

**State of Illinois
County of Cook
Township of Northfield
Northfield Township Board of Trustees Meeting November 8, 2011**

The following were present:

Jill Brickman, Supervisor
Brendan Appel, Trustee (arrived at 6:06 PM)
Carol Blustein, Trustee
Karen McCormick, Trustee
Mary Reynolds, Trustee

Also present:

Laura Fine, Northfield Township Clerk
Patricia Damisch, Northfield Township Assessor
Peter Amarantos, Northfield Township Road District Commissioner
Mary Lou Kratochwill, Northfield Township Staff
Lucinda Fuller, Northfield Township Staff
Wanda Tarnowska, Northfield Township Staff
Debra Wierzbicki, Northfield Township Staff
Wally Kehr, Northfield Township Road District
Robert Dunne, Northfield Township Road District
Howard Silver, Northfield Township Real Estate Broker

Supervisor Brickman called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Approval of the Minutes of the October 11, 2011 Board Meeting

Trustee McCormick moved to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2011 board meeting.
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 McCormick moved to approve the sewer bills.
Trustee Reynolds seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 4-0

Sewer Collections

No discussion

Trustee Appel arrived at 6:06 PM

Bid Opening

Wally Kehr opened the following bids for sewer projects. All bids contained cashier's checks:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>2,089' at Price/Foot</u>	<u>43 Services at Price/Service</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
Insituform	\$24.60/foot = \$51,389.40	\$71.80/Service = \$3,087.40	\$54,476.80
Michels Corporation	\$40.00/foot = \$83,560.00	\$205.00/Service = \$8,815.00	\$92,375
Visu Sewer	\$27.90/foot = \$58,283.10	\$25.00/Service = \$1,075	\$59,358.10

Trustee Appel moved to accept the bid from Insituform subject to document review.

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

Mr. Kehr noted he would like to return the cashier's checks to the companies other than Insituform as soon as possible. Supervisor Brickman said they can be returned following the document review.

Trustee Appel mentioned that although he was not present to vote on the sewer bills, he would vote to approve the bills.

Old Business

Trustee Appel asked if any residents were taking advantage of the program involving overhead sewer installation. Mr. Kehr said there is one home in the process and two more are looking into the offer. The maximum shared cost by the township is \$7,500 per project. \$50,000 is the total budget for this fiscal year.

Supervisor Brickman added the program is being advertised on the website and it has been submitted as a press release to all local media outlets.

New Business

No discussion

Reconvene Town Meeting

Approval of the Town Fund Bills

Trustee Reynolds moved to approve the Town Fund Bills.

Trustee Blustein seconded the motion.

Trustee Appel asked about the fee for legal services.

Supervisor Brickman said it is a combination of fees from September board meeting attendance and also legal work performed on a tax objection case from 2005-2006 in which the township is a defendant.

Roll call:

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

Nays: None (0)

Motion carried 5-0

Flood Issues

Robert Dunne, the Emergency Management Director for the Northfield Township Road District informed the board about the flooding issues in parts of unincorporated Glenview, along Milwaukee, Dearlove and Central Roads. Mr. Dunne explained storm water flooding in this area dates back to the early 1980s. The sewer system was installed in the 1940s when the area was less developed. He said that IDOT looked into updating the system, but it would cost several million dollars, and the project is not on its priority list. Because the Road District did not feel this was fair to the taxpayers who are continually faced with flooding problems, they decided to take action. They have reached out to other jurisdictions to collaborate on a solution. They are looking into taking down vacated properties to enable the land to absorb more water.

Trustee Appel asked Mr. Dunne if there has been any progress with grant writing for Emergency Management projects. Mr. Dunne said a project has to be determined before a grant can be requested. Trustee Blustein questioned allowing a speaker more than five minutes. Supervisor Brickman explained that the five minute limitation does not include answering trustees' questions. Mr. Dunne explained the objective is to find places to store water to keep it out of the system when the system becomes inundated with water. Then put the water back into the system when it can handle it.

Election of IMRF Executive Trustee

Supervisor Brickman explained she has one vote for the IMRF Executive Trustee, and she would like to review her decision with the board. The Supervisor said that she has reviewed the biographies on the candidates for IMRF Executive Trustee, but she does not know any of the candidates personally. Based on the information provided, Supervisor Brickman said she would be inclined to support Mr. Mark Namini because his background is in finance.

Trustee Reynolds moved to vote for Mark Namini for the Executive Trustee for the IMRF. Trustee Appel seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

Human Services Review Commission

Supervisor Brickman said Brent Peterson learned of the opening on the Human Services Review Commission on the website, and he is a strong candidate for the position.

Trustee Reynolds moved to appoint Brent Peterson to the Human Services Commission. Trustee Blustein seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

Pantry Advisory Board

Supervisor Brickman noted the geographical balance of the candidates selected by board members for the Pantry Advisory Board. Two candidates are from Glenview, two are from Northfield and three are from Northbrook. All trustees and the supervisor submitted their selections from the list of all applicants. Those candidates receiving the most votes were presented for appointment.

Trustee Appel moved to appoint Dave Hambourger, Loretta Kaplan, Miriam Kashian, Debbie McMahon, Amy Miller, Marla Miller and Phil Salter to the Northfield Township Pantry Advisory Board. Trustee Reynolds seconded the motion.

Supervisor Brickman explained the next step in the process is contacting the board members and setting up the first meeting. Then the board will move ahead on its own, without direct Township board participation. Gayle Curcio will be the staff representative to support the board and will be liaison between the Advisory Board and Board of Trustees.

The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

Office Relocation

Township Assessor Patty Damisch reported a significant development in the search for a new township location. Assessor Damisch said real estate broker Howard Silver found a property for sale that is about the right size and in good construction. Now, Assessor Damisch said the relocation committee is working with a bank to figure out the finances for the project. Trustee Blustein said she knows of an architect who will provide drawings for the space and a contractor who will give the township an estimate, both at no cost. Despite this development, the committee is still keeping its options open and continues to look at other properties.

Trustee Blustein moved that it is the will of the board for the architect to superimpose the space plan drawing over the property schematic and give it to the contractor to give the board an estimate.

Trustee Reynolds seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

Trustee Blustein recommended the board set up a series of meeting dates in case the board receives the estimates and wants to move ahead with the project prior to the next board meeting. Trustee Blustein said it is easier to cancel the meetings if they are not necessary than to plan a meeting at the last minute. The board decided on November 17 at 5:00 PM and December 5 at 12:30 PM. Supervisor Brickman said she will post the meetings, however the board will need to move into closed session for detailed discussion so as to avoid affecting its negotiating position.

Matters to be Presented by the Public

No discussion

Old Business

Supervisor Brickman said as of October 31, 390 prescriptions were filled using the township's prescription drug card with a savings of almost \$18,000. Supervisor Brickman passed along Debbie Karton's thanks to the board for its leadership as it was one of the first townships to adopt the card.

Supervisor Brickman said she included in this month's packet a report on transportation in the Village of Northbrook. The supervisor said she spoke with a representative from the village, and Northbrook is very open to discussion about transportation options. The Village of Northbrook uses a subsidized taxi program instead of a Pace bus program in part because it is more flexible. Subsidized taxi programs have no fixed routes, there is no need for reservations, and are not restricted to driver hours.

New Business

Supervisor Brickman said Cook County supervisors will meet with Cook County Commissioner Greg Gosslin. The commissioner plans to discuss the county's budget and how to respond to the county's efforts to raise more money from the unincorporated areas.

Supervisor Brickman said there has been a lot of attention in the news paid to township government and excessive reserves. The supervisor said she was contacted by the Better Government Association (BGA), and it was found that Northfield Township is not vulnerable in any of the areas in question. We do not have high paid government officials and we do not have excessive reserves.

Trustee Reynolds moved to adjourn.
Trustee McCormick seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Fine, Northfield Township Clerk