

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 13, 2023**

At 6:43pm 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 Mayor Chau followed by a moment of silence.

**Present:** Councilwoman Bucci; Councilwoman Carfagno; Councilman Dewees; Councilman Leeds; Councilman Notaro; Council President Polistina; Mayor Chau

**Absent:** Councilman Smith

Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Nassar, and Sergeant DiMarco, on behalf of Chief VonColln, were also in attendance.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On a motion by Councilwoman Bucci with a second by Councilman Dewees, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of May 16, 2023, without formal reading.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Chau reported the Memorial Day event was very successful and he thanked all employees and City services, and especially Shannon Campbell. The Northfield Community School Graduation is tomorrow, if you are able attend and have not RSVP'd, please do so. Regarding dogs, he had spoken with Chief VonColln, and the bike patrol will be utilized on the bike path for enforcement. They are going to try to purchase an e-bike as well to make the officer more able to respond quickly to local calls.

Councilman Leeds suggested using the police motorcycle for this purpose.

Mayor Chau continued; he announced New Jersey American Water is offering grant to replace lead pipes for residents, if interested call NJAMW. Later this month there will be a meeting at the Canale Center for the County Court; with us leaving Mayor Chau did not feel the need to attend unless Council wanted him to.

Mayor Chau had been asked to check with former Councilman Perri about the use of the County car wash. Mr. Perri had advised the Mayor that there had been no formal discussion. He suggested we contact the County.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 13, 2023**

Councilman Dewees noted we have tried on at least two occasions. He would discuss with Mayor Chau.

Mayor Chau stated that he has attended forums on marijuana; he urged that the Council move slowly. He commended Council that at this time that they would slow down and look at all issues. He reminded everyone about the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Connolly Run. He attended the recent funeral of Jerry Breeden, a very vocal Northfield resident. Mayor Chau advised that the study at the County property had been completed. If there were any abnormalities, they would dedicate the area and relocate the project.

Councilman Notaro asked would we get the report?

Mayor Chau replied, he would ask for it.

**CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineers Report as previously distributed to Council. New Jersey American Water started the main upgrade project on Oak Avenue. It would take another three weeks. They found an existing stormwater drainage pipe on Oak Avenue. If it was active, the water company will have to replace it for us.

Councilman Notaro noted when we can't find things, they use a question mark.

Engineer Nassar replied, that is what they did in this case.

Engineer Nassar was working on a grant for municipal aid, he would have for the next meeting.

Clerk Canesi asked was there an alternative to the question mark?

Engineer Nassar noted for sanitary sewer mark outs they should use the camera; for storm, no.

Clerk Canesi asked Councilman Notaro to make sure Public Works knows using the camera should be the regular practice in lieu of the question mark.

**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.

Joan Brennan, 116 Dolphin Avenue – via Zoom chat, wanted to let everyone know that the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade would start promptly at 10am. The lineup was at Jackson

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 13, 2023**

Avenue and Broad Street at 9:30am. Lineup would be only on the north side of Broad instead of both sides; this was basically the only change. All were welcome and sign-up sheets were available on the City website or by contacting Mrs. Brennan.

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 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 Leeds, seconded by Councilwoman Carfagno, all members present were in favor of voting on 118-2023 through 132-2023 by Consent Agenda.

- 118-2023** To Authorize Liquor License Renewal for the Year 2023-2024 – LGM Enterprises
- 119-2023** To Authorize Liquor License Renewal for the Year 2023-2024 – ACCC
- 120-2023** To Authorize Liquor License Renewal for the Year 2023-2025 – Northfield Liquors
- 121-2023** Applicant’s Resolution - Lead Grant Assistance Program
- 122-2023** Authorizing Refund of Construction Permit Fees
- 123-2023** Authorization to Create Municipal Lien for Property Maintenance Costs
- 124-2023** Resolution Inserting an Item of Revenue in the 2023 Budget
- 125-2023** Resolution of the City of Northfield, Atlantic County, New Jersey, Authorizing Fireworks Display on Private Property Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 21:3-3
- 126-2023** Resolution Inserting an Item of Revenue in the 2023 Budget
- 127-2023** Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, New Jersey, Authorizing Execution of an Inter-Local Shared Services Agreement Between Atlantic County Utilities Authority and City of Northfield for Street Sweeping
- 128-2023** Approval of Specifications and Authorization to Proceed with Public

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 13, 2023**

- 129-2023** Bidding for the Project Known as City Hall – Roof Replacement  
A Resolution Authorizing Expenditures from the City’s Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Subject to Court Approval, for Phase One Environmental Studies on Properties Identified in the City’s Housing Element and Fair Share Plan as Affordable Housing Sites
- 130-2023** Authorizing Execution of Shared Services Agreement for the Participation in a County-Wide Lead-Based Paint Inspection Rented Dwelling Units Program
- 131-2023** Authorization to Apply for the State of New Jersey Federal Fiscal Year 2022 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program
- 132-2023** 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) – Matters Covered Under the Attorney Client Privilege

Councilman Leeds motioned, Councilwoman Carfagno 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 – absent; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE**

Councilman Notaro motioned, Councilman Leeds seconded, to introduce Ordinance 8-2023.

- 8-2023** An Ordinance of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey Establishing a Single Joint Municipal Court with the Town of Hammonton; Repealing and Amending Chapter 18 of the General Ordinances of the City of Northfield; and Approving a Joint Municipal Court Agreement for the Operation of the Joint Municipal Court with the Town of Hammonton  
*Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 06/12/2023\*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 06/27/2023*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this is the first reading, and announced the publication, public hearing, and final consideration 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 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requests same.

\*Clerk Canesi noted the error in the publication date on the agenda packet, the introduction publication date is June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 13, 2023**

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

**PAYMENT OF BILLS      \$ 1,220,355.15**

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilwoman Bucci seconded, for payment of bills.

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

**MEETING NOTICES**

Councilwoman Carfagno read the meeting notices.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**132-2023**      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) – Matters Covered Under the Attorney Client Privilege

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title. 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 that when the Executive Session of Council commenced, the audio and video portions of this meeting would be paused, for those participating via Zoom, and in-person members of the public would need to exit Council Chambers. At the conclusion of the Executive Session of Council, the Council would resume the public session, welcome the return of the in-person public, and the audio and video functions would be reactivated in Zoom. A public statement would be made for the record at that time.

Solicitor Facenda announced that the matter to be discussed was an update on Affordable Housing compliance regarding potential future affordable housing development and matters that fall under 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. No action was anticipated to be taken.

*At 7:10pm Council entered Executive Session, and remained in Council Chambers.*

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 13, 2023**

*At 7:50pm 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 an update from Affordable Housing Counsel, regarding affordable housing compliance and litigation status and potential future affordable housing development and matters requiring 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. No official action will be taken tonight.

At approximately 7:50pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk