



**State of Illinois  
County of Cook  
Township of Northfield  
Northfield Township Board of Trustees Meeting April 13, 2010**

The following board members were present:

Jill Brickman, Northfield Township Supervisor  
Brendan Appel, Northfield Township Trustee  
Karen McCormick, Northfield Township Trustee  
Mary Reynolds, Northfield Township Trustee

Absent:

Carol Blustein, Northfield Township Trustee

Also present:

Laura Fine, Northfield Township Clerk  
Patricia Damisch, Northfield Township Assessor  
Peter Amarantos, Northfield Township Road Commissioner  
Douglas Gerleman, Northfield Township Collector  
Lucinda Fuller, Northfield Township Staff  
Mary Lou Kratochwill, Northfield Township Staff  
Miguel Nunez, Northfield Township Staff  
Elizabeth Slavin, Northfield Township Staff  
Wanda Tarnowska, Northfield Township Staff  
Debbie Wierzbicki, Northfield Township Staff  
Michele Wilson, Northfield Township Staff  
Gayle Zalatoris, Northfield Township Staff  
Wally Kehr, Northfield Township Road District Foreman  
Robert Dunne, Northfield Township Resident  
Muriel Lazar, Northfield Township Resident  
Zachary Lazar, Northfield Township Resident  
Hubert Frank, Northfield Township Resident  
Todd Shields, Pioneer Press  
Catherine Caporusso, Northfield Township Resident

Supervisor Brickman called the meeting to order at 7:58 PM.

**Town Meeting**

### **Approval of the Minutes of the March 9, 2010 meeting and March 31, 2010 special meeting**

Trustee Reynolds moved to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2010 meeting.  
Trustee McCormick seconded the motion.

Trustee McCormick said at last month's meeting, the board had a discussion about personnel policies. She added Mr. Amarantos agreed to update the policies of the Road District and put them into writing.

Trustee McCormick moved to approve the minutes as amended.  
Trustee Reynolds seconded the amended minutes.  
A voice vote to accept the minutes as amended was unanimous.

### **Approval of the March 31, 2010 Special Meeting minutes**

Trustee Reynolds moved to approve the minutes.  
Trustee Appel seconded the motion.  
The minutes were unanimously approved on a voice vote.

### **Recess Town Meeting**

#### **Open Sewer Meeting**

#### **Approval of sewer bills**

Trustee Appel moved to approve the sewer bills.  
Trustee McCormick seconded the motion.

Trustee Reynolds asked about the bill for additional legal services. Ms. Fuller explained the services are for the upcoming bids for sliplining and contracts. Trustee Reynolds also asked why the administration bill for Mr. Kehr is submitted monthly and not quarterly. Ms. Fuller explained that since it is such a large payment it is expensed monthly instead of quarterly.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustee Appel, Trustee McCormick, Trustee Reynolds, Supervisor Brickman (4)

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 4-0.

### **Sewer Collections for March, 2010**

No discussion.

### **Old Business**

Trustee Reynolds asked about the landscaper Trustee Appel mentioned at the March meeting. Mr. Kehr said he has been in touch with two more landscapers, but so far the one we have used in the past is the most cost effective. He said he is still pursuing other avenues, and he should have the results in a week. Commissioner Amarantos suggested Mr. Kehr give the information to Supervisor Brickman, and the board give Ms. Brickman the authority to execute the contract.

Trustee Appel moved to allow Supervisor Brickman be given the authority to execute the contract if it is less that \$2,000.

Trustee McCormick seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustee Appel, Trustee McCormick, Trustee Reynolds, Supervisor Brickman (4)

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 4-0.

### **New Business**

No discussion.

### **Reconvene Town Meeting**

#### **Approval of Town Fund Bills**

Trustee Reynolds moved to approve the town fund bills.

Trustee McCormick seconded the motion.

Trustee Reynolds asked why payment to Supervisor Brickman for her role as the Road Treasurer for 2010-2011 is paid out of the town fund and not the road district fund. Ms. Fuller said she has checked into this, and it is required to be paid out of the town fund.

Trustee Appel asked why the payment for the special meeting on March 31 is not in the bills. Ms. Fuller said she will put the payment in next month.

Trustee Reynolds asked about the fee of \$450 for legal services. Ms. Fuller explained the services are for the sewer district and the town. \$120 was for setting up the annual meeting and the agenda.

Trustee Appel noted the payment to TOCC which makes the board official members after approving the bills.

Trustee Reynolds asked about the \$5,000 payment to NJS Enterprises. Supervisor Brickman explained this new program changes the way the township administers General Assistance. It makes the payment process more efficient, it helps the township stay in regulation and it gives the township updates. The payment covers two computers for one year.

Trustee Appel asked why we just received the January sheriff's bill. Ms. Fuller explained the sheriff's department was very late in their billing due to a changeover.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Trustee Appel, Trustee McCormick, Trustee Reynolds, Supervisor Brickman (4)

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 4-0.

### **Road and Bridge Bills**

Trustee McCormick noted the bill for legal services from Staub, Anderson, Green. Commissioner Amarantos said he made contact with that law firm.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Trustee Appel, Trustee McCormick, Trustee Reynolds, Supervisor Brickman (4)

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 4-0.

### **Adoption of IMRF 6.72 Resolution**

Supervisor Brickman explained the IMRF wants a statement from the township saying we are including a portion of employees pay to go towards medical benefits.

Trustee Reynolds moved to approve the IMRF Resolution.

Trustee Appel seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Trustee Appel, Trustee McCormick, Trustee Reynolds, Supervisor Brickman (4)

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 4-0.

### **Approval of Glenview 2010 4th of July Parade participation**

Supervisor Brickman said the fee to participate in the Glenview 4th of July parade is \$35, and historically the township has participated in the parade. Trustee McCormick asked why we do not participate in the Northbrook parade. Supervisor Brickman said historically, attendance at the Glenview parade is higher than the Northbrook parade. Also, many people want to have their afternoon available, as the Glenview parade begins at 11:30 AM and the Northbrook parade begins at 2:00 PM. Trustee Reynolds said there are many people who attend the Northbrook parade, and she would like to see us participate in both as the exposure about the township's services would be beneficial to both communities. Supervisor Brickman said we need to keep participation in the parades voluntary. She asked Ms. Zalatoris to get information about the Northbrook parade to the board for the next meeting.

### **Old Business**

Supervisor Brickman reported that the Cook County Board unanimously denied approval to build townhomes at the site on the corner of Countryside. It is currently a lot for a single family home. The people in the neighborhood worked diligently to block the construction, and they had the support of Supervisor Brickman.

Commissioner Amarantos introduced Bob Dunne, his new hire for Emergency Management Director. Mr. Dunne explained his role as director. He said the Homeland Security Act said local governments, including townships, should get involved in the process of emergency management. He said a state statute provides the highway commissioner with the authority to provide relief services to residents after a disaster. He said in 2007, Commissioner Amarantos contacted him and asked him to help out after the township suffered significant storm damage. In 2008, after the 100 year storm,

they received a \$100,000 grant for reimbursement of the process. It was then they began discussing if the township is as prepared as it should be in case of a disaster.

Mr. Dunne explained his qualifications in emergency management date back to the 1970s when he worked in facilities management for the Chicago White Sox. He said he then worked for more than 20 years in emergency management in public facilities and public entertainment venues.

Northfield Township resident and employment lawyer, Catherine Caporusso said she is concerned about the employment process of hiring Mr. Dunne. She asked where the job was advertised. Commissioner Amarantos said it was on the Road District website under 'news', and it was also posted at the road district garage. She asked how many people applied for the job and Mr. Amarantos said Mr. Dunne was the only applicant.

Township Collector, Doug Gerleman asked why there can't be an extended agreement with the local villages to put together grant applications for federal money. Mr. Dunne said that if more agencies join together you increase the footprint of geography and hopefully that can result in more funding.

Township resident, Hubert Frank said he read an article in the Northbrook Star about the Emergency Management position. He asked why only one qualified applicant applied for the job when so many qualified people are out of work right now. Mr. Amarantos said Mr. Dunne is very qualified for the job, he has contacts with state, local and federal officials, he knows how to apply for grant money, and he knows how to write programs on how to properly react in case of a disaster.

Township resident Muriel Lazar asked how long Mr. Dunne and Commissioner Amarantos had been talking about the Emergency Management position. Mr. Dunne said emergency response is something they have talked about for several years. She asked what services the township provided in situations like the 2008 flood. Mr. Dunne said the road district hauled truckloads of debris out of the township, separated the debris and recycled what they could.

Trustee Reynolds voiced concern about what grants Mr. Dunne would seek for the township. For example, he mentioned a program to conduct emergency preparedness trainings with the staffs at local schools. Trustee Reynolds, a high school teacher, said schools have already cut curriculum to the bone, and the institute days they have during the year are already packed. She questioned how effective these training programs could be with the schools. She also asked if homeland security has been deficient in responding to a problem in the township.

Trustee McCormick asked what Mr. Dunne's authority would be with all of the other entities of government. Mr. Dunne said he would coordinate and deliver responses and provide mutual aid.

Commissioner Amarantos was asked how long the term would be for the position of Emergency Management Director. He said after two years they would evaluate to see if they need more time. However, there is no contract for the job.

**New Business**

Supervisor Brickman thanked Assessor Damisch for the assessor's report. She also thanked Trustee McCormick for reserving the room at the Northfield Community Center for the meeting.

Michele Wilson thanked the board for the staff reports written for the annual town meeting.

Trustee Appel moved to adjourn.

Trustee McCormick seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Laura Fine, Northfield Township Clerk