

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 28, 2017**

At 6:05pm 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 Council Pro Tempore Murray.

Mayor Chau was absent.

ROLL CALL

Present: Lischin, Murray, O'Neill, Perri, Travagline, Dewees

Absent: Piergiovanni

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

Council President Dewees welcomed everyone to the meeting and deferred to Councilman Perri.

Councilman Perri felt each small network node should be its own separate application, and setbacks should be reviewed, if we can charge an application fee we should.

Solicitor Facenda would reach out to the representative who was here to get details.

Councilman Perri also felt there should be an application to the building department.

Clerk Canesi added that we cannot charge a fee but can cover costs incurred. The representative from Tilson did imply that there would be 2 nodes in Northfield.

- Coin Drops

Council President Dewees addressed Council and asked if they wished to pursue coin drops.

Councilman Perri replied if we could not limit it to only Northfield groups then he was not in favor.

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Solicitor Facenda responded the City would not be able to do so.

Councilman Travagline asked what would allow Council to be able to vote it down.

Solicitor Facenda explained that the City could limit the number of times per year, very limited as to what restraints the City would have. They would have to set criteria and abide by it and would need a valid reason to vote it down.

Councilman O'Neill felt we should adopt it and if it didn't work, Council could always repeal it.

Clerk Canesi replied that the City may have a year's worth of coin drops approved at that point, that we would have to live with.

Councilman Murray asked Chief Newman's opinion.

Chief Newman noted if it became burdensome to the Police Department he would not be in favor of it.

Councilman Lischin stated he was initially in favor, but after further consideration he was not.

Councilman Murray asked Chief Newman how the vehicles were approached.

Chief Newman responded that vehicles had to be stopped; should be a supervisor out there, no one under the age of 18.

Councilman Travagline advocated limiting to three or four dates per year.

After a straw poll vote: Councilman Perri and Council President Dewees were not in favor of coin drops.

Councilmen Travagline, O'Neill and Murray voted in favor.

Councilman Lischin was in favor if the dates were restricted, otherwise no.

Solicitor Facenda would prepare the ordinance for council to consider.

- ACIA Redevelopment Initiative

Engineer Nassar explained the County Redevelopment Initiative; the County would fund the study but not any projects. This involved Council taking the time to spend time with the County to develop concepts; he explained that tax abatements may be

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an attractive way to encourage development. The County has contacted Engineer Nassar several times looking for an answer.

Councilman Travagline asked about loans.

Engineer Nassar replied there were none that he knew of; it's a redevelopment plan to help by providing incentives.

Councilman Perri noted that the Economic Development Commission discussed this before, may help with properties that aren't developed yet. Council had to consider if they were willing to give up the tax revenue on the improvement for 5 years.

Councilman Travagline didn't think it was worth the time needed to accomplish it.

Councilman Perri noted several locations along Tilton Road where there was developable property; there are no sidewalks on half of it. Sidewalks, planters, and pedestrian ways would be an improvement.

Councilman Lischin was in favor of it; it would not cost the city anything.

Councilman Murray and Council President Dewees were also in favor.

Councilman Perri announced that he attended the Mayor's Association meeting on behalf of Mayor Chau; there was a program called Clarify, and one other, Sun Initiative, that offered the possibility of financial assistance. Both were recommended by Sheriff Balles. For those who qualify it would be good. He would give the information to the Clerk for publication.

Council President Dewees advised Council that he received a letter from Beacon Cycling that requested they be permitted to have cycling and BMX events at Birch Grove Park. He asked Council for their input.

Councilman Perri replied no, he was not interested,

Councilman Travagline stated he was in favor of bikes, but not BMX.

Councilmen Lischin, Murray and Council President Dewees agreed that bikes were ok but not BMX.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Dewees asked all to review their agenda and asked if anyone wanted to vote any of the resolutions separately.

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Council President Dewees would like to vote 70-2017 separately.

Councilman Travagline asked about the changes in the application.

Clerk Canesi stated that she, Council President Dewees and Deputy Clerk Shannon Campbell met with Mike Tierney (FAN), Jason Yard (Northfield Little League) and Marty Cortellessa (Babe Ruth). The sports organizations would advise the Clerk's Office as to whether or not the field was available. Neither the organization nor the Clerk's Office would deny an application. It was up to Council to approve or deny it.

Councilman Travagline asserted that it was previously decided that if the group did not have enough Northfield children it would never get voted on. These should not make it past Committee.

Clerk Canesi explained that a percentage of Northfield children was never decided upon, but Council can certainly do that. The sports organizations do not decide if a use is approved, the Council had that authority. She also clarified that the applications do not go through Committee; they went directly to the Clerks' Office.

Solicitor Facenda clarified that Clerks comments were correct, the Council would approve or disapprove the application; the Committee did not have that authority.

Council President Dewees made assignments.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Dewees opened the meeting to public, seeing no one wishing to speak he closed the public session.

At 6:47pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk