

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
MAY 20, 2008**

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

The flag salute was led by Mayor Vincent Mazzeo. Following the flag salute, there was a moment of silence to reflect upon the upcoming Memorial Day Holiday, a day of remembrance in honor of those who fought and died to preserve our freedom.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Kern, Notaro, O’Grady, Zlotnick, Martinez  
Absent: Carew, Vain

City Solicitor Steve Scheffler and City Engineer Matt Doran were also in attendance.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

Council President Martinez reviewed the agenda and advised that Ordinance 8-2008, An Ordinance Amending the 1986 Land Use and Development Ordinance, Article 5, General Provisions, to Include Tree Removal and Protection, will be added. Councilman Notaro mentioned the aggregate figure of \$1,000,000 in Ordinance 4-2008, the Capital Bond Ordinance, adding that he remembered this figure as being less during the Budget Meetings. Mayor Mazzeo clarified that the figure was originally approximately \$800,000, but there were additional projects considered, such as the pump station at Philmar Circle and Pasadena Drive, and the Cedarbridge/Zion project. These additions resulted in the final figure. Mazzeo also noted that since we are already in the month of June, that all of the funds may not be utilized this year, and that the City should scale back on debt as we look towards next year. Council President Martinez also noted for the record that Councilman Vain would not be in attendance this evening due to a scheduling conflict with a Northfield Community School function.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilwoman Zlotnick attended the Healthy Community Grand Finale Celebration on May 7<sup>th</sup> at Atlantic City Country Club. It was a very nice affair and all families who participated in the challenge spoke very positively about the experience. Zlotnick thanked everyone whose contribution made the Healthy Families Makeover a success. A Visual Literacy Fair was held at Northfield Community School last week to demonstrate how technology is infused in many daily lessons to give students a technological edge. Zlotnick extended congratulations to the Northfield Community School Choir for placing 1<sup>st</sup> in the Music Showcase Festival Competition at Hershey, Pennsylvania, and to Emma Seals for her 1<sup>st</sup> place win for flute solo.

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Zlotnick concluded her report by announcing that the next School Board Meeting will be held Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

Councilman Notaro advised that the Welcome to Northfield Sign Program has only one spot remaining and encouraged any interested sponsors to contact the City Clerk's Office. He thanked Deputy City Clerk Mary Canesi for her assistance with the program. In addition to the proposed energy audit to be conducted by the Richard Stockton State College this Fall, Notaro will be researching a grant from the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Clean Energy Program for a more extensive energy audit for the City buildings and possibly the Community School. Over the next few weeks, he will be contacting past and present members of the Economic Development Commission to reorganize for new appointments.

Councilwoman Kern reported that the Fire Department will be assisting with the installation of American Flags on Shore Road between Golfview Drive and Northfield Plaza; there is a limited supply of flags but nonetheless it will create a very festive atmosphere for the Memorial Day holiday. Kern thanked the Firefighters Local 24 for their donation of a clothes dryer for use in the Northfield City Fire House, and mentioned that the Northfield Fire Department has been invited to participate in the 'mock crash' at Mainland Regional High School. This is event sponsored by the school's chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions, and is staged each year to coincide with the timing of the Prom. Kern said she received a letter from the Atlantic County Fire Fighter's Association with an offer of \$4,000 to purchase the surplus Fire Truck. Kern shared the letter with Mayor and Council and urged them to consider accepting the Association's offer, noting that Northfield Fire Department would benefit from the use of the truck as a training apparatus at the County facility. Councilman O'Grady stated that Council's previous vote was to use eBay as a first course of action, and if after 30 days the truck had not sold, that we would entertain other options at that point. Kern referred to this evening's payment of bills, and explained that the monies paid to Channel Two and Mainland Regional High School for Media Services are also paid by Linwood and Somers Point. The funds are used for supplies, access to Amber Alert, and approximately 90 program tapings per year, 22 of which are for Northfield. Mayor Mazzeo added that the amounts on this evening's bill list represent 2007 and 2008 funding. Kern announced that she's asked Council to honor Northfield resident Monsignor Thomas Sharkey of St Bernadette's Parish in Northfield as he celebrates his 60<sup>th</sup> year of service to the church. He will be issued a Proclamation by Council at the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Kern also delivered the following report on behalf of Councilman Steve Vain: City Engineer Matt Doran has sent estimates to the County for final approval on the Cedarbridge and Zion Road intersection project. If anyone would like a copy of the

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plan for this intersection please contact Vain. Vain also extended his appreciation to Councilman Notaro, Deputy City Clerk Mary Canesi, and Public Works Supervisor Jim Clark for their work on the Welcome to Northfield sign program. Vain will be attending meetings with representatives from Trocki Development regarding the Burton Estates issue on Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> and will report findings at the next meeting. Councilman Notaro asked if the City has received any feedback from the County regarding their financial contributions towards the Cedarbridge/Zion intersection project. Doran replied that the County is funding 50% each of the design and construction phases, with a total price tag for the project of \$145,000.

Councilman O'Grady thanked the staff of Mainland Regional High School and Channel Two for doing a good job, and reminded citizens that the City Council meetings are broadcast on Channel Two the Thursday following each Council session. He provided a summary of the activities from the May 15<sup>th</sup> Planning and Zoning Board meeting and advised that the next meeting will be on Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. O'Grady advised that the City is addressing technology issues relative to the computers in the City Clerk's Office, and commended the Public Works Department for their handling of events resulting from the May 12<sup>th</sup> storm.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Mazzeo also attended the Healthy Family Celebration at the Atlantic City Country Club, and congratulated all participating families. Mazzeo announced that Ordinance 6-2008, the appropriation of funds for the preparation of approved tax maps, will allow us to move another step forward with the revaluation. These maps will be sent to the state for approval, and will be returned to us with corrections to bring them up to current requirements. Mazzeo thanked the Library Board for agreeing to return \$55,000 of their current surplus, as permitted by the Moriarty Bill, noting that this must be approved by the State Librarian. Referring to the last Council Meeting when Councilwoman Kern inquired about the overgrown grass at the intersection of Tilton and New Roads, Mazzeo said he made several phone calls to State personnel and the grass has since been cut. He retained the names of those he contacted for future use. He also wrote a letter to Senator Jim Whelan asking for assistance with the sign for this intersection. Last Monday's storm resulted in numerous power outages throughout Northfield, some of more than one day's duration, and Mazzeo extended his appreciation to the Department of Public Works for their hard work, and to Atlantic Electric for their efforts in restoring power. Mazzeo noted that he, Police Chief Robert James, and Emergency Management Coordinator Qwin Vitale were in constant communication, and that they conducted a post-storm meeting along with Public Works Supervisor Jim Clark to discuss ways to better handle future events of this kind. Mazzeo also thanked the Atlantic County

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Utilities Authority for their assistance in removing approximately 100 feet of downed trees along Rosedale Avenue on Thursday, as opposed to their original intended removal date of Saturday. He said that Northfield CFO Marilyn Dolcy has advised that there will be some relief with regard to state aid and that we may anticipate a return of approximately \$33,000 of the \$232,000 that was cut. Mazzeo added that Council may adopt the City's budget at the next Council meeting. The Memorial Day Parade line-up will begin at 8:45am at Broad Street and Haddon Avenue, with the Parade starting at 9:30am followed by a 10:00am ceremony at City Hall. The Mayor deferred to Northfield Police Chief Robert James for an update on the proposed reinstatement of the City's bicycle patrol. James announced that the Atlantic City Police Department has graciously offered us four slots in an upcoming Bicycle Patrol School class. He added that the Police Department's goal is to have four fully trained and equipped bicycle patrol officers on the street before school lets out for the summer, and that their initial focus will be monitoring the area of the bike path.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, the work session portion of the meeting was closed. Council President Martinez requested the City Clerk to open this evening's Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Raph, RMC/CMC