

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 1, 2024**

At 6:17pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 6, 2024, and in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

**FLAG SALUTE**

Mayor Chau led the flag salute followed by a moment of silence.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Mauro, and Chief of Police VonColln were also present.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On a motion by Councilman Polistina with a second by Councilman Smith, apart from Councilman Dewees who abstained, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of September 17, 2024, without formal reading.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Chau read the Police Department report for September. He and Clerk Canesi met with a representative from the USDA regarding the PPG Grant earlier today. All the paperwork was completed, there was one cost that was not anticipated, all documents must have a disclaimer about equal opportunity, the cost is unknown at this point.

**CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Mauro had no report.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

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

Joan Brennan, Northfield – announced the Cultural Committee Flea Market on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, they anticipate 30-35 participants, all has been sent to the city already. She would also like to do a City-wide yard sale in the Spring, sponsored by the Cultural Committee, they would charge a fee and they would have to get a permit, she would ask Clerk Canesi how to proceed.

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Seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak, the public comment portion of this meeting was closed.

Mayor Chau forgot to announce that at Birch Grove Park, Trunk or Treat will be held this Saturday, the Police Department is cooking hot dogs and providing snacks, Deputy Clerk Campbell has worked very hard on this event, a lot of people who were signed up for National Night Out have signed up. Hocus Pocus 2 will be shown after Trunk or Treat.

**RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA**

Council President Leeds 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.”

Solicitor Facenda read the following into the record, he noted the mistake in the work “execution” and asked Clerk Canesi to correct.

**“CITY OF NORTHFIELD, NJ  
RESOLUTION NO. 207-2024**

**RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
NORTHFIELD, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, NEW JERSEY,  
AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF FIRST ADDENDUM TO THE  
AGREEMENT FOR A JOINT MUNICIPAL COURT FOR THE  
MUNICIPALITIES OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON AND THE CITY  
OF NORTHFIELD**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Northfield is desirous of executing the FIRST ADDENDUM TO THE AGREEMENT FOR A JOINT MUNICIPAL COURT FOR THE MUNICIPALITIES OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON AND THE CITY OF NORTHFIELD between the City of Northfield and the Town of Hammonton attached as Exhibit "A" to amend an Agreement to establish a Joint Municipal Court with the Town of Hammonton as of January 1, 2025.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Common Council of the City of Northfield in the County of Atlantic, New Jersey, duly assembled in public session, that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute the FIRST ADDENDUM TO THE AGREEMENT FOR A JOINT MUNICIPAL COURT FOR THE MUNICIPALITIES OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON AND THE CITY OF NORTHFIELD attached as Exhibit "A" on behalf of the City of Northfield.

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I, MARY CANESI, RMC, Municipal Clerk of the City of Northfield, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at a Regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Northfield, held this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October 2024.

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk”

On motion of Councilwoman Bucci, seconded by Councilman Dewees all members present, were in favor of voting on Resolutions 196-2024 through 202-2024 and 204-2024 through 207-2024, by Consent Agenda.

- 196-2024** Authorizing Refund of Overpayment of Taxes
- 197-2024** A Resolution Amending the Appointment of Real Estate Financial Advisor in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 (1) as a Professional Service
- 198-2024** Acknowledging Notice of Resignation of Susan Aspenberg, Adult School Crossing Guard
- 199-2024** In Support of the County of Atlantic’s Decision to Implement a 4-Way Stop at the Intersection of Zion Road (Cr 615) and Oak Avenue in the City of Northfield
- 200-2024** A Resolution Amending the Cash Management Plan of the City of Northfield, Originally Adopted Pursuant to Resolution No. 14-2024
- 201-2024** Approving Participation with the State of New Jersey State Grant Program Administered by the Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General
- 202-2024** Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract for Computer Server Upgrade
- 204-2024** Inserting an Item of Revenue in the 2024 Budget
- 205-2024** Promotion of Regular Adult School Crossing Guard
- 206-2024** Award of Contract FY2023 Local Recreation Improvement Grant (2023-04960-0666-00)
- 207-2024** Authorizing Execution of First Addendum to the Agreement for a Joint Municipal Court for the Municipalities of the Town of Hammonton and the City of Northfield

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

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

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Councilwoman Bucci motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Resolution 203-2024.

**203-2024**      To Approve an Application for Use of Facilities

Councilman Smith stated that he had asked to have this pulled again; it was similar to the Resolution from the last meeting. He felt it was not an organization. They were not affiliated with Mainland High School; it looked like a parent who will be charging to hold practices. He had spoken with Mr. Bunting, who Smith said had concerns. It is not for a league, the form says 15 out of 20 participants are Northfield, it was not a use intended for this field, in Smith's opinion.

Councilman Notaro asked was Full Speed baseball a business, and would insurance be required?

Clerk Canesi, replied, if approved, yes.

Councilman Polistina believed they were a new company.

Councilman Dewees asked if we have approved field use for travel teams in the past.

Councilman Smith noted this was not a travel team.

Mayor Chau stated that last time, he voted no; he believed Councilman Smith had valid concerns and he felt if we did adopt this, it could open a pandora's box.

Solicitor Facenda announced, for the record, it was not the group, it was the use.

Councilman Notaro stated, so we are allowing a business to use our field to make money.

Councilman Polistina felt they were charging enough to cover the insurance.

Councilman Dewees added, which is what a travel team would do.

Councilman Polistina noted that one of the involved parties works to maintain the field and has pledged to continue to do so.

Councilman Smith has gotten feedback that these individuals have not maintained the field.

Councilman Polistina asked if there were issues, we can rescind the use, correct?

Councilman Dewees added that baseball fields do not get the wear and tear that the football fields do.

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Discussion ensued between Councilmembers Smith, Notaro, Bucci and Leeds.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees-yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Smith – no; Mr. Leeds – yes; Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE**

Councilman Polistina motioned; Councilman Notaro seconded to adopt Ordinance 10-2024.

**10-2024** Ordinance Amending Ordinance 1-2024, Providing for and Establishing Salary Ranges of Officers and Employees of the City of Northfield, Atlantic County  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 10/1/2024*  
*Published in the Press of AC 10/5/2024*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stating that this is the second reading and public hearing. After the public hearing, Council would consider the ordinance for final passage. Clerk Canesi announced the date of final publication. Since introduction, the Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the municipal website. Any member of the public who requested a copy of the ordinance would have been provided with one free of charge in the office of the Municipal Clerk during regular business hours.

Council President Leeds opened the public hearing for Ordinance 10-2024.

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

Councilman Smith stated he would be voting against it; this was consistent with his previous vote. It was no reflection on the job our Chief has done, he fully supports him and the job he has done. He was voting against it because he believed this goes against what we owe the taxpayers, and believed the contract was excessive, given where we were with the prior contract. He did not care what other chiefs in other parts of the county are paid, he believed we needed to be extra careful with the people's money.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Polistina– yes; Mr. Smith – no; Mr. Leeds – yes; Motion carried.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**      \$ 1,019,592.16

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

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

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**MEETING NOTICES**

Council President Leeds read the meeting notices.

At 6:41pm, on motions properly made and seconded, all members present were in favor of adjourning the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk