

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
MAY 10, 2016**

At 6:03pm 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, Perri, Piergiovanni, Travagline

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

Council President Travagline welcomed everyone to the meeting and deferred to Solicitor Facenda for discussion regarding smoking on City property.

- Ordinance to Regulate Smoking on City Property

Solicitor Facenda reviewed the history that we had received complaints, he commented on research done by Clerk Canesi and asked the Council if they were interested in further regulating smoking beyond what the State Law already prohibited.

Councilman Dewees noted that he walked through smoke on Wednesdays when he visited the building; he felt we should ban smoking.

Councilman Lischin stated that he was ok with a ban, but felt there should be a designated smoking area.

Clerk Canesi explained that there currently was a smoking area for employees, but that sometimes other employees complain about the proximity of the smoke created by the employees who were using it. It was presently defined as the 'rear of the building'.

Council President Travagline took a straw poll vote, most were in favor of a designated smoking area.

Council President Travagline asked Councilman Dewees to identify an area and asked Solicitor Facenda to prepare an Ordinance for same.

- RFP for Campsite Management at Birch Grove Park

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Solicitor Facenda met with Councilman Dewees, Deputy Clerk Campbell and Clerk Canesi regarding a potential RFP for campground management. He distributed a draft to Council and reviewed the changes that were incorporated as a result of that meeting.

All members of Council discussed the proposed RFP.

Councilman Perri informed Council that the City tried going out for RFP in 2000, that didn't work, then we went to a ranger.

Clerk Canesi did some quick math, and noted that based on our current rates, if each site were 100% occupied for a 12 week season, we'd make \$116,500.00; with current expenses that would be \$6000.00 profit for the year.

Councilman Perri also noted in the past, the County had approached Northfield about taking over the park.

Council President Travagline replies that he was fine with the RFP as it was.

Councilman Dewees would bring it to the Advisory Board tomorrow.

Solicitor Facenda asked all of Council to give him their comments.

Council President Travagline hoped to approve it at the next Council meeting.

- Interlocal Agreement for Sidewalk Installation

Councilman Dewees met with Solicitor Facenda, Mayor Chau and Clerk Canesi; the City was waiting for answers to questions that the Engineer had been asked to pose to the County. Discussion would continue at the next meeting.

- 911 Dispatch Service

Council President Travagline noted that Council discussed moving dispatch last year, and he had reached back out to Pleasantville to discuss it again. He felt there was a savings to be had if we went in with another town.

Councilmen Perri and O'Neill stated that they voted against it in the past because of the cost of the new CAD system and the loss of call history.

Council President Travagline replied that with the County dispatch system, even though it's now off the table, would not have included call history, so we would have lost it anyway.

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Councilman O'Neill suggested having Pleasantville have a work station with our history data on it that could be produced if requested.

Mayor Chau responded that they couldn't do that, and it would be difficult to have someone staffed here to do the same thing.

Acting Chief Newman explained that we would have to maintain a searchable database, for records retention purposes. Merging data from one system to another was very expensive, if it was even possible. Egg Harbor Township gave us a price, he recalled that it may have been around \$40,000.00 but wasn't sure, stated he could check the records, but that was just to extract our data from the system and give it to us.

Councilman O'Neill suggested asking the current CAD system vendor how much they would charge for just a single work station to store our data, it may be a fraction of what Egg Harbor Township said they would charge us.

Mayor Chau said that he has not seen any proof that we would save money if we moved to Pleasantville. We would have a better idea once all questions had been answered. We were not experts in this area.

Councilman Perri noted that the County would have had to resolve the issue of call history, in some fashion. If we had no information on how we will retain and access call history, he was not interested in discussing it.

Discussion ensued amongst Council; most generally were in favor of looking into it again.

- Collection of E-Waste by Municipal Personnel

Councilman Dewees explained that we were losing money on e-waste recycling. We used to have a vendor which would cost us less to take these types of items. He would like for Public Works to discontinue collecting it and deferred to Clerk Canesi to elaborate.

Clerk Canesi explained that in 2011 the State Law changed and electronic waste could no longer be included in the solid was stream. Northfield is one of few towns that offers pick up of e-waste to its residents. It started to become a losing proposition and was now costing us money. We are using money from our Recycling Trust that can't be used for anything else. Retailers of electronic goods are responsible for ensuring that recycling these types of products is available to the consumer.

Councilman Dewees would also like to reduce the number of times a month Public Works picks up metal.

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Council discussed different drop off locations available to the public such as Good Will and Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

Council President Travagline suggested reducing collections to once a month.

Mayor Chau asked if Councilman Dewees had an update on the County car wash.

Councilman Dewees replied not yet.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Travagline made assignments.

Councilman Perri asked if Resolution 113-2016 was what was agreed to?

Solicitor Facenda replied yes.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Travagline opened the meeting to the public.

Bob Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue – felt the switch to Egg Harbor Township dispatch in the past was a bad idea. Mr. Webb noted that the trees on the bike path in front of his home needed to be replaced.

Councilman Dewees informed Mr. Webb that the tree replacement program had started.

Mr. Webb asked how to petition to change the form of government and to move to an appointed library board.

Solicitor Facenda directed Mr. Webb to seek his own legal counsel.

Mr. Webb felt all towing in town should go to Perri's and that police should choose their own radios.

Mayor Chau stated that the radio upgrade was mandated by Federal Government.

Mr. Webb clarified that he was referring to the fact that the radios are in Egg Harbor Township.

Samantha Gill, 701 Lake Avenue – stated she was here to follow up on all of the conversations she's had with Council and to get everyone on the same page. She didn't feel as though she'd asked for anything extraordinary; and said that later felt

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she was being perceived as troublesome. The things she'd asked for had not happened. She felt 7 months was reasonable, and said that Council President Travagline had agreed with her that it was reasonable.

Council President Travagline asked what had not happened.

Councilman Dewees explained the signs are on order, and that it is correct on one corner.

Ms. Gill asked for a four way stop but only got new signs in the same place.

Council President Travagline explained that her concerns were investigated by the safety director, and their recommendations were put in place. We can't just put things in place.

Councilman Dewees replied that a traffic study was done and what was put in place was based on their recommendations.

Councilman O'Neill was surprised this was not done; we needed a new sign vendor that can replace a sign in two weeks.

Ms. Gill stated that she reported a hypodermic needle and was told by the Mayor that because she cc'd people on an email that now she was being told her fence was not in compliance; 13 months later. She said she was told it was up to her to make sure a final inspection was done.

Clerk Canesi asked that she be able to clarify the situation.

Council President Travagline told her to proceed.

Clerk Canesi explained that Ms. Gill's father was told in April of 2015 that the fence was not in compliance, he claimed to have Power of Attorney for her.

Ms. Gill noted that her father did not have Power of Attorney, he never told her that, and he's 78 years old. He was doing the best he could to help her.

Council President Travagline did not feel one item had to do with the other. The fence and signs were two separate situations.

Mayor Chau mentioned that we used to have an in-house sign vendor but it was not cost effective.

Councilman Murray asks Ms. Gill if ADA guidelines required the fence.

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Ms. Gill replied yes, for her daughter.

Council President Travagline reiterated that there was no retaliation; we just had to make sure things are done within the law. He told Ms. Gill the City would help her with the fees and was sure there were organizations that would help.

Mr. Webb informed Council that bricks will be laid at Veteran's Park Saturday at noon.

Richard Levitt, 2004 Bay Drive - felt that the Planning Board should be able to waive fees for Ms. Gill. He also noted that the remaining existing Bradford Pears need to be trimmed to reduce further breakage during storms.

Robert Grubb, 2125 Merritt Drive – noted that the Dogwoods in front of his property needed to be trimmed.

Dr. Levitt corrected him noting that that they are Bradford Pears, not Dogwoods.

Mr. Grubb felt Northfield should do curbside leaf collection with a leaf vac, and stated that gardeners with blowers blow leaves into the street.

Mayor Chau replied that he brought up to Council in the past that the City may want to revisit the leaf collection issue, but there are a lot of costs incurred, significant capital outlay, and there are problems, such as when a leaf vac picks up a bottle.

Mr. Grubb also noted that the storm drain in front of his house was not being cleaned by City employees.

Councilman Dewees would look into it.

Mr. Webb asked when the last time we had a dog census was.

Clerk Canesi replied that they are no longer required.

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

At 7:34pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk