

**MINUTES
of the
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD
Tuesday, February 16, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Northfield met in the Council Chambers of the Village Hall for the Regular Board meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President Fred Gougler. The Village Clerk called the roll.

PRESENT: President Fred Gougler
 Trustees John Chapin, Jr.
 Joan Frazier
 Terry Gottlieb
 Brian Kozminski
 Fred Teichert
 George Warga (left at 7:15 p.m.)

ABSENT:

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

Trustee Teichert made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gottlieb, to approve Consent Agenda items 1 through 4.

1. Approve the Minutes of the January 19, 2010 Village Board meeting.
2. Approve the Bills and Disbursements from 1/8/10 to 2/4/10 in the amount of \$451,487.92.
3. Approve a resolution in support of the New Trier High School's Integrated Global Studies' School "Community Blackout Program."
4. Approve the annual Employees Safety Award for 2009.

Trustee Frazier asked that Item 4 be pulled out for discussion under the Action Items.

Upon the following roll call vote, the motion to approve the Consent Agenda items 1 through 3 was approved.

AYES: Chapin NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0
 Frazier
 Gottlieb
 Kozminski
 Teichert
 Warga

ITEM 4. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL EMPLOYEE SAFETY AWARD FOR 2009

Trustee Chapin made a motion pending discussion, seconded by Trustee Gottlieb to approve the Annual Employee Safety Award for 2009.

Manager Sigman noted that this is a program that the Village has had in place for many years. It was budgeted for in 2009. She reported that the year end report from IRMA showed the Village had the best year ever in the history of Northfield relative to the number of claims. Claims are down across the Board in workers comp, property and other areas. Last year the Board raised some

issues relative to this program and asked staff if there were other programs they could roll out that would be more effective than the program we have. Staff worked with IRMA to determine other possible solutions. The current program is the one IRMA recommends and supports for their members. Manager Sigman noted that she does not have any quantitative numbers from IRMA that she can provide the Board on this program versus any others.

Trustee Chapin noted that the issues that have been discussed in the past are what seem to be alluding to a cause and effect relationship that is difficult to support without any empirical data. It was approved in last year's budget, and if the Board approves, then it should instruct staff to delete this from next year's budget.

Trustee Frazier noted that every year she objects to this and every year she is over ruled. She stated that for the record, the first time she read about the program, that every single employee in the Village gets a \$100 safety recognition award if they don't have any safety violations, she had problems with it.

Manager Sigman added that if any employee is observed not following proper safety practices, they are ineligible for their bonus. If they are supposed to be wearing a hard hat, having proper shoring mechanisms in place and if they are not following those protocols and the supervisor notices, they would not be eligible for their bonus. Conversely, an employee could have a claim with IRMA and through no fault of their own, they followed the safety protocols and they were rear ended by a motorist, they could still have a worker comp claim but they would still be eligible for the safety bonus. Each accident is reviewed by the Executive Safety Team that meets on a quarterly basis and it is determined whether the employee involved is still eligible for the safety bonus.

Trustee Frazier noted that the employees are getting the Safety Bonus for doing what they should be doing anyway which is to act safely in their jobs. Most people who are sitting here that do their jobs don't get an extra bonus for doing what they are paid to do in the first place. She noted that she did not feel it is a wise expenditure of money and objects to paying employees a Safety Bonus. She asked Manager Sigman how long the program has been in place.

Manager Sigman noted she has been with the Village for 13 years and it has been in place the entire time.

Trustee Frazier then calculated that over the course of time there has been an expenditure of over \$100,000 on this program.

Director Noble responded that is approximately correct.

Trustee Frazier noted that as a matter of principle it is something she does not endorse. She endorses safety but not extra payment for it.

Trustee Warga added that as a business owner he disagrees with Trustee Frazier and said that it is planned in the budget and if they don't get it that is money back to the Village. It is already in the compensation plan. When you review an employee you include that in their benefit package.

Trustee Kozminski agreed with Trustee Warga and noted that safety is something we want to give incentives for.

Manager Sigman added that having the program makes employees aware of safety on a regular basis. They know if there is a violation, it is going to get reviewed. They think about the safety bonus; I hear them reminding employees to follow proper protocol. It has become part of the institution and staff has a heightened awareness because of the program.

Trustee Teichert asked what the bottom line cost is this year.

Director Noble noted that is about \$10,000.

Trustee Warga added that if the program is very effective, he would increase the amount given.

Trustee Gottlieb also agreed with Trustee Warga. He noted that the nature of what most of the employees are doing daily, safety is an important issue. Not just for the claims, but for everyone's benefit as well. He added that for this sort of award, it is not so much the award, but it shows an understanding on our part that it is an important issue and continues to be an important issue. He pointed out that at the end of the day, we will never know if we are saving money or not but the point of it is to promote workplace safety. It is money well spent.

Upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved 4 Ayes to 2 Nays.

AYES:	Gottlieb	NAYS:	Chapin	ABSTAIN:	0	ABSENT:	0
	Kozminski		Frazier				
	Teichert						
	Warga						

CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE ORDINANCE CONTINUED FROM THE JAN. 19, 2010 BOARD MEETING FOR THE OPERATION OF A FAST FOOD AND SIT DOWN RESTAURANT, U DAWG U, LOCATED AT 300 HAPP ROAD

Trustee Teichert made a motion, seconded by Trustee Kozminski to approve a Special Use ordinance continued from the January 19, 2010 Village Board meeting, to permit a fast food and sit down restaurant, U Dawg U, located at 300 Happ Road.

Community Development Director Anne Kane reported that this matter was discussed at last month's meeting and due to a variety of concerns, the matter was withdrawn to allow the petitioner, property owner and staff additional time to examine the proposal, conduct further study on the parking impact and develop the appropriate conditions to regulate the U Dawg U Special Use. The points of concern fall under three categories: odor control, parking impact, and property owner accountability. Staff's cover memo addresses the issues and covers their handling since the last Board meeting. The first issue involves the vapor barrier and stipulates that it will be applied on both demising walls as well as on the ceiling where it abuts the attic to prevent odors from infiltrating into adjoining tenant spaces, which was a concern expressed at the public hearing. At the January meeting, the restaurants contractor indicated there were pros and cons to installing the vapor barrier when they are using a high efficiency exhaust system they plan for the U Dawg U space. After additional discussion with the contractor as well as learning that the high efficiency exhaust system without the vapor barriers could inadvertently pull odors from other tenants from within the 300 building that do

not have the high efficiency exhaust system, it was determined to follow the recommendation of the Plan and Zoning Commission to install the full vapor barrier along with the high efficiency exhaust system to assure all measures have been put in place to mitigate any odor concerns involving this restaurant tenant. With regard to the parking issues that came up, there were questions on the details in the parking survey that had been submitted with the petitioners application, concerns with overflow parking from the property across the street, existing on street parking problems, the location of the handicap accessible ramp and the landscape island in front of U Dawg U as well as the ability of the municipal lot to handle the additional employee parking.

Staff met with the property owners and they indicated they had already sent out letters to all the tenants in the Center, requesting their employees use the municipal lot so their customers could have more convenient on-site parking. Also, informational signs were posted at both entrances off Happ Road advising that it is "patron parking only" to discourage overflow parking from the shopping center across the street. The property owners asked that they be advised when anyone sees that type of overflow parking occurring so they can get the tow truck lined up. They also indicated that they were planning to engage a parking consultant to do a parking demand study. Based on the conclusions of that study, while they expressed a willingness to remove the landscape island, and designate short term parking spaces, they did not want to make that determination in advance of the parking study. Sam Schwartz, an Engineer, was engaged to prepare a parking demand study and it was noted they are present tonight. To summarize their study, it projects there are an additional 22 vehicles that will be generated during the peak demand periods of U Dawg U which is consistent with the Village's 25 parking spaces that are required by our zoning code.

Director Kane noted that an independent financial and parking impact analysis that was also attached to the Board's report, projected there would be 99 vehicles generated by this use during the peak lunch hour but with the 4.8 table turns that are anticipated, that would mean about 21 vehicles at any one given time, which is very consistent with the 21 to 25 vehicles generated at any given time by this use. The parking consultant even looked at the most desirable parking spaces and excluded the very far south and north lots noting that most patrons of a hot dog center don't travel that far. The landscape islands are in the Village's landscape code but there is no formal variance or public hearing process needed. Staff would just need direction from the Board on what island would require removal. Director Kane cautioned about the type of precedent this might set in the future. Also, additional conditions were placed in the Special Use ordinance which were not in the previous special Use ordinance which addresses property owner's accountability and responsibility. The property owners agreed to post a bond as suggested last month to assure they follow through with all the conditions including the pond aerator, installation and operation of the fountain in the central plaza, repair to the trash enclosures as well as installing additional signs near Capriccios advising patrons that there is additional parking available around the corner. Finally, staff did survey the municipal lot off and on. In staff's review of it; the lot was never more than 50% parked. There certainly seems to be adequate space for additional parking in the municipal lot. She noted the Village hopes to repave

the lot in the spring and is working with the Village engineer to stripe the lot to get an additional 15 parking spaces and a better traffic flow for the lot.

Trustee Kozminski noted that was a great job. There were a lot of additional questions presented at the last month's Board meeting. Director Kane addressed all the issues raised.

Trustee Gottlieb asked if any other Village restaurants have the high efficiency exhaust system or would U Dawg U be the first.

Director Kane responded it would be the first.

Resident Gavin Blunt had questions regarding the parking study which showed the time of day. He noted that he felt it was done on a weekday. He asked the parking consultant whether he remembered what the weather was on that day. Mr. Blunt noted that they (he and wife own Fresh Ideas store next to U Dawg U) keep a record. He noted the weather was freezing cold that day and their business was off so there were fewer cars parked. The second thing is that there was a study done on a Saturday morning but none done for Saturday afternoon/evening. Even tonight which is a Tuesday and there are only 7 spaces available in the parking lots but that does not include Lot 5. He also noted that this is winter and it will be much different in the summer. He took issue with the number of vehicles. He did not think 22 vehicles is the right number. He noted that if the hot dog restaurant was fully operational, you could have many as 136 trips which would mean 68 vehicles. He noted that between lots 3, 4 and 5, there are 44 spaces. If you take the businesses that are there, you have five active businesses and you have the owner and two customers which is highly unusual for Capriccios, that is 15 spaces out of 44.

Mr. Blunt noted that without the addition of supervised parking in front of the building, they need as many spaces as they can get and the islands should be removed. He requested that the Village look at this, see whether the times of day are an issue and whether the islands should be removed. He noted that because people pull in and hop out and run in, the spaces in front of Fresh Ideas, because there are none designated for U Dawg U, will be the primary spaces they use and that will have a negative impact on Fresh Ideas. He asked the Board to consider that. Mr. Blunt had another question on the high efficiency exhaust system. He asked if a vortex is created in the center of U Dawg U and that prevents any smells from moving into any of the other places, whether air coming from the other stores that is vented to the roof, if the air conditioning system picks up what is coming down.

Ben Newberg from Charles Bender noted that U Dawg U's air conditioning system does not have any fresh air intake so he does not know of any way the odor could get into other tenants space. The only way odor could get into their space is by the doors and the exhaust on the roof. It would have to drift down which is not typical; it usually goes up.

Brett from Viccinis asked if Capriccios has make up air on their exhaust. The person noted that if they do, then it could create that cycle.

Mr. Newberg stated that it would if Capriccios make up air grill was within 15 feet. He noted that it couldn't be because of the space between their stores. It was noted that their air conditioning

system does not have pressure.

Mr. Newberg noted that the traffic created by the U Dawg U would be a positive. They will see Fresh Ideas and can create more sales for them.

Trustee Teichert noted that Mr. Blunt referenced the 44 parking spots and asked where he got that number.

Mr. Blunt read from the parking study noting it says lots 2, 3, 4 and 5 have 44 spaces.

Trustee Teichert responded that the information he has indicates the number of spots available but that a total 94 spaces exist.

It was reported that in doing the parking study, they counted on a Friday from 10 AM until 7 PM and on Saturday from 11 AM to 1 PM. Those are typically peak times. Parking issues also depend on how fast the hot dog business can turn over business. The engineers who studied the parking, project that between 20 to 25 parking spaces are needed during the peak time. They found that lots 2, 3, 4, 5 have 44 parking spaces during the peak lunch hours. They found that if all the spots were taken in front of 2, 3, and 4, cars could park in Lot 5 in front of Capriccios because it is not that far to walk, it is 130 feet. If employees are made to park in the municipal lot, there is a lot of parking available in the Center.

Trustee Chapin asked how it would be enforced that employees park in the municipal lot.

The engineer stated he did not know how it would be enforced.

Trustee Chapin responded that he is making an assumption then that employees would park somewhere else. But they don't have to.

The engineer reported that one or two cars will not make or break the parking situation. According to their counts on Friday and Saturday, it is not a huge situation.

Trustee Teichert asked if he could guesstimate how many parking spaces there would be if the islands were taken out.

The engineer reported they did not do that calculation.

Manager Sigman noted it would be two.

Trustee Frazier commented that their parking study is mitigated by the cold temperatures but it will be mitigated in the summer by people who walk to U Dawg U or ride their bicycles. She noted that she has had occasion to frequent the hot dog place in Wilmette and it has a tiny parking lot and it is always jammed with people. But people are in and out of there so it doesn't seem to have any type of parking problem. She noted that she agreed with the observation that this has the potential to bring in a lot of new customers. She is thinking it will be a very positive thing to have people pulling in and seeing other stores. She hopes that Fresh Ideas will continue to keep records over the next year to see if there is an impact on their business.

Trustee Kozminski noted he agreed with Trustee Frazier. He felt the silver lining in the parking debate is a wonderful problem to have. That we have a vibrant business community in Northfield that we have to worry about where we have to put all the customers is a good thing.

Brett from Vincinos noted that his employees are not required to park in the municipal lot and

he did not think he would require them to. He also noted that on Friday night when they do 40% of their week's businesses they have 10 employees on hand not the 4 reported. He also noted that he was sure it is pretty much the same for Capriccio and he did not know if they require employees to park in the municipal lot.

Director Kane responded that they are.

There was further discussion with the representative from Vincinnos noting that their Special Use does not require employees to park in the municipal lot and at the time it was granted parking was based entirely on square footage.

Director Kane noted that in 2003 there was a massive change to the Zoning Code but the Village does not go back to its businesses and require them to comply with the changes. However, if they come to the Village with a change or expansion, they would be reviewed under the new code and be required to comply with it to get an amended Special Use ordinance.

Trustee Warga asked the Vincinnos representative about his concern about the ten vehicles parked by their employees. He noted that it was in his best business interest for Vincinnos not to have employees park in front but as far away as possible.

Trustee Gottlieb offered a couple of observations. He noted that Vincinnos reported it does 40% of its sales on Friday and/or Saturday night of the week. He then asked the representative of U Dawg U when they did most of their business.

The owner of U Dawg U reported that it is varied and pretty well distributed over the week.

Trustee Gottlieb reported that if there were to be some sort of regulation on parking, it could go away at a certain time so that those closing up the store can park closer for security purposes.

A representative of Capriccios noted their concerns regarding parking. He stated that their customers are elderly. He related that when he was growing up he liked to go to the local hot dog place and they hung out and took up time. Also in the summer they sit around and relaxed. He noted that Capriccios clientele goes away in the winter and comes back in the summer and he was concern about where their customers would park.

Trustee Warga commented that studies show there is enough parking. He noted that as a Board approving entity it is not up to them to solve all business problems. They are here to help and look at whether it is feasible to have the business coming before them. He noted that Capriccios might need to get a little creative and have valet service. He noted that the Center and the parking study show that there is ample parking.

A representative of Subway commented and took exception with the comment on a vibrant community. He noted that his business has been way down because of the economic climate and felt other restaurants would agree with that. He noted there is a lot of competition for a few dollars and noted that whatever Northfield can do to attract more customers to the town would help.

Mr. Blunt again asked that the Village seriously consider removing the islands. Every location has parking except the location in front of U Dawg U. He also noted that he did not realize that the

special use ordinance for Vicinnos allows them to have parking in front of the restaurant. The landlord sent a letter out and the Village needs to address that issue because as a business we all have to be on a level playing field.

Trustee Warga asked the Village Attorney if that affects what other people in the zoning and whether it affects our zoning code.

Attorney Hill noted that it does not affect what we can do in the future. It would be difficult for the Village without the cooperation of Vicinnos to change that at this point and order them to do what the other people are doing. For whatever reason, when the Special Use was granted it was not part of it.

Manager Sigman clarified that Trustee Warga's questions refer to taking out the islands for additional parking.

Trustee Warga noted that we have the Eden's Bank project and it is currently according to code that we have the islands so if we take it out in one location does that set a precedent.

Attorney Hill responded that it doesn't set a legal precedent but it is certainly going to have an impact in terms of what we are trying to do with our downtown plan. As the economy picks up and we are able to get started on our downtown plan, we are going to be looking for first class projects and amenities in terms of landscaping. To take landscaping out and convert it to concrete or asphalt is a symbol for something that will be developed in the future.

The representative from Vincinos apologized for giving the Board the impression that he has his employees parking where they are entitled rather than what is best for their business and business as a whole. He asked how many parking spots are available.

Director Kane responded that 152 spaces are available on site.

He noted that he was only interested in how many spaces were allotted specifically for Vicinnos customers and employees.

Director Kane noted it should be listed in their special use.

Vincinos representative noted that with so many restaurants in the Center there will be competition for parking and customers won't walk distances to get to the restaurants.

Trustee Gottlieb disagreed and noted Irving's Hot Dogs in Wilmette and that customers walk from a parking lot around the corner to get to it. He felt that people will use the lot and perhaps some customers will change their mind and opt for pizza instead of a hot dog. He also agreed with Trustee Warga about the valet parking for Capriccios. He commented that there are creative solutions to the parking issues. He said that he would be reticent to say today that we should take out the landscape islands. They provide something that is beneficial to the shopping center. He further noted that not all problems could be solved tonight. The Board would need to see what happens when the restaurant opens and come back and revisit parking if there are outstanding issues.

Trustee Warga asked if they could put a condition that the Board has the opportunity to come back and revisit the parking issue in the future.

It was noted that they could always bring the matter back to the Board and did not need to be a condition.

Village Attorney Hill noted that he misunderstood what Trustee Warga was asking. He noted that all of the landscaping and parking lot configuration at the Village Center is done pursuant to a PUD which had exhibits attached to it which stated how the area is going to look. He added that if they are going to substantially change it and taking the islands out would be a substantial change, that would require some kind of an amendment to the PUD. It would be highly unusual to initiate such a thing.

Brett of Vincinos also asked if the PUD would have to change to note that so many of the spaces are now restaurants.

Attorney Hill responded that he did not believe that information is in the PUD for the Village Center.

Resident Gavin Blunt responded to Trustee Gottlieb's comments and noted that Irving's is not the issue here. He further noted that if the islands are not removed to provide parking in front of the U Dawg U, it would damage Fresh Ideas business. People are going to take the spaces right in front of Fresh Ideas store and damage its business because there are no spaces in front of the other two stores. He pleaded with the Board to address the issue of parking and take out the landscaped islands.

Trustee Kozminski noted that the issue could also be addressed by reserving a couple of spaces in the lot for particular tenants.

Mr. Blunt noted that signs are being used for Vincinos because customers from across the street for Happ Inn were parking in their lot. He again pleaded with the Board to provide as much parking as possible.

Trustee Warga clarified that there would be a gain of only two parking spaces if the island was removed. He noted that if there is that much traffic for the hot dog restaurant, those customers will take the spaces anyway. He added that dedicated parking by the property owner is the solution.

Mr. Blunt continued expressing his interest in increasing parking.

Trustee Warga asked if he and/or his wife had talked to the landlord about dedicated parking.

Mr. Blunt responded that they had not.

Mrs. Blunt continued to express her concerns stating she needed some kind of guarantee.

President Gougler asked about the process for getting designated parking.

Manager Sigman responded that it is between the landlord and the tenant.

Trustee Frazier commented that she understands where the individual tenants are coming from but the Board has to consider the concerns of everyone who opens a shop in the Center. When Fresh Ideas was opening there were other stores and they did not know who would move in but the store owner always knew they would have neighbors. She noted that she was not convinced that people will not come to her store if they cannot park right in front of the store. It is a small center. She also noted that the exposure their store will get far outweighs the problem of someone having to walk 15 feet. She noted that her problem is micromanaging parking spaces and did not feel that is the function of the Village Board. She noted that is why there are zoning regulations. Everyone comes in knowing the rules of how many spaces there are. She agreed that it is an issue that has to be worked out between the tenants and the property owner/managers. She added that if the Board felt that changes need to be made to the

zoning regulations they would reexamine them but they should not be put in a position that certain spaces be ceded for certain vendors.- is not their role.

Mr. Blunt disagreed noting that this is a Special Use and that is the only reason they have to come before the Board. It is within their purview to look at garbage, plumbing, parking. If this creates a PUD issue then that is something the Board has to deal with.

Following discussion and upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved.

AYES:	Chapin	NAYS: 0	ABSTAIN: 0	ABSENT: 0
	Frazier			
	Gottlieb			
	Kozminski			
	Teichert			
	Warga			

CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL USE ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE A PERSONAL TRAINING FACILITY AT 203 NORTHFIELD ROAD

Trustee Frazier made a motion, seconded by Trustee Teichert to approve an ordinance granting a Special Use to establish and operate a Personal Training facility with massage therapy and limited retail sales at 203 Northfield Road.

Director Kane reported that the Plan and Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing on the petition to open a Personal Training facility. She noted that last month there was a Zoning Code text amendment that was presented to allow for personal fitness facilities in the M1 Zoning District which is primarily along Northfield Road. Those same petitioners then submitted an application for a particular location at 203 Northfield Road in an 8,000 sq. ft. vacant space that they will use as a personal training studio. They offer small group physical training with an instructor to client ratio of one to 5 or 8. Unlike a traditional gym where clients come at any time and work out on their own, this is geared toward clients that have signed up for specific hours. The only condition for approval was to have the parking lot striped for one additional handicapped parking space to meet current State requirements prior to occupancy.

Trustee Warga noted that he is thrilled as a health care provider to see someone with a holistic approach to health joining our community.

The Board discussed the change in that area with the new types of businesses that are moving into the space along Northfield Road.

Following discussion and upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved.

