

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2012**

At 6:00pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on May 12, 2012, in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

ROLL CALL

Present: Brown, Dewees, O'Neill, Perri, Polistina, Vain, Carew

Mayor Vince Mazzeo, City Solicitor Keith Bonchi and City Engineer Matt Doran were also in attendance.

The flag salute was led by Mayor Vincent Mazzeo. Following the flag salute, a moment of silence was observed.

WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

- Reorganization meeting date, January 2, 2013 at 7:00pm

Council President Carew announced the statutory timeframe for the Reorganization meeting, and the proposed date of January 2nd at 7:00pm. There were no objections noted.

- Proposed increase in inspection fees

Council President Carew explained the proposed increase in inspection fees; the increase will be competitive with other towns. Councilwoman Brown said she preferred the matter be discussed in 2013 when Councilman-elect Travagline is on board. Councilman Vain responded, and explained that at this point the matter is for discussion only. It will be introduced as an ordinance in 2013. Councilman Perri asked if permit fees were being waived due to storm damage. Solicitor Bonchi noted that to do so would require an ordinance. Technical Assistant to the Construction Official, Jim Dickinson, was present in the audience and offered that few permits have been issued for storm damage; he added that regarding permit fees, they have not been reviewed in four years while the state requires a review every two. Dickinson stated that the new fees are in line with the state's fees and with local communities; they are what pays for the operation of the Inspections Department.

- School Superintendent salary cap legislation

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2012**

Mayor Mazzeo referred to the proposed superintendent salary cap legislation and said he was approached by John Medica regarding Northfield's potential support of legislation that will consider shared service superintendents and the salary cap legislation. Mazzeo said the school feels that a replacement for Baruffi would not do the job for what he is currently making. He explained the salary breakdown of the towns and said we pay approximately 27% of the salary. He advised Medica that he would bring the matter before Council.

Council President Carew spoke, and noted the savings to Northfield of sharing a superintendent. Councilman Perri asked if the legislation or agreement does not have a provision for shared services; it should take this into account. Discussion ensued amongst all members of Council. Councilwoman Brown stated she is not in favor of a waiver. Councilman Vain suggested a regional school district with all three towns.

- Change in ACUA recycling schedule for 2013

Councilman Dewees noted a proposed change in the ACUA recycling schedule. It will reduce the number of trucks in town, and there are no additional costs. The ACUA will do all advertisements. Dewees said the change has proven successful in other towns. He said one concern is having a trash truck and recycling trucks on the same street, and we will start at opposite ends to minimize this.

Councilman Vain motioned to accept the change in the recycling schedule to every other week, on the resident's regular trash collection day. Councilman Dewees seconded. All were in favor; none were opposed.

Councilman Perri asked about yard waste collection in January and February. Mayor Mazzeo stated that if we collect in January, February and March, we have to be cautious of the use of our equipment for trees. Councilman O'Neill suggested that the shore towns may want our trees; this may save us money. Perri noted that his recollection was that the contract was for nine months. The Municipal Clerk stated that the City's contract with the ACUA will expire February 28, 2013, adding that she can't speak to whether or not there was an understanding that we would still collect in January, February and March as we did in 2012.

Councilman Polistina said he was contacted by someone from the audit team about paperwork for the Little League audit; Little League is ready to turn the paperwork over and wanted to ensure the fee has been appropriated.

Council President Carew said he has been approached again about 2nd Street and

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2012**

Davis Avenue, and parking concerns. Residents are looking for residential parking only on Davis from Route 9 to 2nd Street, on both sides. Carew said it is a balancing act between commercial and residential zones, but the area has lost its neighborhood feel. He acknowledged that this action may cause similar requests to come up in other areas. Councilman Polistina added that he was approached by a resident of Chestnut Street near Route 9, with similar concerns. Councilman Perri agreed with Carew's statement that this occurs in other areas and they will come if we do this.

Councilman Dewees mentioned the vehicle parked at the ball fields. Councilman Perri stated that we have legislation that prohibits overnight parking on City property, and said that signage would help.

Mayor Mazzeo said the two-year Library Agreement will expire at the end of December. Councilman O'Neill suggested increasing the fees in the agreement to cover the actual costs of insurance. Councilman Polistina stated that any overage will come back to the City as a result of Moriarty Bill. Mazzeo said he would prefer to leave the Agreement "as is" and requests resolution to authorize its execution for the ensuing two years. Council President Carew assigned number 183-2012.

Council President O'Neill introduced John Capasso from MRHS. Capasso thanked Council and explained that the school to work is designed to acclimate students to a work environment, teach them soft skills, and allow them to get used to being on a schedule. This is an unpaid internship. He said he has conferred with the Municipal Clerk and the program will involve 1-2 students, 6-10 hours a week. The students will get class credit for participation. He offered to answer any questions from Council. Council President Carew commented that the program would be a work in progress, and we'd adapt on the fly. Capasso continued, and said the City would have primary contact person and students would have on site job coach with them at all times. He is trying to build other partnerships and students will have school staff with them that are very hands on. Carew stated that O'Neill would be asked to be very hands-on as the program liaison.

Council President Carew reviewed the agenda for the regular meeting. Councilwoman Brown requested that Resolution 176-2012 be voted separately from the consent agenda. Carew noted that 182-2012 was an executive session to be held at the end of regular meeting, and action may or may not be taken when Council goes back in to public session.

Council President Carew opened the meeting to any member of the public wishing to speak on any subject.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2012**

Bob Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, asked that Bill Vain and Steve Vain be kept on the Veterans' Park Committee; they've done a great job and they should stay on the Committee. He also asked that the flag be lit. He said he opposes changing recycling days and suggested that the ACUA train our staff on can-handling. He said the yard sale permit ordinance is not enforced, nor is ordinance that cars have to be parked facing the right way.

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

At 6:47pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk