

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 2, 2019**

At 7:08pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 5, 2019, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

**FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau, followed by a moment of silence.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Dewees, Korngut, Madden, O'Neill, Perri, Smith, Lischin

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

**READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On motion of Councilwoman Madden, seconded by Councilman O'Neill, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of March 19, 2019, without formal reading. They were posted, distributed to Council, and on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

**7:00PM –PUBLIC HEARING 2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Council President Lischin stated that because we have the public hearing on the budget this evening at 7pm, we will be going out of order on the agenda. We have a few resolutions we need to adopt first, and then we will open the public hearing.

**90-2019** A Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Reading of the Budget by Title Only

On motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Dewees, all members present were in favor of approving Resolution 90-2019.

**91-2019** Self Examination of Budget Resolution

Councilman Smith motioned with a second by Councilman Dewees, to approve Resolution 91-2019.

Councilwoman Korngut asked what the self-exam resolution was.

CFO Stollenwerk explained that it was now called local review; we had to meet certain criteria to allow the CFO to ensure we met statutory requirements.

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All members present were in favor of approving Resolution 91-2019.

On a motion of Councilman O'Neill, seconded by Councilman Dewees all present were in favor of opening the public hearing on the 2019 municipal budget.

Council President Lischin stated the public hearing on the 2019 municipal budget was now open for any member of the public wishing to speak. He asked that those wishing to speak please state their name and address for the record, and observe a 5-minute per person limit.

Mark Bruno, 18 Ridgewood Court, was here to support the Police Department; he felt they did a wonderful job in keeping our community safe. He said he'd read things on line that weren't lies, but were misleading. Mr. Bruno proposed four cops; \$70,000.00 is pennies a household. He felt there was a lot of fluff in the budget, and he would love to sit with someone to take out what's unnecessary to add more police officers.

Council President Lischin asked Mr. Bruno, as member of the School Board, how the Class II Officer was working out?

Mr. Bruno stated he was working out well.

Chief Newman agreed.

Councilwoman Korngut clarified that we were at zero when the budget started, and the addition of a police officer increased the taxes.

Councilman O'Neill added that we were at \$352,000.00 less in this budget than last year, Council worked hard on that. It amounted to \$5 per hundred thousand.

Councilwoman Korngut asked again, if the budget would not be raised without the police officer.

Council President Lischin replied yes, we could have done other things, but yes.

Chief Newman spoke and announced that our ordinance allowed for 24 officers, we have 21 so we are understaffed. He added that calls have gone up every year, and we were on par this year to go even higher. He reminded Councilwoman Korngut that she voted against body cameras.

Councilwoman Korngut replied that she did not.

Chief Newman asked Councilwoman Korngut if she voted against vehicles.

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Councilwoman Korngut replied yes.

Chief Newman said he wanted nothing but the best for the new development and the new neighbors, and to tell all their friends to move into Northfield. In order to provide the best service, he needed more officers. He referred to the shelter coming in, and said he supported that too. He read calls for service from 2014-2018, noting they were increasing every year. This year we were 400 calls higher year to date than the same period last year. Our residents expect and deserve good service.

Council President Lischin asked when was the last time a new officer was hired.

Detective Buccafurni, who was in attendance as an audience member, responded that the year was 2008.

Chief Newman added that State mandates were taking more and more time, marijuana legislation was pending.

Council President Lischin appreciated all the Police Department did.

Joe Bunting, owner of Bunting Family Pharmacy, said he would not be here tonight if not for the Northfield Police Department. In 2009 he was held at gunpoint; his 62-year-old mother was threatened with death. He hit his panic button and the assailants fled. Without the Northfield Police Department, he would not be here today. The assailant was captured. In 2012 there was a woman who had done heroin in his parking lot, she had a knife and he was able to subdue her, the Northfield Police Department was there in minutes. He was a big supporter and would love to have even more officers.

Tom Corona, 2602 Leeds Avenue, said that in the mid 90's he was a 911 dispatcher. He believed we had more officers back then, so to be down to 21 now, adding an officer is what needed to be done. He asked would the Council or the Chief consider hiring more Class II Officers so there would be a pool of officers when there was an opening.

George Clark said he was a retired Police Officer with 31 years of service, and resided at 1121 Fuae Avenue. He thanked all for cutting the budget; that was extremely important. But it should not be cut on the backs of public safety employees. He did not want anyone to call and have no one show up because we don't have enough officers. He trusted Chief Newman with his life, he did for years. If he was telling you, then he needed police officers. Crime was increasing. The FBI suggests 3.5 police officers per 1,000 people.

Jacqueline Reynolds, 9 Wilson Drive, said Northfield was the safest community in the local region. The Northfield Police Department was doing a great job and

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residents were safe. Quoting an FBI report, she said we have the lowest violent crime statistics in our region, by almost twice. She read several statistics and praised the Northfield Police Department for keeping residents safe. She did not know we were down three officers. She trusted the Council with these matters, but we were already very safe because of our wonderful police officers.

Arthur Faden, 3 Raina Drive, stated that he was a lifelong Northfield resident. He said that Captain Clark, retired, had talked about his time with the Chief. Retired Captain Faden said he started with Chief Newman in kindergarten. Chief Newman was an honest man. He did he himself did not get nervous, but that he was nervous now at the thought of not hiring another officer. He identified himself as a subject matter expert in the field, and said that one cop was not enough. The town was not the same as when he grew up. We needed ten officers; Chief Newman was telling you that more officers were needed. As an elected official you must listen to him. As an officer who has investigated homicides, he said he was offended by the earlier analogy that taxes were killing the residents.

Councilwoman Korngut thanked Captain Faden. She clarified that her comment that taxes were killing the residents was not a literal reference.

Dennis Gitsas, 227 East Rosedale Avenue, said he has lived here for 20 years. He moved out of Somers Point for the schools, parks, and because it was safe. He shared personal experiences where some of the officers in attendance had apprehended criminals in his neighborhood. The job of an officer was getting harder and harder every day. He felt we needed more than one cop, and said we needed three, or four, or five. It was known that Northfield was short staffed.

Eileen Toland, 4304 Dolphin Avenue, said she had 3 cousins that were police officers; one in Brigantine and two in Philadelphia. She lived in an over 55 community and taxes keep going up every year and it was forcing residents out. Council has to keep that in mind with senior citizens. She asked what kind of tax money was going to come in from the new complex.

Council President Lischin replied the residents will pay taxes, but it's hard to say until it's fully built and occupied.

Mrs. Toland praised the Police Department for their responsiveness, and the Chief. She just wanted to make sure that getting more police was not going to force residents out of their homes.

John Brenner, 2316 Merritt Drive, asked if this was going to raise his taxes.

Councilman O'Neill replied yes, about \$11.00.

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Mr. Brenner, said he was a retired Fire Department Captain, and that he knew we wouldn't get three or four cops, but urged Council to hire one. He was proud of the Northfield Police Department.

Pete Brophy, 11 Twelve Oaks Court, said he bemoaned the high taxes, like everyone else. But he was happy to pay a few extra bucks for a police officer. He asked why the Council did not use surplus to fund the officer.

Council President Lischin replied that Council voted not to do so.

Mr. Brophy felt that Council let the residents down.

Paul Leidy, 24 Forrest Drive, said if it was not for Councilwoman Korngut's Facebook post he would not be here. He had no idea the Police Department was understaffed. The apartment complex would bring in money. He asked why Council couldn't use that money.

Council President Lischin replied it depended on how much the revenue was, and how much the expenses were. He gave the example of students in the school to illustrate that tax revenue may not cover the cost of each unit. We would have to see once it is built.

Heather Mellon, 2509 Herbert Drive, said this may be mundane but this time of year she starts getting excited about the Park. There's an egg hunt, various activities, during spring, summer, and fall. She did not understand why the Park wasn't opening; the City can't ask police to patrol the Park to see what people were doing. This could affect our children. The activities at the Park were dwindling. Membership in the groups was dwindling. We were losing a bit of our soul in doing this. She asked how we can open it.

Council President Lischin asked for clarification. The Park was not closing; the campground was closing.

Councilman Dewees added that the snack bar would not be open.

Mrs. Mellon asked what someone would do if they wanted a drink of water.

Council President Lischin replied that they would have to bring their own water. He advised that the plan was to convert it to a senior center.

Councilman Dewees advised that the Park would be nature trails, and that the building would be maintained.

Mrs. Mellon asked who would make the announcement that Park is closing.

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Councilman Dewees noted that the Superintendent of Public Works maintained the park and he will ride through there. The snack bar made no money.

Mrs. Mellon asked why it had been open.

Council President Lischin replied because the City has paid for it.

Mrs. Mellon hoped it worked out.

Alicia Garry, 202 St. James Place, gave highest accolades to the Chief and to the Police, they do a great job. She thanked all elected officials and mayors for looking out for the best interests of the City. This might have been resolved prior to tonight since the increase is just a small amount. Money was relative, a minimal tax increase is nothing to some people, but it was a lot for some others. But not when it came to public safety.

Council President Lischin added that there were two other school budgets that drive our taxes. He loved the public comments, but wanted everyone to understand we are 35 cents on the dollar; 65 cents of every dollar went to the schools or the County.

Chief Newman spoke again, to address an earlier question about the officers in the schools. He said we hired Officer Sundstrom, who was here tonight. We were limited by statute in how many hours he can work a week. If he was not here in court, he was over at the school interacting with the students and staff, and as another level of security. It had worked out very well. He can also be present at our sports activities, based on hours worked. He also clarified that our Class II Officer was not a School Resource Officer.

Councilwoman Madden said she was new to this; while campaigning she knocked on a lot of doors. She heard not one complaint about our Police and Fire Departments. All were doing a fabulous job. People were crying over the taxes. We don't have control over the whole budget, just our portion, and we could have had a zero increase this year. She opposed the fear mongering. The FBI statistics show how Northfield was very safe. We failed in that we did not deliver a zero-tax increase. She voted against a police officer to keep the taxes at zero. We had to do something about taxes. We had to make the people feel like their voice was being heard.

Councilman O'Neill identified someone in the audience as another gentleman named Mr. O'Neill. Between this gentleman's home and Councilman O'Neill's home there had been three break-ins. A car had been broken into. Neighbors have had houses broken into; we had to be proactive.

Councilwoman Madden asked Councilman O'Neill hiring one officer would address all that crime in his neighborhood.

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Councilman O'Neill responded that he felt the more officers the better, the more the bad guys see our officers it reduces crime. Everyone was here about a half a penny. He gets a lot of calls about crime issues. When we have an arrest at night, there is not one law enforcement officer on our streets.

Chief Newman spoke, and clarified that we have mutual aid.

Mayor Chau said he agreed with Councilwoman Madden that we needed to watch taxes, but we were losing focus. We were blaming the police for a half of a cent; we had to look at the overall budget. We could have made cuts in other areas. He didn't feel it's fair to point out the police hire as the reason.

Councilwoman Korngut reiterated that no other cuts were made.

Councilman Smith said Councilwoman Korngut was opposed to hiring the police officer.

Councilwoman Korngut said appreciated all who came out. That was why she put it out on Facebook. She takes no decisions up here lightly. One thing was so disappointing and hurtful is that she had been branded as anti-police and anti-Chief Newman. She was always trying to balance the concerns of residents to keep it safe and functioning; she bears no ill will and this is not a decision that she takes lightly. As Councilwoman Madden said, there were a lot of people crying because they feel they are being forced out of their homes. She reiterated that Police Department did a great job. More will be known next year, about the revenue and the impact of the coming changes. She reviewed the cost of an officer year over year, it was increasing. Not that officers don't deserve every penny. Referring to the gentleman who spoke earlier, she apologized for her poor choice of words.

Mayor Chau said he heard Councilwoman Korngut's concerns about data, and we won't know for some time. He faithfully produced the Police Department's report, using information from the Chief, and this was considered in the hiring of a new officer. We were a weak Mayor strong Council. He didn't want to sacrifice public safety but didn't want to drive residents out of this town.

Mike Buccafurni, Northfield Police Department Shop Steward, said he had been on the job for 16 years. He had been assigned to the task force with the County for years and used to try to get drug deals to come to Northfield, but they wouldn't come. He had forged relationships over the years with the Council, when he started here relationships with Council were very poor. There were meetings about shared service that could affect their jobs, and their families. But you say it's not personal, it was. He was never approached about shared services, but found out there was a plan. It had never worked, anywhere. He encouraged dialogue about shared services. We can

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agree to disagree, but let's have a conversation. The statistics were a reflection of the Police Department and the job that is being done.

Council President Lischin agreed that the positive crime statistics were a reflection of the current and past officers. It hits home when you have young kids; he appreciated all.

Mrs. Toland asked if it was too late to amend the budget.

CFO Stollenwerk explained the declining tax base has shrunk over the course of years. The economic indicators for the City look promising. When the City crafts their budget, just like your personal budget, you have to do what you can, we had made infrastructure improvements. We had retired debt. From a financial perspective the Council felt that due to the economic indicators, it was time to rebuild in some of the areas where we have made cuts. Our process now is that we need to adopt the budget, so our tax bills can go out on time. We have been looking at this for four months.

Councilwoman Korngut asked why we changed from taking it from surplus.

Councilman Perri replied that it was a hard cost. This increase was going to come back year after year. Public safety was the biggest part of our budget and he felt it should be as an increase because it is not going to go away. It was his recommendation of increasing the taxes as opposed to using surplus.

Council President Lischin added that Council had agreed.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak, on motion of Councilman Dewees, seconded by Councilman Smith, all members present were in favor of closing the public hearing on the budget.

Council President Lischin announced that Council would now vote to amend the budget to account for grant funds that were received after the budget was introduced, but before the final vote on the budget. This is a Resolution to add \$5,500.00 in revenue, and does not affect the tax rate.

**75B-2019**      Resolution to Amend Budget

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Resolution 75B-2019.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

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**75C-2019** Adoption of the 2019 Budget

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Resolution 75C-2019.

Councilman Perri thanked employees throughout the year, and CFO Stollenwerk and Council, for this budget. It's a good budget, and was still very conservative.

Councilman O'Neill thanked Councilman Smith and CFO Stollenwerk.

Council President Lischin appreciated the hard work Councilman Smith, CFO Stollenwerk and the Council did; it had been a tough ride over the years.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Ms. Korngut – no, Mrs. Madden – no, Mr. O'Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Councilman Perri** - Public Works, Roads, Engineering, Sewer Operations, Planning Board, Senior Citizens

Councilman Perri reported that the Planning Board schedule was changed; the Carluccio's hearing was postponed until May. The meeting with the ACUA regarding flows was still pending.

**Councilman O'Neill** - Inspections, Code Enforcement, Housing/Zoning, Court/Violations, FAN

Councilman O'Neill asked Councilman Dewees if he sent an email about the turf.

Councilman Dewees replied yes, it would be in his report.

**Councilwoman Korngut** – Library, Municipal Alliance, Northfield School, Economic Development, Chamber of Commerce, Technology/MRHS Channel 2

Councilwoman Korngut reported the Municipal Alliance would be funding \$2,000.00 for the Mainland After-Prom on June 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be a walkthrough from 7-9pm, and Council was welcome to attend. The Fishing Tournament at Birch Grove would be held on April 27<sup>th</sup>. The Library meeting was coming up. The school board budget had to be approved by the County and then they could share with us; this would be in April.

**Councilman Dewees** - Buildings/Grounds, Athletic Fields, Bike Path, Parks, Playgrounds

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Councilman Dewees reported the he was meeting with a fence contractor to get quotes for fencing at the baseball complex. Public Works would inspect and fix what gates they can. The bathrooms at the football building and tan snack bar were open. He received two quotes to sod the infield, one for \$17,000.00 and another for \$35,000.00. He would be looking at other options.

**Councilman Smith**– Finance/Collections, Little League/Babe Ruth, Shared Services

Councilman Smith thanked CFO Stollenwerk who did an outstanding job on the budget. He deferred commendations to her, and said he appreciated her hard work and professionalism. Little League Opening Day would be this Saturday. He was looking forward to opening ceremonies and extended an invitation to all of Council. He was very appreciative of all the work done on the fields and the City's efforts towards same. He wanted to clarify with regard to shared services, because his name was attached to a post. There was a meeting, and they discussed everything, because that is his job, to do due diligence. There was no plan in place. He was in favor of the officer and was looking forward to making that happen.

**Councilwoman Madden** – Insurance and Safety, Mainland Regional

Councilwoman Madden had nothing to report for insurance and safety. She met with Denny Sher regarding the Mainland school budget; she said Northfield pays a disproportionately high portion.

Council President Lischin thanked Councilwoman Madden for the information. Council President Lischin had shared this information with Clerk Canesi and will possibly share with CFO Stollenwerk.

Clerk Canesi suggested the Tax Assessor as well.

**Council President Lischin** - Fire Department/EMS, Cultural Committee

Council President Lischin read the following report: Fire Department calls for March included 2 total fire incidents, 5 false alarm calls, 2 good intent calls, 7 hazardous condition calls, 0 service call incidents, 19 EMS 1<sup>st</sup> responder incidents and 0 mutual aid calls; for a total of 35 dispatched incidents.

TriCare had a total of 138 dispatches, 144 calls with patients, 93 transports, 8 mutual aid calls to EHT and did not administer any Narcan.

The Cultural Committee had a successful flea market at the school, there was a good turnout. Council President Lischin spoke with one of the owners of the new movie theater who had invited all of Council to come take a look; they were not ready just yet, but Council President Lischin would advise.

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**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Chau reported that he attended the Grand Opening of a new business, Miami Breeze. They had a Latin flair; he hoped they would do well. Regarding the Mill Road paving project, the project was being advertised in April with bids due April 26<sup>th</sup> and hopes to start the work in June when school lets out. The bus shelters on New Road should be installed when school lets out as well. Mayor Chau has secured another bus shelter at Shore and Oakcrest through NJ Transit. Hopefully all had received an email sent by Mayor Chau about vaping. He said it was very informative. He also sent everyone a letter about the cost of upgrading to LED street lights from Atlantic City Electric. He recommended we do this on a piece-meal basis. Mayor Chau also reported that he was in contact with someone yesterday from NJ Clean Energy; he was seeking grants and recommended an energy audit.

Clerk Canesi responded, she had spoken to the gentleman and conferred with CFO Stollenwerk and Councilman Perri. The last time we had an energy audit done it was for the municipal complex. The gentleman from the state would come down on a Thursday and speak with us about an audit for Public Works and all of the Park facilities. There is nothing that Council needs to vote on yet as it is a preliminary meeting. We have been looking at our electric bills for these facilities. Clerk Canesi will keep everyone informed.

Mayor Chau added that we received \$285,000.00 from NJDOT for the reconstruction of Shepherd Drive and North Shepherd Drive. It was a very competitive process. He then read the following report for the Police Department for March: 21 arrests, 380 citations, 20 crashes with 2 injuries, and 595 motor vehicle stops.

Councilman O'Neill, referring to the Mill Road sidewalks, stated there were a number of Council members who were not here at the time. He thanked all past members of Council who worked on the project.

Council President Lischin stated that he would like Council to consider the LED streetlights; he said it's a large capital outlay. Our current street light bill is around \$8,000.00-\$9,000.00 a month, but once paid off the bill would be about \$1000.00, as per the Atlantic Electric study.

Mayor Chau agreed, adding that residents do not realize how much some things cost, like street lights and hydrants, for example.

**CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineer's report as previously distributed to Council. The Davis Avenue pump was nearing completion. He had been working with Councilman Perri and the ACUA on flows; something was not accurate and needed

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to be reviewed. He would continue and as Councilman Perri stated, there would be a meeting to discuss. He noted the recommendation on the agenda to award the Walnut Avenue bid, we got \$284,000.00 from the State for that and the project came in under budget. Regarding the CDBG project, there was a resolution on the agenda to prepare an application for this grant to convert the park center to a senior center. He would keep Council advised. He referred to the 2019 Municipal Aid grant, and said we got \$285,000.00 from NJDOT. He recommended a base bid for Shepherd Drive, and an alternate bid for North Shepherd Drive.

Mayor Chau asked when the Davis Avenue pump would go on line.

Engineer Nassar replied two weeks.

**PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER**

Council President Lischin opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to speak on any subject.

Alicia Garry, 202 St. James Place, asked if her property was going to be looked at for the damage done by the gas company.

Engineer Nassar replied that he had previously given Mr. Minton the contact information for Mr. Garry, but he had not heard anything since. This was the gas company's responsibility.

Mrs. Garry asked where does she go from here.

Engineer Nassar would again ask Mr. Minton to call Mrs. Garry.

Heather Mellon, 2509 Herbert Drive, advised that the crosswalks at Yorkshire and Shore Road are no longer there. Deputy Clerk Campbell told her it's not on schedule to be painted.

Engineer Nassar would speak with the water company; he believed it was the result of a job they did.

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

Council President Lischin stated that all matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature, and having been reviewed by Council, will be enacted by one motion. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the

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request of any Council Member and if so removed, will be treated as a separate matter. Any items requiring expenditure of funds are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds.

The Executive Sessions of Council will be held at the end of the meeting, and we will come back in public session to make a comment for the record after the executive sessions have concluded. Any vote made on subjects discussed will be made in public.

On a motion of Councilman Perri, second of Councilwoman Madden, all present were in favor of voting by consent agenda on Resolutions 82-2019 through 89-2019.

- 82-2019** New Jersey Department of Transportation Division of Local Aid and Economic Development Recommendation of Award State Aid Project Reconstruction of Walnut Avenue and a Portion of Maple Avenue
- 83-2019** Approval of Application for Coin Drop – Northfield Little League
- 84-2019** A Resolution Supporting the 2019 *Udrive. Utext. Upay.* Distracted Driving Crackdown April 1 - 21, 2019
- 85-2019** Approval for Engineer to Submit the Project Known as ‘The Conversion of Birch Grove Park Center’ to ‘The Birch Grove Park Senior Citizens Center’ as the City’s Application for the 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program
- 86-2019** A Resolution Ratifying an Amendment to the Contract between the City of Northfield and Arawak Paving
- 87-2019** A Resolution Providing for an Executive Session Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), Regarding Personnel Matters and the Promotion of Acting Captains in the Fire Department to the Positions of Regular Captain
- 88-2019** A Resolution Providing For An Executive Session Not Open To The Public In Accordance With The Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, Regarding Active Litigation In The Matter Of William Ward v. City Of Northfield And Paul Newman, Police Chief Of The City Of Northfield
- 89-2019** A Resolution Providing For An Executive Session Not Open To The Public In Accordance With The Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, Regarding Active Litigation In The Matter Of William Cornell v. City Of Northfield And Paul Newman, Police Chief Of The City Of Northfield

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Councilman Perri motioned, Councilwoman Madden seconded, to adopt Resolutions 82-2019 through 89-2019.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

**ORDINANCES**

Councilman O’Neill motioned, Councilwoman Korngut seconded, to adopt Ordinance 6-2019, to be read by title only.

**6-2019**           An Ordinance Appropriating \$25,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the Installation of a Well and Various Improvements at the Park for the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State Of New Jersey

*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 04/02/2019*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, and stated that there would be a public hearing, after which the matter would be considered for final adoption and thereafter published. Since introduction, the full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the City website, and copies have been available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requested same.

Council President Lischin opened the public hearing, seeing no one wishing to speak he closed the public hearing

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

Councilwoman Korngut motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, to introduce Ordinance 7-2019, to be read by title only.

**7-2019**           An Ordinance Amending Article XIII F, Sections 111-26.23, 111-26.25 and 111-26.32 of the City of Northfield Code Entitled Vehicles and Traffic

*Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC  
04/06/2019*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 04/16/2019*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this is the first reading, and announced the publication and public hearing dates. The full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the City website, and copies are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and

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4:00pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requests same.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS** \$ 1,793,275.56

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, for payment of bills.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

Council President Lischin read the meeting notices.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council President Lischin announced the Executive Session for Resolution 88-2019. He stated that the Executive Session authorized by Resolution 89-2019 would follow, with Resolution 87-2019 being last.

**88-2019** A Resolution Providing For An Executive Session Not Open To The Public In Accordance With The Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, Regarding Active Litigation In The Matter Of William Ward v. City Of Northfield And Paul Newman, Police Chief Of The City Of Northfield

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title and deferred to the Solicitor for further explanation.

Solicitor Facenda stated that the matter to be discussed was a case involving William Ward v. the City of Northfield. It required an Executive Session as Council was receiving an update from Counsel as to a potential settlement which required attorney client privilege. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law.

Mayor Chau advised that he received a letter from Joe Gurwicz who was in favor of hiring a police officer.

Solicitor Facenda advised all would move to the Mayor’s Office and return with a comment for the record.

*At 9:17pm Council moved to the Mayor’s Office for the Executive Session.*

*At 9:28pm the Executive Session of Council was adjourned, and the Regular Meeting resumed in Council Chambers.*

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 2, 2019**

Solicitor Facenda announced that Council had completed the first Executive Session authorized by Resolution 88-2019, pertaining to the matter of Ward v. City of Northfield and others. He advised that official action would be taken now and Council would entertain Resolution 92-2019. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. He read the following into the record:

**RESOLUTION NO. 92-2019, RESOLUTION APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND GENERAL RELEASE**

**WHEREAS**, on or about May 19, 2017, William Ward filed a Complaint and Jury Demand in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division in an action captioned WILLIAM WARD v. THE CITY OF NORTHFIELD et als, Docket No.: L-1028-17 (the “Ward Litigation”); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Northfield has been represented by counsel assigned by the Joint Insurance Fund, to wit: John C. Grady, Esq. of Craig, Annin & Baxter LLP in connection with the Ward Litigation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parties to the Ward Litigation have litigated this action since its filing, including but not limited to the pre-trial exchange of discovery and the participation in a voluntary mediation session; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parties to the Ward Litigation now wish to amicably resolve all of the claims asserted by Plaintiff in the Ward Litigation on the terms and conditions set forth in the Settlement Agreement and General Release attached hereto; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, to accomplish the amicable resolution of all the claims asserted in the Ward Litigation, the Mayor for the City of Northfield is hereby authorized to execute the Settlement Agreement and General Release attached hereto once same is confirmed by counsel for the City of Northfield to be acceptable to and accepted by Plaintiff Ward’s legal counsel.

I, Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk of the City of Northfield, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Common Council of Northfield, held this 2nd day of April, 2019.

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Perri seconded, to adopt Resolution 92-2019.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – abstain, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - abstain; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 2, 2019**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**89-2019** A Resolution Providing For An Executive Session Not Open To The Public In Accordance With The Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, Regarding Active Litigation In The Matter Of William Cornell v. City Of Northfield And Paul Newman, Police Chief Of The City Of Northfield

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title and deferred to the Solicitor for further explanation.

Solicitor Facenda stated that the matter to be discussed with JIF appointed Counsel was a potential settlement agreement in the matter of William Cornell v. the City of Northfield. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. He advised all would move to the Mayor's Office and return with a comment for the record.

*At 9:31pm Council moved to the Mayor's Office for the Executive Session.*

*At 9:52pm the Executive Session of Council was adjourned, and the Regular Meeting resumed in Council Chambers.*

Solicitor Facenda announced that Council had completed the Executive Session authorized by Resolution 89-2019, pertaining to the matter of Cornell v. City of Northfield and others. He advised that official action would be taken now and Council would entertain Resolution 93-2019. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. He read the following into the record:

**RESOLUTION NO. 93-2019, RESOLUTION APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND GENERAL RELEASE**

**WHEREAS**, on or about August 16, 2017, William Cornell filed a Complaint and Jury Demand in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division in an action captioned WILLIAM CORNELL v. THE CITY OF NORTHFIELD et als, Docket No.: L-1662-17 (the "Cornell Litigation"); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Northfield has been represented by counsel assigned by the Joint Insurance Fund, to wit: John C. Grady, Esq. of Craig, Annin & Baxter LLP in connection with the Cornell Litigation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parties to the Cornell Litigation have litigated this action since its filing, including but not limited to the pre-trial exchange of discovery and the participation in a voluntary mediation session; and

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 2, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, the Parties to the Cornell Litigation now wish to amicably resolve all of the claims asserted by Plaintiff in the Cornell Litigation on the terms and conditions set forth in the Settlement Agreement and General Release attached hereto; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, to accomplish the amicable resolution of all the claims asserted in the Cornell Litigation, the Mayor for the City of Northfield is hereby authorized to execute the Settlement Agreement and General Release attached hereto once same is confirmed by counsel for the City of Northfield to be acceptable to and accepted by Plaintiff Cornell's legal counsel.

I, Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk of the City of Northfield, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of Northfield, held this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2019.

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Perri seconded, to adopt Resolution 93-2019.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – abstain, Mr. O'Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - abstain; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**87-2019**        A Resolution Providing for an Executive Session Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), Regarding Personnel Matters and the Promotion of Acting Captains in the Fire Department to the Positions of Regular Captain

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title and deferred to the Solicitor for further explanation.

Solicitor Facenda stated that the matter to be discussed specifically was the promotions of certain acting captains to the positions of regular captain. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. He advised all would move to the Mayor's Office and return with a comment for the record. The employees have been issued rice notices.

*At 9:55pm Council moved to the Mayor's Office for the Executive Session.*

*At 10:28pm the Executive Session of Council was adjourned, and the Regular Meeting resumed in Council Chambers.*

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**APRIL 2, 2019**

Solicitor Facenda announced that the executive session had concluded; the topic discussed was the promotion of acting captains in the Fire Department to the positions of regular captain. No official action was taken. Council needed to continue to research the matter with labor counsel's input and reconvene on a future date regarding this matter. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law.

At 10:30pm, on a motion of Councilwoman Korngut, seconded by Councilwoman Madden, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk