

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 26, 2017**

At 7:16pm, 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, Travagline, Dewees

Absent: Piergiovanni

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

MINUTES

On a motion of Councilman Perri, second by Councilman O'Neill, all were in favor of approval of the minutes from September 12th without formal reading.

MAYOR CHAU'S FALL RECYCLING CART CONTEST

Mayor Chau reiterated the details of the recycling cart contest; asked Sue Marino, in the audience, to draw the name of the first winner.

Sue Marino announced the winner as Blair Rosenfeld.

Mayor Chau read Mr. Rosenfeld's statement as to why he thought recycling was important, his reply was "In years to come the earth will be full of trash and nowhere left to put it".

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Councilman Perri advised Council that he spoke with Linwood regarding an updated sewer interlocal proposal and had not heard back. There was no communication from the Planning Board about this months' meeting. Representatives from the County will be attending the next seniors meeting to discuss Medicare and Medicaid and they will have their annual hayride on the 26th all by rsvp to Councilman Perri.

Councilman O'Neill - Court/Violations, Library

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Councilman O'Neill reported that he had a meeting with the head librarian; they were having some space issues and would be doing some reconfiguration internally to try to accommodate the need. The librarian had also been nominated for a prestigious position and was at a conference related to that. O'Neill also extended the librarian's appreciation to the Council for the work on the parking lot.

Councilman Perri asked about the shared court agreement.

Councilman Lischin believed the City Clerk sent a letter to Linwood but we had not heard back.

Clerk Canesi clarified that she sent a letter to the Northfield Shared Service Committee, not to Linwood.

Councilman Lischin replied that he misunderstood and that he would follow up.

Councilman Perri noted the need to determine increases for the next two years.

Councilman O'Neill encouraged Councilman Lischin to meet with the court administrator for her feedback.

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

Councilman Piergiovanni was absent.

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 had no report.

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

Councilman Lischin announced that the Fire Department had the City's very first coin drop, it was very successful and they raised approximately \$4,000.00.

He read the following reports into the record:

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The Building Department issued a total of 44 permits. Inspections included: 30 building, 36 electric, 8 fire, 15 plumbing, 1 CO/CCO, 21 resales, and 14 Rentals.

Fire Department calls for August included: 1 building fire, 1 cooking fire, 1 brush/grass fire, 1 search for a missing person, 4 hazardous condition calls, 6 false alarm calls, 0 EMS assist incidents.

TriCare had a total of 135 dispatches, 141 calls with patients, 94 transports, 19 mutual aid calls to EHT and did not administer any Narcan.

He reported that the Cultural Committee concert series was very successful, they will have a meeting soon to discuss this year's events and plan next year's. He announced that the Blake's Gym court date was tomorrow.

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

Council President Dewees did not have a report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau commended the City Council for its continued pursuit of shared service opportunities; it was more efficient, reduced cost and preserved services for both entities. He expressed his disappointment that the sewer interlocal with Linwood would be discontinued at the end of this year; Chau said he felt we provide them with excellent service. He wished Linwood well. We must look at employee legacy costs, pension contributions, building usage, etc. The City had damage to the building on court days and Northfield bore the sole cost for repairs.

Councilman Perri asked if Linwood responded to the letter we sent regarding the sewer interlocal.

Mayor Chau replied no, we had heard nothing at all.

Mayor Chau announced the podium that he purchased at his own expense because someone who spoke in public shared with him that they felt intimidated.

Councilman Perri reported that by attending the JIF elected officials seminars, we saved the residents \$2000.00 on our insurance bill.

Mayor Chau announced and read the "Knock Out Opioid Abuse" day proclamation; designed to draw attention to the nationwide opioid epidemic by proclaiming October 6th permanently as Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day.

Mayor Chau also expressed his gratitude to our police for what they do.

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Councilman O'Neill thanked Mayor Chau stating that once the opioids run out it leads to heroin. He knew of 11 people in recent years that had died in this manner. He also thanked Chief Newman and the Police Department for their efforts.

Councilman Perri hoped that municipalities, state, and federal officials and agencies can come to some level of agreement to provide help; whatever effort can be put out is much appreciated.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed updates to the Engineer's report as provided to Council. He advised he was waiting for maintenance bonds on Rosedale pump to do final close-out on that project. The berm at Bay Drive had been repaired. He was waiting to hear regarding the Atlantic County Improvement Authority application for the parking lot. South Jersey Gas should start paving in October; he will keep Council informed and they have been informed that they must keep the Police Department informed. Max Gurwicz and Son, Inc., had posted the performance guarantee, but not the required cash for guarantees for the pump station. The project is ready to go out to bid, but we are waiting on MGS. The Cresson Avenue plans were being finalized, Engineer Nassar hoped to have the paving done in the spring so it does not have to endure a harsh winter; conditions would be better. He was in the process of making applications for bikeway and paving to the NJDOT municipal aid grant program, as per discussions during the work session.

PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

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

Eileen Toland, 4304 Dolphin Avenue - thanked all for working so hard for us, Northfield was a very safe place to live. She asked Mayor Chau if there will be any event on October 6th in observance of the Knock Out Opioid Abuse proclamation.

Mayor Chau replied there was no event, other than the proclamation.

Mrs. Toland informed Council that the staff at the freeholder building would train you how to use narcan; you can carry it with you at all times. She announced that she was the new chair of the democratic committee, invited all to attend meetings that are at Susan Korngut's office the first Wednesday of each month. She was also trying to get all candidates together for a meeting with local seniors; she asked all for suggestions.

Mayor Chau suggested the Northfield Community School.

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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.

On a motion of Councilman Murray, second of Councilman Lischin, all were in favor of voting on Resolutions 188-2017 to 193-2017, by Consent Agenda.

- 188-2017** Refund of Construction Permit Fees to Sunrun, Inc.
- 189-2017** Authorization to Create Municipal Liens for Property Maintenance Costs
- 190-2017** Authorizing Refunds of Overpayment of Taxes
- 191-2017** Inserting an item of Revenue in the 2017 Budget
- 192-2017** Acknowledging Retirement of Birch Grove Park Supervisor Vicky Rutter
- 193-2017** Authorizing the Request for Bus Shelters, Execution of Agreement with NJ Transit and Acceptance of Easements from Private Property Owners

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded for the adoption of the consent agenda consisting of Resolutions 188-2017 to 193-2017.

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

ORDINANCES

Councilman Travagline motioned, Councilman Perri seconded to adopt Ordinance 11-2017.

- 11-2017** Reserved Parking Spaces at the Northfield Municipal Building
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 9/26/2017

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

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

Council President Dewees opened the public session, seeing no one wishing to speak he closed the public session.

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

Councilman Lischin motioned, Councilman Murray seconded to adopt Ordinance 12-2017.

12-2017 Amending Chapter 43 and Chapter A376 of the Code of the City of Northfield
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 9/26/2017

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 session, seeing no one wishing to speak he closed the public session.

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

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilman Travagline seconded to introduce Ordinance 13-2017.

13-2017 An Ordinance Appropriating \$25,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the Purchase and Installation of Body Cameras and Related Equipment for the City of Northfield Police Department, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey
*Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 9/30/2017
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 10/17/2017*

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.

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

Councilman O’Neill motioned, Councilman Travagline seconded to introduce Ordinance 14-2017.

14-2017 Amending Fees Under Chapter 128 of the Code of the City of Northfield, Entitled Construction Codes, Uniform
*Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 9/30/2017
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 10/17/2017*

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 –absent; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

Councilman Travagline motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded to introduce Ordinance 15-2017.

15-2017 An Ordinance of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Implementing the City’s Affordable Housing Development Fee Ordinance
*Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 9/30/2017
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 10/17/2017*

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 –absent; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded to adopt Resolution 194-2017.

194-2017 Appointment of Superintendent of Public Works

Mayor Chau assumed there were additional responsibilities associated with the position.

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Council President Dewees replied yes, they are in the job description.

Mayor Chau asked if there was a salary increase.

Council President Dewees replied yes.

Mayor Chau asked if we needed to amend the salary ordinance.

Council President Dewees replied we did not.

Councilman Lischin commented that over the last few months Birch Grove has struggled, he believed that this person would be successful in bringing Birch Grove back to where it should be.

Councilman Perri asked if this encompassed the Sewer Department as well.

Council President Dewees stated yes, Public Works, Sewer and Birch Grove Park.

Councilman Perri had advocated for this type of a position for a number of years, felt this would be beneficial.

Councilman Travagline agreed with Councilman Perri, he hoped that by getting rid of one layer of management, that we would not be creating two. He hoped the plan that had been presented takes shape and is very successful.

Clerk Canesi announced for the record that Mr. Vitale was issued and signed a Rice notice.

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS: \$ 2,320,372.76

Councilman Travagline motioned, Councilman O’Neill seconded, for payment of bills.

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

Council President Dewees read the meeting notices.

At 7:56pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk