

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES  
JANUARY 22, 2013**

At 6:00pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 7 2013, in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Carew, Dewees, O'Neill, Perri, Polistina, Travagline, Brown

Mayor Vince Mazzeo, City Solicitor Kris Facenda, City Engineers Dave Scheidegg and Dan Kwapinski, Deputy Clerk Mimi Marlor, and Police Chief Robert James were also in attendance.

The flag salute was led by Mayor Vincent Mazzeo. Following the flag salute, a moment of silence was observed.

Council President Brown announced that all 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 by 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.

She reviewed the agenda for the work session which included 2013 Engineering Projects.

**WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

- Purchase order request for Broad Street Paving

Mayor Mazzeo referred to the Broad Street Paving purchase order request from Scheidegg for 15%. He commented that the design work is done and this figure is not accurate for field work. Mazzeo referred to Doran having billed approximately \$19,000 for design, and then another \$20,000 for field work. Mazzeo added that he had not yet signed the engineer's contract and requested clarification of the 17% in the contract.

Councilman Dewees responded that a percentage was agreed upon in the interviews for each phase.

Dave Scheidegg spoke, and said he was asked to do a purchase order for Broad Street, and that the DOT will reimburse up to 15%. Mazzeo asked if Scheidegg knew

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the grant amount; Scheidegg responded that it was \$213,000. Mazzeo clarified that it was \$220,000 and that based on that number there is only \$7,000 left for reimbursement. Mazzeo said there should be clarification on what the City can expect for future contracts.

Councilman Carew stated that the City has already paid for half of the project, and that 15% seems high for the second half. He suggested a lower percentage on the purchase order, and said it can be adjusted if necessary. Council President Brown directed Scheidegg to submit a revised purchase order for Broad Street Paving.

- Purchase order request for Football Building

Councilman O'Neill requested that Dan Kwapinski advise Council of the County's opinion with regard to the sewer issues. Kwapinski replied and stated that the County has new regulations with regard to septic and the current septic system is far from what the current regulations allow. O'Neill suggested we ask the County if we can be grandfathered. Kwapinski stated that the site may not accommodate the County's new requirements; they inspect and certify all septic systems.

Councilman Carew suggested tying into Burton Avenue. Kwapinski replied that Burton Avenue doesn't have sewer, Burton Estates does, which is uphill. We will need a pump or pump station. The City should look at options to connect to the City sewer system, and routing to Burton Estates makes the most sense.

Councilman O'Neill again requested that the County grandfather us. Kwapinski replied that the County has already suggested that the City should use City sewer.

Councilman Perri stated that this is a big price tag for small usage. There are a lot of variables and only three options, which he said were use of port-a-pots, a force main, or existing septic.

Kwapinski said he thinks the costs of septic and sewer would be about the same. A grinder pump alone would be \$8,000. He said he estimates approximately \$20,000 for either option. Councilman Perri asked if the matter required Planning Board review; Scheidegg replied that he would recommend an advisory opinion.

Councilman Travagline suggested that the septic for other snack bar could be used; Kwapinski replied that to run the pipe alone would cost \$10,000.

Council President Brown asked that the engineer prepare a few proposals for the next meeting.

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- Maple Run Bridge Force Main

Councilman Dewees said he met with Robbie Dollard, Dave Scheidegg, and Jim Clark last week. Dewees explained that there are eleven homes that are located in Egg Harbor Township that have Northfield sewer. Dewees had asked former Engineer Matt Doran to give Scheidegg's firm an overview of what has been discussed thus far, adding that we are not talking funding right now, just talking about a plan. Dewees deferred to Scheidegg.

Scheidegg said his firm is still doing investigative work; there are no as-builts and we don't know where the force main is. Hopefully Jim Clark can point out where the curb stop is so they have an idea where to start. Scheidegg would like to sit down with the County to isolate how much impact if any there actually will be on the force main; he will reach out to Jim Clark tomorrow.

Councilman Dewees asked if the County has gone out to bid. Kwapinski replied that he does not think so, they are working on miscellaneous final touches on the plan and Remington Vernick advised of a target date of May for completion by the County.

Councilman O'Neill said we should we talk about who is going to pay for the project; he asked Councilman Dewees if the County wants us to pay. O'Neill said it's a County road and it services Egg Harbor Township residents. Dewees replied that the County has only advised that the force main is in the way and has to be moved.

Councilman Perri expressed concern that we have not discussed the matter with Egg Harbor Township's sewer authority to determine whose responsibility it is. Perri does not remember when the agreement was made that we would be responsible for improvements, and commented that we have a franchise agreement. He said it should be a 3 way split or a special assessment against the 11 homeowners who will directly benefit. Northfield should meet with Egg Harbor Township and the County. Perri said he was on Council when the resolution was passed and this was not the intention.

Council President Brown asked who should attend a meeting if it is scheduled. Dewees replied that he did try to schedule a meeting, and that it should be someone from the County, from Northfield City Council and from Egg Harbor Township.

Councilman Perri stated that Egg Harbor Township's engineer, the County engineer and other involved personnel from the County should also attend. He then referred to the Tilton Road drainage project and said the County should compensate

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Northfield.

Council President Brown asked whom the City should contact at the County about why the job came in \$85,000 over the estimate; she asked Councilman Perri to call the County.

Councilman O'Neill suggested the City of Northfield say no to any future requests.

Councilman Carew stated that this is a significant investment on the part of the County in Tilton Road. We brought the need for drainage improvement to their attention; they acted on it, and ran into some pipes.

Councilman Dewees requested clarification from the solicitor as to what an easement entitles you to; Dewees' understanding is that you have permission to be there, but no rights. Solicitor Facenda confirmed this to be correct.

Council President Brown proceeded to review the agenda for the regular meeting. Mayor Mazzeo suggested that we don't need the executive session to discuss the PBA grievance; we should just ask for a second extension of 30 days. Mazzeo asked if the Police Committee was in agreement, and said the PBA shop steward has already agreed to it. Councilman Perri suggested a voice vote; the Municipal Clerk confirmed this would be acceptable. It will be done during the regular meeting.

Councilman O'Neill asked about crossing guard coats; Chief James responded that there was a mix-up and the uniform company is fixing it.

Councilman Dewees requested that the two entities named in resolution 37 be voted upon separately, and said he'd like to meet the new members.

Councilman Polistina suggested that FAN just become NAS to resolve the insurance issues; he said it will cost more to insure the new group outside the JIF. Council President Brown replied that we don't know it will cost more, and these groups are going to be self-sufficient and pay for their own insurance. She said using the NAS organization with new members is not an option.

Councilman Carew asked why the change was being made; he said the current programs are working. Brown replied that the long range goal is to have no City funding for the sports groups.

Councilman O'Neill said when the new organization gets their insurance, the JIF will give us some sort of refund.

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Mayor Mazzeo inquired as to why the new people couldn't assume roles as part of NAS, adding that the insurance would then be covered. Brown replied that she wants the organizations to reduce their cost to the City, and reiterated the long range plan for them to be self-sufficient. She apologized for a previous statement and clarified that reducing funding is a long range goal. She said she was going to leave FAN and Little League as one resolution, and called FAN's new President, Tom Sher, forward to introduce himself.

Sher announced that he has been a resident for 9 years and said he has been working for a few years to improve what has been going on with the City. There is a strong positive group of people involved. A new board is a good and influential change for the community. Councilman Carew thanked the new organization and said volunteers are what make the City special.

Councilman Perri asked how long it has been since the new groups filed for non-profit status. Sher replied that they are working on it now with the association's accountant. Sher introduced the FAN board members: Vice President Joe Russo, Treasurer Tim Dolan, Secretary Sandy Fraser, and members Mike Tierney, Jen Blum, Deb Albuquerque, Joe Massari and Jeff Haines.

Council President Brown opened the meeting to any member of the public wishing to speak on any subject.

Peri Pantazes, 1 Madison Avenue, said in August 2009 she lost a car due to flooding after one hour of rain; she said she came to Council for one year before a remedy was approved. The prior engineer said the County would make further improvements that would help within a year; she has since checked with the County personnel and this is not going to happen for some time. Flooding still occurs when it rains more than 3" at a time. She said she needs real help and that her street was never properly paved. Council President Brown said she would check with the engineers and get back to Pantazes.

Robert Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, said the City spends too much money on the Park and athletic fields. Progress needs to continue on Veterans' Park and trash in the stream at Maple Run should be cleaned out as it fosters mosquito breeding.

Craig Tanzola, 10 Magnolia Court, said the City should not pay for the Maple Run force main to be relocated; Egg Harbor Township should pay.

Jack Davis, Davis Avenue, said he lives across from Rita's and Carluccio's and the

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parking situation is not that bad now because it's winter. He said half of the ten employees park on the street because there are only five employee spots, plus the customers park on the street and in his driveway. Rita's is now hiring for spring and the neighbors all have multiple cars. He said he is a 35 year resident and the neighborhood needs help. Councilman Carew replied he will visit the area with Chief James and new Council President Brown; he said she has to fully understand the situation and is still in transition. Davis added that the neighbors are willing to pay for signs and install them themselves; Carew thanked him but said that is not necessary.

Sandy Fraser, 2318 Merritt Drive, stated that on Shore Road, the word 'Fraser' is incorrectly spelled as 'Frazier' on that street sign. Councilman Carew stated that the public works manager is aware and that a sign order is pending.

Jim Leeds, 35 Northfield Plaza, referred to the JIF insurance and encouraged that the City talk to the other organizations before cutting funding or increasing their financial liability. Council President Brown replied that the City would not do that; the programs will not be discontinued. She just wants greater emphasis on fund raising.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak, Council President Brown closed the public session.

At 7:22pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk