

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 9, 2013**

At 7:24pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 7, 2013, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

ROLL CALL

Present: Carew, Dewees, O'Neill, Perri, Polistina, Travagline, Brown

Mayor Vince Mazzeo, City Solicitor Kris Facenda, City Engineer Dan Kwapinski, Chief Robert James, and Deputy Municipal Clerk Mimi Marlor were also in attendance.

VETERAN HONOREE FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

Council President Brown introduced Veteran Honoree John Kiphorn. The flag in front of City Hall will be flown in his honor for the month of April.

Councilman Polistina John W. Kiphorn served as a US Navy, Petty Officer 2nd Class (AE2) and was on active duty from 1966 to 1970. From November 1966 to February 1967 he was at US Navy Boot Cajup, in Great Lakes, Illinois. From March 1967 to September 1967, Mr. Kiphorn attended Aviation Electrician School in Jacksonville, Florida, and from October 1967 to January 1968, he attended the P-3 Aircrewman School in Norfolk, Virginia and Patuxent River, Maryland. In February 1968 he underwent training at the Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (S.E.R.E.) School in Brunswick, Maine. From March 1968 to August 1970, he was assigned to Patrol Squadron Forty-Nine (VP-49), also in Patuxent River, Maryland and served as Aircrewman on a P-3 Orion Aircraft in Atlantic Anti-Submarine Patrol Flight Operations,. He was part of the WESTPAC Deployment in 1968, and served at NAS Sangley Point, Philippines; USAFB Utapao, Thailand; USAB Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam; and participated in Coastal Reconnaissance Sorties, and Search & Recovery (SAR) Missions. He earned several honors, including the Navy Air Medal (Strike/Flight), the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. Polistina thanked Mr. Kiphorn for his service, and Mayor Mazzeo presented him with a certificate of appreciation.

Mr. Kiphorn thanked Council for the honor, and said as a Vietnam Veteran, he accepts it on behalf of all Vietnam Vets.

At 7:29pm, Council President Brown called for a brief recess; the meeting resumed at 7:31pm at which time Brown announced stated that Mr. Carew had to leave the meeting for personal reasons.

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READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman O'Neill, second by Councilman Perri to dispense with the reading of the minutes of March 12, 2013. They have been posted, distributed to Council and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O'Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri attended the dedication to Mr. Hoopes on Saturday and said it was a very nice event with lots of community support. Perri said there have been ongoing Seniors' meetings; another will be scheduled for the last Thursday of this month.

Councilman O'Neill referred to the presentation from a phone vendor during the work session; he said he will discuss with CFO the option of purchase vs lease for the equipment. He also said he would like to get one contract for all City copiers and said this should be done in two weeks. He noted annual savings on the phone system of \$28,000 to \$30,000.

Councilman Travagline said budget discussions have concluded for 2013. There are possible termite issues at Birch Grove Park; remediation is in progress. FAN had its first public meeting; it went well. Travagline added that the group is very organized and will do an excellent job.

Councilman Polistina said he also attended the Opening Day Ceremonies at the Park; it was a great event with a great turnout by ours and other local communities. It was a moving tribute to Coach Hoopes. Polistina said work continues at Veterans' Park on parking and curbing; he hopes to set sights on the next phase soon. The budget will be introduced tonight; Polistina said we are at a one cent increase this year, and thanked this Council and previous Councils and CFO's for their hard work. He said Northfield continues to maintain a stable budget. He read the EMS report for the month of February, and noted that the numbers are 'off', with the reports indicating higher volume than we have calls, possibly due to mutual aid calls. He will continue to report.

Councilman Dewees said Public Works is doing clean-up work at Veterans' Park after they are done routine duties, and that bike path spring clean-up has begun. The Fraser Drive sign has been replaced temporarily with one removed from another less prominent location, and a sign order is pending. Anyone with a sign request should send it to Councilman Dewees.

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Council President Brown asked if the order would include the Davis Avenue 'no parking' signs; Dewees said it would and that he planned to confer with Chief James.

Dewees continued his report, and said the City may wish to consider re-seeding the 1st Street Playground, but in all other respects it is up to standard with the JIF's requirements.

Councilman O'Neill asked if the City could do some shrubbery clean up at the library. Dewees replied in the affirmative and said it is on a maintenance schedule. Councilman Perri asked that the brush area in the rear of City Hall be cleaned up. Dewees agreed.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Council President Brown thanked Council for their work on the budget. She said she was unable to attend the Hoopes Memorial but he is missed every day and it was a fitting tribute.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Mazzeo referred to the budget and commented that the one cent increase was good compared to some other area towns. He noted the impact of tax appeals and associated lost revenue, and stressed the importance of continuation of services that residents expect. He said Veterans' Park looks great; he is in talks with a large donor who may be able to assist us with the 3rd phase. He will report at the next meeting. The Park will be a tribute to all Veterans and enjoyed by many for years to come. The Library expansion is almost done; he commended the Library Board, especially the Board President for their prudent use of taxpayer money. The new facility will be a library/community center that can be enjoyed by many for different functions. He referred to Hurricane Sandy and a newspaper article about a coalition of Atlantic and Cape May County Mayors who are urging that flaws in the flood mitigation maps be addressed. Mazzeo said he thinks that we will have to adopt the maps as they may affect a few homes on Bay Avenue. He added that he thinks there will be compromise and that in the next month or two, Council should adopt Northfield's maps. He will confer with the Solicitor regarding Margate's proposed ordinance and will keep Council informed.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

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The City Engineer's written report was provided to Mayor and Council and is on file in the Municipal Clerk's office. Dan Kwapinski of Schaffer, Nassar, Scheidegg Consulting Engineers, LLC, was in attendance and available for questions. Kwapinski noted that he provided details on Broad Street paving in the Engineer's Report. Punch list items are being addressed and the project should be finished on schedule and within budget. Councilman Perri asked about the elevation change at Putting Green and Broad; Kwapinski replied that this area is among his concerns and is being addressed. Kwapinski continued, and said he met with Councilmen O'Neill and Travagline on the sewer project that is moving forward. He added that his firm is working on the FEMA maps at the Mayor's request. Councilman Dewees asked if Bay Avenue would be in the 'V' zones; Kwapinski replied that he does not think so, adding that the maps are regional and it's difficult to see where the houses are. Dewees also asked about the amounts being billed by the Engineer on Broad Street Phase I. Kwapinski responded that the fees are due to checking the grades, verification etc. Mayor Mazzeo asked for an update on the Bikeway grant; Kwapinski replied that he has not received any word, but that since the former Engineer submitted that grant, he would check with Doran. Councilman O'Neill asked if Kwapinski has noticed crooked drainage areas on Tilton Road; O'Neill said he recognizes it's not our project. Kwapinski confirmed that this is a County project; with nothing to do with the City, and said he does not inspect that work. He added that he does not think the County would leave it crooked. Councilman Travagline asked about the Stormwater contract; it will expire soon and wanted to know if it is ready to go out to bid and if we will be doing the same with the Sewer contract. Kwapinski replied that he is working on the Stormwater bid, but the contract will expire before we can go out to bid. Solicitor Facenda replied that he reviewed the contract and is not comfortable with extending it under the Local Public Contracts Law, but said there is a provision for emergency services. Facenda also said he spoke with Linwood's Solicitor, and it is Linwood's year to bid the Sewer contract.

RESOLUTIONS

76-2013 Work Change Order No. 1 General Repairs and Construction of Sanitary Sewer Facilities

Councilman Perri motioned, Polistina seconded, to table Resolution 76-2013.

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Councilman O'Neill asked if there was a previous Resolution to authorize the work; Council President Brown replied that the Resolution is being tabled so that additional information can be obtained.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O'Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to vote by consent agenda on Resolutions 75-2013, and 77-2013 through 79-2013.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O'Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

75-2013 Cancellation of Tax Sale Certificate

77-2013 A Resolution To Oppose A-1196 1st Responders Protection Act

78-2013 Authorize Captain Arthur J. Faden to Buy Back his City Issued Service Handgun

79-2013 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 Personnel Matters and Contract Negotiations with Regard to a Step 4 Grievance Filed by Mainland PBA Local No. 77

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt the consent agenda for Resolutions 75-2013, and 77-2013 through 79-2013.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O'Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

Council President Brown noted that the Executive Session would take place at the end of the Regular meeting, and that Council would thereafter return to public session.

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Resolution 81-2013.

81-2013 To Approve Applications for Use of Facilities

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The Municipal Clerk noted the addition of a line of text that did not appear on the Resolution packet that had been photocopied for the public. She indicated that the text appeared after the word ‘conditions’ in the final paragraph of the Resolution and read it verbatim as follows: “the terms and conditions of the current Use of Facilities Guidelines and the representations made in the subject Applications for Use of Facilities.”

Roll call: Mr. Carew –absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

RESOLUTION/2013 BUDGET

Councilman Travagline motioned, Polistina seconded, to adopt Resolution 80A-2013, to introduce the 2013 budget.

