

The Village of Northfield
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
September 10, 2008

Mayor Milani called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM following the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called by the Mayor with the following present: Mr. Barber, Mr. Nehez, Mr. Noack, Mr. Lewis and Mrs. Bowen. Mrs. Greenlee was absent. Law Director Brad Bryan, Engineer Rich Wasosky, Village Police Chief Mark Wentz and Fire Chief Gary Vojtush were present.

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2008 Council meetings was made by Mr. Nehez and seconded by Mr. Lewis. The motion carried with 5 ayes.

There were no Petitions, Memorials or Remonstrances.

Mayor Milani now introduced John Rutecki, Loan/Grant Officer from Summit County Department of Development and his supervisor, Holly Miller. Ms. Miller discussed the programs that the county has in place for providing safe/affordable housing for low to moderate income families and also about providing a suitable living environment in healthy neighborhoods. These programs are: First Home, First Loan Program and the Housing Rehab Program. Mayor Milani asked what the income criteria is for the programs. Ms. Miller stated 80% or below of the area medium income to qualify for all of the programs. She stated that they are talking with parishes, businesses, hospitals and community groups in the area to spread the word about the programs.

Now Avery Freidman gave a presentation about Fair Housing Assistance along with Cherie Dimmerling, Executive Director of Fair Housing Council of Northeast Ohio. Mr. Freidman spoke about enacting Fair Lending and Fair Housing legislation to trigger a grant for a base of \$120,000 per year with a minimum of 3 years for a total of \$360,000. HUD will then come in to evaluate the Village's situation regarding citizens complaints about unfair housing or lending practices. The Village will receive \$1,200 for each complaint filed and accepted by the Village. To help such residents as the elderly needing help with reverse mortgages or young couples in need of help with a foreclosure on their home. The Village will receive monies for having such programs. Mr. Bryan asked what type of oversight in verification and reporting is there? Mr. Friedman stated that the Village has an obligation to file a report with the HUD Monitor once a year. Mr. Bryan asked that after the 3 year grant runs out then the Village will receive \$1,200 per complaint? Mr. Friedman stated that is correct, once the 3 year grant runs out, the money that is generated from complaints goes directly to the Village. Mr. Riedel asked about the amount that there would be that would trigger an audit? And could those funds be used to cover the cost of the audit? Mr. Friedman was not sure of this but he said that the State Auditor or State Treasurer could answer. The monies are only good for that calendar year there is no rollover to the next calendar year. Ms. Dimmerling stated that the monies could be used for Village Law Director, incurred Administrative costs or computer costs in the regards to this program. Mayor Milani stated to council they will have a work

session at 7:15p on Monday, September 15 and discuss these programs in more detail with Cherie Dimmerling.

Mayor Milani now introduced Mr. Steve Chaney from Plaza Management to discuss the concern that the council has with the dumpsters behind the establishments. Mr. Chaney stated that he notified all tenants and has hired someone to build the enclosures. Mayor Milani asked Mr. Chaney about the issue with the grate and turn around on N. Plaza Drive. Mr. Chaney stated that Mr. Sirna was contracted 3 weeks ago to work on that project which will commence tomorrow on Thursday, September 11, 2008. Mr. Chaney stated that they will be widening the apron by 9 feet towards the apartments. Mr. Bryan stated should some posts be installed. Mr. Chaney stated that there should be ample space to make the turn. Police Chief Mark Wentz questioned about moving the telephone pole towards Northfield Rd and make an angled access off of N. Plaza Dr just past the Day Care Center so that the trucks don't have to make a hard right hand turn, and can pull right out without making a hard left hand turn. Mr. Chaney stated that he will check into this due to the water and gas lines before Mr. Sirna starts on the project. Mayor Milani stated that it seems more feasible to do, if possible. Mr. Lewis stated that it has been over a year with this situation and something needs to be done to correct it. Mayor Milani asked Mr. Chaney if he had received a quote from Whispering Woods about trees to use to naturalize the area, and Mr. Chaney said he had not. Mayor Milani asked Mr. Chaney if there had been any inquiries into the open property where Gabriel Brothers was. Mr. Chaney said that there have been many people entertaining the idea of the property, except the rental cost per square foot is costly with the way the economy is currently.

Now at this time Renell Noack of 307 Ledge Rd spoke regarding the Village flags. She stated that she took the proposal to the Ladies Auxillary, and they will be incurring the total cost of all of the Village's flags, and for \$300 less than the original bid that the Service Department had. Mrs. Noack hopes to have the flags next week. Mr. Riedel stated that Anita Swenson donated a \$170 to purchase a flag and pole for the Council Chambers. Mayor Milani commended her for her generous donation.

Mayor Milani reported that the grand opening of the Ohio Department of Motor Vehicles is at 10:30a on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 and that Council is invited to attend.

Finance Director, Bob Riedel stated that he did receive some reconciled bank statements but not all of them. Mr. Riedel is waiting to check with the bank before he distributes the reconciled bank statements and financial statements to council.

Engineer, Rich Wasosky covered his engineer's report (see attached). Mr. Wasosky stated regarding the May Avenue sewer project there are still 5 properties that they need easements on, which 4 of them are obtained. Mr. Wasosky advised council to proceed with Eminent Domain to continue on with this project. He stated if council approves the Eminent Domain, then the Village needs to hire an appraiser to appraise the value of the easements. Motion was made by Mrs. Bowen and seconded by Mr. Noack to begin Eminent Domain proceedings on May Avenue P.P.N. 4101671 & 4101672 from Jill L. Herman for sewers. Motion carried with 5 ayes.

Law Director Brad Bryan stated that the dumpster citations have been prepared, signed and filed containing seven different charges. Mayor Milani stated there is light at the end of the tunnel since the Plaza is down to 3-4 left. The court date is set for October 7th. Council stated that they will waive one week for the final corrections to be made and if they are not, the matter will go to court.

Now Police Chief Mark Wentz covered his police report (see attached).

Fire Chief Gary Vojtush stated he did not have a report at this time.

Mr. Wasosky reported for the Planning Commission that the plaque was approved for the last lot on Houghton Rd.

Mrs. Greenlee of the Finance Committee was absent. There will be a Finance meeting on Wednesday, September 24, 2008 at 6:30pm.

Mr. Noack of the Roads/Public Works Commission asked for a motion to be made for Resolution 2008-51. Brad Bryan explained Resolution 2008-51, An Emergency Resolution authorizing the purchase of a Case 721 BXR Wheel Loader for the Service Department. Mr. Noack moved to suspend the rules, and Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion carried with 5 ayes. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Noack and seconded by Mr. Nehez. This was approved with 5 aye votes. Mr. Noack stated that the electrical work will be started soon at the Smith Rd pavilion. Mayor Milani asked Mr. Nehez if Doan Pyramid got back to us about the electrical bid for the Village. Mr. Nehez stated that he hasn't heard anything.

Mr. Lewis stated that there were no reports from Health and Welfare at this time.

Mr. Nehez of the Building and Grounds Committee wanted to thank Doris Wolf and Anita Swenson for the plants. Mr. Nehez also stated that he feels two ceiling fans should be purchased for the Council Chambers.

There were no reports from Wages and Working from Mr. Barber.

Mrs. Bowen of the Fire and Safety Committee said that there will be a Fire and Safety meeting on Monday, September 15, 2008 at 7:30p at the Village Hall. Also the discussion at the meeting will be about the levy.

In the Old Business, Mr. Lewis wanted to thank Chief Wentz, Sergeant Mackie and Sergeant Zolcus in regards to the Josh Miktarian benefit. He also wanted to thank Mrs. Greenlee for donating the woman's watch. Mrs. Bowen stated that Holly Miktarian and family wanted to everyone involved with the benefit.

In the New Business Chief Gary Vojtush announced that the tickets are on sale for the Fire Department clambake to be held at Scoreboards on October 18th for \$25. Mr. Nehez

stated that he is now a trustee for the Northfield Historical Society. Mayor Milani stated that there would be a work session with the council and Cherie Dimmerling regarding the Fair Lending and Fair Housing Grants on Monday, September 15, 2008 at 7:15p.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 PM following a motion by Mrs. Bowen and second by Mr. Noack. The motion carried with 5 ayes.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Lisa M. Rodriguez

Lisa M. Rodriguez, Administrative Clerk

Attest:

President of Council _____

Clerk of Council