

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

At 6:06pm 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, Travagline, Dewees
Absent: O'Neill, Piergiovanni

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

WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Council President Dewees welcomed everyone to the meeting and deferred to Chief Newman.

- Medicine Drop Box – Update

Chief Newman stated that he was still working to coordinate the site visit for the medicine drop box.

- Potential Land Sale - Update

Council President Dewees asked Solicitor Facenda to update Council with regard to the potential land sale.

Solicitor Facenda noted Council should identify the lots that we want to sell; criteria would be that they are not needed for public purpose and cannot be restricted in any way. Once properties have been identified we would ascertain the size of each lot, and if each was less than the size required by the zoning ordinance they have to be offered to the adjoining property owners, and the land would then go to the highest offer. If no adjoining property owners were interested they could go to public auction. Solicitor Facenda also noted that there were advertising requirements, and the City could reject all offers. The City could also place restrictions on the properties if desired.

Council President Dewees would work with the Clerk's Office to create the list and obtain square footage from tax records.

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Councilman Perri asked about the parcels that were in the affordable housing plan, and had that been approved by the court.

Solicitor Facenda replied no it had not, but if those parcels were sold that would be a condition of the sale, or the Council could pull them out of the list of parcels proposed to be sold.

- Land Donation – Tilton Road

Council President Dewees asked Solicitor Facenda to speak about the proposed land donation.

Solicitor Facenda advised Council that he had spoken to Mr. Santori; he was still interested in donating the land. He explained the mutual benefits of the donation and that the City didn't really want to expend money to acquire the land and asked would he be willing to pay for the title work. Mr. Santori would have to consult with the other owners and would get back to Solicitor Facenda. It did not seem that it was going to be an issue.

- Coin Drop Ordinance

Solicitor Facenda met with Councilman Travagline and reviewed the proposed draft ordinance, they generally were in agreement with all it contained, but needed to narrow down the dates during which applications would be accepted. Also, the number of permitted solicitations per year needed to be determined. Solicitor Facenda also suggested adding an alternate date to the application package, in the event of conflicting applications. They reviewed the recommendations of the Clerk and the Chief of Police.

Councilman Lischin asked if the dates could be restricted.

Solicitor Facenda replied yes, but it was difficult, the process was cumbersome.

At 6:18pm Councilman O'Neill entered the meeting.

Councilman Lischin expressed his opposition to holiday coin drops. If the ordinance couldn't be as restrictive as we thought we wanted, he was not in favor of it.

Solicitor Facenda asked if, in concept, everyone agreed that we would prohibit coin drops on holidays.

At 6:21pm Councilman Piergiovanni entered the meeting.

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Solicitor Facenda noted that the procedure required that the organizations were 501c3, and the procedure encouraged those who receive funding from the City to do coin drops.

Councilman Travagline felt that this could be incentive for organizations to become more financially independent.

Councilman Perri felt there should be a fee.

Council President Dewees asked for clarification on the number of solicitations per year.

All of Council agreed on 3 per year, one day maximum, a total of three days for all coin drops in aggregate, excluding holidays.

All members excluding Councilmen Piergiovanni, Travagline and Perri were opposed to a fee.

Solicitor Facenda would prepare a revised draft for Council.

- ACIA/CBDG Grant Proposal

Council President Dewees asked Engineer Nassar to explain the ACIA/CBDG grant proposal.

Engineer Nassar explained the proposal to fix the handicap ramp at the rear of the building and make related improvements with Community Block Development Grant funds. Improvements could possibly include an automatic door.

Clerk Canesi asked if Council generally approved of this as the project for the application, and if so, a Resolution would be put on the next Council agenda for approval.

Council President Dewees asked if signage needed to be installed that identified the source of the grant funding.

Engineer Nassar replied he would check.

Councilman Lischin asked Engineer Nassar to update on the redevelopment grant.

Engineer Nassar sent an email to Bob McGuigan at the ACIA, they had to redo the plan, and he would bring the information to next meeting for Council.

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Engineer Nassar distributed a plan to Council for the Cresson Avenue drainage, and explained the design, which would be completed in phases and would include alternate bids at each stage, which may or may not be incorporated in that phase, depending on the bids. If an alternate cannot be accomplished, it would become part of the next phase.

Councilman O'Neill asked who was making sure the gas company was doing what they were supposed to be doing, in terms of restoration.

Engineer Nassar confirmed that he was doing that himself, and was working to address traffic control issues with the new contractor.

Councilman Perri questioned if settlement time was sufficient.

Engineer Nassar noted they knew we had 6 months in our ordinance, and if it is not, they will have to repave if there was settlement.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Dewees explained the correction that needed to be made in the hiring resolution for the new concession stand attendant, and that he would like to add an authorizing resolution to the agenda. He advised that the employee starts April 1st, and that he would like to make the change before the employee started work.

All agreed to add the resolution to the agenda.

Council President Dewees assigned number 90-2017 to the resolution for the concession stand attendant.

Council President Dewees asked all to review the agenda.

Councilman Travagline asked to review resolution 86-2017.

Council President Dewees stated that this was the crane assembly for the sewer truck.

Qwin Vitale, Public Works Supervisor, was in attendance and explained that the truck was purchased through State contract and that it was on order, the 2nd purchase - this purchase - was the crane, outriggers, etc. The truck we were replacing was well past its useful life, more than 20 years old, and was becoming a safety issue.

Councilman Lischin asked for confirmation that this was to replace an old piece of equipment.

Mr. Vitale confirmed.

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Councilman Travagline asked if Linwood was sharing in the cost.

Council President Dewees replied they were not.

Councilman Travagline asked if they would be contributing and asked if we could recapture the cost.

Clerk Canesi explained the interlocal notwithstanding, we needed the vehicle for Northfield. The interlocal did not provide for a requirement that they fund capital purchases.

Councilman Perri noted the interlocal provides the vehicle, the funds for the truck were available with our funds and money was transferred from capital for the purchase.

Mr. Vitale explained that it could also be used for plowing and towing the jet trailer for the sewer department.

Councilman O'Neill suggested that future agreements account for this type of purchase.

Councilman Travagline felt that Linwood should compensate Northfield for the use of the equipment.

Councilman Perri asked for clarification of the change to the firefighter job description.

Clerk Canesi explained that the Fire Chief requested that the job description include certain minimum qualifications.

Council President Dewees made assignments.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Dewees opened the meeting to public.

Dominic Leonetti, 38 Cove Avenue, spoke to Council regarding kids playing basketball in the street; he requested an Ordinance that limited the amount of time kids could play basketball outside to twice a week, for two hours. He didn't want to hear basketballs bouncing in the street.

Council President Dewees asked what time of day the kids were playing.

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Mr. Leonetti responded right after school, and sometimes until 8pm.

Chief Newman advised Council that nothing Mr. Leonetti said indicated that a violation of any Ordinance was occurring.

Mr. Leonetti suggested an Ordinance that only silent basketballs could be used, stating that they were available.

Mayor Chau asked how long it had been going on.

Mr. Leonetti replied that it started last year but has gotten worse.

Mayor Chau asked if the court was in the street.

Mr. Leonetti stated no, they were portable nets in driveways.

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

At 7:01pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk