

MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFF

COPY: VILLAGE PRESIDENT & BOARD OF TRUSTEES - DEPARTMENT HEADS

FROM: Richard Nahrstadt, Village Manager

DATE: November 21, 2014

RE: STAFF BRIEFING

WEEK OF November 17, 2014

NORTHBROOK PLAN COMMISSION MEETING

On November 18, 2014 the Plan Commission considered the following applications:

DOCKET NO. 14-13: DUNKIN DONUTS DRIVE-THROUGH FACILITY - 2775 DUNDEE ROAD. The Commission held its second public hearing on an amended application requesting approval of a special permit, loading variation, and yard and setback variations to allow the construction and operation of a Dunkin Donuts with an accessory drive-through facility. Staff and the Applicant reviewed the revised concept site plan which shows redevelopment of the site and locating the building and drive-through facility in the southeast corner of the property. Three members of the public spoke in opposition to the project with the primary concern being the additional traffic from the restaurant onto Pfingsten Road. After closing the public hearing, all of the Commission members generally expressed support for a Dunkin Donuts on the subject property and thanked the applicant for significantly revising the site plan to address their concerns. The Commission did ask the applicant to provide more detailed information regarding the design of the building, signage, landscaping, and lighting for the property, to consider redesigning the Pfingsten Road access point to have two out lanes (one to turn left and one to turn right), and to consider limitations on the hours of operation. At the applicant's request, the public hearing was continued to January 6.

DOCKET NO. 14-15: PANERA - 772 SKOKIE BOULEVARD. The Commission held its first public hearing on an application requesting final plan approval of special permits and variations for a proposed Panera Bread restaurant with an accessory drive-through facility, which would be part of the recently approved NorthShore 770 project. No one from the public spoke at the hearing. After closing the public hearing, Commission members discussed some concerns regarding the automobile queue length for the drive through lane. After discussion, the Commission unanimously adopted a resolution recommending approval of the requested zoning relief. An ordinance approving the final plan is tentatively scheduled for Board of Trustees consideration on December 9, 2014.

The Plan Commission has cancelled both of its meetings in December. Its next meeting is scheduled for January 6.

YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

On Wednesday evening, the Youth Commission held their monthly meeting in the Terrace Room of Village Hall. The Commission welcomed a newly appointed adult commissioner – Melissa Morreale – to fill the last adult commissioner vacancy. Melissa is a long-time Northbrook resident and is excited to see our youth get involved in the community through service opportunities. If you know any students who would like to get involved in the community by serving on the Youth Commission, please forward any candidates to staff liaison Jason Batalden via e-mail at jason.batalden@northbrook.il.us.

The Commission has continued its involvement in Operation Santa Claus which is an annual book drive for elementary students at the Goethe school in Chicago. This year's donation saw an increase over last year with approximately 650 books being donated thanks to the generosity of the program's partners.

The Commission has also started planning for the 2015 Quiz Bowl event. If you have not yet witnessed the academic prowess and competitive, yet friendly, spirit of our Northbrook 8th graders, please be sure to put this event on your calendar. The event is scheduled for Thursday, February 26th at 5PM in the Board Room of Village Hall.

The next regular meeting of the Youth Commission is scheduled for December 17th.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

On Thursday, November 20, the Environmental Quality Commission held their regular meeting. Chairman Reynolds announced the resignation of Commissioner Sandra Garber leaving and invited any interested residents to apply to fill the vacancy. During the Hear from the Audience portion, two members of Go Green Northbrook discussed a proposal to expand the children's activities at the April, 2015 Earth Day Celebration. The remainder of the discussion focused on the continued review of the Winnetka ban on coal tar based sealants. Each of the Commissioners presented information they obtained from other communities that have considered a ban. The discussion is scheduled to continue at the next regular meeting on December 18, 2014.

RESURFACING OF LAKE-COOK ROAD/SKOKIE BOULEVARD INTERSECTION

On Thursday afternoon, November 20, the Cook County Department of Transportation & Highways (CCDoTH) informed Village staff that their contractor will be starting pavement removal (milling) work at the intersection of Lake Cook Road and Skokie Boulevard on Friday, November 21. The pavement milling work should be completed by Saturday. The placement of the surface course is scheduled to begin Saturday, weather permitting. The existing pavement is badly rutted at this intersection with numerous potholes. The project limits on Lake-Cook Road extend from the west edge of Skokie Boulevard eastwards to the concrete pavement for the bridge over the Edens Expressway.

CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR ALERTS RESIDENTS TO A FAULTY STOVE

On Saturday, November 15, at approximately 1:30am, the Fire Department responded to the 3000 block of Robin Crest Drive for a call of an activated carbon monoxide detector. Upon arrival, crews identified multiple carbon monoxide detector activations with elevated readings. The house was evacuated and crews were able to identify the source of the carbon monoxide, a poisonous, colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas, to a malfunctioning stove. The stove was shut off and the occupants were evaluated on scene. The residents were advised to not use the stove until serviced by a licensed professional. The Fire Department reminds residents to check their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on a regular basis and replace them according to the manufacturer's directions.

FIRST SNOWFALL CATCHES DRIVERS OFF GUARD

On Saturday, November 15, at approximately 7:30pm, the fire department responded to four separate vehicle accidents within a one hour time period. A combination of light snow and falling temperatures created a perfect environment for icy roadways. All four accidents were minor and all patients were evaluated on location. Call back personnel covered Northbrook stations during the incidents.

FOUR-VEHICLE ACCIDENT SHUTS DOWN WILLOW ROAD

On Tuesday, November 18, at approximately 6:00pm, Police and Fire units responded to a call of a vehicle accident in the area of Willow Road and Founders Drive. Upon arrival, crews found four vehicles, including a PACE bus, involved in an accident. Two individuals were transported to a local hospital in stable condition and no injuries were reported by the passengers on the bus. Northbrook received assistance from Glenview's Fire and Police Departments. Willow Road was shut down for a short period of time during the incident.



FREEZING TEMPERATURES ADD TO CHALLENGE AT FIRE

On Monday, November 17, at approximately 11:00pm, Northbrook Police and Fire units responded to fire alarm activation at the 2800 block of Shermer Road. While en route, dispatchers advised they had received a call from the premises indicating a piece of machinery was on fire inside the building. Upon arrival, crews found a fire inside the manufacturing facility, with the fire being kept from spreading by the sprinkler system. Crews extinguished the fire and searched the smoke filled facility to ensure all occupants had safely evacuated. No injuries were reported and Public Works provided a salt truck to ensure a safe working area, as the water used to extinguish the fire began to freeze in the parking lot.



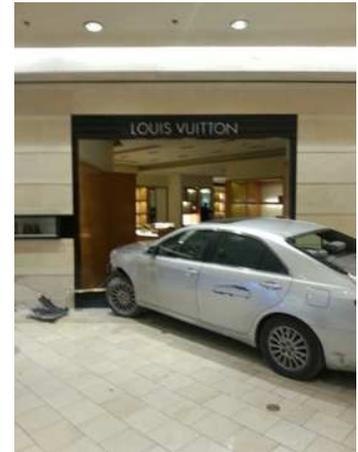
FIRE RESPONSE VEHICLE OUTFITTING

Over the past week, the Public Works Fleet Maintenance staff has been working to outfit the new response vehicle used by the Fire Department's Shift Commanders. The vehicle is outfitted with lights, radios, sirens, and a host of other emergency response equipment. In order to ensure that first responders have all of the necessary equipment on hand, mechanics have been constructing custom cabinetry that will be installed in the vehicle. The cabinets will allow the vehicle to serve as an incident command vehicle during fires or large incidents within the Village.



BURGLARY AT NORTHBROOK COURT

On Tuesday, November 18, shortly before 5:00am, Police responded to a burglary at Northbrook Court. On scene, they discovered that a stolen car had been driven through the mall doors at the 'Stir Crazy' entrance, and then through a window of the Louis Vuitton store. After examining the video, it appears that the group entered the store, quickly stole handbags and belts and fled in a separate vehicle or vehicles. The car used to breach the doors apparently was stolen recently in Chicago. Northbrook Court Management is cooperating fully with the Police Department. This burglary may be linked to recent similar crimes in the Midwest. The Police Department is working with Oak Brook and Chicago Police on this case.



EARLY VOTING

For the November 2014 Gubernatorial Election, Cook County held Early Voting at 43 sites. Of those 43 sites, Northbrook Village Hall came in 3rd with 6,289 voters in a 14 day period. Orland Township had 8,222 voters and Arlington Heights Village Hall had 7,740. Northbrook Village Hall continues to be one of the most visited sites for early voting. This year, the Village Hall was open from 9am-5pm on both Saturdays, and 9am-3pm and 9am-4pm, respectively, on the two Sundays during Early Voting. In addition, the Village Hall served as a Grace Period site, which allows voters to register and vote on the Monday before Election Day and on Election Day. Voters appreciate the opportunity to vote before Election Day and be offered an additional Grace Period site. More than 26% of suburban Cook County ballots were cast before Election Day either in-person through grace period and early voting, or by mail. Suburban Cook County also had a new high for early voting in a midterm election, with 128,000 ballots cast - a 52.6 percent jump over 2010. Plus, there were about 4,500 grace period voters at all of the early voting sites.

WEEK OF November 24, 2014

MON.	11/24	7:30 p.m.	ZBA – Board Room
TUES.	11/25	7:30 a.m.	ICDC – Terrace Room
		7:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – Cancelled
WED.	11/26	7:00 p.m.	Northbrook Interfaith Community Service – Our Lady of the Brook
THURS.	11/27		Thanksgiving Day - Village Hall Closed
FRI.	11/28		Day after Thanksgiving - Village Hall Closed