

**State of Illinois
County of Cook
Township of Northfield
Northfield Township Board of Trustees Meeting October 11, 2011**

The following board members were present:

Jill Brickman, Northfield Township Supervisor
Brendan Appel, Northfield Township Trustee (arrived at 6:01 PM)
Carol Blustein, Northfield Township Trustee
Karen McCormick, Northfield Township Trustee
Mary Reynolds, Northfield Township Trustee

Also present:

Laura Fine, Northfield Township Clerk
Patricia Damisch, Northfield Township Assessor
Peter Amarantos, Northfield Township Road District Commissioner
Wally Kehr, Northfield Township Road District Foreman
Lucinda Fuller, Northfield Township Staff
Mary Lou Kratochwill, Northfield Township Staff
Liz Slavin, Northfield Township Staff
Wanda Tarnowska, Northfield Township Staff
Tom Norton, Northfield Township Resident
Bill Byrne, Northfield Township Resident
Vera Mayer, Northfield Township Resident

Supervisor Brickman called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Town Meeting

Approval of the Minutes of the August 9, 2011 Town Meeting

Trustee McCormick moved to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2011 Town Meeting.

Trustee Reynolds seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved on a voice vote

Trustee Appel arrived at 6:01 PM.

Approval of the Minutes of the September 13, 2011 Executive Session

Trustee Blustein moved to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2011 Executive Session.

Trustee Reynolds seconded the motion.

The minutes were unanimously approved on a voice vote.

Recess Town Meeting

Open Sewer Meeting
Approval of the Sewer Bills

Trustee Blustein moved to approve the sewer bills for September, 2011.
Trustee Reynolds seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Supervisor Brickman, Trustee Appel, Trustee Blustein, Trustee McCormick,
Trustee Reynolds (5)

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 5-0

Sewer Collections for September, 2011

No discussion

Overhead Sewer Installation Cost

Wally Kehr said Northfield Township is examining programs in Northbrook and Glenview that help homeowners convert to overhead sewers. Mr. Kehr said many homeowners have asked about overhead sewers. He explained it is a win/win situation: it will help stop backups into homeowners' basements, and it will help relieve pumping operations for the sewer system. He also said some of the crossover connections out of the sanitary sewers would alleviate some of the water discharged to the MWRD. Mr. Kehr explained the cost of the project varies from home to home, up to about \$15,000. Supervisor Brickman said the program in Glenview covers 50% of the cost of the overhead sewers, up to \$7,500 per homeowner. Mr. Kehr suggested the Sanitary System put a \$50,000 line item in the budget to cover reimbursement in the first year of the program. Supervisor Brickman explained this is possible if the board reduces the line item for routine maintenance of sliplining in the budget by \$50,000. The supervisor said this would not have any impact on the schedule for sliplining and televising.

Trustee Appel moved to amend the sewer budget to reallocate funds from *Sliplining* and *Televising* categories to a new *Overhead Sewer Shared Installation Cost Program*.
Trustee Blustein seconded the motion.

The board suggested notifying the 1,900 sewer users of the program by posting the information on the website, press releases and putting a notification in residents' sewer bills.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Supervisor Brickman, Trustee Appel, Trustee Blustein, Trustee McCormick,
Trustee Reynolds (5)

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 5-0

Supervisor Brickman thanked Mr. Kehr for all of his hard work on this project.

Old Business

No discussion

New Business

Mr. Kehr notified the board that there will be a bid opening next month for the sliplining project for this year. Supervisor Brickman added that for next year, the Village of Glenview contacted the township about a consortium of towns working together to go out for bids.

Supervisor Brickman said the MWRD sent a letter to all entities with sewer systems, notifying them that MWRD is establishing an Advisory Technical Panel (ATP) for the purpose of seeking input and suggestions for the creation of a new Inflow and Infiltration Reduction program (I/I Program). They are looking for nominees to the panel from townships with sanitary districts. The meetings will be held every 2 months during normal working hours.

Trustee Appel moved to give Supervisor Brickman the authority to nominate Wally Kehr for the MWRD ATP II Board.

Trustee McCormick seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Supervisor Brickman, Trustee Appel, Trustee Blustein, Trustee McCormick, Trustee Reynolds (5)

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 5-0

Recess Sewer Meeting Reconvene Town Meeting

Two Northbrook residents addressed the board about the Rotary Club of Northbrook and how membership benefits the township. Vera Mayer, the President of the Northbrook Rotary Club explained Rotary was the world's first service club, formed in 1905. There are now 32,000 clubs, and 1.2 million members, worldwide. Ms. Mayer said Rotary provides humanitarian services, and it is nonpolitical and nonsectarian. Rotarians work as volunteers. Ms. Mayer said the Township's membership in the Rotary Club provides a constant reminder to members of the services provided by the township and food pantry. As a result, Ms. Mayer said there are monthly and yearly donations to the pantry, including efforts like literacy programs and hands-on improvements to the pantry like painting and making shelves. Ms. Mayer said without the township's presence in the club, township members' active participation and explanations of the needs of the pantry, benefits provided to the pantry from Rotary could eventually dwindle.

Trustee McCormick explained she contacted Supervisor Brickman after last month's meeting when the board voted to eliminate its Rotary memberships from the budget. Trustee McCormick said she was not comfortable with the possibility of not paying a bill

for services rendered and also for making a commitment and stopping it. She suggested paying the bills for this year and revisiting it next year. Trustee Reynolds agreed with Trustee McCormick. She explained she had reasons for proposing what she did, however on further reflection, it was not the proper way to do it. Trustee Reynolds said any changes should be made at the next budget meeting. Trustee Appel said he appreciates his fellow trustees reconsidering their position.

Approval of Town Fund Bills

Trustee Appel moved to approve the Town Fund Bills.
Trustee Reynolds seconded the motion.

Trustee Blustein requested information about the recent management seminar Officer Manager Michele Wilson attended.
Trustee Appel asked about the purchase of a portable amplification system. Supervisor Brickman said it is for the Heart of Glenview.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Supervisor Brickman, Trustee Appel, Trustee Blustein, Trustee McCormick, Trustee Reynolds (5)
Nays: None (0)
Motion carried 5-0

Approval of Road and Bridge Bills

Trustee Blustein moved to approve the Road and Bridge bills.
Trustee Appel seconded the motion.

Trustee Blustein noted that some of the bills increased for the month, including payments to FICA and IMRF. Ms. Fuller explained there are several factors. She said this is a 3 pay period month. She added it is the end of the quarter and there is a shifting among funds covering different peoples' proportion of time. Half of the Highway Commissioner's benefits for the quarter are paid for by the Road into the Town.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Supervisor Brickman, Trustee Appel, Trustee Blustein, Trustee McCormick, Trustee Reynolds (5)
Nays: None (0)
Motion carried 5-0

Holiday Luncheon

On behalf of the staff, Northfield Township employee Mary Lou Kratochwill requested the approval of the traditional holiday luncheon in December.

Trustee Blustein moved to approve the annual holiday party for the employees.
Trustee Appel seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Supervisor Brickman, Trustee Appel, Trustee Blustein, Trustee McCormick, Trustee Reynolds (5)

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 5-0

Pace Bus and Dial-a-Ride Options

Supervisor Brickman said the North Shore Senior Center is putting together a comprehensive list of transportation options in the area that they will share with the township. Trustee Reynolds asked if we could reach out to the Village of Northbrook and find out if they would be interested in sharing a Pace bus. Supervisor Brickman said she would reach out to Northbrook, however the question remains about funding. The Township currently has under 2 months of reserves, although the next tax payment is coming. Trustee Reynolds noted that even if we were to start a conversation, it would take a while to make any progress. She also noted this would solve the problem for Northbrook but not for the other Township entities. Supervisor Brickman mentioned the North Shore Senior Center offers free rides through a volunteer program, and meeting the transportation needs of the community through volunteers would be ideal.

Pantry Advisory Board

Supervisor Brickman said, in response to a request by Trustee McCormick for more information before selecting Advisory Board members, she will ask Ms. Zalatoris send the board a complete file with all of the information she has on Pantry Advisory Board applicants.

Matters to be Presented by the Public

No discussion

Old Business

Assessor Damisch said there have been some developments in the search for a new Township facility. Assessor Damisch said thanks to a contact provided by Trustee Blustein in the construction industry, an inspection of a possible site discussed by the board found it may not be financially desirable. Supervisor Brickman said she checked with someone in the roofing business who gave her an estimate significantly lower than the one the committee received. The Supervisor said she also checked with the owner of Effective Air in Glenview, a heating and air conditioning company, and received a number much less than what the committee received. Trustee Blustein said her experience with this on a roofing project for the Mosquito Abatement District found the original estimate and the final cost were very different after the work began and workers realized just how big the job was.

Trustee Blustein said she went to talk with a banker at the Northbrook Bank and Trust about getting a commercial loan. She said after speaking with the banker, he said that in his opinion, although he is not a township resident, from a taxpayer's point of view, building equity in a building makes a lot of sense especially since the commercial real

estate market is depressed. The banker quoted a 3% rate but the term of the loan is unknown.

Supervisor Brickman said we need to find out more concrete information before deciding what to do. For example, the board needs closer estimates on pricing and the term of the loan.

Trustee Appel suggested the committee consider all 3 proposals: renting, fixing up the property the board previously discussed and purchasing a property. Once the board has more concrete numbers on the various options, he recommended holding a public workshop to inform the public about the choices and get the public's input.

The committee was given direction by the board to search anywhere in the township and at buildings up to \$1 million. Assessor Damisch asked who would be responsible to firm up costs on the price of renovations. Supervisor Brickman said she would look into it.

Trustee Blustein asked the office to provide time sheets from all employees, including the Office Manager and the Finance Director in order to get an overview of all of the employees' hours to see if there would be a need for an employee to go from part time to full time.

New Business

No discussion

Trustee Appel moved to adjourn.
Trustee Blustein seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote.
The meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Fine, Northfield Township Clerk