

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 9, 2006**

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

The flag salute was led by Mayor Frank Perri, Jr. After the flag salute, Mayor Perri called for a moment of silence to recognize those fighting at home and abroad for our liberties that they may return safely to their families.

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

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

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES/APRIL 25, 2006

Motion by Councilman Martinez, second by Councilman Turon to dispense with the reading of the minutes of April 25, 2006. They have been posted, distributed to Council and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office. All present in favor, motion carries.

RESOLUTION 63-2006/ 2006 BUDGET ADOPTION

Motion made by Councilman Schlachter, second by Martinez for Resolution 63B-2006 to be read by title only.

63B-2006 Final Adoption of the 2006 Budget
Advertised in the Press on April 15, 2006
8:30 PM/Public Hearing
Seeing no one, Council President closed the public session

Discussion: Mayor Perri stated that everyone involved in the budget process put in a lot of time on it and he recognized the hardship on the taxpayers. Perri offered thanks to CFO Dolcy, Administrator Bruckler, the City employees and the Governing Body for their work and sacrifices to bring this budget to fruition. Councilman Carew recognized CFO Dolcy and thanked her for the countless hours she spent on the budget process.

Motion made by Schlachter to adopt the 2006 budget, second by Martinez, a roll call was taken: Carew – yes, Notaro – yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Turon offered thanks to Councilman Carew for his volunteer work installing the fountain in the lake at Birch Grove Park.

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Councilman Martinez reported that he attended the DARE graduation. He recognized Officer Ramsey for her dedication to the program and offered his thanks to all of the officers in attendance at the graduation ceremony. He also attended the 'What I Want to Be When I Grow Up' essay contest at the Library and conveyed that participation was nearly doubled over last year. Martinez reported that the bidding process for the new Rescue Squad Ambulance will begin shortly. Martinez made a motion to allow Bayview Nursery to beautify the monument area in front of City Hall in preparation for Memorial Day not to exceed the amount of \$1,000.00. Second by Notaro, all in favor – motion carries.

Councilman Notaro gave the Fire Department report as follows: 17 total fire incidents; 22 EMS incidents; 5 Non-emergency responses and no injuries or fatalities.

Council President Mazzeo announced that the budget is fiscally tight and pointed out the various factors that impact the budget include the rising cost of health care, utilities, contractual obligations, and no increase in State Aid. He offered his thanks to Administrator Bruckler and CFO Dolcy for their diligence in the budget process and to the Governing Body and Mayor Perri for their involvement as well.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Perri reported that he had attended the Arrow of the Light ceremony and offered his congratulations to the scouts and their families. He read the names of the award recipients aloud and encouraged them to stay involved in the Scouts because it provides a well rounded educational experience. Perri thanked the den mother's and father's for their dedication to the organization and our community.

Perri recognized EMS Volunteer Week and thanked all of the community volunteers. He also attended the DARE graduation and recognized Officer Ramsey stating that it was an impressive ceremony. He offered his compliments to the entire Police Department for their participation. Perri reported his attendance at the Library Essay Contest, acknowledged the importance of bringing today's youth into the Library, and congratulated the contest winners. He thanked the administration and Friends of the Library for their part in the program. Perri offered thanks to Council President Mazzeo and Councilman Turon for their work on the Mainland Budget and their attendance at the Budget Meeting.

Mayor Perri announced that the Memorial Day Parade will assemble at Haddon & Broad and then onto Shore at 9:00 am and services will follow at City Hall. In honor of past and present Peace Officers, Perri proclaimed that May 15th will be observed as Law Enforcement Memorial Day and the City flags will be flown at half mast.

Referring to an article that was published in the Press of Atlantic City on May 3rd, regarding the stipend for the EMC position, Mayor Perri stated that he has documentation which reflects that it was a paid position. Regarding the charges of nepotism, he clarified that he is an elected official and gave a brief history of how other members of his family

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came into their positions. Perri expressed dissatisfaction that the public was misled by the press and by other elected officials.

RESOLUTIONS

72-2006 On a motion of Kern, second of Schlachter all in favor of adopting a Resolution To Enter into an Agreement with the Jewish Community Day School for use of their recreational fields.

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

73-2006 On a motion of Schlachter, second of Notaro all in favor of adopting a Resolution Authorizing Return of a Performance Guarantee for Atlantic Electrical Contractors, Miller’s Lawn Care, Block 16/Lot 54

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

74-2006 On a motion of Schlachter, second of Martinez all in favor of adopting a Resolution To hire Candice DiCiano as a BGP employee in the seasonal concession stand.

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

75-2006 On a motion of Turon, second of Carew all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Approve the Reduction of the 2006/2007 Mainland Regional High School Budget.

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

76-2006 On a motion of Turon, second of Carew all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Authorize Northfield-Linwood Joint Sewer Committee / Amending Resolutions 16 and 32 of 2006.

Discussion: Mayor Perri asked if there had been any discussions with Linwood about the 10% rate. Administrator Bruckler responded that it was denied on the third request and Linwood’s reasoning was that they had control of the contract this year. Bruckler confirmed that the rate would be 10% in 2007.

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

77-2006 On a motion of Turon, second of Martinez all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Enter into an Agreement with Horizon Eye Care to provide an Employee Vision Benefit Plan for the City of Northfield.

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Discussion: For the record, Turon asked Bruckler if he felt the plan was equal to, or better than, the current coverage. Bruckler responded in the affirmative

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

78-2006 On a motion of Carew, second of Schlachter to adopt a Resolution To Appoint Elizabeth O’Grady to the BGP Advisory Board.

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

ORDINANCES

Motion by Councilwoman Kern, second by Councilman Carew for Ordinance 6-2006 to be read by title only. All present in favor.

6-2006 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 1-1974 To Change the Day of the Week on which Municipal Court is Held
Final/Opened to the Public/ Published in Press 5/13/06

Roll call: Carew – yes; Notaro – yes; Kern – yes; Martinez – yes; Schlachter – yes; Turon – yes; Mazzeo – yes. All present in favor, motion carries.

Motion by Councilman Schlachter, second by Councilman Turon for Ordinance 7-2006 to be read by title only. All present in favor.

7-2006 An Ordinance Amending the City of Northfield 1986 Land Use and Development Ordinance
Final/Opened to the Public/ Published in Press 5/13/06

Roll call: Carew – yes; Notaro – yes; Kern – yes; Martinez – yes; Schlachter – yes; Turon – yes; Mazzeo – yes. All present in favor, motion carries.

Motion by Councilman Carew, second by Councilwoman Kern for Ordinance 8-2006 to be read by title only. All present in favor.

8-2006 An Ordinance Amending the City of Northfield Code Regarding

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Swimming Pools

Final/Opened to the Public/ Published in Press 5/13/06

Roll call: Carew – yes; Notaro – yes; Kern – yes; Martinez – yes; Schlachter – yes; Turon – yes; Mazzeo – yes. All present in favor, motion carries.

Motion by Councilman Schlachter, second by Notaro for Ordinance 9-2006 to be read by title only. All present in favor.

9-2006 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 35 of the City of Northfield Code
Introduction/No Public Input/ Published in Press 5/13/06

Discussion: Councilman Turon stated his concern that this Ordinance will open the door for a Public Safety Director position. Mayor Perri deferred to Solicitor Scerni to confirm that the language of the Ordinance does not infer that such a position will be created. Scerni clarified that the State Statute lists persons/positions that may serve as the designee including a Public Safety Director. However, the City of Northfield does not currently have that position and it would have to be created and appointed before it could serve as the designee. Kern questioned the Mayor's earlier response that a Public Safety Director position is still a viable option for the City. Perri responded that such a position would have to be presented to the Governing Body and the intent of the proposed language was to bring the City into compliance. Councilman Carew stated his concern that the language opens the door for the Public Safety Director position and indirectly asked the Mayor to commit to put the matter to rest. Perri, once again, stated that the Ordinance had nothing to do with the matter of a Public Safety Director. Council President Mazzeo clarified for the Public that, should the Mayor wish to create the position, he would have to present it to the Governing Body for a vote.

Roll call: Carew – yes; Notaro – yes; Kern – yes; Martinez – yes; Schlachter – yes; Turon – yes; Mazzeo – yes. All present in favor, motion carries

Motion by Councilman Notaro, second by Kern for Ordinance 10-2006 to be read by title only. All present in favor.

10-2006 An Ordinance to Vacate Right of Way Property owned by the City of Northfield off of Mount Vernon Avenue / Block 116

Discussion: Mayor Asked if the homeowner was notified that the matter was on the agenda for that evening. Response in the affirmative.

Roll call: Carew – yes; Notaro – yes; Kern – yes; Martinez – yes; Schlachter – yes; Turon – yes; Mazzeo – yes. All present in favor, motion carries

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PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Mazzeo asked if anyone from the public wished to speak.

Mr. Robert Webb of 218 West Revere Avenue, Northfield, NJ came forward and expressed his discontent with how the elected officials have been conducting themselves and asked that they start working together as a group to better serve the taxpayers. He also expressed his dissatisfaction that the Police Department Dispatch was moved to EHT. Councilman Carew reassured Mr. Webb that dialogue and communication among the Council members was important and does in fact take place.

Ms. Andrea Dickenson of 250 West Mill Road came forward to question if the BGP Seasonal Concession Stand position had been posted. City Clerk Carol Raph replied that it was a seasonal position. Administrator Bruckler stated that seasonal positions do not require the same processing as permanent / full time positions. On behalf of the Friends of Birch Grove Park, Dickenson thanked Councilmen Schlachter and Notaro for their work in helping to get the trees that were planted on Arbor Day and she welcomed Liz O'Grady to the advisory board.

MEETING NOTICES/KERN

Work Session	May 23, 2006	7:00 pm
Regular Session	May 23, 2006	8:00 pm

Motion to adjourn by Councilwoman Kern, second by Councilman Carew. All present in favor, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Raph, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk