

# The Village of Northfield

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 8, 2020

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

The **ROLL CALL** was read by Ms. Potvin. The following officials were present: Mayor Nehez and Councilpersons Nick Magistrelli, Jenn Domzalski, Renell Noack, Gary Vojtush, Keith Czerr, and Alan Hipps. Also present for the meeting were Law Director Brad Bryan, Service Superintendent Jason Walters, Fire Chief Jason Buss, Police Chief John Zolgus, Engineer Rich Wasosky, and Finance Director/Clerk of Council Jennifer Potvin.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion to approve the Minutes for the March 23, 2020 Council Meeting was made by Ms. Noack and seconded Ms. Domzalski. Roll call vote: Mr. Czerr-yes; Ms. Noack-yes; Mr. Vojtush-abstain; Mr. Magistrelli-yes; Mr. Hipps-yes; Ms. Domzalski-yes. The March 23, 2020 Minutes were approved.

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, AND REMONSTRANCES:** None.

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

**Mayor Jesse Nehez** – No report.

**Finance Director, Jennifer Potvin** – No report.

**Engineer, Rich Wasosky** –

- Miller cable installed the new signal camera at the Fire Station and removed old equipment. The company will remove additional old equipment at Village Hall next week.
- The Zaremba Group/Dollar General project construction work has started.

**Law Director, Brad Bryan** – Mr. Bryan stated all Mayor's Court sessions have been suspended until June. All of the cases have been continued until then. Mr. Bryan contacted the lowest bidding contractor for the Fire Station Addition and Renovation Project and was advised the company has no intention of withdrawing its bid. The company is ready to move forward with the project when and if the Village is ready to do so.

### **DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**Police Department, Chief John Zolgus** – Chief Zolgus emailed everyone his report. The Chief thanked Mayor Nehez for permitting the Department to have the resources to sanitize the station and all of the vehicles during this COVID-19 State of Emergency.

**Fire Department, Chief Jason Buss** – Chief Buss emailed everyone his report. He stated he wanted to let everyone know Ohio was declared a FEMA disaster area on March 13, 2020 and the Village has been assigned a tracking #EM2457. The disaster time period is retroactive to January 20, 2020 and lasts until the mitigation period is over. Chief Buss stated he would provide an expenditures form to all department heads that should be used to track all expenditures related to

the crisis. He stated he will prepare the master spreadsheet if everyone could email him any pertinent expenses. Those expenses include extra shifts for employees, gloves, software needed for tonight's Council Meeting, cleaning supplies, disinfectants, and all other expenses regarding COVID-19. If everyone tracks the expenses when they occur, it will be easier to submit the claim when the time comes rather than trying to remember and recreate the information a year from now. Chief Buss also reminded Council to review the FEMA NIMS 100/700 training online. Ms. Noack asked Chief Buss to email everyone the information so they will have the correct information to access. Chief Buss stated he would do so.

**Service Dept., Jason Walters** – Mr. Walters sent an email to everyone about the trash pickup modifications during the period of emergency and why the Village is not ordering extra dumpsters. Very few phone calls and emails on that issue have been received by the Service Department. Mr. Vojtush thanked Mr. Walters for meeting with him to discuss the dumpster situation the other day. He stated he is 100% in agreement with Mr. Walters on that issue. Mr. Czerr asked how much an additional dumpster costs. Ms. Noack stated she spoke with Lisa Rodriguez a couple days ago about the cost of one dumpster for the May clean-up month, and it was about \$3,700. She stated that cost does not fit with trying to watch the budget during this period. Mr. Czerr clarified he was asking about the cost for a resident to get an additional garbage container from Waste Management. Mr. Walters said he spoke with Waste Management about this issue and was advised that it wants only one can per resident during the period of emergency. Mr. Walters stated the Village is still planning on the May Spring Cleanup, but the Village may have to move it back to June, depending on what happens.

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

**Planning Commission, Mr. Hipps** – No report.

**Recreation Board, Mayor Nehez** – No report.

**Cemetery Board, Mayor Nehez** – No report.

#### **REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Finance Committee, Mr. Magistrelli** – No report.

**Roads and Public Works, Ms. Domzalski** – No report.

**Health and Welfare, Mr. Czerr** – No report.

**Wages and Working Conditions, Mr. Vojtush** – Mr. Vojtush asked how the employees who are not working are being paid and whether they are using sick time or are just being paid. Mr. Bryan stated the initial two week stay at home period expired the end of the day on April 6. All employees were fully paid through that date even if they were working at home or working reduced hours for safety reasons. At that point, for employees that requested to go on FMLA, there is a two week period in which the employees are entitled to full-pay followed by up to an additional 10 week period in which they are entitled to receive two-thirds of their pay. Mr. Vojtush stated he thought FMLA leave was without pay and asked if there are different requirements due

to the emergency circumstances. Mr. Bryan stated the Families First Act passed by the U.S. Congress provided for modified FMLA rules during the emergency period. He noted that the new FMLA rules are not applicable to first responders.

**Fire and Safety, Ms. Noack** – No report.

**Buildings and Grounds, Mr. Hipps** – No report.

**LEGISLATION:**

**2020-13 – An Emergency Resolution Accepting the One Ohio Memorandum of Understanding Regarding the Pursuit and Use of Potential Opioid Litigation Settlement Funds (First Reading)** The Resolution was read by title by Mr. Bryan. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Ms. Noack and seconded by Mr. Vojtush. Roll call vote: Mr. Czerr-yes; Ms. Noack-yes; Mr. Vojtush-yes; Mr. Magistrelli-yes; Mr. Hipps-yes; Ms. Domzalski-yes. The motion was approved. A motion to pass was made by Ms. Noack and seconded by Mr. Vojtush. Roll call vote: Mr. Czerr-yes; Ms. Noack-yes; Mr. Vojtush-yes; Mr. Magistrelli-yes; Mr. Hipps-yes; Ms. Domzalski-yes. The Resolution was adopted.

**OLD BUSINESS; NEW BUSINESS; ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mr. Magistrelli stated he appreciated the article that appeared in the recent News Leader involving Andrew Vojtush and School Superintendent Dr. Joe Clark. Mr. Vojtush stated Andrew is working with his speech therapist and it has been going well. Andrew would love to do it again.

Mayor Nehez thanked Lowe's in Macedonia for donating cleaning supplies to the Village. Mr. Vojtush thanked Jay Mutter for setting up the video meeting and remarked everyone is very pleased with it.

**Executive Session** – None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Domzalski and seconded by Ms. Noack. All were in favor of the motion; none were opposed. The Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Approved by Council.

  
Jennifer Potvin, Clerk of Council