

The Village of Northfield

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

August 26, 2015

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

The Pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Nehez.

ROLL CALL was read by Timothy Clymer. The following were present: Mayor Nehez, Councilpersons Beatrice Greenlee, Linda Bowen, Alan E. Hipps, Nicholas Magistrelli, Gary Vojtush and Jim Daugherty. In addition, Law Director Brad Bryan, Police Chief Mark Wentz, Service Superintendent and Building & Zoning Inspector Jason Walters were present. Engineer Richard Wasosky and Fire Chief Jason Buss were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Nehez asked for approval of the minutes for the Council meeting of August 12, 2015. A motion was made by Council President Greenlee, and seconded by Councilwoman Bowen. Five votes in favor, Councilman Vojtush abstained, motion passed.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES:

Mayor Nehez asked if anyone from the audience wanted to speak. Susan Aring, resident from May Ave., expressed her concern about the rental property ordinances that have been passed. She advised she is surrounded by rental properties, and she has not seen any inspections or improvements. She has complained numerous times about this situation in the past. She also expressed her concern about a neighbor who is a renter and has numerous people living in the single family home. Susan asked why she never sees police patrolling. Chief Wentz advised he usually has two officers on afternoon and midnight shifts. If they get tied up with an arrest, they are at the station. Otherwise, the Officers are patrolling the streets. Law Director Brad Bryan advised her to call the Police when there is a problem, and they will respond. As far as the number of people living in the unit, we have a limited ability to regulate those matters, since we cannot restrict the number of people that can be considered a family unit. Jason Walters reported that it is the Ferkos that own the house. The father just passed away, the mother, Mrs. Ferko, is dying, and the son, Sean, is sick. The son and mother both have cancer. Jason stated when he did address the issues with them they advised the only income they have is the rental property Susan is complaining about. Jason advised they are very ill, and at this point, the Village is not going to come down on them. They don't even have the money it would cost for an inspection; they have to go for chemotherapy. Susan advised she is also on disability and is very ill herself, and she has to live with the consequences of this situation. Jason said he cited them for their roof last year right before Mr. Ferko passed away. Jason said he doesn't have an answer, he just knows they are in bad shape. Susan also complained about the house next door that is in bad shape and a few empty houses. Councilman Hipps said we do have the ordinances in place, it's just the level that we enforce it, and were trying to be respectful people with the ones having issues and the situation that they are in is maybe a little more dire. Mayor Nehez advised Susan that her 5 minutes is up.

Mayor Nehez advised that they are going to deviate from the normal Council meeting agenda. Brad Bryan read

Resolution 2015-54, An Emergency Resolution Confirming the Mayor / Director of Public Safety's

Appointment of Brian Zajac to the Rank of Sergeant with the Police Department. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Councilman Vojtush, and seconded by Council President Greenlee. All in favor, zero opposed. Motion passed. Motion to pass was made by Council President Greenlee, and seconded by Councilwoman Bowen. All in favor, zero opposed. Motion passed. Chief Wentz swore in Ptl. Zajac as Sargent. Sgt. Zajac thanked everyone.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS:

MAYOR JESSE J. NEHEZ - No report.

FINANCE DIRECTOR TIM CLYMER - (Report attached) July will be reconciled with in a week. Tim also reported he is the President of North East Ohio Municipal Finance Officers Association, and the association met with Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel about the Ohio Checkbook program. Tim thinks this is something Northfield should consider next year to improve transparency efforts.

Councilman Vojtush asked about the amendment on the appropriations for the work on the three additional roads. Councilman Vojtush asked if we have to take bids for those? Brad advised that Rich is bidding the two bigger roads (Magnolia and Heights) - they have not been approved yet. The other ones do not need bids because they are under the limit. Councilman Vojtush also asked about the high payment for this month because there was a payment from last year that had to be made? Tim advised that was not correct. The \$118,000 to be paid on the First Merit lease is the second of two payments owed on the loan from 2013 which is due next month.

ENGINEER RICHARD WASOSKY - No report.

LAW DIRECTOR BRADRIC BRYAN- The Mayor's Court monthly disbursal for July, 2015, total to be disbursed \$10,584.07. Motion to accept by Councilwoman Bowen, seconded by Council President Greenlee , all accepted.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Police Department, Chief Mark Wentz- No report.

Fire Department, Fire Chief Jason Buss- No report.

Service/Building Supervisor, Jason Walters- The asphalt base is down on the second half of Cranbrook. The plan is to get the last inch and a half down from Milford by the end of next week. The storm system on Lincoln has been completed. They are looking into getting another storm system at Elm and Milford in the corner of the park. Rich is drawing up the plans. The new banners started going up today on Route 8. Mayor Nehez reported he received calls from Cranbrook residents thanking the Service Department for their help during this construction. Jason said it's been a joint effort with the Fire and Police Departments. The sound system has been ordered, and should be in sometime next week. The electrician will start the project on the Monday after we receive it. Mayor Nehez said he has pictures from the Lincoln Rd. project if anyone is interested in seeing what the Service Department did.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION, ALAN E. HIPPS- No report.

RECREATION BOARD, MAYOR NEHEZ- No report.

CEMETARY BOARD, BEATRICE GREENLEE- There will be a meeting in October.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

FINANCE: LINDA BOWEN- Ms. Bowen asked Brad to read the Resolution to pay the bills for August. **Resolution 2015-58**, An emergency Resolution approving the payment of the bills for the month of August, 2015 Totaling \$586,131.23. Motion for approval by Councilwoman Bowen, and seconded by Council President Greenlee. All in favor, zero opposed. Motion passed.
The next Finance Committee meeting will be September 23 at 6:30pm.

ROADS/PUBLIC WORKS: JIM DAUGHERTY - Complimented the Service Department on the Route 8 sidewalk cleanup work.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: GARY VOJTUSH - No report.

WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS: NICHOLAS MAGISTRELLI- No report.

FIRE AND SAFETY: BEATRICE GREENLEE- No report.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: ALAN HIPPS- No report.

LEGISLATION

Resolution 2015-55, An Emergency Resolution Directing the Certification of Delinquent Grass, Weed Cutting, and Property Clean Up Bills to the County Fiscal Officer for placement on the Tax Duplicate. A Motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Councilman Vojtush, and seconded by Councilman Daugherty, all in favor, zero opposed. Motion for passage made by Councilman Vojtush, seconded by Councilman Daugherty, all in favor, zero opposed. Motion passed.

Resolution 2015-56, An Emergency Resolution Directing the Certification of Delinquent Sewer Maintenance Bills to the County Fiscal Officer for placement on the Tax Duplicate. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Council President Greenlee, and seconded by Councilman Hipps. All in favor, zero opposed. A motion for passage was made by Council President Greenlee, and seconded by Councilwoman Bowen. All in favor, zero opposed, motion passed.

Resolution 2015-57, An Emergency Resolution Authorizing Certain Amendments to the Annual Appropriation Ordinance. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Councilwoman Bowen, and seconded by Council President Greenlee, all in favor, zero opposed, motion passed. A motion for passage was made by Council President Greenlee, and seconded by Councilwoman Bowen. All in favor, zero opposed, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS; NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Nehez reported he had had many calls and e-mail from residents about drugs in the area. Council has also had calls and e-mails. Councilwoman Bowen has been in contact with the schools. They do have programs starting in fifth grade (DARE). Oh Yes is another program the school will be starting in grades 7-11. It's a volunteer program that is confidential, and students have to have parents' permission to participate. The Northfield Village Police Department currently does not participate in the DARE program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS-None.

ADJOURNMENT - A motion for adjournment was made by Council President Greenlee, and seconded by Councilwoman Bowen, all in favor, zero opposed. Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Timothy Clymer,
Clerk of Council