80A-2013 Introduction of the 2013 Budget
No public input on introduction
Budget Synopsis Published in the Press of AC 4/13/2013
Public Hearing and Final Adoption: 7:30pm 5/14/2013
Full copies of the 2013 Budget are available in the City Clerk’s Office

The Municipal Clerk read the Resolution by title, announced the publication, public hearing, and final adoption dates, and stated that the budget summary is posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the Municipal website. Full copies may be viewed at the Northfield Library, and may be obtained at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk, Monday through Friday between 9am and 4pm, up until the date and time of the public hearing.

Roll call: Mr. Carew –absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

ORDINANCES

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilman O’Neill seconded, to adopt Ordinance 1-2013, to be read by title only.

1-2013 Calendar Year 2013 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)
2nd Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption
Published in the Press of AC 4/13/2013

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The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, and stated that 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.

Council President Brown opened the public hearing. Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak on Ordinance 1-2013, she closed the public hearing.

Roll call: Mr. Carew –absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Ordinance 2-2013, to be read by title only.

2-2013 An Ordinance Amending Section 111 of the City of Northfield
Code Entitled Vehicles and Traffic
2nd Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption 4/9/2013
Published in the Press of AC 4/13/2013

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, and stated that 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.

Council President Brown opened the public hearing. Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak on Ordinance 2-2013, she closed the public hearing.

Roll call: Mr. Carew –absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Polistina seconded, to adopt Ordinance 3-2013, to be read by title only.

3-2013 An Ordinance Amending Section 350 of the City of Northfield
Code Entitled Towing
2nd Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption 4/9/2013
Published in the Press of AC 4/13/2013

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The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, and stated that 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.

Council President Brown opened the public hearing. Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak on Ordinance 3-2013, she closed the public hearing.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – abstain; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman O’Neill motioned, Councilman Travagline seconded, for payment of bills in the amount of \$ 339,222.55.

Councilman O’Neill asked if the Resolution that was tabled had been included in the payment of bills. The Municipal Clerk responded that she does not believe it was; approximately \$165,000 has already been paid.

Councilman Polistina noted that he would be abstaining from certain items on the bills list; said abstention is on file with the City Clerk.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Brown opened this meeting to the public and asked if anyone wished to speak on any subject. Seeing no one wishing to speak, she closed the public session.

Councilman Travagline read the meeting notices.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF COUNCIL

The resolution was adopted earlier in the evening under the consent agenda.

79-2013 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 Personnel Matters and Contract Negotiations with Regard to a Step 4 Grievance Filed by Mainland PBA Local No. 77

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Solicitor Facenda stated Council would be entering an Executive Session not open to the general public in accordance with the provisions of the NJ Open Public Meetings Act. The matter to be discussed is a step 4 grievance filed by Mainland PBA Local No. 77. Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act the matter may be discussed in Executive Session, pursuant to an exception to that Act as a matter dealing with employment, termination of employment, and or terms and conditions of employment. The Council will keep minutes of the Executive Session as required by law, which will be approved by the Council and made promptly available for public inspection when required and permitted by law.

Council President Brown reiterated that Council will return to public session and any vote will be held in public.

At 8:11pm Council left the dais and convened in Mayor's office. At 9:04pm Solicitor Facenda announced that Council was back in public session after concluding its discussion and review of a memorandum of agreement filed by PBA Local No. 77. Subject to approval of Labor Counsel, and revision concerning section E, the Council has indicated that they will accept the agreement. Once that process is complete, and the final agreement is approved by City Council, the minutes of the executive session may be made available for public inspection.

Seeing members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, Council President Brown re-opened the public session portion of the regular meeting.

Joan Brennan, 116 Dolphin Avenue; referred to County work being done at Potter's Field. Brennan said her mother, Joyce Pullan, and her fiancé, David Goldstein, had a conversation with County Executive Levinson, and were told that there were 1,000 people buried there. Brennan said they were further told that no work would be done where the graves were. She referred to a letter to the editor from today's Press of Atlantic City from a woman whose grandfather is buried there. Brennan said there are no headstones or maps. She reiterated that Levinson had said the work is being done on a portion of the property where there are no graves; she said she does not know how he can know that. She also expressed concern about the facility being built. It will house buses, have fencing, barbed wire, etc. and said she is concerned about traffic that will increase due to the new facility being built. She asked asks if the City knew the work was being done.

Councilman Perri responded that he has had residents ask him as well. Perri said at last Thursday's Planning Board meeting, the Board sent a letter to the County asking for an overview of what Brennan has stated. Perri said in the past the County has been more than willing to be forthcoming. The Planning Board has not gotten a response yet; to his knowledge the City does not have anything on it.

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Brennan requested that Perri email her if he receives any information back from the County, and reiterated her concern for the dead that are buried there.

Council President Brown asked that Brennan give Council until April 23rd to respond.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak, Council President Brown closed the public session.

At 9:20pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Canesi RMC". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk