

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2007**

This meeting was called to order by Carol A. Raph, Municipal Clerk. It was properly advertised under Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

ROLL CALL: Present: Carew, Martinez, Mazzeo, Notaro, Turon, Vain, Kern

City Solicitor Keith Bonchi, Engineer Ed Stinson of Doran Engineering, CFO Marilyn Dolcy, City Administrator Jeffrey Bruckler, and Deputy City Clerk Kim Hodsdon were present.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES / January 2, 2007

Motion by Councilman Turon, second by Councilman Vain to dispense with the reading of the minutes of January 2, 2007. They have been posted, distributed to Council and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office. All present in favor, motion carries.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Steven Vain reported that an electrical box at the Babe Ruth Field is in need of repair and poses a safety hazard.

Councilman Mazzeo reported that the Friends of the Library would like to present their plans for refurbishing the Library's landscaping to City Council. He asked Councilman Turon to work with Administrator Bruckler on obtaining quotes for certain maintenance items that need attention at the Library. Mazzeo commented on the budget preparations, noting that it will be another difficult year.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Perri requested that the matter of contracting for professional planner services be included on the next meeting agenda. He recognized the passing of Thomas Crane, former Fireman, Rescue Squad member and Councilman, and offered condolences to the family.

Perri gave the November Police Department report as follows: Total calls for service – 1022; Investigations opened – 63; Total arrests – 45; Adult arrests – 42; Juveniles arrested – 3; MV accidents investigated – 35; Total Traffic Summons issued -176; Summons issued due to MVA – 15; Speeding summons – 22; DWI arrests – 5; Drug offense arrests – 3.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The City Administrator provided Council with a written report and had nothing further to discuss.

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ENGINEER'S REPORT

The City Engineer's Report is on file in the City Clerk's office. Councilman Carew asked Stinson if the utility companies are aware of the new street restoration guidelines. Stinson responded in the affirmative, noting that they were all sent a copy of the new ordinance. Mayor Perri inquired about the status of Country Club Drive. Stinson stated that he had met with the water company and that they are aware of the needed repairs. The repairs will begin as weather permits.

RESOLUTIONS

25-2007 On a motion of Turon, second of Mazzeo, all in favor of adopting a Resolution for Acceptance of LOSAP Point System Qualifiers for the Rescue Squad

Roll Call: Carew - yes, Martinez – yes, Mazzeo- yes, Notaro – yes, Turon – yes, Vain – yes, Kern – yes, Motion carries.

26-2007 On a motion of Mazzeo, second of Martinez, all in favor of adopting a Resolution Authorizing the Return of a Performance Guarantee for block 158, Lots 68, 69 & 70

Roll Call: Carew - yes, Martinez – yes, Mazzeo- yes, Notaro – yes, Turon – yes, Vain – yes, Kern – yes, Motion carries.

27-2007 On a motion of Carew, second of Vain, all in favor of adopting a Resolution for Authorization to Enter into an Agreement with the Atlantic County Improvement Authority for the Community Development Block Grant Program / FY 2006

Roll Call: Carew - yes, Martinez – yes, Mazzeo- yes, Notaro – yes, Turon – yes, Vain – yes, Kern – yes, Motion carries.

28-2006 On a motion of Carew, second of Turon, all in favor of adopting a Resolution To Approve the Hiring of Peter Czaplinski, Police Officer

Roll Call: Carew - yes, Martinez – yes, Mazzeo- yes, Notaro – yes, Turon – yes, Vain – yes, Kern – yes, Motion carries.

Mayor Perri administered the oath of office to new Police Officer, Peter Czaplinski. The Mayor wished him a long, safe and successful career with the City of Northfield.

29-2007 On a motion of Turon, second of Vain, all in favor of adopting a Resolution To Approve the Hiring of Michael D. Bach, Police Officer

Roll Call: Carew - yes, Martinez – yes, Mazzeo- yes, Notaro – yes, Turon – yes, Vain – yes, Kern – yes, Motion carries.

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30-2007 On a motion of Turon, second of Carew, all in favor of adopting a Resolution for the Appointment of Lauren Crooks as Assistant Chief of the Northfield Fire Department

Roll Call: Carew - yes, Martinez – yes, Mazzeo- yes, Notaro – yes, Turon – yes, Vain – yes, Kern – yes, Motion carries.

Mayor Perri administered the oath of office to Lauren Crooks, Assistant Fire Chief. The Mayor wished him a long and safe career.

31-2007 On a motion of Carew, second of Notaro, all in favor of adopting a Resolution for the Appointment of Robert Swartz as Captain of the Northfield Fire Department

Roll Call: Carew - yes, Martinez – yes, Mazzeo- yes, Notaro – yes, Turon – yes, Vain – yes, Kern – yes, Motion carries.

Mayor Perri administered the oath of office to Robert Swartz, Fire Department Captain and wished him a long, safe career.

32-2007 On a motion of Martinez, second of Notaro, all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Hire a Laborer in the Public Works Department / Michael J. Gatto

Roll Call: Carew - yes, Martinez – yes, Mazzeo- yes, Notaro – yes, Turon – yes, Vain – yes, Kern – yes, Motion carries.

33-2007 On a motion of Turon, second of Vain, all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Hire a Laborer in the Public Works Department / James M. Reno

Roll Call: Carew - yes, Martinez – yes, Mazzeo- yes, Notaro – yes, Turon – yes, Vain – yes, Kern – yes, Motion carries.

ORDINANCES

On a motion made by Councilman Turon, seconded by Vain, Ordinance 1-2007 was read by title only. All present in favor.

1-2007 Ordinance Providing for and Establishing Salary Ranges of Officers and Employees of the City of Northfield and Repealing All Ordinances Heretofore Adopted, the Provisions of Which are Inconsistent Herewith
Final Reading/Open to the Public/ Advertised in The Press 1/20/07

Council President Kern opened this matter to the public before final adoption. Richard Levitt of 2204 Bay Avenue came forward and suggested that, in order to

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compromise on the Police Department staffing matter, salaries may need to be reevaluated.

A motion was made by Councilman Turon, seconded by Vain, to adopt Ordinance 1-2007.

Roll Call: Carew - yes, Martinez – yes, Mazzeo- yes, Notaro – yes, Turon – yes, Vain – yes, Kern – yes, Motion carries.

2-2007 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 35 of the Code of the City of Northfield Regarding Certain Positions within the Police Department

On a motion made by Councilman Carew, second by Notaro, Council unanimously voted to table Ordinance 2-2007 for a period of thirty (30) days.

Mayor Perri asked Council to confirm who would be participating in future discussions with the PBA regarding Ordinance 2-2007 and asked if the Police Committee members would be included. He expressed concern that Councilman Carew was endorsed by the PBA. Council President Kern stated that she was uncertain if Carew should be excluded and deferred to the City Solicitor for an opinion. Solicitor Bonchi did not believe it to be a conflict nor an ethical violation. Kern stated that she would expect all Council members to remain objective on every committee they are involved in.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman Mazzeo motioned for payment of bills in the amount of **\$3,380,464.81**. Second by Councilman Notaro.

Roll Call: Carew - yes, Martinez – yes, Mazzeo- yes, Notaro – yes, Turon – yes, Vain – yes, Kern – yes, Motion carries.

PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Kern asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. Robert Webb of 218 West Revere Avenue came forward and commented on certain matters regarding the Police Department.

John Costello, a School Nurse at the Northfield Community School, came forward and thanked Mayor Perri for all that he does in, and for, the community. He also thanked the Police and Fire Departments for their excellent response to school emergencies.

Richard Levitt came forward and thanked the Mayor for bringing to Council's attention the Planning Board's request for professional planning services and asked Council to consider the matter during budget preparations. He also asked Council to consider the issue of affordable housing.

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

Meeting Notices were announced by Councilman Turon.

On a motion of Turon, second of Vain, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Raph, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk