

CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 11, 2026

At 6:01pm this meeting was called to order by Deputy Municipal Clerk, Shannon Campbell. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 10, 2026, and in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilwoman Carfagno; Councilman Dewees; Councilwoman Kern; Councilman Notaro; Councilman Polistina; Councilman Smith; Council President Bucci.

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Gina Nassar on behalf of Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Nassar, and Chief Pollak, were also present.

6PM PRESENTATION: – Honoring our Northfield Veterans

Council President Bucci announced Congressman Jeff Van Drew and Commissioner June Byrnes and deferred to Councilwoman Carfagno for the presentation.

Councilwoman Carfagno read the following prepared statement:

“Good evening, everyone. I would like to take a moment to recognize and honor some very special members of our Northfield community - our veterans.

This is an opportunity for us to pause and remember the men and women who answered the call to serve our country. Their service represents courage, sacrifice, commitment, and love of country.

And here in Northfield, we are fortunate to have many veterans who continue to be an important part of our community. They are our neighbors, our friends, our parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, and fellow community members. Honoring our veterans should be something we do throughout the year. That is why I am also proud that Northfield is moving forward with efforts that will create lasting reminders of the service and sacrifice of our veterans. One of those efforts is the Tunnels to Towers development coming to our town.

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation has become nationally recognized for its commitment to supporting America's military and first responder communities. Having this organization and its mission represented here in Northfield is something that we all should be proud of.

We also have our Hometown Hero Banner program, which provides a very visible way for our community to recognize and celebrate our veterans. As residents and

CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 11, 2026

visitors travel our bike path and see the faces and names of our veterans displayed, they will be reminded that the freedoms we enjoy were protected by our Northfield men and women who answered the call to serve. They will remind our children and future generations that freedom comes with a responsibility - and that we should never forget those who have protected it.

Tonight, I ask everyone in this room to take a moment to reflect on what our veterans have given to our country.

To every veteran:

Thank you for your courage. Thank you for your commitment.

Thank you for the sacrifices you and your families made.

And most importantly, thank you for your service to the United States of America. On behalf of the City of Northfield, our City Council, and our residents, please know that your service is appreciated, your sacrifices are remembered, and your contributions to our community will never be forgotten.”

Councilwoman Carfagno called forward Congressman Jeff Van Drew.

Congressman Van Drew thanked the Mayor and Council for the invitation to honor our Northfield Veterans. He was recently in Washington, DC, he referred to the heart and soul of America as places like Northfield – he was proud to be here and in the community; his office was in Northfield. He shared a story of Veteran “walking the walk”, he was glad to hear Northfield was involved with its veterans. He announced the new expanded veteran clinic in Linwood, it ensured more health care for South Jersey, previously local veterans had to travel to Philadelphia or Wilmington for care. He has met a lot of great men and women during his career. He recalled story of veteran who received a Gold Medal -the recipient said “I just did my job.” He applauded City Council for their advocacy, he wished all a happy and healthy summer.

Councilwoman Carfagno called forward all Veterans in attendance to take a picture with Congressman Van Drew and Commissioner Byrnes.

Commissioner Byrnes thanked all members in attendance for their service; she was the daughter of a World War II Marine; she appreciated their service.

At 6:16pm on motions properly made and seconded, Council took a brief recess.

At 6:18pm Council resumes the meeting.

Council President Bucci moved to Committee Reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 11, 2026

Councilman Polistina – Finance and Collections; Library; Municipal Alliance; Senior Citizens; Affordable Housing

Councilman Polistina thanked Councilwoman Carfagno for the presentation and thanked the veterans for all they had done. The next Senior meeting would be held on the 20th at 1pm, the scheduled topic was storm preparedness.

Councilman Dewees – Buildings/Grounds, Athletic Fields; Birch Grove Park, Bike Path, 1st Street Playground, Veterans Park; Public Works; Roads, Engineering; Stormwater Sewer Operations; Cultural Committee

Councilman Dewees reported the Cultural Committee had a 'Welcome to Northfield' sign stolen, it was reported to the Police Department, it had since been returned. They would be having an End of Summer free concert featuring Sun Gold August 27th at 6:30pm. The Fall Flea Market is scheduled for November 21st from 8am-2pm with set up on the 20th. The committee was still working on the bylaws. Regarding Public Works, they were implementing the Vyalitics program, the vector truck was out cleaning storm drains, they were clearing trees in the park and installing street signs. Superintendent Boyd was in the process of getting quotes for the fencing around the park. The Grand Opening and ribbon cutting for the disc golf course would be this Friday. Councilman Dewees thanked all involved with National Night Out.

Councilwoman Kern – Inspections, Housing/Zoning; Northfield Sports (FAN); Library; Mainland Regional

Councilwoman Kern echoed Councilman Dewees regarding National Night Out, she thanked the participants and organizers. The Library held its 100th birthday, it was a nice crowd on a hot afternoon, the Fire Department cooked hot dogs, the director gave a history of the library; the library was originally housed on Shore Road and then in city hall, the new building was built in the late 1980's. Regarding FAN, cheer and football practice were underway, she was still waiting on a schedule. The new hire for the housing official was on the agenda tonight. The first day for Mainland would be September 1st for students. Elected Officials were invited to the 177th Fighter Wing, she attended along with Mayor Chau and Councilwoman Carfagno, it was very interesting, she learned about how they serve and protect, they asked for a resolution of support to be put on the next agenda.

Councilwoman Bucci – Insurance and Safety; Planning Board; Economic Development / Chamber of Commerce

Council President Bucci reported the Tunnels To Towers Project was approved at the most recent Planning Board meeting.

CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 11, 2026

Councilman Smith - Central Municipal Court; Little League and Babe Ruth; Northfield Community School; Shared Services; Grants

Councilman Smith announced Northfield Community School would be back in session as of our next meeting. He has requested meeting with local municipalities regarding shared dispatch, he would be meeting with Linwood tomorrow – he was looking at sharing with other communities and possibly moving away from EHT. He thanked Chief Pollak for reaching out to the other towns.

Councilwoman Carfagno - Fire Department / EMS; Technology / MRHS Channel; Veteran Liaison

Councilwoman Carfagno read the Fire and EMS report for July. July's drill included familiarization with the Atlantic City Country Club. The fall hayrides were being worked on.

Councilman Notaro – Sanitary Sewer Operations

Councilman Notaro, regarding Vyalitics, Superintendent Boyd was very enthusiastic, the program tracks building and vehicle maintenance, it was an expandable program. Regarding Northfield Plaza, he met with Engineer Nassar, they considered information from residents, we would need to replace some curbing. He felt replacing the lights was the best option as it would be pricy to add new lights, ACE getting proposals together.

Council President Bucci asked were they replacing them with decorative lights?

Councilman Notaro noted they would be getting two proposals, one with us owning the lights and one with ACE, he felt some of the repair would be paid by insurance.

Councilman Polistina asked if he found out who owned them and were the lights on the city grid?

Councilman Notaro confirmed one pole was running two lights, we don't pay by usage, we pay by light pole.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Regulations regarding Keeping of Chickens – *Councilwoman Carfagno, Councilman Notaro*

No update.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 11, 2026**

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – ONGOING BUSINESS

- Changes to Road Opening Ordinance Fees – *will be adopted in 2026*

No update.

- Appoint new Municipal Housing Liaison

No update.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS

- E-bikes on bike path

Chief Pollak addressed Mayor and Council, he referred to an email he previously sent with the new State law classifying e-bikes as a motor vehicle. Our current ordinance does not allow motor vehicles on the bike path - anyone under 15 is not allowed on an e-bike. A test is required for 15–16-year-olds, like a moped license. He explained the new law. Chief Pollak stated that he had spoken with the Chiefs of Linwood and Somers Point, their Councils may pass an ordinance to discontinue the use of e-bikes on the bike path, he suggested all three towns do the same thing. His suggestion was to not allow them on the bike path, the path was not very wide and e-bikes were very fast, he felt it was bigger risk to allow them.

Council President Bucci asked did he suggest that all e-bikes not be allowed?

Chief Pollak stated that a low-speed electric bike with pedal assist was no longer classified as class 1.

Councilwoman Kern asked for clarification.

Chief Pollak explained how the state is now classifying them. The new statute recognized Low-Speed Electric Bicycles (under 20mpsh) and Motorized Bicycles (in excess of 20mph and up to 28mph). He referred to the motorized bike to being similar to a moped.

Council President Bucci confirmed that Chief Pollak recommend no e-bikes on the bike path.

Chief Pollak replied, yes adding that all types were now required to be registered.

Councilwoman Carfagno asked about scooters.

Chief Pollak confirmed there is currently no guidance.

CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 11, 2026

Councilwoman Kern asked had the Police issued any warnings or had tickets been issued?

Chief Pollak stated kids take off, we can't stop them.

Council President Bucci reminded all that the State changed the law after we adopted the ordinance with the speed limit.

Discussion ensued regarding scooters and speed limits, most felt kids would move to scooters instead of e-bikes.

Councilwoman Kern regarding the bikes being classified as a motorized vehicle, adults use pedal assist as well, they were bikes.

Chief Pollak reiterated, per the State, they were a vehicle.

Councilwoman Kern did not want to push freshman and sophomores into the street.

Chief Pollak referred to the school policies, Mainland had rules, which were emailed to Council, and NCS will not be allowing e-bikes.

Councilman Polistina stated it was unfortunate that all kids had to be restricted from the bike path.

Councilwoman Kern suggested a probationary period.

Mayor Chau announced that enforcement was a burden on all police departments, he felt this would be an issue in September - on the bike path or New Road, he felt Council needed to take a position and give the Police Department direction. All towns would be facing this dilemma. We can't chase violators.

Councilwoman Kern asked how do you stop them?

Councilman Dewees asked if they were registered can be tracked?

Chief Pollak replied, we've had officers try to identify them.

Mayor Chau noted he would be meeting with the Chief on addressing the concerns and comments addressed by Council. He would bring back a report.

Councilman Polistina added that riders were not forced to New or Shore Road, Wabash and Fuae run the length of the bike path.

