

The Village of Northfield

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

September 12, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nehez at 7:30 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Nehez.

ROLL CALL was read by Tricia Ingrassia. The following officials were present: Mayor Nehez, Councilpersons Nick Magistrelli, Keith Czerr, Jenn Domzalski, Alan Hipps, Renell Noack, and Gary Vojtush. Also present were Law Director Brad Bryan and Fire Lieutenant Joe Zemek.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

A motion to approve the Minutes for the July 25, 2018 Council Meeting was made by Ms. Noack and seconded by Ms. Domzalski. All were in favor of approval of the Minutes from the July 25, 2018 Council Meeting; none were opposed.

A motion to approve the Minutes for the August 22, 2018 Council Meeting was made by Ms. Domzalski and seconded by Mr. Magistrelli. All were in favor of approval of the Minutes from the August 22, 2018 Council Meeting; none were opposed.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, AND REMONSTRANCES:

Harold Wiegand of 9218 Cranbrook Drive wanted to discuss the requirements of the new garbage contract. Mr. Wiegand stated he is concerned the cans may be too large to drag from the house to the curb. Mr. Wiegand stated he presently just puts a bag down at the curb for collection once a week. Mr. Wiegand hoped the new receptacles weren't going to be mandatory. Mr. Bryan responded stating the new contractor is using automated rubbish trucks, and the contract requires residents to use the contractor's containers. Mr. Bryan stated there is a smaller container available. Mr. Wiegand asked to amend the contract so that senior citizens are not obligated to haul the large receptacle to the curb in the winter months.

Jim Daugherty of 214 Magnolia Avenue approached the Mayor and Council regarding the prior meeting. Mr. Daugherty stated he watched the video that was discussed at the prior Council Meeting four times regarding an altercation involving Mr. Czerr and the Northfield Village Police Department. Mr. Daugherty continued he saw no fault by the Police Department members involved. Mr. Daugherty then asked Mr. Czerr how he can hold a seat on Council if he is anti-government and uncomfortable voting on matters that impact the residents' rights. Mr. Czerr stated he takes his position on Council very seriously, and he considers his constituents' opinion before he makes a decision. A discussion ensued regarding the current ordinances governing parking on grass and the height of residential lawns. Ms. Domzalski suggested that perhaps the instance at the prior Council Meeting could have been avoided had Mr. Czerr had a private conversation behind closed doors instead of bringing up the topic on the Council floor. Mr. Czerr stated he has had other residents come forward with instances of mistreatment from our Police Department. Mr. Czerr stated he doesn't feel the Police should have treated him in the irrational way they did, and there are other people that have been mistreated that intend to come forward. Mr. Czerr then said his goal is only to have the Police Department treat the residents with decency and respect. Mr. Czerr then apologized to Mr. Daugherty if he was embarrassed by his actions.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS:

Mayor Jesse Nehez – Mayor Nehez stated he would present his report in conjunction with the Roads and Public Works report.

Finance Director, Tricia Ingrassia – Ms. Ingrassia requested a motion for acknowledgment of receipt of the July 2018 month end reconciliation and reports. A motion for acknowledgment of receipt was made by Mr. Magistrelli and seconded by Mr. Hipps. All were in favor of the acknowledgment of receipt of the July 2018 month end reconciliation and reports; none were opposed.

Ms. Ingrassia then asked for a motion for approval of an increase in audit expenses since the audit has taken longer than originally anticipated. Ms. Ingrassia continued the previous estimate for audit expenses was \$13,671, and the revised audit expenses are \$15,926. A motion for approval of the new audit expenses was made by Mr. Magistrelli and seconded by Ms. Noack. All were in favor of the increase in audit expenses; none were opposed.

Ms. Ingrassia next discussed this year's medical renewals. Ms. Ingrassia stated this renewal is a two year, 9.9% increase, and the 24 month premium payment will be waived, saving the Village one month's premium. Ms. Ingrassia stated the Mayor has already accepted this offer because it was too good to pass up. Ms. Ingrassia added had the Village waited, they would have rescinded the offer. Mr. Vojtush asked if this would be passed as an emergency measure. Mr. Bryan stated the resolution would need to be passed tonight.

Engineer, Rich Wasosky – Report attached.

Regarding Ledge Road, Mr. Vojtush asked for clarification on the traffic pattern and closures so he wouldn't be misinforming the residents. Mr. Wasosky clarified the traffic pattern and closures will remain the same as they have been until the project is complete and the laborers are off the road. Mr. Czerr inquired why the project was not complete prior to the start of school as was specified in the papers. Mr. Wasosky responded he is not responsible for what is printed in the papers, but the project is scheduled to be complete more than a month ahead of schedule.

Regarding Victory Boulevard/Houghton Road, Mayor Nehez stated the Village will hold this project until next year and add it to the Houghton Road project. Mr. Vojtush asked if the Village added the project to the Houghton Road project if we would receive a less expensive rate. Mr. Wasosky stated it has to remain a separate project because of the grant money received for Houghton Road. Mr. Hipps inquired whether there was a way to secure the plate so it isn't being moved this winter by our plow trucks. Mayor Nehez stated he would ask Mr. Walters if there is something that can be done to alleviate that issue.

Law Director, Brad Bryan – Mr. Bryan had no report, but he did request that Council go into Executive Session after the regular business portion of the Council Meeting.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Police Department, Chief John Zolgus – Chief Zolgus will be at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Fire Department, Lt. Zemek – No report.

Service Department, Jason Walters – Mr. Walters will be at the next Regular Council Meeting.

REPORTS OF THE MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Planning Commission, Mr. Hipps – Mr. Hipps stated there will be no Planning Commission meeting, but there will be a Sign Ordinance Update Project meeting on September 19, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall.

Recreation Board, Mayor Nehez – Mayor Nehez stated the Recreation Board met to discuss the Halloween Party, donations, and the use of the NOPEC grant money. Mayor Nehez also stated the movie in the park was discussed, and there were a number of factors that made the attendance low for this year. Mayor Nehez stated the next Recreation Board meeting will be October 4, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee, Mr. Magistrelli – No report.

Roads/Public Works, Ms. Domzalski – Ms. Domzalski stated Mr. Walters distributed some information to Council regarding curb replacement, and she asked Mayor Nehez to elaborate. Mayor Nehez stated the curbs in the tree streets have many areas that are in bad repair, and Mid-Ohio Asphalt has offered to repair the damaged sections of curbs and put an overlay over top of all the curbs for the price of \$29,500. Mayor Nehez asked Ms. Ingrassia if this was financially feasible. Ms. Ingrassia stated these repairs were not in the original budget and would require an appropriation amendment and transfer from the General Fund. Mr. Hipps asked if the estimate included backing the curbs and landscaping. Ms. Ingrassia stated she did not believe those additions were in the original estimate, but they would have to ask Mr. Walters. Mr. Vojtush asked if this decision could be put into a work session. Mr. Magistrelli said he would like to speak with Mr. Walters and work on a date and time to discuss the matter in a Work Session.

Health and Welfare, Mr. Czerr – Mr. Czerr asked if there was a way to put crosswalks on the side streets that line State Route 8. Mr. Vojtush asked if crosswalks could be added to the Work Session to discuss the curbs on the tree streets.

Wages and Working Conditions, Mr. Vojtush – No report.

Fire and Safety, Ms. Noack – Ms. Noack stated there were three candidates that tested for the Sergeant's exam. Ms. Noack said Chief Zolcus would like legislation for the next meeting for the top two scoring officers to be appointed as Sergeants.

Buildings and Grounds, Mr. Hipps – No report.

LEGISLATION:

2018-54 – An Emergency Ordinance Amending Section 1060.02 of the Codified Ordinances Relating to Residential Garbage and Rubbish Storage Containers (Second Reading). The Ordinance was read by title. Mr. Vojtush asked for this Ordinance to proceed to a third reading at the next Council Meeting. Council agreed.

2018-57 – An Emergency Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Amend the 2018-2020 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the IAM (First Reading). The Resolution was read by title. Mr. Bryan stated the changes appearing in the revised agreement were discussed at the last meeting. The amended Agreement includes changes due to the Supreme Court ruling pertaining to membership and fair share fees and the addition of the provisions related to the Office Assistant position. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Mr. Magistrelli and seconded by Mr. Vojtush. All were in favor of suspending the three reading rule; none were opposed. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Vojtush and seconded by Mr. Magistrelli. All were in favor of passage; none were opposed. The Resolution was adopted.

2018-58 – An Emergency Ordinance Amending Section 232.03 of the Codified Ordinances Relating to the Position of Part-Time Office Assistant (First Reading). The Ordinance was read by title. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Ms. Domzalski and seconded by Mr. Magistrelli. All were in favor of suspending the three reading rule; none were opposed. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Vojtush and seconded by Ms. Noack. All were in favor of passage; none were opposed. The Ordinance was adopted.

2018-59 – An Emergency Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into Agreements for Employee Medical, Dental, and Vision Coverage (First Reading). The Resolution was read by title. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Mr. Vojtush and seconded by Mr. Hipps. All were in favor of suspending the three reading rule; none were opposed. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Vojtush and seconded by Ms. Noack. All were in favor of passage; none were opposed. The Resolution was adopted.

2018-60 – An Emergency Ordinance Amending Section 246.065 of the Administrative Code Relating to Ambulance Emergency Squad Service and Delivery of Additional Fire Department Services (First Reading). The Ordinance was read by title. Mr. Bryan explained this amendment was brought to the Finance Director's attention by the Auditor of State, and it's to update the cost of the ambulance billing. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Mr. Vojtush and seconded by Ms. Noack. All were in favor of suspending the three reading rule; none were opposed. A motion for passage was made by Mr. Vojtush and seconded by Mr. Magistrelli. All were in favor of passage; none were opposed. The Ordinance was adopted.

OLD BUSINESS; NEW BUSINESS; ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Czerr asked who presides over the Council Meetings, the Mayor or the Council President. Mr. Bryan stated the Mayor presides over the meetings under the Village's form of government. Mr. Czerr asked if we used Robert's Rules. Mr. Bryan stated the Village has its own rules for Council but Robert's Rules apply when those rules are silent.

Mr. Magistrelli stated he and the Mayor met with Superintendent Joe Clark regarding Ledge Road. Mr. Magistrelli continued that Superintendent Clark was pleased with the way the Village handled the construction site during school dismissal, and he thanked the Village and Council.

Mr. Vojtush made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the status of the collective bargaining agreement with the IAM and a grievance. That motion was seconded by Ms.

Domzalski. Roll Call: Mr. Czerr: Yes, Ms. Noack: Yes, Mr. Vojtush: Yes, Mr. Magistrelli: Yes, Mr. Hipps: Yes, Ms. Domzalski: Yes. Council went into Executive Session at 9:03 p.m.

A motion to come out of Executive Session was made by Mr. Magistrelli and seconded by Mr. Vojtush. Roll Call: Mr. Czerr: Yes, Ms. Noack: Yes, Mr. Vojtush: Yes, Mr. Magistrelli: Yes, Mr. Hipps: Yes, Ms. Domzalski: Yes. The Executive Session ended at 9:24 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Domzalski and seconded by Ms. Noack. All were in favor of adjournment; none were opposed. The Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Tricia Ingrassia, Clerk of Council