

# The Village of Northfield

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

February 10, 2016

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Nehez.

ROLL CALL was read by Tricia Ingrassia. The following were present: Mayor Nehez, Councilpersons Nick Magistrelli, Jenn Domzalski, Jim Daugherty, Alan Hipps, Gary Vojtush, and Renell Noack. In addition, Law Director Brad Bryan, Village Engineer Richard Wasosky, Police Chief Mark Wentz, and Service Department Director Jason Walters were present. Fire Chief Jason Buss was absent.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Approval of the Minutes of the January 27, 2016 Regular Council Meeting. Motion to approve made by Councilman Hipps, seconded by Councilwoman Domzalski. Councilman Daugherty stated he did not get a copy of the minutes and did not have time to look in his email. Councilwoman Noack also reported she did not get the minutes and does not have a password for her e-mail yet. Councilpersons Vojtush, Magistrelli, Hipps and Domzalski voted to approve minutes, Councilpersons Daugherty and Noack abstained. Minutes approved.

### **RESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES:**

Keith Czerr spoke about the intersection heading South on State Route 8 right before you make a left turn on Ledge Road. The double yellow stripe only gives enough room for one car to make a left turn. Mr. Czerr expressed his concern about cars going over the double yellow line. Village Engineer Rich Wasosky explained that we do not have a sufficient right-of-way there to have the regular length of a turning lane with a regular standard taper. We would have to buy an additional right-of-way near that intersection and that side (west) is in Sagamore Hills. Rich stated he thinks it is a 50 foot length before the taper, which would fit two cars, and you are not supposed to go over the double yellow line. Rich stated it is the best situation for the right-of-way we have. Keith said everyone should go look at it. He feels it is a lame situation. He almost got hit the other day. Councilman Daugherty asked if the Police cite for this offense. Chief Wentz advised they do not. Councilman Daugherty advised Council will meet with the Chief and discuss the situation. Law Director Brad Bryan advised the State of Ohio is in charge of striping on State Rt.8.

Charlotte Bowser asked if anyone's heard "Where there's smoke there's fire"? Charlotte stated she is hearing things about the Village finances that are troubling her. She wants to know why the carryover is now a million dollars and where did this extra money come from? She also asked about late payments, how many are there? It bothers her that the answer she keeps hearing is I don't know. Charlotte also wanted to address the Finance Committee. She wants to know why the President of Council is on the Committee. Who will he call, himself? And what if something happens to the Mayor? She feels they didn't think the situation through. Finance Director Tricia Ingrassia stated she is not sure what report or what was reported under the former Finance Director last fall. She can only discuss what she is reporting. In December, \$466,000 was transferred from the TIF Fund to the General Fund. In addition, the Village received \$250,000 from the Hard Rock in December. The total of those amounts is over \$700,000. Those amounts, plus the regular flow of revenue, may be the reason for the increase.

Councilman Vojtush stated when former Finance Director Tim Clymer gave his report he said the \$250,000 from the Hard Rock was included at that time. Councilman Vojtush stated that he is happy we have more money, but would like to know why the earlier amount was not correct. Law Director Brad Bryan stated he doesn't know if the \$300,000 number was a projection at that time. He also stated we received \$250,000 from the State in October and that may be what Tim was referring to rather than the additional \$250,000 payment from the Hard Rock that was received in December.

Charlotte Bowser questioned a gas bill that was not paid from last year. If one bill wasn't paid, how many other bills did not get paid. Tricia Ingrassia advised she did find that that bill was paid. The check stub is in her office for \$1,029.11. It must have been lost in the mail because they never cashed it. It is on the outstanding check list. Councilman Vojtush stated that the statements Council got for September and October do not show that. He said he would like to know where that check came from. Tricia asked whether Councilperson Vojtush was talking about the statements from September and October of 2015. He stated they do not show a Landmark payment. Tricia advised she looked through what was posted, and it does show as posted. She will look it over again.

Bill Roemer, a Richfield resident, who represents Northfield Village (and all of Summit County) as a member of the Summit County Educational Services Center Board of Governors spoke. Mr. Roemer stated he is meeting with all the School Boards in Summit County and also goes to each community every year so he can understand the issues all of the communities are facing. Mr. Roemer wanted to let everyone know he is also running for Summit County Executive. One of his promises is that there will be representation for north of Graham Road in Summit County. Mr. Roemer advised he will be available after the meeting if anyone has any questions or comments and thanked everyone for their time.

Howard Shafron, owner of Northfield Plaza, said he has called the Mayor several times to set up meetings with him and he gets no response. He asked the Mayor if he has office hours, and what does he need to do to schedule a meeting with him. Mayor Nehez advised his office hours are 5-7 Monday-Friday, or Mr. Shafron can call Lisa Rodriguez and she can set up an appointment. Mr. Shafron also asked if anyone is aware of the current traffic count on Route 8. Rich Wasosky advised it is approximately 19,000 a day.

#### **REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS:**

**MAYOR JESSE J. NEHEZ** - No report.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR TRICIA INGRASSIA**- Ms. Ingrassia reported that she attended an Income Tax Seminar sponsored by the Regional Income Tax Agency and received updates on HB 394 and the changes to the tax laws that apply to municipal tax collections. Tricia reported she toured the facility and discussed their services and requested an apples-to-apples comparison of the services provided by RITA as opposed to those provided by CCA and a quote for transferring our income tax collections. She would like to further discuss this issue with Council in a work session. Tricia would also like the RITA team to give Council a presentation at the February 24th Council meeting.

Council scheduled a work session for Wednesday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the RITA matter.

**ENGINEER RICHARD WASOSKY**- Report attached.

Mayor Nehez asked Rich to get some numbers on how much it would cost to mill and fill the Presidential Subdivision. Rich advised he did give everyone those numbers, and he will get that information to him.

**LAW DIRECTOR BRADRIC BRYAN**-

Mr. Bryan asked for approval for the Mayor's Court Monthly disbursement report for December, 2015 totaling 11,349.72. A motion to accept was made by Councilman Vojtush, seconded by Council President Magistrelli. All in favor.

Brad Bryan thanked Sgt.Det. Carlile for his hard work on a homicide case involving a baby. The suspect, who was the father of the baby, pled guilty to manslaughter and was sentenced to 11 years. Brad stated Sgt. Det. Carlile did an extra-ordinary job on the investigation.

Chief Wentz reported he nominated Sgt.Det.Carlile for the Lieutenant John Ed Duvall, Jr. Award for top Detective in the County. Sgt. Det. Carlile has previously won that award on multiple occasions.

## **DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**Police Department, Chief Mark Wentz-** Report attached.

Councilman Vojtush said he noticed on social media a lot of pandering in the Village and asked Chief Wentz if they were able to catch the people that are doing this. Chief Wentz advised he is only aware of one incident that happened on former Council President's street. Officer Olesinski responded. Chief Wentz advised at this time we should not have solicitors in the Village, since no one has applied for a permit. Councilman Vojtush said he heard a man was asking for a few dollars, and he said he was from Garfield Hts. and his house burned down. On another occasion, there was a man at the Plaza asking for money. Brad Bryan advised if it is on public property there is nothing that can be done unless the person is being aggressive or threatening. If it is on private property, the property owner can tell him to leave. If they refuse, the Police can respond and arrest the person for trespassing.

Councilwoman Domzalski asked Chief Wentz how many positions he is looking to fill in the Police Department. Chief Wentz said it depends on their available hours. He wants to get away from Officers double badging so their work hours are more flexible.

**Fire Chief, Jason Buss-** No Report.

**Service/Building Supervisor, Jason Walters-**Mr. Walters reported there has been very little snow, which has been nice. The only issue is they have to order and receive 80% of their allotment of salt. The senior citizens have not needed their driveways plowed yet this season. All equipment is working well.

Councilman Daugherty asked about the pole that was hit in front of his house. He is still fighting with Time Warner Cable. He talked to Officer Zajac, who made one phone call, and the next day Time Warner Cable responded and moved their equipment. Councilman Daugherty stated he is now fighting with Windstream. There are wires that are ripping out of his and his neighbor's house. Councilman Daugherty asked if someone can make a phone call to resolve this problem. Jason Walters said he will make a call and said to ask Sgt. Zajac to call as well.

## **REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

**PLANNING COMMISSION, ALAN E. HIPPS-**No report.

**RECREATION BOARD, MAYOR NEHEZ-** Meeting March 3rd at 7:30 to discuss Easter.

**CEMETERY BOARD, BEATRICE GREENLEE-** Report attached.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**FINANCE, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MAGISTRELLI:** Meeting February 24 at 6:30.

**ROADS/PUBLIC WORKS, COUNCILMAN DAUGHERTY:-** No report.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE, RENELL NOACK:** - No report.

**WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS, COUNCILMAN VOJTUSH:-** No report.

**FIRE AND SAFETY, COUNCILWOMAN DOMZALSKI:-** No report.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, COUNCILMAN HIPPS:-**No report.

## **LEGISLATION**

**2016-05** - A Resolution Authorizing Euthenics, Inc. to Complete the Preliminary Design Phase for the Ledge Road Reconstruction Phase 2 Project. Third Reading - By request of Rich Wasosky, this Resolution will be tabled until Macedonia passes their legislation.

**2016-09** – An Emergency Ordinance Amending Sections 230.01 and 238.07 and Establishing Section 230.015 of the Codified Ordinances Relating to Monthly Financial Statements to Council, the Authority to Purchase, and the Payment of Claims. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading. It was decided that this Ordinance go on 3rd reading at the next Regular Council Meeting.

**2016-11** -An Emergency Resolution Pertaining to the Rate of Pay for the Police Chief. First Reading. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Councilman Vojtush and seconded by Councilman Daugherty. All in favor, zero opposed. A motion to pass was made by Councilman Vojtush and seconded by Councilman Daugherty.

Brad Bryan stated Chief Wentz spoke with him yesterday in regards to his other benefits and brought up the issue that he currently gets 12 holidays as mandated in the Codified Ordinances while the Police Union Contract provides for 13 holidays. He wanted clarification. Brad advised him if Council would want to make a change, the Codified Ordinances would need to be amended. On the personal day issue, the Union Contract maxes out at five personal days, while the Codified Ordinances max out at four days. In the Codified Ordinances, the Chief gets an extra week of vacation because the Police Union contract maxes out for vacation at four weeks plus 5 personal days. Brad advised that the Chief is ahead of the Union Contract in that situation. All in favor to pass, zero opposed.

**2016-12** – An Emergency Resolution Authorizing Certain Amendments to the 2016 Temporary Appropriation Resolution and / or Transferring Items already Appropriated in that Resolution. First Reading.

Councilman Vojtush asked if the \$100,000 transfer from the General Fund to the Fire Fund is due to the new personnel put on full-time that we didn't have in the budget last year. Tricia advised this year's temporary budget is completely different from last year's budget.

A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Councilman Vojtush and seconded by Councilman Hipps. All in favor, zero opposed. A motion to pass was made by Councilman Vojtush, seconded by Council President Magistrelli. All in favor, zero opposed. Motion passed.

**2016-13** – An Emergency Ordinance Amending Section 1262.05(f) of the Planning and Zoning Code Relating to Zoning Certificates. First Reading. It was decided that this Ordinance will also be discussed at the work session and will be put on second reading at the next Regular Council Meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS; ANNOUNCEMENTS; NEW BUSINESS.**

Mayor Nehez announced the Village has received plans for an addition to the Rocksino.

**ADJOURNMENT** –A Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Hipps, seconded by Councilman Daugherty. All in favor, zero opposed. Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Tricia Ingrassia, Clerk of Council

**VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD  
ENGINEER'S REPORT – RICHARD S. WASOSKY, P.E., P.S.**

**February 10, 2016**

*Subject:* Ledge Road Reconstruction Phase 1 Final Plans and Right of Way

*Comment:* I am currently completing the final plans, specifications and right of way for the project. The right of way document should be completed by February 26, 2016. Brad Bryan should handle the negotiations with the six property owners.

*Subject:* Ledge Road Reconstruction Phase 2 Plans and Application

*Comment:* I forwarded the revised 2016 consent legislation to the new engineer for the City of Macedonia for both the grant application and loan application for the Ledge Road Reconstruction Phase 2. The Engineer indicated the project was a high priority with the Mayor of Macedonia. Hopefully, Macedonia Council will pass the legislation within the next 30 days. I recommend holding off passing of the Northfield legislation for the project until after Macedonia passes their legislation.

*Subject:* Summit County Phase II Dry Weather Stormwater Screening

*Comment:* Summit County Health Department has sent the Village a copy of their 2015 Phase II Dry Weather Screening Report for the Village of Northfield. The Report indicated only one sample area was in violation and classified as a nuisance. This location is in the outfall stream at Victory Blvd. near Houghton Road. The coliform count was 5100 fecal colonies per 100 ml which is slightly higher than the acceptable maximum 5000 fecal colonies per 100 ml standard. The Village is responsible for investigating this source of this contamination and for its elimination if possible. I will investigate this further.

*Subject:* 2015 NEORS D Compliance Report

*Comment:* I will complete the required Compliance Report after I discuss with Jason Walters the maintenance items done by the Village last year and forward a copy of the report to NEORS D later this month.

*Subject:* NEORS D Watershed Advisory Committee Meeting

*Comment:* I attended the NEORS D Watershed Advisory Committee Meeting on February 10, 2016 to discuss the Regional Stormwater Management Project cost sharing, inspection and maintenance program along with the schedule for stream monitoring, master plans and stormwater construction planned for 2016 and 2017.

# Council Meeting

February 10, 2016

## ■ PERSONNEL:

- **Officer Andrew Dziak** completed his last shift on January 28, 2016. We wish him the best as he begins his full-time career with the City of Medina Police Department.
- **Officer Joseph Beltrami** completed his field training and has been placed into the regular rotation.
- **Congratulations to Det. Sgt. Edwards Carlile**, who received a Special Thank You in Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Benvan Walsh's February Newsletter. She wrote,

*“Detective Carlile was relentless in getting to the bottom of what happened in the Delery baby murder case. And even though Delery gave investigators nine different accounts of what happened, Detective Carlile was able to put the pieces together for his investigation and prosecution. Detective Carlile continues to do outstanding work, and is a two-time winner of our TOP COP Award.”*

Delery was sentenced to 11 years in prison, the maximum allowed under the plea agreement.

Chief Wentz is also nominating Det. Sgt. Carlile for the **2016 Lieutenant John “Ed” Duvall, Jr. Award**. This prestigious award is given annually to a Summit County law enforcement officer of any rank who has demonstrated tenacity, commitment and integrity while investigating or responding to situations of abuse or neglect which have affected families and children of Summit County. Det. Sgt. Carlile is a very worthy candidate for this award. Submission deadline is March 11, 2016.

- We have pulled several applications and begun backgrounds on potential candidates to fill part-time positions we have available. Chief Wentz hopes to have potential candidate information available for review by the first council meeting in March.

## ■ END OF THE YEAR REPORT:

- Chief Wentz has completed the **2015 Police Department Annual Report**. A copy of the Power Point presentation is being provided to Mayor Nehez and each member of council to review at their leisure. With Mayor Nehez's approval, the report will also be made available for viewing on the Village's webpage.

■ End of Report ■

Respectfully submitted by Police Chief Mark C. Wentz

# *The Village of Northfield*

## January Cemetery Board Meeting Report

1. 2% raise across the board.
2. 15 more trees must be removed.
3. Prices for a grave has been increased from \$500.00 to \$650.00.
4. Saturday surcharges are now the same fee for any time of the day.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Beatrice Greenlee