

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
DECEMBER 15, 2015**

At 6:03pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on February 14, 2015 in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

ROLL CALL

Present: Dewees, Lischin, Murray, O'Neill, Perri, Piergiovanni, Travagline

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Kris Facenda and Engineer Dan Kwapinski were also in attendance.

• **Eco Gen Electric (Requested by Councilman Lischin)**

Council President Travagline asked Councilman Lischin to introduce representatives from Eco-Gen.

Councilman Lischin stated that he had a meeting with the company representatives last week. This is not a solar project; that was explored previously and was not deemed viable. As per CFO Dawn Stollenwerk there may be issues with the street lights and we may not be able to include them. He introduced Eco Gen representatives.

Michael Buonasorte introduced himself and Chuck Rubenstein. Mr. Buonasorte noted that the information they are reviewing is proprietary and asks that it not be shared outside of the council. This is a solar hybrid generation system. Two units would be located on City property. There will still be a small electric bill. Eco Gen proposed net aggregate metering; allowing energy to be produced at one site and paying for the electricity used at other sites. Twelve to sixteen solar panels would be necessary to power the units. The cost of the system is \$7,500 per month; Northfield pays more than that now. Eco Gen would guarantee an 8.8 cent per kWh rate, for the first ten years, and then in years 11-20, it drops to 1.5 cents. Eco Gen would need to get the HESS bills to see total actual savings.

Municipal Clerk Canesi asked about the maintenance contract for "other" parts.

Mr. Buonasorte commented that that has been included in the \$7,500.00.

Mayor Chau asks about noise that the system would put out.

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According to Mr. Buonasorte this would be quieter than a residential air conditioner.

Clerk Canesi asked about cloudy days.

Mr. Buonasorte stated that the batteries never go below 100%.

Clerk Canesi asked why solar panels are needed.

Mr. Buonasorte replied they really aren't needed. This is revolutionary power; Northfield has the opportunity to get in early.

Council President Travagline felt this was too good to be true, but worth exploring further.

- **Reorganization meeting date – annual schedule of meetings**

Council President Travagline reviewed the 2016 meeting schedule.

All Council members opted to go with two meetings in November, the 15th and the 29th.

- **Fire Department Grant – SCBA Equipment**

Councilman O'Neill asked if there was a match on the Fire Department grant.

Councilman Perri noted that there is an in kind match of \$10,000.00. The Assistant Chief has indicated that he may not be able to get the application completed by the deadline of January 5th. According to state mandates the equipment has reached its useful life.

Council President Travagline felt that the time remaining is more than ample time to complete the application.

Councilman Lischin asked why the department needed to replace all 20 units at the same time and questioned the useful life. If the grant is not secured will the City need to replace the equipment.

According to Councilman Perri, yes, the equipment needs to be replaced.

Mayor Chau stated that depending on the size of the fire 20 firefighters may be there at the same time.

Council President Travagline requested that Councilman Perri issue the directive to the Chief and Assistant Chief that the application be completed.

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Council President Travagline noted the intersection of Oakcrest and Warren Avenues, where there is a need for a stop sign on Oakcrest. Residents in the area indicated that cars are going 35-40 mph. He also noted the need for stop signs on Fairbanks, Mt. Vernon, and other streets in that area. The cars are approaching 35-40mph by the time they get to Shore Road.

Mayor Chau asked for a list and he would submit to the Police Department for evaluation of the requests.

Councilman Dewees questioned the role of the business administrator; most of this is already done by the Municipal Clerk, is the intent to give the Clerk more authority during the day to day operations, and does that take away from the responsibilities of the Council people as department heads.

Council President Travagline stated that Council people would still have full authority over their departments; Clerk Canesi already does most of the duties listed.

Councilman Perri felt the ordinance should be applied to the position.

Councilman Dewees stated he was in favor of it; he wanted to be clear on Council's role.

Mayor Chau addressed Mr. Sundra, who was in the audience; he explained the results of his conversation with County representatives regarding the recent noise near his home.

AGENDA

Council President Travagline reviewed the regular agenda.

Mayor Chau noted the issue of shared County dispatch has become a hot issue, and the County has asked for a decision as to whether Northfield is in or out of the program.

Councilman Perri asked if the issue of raising and lowering the flag has been resolved; if not he, Councilman Perri, offered to perform that task for City Hall.

Mayor Chau spoke to the Fire Department personnel and believed it had been resolved.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Travagline opened the public session.

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Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak Council President Travagline closed the public session.

At 6:52pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk