

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 18, 2023**

At 6:32pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi, who welcomed the audience. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 7, 2023 and in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

**FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Council Pro Tempore Dewees.

**Present:** Councilwoman Bucci; Councilwoman Carfagno; Councilman Dewees; Councilman Leeds; Councilman Notaro\*; Councilman Smith; Council President Polistina

*\*Councilman Notaro was present via telephone*

**Absent:** Mayor Chau

Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Nassar, CFO Stollenwerk, and Chief VonColln were also in attendance.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On a motion by Councilwoman Carfagno with a second by Councilman Leeds, all members present, were in favor of approving the minutes of April 4, 2023 without formal reading.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Chau was absent.

**CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineers Report as previously distributed to Council. New Jersey American Water would move forward with test pits for repaving of Putting Green. Regarding the Route 9 sewer line repair, the contractor found that a portion of the pipe burst in the first 20 feet. The contractor should have taken precautions. The contractor would be back tonight through 6am tomorrow. The NJDOT required that we apply, thru Public Works, for a street opening permit. The contractor would pay for the application and inspection fees. We would get an invoice from NJDOT, which we would pass along to the contractor. The repaving and milling of full-width would have to be done 60 days later.

Regarding the paving of Oak Avenue, the contractor has asked if we wanted to wait until after school is out for summer recess to pave.

All members present were in general Agreement.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 18, 2023**

Engineer Nassar would notify the contractor.

Engineer Nassar continued; the County was starting work on Zion Road paving; they will start drainage work next Wednesday, the total time of project would be 60 days.

**PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER**

Council President Polistina opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to comment on any subject, he asked that they state their name and address for the record and observe the five-minute limit per speaker.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Council President Polistina closed the public comment portion of this meeting.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Council President Polistina 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, 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 executive session has concluded. Any vote made on subjects discussed will be made in public.”

On motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Dewees, all members present were in favor of voting on 91-2023 and 92-2023 by Consent Agenda.

**91-2023**            A Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Reading of the Budget by Title Only

**92-2023**            Self Examination of Budget Resolution

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt the Consent Agenda.

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

On motion of Councilman Leeds, seconded by Councilwoman Bucci, all members present were in favor of voting on 93-2023 through 100-2023 by Consent Agenda.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 18, 2023**

- 93-2023** Resolution Authorizing Cancellation of Taxes Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.32 on Property known as Block 41, Lot 3 (1203 Tilton Road)
- 94-2023** Approval of Application for a Coin Drop American Legion Post 295
- 95-2023** Memorialize Resignation of Part Time Electrical Inspector
- 96-2023** To Amend Resolution 89-2023, and Establish a New Date of Hire for Part Time Electrical Inspector
- 97-2023** A Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Supporting Our First Responders Act
- 98-2023** Authorizing Refund of Overpayment of Sewer Rents and Charges
- 99-2023** A Resolution Combing the Job Description of Assistant Sewer Supervisor and Assistant Public Works Supervisor and Recognizing the Job Description of Public Works Supervisor
- 100-2023** Promotion of Darren Boyd to Public Works Supervisor

Council President Polistina congratulated Darren Boyd, present in the audience, on his promotion.

Councilman Leeds motioned, Councilwoman Bucci seconded, to adopt the Consent Agenda.

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

Councilman Leeds motioned, Councilwoman Bucci seconded, to adopt Resolution 101-2023.

- 101-2023** 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. 10:4-12(b)(7) – Contract Negotiations and Matters Covered Under the Attorney Client Privilege (Shared Court)

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

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**      \$ 414,805.47

Councilwoman Carfagno motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, for payment of bills.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 18, 2023**

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

**MEETING NOTICES**

Councilman Smith read the meeting notices.

*At 6:45pm, on motion of Councilman Leeds, seconded by Councilwoman Bucci, all members present were in favor of a 15-minute recess.*

*At 7:00pm, Council President Polistina resumed the meeting.*

**7PM - PUBLIC HEARING 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Council President Polistina opened the public hearing on the 2023 Budget.

Council President Polistina asked those in Zoom wishing to speak, to please raise their hand.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Council President Polistina closed the public hearing.

**77B-2023** Resolution to Amend 2023 Budget

Councilwoman Bucci motioned, Councilman Leeds seconded, to adopt Resolution 77B-2023.

Clerk Canesi explained Resolution 77B-2023 was an amendment to the budget for grant revenue that was received after the budget was introduced.

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

**77C-2023** Adoption of the 2023 Budget

Councilwoman Bucci motioned, Councilman Leeds seconded, to adopt Resolution 77C-2023.

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

**ORDINANCES**

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 18, 2023**

Council President Polistina opened the public hearing for Ordinance No. 3-2023. Seeing no one wishing to speak he closed the public hearing.

Solicitor Facenda explained Ordinance No. 3-2023; Council received a memo from the Planning Board on April 10, 2023 indicating their agreement with Ordinance No. 3-2023.

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilwoman Carfagno seconded, to adopt Ordinance No. 3-2023.

**3-2023** City of Northfield, New Jersey Ordinance No. 3-2023, as Now Amended, which is An Ordinance Amending Chapter 215 of the Code of the City of Northfield Governing Land Use and Development  
*3<sup>rd</sup> Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration*  
*Published in the Press of AC 04/22/2022*

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, 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.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**101-2023** 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. 10:4-12(b)(7) – Contract Negotiations and Matters Covered Under the Attorney Client Privilege (Shared Court)

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title and explained it was adopted earlier in the evening as part of the consent agenda. Clerk Canesi further stated that we are 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. She said she would defer to the Solicitor for further explanation.

Clerk Canesi announced to the members of the public who were in attendance in person that they would need to exit Council Chambers during the Executive Session.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 18, 2023**

For those participating via Zoom, the audio and video portions of the meeting would be deactivated but Council would remain in Council chambers. At the conclusion of the Executive Session of Council, the Council would resume the public session and welcome the return of the in-person public, and the audio and video would be reactivated for those participating via Zoom. A public statement would be made for the record at that time.

Solicitor Facenda announced that the matters to be discussed were a potential joint court agreement with the Town of Hammonton and the City's withdrawal from the Central Municipal Court; these matters require attorney client privilege. 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 general public when the Executive Session is complete for a short statement. Action was anticipated to be taken after the executive session in the form of Resolutions 102-2023 and 103-2023.

*At 7:08pm Council entered Executive Session, and remained in Council Chambers.*

*At 7:25pm the Executive Session of Council was adjourned, and the Regular Meeting resumed in Council Chambers.*

Solicitor Facenda announced that the Executive Session had concluded. The matter discussed was a potential joint court agreement with the Town of Hammonton and the City of Northfield leaving the Central Municipal Court. 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 would now vote on Resolutions 102-2023 and 103-2023.

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilwoman Carfagno seconded, to adopt Resolution 102-2023.

**102-2023** A Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, Withdrawing as a Participating Municipality in the Central Municipal Court of Atlantic County

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

Councilwoman Bucci motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Resolution 103-2023.

**103-2023** A Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, Providing for and Permitting the City of Northfield to Join the Joint Municipal Court of the Town of Hammonton

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 18, 2023**

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

At approximately 7:27pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk