7:30pm.

Mayor Nehez stated that there was nothing to report on the Charter Review Commission they are complete for the year.

Linda Bowen of the Finance Committee has Brad Bryan read 2012-51 and emergency Ordinance approving the payment of the bills for the month ending July 2012. A motion was made by Linda Bowen and seconded by Beatrice Greenlee and carried with 6 ayes. Mayor's Court report for July 2012 a motion was made by Linda Bowen and seconded by Beatrice Greenlee for acceptance, carried with 6 ayes.

Karyn Selle, of the Roads and Public Works Committee had no report.

Mary Volny, of the Health and Welfare Committee, John Schlueter and Monica James met with Mike Tryon about the insurance. Mary Volny stated that September 15, 2012 should get our new rates and if we want new, then we need to start in August and have employees fill out questionnaires. Mary Volny stated that they will have a health and welfare committee meeting with the union representatives and employees on August 8th, at 6:30pm. Mary Volny thanked Brad Bryan for finding out about the mosquito spraying.

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

John Schlueter, of the Wages and Working Committee that the insurance and wages go hand in hand like a package and if the insurance is too high, then they need to look at other alternatives. John Schlueter told Brad Bryan that Mike Tryon would like for Brad to send him a copy of the union contract. John Schlueter stated that they need to be better prepared for contract negotiations.

Beatrice Greenlee, of the Fire and Safety Committee had no report.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-46, 3rd reading-an emergency Ordinance amending section 1422.99 of the codified ordinances relating to the penalties for violations of the mercantile, multi-family and institutional maintenance standards contained in chapter 1422 of the building and housing code. Karyn Selle made the motion for passage and was seconded by John Bolek and passed with 6 aye votes.

Brad Bryan read Resolution 2012-47, an emergency Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a purchase agreement with the Jellisons regarding the 199 Ledge Rd. Property. Brad Bryan stated that the Jellisons did sign the agreement this morning. Mayor Nehez asked Chris where the money was coming from to pay for this building. Chris said he didn't know, but Jason did have it in the budget. Karyn Selle stated that it was only a phase 1 study which is a desktop study, done on this property. Council agreed to put this on first reading tonight and will discuss it as a second reading at special council meeting on August 6th at 7:30pm.

Brad Bryan read Ordinance 2012-53, an emergency Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of amendments to sections 3.01, 4.02, 4.04 and 4.07 of the charter relating to the commencement date for the terms of office of elected officials and the elimination of the December organizational meeting of Council. A motion to suspend the three-reading rule was made by John Bolek and seconded by Karyn Selle and carried with 6 ayes. A motion for passage was made by John Bolek and seconded by Karyn Selle and passed with 6 aye votes.

Brad Bryan said that Ordinance 2012-36 needs to be reconsidered. John Bolek made the motion and was seconded

by Beatrice Greenlee and carried with 6 ayes. Brad said it will cancel what they just did in that amendment and he will take it to the Board of Elections.

In the new business, Mayor Nehez stated that he and Karyn Selle took part of the plane pull in the Special Olympics and came in 4th place out of 18 teams, their team was sponsored by Spennato's.

John Bolek stated that he went to the Battle of Lake Erie at the track and the winner was Classic Rock n Roll. John Bolek stated that we are lucky that there is a family that owns Northfield Park, because the majority of parks across the country are owned by big companies.

Beatrice Greenlee said that Linda Bowen met Governor John Kasich last week.

Linda Bowen stated that on August 15th there will be a block watch meeting at 6:00pm.

John Bolek told Mayor Nehez that it would be nice to put some pictures of his office renovation on the website.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm. with a motion by Beatrice Greenlee and seconded by Karyn Selle and passed with 6 ayes.

Respectfully Submitted by;

Attest:

Lisa M. Rodriguez, Administrative Clerk

President of Council

Clerk of Council