

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 25, 2018**

At 6:02pm 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 13, 2018, in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

ROLL CALL

Present: Korngut, Lischin, Murray, Perri, Travagline
Absent: Dewees, O'Neill

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

Mayor Chau welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mayor Chau thanked the Cultural Committee for providing the history of Northfield; he loved history. He wanted to bring to light a new project done by the committee, a book on the burials in Northfield. A co-worker of his was impressed with the detail of the book; on behalf of City Council he thanked Joyce Pullan and her committee for all of their hard work.

Mrs. Pullan replied that most of the work was done by Eleanor Webb and Roy Clark.

Mayor Chau thanked her for her modesty and announced that he heard it was her birthday. Mayor Chau read the following biography and presented her with a Proclamation naming September 26, 2018 "Joyce Pullan Day" in the City of Northfield:

Joyce Hampton Pullan, is the daughter of Lawrence and Jewel Hampton, and wife of the late James H. Pullan. Mrs. Pullan, has lived her entire life in this City. The Mother of seven children, Mrs. Pullan and her husband also adopted three daughters, all sisters from Cuba - and she has been blessed to have them as part of her family since 1961.

Her love of, and pride of Northfield is evident at the Park, Museum, Bandstand, and in monuments that preceded her, such as Northfield Plaza. There, her father and grandfather used horses to clear stumps and pave the way to make the very first roads in the plaza, crowning it with one of this City's grand homes, that still sits at the entrance to the plaza, 1707 Shore Road.

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As many of you know, her work began 46 years ago she was asked by the, Mayor Otto Bruyns, to begin planning for our City's Bicentennial Celebration, including the Bicentennial Parade, and celebration at Birch Grove Park.

Along with the strong support of committee member Carol Patrick, and the help of many other committee members, such the late Bob Saunders, and community members, like the late Jack English, Mrs. Pullan, successfully harnessed many resources and garnered much cooperation from various entities to accomplish her dream of building a Community Bandstand and the Northfield Museum. She wrote many a grant and organized many a garage sale.

And that love of Northfield continues today. Every year since 1976, with help from her daughter Joan Brennan, she has organized the July 4th parade. Mrs. Pullan continues to plan the free concert series held at the Bandstand each summer, and remains active in the Northfield Cultural Committee, Historical Society, and Birch Grove Park Advisory Board.

This year, Mrs. Pullan, along with volunteer Eleanor Webb and museum curator Roy Clark, completed the book: Who is Buried in Northfield, NJ (Now Recognized as the Atlantic County Burial Ground, located on Dolphin Avenue). They discovered, and recorded as much information as possible including the names, place of birth, parents, occupations and dates of death for over 500 individuals who resided at the Alms or Poor House, Pine Rest Sanitarium, and the County Asylum and were buried in unmarked graves at the Dolphin Avenue site. This book is available for sale for \$10 and proceeds benefit the Northfield Museum.

Mrs. Pullan was a tireless advocate for the City of Northfield, along with all of its memories and history, and a fierce defender of our great natural resource, Birch Grove Park. For her birthday she'd likely ask you to do 3 things (any ONE would be wonderful!): Visit the Northfield Museum, Protect the Park and keep Northfield green - Plant a Tree!

Mrs. Pullan thanked Eleanor Webb for doing most of the work on the book, her son John, and Cindy Ruffo from the Tax Office who helped her in the early stages; Cindy had pages and pages of the names of the persons buried there, she thanked Sid Parker and the Atlantic County Historical Society for helping her with a grant; she passed the book around for everyone to look at.

Mayor Chau, again, thanked her for her work and announced he looked forward to her next project.

Councilman Perri reiterated Mayor Chau's sentiments; Joyce and her crew were aces during his mayoral term, he thanked her for her services to the community, her legacy will continue, he wished there were 20 more people like her.

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At 6:15pm Council President Pro Temp Murray called for a 15-minute recess.

At 6:28pm Council President Pro Temp Murray called the meeting back to order.

WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – OLD BUSINESS

Councilman Murray deferred to Solicitor Facenda for an update on the potential land sale.

- Potential Land Sale – Update

Solicitor Facenda advised that he and Council President Dewees met and revised the letter to adjacent land owners, the list is finalized and the remainder will be auctioned off.

- Sign Ordinance Changes

Councilman Murray deferred to Councilman Lischin to speak regarding the sign ordinance.

Councilman Lischin reported that the committee reviewed the ordinance and met last Friday. Suggested changes were sent out, they were waiting for opinions from local businesses with electronic signs to see what changes they would like; he hoped to have responses from businesses in the next few weeks.

Councilman Murray asked if there were any questions from Council, there were none.

Councilman Murray moved to the next topic; Chestnut Avenue parking.

- Chestnut Avenue Parking, between Maple Avenue and New Road

Solicitor Facenda advised that there was a meeting this morning between Council President Dewees, Municipal Clerk Canesi and Vince Mazzeo. It was Solicitor Facenda's understanding that the meeting was well received, the trucks in the complaint were not B.F. Mazzeo trucks loading and unloading. Mr. Mazzeo had advised vendors not to load and unload on Chestnut Avenue; Mr. Mazzeo could not police the vendors. Solicitor Facenda asked Council for their opinion as to possibly designating no parking or no loading/unloading on Chestnut Avenue. Mr. Mazzeo would like to have their customers able to park there, he was ok with no loading/unloading. Solicitor Facenda suggested that Council could also go back to the Police Department for a new recommendation; no parking at all was previously recommended by the Police Department.

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Councilman Lischin was in favor the hybrid idea, the complaints from residents were due to the trucks - not cars. He would like to ask the Police Department if they would recommend parking for cars but not trucks.

Solicitor Facenda suggested that if cars became problematic Council could go to next step.

Councilman Perri was in favor of keeping as much parking as possible for the business; there should be parking for customers.

Councilman Travagline agreed with Councilman Perri, his main concern was about emergency vehicles. Residents in the neighborhood should expect some parking; he would like a 10-ton limit, he was against 18 wheelers, not trucks.

Councilwoman Korngut asked if we had any confirmation that emergency vehicles couldn't get through. Her business was formerly next to B.F. Mazzeo's and she frequently drove up Chestnut Avenue and did not recall any trucks impeding her way. She felt if emergency vehicles couldn't get down the street then a restriction should be placed, if it was not an issue then she did not see a need for restrictions.

Mayor Chau added that he had only seen 18 wheelers parked on Chestnut Avenue when no other cars were in the area, if customers were parked there he did not feel an emergency vehicle could pass. There are complaints about other businesses, Council needed to be aware of them as well.

Councilman Perri informed Council that he had passed on another complaint from Mr. Wolfe to Chief Newman today.

Solicitor Facenda asked if Mr. Wolfe reported the complaint to dispatch.

Councilman Perri replied that the Chief had Police checking the speed and traffic in the area. Mr. Wolfe requested a meeting with Chief Newman.

Councilwoman Korngut felt it was more of an enforcement issue, double parking was illegal; this was not an issue for Council. She added that the Chief couldn't control something he didn't know about.

Councilman Murray noted that he was against 18 wheelers parked to the edge of Route 9; we needed to help the business and protect the resident.

Solicitor Facenda suggested reaching out to the Fire Department and EMS to see if the trucks could pass.

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Deputy Clerk Campbell asked who would be reaching out to the Fire Department and EMS.

Councilman Lischin advised that he would reach out to the Fire Department.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS

Councilwoman Korngut asked if anyone gave thought to doing a mailer about the rats and asked if there was any reason we shouldn't do it.

Councilman Perri suggested putting something in the tax bill, he did not want to pay for an additional mailing.

Mayor Chau advised that he had a meeting set up with the County. He passed out a pamphlet to Council provided by the Clerk's Office and the County, it could be put in the tax bill to make people aware. He added that it came back to enforcement, as the Clerk alluded at the last meeting part of the problem was a source of food. He suggested an Ordinance for no bird feeders or gardens.

Councilwoman Korngut felt that if 50 percent of the residents read the pamphlet it would be a help.

Councilman Murray was in favor of sending pamphlet in the tax bill.

Councilman Lischin wanted to wait for Mayor Chau to meet with the County to see if they could do something more broadly than we could, we didn't have the staff and resources that they had.

Mayor Chau added that he was not in favor of the City putting out bait or poison; he did not feel the City should be liable for that.

Councilman Perri personally knew some residents that removed their bird feeders last year and they are not having the problem this year, he suggested that bird feeders were 50 percent of the problem.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Pro Temp Murray reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

Councilman Perri advised he would be abstaining from the bill list.

Councilman Murray made the assignments.

PUBLIC SESSION

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Council President Pro Temp Murray opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to speak on any topic.

Barbara Madden, 403 Park Lane – commented on the Chestnut Avenue situation, she had never seen trucks unload on the street, had never had a problem getting onto Route 9, in regard to Davis Avenue she also had not seen any issues. Ms. Madden felt we needed to show good will to our businesses

Seeing no one else wishing to speak Council President Pro Temp Murray closed the public session.

At 6:48pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Campbell, Deputy Municipal Clerk