

MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFF

COPY: VILLAGE PRESIDENT & BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DEPARTMENT HEADS

FROM: Richard Nahrstadt, Village Manager

DATE: April 20, 2012

RE: STAFF BRIEFING

WEEK OF APRIL 16, 2012

ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION

This week, President Frum participated in a press conference at the Skokie Village Hall to announce that the North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium had, through an RFP and negotiations process, achieved a new rate for electricity that will yield at least 41% savings off the current Commonwealth Edison residential electricity rate, and save residential customers hundreds of dollars annually.

Over the next three years, MCSquared Energy Services, LLC (“mc²”), the Consortium’s selected alternative electricity supplier, will supply power to an estimated 60,000 to 70,000 Consortium customers in the eight consortium communities. The electricity rate of 4.836 cents per kilowatt- hour (“kWh”) has been locked in through the May 2013 ComEd billing cycle. The current ComEd residential rate is 8.233* cents per kWh. New rates through mc² are anticipated to begin in June and July.

Official correspondence from the Village of Northbrook regarding the electricity aggregation process will be mailed during the week of April 23 to all eligible residential customers via regular postal service. This correspondence will come under Village letterhead. There have been many phone calls received by residents; it is important to note that residents **will not** receive a telephone call from Northbrook, or from the Consortium’s provider, mc². All correspondence will be done via First Class mail.

Once the official correspondence is received, customers will have 21 days to determine if they want to “opt-out” of the municipal program. Under this “opt-out” program, all residential and small commercial retail customers (those whose annual usage is 15,000 kWh or less) will be switched automatically to mc², unless the customer affirmatively opts-out of the program and continues service through ComEd or another provider. Residents and small businesses that have already switched to an alternative provider will be able to “opt-in” to the municipal aggregation program; those residents and businesses should contact mc² directly at (888) 808-7731 or email at NorthShore@MC2energyservices.com for more information about registration.

The Village will continue to provide information on the Village’s website, www.northbrook.il.us. In addition, questions may be directed to the Village Manager’s Office, specifically to Assistant Village Manager Kiraly and Management Analyst Maltas at 847 664-4012 or 847/664-4017.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

The EQC held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, April 19. The Commission was very glad to hear that the Board of Trustees approved the intergovernmental agreement with the Park District for the upcoming sustainability plan. The Park District Board will vote on the plan next week.

Chairman Reynolds explained that he attended last month's Stormwater Management Committee meeting. He stated that a subcommittee between the two Commissions will begin to meet to discuss the 22 projects in the Master Stormwater Management Plan to ensure that environmental considerations are made for each project prior to their design.

Finally, the Commission decided to keep a regular schedule of maintenance of the Village Hall rain garden, which will take place immediately before the monthly meeting, beginning next month. The next scheduled meeting is set for May 17.

YOUTH COMMISSION

The Youth Commission held their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 18. The primary discussion at this meeting revolved around planning for the 3rd Annual Youth Film Festival scheduled for Monday, June 11 at 7pm at the Northbrook Public Library auditorium.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, May 16.

RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR WILLOW ROAD

The preferred concept plan that has resulted from the numerous discussions between the Community Advisory Group (CAG), residents/business owners, IDOT staff and other stakeholders for the improvement of Willow Road between Waukegan Road and the Edens Expressway is a four-lane roadway with a landscaped median. Exclusive left turn lanes will also be provided at all major intersections. An Open House/Public Hearing for the project was held on April 19 at the New Trier High School-Northfield Campus. Public comments will continue to be accepted on the plan through IDOT until May 3, 2012.

The improvements will also include the reconstruction of the Willow Road/Waukegan Road intersection to provide dual left turn lanes and one right turn lane on all four approaches. The project is scheduled for a March, 2013 competitive bid letting, with construction of the main line roadway improvements to be completed in 2013. Restoration, median construction and landscaping will be completed in 2014. During construction it is anticipated to maintain one lane of traffic in each direction on Willow Road.

For more information on the plan, please visit www.northbrook.il.us.

RETIREMENT

After forty years of service to the Village, Property Officer Craig A. Monroe will be retiring on April 30. Craig holds the honor of being the employee of the Village with the longest tenure, having started his career in August 1972. Craig worked for the Fire Department in his early years and then came to the Police Department to become just about everything. Craig has handled the Police Department building issues, uniforms, fleet, finances and purchasing, and served for twenty-five years on the Alarm Commission until it was disbanded in 2010. Well wishers are welcomed to stop by the Police Department at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, April 30, for cake and a farewell to Craig. We wish him many years of happy retirement.

THEFT ARREST

On Tuesday, April 17, after approximately a three week investigation, a Chicago resident was arrested and charged with theft after removing cash and a cell phone from a patron's locker at the Northbrook YMCA. This subject has been under surveillance for possible locker thefts from the Irving Park and Niles YMCAs.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

A residential burglary reported on Wednesday evening, April 18, in the 3000 block of Highland Road is being investigated by Police. The homeowner's dog sitter called police to report that upon checking the home she found doors unlocked and the dogs locked up in a bedroom. A check of the residence by Police revealed damage to a kitchen window lock, but nothing appeared disturbed in the residence. The homeowners were contacted and will examine the residence upon their return.

OUTSIDE DEPARTMENT AIDED

Northbrook's Canine team was requested by Lake Forest Police to assist in tracking of a missing/suicidal juvenile very early Thursday morning, April 19. After a search through rear yards, the subject was located and returned home safely.

APRIL 17, 2012 PLAN COMMISSION WORKSHOP

The Northbrook Plan Commission did not have any scheduled public hearings, so the Staff took the opportunity to brief the Commission on a variety of code amendment initiatives that are being programmed. The Plan Commission was briefed on amendments being considered to the Zoning Code, Subdivision & Development Code and Municipal Code. The Commission had a number of questions and comments regarding the possible amendments to the Zoning Code concerning further clarifications to the treatment of attic spaces in single family homes, how to properly integrate sustainable development practices and heightened stormwater standards in new developments, and sign regulations.

NEW PERMIT ACTIVITY AT MEADOW RIDGE

This week the Department of Development & Planning Services received building permit applications for six new dwelling units within the Meadow Ridge development. These requests mark the first new permit activity within the planned development on the Techny property since 2008. This marks another sign that the housing market in Northbrook is gradually improving.

TECHNY ROAD/PFINGSTEN ROAD STORM SEWER & ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

At the April 10 Regular meeting, the Village's Board of Trustees awarded the construction contract to Berger Excavating of Wauconda, IL for the reconstruction of Techny Road, which includes the installation of a main line storm relief sewer between Second Street to west of Pfingsten Road. The storm relief sewer is the third phase of the comprehensive (4 phase) Techny Drain stormwater management improvements. This project will also be a jurisdictional transfer between the Cook County Highway Department and the Village. Seven days following the award of the construction contract, the Village will assume maintenance responsibilities for this segment of Techny Road. Also included in the project is an additional storm relief sewer on Pfingsten Road to reduce flooding impacts within the Willow Creek subdivision. This particular project is referred to as forth Phase of the Techny Drain Stormwater Management Improvements.

Once construction begins, Techny Road will be reduced to one-way westbound only traffic between Shermer and Pfingsten Roads. All current street and driveway connections will be maintained during construction. The signed detour route for all eastbound traffic will be Shermer to Willow to Pfingsten. Pfingsten Road traffic will be reduced from two lanes in each direction to one lane in each direction at the Techny Road intersection.

The actual start date for the roadway construction work is anticipated to be on, or about May 15th. The overall completion date is still anticipated to be December 31, 2013. Nicor is currently working to complete some advance relocations and replacements of their conflicting segments of gas main, but most of this work is off-road and will not involve any lane closures. More information will be provided as soon as it becomes available.

NORTHBROOK DIVERS ASSIST NORTH MAINE WITH DROWNING

Saturday morning, April 14 at about 7:00am, a 911 call came in to RED Center stating a man was in a lake in Unincorporated Des Plaines and had not resurfaced. North Maine Firefighters responded and began searching for the man. Mutual Aid fire departments, including Northbrook divers arrived and set up the sonar system which helped to quickly locate the victim at the bottom of the lake. Divers pulled the 36-year-old Villa Park resident from the water and paramedics treated and transported him to Lutheran General Hospital. Unfortunately he did not survive. Northbrook Fire Department, along with eight other departments assisted the North Maine Fire Protection District with this incident.



WATER MAIN BREAK REPAIRS

This has proven to be a very busy week for water main repairs. On Friday, April 13 crews repaired a broken water main on the 2400 block of Illinois. Between 7:00 pm. Sunday, April 15, to 8:00 pm Monday, Public Works repaired 10 water main breaks starting with the leak on the 1300 block of Waukegan Road, then the 2800 block of Walters, 2800 block of Weller, 1400 block of Christina, 1000 block of Adelaide, 1100 block of Adirondack, 2200 block of Elm Ridge, 2600 block of Quail, the intersection of Western and Oak and the 2500 block of Kingston. Eight (8) of the breaks were repaired by Public Works crews and two) were repaired by a contractor.



2500 block of Kingston



1400 Block of Christina

On Tuesday April 17 we experienced breaks on the 2500 and 2700 blocks of Longmeadow. On Thursday, April 19, we repaired a broken water main behind 5 Revere Drive. We currently have ATS (leak detection company) pin pointing a location on the 1000 block of Meadow which looks to be a small break, as well as another suspected leak on Raintree.



5 Revere Drive



5 Revere Drive

FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS AUTISM TRAINING AWARENESS

Over three Fridays in April, the Fire Department presented to all Fire personnel, Police social service personnel, and RED Center dispatchers, Autism Awareness training at the Village Hall. The training objectives including enhancing responders' knowledge, awareness and understanding of best practices in scene safety, assessment, treatment, and transport of Autistic patients. The presentation was offered by Mary Kay Betz, Executive Director of the Autism Society of Illinois. Mary Kay has participated in legislative activities at the national and state level affecting the developmentally disabled community at large. Her many group presentation and trainings have including the Illinois State Police, United States Secret Service, hostage negotiators and SWAT teams. She is also a mother of three boys, two of whom are Autistic.

WEEK OF APRIL 23, 2012

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-------------------|---|
| SAT. | 4/21 | 8:30am-2pm | EARTH DAY/ARBOR DAY - Shermer & Meadow |
| MON. | 4/23 | 7:30 p.m. | ZBA - Board Room |
| TUES. | 4/24 | 7:30 a.m. | ICDC - Cancelled |
| | | 6:00 p.m. | Planning & Zoning Committee - Terrace Room |
| | | 7:30 p.m. | Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees - Board Room |
| WED. | 4/ 25 | 7:30 a.m. | Foreign Fire Insurance Board - Fire Station 11 |
| | | 8:30 a.m. | Techny Lodge Groundbreaking Ceremonies, 2220 Founders Drive |
| THURS. | 4/26 | | |
| FRI. | 4/27 | | |