Councilwoman Carfagno felt it would be a ripple effect if kids start getting in trouble.

CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 11, 2026

Chief Pollak advised he had been working with the schools and other chiefs, they do have an initiative and a program – he also did not want to see 7–8-year-olds in the street - the State said 15-year-olds were competent to ride in the street, they were subject to speed limit and stop signs.

Council President Bucci asked to take a straw poll to see if Council wanted to ban them or not.

Councilman Smith felt scooters needed to be classified, they were still motorized.

Solicitor Nassar announced this was a very common issue in the County, because the State identifies them as a motor vehicle, Council should stick to the States definition to ensure that there is not constitutional back lash, the Police Department should follow the States guidelines.

Council President Bucci called for a straw poll to ban e-bikes on the bike path.

All members present with the exception of Councilwoman Kern were in favor.

- No Knock Registry – Council President Bucci

Council President Bucci moved this topic to the next Council meeting.

Council President Bucci asked if there was any other new business.

Councilman Notaro state he had requests for benches on the bike path, he deferred to Councilman Dewees.

Councilman Dewees announced we would need to install concrete pads; we currently did not have a project with concrete.

Councilwoman Carfagno suggested planting more trees for tree plaques.

Councilman Dewees noted the hardship of keeping trees watered.

Mayor Chau expressed his concern with people using the benches as memorials, he wanted the City to take initiative to remove adornments.

Councilman Notaro, thanked the Chief for National Night Out, during the evening he saw several people with dogs, he wanted Council's opinion on dogs at the park.

Councilman Dewees was concerned with the liability issue; we've have had issues on the bike path as well.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 11, 2026**

Mayor Chau added that he received complaints about dogs defecating on the bike path, if dogs were allowed at the park he felt it would create another pandora's box.

Council President Bucci moved to the regular meeting agenda.

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Council President Bucci asked all to take out their Regular Meeting agenda.

Before Council President Bucci made the assignments, she announced to addition of Resolution 196-2026 to rehire Nadine Erwin to help in the tax office during tax season, she asked were there any resolutions that anyone had questions about or would like to discuss?

There were no questions or comments.

Council President Bucci made the assignments.

PUBLIC SESSION / FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Bucci opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to comment on any subject, she asked that all persons state their name and city of residence for the record and observe the five-minute limit per speaker.

Joan Brennan, Northfield – suggested 2 free city-wide yard sales per year organized by the Cultural Committee. They did one in the Spring and would like to do another one this Fall. She was seeking guidance from Council so residents would not have to pay the \$5.00 fee.

Members present discussed the ordinance and waiving the fee for those entered in the “Cultural Committee” sale.

Mile Milinovic, Northfield – introduced himself, he was an employee in the Public Works Department. He would be eligible for retirement in a few months, he thanked Council for the new contract. He thanked Council for the raise he received but felt he was shortchanged due to the ‘step’ process. He asked Council to consider bumping him up two steps. He reviewed pay rates and steps in the contract.

Mayor Chau asked Mr. Milinovic if he had spoken with his union representative? He did not feel this was the appropriate place to discuss contract negotiations.

Councilman Polistina advised the contract had not been finalized, as a member of the union, Council could not negotiate with him.

Mr. Milinovic suggested Council give flat numbers not percentages. He also

CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 11, 2026

suggested teaching children about speed limits, education was key, he thanked the Veterans as well.

Neil Flynn, Northfield –announced that Juniper Drive was paved last year, new sidewalks and aprons were installed. He lived on Forest Drive and stated his street was in very bad shape, he wanted to know what procedure was done to choose Juniper over Forest? He would like his street looked at.

Councilman Dewees replied that typically curb and gutter were replaced when there were drainage issues.

Mr. Flynn advised the drainage issues were taken care of 10 years ago and there hadn't been an issue since.

Councilman Dewees added, due to funding issues the City doesn't typically pay for that.

Mr. Flynn, stated, as a resident at Juniper and Forrest he only had one issue in 25 years, grass is growing in the gutter/street area, he passed out pictures showing deterioration in the street.

Councilman Dewees offered to take a look at our paving program.

Engineer Nassar offered to take a look as well, noting we could add it to the road program; we won't replace sidewalk but would preserve the paving.

Mr. Flynn thanked Council for their time.

Jennifer Hale, Northfield – was here on behalf of FAN (Family Association of Northfield), regarding a request for using City Hall for their physical address of record. Their current address is a PO Box. Charitable programs won't allow them to use a PO Box, they are currently using a board member address. The registration goes to a board member who is no longer active. They need a physical address, the alternative was using the school, the field or the library; they were all entities of the City. She was looking for a way around it. FAN wanted to register with Legalized Games of Chance Control and the only thing that leads them to the City is they are the only entity that is appointed a City Liaison.

Councilman Polistina replied that Northfield Little League also uses a board members home address, Northfield All Sports did as well.

Solicitor Nassar asked had they looked for a registered agent? A registered agent would accept mail on behalf the organization.

Councilman Polistina asked who did their tax returns? They may already be listed as

CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 11, 2026

the registered agent.

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

At 7:29pm, on motions properly made and seconded, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Campbell, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk