

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD ANNUAL REORGANIZATION
JANUARY 4, 2017**

At 7:04pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi, who welcomed the audience. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231, on December 23, 2017.

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau, after which a moment of silence was observed.

Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi took attendance as follows: Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Travagline – yes.

Municipal Clerk Canesi announced the Official Oath of Office for Councilwoman Korngut would be administered by Senator Colin Bell.

Clerk Canesi introduced Senator Bell and called forward Councilwoman Korngut. Councilwoman Korngut was joined by her Aunt Norma Royal who held the bible for her; Janice Royal; Michele Zakee; Jason and Nicole McPhail; Marilyn Beck; Rodney Helms; and Joseph Abbott Sr.

Senator Bell said it was an honor to administer the oath to Susan; he has given a lot of oaths and when you run on the same ticket it is special. He said he and Susan share a lot of common ground, and share the same passion for doing the best for people. Senator Bell then administered the Oath of Office.

Councilwoman Korngut thanked Colin Bell for swearing her in, she promised to be guided in this speech by the only parameter given, which was by her Aunt who said if she fell asleep she knew she was done. She thanked Vince Mazzeo for his help throughout the campaign; she also thanked Frank Perri for his help, and for campaigning with her. She said Councilman Perri was not a great “politician”, he was a great father and a great man. She was elected less than 2 months ago, and one thing she learned was that if she was ever in a foxhole, she'd like Mary Canesi and Shannon Campbell to be in that foxhole with her, she thanked them for their help in preparing her to be here. She thanked all the women who inspired her to be here. Councilwoman Korngut also wanted to mention her girl squad who had transcended the definition of friend, and knew that they were all sisters tonight, and thanked them for always having her back. She thanked Eileen Toland and her daughter, Cassandra Shober and the South Jersey Democratic Women's Forum. She thanked her “father”, Joseph Abbot Sr. A few months ago, he had to have open heart surgery, and told her he knew she was going to win, and that he'd be here at her swearing in, even if he had to be wheeled in. She thanked all the children whom she treats as her own. She thanked all from Ward 1 who were kind enough to let her into their homes, and thanked her campaign manager Rodney Helms. Her father passed when she was a child and her mother who set such a great example and passed along her values. She

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thanked Mabel, who taught her forgiveness and tolerance, and even though she didn't live to see many of her accomplishments, Mabel's niece held the bible for her this evening. She thanked her extended family who drove so far to be here tonight. She thanked everyone in Ward 1 who gave her a chance, who listened and tried to find common ground. Councilwoman Korngut offered a positive message to the young girls of today: you should not worry about being pretty enough or smart enough, because you are. She encouraged girls to get off Facebook and Snapchat, and change the world. She urged young people to participate, and pledged to do more for our seniors and our veterans. Great ideas transcend partisanship. When the success of the few comes at the expense of the many that is unacceptable. She thanked everyone, and concluded her speech by saying, it's time to get to work.

Clerk Canesi announced the ceremonial oath for Councilman O'Neill would be administered by Mayor Chau. Mayor Chau administered the oath, after which Councilman O'Neill thanked everyone and wished everyone a great night.

Mayor Chau thanked former Councilman Jimmy Martinez, Councilman Khaleem Shabazz, Freeholders Maureen Kern and Ernest Coursey and Senator Colin Bell for attending tonight.

Clerk Canesi called the final attendance roll of the evening as follows: Mr. Dewees - yes, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O'Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Travagline – yes.

Clerk Canesi opened the floor for nominations for Council President for the year 2018.

Councilman O'Neill nominated Councilman Dewees, Councilman Murray seconded the nomination. Clerk Canesi called for other nominations; seeing none the floor for nominations was closed.

Clerk Canesi announced the roll call for the election of Greg Dewees as Council President for calendar year 2018 as follows: Mr. Dewees - yes, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O'Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Travagline - yes; Motion carried.

Council President Dewees opened the floor for nominations for Council President Pro Tempore for the year 2018.

Council President Dewees nominated Councilman Murray, Councilman Lischin seconded the nomination. Council President Dewees called for other nominations; seeing none the floor for nominations was closed.

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Clerk Canesi announced the roll call for the election of Cliff Murray Council President Pro Tempore for calendar year 2018 as follows: Ms. Korngut – yes, Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Travagline – yes, Mr. Dewees - yes; Motion carried.

At 7:28pm Council President Dewees called for a 10-minute recess.

At 7:36pm Council President Dewees resumed the meeting and announced Mayor Chau’s State of the City Address.

MAYOR ERLAND CHAU’S 2018 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor Chau thanked Council President Dewees for his leadership in guiding the governing body in 2017 and congratulated him for being elected again. Mayor Chau then read the following prepared statement:

Congratulations to Councilman - at large Frank Perri and Councilman for the 2nd Ward Jim O'Neill on both of your re-election. I also want to recognize and congratulate our newly elected Councilwoman for the 1st Ward Susan Korngut.

To all our municipal employees, I look forward to working with all of you for the benefit of our City and its residents. Together with all our City employees and City volunteers, you perform a terrific job keeping our city safe, keeping it running very smoothly and providing high-quality services to Northfield. I cannot be more proud of all our City volunteers, who continue to be counted on to make a significant difference, working hand in hand with our City employees and City Council.

I would like to acknowledge some of the past year's accomplishments from our municipal departments. The transition to our new 911 Dispatch Communication System, hosted by our shared services with Egg Harbor Township, has gone flawlessly. The new addition of E-ticketing which I anticipate will avoid much human error in recording traffic violation information and provide a much safer ticketing process for our police officers. In addition, the transfer of the E- ticket violation data to our court administration computer network will become a time saving benefit. We have added a prescription drop-off container located in the entrance way of our police department; to date over 100 pounds of prescription drugs has been collected and disposed of.

Our service agreement of picking up our municipal trash with the ACUA has become an outstanding service for community. Our City continues to be one of the top participants in the Atlantic County recycling program. Our Municipal court system with Linwood serves as a model example of how some shared services are a win-win situation for both cities.

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Unfortunately, we no longer have the interlocal shared sewer agreement with the City of Linwood. Linwood, due to financial concerns, had decided to discontinue what I believe was one of the oldest and most successful shared service agreements in Atlantic County. Despite this loss, our Public Works department along with the staff that worked within the interlocal sewer have been cross trained to take on new responsibilities that will help to increase services and help reduce the financial stresses of maintaining our Birch Grove Park facilities. Our City Library system continues to provide outstanding literacy services and educational programs for our residents. We continue to re-evaluate and address our Public Safety needs. As your Mayor I pledge to continue to support and provide the necessary needs to keep our City and its people safe and secure.

One issue for sure will be our response to the Affordable Housing mandate. With the dissolution of COAH in 2015, after three decades of what I considered to be State bureaucracy and waste, decisions on affordable housing are now back in the hands of the courts. City Council continues to work diligently to continue to protect, preserve, and maintain the current zoning character of Northfield while at the same time meet its state and court mandates.

In 2017 a great deal of time was spent ensuring that your tax dollars were not only being watched and spent efficiently, but also that they were being protected and better secured. In 2017 we budgeted 3 cents. It was a very tight budget and there were some tough choices to be made, and I appreciate everyone's help in getting us there. I anticipate that in 2018 we will face more challenges.

In conclusion, City Council's member's comments that were spoken tonight represents that if we as a body do well - the Mayor and the Council working together - the City will do even better. We have shared successes, and shared areas where we can do better. I want all of us to join together in an era of cooperation and collaboration. I know that we all believe that we can do this - because we all want our City to succeed and realize its true potential. And you have my pledge to work with all of you for our City, for our government and for all its stakeholders. I know that Mayor and City Council are ready to serve you all. We have a great City; let's never lose sight of what we are fighting to preserve and improve upon for future generations. Thank you and Happy New Year - a happy and healthy year to everyone in 2018.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Dewees thanked Mayor Chau; he asked all to take out their agendas.

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Council President Dewees announced that matters listed under the consent agenda are considered to be routine in nature, and having been reviewed by Council, will be enacted by one motion. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of any Council Member and if so removed, will be treated as a separate matter. Any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds.

Council President Dewees made the assignments for the evening and asked if Council had any questions and if anyone wished to have any matter voted on separately from the consent agenda. Council President Dewees, himself, would like to have resolution 10-2018 pulled from this evening's agenda and further considered. There were no additional comments.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion of Councilman Perri, second of Councilman O'Neill, all were in favor, except for Councilwoman Korngut who abstained, of approving the minutes of the December 12, 2017, meeting of Council without formal reading. They have been posted, distributed to Council, and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Dewees opened this meeting to the Public.

Jerry Breeden, 109 Roosevelt Avenue, said he'd called Councilman Dewees ten times in the past two years, and every time Councilman Dewees returned his call, and had done his best to address his problems. He commended Councilman Perri and Mayor Chau for their past responsiveness as well. Mr. Breeden said he felt it was not always easy dealing with employees. He complimented the Police Department under the leadership of Chief Newman. He reported seeing the Department of Public Works blowing leaves on the bike path. They blew the leaves and then used a Case front end loader to collect the leaves and in doing so cracked the bike path between Jackson and Fairbanks. This was not the right piece of equipment. He felt that the leaf collection on the bike path should be outsourced. He did not want a tax increase; with the new tax laws, they have to. He reported that Brigantine's taxes never go up. Last year in New Jersey more people left than came in because of taxes. He said he's lived in Northfield for 57 years; his dad was a council person here, and taxes were low. Mr. Breeden worked for 37 years at Caesars but was now disabled. His taxes were \$5,000 a year; he is proud to live in Northfield and doesn't want to leave but may have to if taxes don't go down.. He knew being on Council was a tough job, but you have to think of new ideas to keep taxes low. He reported that the crosswalks were not back in place, and it's been a month. This should have been done a week or two later.

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Councilman Dewees explained that a certain amount of time had to pass before the thermo plastic can be applied to the asphalt; it was in the works.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak the public session was closed.

Councilman Perri thanked everyone for their kind words, and thanked Susan, Jerry and everyone for their support during this difficult time. The Perri family is still in mourning. The people who didn't vote for him knew that he was going to work just as hard for them as well. These are challenging times and Councilman Perri enjoyed working for the people; that is why he stayed in. He thanked the electorate. We have a lot of challenges, as the Mayor said. He thanked all who ran and won, and those who ran and lost. He appreciated those who had taken the initiative to become a public servant. He wished all a happy and healthy new year.

RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA

All were in favor of a motion of Councilman Murray, second by Councilman Travagline to vote by consent agenda on Resolutions 1-2018 through 9-2018 and Resolutions 11-2018 through 39-2018.

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Travagline seconded to adopt the consent agenda for Resolutions 1-2018 through 9-2018 and Resolutions 11-2018 through 39-2018.

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| 1-2018 | Annual Schedule of Meetings |
| 2-2018 | Temporary Appropriations |
| 3-2018 | Designation of Official Newspapers for the Publication of Legal Notices for the City of Northfield |
| 4-2018 | Annual Appointments |
| 5-2018 | To Authorize the Tax Assessor to File a Petition of Appeal or Appeals for the Tax Year 2018 |
| 6-2018 | Safety and Health Committee Appointments |
| 7-2018 | Establishing Charges for Municipal Public Records |
| 8-2018 | Appointing Fund Commissioner and Alternate Fund Commissioner for the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund |
| 9-2018 | Appointing Public Agency Compliance Officer |
| 10-2018 | DELETED |
| 11-2018 | A Resolution Authorizing the Contact Persons to Access the Employment Practices Liability Consultation Service (EPL) / ACMJIF |
| 12-2018 | A Resolution Adopting Robert's Rules of Order |

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- 13-2018** Hazardous Materials Emergency Management Advisory Council Appointments
- 14-2018** A Resolution Adopting a Cash Management Plan
- 15-2018** To Establish the Rate of Interest for Nonpayment of Taxes or Assessments
- 16-2018** Authorize Delinquent Tax Penalty Charges
- 17-2018** Authorizing Award of Contract for Registered Municipal Accountant through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5, Et Seq.
- 18-2018** Authorizing Award of Contract for Licensed Land Surveyor through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5, Et Seq.
- 19-2018** Authorizing Award of Contract for Bond Counsel through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5, Et Seq.
- 20-2018** Authorizing Award of Contract for Labor Relations Attorney through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A:11-5 and N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5, Et Seq.
- 21-2018** Authorizing Award of Contract for Tax Appeal Attorney through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A:11-5 and N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5, Et Seq.
- 22-2018** Authorizing Award of Contract for Municipal Engineer through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5, Et Seq.
- 23-2018** Authorizing Award of Contract for Municipal Solicitor through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5, Et Seq.
- 24-2018** Authorizing Award of Contract for Shared Municipal Public Defender for the Cities of Northfield and Linwood for the Year 2018
- 25-2018** Cultural Committee Appointments
- 26-2018** To Confirm the Reappointment of Harold L. Bogie as a Special Law Enforcement Officer, Class II
- 27-2018** To Confirm the Reappointment of George R. Clark as a Special Law Enforcement Officer, Class II
- 28-2018** A Resolution Authorizing Contracts with Certain Approved State Contract Vendors for Contracting Units Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a
- 29-2018** A Resolution Recognizing Members of the Northfield Volunteer Fire Company Ladies' Auxiliary
- 30-2018** A Resolution Recognizing Northfield Volunteer Fire Company Members
- 31-2018** A Resolution Authorizing the Public Auction of Abandoned/Unclaimed Vehicles
- 32-2018** Authorizing Award of Professional Services Contract for Continuing Disclosure Agent Services and Independent Registered Municipal Advisor of Record

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- 33-2018** Appointment of Qwin Vitale as Wastewater Licensed Operator in Charge of Sanitary Sewer System
- 34-2018** Acknowledging Retirement of Technical Assistant to the Construction Official
- 35-2018** Acceptance of the LOSAP Point System and Qualifiers for Members of the Northfield Volunteer Fire Co. #1
- 36-2018** Award of Contract for General Repairs and Construction of Sanitary Sewer and Stormwater Facilities
- 37-2018** Employment Status Change for Regular School Crossing Guard
- 38-2018** Authorizing Award of Contract for Municipal Prosecutor through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5, Et Seq.
- 39-2018** Employment Status Change for Substitute School Crossing Guard

Roll call: Ms. Korngut – yes, Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Travagline – yes, Mr. Dewees - yes; Motion carried.

Solicitor Facenda announced that Daniel Alsofrom was in the audience. Mr. Alsofrom was just appointed as the new municipal prosecutor.

Councilman O’Neill stated that he’d called the Court Administrator, who gave Mr. Alsofrom a very good reference.

Council President Dewees read the meeting notices.

At 7:59pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk