

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
FEBRUARY 14, 2017**

At 6:04pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

**FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Lischin, Murray, Perri, Piergiovanni, Dewees

Absent: O'Neill, Travagline

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Kris Facenda, Municipal Engineer Nassar and Police Chief Newman were also in attendance.

**WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

- Verizon Small Network Nodes - Update from Councilman Perri Regarding Planning Board Review

Council President Dewees welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Councilman Perri to speak regarding the small network nodes.

Councilman Perri announced that the Planning Board reviewed the small network node issue, and there was discussion about the setbacks to ensure that any noise and distance from transmissions would be considered. There were also questions as to permit fees, if any, payable to the Building Department, as well as any for the Electrical connections or Construction Department for inspections, etc..

Solicitor Facenda agreed that we should provide for setbacks, fees, etc. in the authorizing resolution.

Councilman Perri also noted concerns about the hours during which the installations could be serviced.

Mayor Chau asked if Councilman Perri knew whether or not Verizon had the hardware installed for FIOS service in Northfield, but that it is just not activated.

Councilman Perri replied that he did not know.

Solicitor Facenda said that based on comments from members of Council, that Council establish parameters for where the nodes would be installed, and that any number greater than two would require further approval.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
FEBRUARY 14, 2017**

Councilman Perri reiterated that the resolution should specify location, distance from residential homes, permits and permit or inspection fees.

- Fire Department 2017 Budget - Requested by Councilman Lischin

Councilman Lischin noted the retirement of Assistant Chief Crooks, and said that the Northfield Fire Department wants to have enough fire fighters on during the day, as well as ensure incident command presence during the day. Lischin said the City needed someone to do scheduling and to look out for the best interest of the City. There were no interested parties from within the Department for the Assistant Chief position, and the union contract specified that the Captain work day shift. There were issues to be worked out. The proposal to check off all of those boxes was to promote 2 to the rank of captain.

*At 6:18pm Clerk Canesi left the dais briefly to make copies for Council – Council President Dewees announced a brief recess.*

*At 6:19pm Clerk Canesi returned, and Council President Dewees resumed the meeting.*

Councilman Lischin continued, and explained that he had gone through ideas of how to staff the department and manage the responsibilities of the City. The committee and fire officers were recommending the 2 captain model, which was a cost of \$764,000 versus \$791,000 in 2016. Councilman Lischin offered to answer any questions.

Mayor Chau questioned the impact on overtime, of having 2 captains and 2 part time fire fighters.

Councilman Lischin replied that this should reduce overtime, having the ability to fill in with the part time fire fighters.

Mayor Chau asked who would handle any grievances.

Clerk Canesi replied that would have to be determined.

Mayor Chau asked if the part time fire fighters would be on a set shift or would they move around.

Councilman Lischin explained that as of now they would be on one 10 hour and one 14 hour shift, for a total of 24 hours a week, but we can move them around.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
FEBRUARY 14, 2017**

Council President Dewees asked all to review the information provided and be prepared to make a recommendation at the budget meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Councilman Perri asked about the increases for captain.

Clerk Canesi noted that they were contractual.

- Coin Drops - Update from Clerk Canesi and Solicitor Facenda

Council President Dewees refers to document distributed by the solicitor regarding coin drops. He asked Council if they were interested in pursuing allowing coin drops in the City of Northfield.

Councilman Lischin said he was initially in favor, but after recent consideration he was not.

Councilman Murray said he would reserve judgment.

Councilman Perri asked if only Northfield organizations would be permitted.

Solicitor Facenda replied no.

Solicitor Facenda explained the origin of the draft ordinance, and suggested that if Council knew they were not in favor of allowing coin drops, that there would be no need to proceed with working on the ordinance.

Clerk Canesi explained some of the parameters that were put in place in the draft ordinance: highlighted in yellow were the clerk's recommendations; the Chief of Police has made recommendations that were highlighted in blue.

Solicitor Facenda asked Chief Newman for his opinion.

Chief Newman replied that if it became burdensome to the Police Department he would automatically be opposed to it. He listed roads where coin drops would be permitted.

Council President Dewees asked all to review and come to next meeting with recommendations.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
FEBRUARY 14, 2017**

**AGENDA REVIEW**

Council President Dewees reviewed the agenda and made assignments.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Council President Dewees opened the meeting to public.

Aubrey Hiers, Library Director, 3 Park Lane, Linwood - distributed a handout to Council. She thanked the City for the support they have given the library. She cited a specific event recently where the library celebrated World Hijab Day, and some negative comments were received. She thanked the Police Department for their support that day. Since then the library had gotten a huge amount of support and she was thankful to be here. She reviewed upcoming programs such as a Spanish Language Program, Ladies Tea Party, Egg Hunt, etc.. New events are Maker Space and Lego Time. She recently received a \$1000.00 grant; Northfield was one of five in the country to have gotten the grant; for wearable technology. She has worked closely with the school to ensure they are supporting the curriculum. She referred to the handout, which has statistics for the last three years. She thanked all again for their support.

Steve Perri, 1309 West Mill Road, accompanied by wife Robin – advised Council that they have had issues with Blake's Gym. He read from a prepared letter. There were issues with the hedges between their property and Blake's Gym that presented a sight hazard. All was great and hedges were removed, but now customers at Blake's are parking on the Perri's property and in their driveway, as well as using the Perri's driveway as an entrance and exit for the Blake's facility. They counted 72 cars one evening, the lot fits perhaps 30. The Perri's were going to put up a fence, but they are concerned that drivers would just drive over the fence. There are no parking spots that are lined, no handicapped parking. Trash is being thrown on their lawn. The Perri's asked about occupancy and capacity limits, they felt they were being exceeded.

Council President Dewees apologized to Mr. and Mrs. Perri. He said he would work with the Engineer and Councilman Lischin on the issues discussed, and respond to the Perri's.

Councilman Lischin noted that there needed to be a barrier where commercial and residential meet; this was discussed when the issue of the hedgerow came up.

Mayor Chau suggested that there may be documents with the Planning Board.

Solicitor Facenda asked Mr. and Mrs. Perri if they had curb and sidewalk.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
FEBRUARY 14, 2017**

Mr. Perri replied yes they did, they had to get them to get their CO. He asked if the business owner was allowed to exceed the parking limits; he claimed she was, by at least 50 cars.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak Council President Dewees closed the public session.

At 6:55pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk