

CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
MARCH 24, 2015

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 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, Piergiovanni, Travagline

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

WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Council President asked Engineer Kwapinski to discuss the road projects.

Engineer Kwapinski distributed the paving map that included areas to be paved by South Jersey Gas and provided an overview of the project.

Discussion ensued specific to the paving project.

Council President Travagline asked Engineer Kwapinski to create an updated map with dollar amounts.

Council President Travagline stated that he met with Vicky Rutter, Councilman Dewees and Municipal Clerk Canesi to discuss a logo that can be used on items that are sold at Birch Grove Park. He asked Ms. Rutter for any old logos that may be in existence, and it was suggested that the Northfield Community School students engage in a contest to design a logo that will include the history of the park, its natural features and its use as a sports complex. The City will be reaching out to the school; he is hoping to have this done by the end of the year. He is also hoping to get the local Army Engineers as volunteer labor at the park.

Councilman O'Neill suggested investing in security cameras due to recent instances of vandalism.

Councilman Dewees stated he will mention the idea to the advisory board.

Council President Travagline asked Councilman Perri if he brought up the outdoor seating issue at the last Planning Board meeting. Planning Board Engineer Doran indicated that Brigantine had recently done an Ordinance and he will get a copy.

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There would have to be barriers in place to protect diners from vehicular traffic.

Mayor Chau asked if a decision has been made with regard to the Memorial Day parade, and possibly a new route.

Council President Travagline directed Councilman Lischin to meet with the Cultural Committee and Mr. Webb to go over the new route. Municipal Clerk Canesi clarified that the Memorial Day Parade is run by the Mayor, and the Cultural Committee plans the Independence Day Parade.

Councilman Perri asked what happens if a resident misses getting their trash out, the Ordinance says that the ACUA won't come back. Will the trash just sit there for another week? Right now, our guys will go back and get it the same day or the next day.

Council President Travagline said it is his understanding that they will come back, but he will get clarification.

Councilman Perri noted that the SJ Gas paving agreement is very complicated; asked Solicitor Facenda for his opinion.

Solicitor Facenda agrees with the terms of the agreement as long as the Council is in agreement with the concept. The technical aspects were established using input from the engineer.

Solicitor Facenda explained the Street Vacation Ordinance and a recent request that prompted its creation; Councilman Perri had asked that Solicitor Facenda look into whether or not the City could be compensated for the vacation. Based on his research, it is possible so he conferred with the assessor, who came up with a maximum of \$750-\$1,000 at most. He encountered problems with the adjacent properties, we can't at this point confirm that the City owns it without a title search, which would cost about \$750; we would also need a survey. Solicitor Facenda noted that the City does not have to vacate it.

Council President Travagline did a straw poll to see if anyone wants the Solicitor to order a title search; none were in favor. Council President Travagline asked Solicitor Facenda to prepare the Ordinance for vacation for the next meeting.

Mayor Chau stated that McDonalds has offered to irrigate and landscape the Northfield sign area at the corner of Tilton and New Roads.

Municipal Clerk Canesi informed Council that Northfield does not own the land, the Department of Transportation owns it but we do maintain it. We tried to get irrigation and it was difficult.

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Councilman O'Neill stated he looked into the process two years ago and it was a hassle and sizeable expense. If McDonalds' is willing to pay for the expenses there is a water line close by that can be extended.

Council President Travagline asked Engineer Kwapinski to ask DOT if McDonalds can irrigate the land.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Travagline reviewed the agenda.

Councilman Perri asked if Resolution 68-2015 required prevailing wage to be paid? He stated that all public works jobs are required to be prevailing wage from dollar one. He asked if the public works personnel are keeping their jobs, referring to the ACUA contract.

Councilman Dewees and Council President Travagline stated that two positions have vacated and will not be filled

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

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Travagline opened the public session.

Bob Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, spoke and stated that he not in favor of shared services. Thanked Councilman Dewees for coming to the Veteran's Park.

Jerry McGee, 1620 Zion Road, asked for clarification on the pay for contracts, says the City has had issues not paying prevailing wage, and it should be known ahead of time if a contractor is bidding a job at prevailing wage.

Tom Polistina, 15 Wilson Drive, stated that the surplus usage in the past few years has increased 10% per year, and this year is close to 65%. He believed that unless something dramatically changes, and if usage continues at this rate, surplus will be gone in 2017. Cuts will have to be made, he urged Council to use caution with the proposed budget.

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

At 7:07pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk