

MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFF

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

FROM: Richard Nahrstadt, Village Manager

DATE: July 2, 2010

RE: STAFF BRIEFING

WEEK OF JUNE 28, 2010

VICTORY AT CHIPILI WOODS FIELD

On Thursday afternoon, Cook County Commissioner Gregg Goslin called President Frum and informed her that the County Forest Preserve has reversed its policy on not mowing the field at Chipili Woods by Sunset Ridge Road. President Frum, PW Director Hamill and I have been working with Commissioner Goslin to remove the unsafe conditions caused by the tall grass in that field. The Village has had reports of coyotes forming dens in the tall grass and chasing residents as well as people fly dumping garbage in the tall grass. Residents in Northbrook East have complained to the County and the Village. Yesterday, President Frum spoke to Senator Susan Garrett and Representative Karen May regarding the situation. The field was mowed this morning. The County will mow the field as part of their regular maintenance of that area. A letter of appreciation will be sent to Commissioner Goslin for his assistance in this matter. We are also still working with Commissioner Goslin regarding the potential use of Forest Preserve land for storm water detention in Northbrook East.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB)

On Tuesday night, Chairman Heller and Trustees Buehler and Scolaro held a committee meeting to discuss EAB. Also in attendance was Trustee Spaniak. Staff provided information concerning the current number and condition of Ash trees within the Village parkways. The primary discussion of the meeting concerned staff's recommendation for a three year EAB management plan. Over the next three years staff recommended that the EAB plan concentrate on the following efforts:

1. Education and outreach efforts to the public and tree service contractors about EAB.
2. Update of all Ash tree condition ratings.
3. Continued investigation and identification of potential EAB cases/areas.
4. Identifying trees with possible acceleration for removal due to condition or other reasons.
5. Reforestation of removed trees.
6. Identifying trees for possible treatment with pesticides.
7. Investigation and possible removal of private trees with EAB.
8. Creating certified contractor lists for removal and treatments.
9. Formalize the proposed plan, publish and post.

While many of the costs of the plan will be covered utilizing existing staff labor and other department resources, the Committee agreed with the plan concept and will be recommending to the full board the approval of going out to bid for these additional services:

1. Removal of condition 3 to 5 Ash trees to help cull the population and reduce the number of host trees. The estimated removal cost of these trees over the three-year period would be \$96,000.

2. Continuing with the practice of replacing Ash trees removed due to accelerated removal and EAB at no cost to the residents. The estimated reforestation cost of these trees over the three year period would be \$165,000.
3. Agree to provide initial treatments for the highest quality Ash trees that are rated as a number "1" condition and are 12" or larger for a cost of \$25,000. Staff will also compile cost estimates to treat additional "1" rated trees with smaller diameters.

There was also considerable discussion on how to address the identification and removal of infested Ash trees located on private property. Staff indicated that it is difficult to identify EAB unless specific processes are used. The Committee felt that in areas where staff locates EAB on parkway trees the adjacent property owners within the area should be notified of the infestation. They would then be encouraged to review their private trees and take the appropriate actions. In the event that an Ash tree becomes a hazard, the current code allows for the enforcement of removal of diseased EAB trees on private property.

Staff will be presenting the EAB management plan at the July 13, 2010 regular board meeting.

NESTLE CLASS 6B REQUEST – SCHOOL DISTRICT 28 BOARD REVIEW

On Wednesday, June 29, David Schoon attended the School District 28 Board meeting and made a presentation regarding Nestle's Class 6b request. After a brief discussion, the board members agreed to support the Class 6b request; however, they raised questions regarding the current property assessment appeal filed on the property.

As was reported in Attachment A of the June 18 memo to the Board of Trustees regarding the Class 6b request, in 2009 the previous property owner filed a property assessment appeal based upon the partial vacancy of the building and to contest an artificial increase in market value that resulted from the County's application of new assessment percentages. The appeal is currently pending. If successful, the Applicant anticipates a reduction in the assessed value of the property. The School District 28 Board felt that this appeal would reduce the base value and thus reduce the property taxes collected on the base value of the property. David indicated to the Board that this appeal is independent of the Class 6b request, and whether or not Nestle moves forward, the current property owner would still pursue this appeal. Members of the school board indicated that they believe that the property owner should not pursue the appeal if they would like the Class 6b incentive.

Overall, Board members made statements to the effect that Nestle would be a great business to bring to the community and that without Nestle's investment in the building, the building may remain vacant for some time.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MARKETING PLAN

The ICDC Business Development Marketing Subcommittee (Pat Lederer, Tensley Garris, and David Schoon) have selected Inland Arts & Graphics out of New Lenox to assist with the creation of a logo and tag line as well as five marketing pieces for the Village's business development marketing efforts (as previously reported, no Northbrook firm submitted a proposal). Inland was selected from a group of nine design firms that responded to our request for proposals. Inland was selected based upon their design expertise, their recent work with other communities (e.g. Wilmette, Park Forest, New Lenox, etc.), their responsiveness to us during the selection process, and the value they will be providing through their services.

The marketing subcommittee, along with Cheryl Fayne, the Village's Communications Manager, has already had an initial meeting with the consultant to begin work on the project.

CHANGES TO COMCAST'S EXPANDED BASIC SERVICE

Comcast is reminding subscribers throughout Northbrook and the Chicagoland area about the new "enhanced services" for customers receiving Standard/Expanded Basic cable channels 36-64, 66-76 and 101. Any television set not currently hooked up to a digital convertor or cable card will need a digital adaptor to receive the channels listed above. Comcast began migrating some of the channels; such as MSNBC, The Weather Channel, Lifetime, Travel and AMC, on June 29-30. On July 27, 2010, the remaining expanded basic channels will be transmitted in a digital only format and a cable box, digital adapter or CableCARD will be required to view the channels. This tier of service includes channels such as CNN, History, ESPN and USA Network.

Only the Expanded Basic portion of the service is being transferred to an all digital format. If Comcast subscribers want to continue to receive the Expanded Basic tier, they must have a device. Comcast will provide a total of three devices free per account. If a customer does not obtain any digital equipment by the time this digital enhancement is completed in July, their service will be changed to Basic Service (channels 2-19, 21-35 and 98) and their price reduced accordingly. ***Please note that this network enhancement is not related to the federally-mandated Digital Broadcast Transition, which was completed on June 12, 2009.*** Cable Subscribers may call Comcast at 866-594-1234 for Customer Service or visit www.comcast.com

BURGLARY

A homeowner in the 2300 block of Brian Drive reported to Police on Tuesday, June 29, that unknown persons had entered his unlocked vehicle parked in his driveway and removed/used the overhead garage door opener to enter the garage. Items missing from the vehicle parked in the garage are a Garmin GPS device and currency. The scene was processed by Evidence Technicians.

SUICIDAL SUBJECT LOCATED IN CALIFORNIA

On June 24, at approximately 12:45pm, Dispatch received a call from the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs Suicide Hotline requesting assistance. The hotline received a cell phone call from a male subject (only known as Terence) who had taken an overdose of 30 pills. Veterans' Affairs performed an Internet check on the cell phone number the subject called from and determined it was a "Northbrook" number (suspected to mean that the cell phone number was one of many purchased in bulk and affiliated with Northbrook in some administrative or record keeping manner, then resold to a wireless carrier). The 911 Center has received several similar calls where the cell number reportedly registers to Northbrook, but in reality is located in another state.

Dispatch performed research on the cell phone number and determined the number was assigned to Verizon Wireless. Verizon was contacted and given the cell phone number. Shortly afterwards, they advised the cell phone was signaling off a tower in San Diego, California, and that the billing address associated with the cell phone was also in San Diego.

Based on the information obtained from Verizon, Dispatch notified the San Diego Police and requested they conduct a well-being check on the subject at the address provided. San Diego Police responded and made contact with the subject. It was later learned that the San Diego Police did not transport the subject for treatment or hospitalization.

Calls of this nature require a significant amount of time and effort to track down the individual in need of assistance, whether they are bona fide or not. Multiple inquiries and processes must be completed prior to obtaining the carrier or subscriber information.

VEHICLE INTO HOME

On Friday, June 25, a senior citizen drove into the front of a single family home on Rutgers Lane after driving over a large hedge. No one was home at the time and there were no injuries. The home was assessed for damage by Tom Poupard, and it was determined that the damage was not going to endanger the stability of the home. However, as a precaution, a board-up company will provide bracing as one vertical wall support was compromised. The Fire and Police Departments both did an outstanding job of supporting the driver of the vehicle and the distraught homeowners who returned to find an Acura parked nose first in their living room.

MABAS DIVISION 4 REQUESTS NORTHBROOK'S SONAR

Friday evening, on duty divers and sonar techs staffed Dive Squad 10 and responded to a recovery operation at Illinois Beach State Park for a drowning victim in Lake Michigan. Northbrook's sector scan sonar was specifically requested by command for its usefulness in locating hard to find targets. Upon arrival, the sonar equipment was moved to the beachfront, where the incident was centered. The sonar equipment was in the process of being assembled and transferred to Fox Lake Fire Protection District watercraft when crews operating in the water discovered the victim. Sonar equipment and personnel were released from the scene.

RESERVE ENGINE LOANED TO PROSPECT HEIGHTS

On Sunday, Engine 11R was loaned to Prospect Heights, running as Engine 39 until one of their engines was repaired. Prospect Heights has had a number of mechanical problems causing three vehicles to go out of service which prompted the lending of the apparatus. Prospect Heights returned the Engine on Tuesday, June 29 with Chief Don Gould's thanks.

STOVE TOP LEFT ON CAUSES EVACUATION

On Tuesday evening, June 28, Tower 12 was dispatched to assist Nicor for an inside gas leak on Farnsworth. Nicor reported the odor was called in by neighbors of Unit 203. Upon arrival, Tower 12 upgraded the alarm. Battalion 11, Engine 10, and Ambulance 12 arrived on the scene and proceeded to check levels, evacuate, and ventilate the building and garage. All occupants, except for Unit 203, were accounted for or identified by neighbors as not being home. Forcible entry was made into Unit 203, the unit was searched, and a knob for the stove top was found to be left on without a flame. Crews checked the unit and gas appliances for leaks and ventilated the unit. Nicor reviewed safety precautions with Unit 203's occupants when they arrived.

WEEK OF JULY 5, 2010

MON.	7/5		VILLAGE HALL CLOSED (in observance of 4th of July Holiday)
TUES.	7/6	9:00 a.m.	Department Head Staff Meeting – Terrace Room
		6:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting – Board Room
		7:30 p.m.	Plan Commission Meeting – Cancelled
WED.	7/7	7:30 a.m.	EDC – Board Room
THUR.	7/8	5:30 p.m.	Architectural Control Commission – Terrace Room
		7:00 p.m.	Senior Services Commission – Shermer Study
FRI.	7/9		No Meetings Scheduled