

MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFF

**COPY: VILLAGE PRESIDENT & BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DEPARTMENT HEADS**

FROM: Richard Nahrstadt, Village Manager

DATE: July 1, 2011

RE: STAFF BRIEFING

WEEK OF JUNE 27, 2011
JUNE 30TH STORM RESPONSE

Last night at approximately 8:30pm, a strong line of storms clipped Northbrook as they proceeded south over Lake Michigan. These storms carried with them very strong winds, heavy rain and damaging hail. Fortunately, Northbrook did not receive the significant rainfall or hail that other neighboring communities were subjected to. However, Northbrook did experience winds with gusts of up to 70 mph. These winds again brought with them rolling power outages throughout ComEd's territory. Approximately 100,000 outages were reported last night (especially in areas like Zion, Waukegan, Glencoe, Highland Park and Evanston), 1,500 of which were in Northbrook. Assistant Manager Kiraly, Fire Chief Nolan, and Assistant to the Public Works Director Morrison met last night and were in direct contact with numerous individuals with ComEd to see that crews were dispatched on a top-priority basis to Northbrook. By 11:30 last night, the number was down to 690. As of 6:30am on Friday, there were fewer than 250, and by 8:00am, there were 84 without power in the community. As of mid-afternoon, 23 customers were without power, with ComEd crews working to restore them as quickly as possible. Staff will continue to monitor the situation,

JUNE 21ST STORM RESPONSE

Public Works crews continued collection of tree debris from last week's storm all week. Crews worked extended hours last week, worked on Saturday, and extended hours again on Monday to ensure debris were collected in a timely fashion and before the holiday weekend. To date have collected almost 2,000 cubic yards of brush.



Picture of brush pile at Public Works Yard



Public Works crews removing dangerous limbs

Following last week's storm some 5,800 customers in Northbrook and as many as 400,000 customers system-wide were without power. Power was restored to all customers in Northbrook by 5:00pm on Saturday, June 25.

The response to last week's storm serves as an excellent example of intergovernmental cooperation. The Village of Northbrook worked with the Northbrook Park District who loaned us a wood chipper and Northfield Township who assisted by providing a staff member and equipment on Wednesday afternoon to help with

brush collection. Northbrook assisted Mount Prospect by replacing teeth and blades on the chipper we rented (which is done to avoid a charge from the equipment company) and delivering it to Mount Prospect for their brush collection efforts after a tornado touched down there last week.

In addition, IT Manager Rich Kramer received a call for assistance from the Village of Niles. The storm knocked out power to their data center and when power was restored, the critical networking device that allowed their staff to send/receive email and host their website had failed. Given the age of the device, they were unable to have adequate warranties in place so they could not get it replaced or repaired quickly. IT Manager Kramer had a similar device that had been decommissioned from our environment and allowed Niles to borrow it for their purposes. Their systems were back online by June 24 and Niles has since returned the device and reconfigured their network to use their own existing hardware.

REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

The Board met on Tuesday, June 28. Under the President's Report, Firefighter/Paramedic Eddie Waddle was recognized for his 33 years of service in the Fire Department. Under the Consent Agenda, a Resolution was passed authorizing the purchase of Fluoride for the treatment of drinking water. Also passed was an Ordinance granting a Level III Design Review permit for two wall signs at 1350 Shermer Road (Yogen Fruz Cafe) and an Ordinance providing for the disposal of surplus property recovered by the Police Department. Prior to the Board meeting, the Ad Hoc Labor Committee met regarding Collective Bargaining. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on Tuesday, July 12.

DOWNTOWN AREA PLAN WEBSITE

The website for the Village's downtown planning efforts has gone live! Over the next several weeks, we will be inviting Northbrook residents, workers, business owners, and property owners to visit www.northbrook.il.us/DowntownPlan and respond to the on-line questionnaire. In addition, they will be able to provide comments through an interactive mapping tool as well as send in e-mails with specific ideas and thoughts.

The information gathered through the website will be shared with the Steering Committee at its Wednesday, August 31 meeting. Also at that meeting, the Committee will review a draft vision statement for the downtown as well as more detailed information regarding existing conditions and a market assessment. This information will provide the background for the 4-day planning charrette process involving the public, which is scheduled for October.

In addition to information in this month's Village Newsletter, posters and banners will be featured around town in the next week.

NEW MASTER STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Stormwater Management Commission will review the new Plan at their July 14th meeting. Staff anticipates the initial presentation of the Stormwater Master Plan to the Village Board will occur at the August 16th COW meeting.

SHARE YOUR IDEAS
About the Future of Downtown
@
www.northbrook.il.us

DOWNTOWN NORTHBROOK AREA PLAN

What are your favorite places in Downtown?

What would make Downtown more attractive?

What brings you Downtown?

What would you like to have in Downtown?

Your Opinion Is Important To Us!

Please take a moment to tell us your thoughts on Downtown Northbrook by completing our brief Online Questionnaire.

CLICK HERE

Tell Us On A Map!

Use this interactive map to show us what works and what doesn't in Downtown Northbrook.

* Share place-based insights, highlight community assets, note development wants/needs, upload pictures!

The Village of Northbrook wants to hear from you!
www.northbrook.il.us

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

At its June 28 meeting, the Industrial and Commercial Development Commission reviewed the outcome of the MicroLink Devices Class 6b application for lessons learned. The Commission asked that it be kept informed about the work of the newly create Economic Development Committee of the Board of Trustees as that committee studies economic development incentives. The Commission asked staff to work with the Chamber of Commerce to reach out to businesses without a liquor license wishing to hold events at which liquor would be served to evaluate whether the Village should amend regulations to allow these businesses to do that. The Commission continued its discussion regarding temporary business sign regulations and was also provided a reminder of why group recreational uses are not allowed in industrial areas because of Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA). The Commission's discussion of potential changes to parking and loading standards was continued to its next meeting, which is scheduled for July 26, 2011.

PARKING RESTRICTION

In order to keep access open to fire engines and ambulances during the 4th of July fireworks celebration, Voltz Road, Suzann Terrace and Windy Hill will be restricted to parking on one side of the street. Communications Manager Cheryl Fayne-dePersio used the Northbrook Notify system to telephone residences in the area advising them of the temporary restriction.

WALTERS AVENUE/CEDAR LANE INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

Over the course of last year, numerous concerns arose regarding the Walters Avenue/Cedar Lane intersection, which is currently a two-way stop for the Cedar Lane approaches. It was determined that this intersection does not meet the traffic volume warrants for a four-way stop. At the December 14 Regular Board meeting, it was decided that additional pavement markings were needed to channel southbound traffic for the Cedar Lane approach to a single lane as well as the removal of two parking spaces on the Walters Avenue approaches to further improve the sight distances. On Monday and Wednesday of this week, these additional pavement markings were completed by the Public Works Department's contractor. Barricades have been temporarily placed to better designate the single lane on the Cedar Lane southbound approach until the flexible delineators can be installed, which is anticipated to be within one to two weeks. Staff will monitor their effectiveness and determine if any additional enhancements are warranted.

2011 SEWER & WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS

Lenny Hoffman Excavating has completed the installation of the water main in the Lee Woods Subdivision. The contractor has completed the transfer of 14 (out of 43) residential water services from the old water main to the new water main. The remaining water services will be transferred to the new water main after bacteriological testing of the second section of water main is complete. Meanwhile the contractor has begun replacing drainage structures and storm sewer lines on Edgewood Lane and Holly Court.



WATER TOWER UPDATE

PirTano Construction completed the installation of the 2-inch polypipe between the Public Works Center and Woodhead Drive for the fiber optic cable that will connect the water tower to the Village's fiber optic network. The pulling of the fiber and splicing work was completed this week. Work remaining includes the connections to the Public Works Center and the new water tower.

CHERRY LANE/MEADOW ROAD BRIDGE DECK REHABILITATIONS

Bids came in higher than anticipated for the rehabilitation of the Cherry Lane and Meadow Ridge bridge decks and staff is in the process of trying to "value engineer" the project by modifying the scope of work and construction staging. We have received a favorable lower price from the low bidder and it is anticipated that we can have this project before the Board at the July 12th Regular meeting.

CYCLIST STRUCK BY AUTO

Tuesday, June 28, paramedics were called to the intersection of Shermer and Church for a bicyclist that had been struck by an auto. On arrival, they found a 39-year-old male lying on the ground with his bicycle lying near him. The patient was evaluated, treated and immobilized before being transported to Highland Park Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. Cause of the incident is under investigation by the Northbrook Police.

POLICE OFFICER TEST

On June 25, 2011, the Police Department joined forces with the Morton Grove, Wheeling, Park Ridge, and Roselle departments to conduct a written examination to create an eligibility list for police officer candidates. The cooperative effort was designed to attract a larger pool of qualified applicants and to reduce the cost of the testing process by spreading the expenses amongst the participating agencies. Over 400 candidates, who had already completed the physical agility testing at the Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Academy (NIPSTA) at his or her own expense, attended the examination. When the list is compiled, it will remain in effect for two years. Northbrook was able to save over \$8,000.00 on the written test alone, demonstrating continuing efforts to reduce operating costs while maintaining superior service.



BURGLARIES

A residential burglary was reported to police on June 27 occurring in the 800 block of Fair Lane. Tenants returned home to find currency missing from their bedrooms. No forced entry into the residence was found.

Patrons visiting J. Alexander's restaurant on Tuesday evening, June 28, returned to their vehicle to find the passenger window smashed and workbags containing computer equipment missing.

Both burglary scenes were processed by Evidence Technicians.

WEEK OF JULY 4, 2011

MON. 7/4



INDEPENDENCE DAY - Village Hall Closed

TUES. 7/5

9:00 a.m.

Department Head Staff Meeting-Terrace Room

7:30 p.m.

Plan Commission – **Cancelled**

WED. 7/6

THURS. 7/7

5:00 p.m.

RFP District Meeting – Station 11

7:00 p.m.

Arts Commission – Terrace Room

7:00 p.m.

Community Relations Commission - **Cancelled**

FRI. 7/8

SAT. 7/9

10am-5pm

“ART IN THE PARK” – Village Green

SUN. 7/10

10am-4pm

“ART IN THE PARK” – Village Green