

Managers Report, August 2015

There is not much new to report, as my last manager's report was just two weeks ago. I hope you all have a wonderful and safe holiday weekend.

Parks and Recreation

We are still working on the Parks and Recreation plan and hope to have a draft out in the next week or two. At this point, we are just tightening up some language and waiting on some proof reading expertise by Jenifer DeLisle. The plan will be distributed shortly. The Parks and Recreation commission has already begun to look forward and discuss next projects. One item close to my heart that is on the agenda is completion of the Community Garden.

Whitmore Lake SAD

As part of the bidding process for the Whitmore Lake SAD, we opted to pre-qualify contractors. As I have been informed, 6 contractors' submitted qualifications and 5 were qualified to bid. Closed bid openings will take place at a public meeting on September 16th at 2:00pm. As a courtesy, I will inform all property owners in the district of the Bid Opening Meeting.

FEMA Community Rating System

FEMA has confirmed receipt of our letter requesting to join the Community Rating System. For the first time in history, FEMA is offering a week long class in navigating through the Community Rating System. As follows is a synopsis of the course; "This course covers the Community Rating System (CRS), a nationwide initiative of FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The course describes activities eligible for credit under the 2013 CRS Coordinator's Manual, how a community applies to the program, how a community maintains their classification and how a community modifies an application to improve its classification." I have been informed that the earliest we would be able to officially complete the process is by October 1st of 2016. While long and involved, I believe strongly this is good for Northfield Township and its residents. Schedule permitting, I would like to attend this class.

Planning Consultant

Our Planning Consultant is on board and should be in attendance for their first official Planning Commission meeting on September 16th. Welcome Aboard Becket and Raeder.

Downtown Planning Efforts

I met briefly with Barb Griffith. We will be working on a proposal to the board for the creation of the Downtown Planning Efforts with a eye toward bringing in as many new people and interested parties as possible why still creating an organized structure to complete the planning process. Stay tuned.

Email Addresses

We are signed up for Google mail services. This last week has been very busy in the office, and I have not been able to get much time to set up the system. I will be working on that some this weekend and hope to have it running by early next week. I will be sending out instructions and available to help with any synchronization for your individual technology needs.

Office Technology

Recently, we ordered a new router and wireless access point for our internal network. This was long overdue. Hopefully, this will help in speeding up the internet connection in the office and our wireless network upstairs. Once the router and wireless access points are resolved, we will be ordering some new computers as the budget permits. If there is any need for overages, I will request that from the board. We will be ordering direct from dell for any new hardware. Moving forward, this is the most efficient and cheapest method for new hardware, in my opinion.

Board Room Construction

I am almost complete with all the quotes needed for the upstairs construction. I did not want to put it on the agenda until it is complete, that way we can debate the merits of the project in its totality. Stay tuned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Howard Fink, Township Manager