

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 7, 2026**

At 6:54pm 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 75, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

Council President Pro Tempore Dewees led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Councilman Notaro; Mayor Chau

Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Nassar, and Chief Pollak were also present.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Councilwoman Kern with a second by Councilman Polistina, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of March 24, 2026, without formal reading.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau was absent. Council President Bucci read the following on his behalf: "On April 26th, I attended a meeting with Councilmen Dewees, Polistina, Mary Canesi, and Dawn S., with the ACUA, where we discussed our renewal contract with them. We reviewed the 2025 collected tonnage for both waste and recycling materials. We discussed the possible plan to (a) future purchase of both waste and recycling bins for our residents, (b) discontinue the pickup of recycling materials from businesses, and (c) collect yard waste on Saturdays only. These last two items would address the rising costs of recycling pickup for businesses and the need for efficient yard-waste scheduling. Note: several communities have either discontinue and/or are reviewing their options for stopping business recycling pickup.

On March 23rd, Council President Bucci and I met with Chief Pollack to discuss (a) setting an interview date for the prospective hiring of a Patrolman. The committee (Chief Pollack, CP Bucci, Councilwoman Kern, and I) will meet on April 3rd. The interview date was set to meet the April deadline for enrolling the individual in the police academy. We also discussed the consideration of adding a 2026 Capital purchase of a Drone and a replacement program for our aging radar units. Chief Pollack will discuss this with our CFO. Originally, I thought Chief VonColln had placed these items in this year's Capital for consideration.

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On behalf of my police committee, I am recommending the hiring of Frank Gabriel. Tonight's agenda includes a Resolution for his employment.

On March 27th, Council President Bucci and I met with a representative from HESP solar company. This company has been contracted by the Atlantic County government to install both a solar-collecting carport and a solar roof at the county building on Shore Road. The contract will not cost taxpayers any money for the purchase and installation of these units, as it is through a solar agreement. I contacted this company to see if a similar agreement (via bid) could be a viable project. I will contact the county to discuss how they set up the RFP.”

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed the engineer’s report as previously distributed. Regarding Habitat, he met with the developer, they were finalizing the size of the units, we should have in about 4 weeks. Regarding access to the basins, they were in agreement with his recommendation and they have agreed to pave full width in front of the properties. Regarding CDBG, Engineer Nassar met with Councilman Dewees and Superintendent Boyd to discuss, they have suggested moving forward with upgrades to the First Street Playground parking and walkway – the grant does not allow for funding for playground equipment. He would be starting on the plans for the bleachers, he also needed to design handicap spaces for access; he needed approval from Council to apply for the application for 2026.

All agreed to do a resolution for the meeting on April 21st.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Bucci opened this meeting for any member of the public to speak on any topic.

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

RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA

Council President Bucci read the following statement: “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, it will be treated as a separate matter. Any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds.

The Executive Session of Council will be held at the end of the meeting, and we will come back in public session to make a comment for the record after the Session has concluded. Any vote made on subjects discussed will be made in public.”

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On motion of Councilman Dewees, seconded by Councilwoman Carfagno, all members present were in favor of voting on Resolutions 125-2026 through 133-2026 by Consent Agenda.

- 125-2026** Authorizing the Appointment of a COAH Attorney as Special Counsel in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1) as a Professional Service and in Compliance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5

- 126-2026** Authorizing the Waiver of Any and All Permit Fees Associated with Removing and Replacing Roof on Stillwater Annex Building

- 127-2026** Authorizing the Waiver of Any and All Permit Fees Associated with Installation of a Carport Structure at The Stillwater Annex Building

- 128-2026** Authorizing the Waiver of Any and All Permit Fees Associated with Installation of Roof Mounted Solar at Stillwater Annex Building

- 129-2026** Amending Fund Commissioner

- 130-2026** To Approve the Hiring of Frank Gabriel for the Position of Police Officer

- 131-2026** Resolution Accepting Termination of Shared Services Agreement with Borough of Folsom for Chief Financial Officer Services

- 132-2026** Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk’s Office to Terminate Participation in Agreement Between the City of Northfield and Trinity Code Inspections LLC For The Provision Of Private On-Site Plumbing Sub-Code Inspections

- 133-2026** A Resolution Providing For An Executive Session Not Open To The Public In Accordance With The Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(8) Regarding Matters Involving Employment Of A Prospective Public Officer Or Employee And Matters That Fall Within The Attorney-Client Privilege

Councilman Dewees motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Carfagno, to adopt Resolutions 125-2026 through 133-2026 by Consent Agenda.

Roll Call: Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Notaro – absent; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mrs. Bucci – yes; Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$ 286,529.66

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Councilman Smith motioned, Councilwoman Kern seconded, to approve payment of bills.

Roll Call: Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Notaro – absent; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mrs. Bucci – yes; Motion carried.

MEETING NOTICES

Councilman Polistina read the meeting notices.

Council President Bucci moved to the Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

133-2026 A Resolution Providing For An Executive Session Not Open To The Public In Accordance With The Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(8) Regarding Matters Involving Employment Of A Prospective Public Officer Or Employee And Matters That Fall Within The Attorney-Client Privilege

Deputy Clerk Campbell read the resolution by title and announced that members of the public who are in attendance would need to exit Council Chambers during the Executive Session and are welcome to wait in the lobby or vestibule if they chose. At the conclusion of the Executive Session of Council, the Council will resume the public portion of the meeting and welcome the return of members of the public. A statement would be made for the record at that time.

Council is required to set forth as much information as possible as to the subject matter to be discussed as well as provide for the public the amount of time they can expect to elapse before the non-public portion of the minutes can be disclosed. I will defer to Solicitor Facenda for further explanation.

Solicitor Facenda announced that the matter to be discussed was terms and conditions of employment regarding the hiring of a prospective public officer, namely a Certified Financial Officer. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. The timeframe for the release of those minutes is unknown. Council will remain in Council Chambers and return to the public session when the Executive Session is complete for a short statement.

At 7:07pm Council entered Executive Session and remained in Council Chambers.

At 7:22pm the Executive Session of Council was adjourned, and the Regular Meeting resumed in Council Chambers.

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Solicitor Facenda announced that the Executive Session had concluded. The matter discussed was terms and conditions of employment regarding the hiring of a prospective public officer, namely a Certified Financial Officer covered under the City of Northfield and matters that fall under attorney client privilege and require confidentiality. Minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. The timeframe for the release of those minutes is unknown. No official action would be taken tonight.

Councilman Smith, referred back to capital, asked if other departments should be asked to eliminate one vehicle each? He felt it was only fair.

Councilman Polistina noted Council could look at that next year, we were only committing to 2026 at this time.

At 7:26pm, on motions properly made and seconded, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Campbell, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk