

The Village of Northfield
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
October 24, 2007

Mayor Milani called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM following the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called by Bob Riedel with the following present: Mrs. Greenlee, Mr. Barber, Mr. Nehez, Mr. Noack, Mr. Lewis, and Mrs. Bowen. Law Director Brad Bryan, Fire Captain Jason Buss, and Assistant Service Superintendent Chris While were also present.

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2007 Council meeting was made by Mrs. Greenlee and seconded by Mr. Noack. It carried with 6 ayes.

In Petitions, Memorials and Remonstrances, Larry Boley of 116 Summit Avenue asked if there is a time limit on home remodeling projects, complaining that a neighbor's front porch project had been left unfinished for a year. Chris While answered that permits are usually good for 6 months, but that he thought the home in question had been taken back by the bank. He will look into it. Mr. Bryan added that the bank would then bear responsibility.

Mayor Milani reminded everyone that the annual Halloween party sponsored by the Police Department will take place on Wednesday, October 31st, from 5:30 to 8:30 PM. Mrs. Swenson and Linda Downey will again lend their assistance. The Mayor further reported that the retail outfit interested in becoming the anchor tenant at the former Gabriel Brothers store is still in the offer and counter-offer stage. There is now a third option that the company might also purchase the Plaza. Scorcher's opening is set for the week of November 20th.

Finance Director Bob Riedel asked for a motion to accept the Clerk of Court's report for September, 2007. The motion to accept the report as submitted was made by Mrs. Greenlee and seconded by Mrs. Bowen. It carried with 6 ayes.

Law Director Brad Bryan had nothing to report at this time.

Fire Captain Jason Buss reported that the Department is now at 437 calls for the year to date. He stated that the Fire Department is agreeable to either of the two new ambulances in question and hopes one can be ordered and delivered in the next three weeks. Finance Director Bob Riedel commented that the paperwork on the second (larger) truck must be done, the financing must be secured, and the bidding process must start again. Paperwork on the smaller truck is complete. A poll of Council members showed that they prefer the larger truck, so Bob will get the quotes. Purchase of the larger truck would require financing \$9,000.00 more than the smaller truck's \$74,423.00 figure. First Merit gave the best quote on financing, so Bob will call them with information on the larger truck and request a 5-year loan. A Special Council Meeting will be held on November 7th at 7:30 PM for the purpose of approving the purchase of the larger ambulance.

Chris reported that the Service Department is trying to finish road patching and catch basins in advance of the winter season. There should be sufficient road salt on hand. So far, there is no need for a Planning Commission meeting in November.

At this time, Brad read Ordinance 2007-54, an emergency Ordinance approving the payment of bills for the month of October, 2007. Mrs. Greenlee made a motion for passage, Mrs. Bowen seconded, and the payments were approved with 6 aye votes.

Mr. Nehez and Mr. Lewis asked about the Village's outstanding loan payment obligations. Bob gave a short rundown on the various payments, explaining which fund each payment comes from, and said he would furnish copies to Council members. The Mayor stated that if Council members have questions of a financial or legal nature, they should be asked of Bob or Brad either before or after Council meetings or during regular business hours. His wish is that new Council members be required to take "Council 101" (the basics of legislation and reading financial statements) at the beginning of their term, which Bob had offered when they first took office. Mr. Lewis took offense to the comment.

Mr. Lewis of Roads and Public Works reported that the May Avenue project, completed prior to Mayor Milani's term, is in need of repairs. This will be addressed in the next couple weeks. There were no reports from Health and Welfare or Buildings and Grounds. Mr. Barber of Wages and Working reported that we are in the middle of union negotiations with the IAM. The Mayor added that the next sessions are Friday and Monday, both at 10:00 AM. Mrs. Bowen had no report for Fire and Safety.

At this time, Brad read Resolution 2007-55, an emergency Resolution authorizing certain amendments to the Annual Appropriation Ordinance. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Noack and seconded by Mr. Lewis. It carried with 6 ayes. Mrs. Bowen made a motion for passage, Mr. Barber seconded, and the amendments were approved with 6 aye votes.

Next on the agenda was Resolution 2007-56, establishing Chapter 1480 of the Codified Ordinances relating to outdoor patios on which smoking is permitted at commercial establishments. It was put on First Reading to be reviewed by Planning Commission.

In New Business, Bob explained to Council that the three members who attended the public records class and received certificates are also giving credit to the three members who did not attend, as the course is required of all members before the end of their term. The Mayor reported that the games of chance/skill issue has been addressed by the Governor with a decision that there can be no cash payoffs over \$10.00. The whole issue should now be put to rest. Mr. Nehez wished everyone running for election or re-election good luck on November 6th. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM following a motion by Mrs. Bowen and second by Mrs. Greenlee. The motion carried with 6 ayes.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Cheryl Kennon

Cheryl Kennon, Administrative Clerk

Attest:

President of Council _____

Clerk of Council