

MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFF

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

FROM: Rich Nahrstadt, Village Manager

DATE: February 4, 2011

RE: STAFF BRIEFING

WEEK OF JANUARY 31, 2011

BLIZZARD OF 2011 - REVIEW AND RECAP

The Village of Northbrook and Chicagoland area experienced the third worst recorded winter storm in its history on Tuesday, February 1 and Wednesday, February 2. The Village received 21 inches of snow over a 15 hour period. The storm also brought with it sustained winds of 20+ M.P.H. and wind gusts up to 60 M.P.H. that created blizzard conditions.

Public Works began working 12-hour shifts on Tuesday morning to provide continuous operations around the clock until Thursday morning. During the storm crews, worked to ensure main roads were passable, emergency vehicles could respond to calls, and help stranded motorists as crews came upon them. After the snow stopped falling Wednesday morning crews immediately began to methodically work through residential streets to make them passable.

The Fire Department responded on 78 emergencies during the blizzard, including 30 ambulance calls, half of which were for cardiac related issues. The fire responses were for smoking electrical equipment, power line problems, and carbon monoxide issues. Career and Paid-On-Call firefighters, working along with Police and Public Works members, used ingenuity and determination to first get to each patient, treat, and then transport the patient to the hospital. Many times the ambulance could not get close to the address and paramedics used 4-wheel drive SUVs, pickup trucks, or walked through the snow to get to the patients. The hard work, dedication, and teamwork within the Fire Department and with our partners in Public Works, Police, and Red Center were truly remarkable.

The Police Department received 222 calls during the storm, 72 of which were for stranded vehicles. Dedicated Village Hall staff ensured that the Village Hall opened on Wednesday morning making sure residents continued to receive services from their Village, uninterrupted.

President Frum made a formal Declaration of Emergency and Disaster for the Village of Northbrook in accordance with Cook County and State of Illinois procedures. This declaration may help to provide some reimbursement for extra costs incurred by the Village due to this blizzard if the State receives Federal assistance. The local Emergency Declaration automatically expires in seven days. Meanwhile, staff will be working to compile storm related costs to submit for reimbursement.

Below are just a few anecdotes illustrating the efforts by all:

- Fire Department personnel scheduled to report for duty on Wednesday at 7:00 a.m., began to arrive as early as 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday night to ensure they would arrive at work on time. This dedication facilitated increased staffing during the worst part of the storm, easing operations significantly. 20 of 21 firefighters arrived before 7:00 a.m. Wednesday morning.

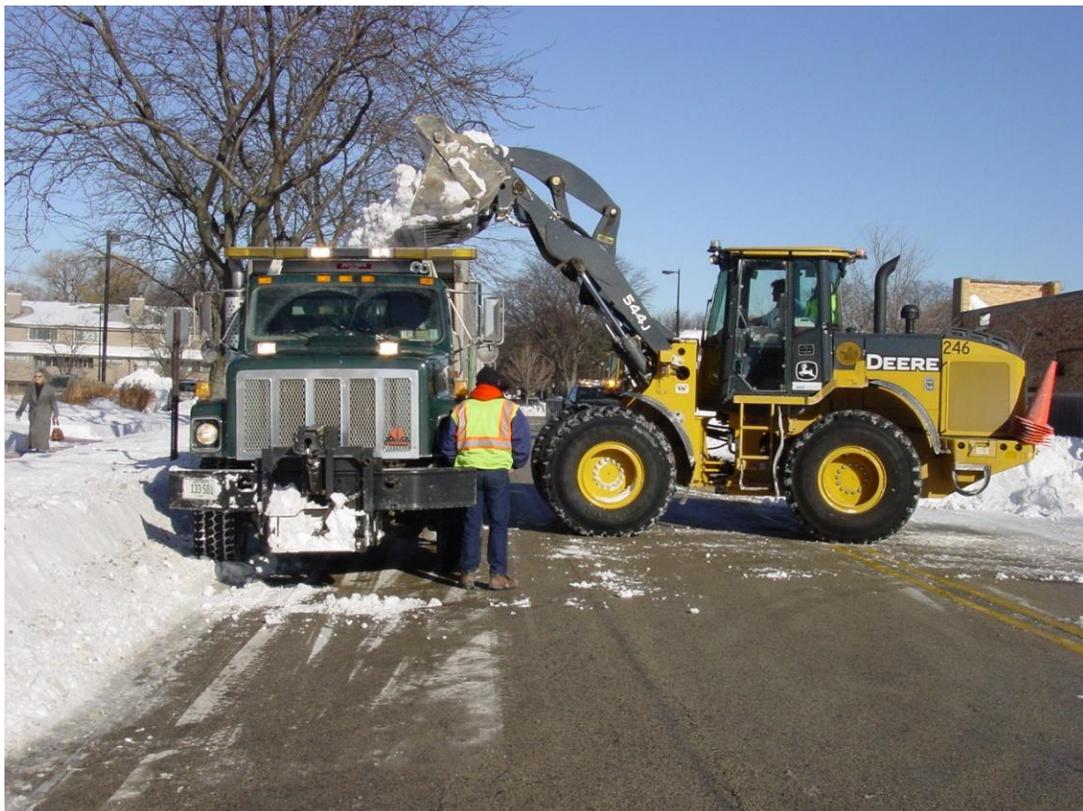
- Firefighters responded during whiteout conditions to a Gas leak on Greenacre, stopping several times on Dundee to clear wipers and get bearings. The Ambulance got stuck several times, freed by staff from multiple fire vehicles.
- A call for a patient at a large home on Sunset and Versailles Dr. forced a slow trudge through knee deep snow in whiteout conditions down a 200-foot driveway. Four Paramedics carried the cot with the patient through the snow to the Ambulance parked on the street.
- Fire crews responded to a fire alarm on Stanley St. Squad 12 got stuck in the snow on Stanley Street and Ambulance 12 got stuck on the ramp at Station 12. Public Works responded immediately with an end loader and plow to tow and free vehicles post haste.
- Several “smoke in the building” calls with long responses but minor difficulties at the scene.
- Fire Department crews responded to a fire alarm at the Divine Word residence hall. There was no access to the residence hall or infirmary due to the deep snow. The Fire Department pick-up snowplow was overwhelmed and unable to clear snow for fire apparatus access. Firefighters walked several hundred feet through knee-deep snow to the building. Upon checking for hazards and restoring the fire protection system, the District Chief met with Father Braband to assure ambulance access to the assisted living facility. When options were exhausted due to limited staffing at Divine Word, Northbrook Public Works provided a single access lane for an ambulance to gain admission to the infirmary and to the residence hall until clean up needs could be addressed.
- A small electrical fire at the Renaissance was complicated by an impassable street and obstructed parking lots. The hazard was mitigated by fire crews, but upon returning, the Ambulance became stuck in the snow and out of service. Public Works was contacted and arranged for an end loader and a mechanic to tow the ambulance from the snow. An off-duty Lieutenant arrived at Station 11, approximately 12 hours before his scheduled shift. He responded in his own personal truck and towed the Ambulance out of the snow with a strap, returning them to regular response status.
- Almost every ambulance call required a Fire Department or Public Work’s staffed snowplow to access residences on side streets. A four wheel drive FD utility vehicle then accessed patients at home and shuttled them to the ambulance. This system, although slowing down transport time, reduced overall delays by eliminating the possibility of ambulances getting stuck in the snow.
- Police and Public Works collaborated to make the West Commuter Lot accessible for residents, free of charge until 6:00 a.m., Friday, February 4, who were not able to park their vehicles on driveways or did not have off-street parking available. Keeping cars off roadways helped Public Works’ plowing operations be more efficient and effective by getting to the curb the first time through.
- Police and Public Works responded to calls from the Illinois Department of Transportation to look for stranded motorists at Lake-Cook Road because they did not have equipment nearby that was able to access the area.
- At its peak, 360 Northbrook customers were without electricity on Tuesday and Wednesday. Village staff worked with ComEd to help them respond to the outages, even offering Village staff and equipment to clear what snow was necessary to get crews to repair sites. Power was restored to most customers by 9:15 PM on Wednesday.
- The Police Department received several post storm calls thanking the Village for their excellent work, not only in handling emergency snow related incidents, but in patrolling the streets throughout the extreme weather conditions. Residents commented that it was reassuring to see the 4-wheel drive

emergency vehicles patrolling the streets. While they weren't needed, a resident called to offer the use of his two brand new snowmobiles at any time, day or night, during the storm

Clean-up operations will continue through next week. They include:

- Hauling snow from the Commuter Parking lots and the CBD so that the downtown returns to normalcy and transportation is readily available.
- Methodically working through subdivisions with our blowers to clear the streets of snow, curb to curb. Clearing streets curb to curb will allow the safe passage of vehicles and, in the event of melting, access to storm sewer inlets.
- Repairing mailboxes that were damaged or lost. Staff will work with the Post Office on this issue as it will take awhile to re-establish temporary boxes in the correct locations for regular mail service.
- Cleaning intersections to remove site line issues caused by the large piles of snow.
- Locating and digging out fire hydrants. The Public Works and Fire Departments will be cooperating to accomplish this in a timely manner. Residents are asked to help clear snow from and around fire hydrants. The Village has over 3,000 hydrants.
- Clearing of sidewalks for school routes and eventually other sidewalks that we currently plow.
- Addressing driveway complaints and other issues that are identified by the community as they recover from the blizzard.

Below are pictures of some of on-going clean-up operations.







NORTHBROOK NOTIFY ON VILLAGE WEBSITE

It's official. Northbrook's redesigned website is up and running. (The site was launched a few weeks ago, but officially announced in the February Village newsletter which was delivered to postal customers Thursday.) A new feature on the website called "Northbrook Notify" is a useful tool for residents and businesses to provide cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses to the Village for notifications. As you all know, the Village telephone call-out was a key communications tool to share important messages to residents regarding the blizzard and Village operations. Northbrook Notify also includes options for residents and businesses to receive non-emergency messages via e-mail for meeting agendas and special event notices. All are encouraged to sign up at www.northbrook.il.us Residents without Internet access that would like to add a cell phone number for emergency call-outs should fill out a form at the Village Hall, Police Station or at the second floor reference desk at the Northbrook Library. Questions? Call 847 272-5050, ext. 4226.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

The Stormwater Management Commission met Thursday evening to review the Pre-Final draft of the Village's New Master Stormwater Plan. Guests in attendance included President Frum, Development & Planning Services Director Tom Poupard and Environmental Quality Commissioner Jeremy Reynolds. Following a very detailed critique, the Commission members passed a unanimous motion to direct Village Engineer Paul Kendzior to submit their comments to our consultant, HLR, Inc. who is preparing the Plan. The Commission also passed a second unanimous motion to recommend to the Village Board to include the necessary funding in the next Fiscal Year Annual Budget for the engineering and construction of the recommended Northbrook East project from the Plan and the engineering for one additional to be determined project from the Plan. These items will be included in the Draft Capital Improvement Plan and Draft Budget to be provided to the Village Board in late February.

It is anticipated that the Plan will be presented to the Board sometime in May.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING

The Commission wishes to remind everyone that its annual Black History month event will take place on February 19 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm at the Northbrook Public Library. Professor Vaun Monroe of Columbia College will present a program entitled "Film and Race Relations". Professor Monroe will present selected short film clips and engage the audience in an interactive and informative discussion about how films have made a dramatic impact on race relations in America. The program will look at subject matter, technical/creative

aspects, and the use of the actors. Please encourage anyone interested in film or the history of race relations in America to attend this free event. More information is available at www.northbrook.il.us

Applications are available and currently being accepted for the CRC Award program. This program commends individual(s) for demonstrating the mission of the CRC within the community. The Commission encourages you to recommend all candidates who may be an appropriate recipient(s). Nomination forms and guidelines are posted on the Village website at www.northbrook.il.us. Submissions are due February 15 and the award ceremony will tentatively take place at the Village Board meeting on March 22.

The next meeting of the CRC is scheduled for March 3, 2011.

CENSUS BEGINS ROLLING OUT DATA STATE BY STATE

The U.S. Census Bureau began rolling out local-level 2010 Census population counts... but be patient as they are not sharing the order of which states will be released between now and March 31, 2011. So far they have released or announced release of data for Vermont, Virginia, New Jersey, Mississippi and Louisiana. For each state, the Census Bureau will provide summaries of population totals, as well as data on race, Hispanic origin and voting age. These data will be presented for multiple geographies within each state, such as census blocks, tracts, voting districts, cities, counties and school districts.

According to Public Law 94-171, the Census Bureau must provide redistricting data to the 50 states no later than April 1 of the year following the census. As a result, the Census Bureau is delivering the data state-by-state on a flow basis in February and March. All states will receive their data by April 1, 2011.

So here is how data will be released: Each state's geographic products and redistricting data are first delivered to the state's leadership, such as the governor and majority and minority leaders in the state legislative body. Upon confirmation of delivery to the state leadership, the U.S Census Bureau will release a news release with five custom tables of data. Within 24-hours, the full set of five detailed tables will also be available to the public online at <http://factfinder2.census.gov>. Let's all strive to be patient as we wait for the results!

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES

On Saturday, January 29, a homeowner in the 2600 block of Prince Street called police to report an attempted burglary. Police responded to discover pry marks on a side door of the residence and footwear impressions leading to the door. No entry appeared to have been gained.

A ruse type burglary occurred on Tuesday, February 1, in the 2400 block of El Cid Lane. One male subject knocked on the door feigning to be with the condominium management company needing to check water pipes due to the impending storm. A second male subject entered the residence unbeknown to the resident. Once the second subject was discovered by the resident, both fled the home. The first floor dining room cabinets and all upstairs bedrooms had been compromised. Several pieces of jewelry were taken.

Canvasses of the neighborhoods were conducted and both scenes were processed by Evidence Technicians. The cases are being followed up by Investigators.

MWRD WAUKEGAN ROAD SEWER LINING PROJECT

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District's sewer lining contractor, Kenny Construction, has postponed sewer lining work on Waukegan Road due to the weather and recent snow fall. The Village of Northbrook will notify residents using Facebook and the Village website when lining work is scheduled begin.

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 7, 2011

MON.	2/7	5:30 p.m.	NCTV Volunteer Party – Board Room
TUES.	2/8	6:30 p.m.	Communications & Legislation Committee Meeting – Terrace Room
		7:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees – Board Room
WED.	2/9	7:00 p.m.	Bicycle Task Force Meeting – Cancelled
THURS.	2/10	8:00 a.m.	Monthly Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting – Chamber Office
		5:00 p.m.	Electrical Commission – DPS Conference Room
		5:30 p.m.	Architectural Control Commission – Terrace Room
FRI.	2/11		No Meetings