

**State of Illinois
County of Cook
Township of Northfield
Northfield Township Board of Trustees Meeting September 14, 2010**

The following board members were present:
Jill Brickman, Northfield Township Supervisor
Brendan Appel, Northfield Township Trustee
Carol Blustein, Northfield Township Trustee
Karen McCormick, Northfield Township Trustee
Mary Reynolds, Northfield Township Trustee

Also present:
Laura Fine, Northfield Township Clerk
Eric Patt, Northfield Township Attorney
Peter Amarantos, Northfield Township Highway Commissioner
Wally Kehr, Northfield Township Road District
Mary Lou Kratochwill, Northfield Township Staff
Thomas Norton, Northfield Township Resident

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

Trustee Blustein moved to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing probable or imminent litigation.
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

The meeting moved into closed session at 6:03 PM.

The meeting moved back into open session at 6:51 PM.

**Town Meeting
Approval of the minutes of the August 10, 2010 board meeting**

Trustee Reynolds moved to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2010 board meeting.
Trustee McCormick seconded the motion.
The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

**Recess Town Meeting
Open Sewer Meeting
Approval of the Sewer Bills**

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

Trustee Blustein asked about the \$6,250 bill for *office help, second quarter*. Supervisor Brickman explained the charge is for billing, accounting and other office work.

Trustee Appel asked about the total cost of the *Mail Finance (Neopost)* bill. Supervisor Brickman explained this is a shared cost, and she will ask Finance Director Lucinda Fuller what the total cost is.

Roll call:

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

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 5-0

Sewer collections

No discussion

Sewer old business

Trustee Appel mentioned Ms. Fuller still has not received a response on the IMRF. He said he will bring the issue up again next month.

Trustee Appel asked about the sewer user fees. He said so far, we have only collected 27% of the budget and he thought collections would be higher at this point in the year. Supervisor Brickman explained the sewer system is on the same fiscal year as the township, and most of the bills are collected at the end of the fiscal year.

Sewer new business

Road District Foreman Wally Kehr said emergency repair is needed on a portion of the sanitary lines. He said the lines were video taped, and they discovered on Rugen Road someone repaired the sanitary main by cementing a 6" pipe into an 8" pipe. He said the main is 10 feet underground, and at least 10 feet of pipe has to be replaced. It will cost between \$6,000 and \$8,000 to remove the obstruction. He added it needs to be repaired now because there are plans to slip line the pipe. Supervisor Brickman said this does not require board action, but they wanted to inform the board about the situation.

Reconvene Town Meeting

Trustee Blustein moved to approve the Town Fund bills.
Trustee McCormick seconded the motion.

Trustee Blustein noted that Dial-a-Ride is almost out of funds. Supervisor Brickman said this was anticipated, and at the next budget session the board will have to decide to fund it more or cut back the program. Trustee Blustein suggested, since the Dial-a-Ride booklet contains 16 coupons, the board could reduce the number if necessary.

Trustee Appel asked about the \$1,222.50 bill for carpet and upholstery cleaning. Supervisor Brickman said this cleaning is done every year.

Roll call:

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

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 5-0

Approval of the Road and Bridge Bills

Trustee Blustein moved to approve the Road and Bridge bills.

Trustee Appel seconded the motion.

Trustee Blustein asked for an explanation of the charge for Daniel Creaney for research on the North Branch of the Chicago River. Mr. Kehr explained that the township belongs to 2 watersheds, the Des Plaines Watershed and the North Branch of the Chicago River. He said he takes care of the Des Plaines Watershed, and Mr. Creaney takes care of the North Branch.

Trustee Appel asked if the architectural fee is for final or preliminary plans. Commissioner Amarantos said it is preliminary, and it is explained in the invoice.

Trustee Blustein noted the Home Depot bills and asked if there is a less expensive way to purchase some of the items, like through a consortium or buying in bulk. She said she understands that Home Depot could be more convenient, but she was wondering if there was a more cost effective way to make some of the purchases. Mr. Kehr said he does search through catalogs to find better pricing. Commissioner Amarantos added that sometimes you pay more money for convenience, but it works out in the long run.

Trustee Blustein asked how the township handles the purchase of bottled water. Supervisor Brickman said the township provides filtered water for employees, but it does not provide coffee. Mr. Kehr added that bottled water is necessary for the Road District because the garage is on well water.

Trustee Blustein asked about the \$299 bill for a BUNN coffee maker plus a regular and decaffeinated decanter at \$15 each. Supervisor Brickman said it is important to provide good coffee for the snow plow drivers in the winter to prevent accidents.

Roll call:

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

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 5-0

Consideration of legislative forum sponsorship

Supervisor Brickman said the township has been asked to support a legislative forum on disabilities being organized by The North/Northwest Cook County and Lake County Work

Group. It will be held in Palatine. Trustee Appel said he was concerned that local officials would not attend the forum because it is being held outside of their districts. Supervisor Brickman said she was told that all the local school districts and some municipal bodies belong to this consortium and will participate. The commitment from the township would be \$50, and the money would come out of the miscellaneous fund. Trustee McCormick said she would like the township to participate because she feels we don't do enough to support the disabled community. Trustee Reynolds added that many of our residents are supported by agencies outside of our township, so the fact that this is in Palatine does not bother her.

Trustee McCormick moved to fund the \$50 for the legislative forum.
Trustee Blustein seconded the motion.

Roll call:

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

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 5-0

Matters to be presented by the public

None

Old Business

Supervisor Brickman noted that last week we surpassed 600 households served by the food pantry.

The board set the audit workshop for October 18 at 3:00 PM. Supervisor Brickman said a notice will be posted.

New Business

Supervisor Brickman said the Glenbrook South boys and girls cross country team held their annual run to benefit the pantry. They presented the pantry with a check for \$1,900. She noted under the current coach, over the past 13 years, the team has raised \$30,000 for the pantry.

Trustee Blustein said she talked to Miguel Nunez about meeting with board members to explain general assistance and emergency assistance.

Trustee Blustein mentioned she read in the TOIRMA news about who is liable for volunteers who are working under court ordered public community service programs. Supervisor Brickman said the township has an approved waiver from Robbins Solomon and Patt and TOIRMA that covers all of our volunteers. Trustee Blustein asked how the township provides supervision for minors. Supervisor Brickman said minors are accompanied by adults.

Trustee McCormick passed along more information about a prescription drug card that may be able to save the township money. Supervisor Brickman said she would give the information to Office Manager Michele Wilson.

Clerk Fine noted at the recent TOCC clerk meeting they discussed the upcoming educational conference in Springfield.

Trustee Blustein suggested this year, instead of an employees' only Christmas party we have a group party, possibly at night. Supervisor Brickman recommended we give the employees the option, as sometimes it can be hard for people to give up a night.

Trustee McCormick suggested we schedule another potluck lunch.

Trustee Reynolds asked when Ms. Zalatoris will receive the reports from the social service agencies funded by the township. Supervisor Brickman said she will check with Ms. Zalatoris, and will ask her to send them out to the board when she receives them.

Trustee Appel noted considerable time has been invested by the facilities committee. Supervisor Brickman said they have looked at half-a-dozen possible locations for the township's relocation.

Trustee Appel moved to adjourn.

Trustee McCormick seconded the motion.

The motion was approved on a unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Fine, Northfield Township Clerk