AYES:	Chapin	NAYS: 0	ABSTAIN: 0	ABSENT: 0
	Frazier			
	Gottlieb			
	Kozminski			
	Teichert			
	Warga			

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS AGREEMENT TO JOIN THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY DISPATCH (R.E.D.) FOR CENTRALIZED EMERGENCY FIRE AND AMBULANCE DISPATCHING SERVICES

Trustee Kozminski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Chapin to approve a resolution and Communications Systems Agreement to join the Regional Emergency Dispatch (R.E.D.) Center for centralized emergency fire and ambulance dispatching services.

Manager Sigman reported that the Village has been studying the possibility of going into a consolidated dispatch center with some of the surrounding communities of Wilmette, Winnetka and Kenilworth. All three of these Villages currently provide only blue dispatch. They are all members of RED Center and one of the conditions of beginning those discussions was the willingness of Northfield to consider RED Center. At this time, there is no final decision on a consolidated Blue Dispatch. In looking at the way we do our current operation, we decided there could be some economies in moving to RED Center on May 1, 2010. We estimate we will be able to save about \$150,000 in next year's budget due to staffing costs. Director Nystrand was able to get RED Center to agree that if we come into the Center, a grant they received for some new equipment, that equipment would be given to us as the newest member. The grant is in the neighborhood of \$20,000 to \$30,000 in lap top equipment that was not in our budget. There are benefits for us. To run an emergency dispatch center with red and blue all of the dispatchers have to be certified as EMDs. The requirements for that training and the on-going courses are very intensive and it mandates that we have two people in the Center most times of the day. If the Village goes to the straight blue center, we have the benefit of not having to certify those EMDs, all of the dispatchers at RED Center are EMD and there are multiple people there at the phone so we have the synergy of more than one dispatcher at the station. Our dispatchers in Northfield can continue to keep the station open, do the prisoner monitoring and do all of our Police dispatching and it gives us more flexibility for backfilling and working in those positions when we don't have the State mandated EMD training to go along with it.

Manager Sigman noted that staff's recommendation is to join RED Center but that it would still need to be approved by the Red Center Board. We do not anticipate that being a problem.

Trustee Frazier asked Chief Nystrand to comment on RED Center to get his opinion on whether he is satisfied with this type of arrangement.

Chief Nystrand commented that he is extremely satisfied. He feels the Village will receive a benefit based on fire and emergency calls being dispatched from a regional emergency dispatch office. He explained their technology and how calls would be handled.

Trustee Kozminski commented that Manager Sigman has been working very hard and is doing a good job by increasing service and efficiency, keeping costs under control.

Manager Sigman noted that Chief Nystrand and Chief Lustig have been working very closely on this as well and both of them will play a big role in moving forward with this and in changing protocols in our existing Blue Center and the physical requirements of switching over to RED Center.

Following discussion and upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved.

AYES:	Chapin Frazier Gottlieb Kozminski Teichert	NAYS: 0	ABSTAIN: 0	ABSENT: Warga
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CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE NORTHFIELD STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Trustee Frazier made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gottlieb to approve a resolution adopting the Northfield Storm Water Management Program.

Director Nystrand related that in May 2009, he came before the Board and asked about hiring Gewalt Hamilton to put together our Stormwater Management Plan in order to be in compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program mandated by the federal EPA and monitored by IEPA. One of the components of coming into compliance with that program is to have the Village Board adopt a resolution which would adopt the plan. The Plan talks about the six areas discussed previously: public education and outreach, public participation and involvement, detection and elimination, construction site run-off control and post construction site run-off control, pollution prevention and good housekeeping municipal operations. There are a number of things they have to do in public works including filling in reports, monitoring water rates, etc. The EPA requires that the Village Board adopt a resolution that we have a Stormwater Plan and keep it updated.

President Gougler asked if this is something that is done every year.

Director Nystrand responded that it is a brand new program.

President Gougler asked how frequently we would update the Plan.

Director Nystrand reported that it is on-going so staff is always monitoring contractors and job sites.

Following discussion and upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved.

AYES:	Chapin Frazier Gottlieb Kozminski Teichert	NAYS: 0	ABSTAIN: 0	ABSENT: Warga
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CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSAL FROM GEWALT HAMILTON ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE RESURFACING OF THE OLD WILLOW ROAD BRIDGE AND AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE THE IDOT PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION GUIDANCE AGREEMENT

Trustee Chapin made a motion, seconded by Trustee Teichert to approve a proposal from Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Inc. for construction engineering services for the resurfacing of the Old

Willow Road Bridge and authorizing the Village President to execute the IDOT Preliminary Engineering and Construction Guidance agreement.

Director Noble noted that he considered this a housekeeping item. Earlier in the summer, the Village received notice that it received some Recovery and Redevelopment Act funding for the resurfacing of the Old Willow Road bridge. Now we need the engineering firm to oversee the construction engineering of that project. Item A is approving the contract with Gewalt Hamilton and Item B is a resolution to appropriate the funds so it can be paid for with Motor Fuel Taxes.

Trustee Kozminski asked about using Motor Fuel Tax funds and the recent repaving project – how does work because he noted he thought the Village had appropriated the funds for that project.

Director Noble responded that what was appropriated for the 2009 bonds is enough money to pay the principal and interest every year. We have enough funds in the Motor Fuel Tax balance and enough on an annual basis to accommodate this one-time \$8,000 cost.

Following discussion and upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved.

AYES:	Chapin Frazier Gottlieb Kozminski Teichert	NAYS: 0	ABSTAIN: 0	ABSENT: Warga
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CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$8,000 OF MOTOR FUEL TAX FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR RESURFACING OF THE OLD WILLOW ROAD BRIDGE

Trustee Chapin made a motion, seconded by Trustee Kozminski to approve a resolution appropriating \$8,000 of Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds for construction engineering services for resurfacing of the Old Willow Road Bridge.

Director Kane reported that work on the bridge was pushed back so it would not coincide with work on the bridge on Winnetka Avenue being done by Cook County Highway Dept. near the Fire-Public Works building. They plan to begin that in mid-April and run for three months and the road will be closed to traffic from Riverside to Northfield Road. Traffic will be detoured north to Willow Road. Work on the Old Willow Road bridge was pushed back to June to coincide with the closing of Middlefork School for the summer. Work will then start in summer and it is hoped the Old Willow Road Bridge will be complete by fall 2010. Cook County's initial email to Director Kane indicated that traffic would be closed in both directions on Winnetka Road for the duration of the project.

Trustee Teichert asked what that would do to the response time for fire and emergency vehicles.

Chief Nystrand responded that when the County worked on the bridge on Sunset Ridge Road, they worked with the County and they kept it open one way. The Village will be meeting with the County and will work out the details of the bridge closing on Winnetka Road.

Following discussion and upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved.

AYES: Chapin
 Frazier
 Gottlieb
 Kozminski
 Teichert

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: Warga

Status Report of the Long Range Financial Planning Committee

Trustee Chapin reported that at their final meeting, the Long Range Financial Planning Sub Committee passed a motion to recommend to the Board of Trustees to consider Home Rule. He noted that Village President Fred Gougler appointed a Home Rule Task Force to study that recommendation.

President Gougler acknowledged all the work done by the Long Range Planning Sub Committee, the completion of the assignment to thoroughly evaluate the four options that arose from the Sub Committees study of the Long Range Financial projections and debt situation and finally the formation of a special task force that will serve to evaluate, educate and develop Home Rule as a potential solution for a number of issues.

Board Updates

Home Rule Task Force

President Gougler noted that the Home Rule Task Force has not officially met; however, Trustee Teichert and Trustee Frazier reported they have begun the process and met with Attorney Hill and Manager Sigman about initial talking points in terms of both financial and non-financial home rule options. The first public meeting is scheduled for February 23 at 4:59 p.m.

President Gougler encouraged everyone to attend. He noted it is expected to be just as constructive and informative a process as was the Long Range Planning meetings.

Department Updates

Administration

Manager Sigman reported that relative to Willow Road, there are two upcoming meetings, the Traffic and Transportation Committee meeting next Wednesday. The focus of that meeting will be to talk about the IDOT March 4 Open House on Willow Road. She encouraged any Board members and members of the community who want to have input in the process to stop by and give their comments and opinions on Willow Road so they become part of the public record. Otherwise, she reported she is working on getting the Home Rule packets out for their first meeting next week. Also, as Director Noble will discuss, she is working with him to get the draft budget out next Friday in preparation for the Budget Workshop on March 9. She also noted that the budget will be discussed with staff at a State of the Village address to employees on Monday, March 8.

President Gougler added the importance of participation in the March 4 Open House hosted by IDOT. There are some issues about how IDOT is recording the Context Sensitive Meeting process.

He encouraged all those who can to attend the Open House which will be held from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. on March 4 at the Renaissance Hotel in Northbrook. A court reporter will be taking comments from those attending.

Trustee Chapin noted that in the minutes of the Committee of the Whole there was a suggestion that the Chairman of Traffic and Transportation meet with the Board tonight. He asked if that invitation was extended or what happened to that suggestion.

President Gougler reported that Traffic and Transportation Chair Bob Hayward has been traveling for his job extensively out of the area. He and Stacy have a conference call scheduled with Mr. Hayward on Thursday and they will be inviting him to come and address the Board.

Manager Sigman reported that she has asked Mr. Hayward to check his schedule to see if he could be present at the March Board meeting.

Community Development Department

Director Kane noted that the Board may have been expecting that the Village Center appraisal report would be discussed in Executive Session tonight. Due to timing in getting an appraiser lined up, she expects to have the reports for the Board at the March meeting and hopes to narrow down the realtors to a few the Board might consider to market the properties.

Another project that is going on in the Village Center, involves working with public works on a watermain project they have planned behind the Village Hall on Walnut Avenue. She hopes to work with them in conjunction with the Eden's Bank Development project to expand the improved streetscape which is part of their project from Willow down to Orchard and do some public/private tradeoffs of some improvements and, perhaps, get the Eden's Bank contractor to do them which would offer more cost efficient pricing since they are already working in the right of way. Director Nystrand reported that the bid opening is in early March so the Board will see that next month.

Finance Department

Director Noble reported that Manager Sigman summed up his week/month. The proposed budget goes out on Friday to the Board. He is also working on preparing the materials for the meeting on the March 9 and the employee meeting on March 8.

Manager Sigman reported that one of the things Director Noble will be doing in addition to getting the draft budget to the Board is updating the five-year projection chart that will not go out with the budget that will be provided on March. 9.

Public Works and Fire-Rescue Departments

Director Mike Nystrand reported that the Public Works Department has been working with the County to try to get them to do some additional work on the storm sewer on the south side of Winnetka Road between Wagner and the Forest Preserve. He noted they were successful in getting them out to do some ditch digging on the eastern portion on the south side. They worked with the

local supervisor but he did not have the personnel to get out there do more work. After talking to Manager Sigman, the Public Works staff was used to work in that area and they uncovered a number of blockages. As of now, the pipe is clear all the way from Wagner Road to the Forest Preserve. He noted it will make a huge impact when the spring rains come. He reported they gave a copy of DVD to the County to follow up on and do some of the repairs needed.

Trustee Teichert asked about the dissimilar materials the County used for the repair and whether that was going to fixed that.

Director Nystrand reported that he asked the County to address that issue but they have not been out to fix it yet.

Manager Sigman noted that the Village still faces the challenge of working with Cook County on the long term fix of that storm sewer. She added that we did send a proposal to Cook County on the design of Winnetka Avenue. It is a project that keeps on getting pushed farther out as to when that roadway will be reconstructed. We hope that when it is reconstructed we can get a lot of drainage improvements put in the right of way. They have suggested that the best way to get that project moving ahead is if the Village would function on the lead on Phase I of the project. We would control that study. The County wants to do a redesign of the roadway that would be acceptable to the community. As long as we meet their guidelines, they want to do improvements to our satisfaction. The Village had its engineer put together a proposal and we have sent it to the County for their review. If it is acceptable to them they will fund 100% of the work. We expect to hear back on that in the next month or two and are hoping that the project is something that we will move forward on in 2010 and that we get a more permanent fix to the storm sewer but also, we get a lot of storm water enhancements put into place as part of that project.

Trustee Frazier commented that she thought staff has done a great job of mitigating the flooding problems. She noted that she has seen staff out there in the winter on the south side of Winnetka Avenue dredging the area and she commends them for their work.

President Gougler asked if we documented the problems we saw or did we fix them.

Director Nystrand noted that the blockages the Board sees in the before photos Public Works removed. However, if the County does not maintain it or go back and do some additional repairs, then it will only be a matter of time before problems reoccur.

Director Nystrand also reported that there were a number of water main breaks since the last meeting which generally happens during the winter months. They also noted they are working on the Safe Routes to School grants. In the Fire Department, they are working on RED Center and putting together information for the transition. He also noted that the two new paramedic students are doing well in school.

Police Department

Police Chief Lustig reported that he is doing much better since having been in the hospital for a number of days with a staph infection. He noted that he was overwhelmed by the culture of the

community. He reported the cards and flowers he received from the schools and churches and also noted that people brought dinners to his family. He reported that two weeks ago there was another burglary incident. He reported that warnings on incidents have been sent to the North Shore Senior Center; however, many seniors are very trusting and they let people into their homes. He noted they had one case last year and one this year. It is happening all around the area. He reported the burglars are dressed as service people and residents tend to trust them and let them in. They work in pairs and one distracts the homeowner while the other goes to the master bedroom to take jewelry and money.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Chapin made a motion, seconded by Trustee Kozminski to adjourn to closed session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss current litigation issues.

Upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved.

AYES:	Chapin	NAYS: 0	ABSTAIN: 0	ABSENT: Warga
	Frazier			
	Kozminski			
	Teichert			
	Gottlieb			

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Chapin made a motion, seconded by Trustee Teichert to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote all approved and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.