

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
MARCH 22, 2016**

At 6:08pm this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. 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: Dewees, Lischin, Murray, O'Neill, Perri, Travagline

Absent: Piergiovanni

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Kris Facenda, Engineer Kwapinski and Acting Chief Newman were also in attendance.

Council President Travagline welcomed everyone to the meeting and deferred to Councilman Dewees to speak about girls' lacrosse.

Councilman Dewees informed Council that girls' lacrosse is asking to use the bathrooms for a previously approved facilities use; games are on 5/7 and 5/14; he believed that we needed someone, such as a City representative, to be responsible for the bathrooms that day, in case of overflows, clogs, need for paper products, etc.

Councilman O'Neill volunteered to perform the task.

Councilman Dewees clarified that he needed to be there, and check the restrooms periodically.

Councilman O'Neill agreed.

Engineer Kwapinski distributed the proposed paving list for use during capital discussion and he described other engineering projects for proposed capital.

At 5:15pm Councilman Piergiovanni entered the meeting.

Clerk Canesi referred to the capital list from the last budget meeting which had been redistributed this evening. Council needed to stay under the 5 million dollar mark; including the projects listed that were authorized under the two most recent bond ordinances. The down payment for the new bond ordinance was fixed at \$100,000.00 in this year's budget.

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Councilman Perri stated that he was opposed to doing jobs that were not a necessity in these hard economic times.

Clerk Canesi explained further that there were more projects on the list than the Council could afford to undertake.

Councilman Perri didn't feel that Council had to spend anything. He felt that capital should be capped at one million dollars.

Council President Travagline noted that the fire hose had been on horizon for several years; eventually we are going to have to buy some.

Councilman Lischin explained the need as legitimate.

Council President Travagline shared with Council that he had a video of the solar powered generator that was proposed at a past meeting; he would like to proceed. According to the solar company, for the size of two parking spots, we could generate enough power for the whole city. He was willing to be experimental, and hoped others would be as well. This project would provide power to all city buildings, but not to the street lights.

Mayor Chau reminded all about the first anniversary event for Naomi's Cafe, this coming Saturday, those interested should RSVP through the Clerk.

Councilman Dewees stated he was considering demolishing the old garden club building, and the old bathroom buildings at Birch Grove Park. He had been working with the Engineer. He noted that one of the buildings had asbestos siding, so demolition and disposal would be challenging.

Council President Travagline thought there may be old capital to fund this. He praised Councilman Dewees for how hard he'd been working on the park.

Council President Travagline announced to Council that he held a supervisor's meeting, to encourage them to try to find efficiencies and save money where we could. He noted we were all in this together; he was extremely pleased with the outcome of the meeting.

Councilman Dewees stated that the Department of Public Works would be working more closely with Birch Grove Park on some of their tasks and jobs that may have been outsourced in the past.

Council President Travagline mentioned an RFQ to outsource the management of the campground. He hoped to make the park more of a revenue source. He believed that park thrived when there was a full time ranger there, but we don't have one anymore.

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Councilman Perri didn't feel the City should be in the campground business. He believed the City should turn the whole park into a nature park. We couldn't compete without the amenities a campground should have, a pool, bathhouses, 24 hour availability of staff.

Council President Travagline noted that is absolutely one of the options.

Councilman Perri questioned as to whether the park trust could fund the building demolition.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Travagline reviewed the agenda and noted that Resolution 90-2016 would be tabled as there was a minor discrepancy in the bid.

Engineer Kwapinski noted that the contractor wanted the work. He suggested awarding the bid at the lower number.

Solicitor Facenda stated that he would attempt to research the bid prior to the start of the regular session meeting.

Clerk Canesi pointed out that this had happened in the past, she didn't recall exactly when, but the City went with the written number, which in this case, would cost the City \$2,000.00 more but stated we should be consistent.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Travagline opened the meeting to the public.

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

At 5:59, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk