

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

At 6:00pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk, Mary Canesi. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 7, 2023, and in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

**FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**Absent:** Councilman Smith

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

Council President Polistina announced Atlantic County Prosecutor, William Reynolds.

**6PM PRESENTATION – Atlantic County Prosecutor William Reynolds**

Atlantic County Prosecutor William Reynolds introduced himself, and distributed brochures created by the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office as an outreach effort. He was an independent unaffiliated voter; he had no political allegiance. He stressed transparency in his office as a goal. He believed we were in a mental health crisis. He introduced Captain Paley, a Northfield resident who was an administrator in his office. Prosecutor Reynolds said he has done over 300 outreach events in Atlantic County and has worked to create link between agencies and support resources. Atlantic County has been used as a positive example of how to use bail reform, and he stressed the need to support local law enforcement agencies. He gave examples of events that create support, including National Night Out. The Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office Community Outreach Unit will come to any local event, he referred to a QR code in the provided brochure that leads to more information. His office was asking local elected officials to take this information to our community organizations; if there was a needed topic that is not listed, they would create information to suit. He noted the fine job done thus far by Chief Voncolln and pledged that Atlantic County towns would have the support of his office. A single phone call could change the course of someone's life. Anything Northfield needs, his office was here for you, the Council, the residents, the taxpayers. He offered to answer any questions.

Council President Polistina stated it was refreshing. He thanked Prosecutor Reynolds and said he had heard very positive things about the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office.

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Prosecutor Reynolds thanked Council President Polistina. He inherited a great team. This was our County, we live here, we are raising our kids here. He appreciated the Council's time, and the support of Chief Von Colln.

Council President Polistina advised Prosecutor Reynolds to let him know if there was anything Northfield can do.

Councilman Leeds stated he was a federal background investigator in his day job, and the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office staff does a fantastic job.

Prosecutor Reynolds thanked Councilman Leeds.

Council President Polistina moved to Committee reports.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Councilman Leeds** – Fire Department/EMS; Planning Board

Councilman Leeds did not have the Fire and EMS reports yet, they were still working on numbers. He thanked Captain Nixon for getting him call data for the year; he would meet with Councilman Smith to discuss once numbers were complete.

**Councilman Dewees** – Buildings/Grounds, Athletic Fields; Birch Grove Park, Bike Path, 1st Street Playground, Veterans Park; Public Works: Roads, Engineering

Councilman Dewees had no report.

**Councilwoman Bucci** – Insurance and Safety; Municipal Alliance; Economic Development / Chamber of Commerce

Councilwoman Bucci thanked Deputy Clerk Campbel for the beautiful Veterans Day Service. She announced Cookie with a Cop on December 16<sup>th</sup> at 11am at the Library. She had forwarded grant information from ACEA for property acquisition, if anyone was interested, an immediate response would be in order.

**Councilman Smith** - Central Municipal Court; Little League and Babe Ruth; Northfield Community School; Shared Services

Councilman Smith was absent.

**Councilwoman Carfagno** - Technology / MRHS Channel; Cultural Committee / Veteran Liaison; Mainland Regional

Councilwoman Carfagno congratulated the Mainland Regional High School Band, Girls Volleyball team, and the Football Team. The Football Team will be moving on

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to Winslow next weekend. She announced the next Mainland Regional High School Board meeting for November 20<sup>th</sup>. The Cultural Committee Flea Market was coming up; forms were available online. She thanked Deputy Clerk Campbell for the Veterans Day event, adding that she was unable to attend.

**Councilman Notaro** - Inspections, Housing/Zoning; Sewer Operations; Northfield Sports (FAN)

Councilman Notaro echoed the sentiments regarding the Mainland Football Team; they had an undefeated this season and they were off to two more games. He thanked OEM, Fire and Police for the amazing turnout when escorting the boys and girls to Mainland as part of a congratulatory celebration. All three Cardinals teams have also advanced to the semi-finals in Brigantine.

**Council President Polistina** – Finance and Collections; Library; Senior Citizens

Council President Polistina congratulated those who ran. He thanked Mayor Chau and Councilman Notaro for the campaigns they ran. The Veterans Day Ceremony was well done, he thanked Deputy Clerk Campbell and Mayor Chau, and thanked our veterans.

**AD HOC COMMITTEES**

Council President Polistina moved to the ad hoc committee, there were no updates.

Council President Polistina moved to ongoing business.

**WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – ONGOING BUSINESS**

- Stormwater Facilities Shared with Atlantic County–*Update if available, Engineer Nassar*
- Potential Development of City Owned Properties: Block 66 Lot 11; Block 69 Lot 1.02; Block 121 Lot 1

Solicitor Facenda announced that Engineer Nassar had completed the surveys. They were given to Clerk Canesi tonight to be forwarded to Habitat for Humanity.

**WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS**

- Standing Item – New Grant Opportunities

Council President Polistina referred to the grant Councilwoman Bucci mentioned, we'd need to move forward to see if there were opportunities.

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Engineer Nassar announced a hazard mitigation grant opportunity, there was a flooding issue on Revere over by the former House and Gardens, we need to contact the owners of a local church for possible use as an easement. As part of the application Engineer Nassar would like to include that we are able to obtain an easement.

Council President Polistina offered that he may know someone; he asked if there was a deadline?

Engineer Nassar replied, December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Cler Canesi noted we would need a Resolution for the December 12<sup>th</sup> agenda at the latest.

- 2024 Professional Services

Council President Polistina asked did anyone have suggestions for the professional services?

There were no replies.

Clerk Canesi asked for confirmation that we will be advertising using a fair and open process.

Council President Polistina replied, yes.

Councilman Leeds asked when the ad would run and when would proposals be due?

Clerk Canesi replied; the ad would probably run November 21<sup>st</sup> and be due early to mid-December.

**REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Council President Polistina reviewed the Regular Meeting agenda.

Council President Polistina made the assignments.

**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 City of residence for the record and observe the five-minute limit per speaker.

Ian Brady, Linwood; reminded Council he was here several weeks ago to discuss frisbee golf at Birch Grove Park. He had met with Superintendent Vitale and felt he would be in favor of it. He pointed out a tree stand in the woods to Superintendent

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Vitale and noted the presence of poachers. Now would be the time, with leaves coming down off the trees.

Councilman Dewees stated he would reach out to Mr. Brady to set something up, a walk through, on a weekend in the next few weeks.

Seeing no one else, in person or on Zoom wishing to speak, Council President Polistina closed the public session.

At 6:32pm, on motions properly made and seconded, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk