

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2006**

This meeting was called to order by Joan P. Forcella, Deputy Municipal Clerk. It was properly advertised under Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

ROLL CALL: Present: Notaro, Kern, Martinez, Turon, Mazzeo
Absent: Carew, Schlachter

Solicitor Alfred Scerni, Jr., Engineer Edward Stinson of Doran Engineering, and City Administrator Jeffrey Bruckler were present.

Council President Mazzeo reviewed the agenda. Councilman Turon opened discussion on Resolution 37-2006, asking if anyone was aware of the property history with regard to changing the classification of the sewer charge from commercial to residential. Discussion about the property being classified as a residential duplex and if two sewer fees would be collected as opposed to one for a single family residence as specified in the CCO. Solicitor Scerni said it was not clear if the property was currently a single family or duplex residence. Councilman Turon motioned to table Resolution 37-2006, second by Councilman Martinez, all in favor. Motion carries. CFO Dolcy will hold the refund until a final decision is made.

Councilman Notaro opened discussion on Ordinance 2-2006 regarding infrared restoration. Engineer Stinson advised concerns had been addressed during a meeting with Administrator Bruckler, and the ordinance, as it stands, addresses all issues brought to their attention. The infrared paving would be a restoration requirement, if necessary. Stinson added that compaction issues were also covered by the ordinance as written.

Engineer Stinson responded to a question from Turon about fees. One fee would be collected by the City of Northfield and a second fee would be collected by the engineer for permit processing and inspection. Turon referred to the hardship section of the ordinance, and asked if all costs for a public meeting were covered. Administrator Bruckler responded that such a meeting would be scheduled by the City during a Council meeting and all professional fees would be covered.

Engineer Stinson responded to additional questions from Councilman Turon and clarified items within the ordinance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2006**

Councilman Turon requested issues with the Zion Road sewer pump station be addressed at this meeting.

Councilman Martinez reported on the Communications Committee meeting of February 17th. Requirements for the Rescue Squad and Fire Department radios were discussed and will be determined shortly. He thanked all who attended.

Martinez advised proposals would be forthcoming for the Rescue Squad room heating/cooling and Department of Public Works insulation projects.

Councilwoman Kern reported on the Municipal Alliance's first meeting of 2006 during which efforts to increase membership and concerns about drugs/underage drinking were discussed. Acting Lieutenant Art Faden will be speaking to organizations about the problems with drugs and underage drinking. Kern said application has been made to the County for a \$500 grant to fund a community meeting on underage drinking, to be held in April, if grant monies are received.

Kern reported the Cultural Committee has been hosting Northfield Community School students on the weekends. The students were requested to provide the Museum with items to display from their class studies and historical programs. The students are currently studying government issues and she, together with Administrator Bruckler, provided them with information about city government.

Kern attended the Library Advisory Board meeting. She said the Board is in need of a secretary and there were discussions for increasing insurance coverage for the building contents. The Spring Newsletter has been distributed at the Northfield Community School and will be distributed to the City. Kern reported "Astronomy Night" will be held March 6th.

Councilwoman Kern and Mayor Perri have been asked to judge the NCS Science Fair on February 22nd at 3:00 p.m. Kern is working with Court Administrator Donna Clark for ways to reduce the budget, and they will consider the possibility of having day in lieu of evening court.

Councilman Notaro and Public Works Manager Jim Clark are preparing to introduce an information brochure for waste removal services and said consideration is being given to returning to a five-day trash schedule. President Mazzeo recommended Notaro meet with Administrator Bruckler, PW Manager Clark and Councilman Schlachter to discuss the advantages and disadvantages for a new schedule.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2006**

Council President Mazzeo reported on the Finance Committee, reminding all that the State has extended the budget introduction date to March 21, 2006, and said some areas will be revisited for budget reduction.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Perri reported on the 2/16/06 Planning/Zoning Board Meeting wherein the cell tower on Beth Israel property was discussed. Perri requested Administrator Bruckler review a previous file for locating the tower at City Hall, as municipal sites are required to be exhausted prior to location elsewhere. Perri said other sites were also discussed at the meeting. A professional has been retained by the Board to address concerns about emissions. President Mazzeo raised the question of non-profit organizations receiving revenue from projects such as the cell tower. Mayor Perri said the amount of revenue was not disclosed in the application or the testimony. Perri added the City's Board professional is reviewing the discovery from the last meeting. He noted the synagogue is zoned and located in a residential area, and commercial sites would be sought. Perri will present additional information as it becomes available.

Mayor Perri clarified the County reconstruction of Tilton Road between Shore Road and New Road, where a center turn lane is proposed. The residential section of Tilton Road between the Bike Path and Shore Road is still being reviewed.

Perri, Mazzeo and Engineer Stinson met regarding the Cedarbridge and Oak intersection to discuss the type of signage and lights to be installed. The Northfield Avenue signs will be installed shortly. Councilwoman Kern asked about the intersection of Oak and Zion. Administrator Bruckler responded that due to problems with the lights at Oak and Cedarbridge, Oak and Zion was delayed. Engineer Stinson recommended approaching the DOT regarding any changes/additions to intersection signage and lights. President Mazzeo requested a copy of the Northfield Police Report from Perri.

Perri reported on the 2005 JIF Safety Awards received by the City: \$2,500 for Safety Incentive Program; \$1,500 for Achievement; best reporting; and additional Certificates. He congratulated all involved.

Perri shared receiving two complimentary letters on the Northfield Public Works snow removal. He also recognized Emergency Management Coordinator Adams for timely notification of the snow event. Councilwoman Kern requested Council be copied on the Emergency Management Report.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2006**

Administrator Bruckler has been working with Norman Unsworth (Web Master) regarding the City web page, and all previous web designer files have been received. Bruckler requested all Department Heads/Representatives to submit any changes or additions to the web page as soon as possible, and extended the same request to Council. Bruckler will meet with Web Master on Thursday.

Bruckler reported a meeting with the City of Linwood concerning the Inter-Local Sewer Agreement scheduled for March 9th at 5:00 p.m. and asked to be advised regarding attendance conflicts.

Bruckler reported the City phone system issues have been resolved.

With regard to personnel, the City is currently advertising for a Part-Time Payroll/Assistant Finance employee and a temporary Police Secretary position. A vacancy in the Public Works Department will be advertised this week Bruckler said.

Mayor Perri has requested, from the City Auditor, language used by another municipality regarding hiring additional professionals such as plumbers, carpenters, electricians, etc.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Stinson reported on being contacted by the City Sewer Department regarding the situation at the Zion Road Pump Station. The most urgent issue, Stinson said, was his recommendation the City solicit for installation of a bypass chamber at that station as the most urgent issue. The second issue of valve replacement will be addressed by Public works Manager Clark. Motion by Councilman Turon to authorize the City Engineer to proceed with soliciting an RFP, seconded by Councilman Notaro, all in favor, motion carries.

Stinson addressed the issue of installing a check valve on the storm sewer line on Juniper Avenue. Proposals were solicited and the low bid was received from Lafayette Utility Construction Co. in the amount of \$12,172.00. Discussion followed regarding the existing problems with the flow and clarification of necessary repairs. Stinson has been in contact with County representatives and strongly recommends the check valve.

Stinson noted the Final Work Change Order is on the agenda for the Philmar Circle Project. The additional costs are related to the obstruction encountered with the sanitary sewer main.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2006**

Stinson reported the installation of the playground equipment at Birch Grove Park was currently on hold, awaiting fill to bring the area up to grade.

Stinson met with K. Hovnanian's engineer regarding the problems at Sutton Woods. They reviewed all issues and a report for a resolution is anticipated within a month.

PUBLIC SESSION/3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Mazzeo opened this meeting to the public and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. Seeing no one, the Public Session was closed.

Motion to adjourn by Kern, seconded by Notaro, all in favor, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan P. Forcella
Deputy Municipal Clerk