

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
MARCH 10, 2015**

At 6:14pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on February 14, 2015 in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

**FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: Piergiovanni

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Kris Facenda and Engineer Dan Kwapinski were also in attendance.

Mayor Chau stated that Councilman Piergiovanni could not make tonight's meeting due to treatment today.

**WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

Council President Travagline referred to the solar presentation that was slated for the work session agenda but has been postponed. He then provided an update from Commercial Utilities Consultants (CUC), they have gone out to bid twice and Atlantic City Electric beat their bids both times. They will go back out to bid on a quarterly basis.

- City of Northfield parades

Council President Travagline moved to the subject of parades; he has spoken with several people and most generally were in favor of having it at Veterans Park.

Councilman O'Neill would like to discuss the changes with the key constituents, local veterans, committee members etc.

Municipal Clerk Canesi urged a quick decision due to planning, necessity of County permission for road closures etc.

- Northfield restaurants – Amend Ordinance to permit outdoor seating?

Councilman Travagline moved to outside seating for restaurants. He visited a few local restaurants to ask what the City could do to help them, many have asked for outside seating.

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Councilman Dewees noted traffic and safety issues and indicated that it would need to go before the Planning Board.

Councilman Perri stated the topic has come up before, and asked would it be all zones, including non-conforming zones, he cited “brown bag” issues, and asked if people would be able to drink outside in a neighborhood, he gave Mike's Deli as an example.

Councilman Travagline felt it can be made clear where it can and cannot go and asked Councilman Perri to bring it up at the next Planning Board meeting.

Councilman O'Neill brought up an event that the Economic Development Committee would like to do, they would like to hand out potted plants. He has to sit down to find out what they want to do, do they want to do it like a coin drop, etc. He will check with the Chief of Police and with Mr. Gerber to ensure that it is an appropriate activity.

Councilman Travagline stressed that Council members need to know the City's personnel policies and procedures manual. If they have questions, they will be directed to labor counsel for clarification.

Municipal Clerk Canesi noted that there are 5 different CBA's in place, and the CBA is the governing document, if the contract is silent on an issue, the City's policies and procedures manual is the governing document.

Councilman Perri also referred to the fire manual and the police directives.

Councilman Dewees asked the age of roof on City Hall, in the context of solar, does the roof need to be replaced.

Councilman Perri would prefer the panels to be on the ground, there would be less cost if roof needs to be repaired.

Councilman O'Neill noted his personal experience with solar and that repairs are not overly costly, and the panels protect the roof.

Councilman Perri stated he is not against solar he suggested alternate installation.

Mayor Chau read a letter from Detective Sergeant Dettinger about a radio presentation on March 24, 2015 at 4pm, invited all to attend.

Mayor Chau stated he was in a conference with the PBA Shop Steward and with the PBA attorneys, and with our attorneys about ordinance 8-2015. The PBA's position is that the issue is subject to negotiation and they are requesting that the Ordinance be

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tabled.

Council President Travagline said he was contacted by the Solicitor today about this matter and he did reach out to the PBA, and he sees no issues with the Ordinance and it will remain on the Agenda.

Solicitor Facenda stated he had also spoken with labor counsel and they are not overly concerned; he sees no reason why Council should not proceed with consideration of the Ordinance. The Ordinance could certainly be grieved, we do not know.

Council President Travagline noted that it is a City wide Ordinance and it is long overdue. An Ordinance like this has been in place in other cities for at least a decade.

Mayor Chau said the PBA is not against it or in favor of it, they just feel it should be negotiated.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

Council President Travagline reviewed the agenda.

Seeing no further questions, Council President Travagline opened the public session.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

James Kaufman, 2702 Leeds Avenue - wanted to address a nuisance property. His neighbor has had a generator running 24/7 since November. There have also been domestic disturbances. The generator is the only source of electricity for this house, he doesn't want to be a scrooge, but spring is coming soon and the windows will be open.

Councilman Dewees stated he has dealt with this property before, he will follow up. The Zoning Official is working on addressing the situation it but the woman is very difficult to get ahold of. Councilman Dewees will reach out to Mr. Dattalo tomorrow and contact Mr. Kaufman personally to follow up.

Mr. Kaufman also noted debris in the yard; it's littered with tires, an old hot tub, all things that gather water. He is concerned about West Nile Virus. He has seen rodents. It's a very dangerous situation.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak Council President Travagline closed public session

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

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Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk