

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 27, 2017**

At 6:42pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City 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: Lischin, Murray, O'Neill, Perri, Piergiovanni, Travagline, Dewees

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

Council President Dewees welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that we would be going out of order on the agenda and will begin with the minutes.

**MINUTES**

On a motion of Councilman Murray, second by Councilman Travagline, all were in favor of approval of the minutes from May 30th without formal reading.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Councilman Perri** - Sewer Inter Local, Planning Board, Senior Citizens, Shared Services

Councilman Perri thanked the City and everyone involved for the Veterans Park brick installation, Deputy Clerk Shannon Campbell, Bob Burness, Mr. Webb and Mr. Vain. He congratulated all of the Mainland graduates and offered condolences to the Moyer family.

Councilman Lischin asked for any update on Linwood's intentions with the sewer interlocal.

Councilman Perri replied that he did not have an update, unless the Clerk had received something.

Clerk Canesi replied that she had not.

**Councilman O'Neill** - Court/Violations, Library

Councilman O'Neill offered condolences to the Moyer family.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 27, 2017**

**Councilman Piergiovanni** – Insurance and Safety, Chamber of Commerce, Municipal Alliance, Northfield School

Councilman Piergiovanni offered condolences to the Moyer family.

**Councilman Travagline** – FAN, Sign Sub Committee, Shared Services, Green Team Advisory

Councilman Travagline had no report.

**Councilman Murray** - Finance/Collections, Mainland Regional, Economic Development, Traffic Safety

Councilman Murray reported that the audit was released by city auditors Ford Scott and there were no findings in the report.

Councilman Perri noted it was a great audit, for the employees and the community as a whole.

**Councilman Lischin** – Fire Department/EMS, Inspections, Code Enforcement, Housing/Zoning, Technology/MRHS Channel 2, Cultural Committee, Green Team, Sign Sub Committee

Councilman Lischin read the Construction Department report for May. The department conducted 47 building inspections, 43 electrical inspections, 5 fire inspections and 24 plumbing inspections. There were 4 CO's/CCO's, 21 resale certificates, and 8 rental certificates. He had not seen the Fire Department as of yet but would read into the record when he received it.

Councilman Lischin also reported that Max Gurwicz and Sons did apply to the Planning Board to change their tie-ins for the water to the end of phase 4. The Fire Department did come back with a letter as requested by the Planning Board explaining that they still need to tie-in to Tilton Road at the beginning of phase 3.

Council President Dewees asked if that was the original recommendation.

Councilman Lischin responded yes and he announced the Cultural Committee presentations which would begin shortly.

**Council President Dewees** - Buildings/Grounds, Athletic Fields, Bike Path, Veterans' Park, 1<sup>st</sup> Street Playground, Birch Grove, Public Works, Roads, Engineering, Little League/Babe Ruth, Sign Sub Committee, Traffic Safety

Council President Dewees had not report this evening.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 27, 2017**

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Chau reported that there was a resolution on the agenda to replace the retiring police officer; he asked for Council's support. The City received a New Jersey Department of Transportation grant in the amount of \$216,000 for the reconstruction of Cresson Avenue. We received the approval for the right of way from Dr. Antebi for the placement of a bus shelter in the South bound lane of Route 9. Solicitor Facenda was working on the paperwork, with construction of the shelters to begin shortly. He received word from the Chief of Police that we were in compliance with the P25 radio upgrade project. Mayor Chau praised Officer Greiss for a recent lifesaving event. The call box on had been installed to the exterior of the Police Department for handicapped users. The contract was signed for the purchase of body-worn cameras. The ACUA will be hosting their mid-year wastewater meeting on August 9th at 6:30pm.

Councilman Perri asked Clerk Canesi to RSVP for him.

Mayor Chau also reported that we did not receive the Safe Routes to School Grant for the Cedar Bridge sidewalk project that we applied for. He received a letter from Assemblyman Brown, reiterating his willingness to help obtain a decommissioned piece of military equipment for Veterans Park. He read the Police Department report for the month of May. There were 323 motor vehicle stops, 183 summonses issued, over 600 property checks, over 5 drug arrests for possession of marijuana or drug paraphernalia, 5 DWI's, and 5 reports of theft and burglary, as well as attempts at prostitution. The Mayor was always seeking input of residents with regard to safety. We would do our best; we didn't like to hear these things but they exist and Mayor Chau encouraged residents to be aware.

Council President Dewees announced the Cultural Committee Presentation.

Mayor Chau recognized Mrs. Carol Patrick in the audience.

Carol Patrick, 905 Ridgewood Drive, Chairperson of the Cultural Committee - Announced that refreshments would be served after the ceremony and all were invited. She thanked Council for the venue for this wonderful ceremony, specifically Mayor Chau and Councilman Lischin. She announced the parade details and encouraged all to attend.

Veteran of the Year – Robert Burness

Mrs. Patrick announced that the committee had a new award this year, Veteran of the Year, and their first recipient of this award was Chief Robert Burness, CPO, of the

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 27, 2017**

US Navy. After many many years in the Navy he joined the American Legion here in Northfield. She called Chief Burness forward.

On behalf of the City and of the Cultural Committee, Mayor Chau presented Mr. Burness with the first ever Veteran of the Year award. He presented him with a plaque and a certificate. There was no doubt that Mr. Burness deserved it for his service to the City of Northfield and to our Country.

Mrs. Patrick announced that Chief Burness would be riding in the parade with Mayor Chau as his driver.

First Baby – Lukas Kearney

Mrs. Patrick moved on to the more traditional honorees, and announced that the Baby of the Year was Lucas Keaney. His parents were Brittany Fioccho and Charles Keaney; he also had a big brother Charlie who would be 2 in August. Lucas and his family moved to Northfield on Steelman Avenue just a few months before he was born, just in time to be the first baby. Mrs. Patrick called the family forward.

Mayor Chau presented the family with a certificate and an award and a check from the Cultural Committee. He offered congratulations to the family.

Miss July 4th – Emily Hughes

Mrs. Patrick announced Emily Hughes as Miss July 4th, she was twin sister to Jack, big sister to Delaney; daughter of Tim and Amy Hughes. Emily was a straight A student, member of the Drama Club, field hockey, Student Council, Post Crashers and the National Junior Honor Society. She sang God Bless America at our Memorial Day Ceremony; she was a member of Margate Players, Cardinals Cheerleaders, Children Making Change, Alex's Lemonade Stand and more. We hope Emily we be a good example for other teenagers.

Mayor Chau presented a certificate to Hughes noting that she was chosen for her scholastic and volunteer achievement.

Joan Brennan pinned the sash on Emily as Rosemary O'Dowd placed the crown on her head.

Citizen of the Year – Bradley Ferguson

Mrs. Patrick announced that the final presentation was for Citizen of the Year. We had never had a Citizen of the Year this young before, he was a shining star, he lived with his parents Carol and Keith, and big sister Erika, he was a member of the crew team and his volunteer accomplishments are remarkable. His accomplishments included: holding a 5.2 GPA as a sophomore, renovating the American Legion,

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 27, 2017**

several projects with Post Crashes and creating the victory garden. The list of grants that Bradley applied for and obtained totaled over \$127,000. Bradley wished to eradicate poverty and hunger as his life's goal. Mrs. Patrick called Bradley forward.

Mayor Chau presented Bradley with a certificate for Citizen of the Year and for service to his community, he was one of Bradley's biggest fans.

Mrs. Patrick announced refreshments in the City Clerks' Office.

*At 7:19pm Council President Dewees announced a 5 minute recess.*

*At 7:30pm Council President Dewees resumed the meeting.*

**CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Nassar reviewed updates to the Engineer's report as provided to Council. He reported that work was progressing on the Rosedale Pump Station, looking to start the pump in early July. There were a few issues, which Engineer Nassar briefly discussed at the last meeting. He explained and referred to the change order on tonight's agenda in the amount of \$7,890.00. We were waiting for core samples from Bay Drive, when results come back there are a few minor items and the project can be closed out. The 2015 Road Paving Project is also close to being closed out. The ACIA Redevelopment Initiative Grant application had been preliminarily drafted after a meeting with Councilman Lischin and should be filed shortly. South Jersey Gas was still all over town, everyone had seen that, and Engineer Nassar highlighted areas that have been paved full and half width, approximately 80,000 square feet of paving remained and he was working with the contractor to have that done in an efficient manner. He hoped to be completed by August. He was working on a design for the Davis Avenue Pump Station, should have plans finished for the next meeting. The Resolution on the agenda for tonight was for design work for the NJDOT grant.

Councilman Murray asked who was paving Shore Road.

Engineer Nassar believed it was a combination of the gas company and water company; unfortunately the City had no input or authority because it was a County road. He was hopeful that the paving would be done by the end of August, or September.

**PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER**

Council President Dewees opened the public session for any person to speak on any topic.

Chuck Rubenstein announced he was here to present a canopy solar system to the City, which will be over top of where the police cars park. No money was required

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 27, 2017**

from the City; there would be a savings of \$625,000 over 25 years at no cost to the City.

Councilman Travagline replied that he wanted solar energy and hoped the City would do it if it was economically feasible. He noted that Mr. Rubenstein had been here several times and asked for a basic explanation.

Mr. Rubenstein stated they would erect metal poles with a tee formation; cars would park underneath of it. The structure would include 390 solar panels and should generate enough power for City Hall. There was no financing and no costs at all to the City.

Councilman Travagline asked Mr. Rubenstein to return with an official presentation.

Council President Dewees asked if he was aware of any other municipalities that had such a solar system.

Mr. Rubenstein replied no.

Engineer Nassar asked that if the project came to fruition, that Mr. Rubenstein repave the area that would be disturbed by the installation of the canopy.

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

**RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA**

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

The Executive Session 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 Session has concluded. Any vote made on subjects discussed will be made in public.

On a motion of Councilman Perri, second of Councilman Lischin, all were in favor of voting on Resolutions 130-2017 to 146-2017, by Consent Agenda.

**130-2017** To Authorize Liquor License Renewal for the Year 2017-2018 - Ventura's

**131-2017** To Authorize Liquor License Renewal for the Year 2017-2018 - Bootleggers

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 27, 2017**

- 132-2017** To Authorize Liquor License Renewal for the Year 2017-2018 - ACCC
- 133-2017** Acknowledging Employment Resignation of Seasonal Concession Stand Attendant at Birch Grove Park
- 134-2017** Resolution Inserting an Item of Revenue in the 2017 Budget - Clean Communities Grant
- 135-2017** Resolution Inserting an Item of Revenue in the 2017 Budget - NJDOT Cresson Avenue Paving
- 136-2017** Resolution Inserting an Item of Revenue in the 2017 Budget - Alcohol Education Fund
- 137-2017** Acknowledging Retirement of Police Officer Kristina Longo
- 138-2017** To Approve the Hiring of James Andrew Evans for the Position of Police Officer
- 139-2017** Governing Body Certification of Annual Audit
- 140-2017** A Resolution to Authorize the Relocation of a New Jersey Transit Bus Stop
- 141-2017** Authorizing Schaeffer, Nassar, Scheidegg Consulting Engineers to Proceed with Certain Projects – Reconstruction of Cresson Avenue, FY2017 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program
- 142-2017** Appointment of Employer Designated Right to Know Official
- 143-2017** Work Change Order No. 1 Rosedale Avenue Sanitary Sewer Pump Station Upgrade
- 144-2017** Authorize the Hiring of Adam Gitsas as a Seasonal Concession Stand Attendant for Birch Grove Park
- 145-2017** Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Northfield Providing Consent to a Project at Block 17, Lots 4.01 and 8.01 in the City of Northfield Which Requires a Treatment Works Approval Application to the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- 146-2017** 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 Pending Litigation in the Matter of William Ward v. City of Northfield and Paul Newman, Police Chief of the City Of Northfield

Councilman O'Neill thanked Mayor Chau and Chief Newman for Resolution 138, Mr. Evans would be great asset to the Northfield Police Department.

Councilman Lischin motioned, Councilman Perri seconded for the adoption of the consent agenda to consisting of Resolutions 130-2017 to 146-2017.

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O'Neill –yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –yes; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried to adopt the consent agenda.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 27, 2017**

Mayor Chau called forward Chief Newman to give a biography on Patrolman Evans.

Chief Newman read the following:

James Evans grew up in Ocean City where he attended Ocean City School District. Along his path he excelled in Football and Baseball. He loves to be at the shore and around his family. Once he graduated high school, he attended Atlantic Cape Community College where he graduated with an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice. While attending Atlantic Cape Community College, he took part in an internship with the Cape May County Sheriff Department. He was married in 2014 to his beautiful wife Renee. In July of 2015, he started his law enforcement career with the Camden County Police Department as a SLEO 2 where he attended the Camden County College Police Academy. In October 2016, he was sworn in as a full time police officer. Besides being a police officer he is a volunteer firefighter with the Gloucester Township Fire District 6. He obtained many certifications while at the Gloucester Township Fire Department. He takes great pride as a police officer and a firefighter where he is always willing to help others. He is 1 out of 6 in his family; father David, mother Linda, older brother David and two older sisters Lea and Kristen. He also has 3 nephews and 1 niece. He and his wife are expecting their first child in September 2017, James Jr.

Mayor Chau introduced Jim Evans and announced he would be administering the oath; Mayor Chau was a great fan of the Police Department and knew that Patrolman Evans would be an attribute to the Department. He asks Patrolman Evans to call his family forward.

Patrolman Evans introduced his wife Renee, and his parents David and Linda.

Mayor Chau administered the oath; thanked Patrolman Evans for bringing his family and for his years of service to come.

*At 7:53pm Council President Dewees announces a 5 minute recess.*

*At 7:56pm Council President Dewees resumed the meeting.*

**ORDINANCE**

Councilman O'Neill motioned, Councilman Murray seconded to adopt Ordinance 8-2017.

**8-2017**      An Ordinance Amending Chapter 220, Article V, of the Code of the City of Northfield, Governing Licensed Occupations, as Amended by Resolution No. 129-2017 on May 30, 2017  
*3rd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration  
Published in the Press of AC July 1, 2017*

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 27, 2017**

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 and amendment, 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 Dewees opened the public hearing. Seeing no one wishing to speak he closed the public hearing.

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –yes; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carries.

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded to introduce Ordinance 10-2017.

**10-2017** Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2-2017, Providing for and Establishing Salary Ranges of Officers and Employees of the City of Northfield, Atlantic County  
*Introduction / No Public Input / Publication in Press of AC July 1, 2017*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration July 25, 2017*

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

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –yes; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carries.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:** \$ 1,161,063.41

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded, for payment of bills.

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –absent; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –yes; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

Council President Dewees read the meeting notices.

Council President Dewees announced an Executive Session for Resolution 146-2017.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 27, 2017**

**146-2017**      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 Pending 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 explained that the Executive Session was in regards to pending litigation which required confidentiality and attorney client privilege, the pending litigation was initiated by Mr. Ward. Minutes would be kept and released when permitted by law; timeframe unknown.

Solicitor Facenda announced that John C. Grady, Esquire, JIF assigned council, would be attending the Executive Session.

*At 8:03pm Council moved to the Mayor's Office for the Executive Session.*

*At 9:01 the Executive Session of Council was adjourned, and the Regular Meeting resumed in Council Chambers.*

Solicitor Facenda announced the Executive Session had concluded and that items discussed were strictly confidential and subject to the attorney client privilege. Minutes were kept and would be available once approved; they would be released when required and permitted by law. No formal action was taken.

At 9:01pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk