

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION MEETING
MAY 22, 2007**

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 Perri. Following the flag salute he called for a moment of silence, as Memorial Day approaches, to recognize those who have fallen to protect our liberties and that those fighting today may return home safely to their families.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mazzeo, Martinez, Notaro, Turon, Vain, Kern
Absent: Carew (arrived at 8:00 pm)

City Solicitor Keith Bonchi, City Administrator Jeffrey Bruckler, Engineer Ed Stinson, CFO Marilyn Dolcy, Deputy City Clerk Kim Hodsdon, and Police Chief Robert James were present.

PRESENTATION/CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT

Mayor Perri and Councilman Vain presented students from the Northfield Community School with certificates of achievement recognizing their championship win at the 2007 Think Day event. Councilman Vain announced that it was the first time in twenty years that a Northfield team won this event. He congratulated the children and thanked the Mayor and Council for honoring them.

OATH OF OFFICE

Newly promoted officers in the Northfield Police Department participated in an Oath of Office ceremony as follows:

Captain George R. Clark – Oath administered by Mayor Perri
Lieutenant Arthur J. Faden – Oath administered by Carol Raph, City Clerk
Sergeant Stephen Steinecke – Oath administered by Mayor Perri
Sergeant Mark Voncolln – Oath administered by Mayor Perri

Council President Kern wished them all long, healthy and safe careers with the City. Mayor Perri congratulated everyone. He commented that testing was not easy and thanked everyone who participated.

Council President Kern reviewed the agenda.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Vain discussed a letter that he has drafted to ask County Executive Levinson to reconsider the matter of a speed-limit reduction on Zion Road. He asked Council for feedback on the letter before he sends it. Regarding a speed-limit reduction on Burton Avenue, Vain stated that the DOT requires that a traffic study be completed first. Mayor Perri and Councilman Vain discussed the traffic study and

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION MEETING
MAY 22, 2007**

associated costs to the City. Vain questioned the status of a City Skate Park. Administrator Bruckler explained that the cost of insurance is a key factor in considering this project. Council discussed budgetary constraints. Councilman Martinez suggested private corporate sponsorship as a possible way to offset the City's costs. Councilman Vain will relay to the children at Northfield Community School that City Council is still looking into the matter.

Councilman Martinez reported that requirements for clearing trees and maintaining buffer zones during housing construction and development are not being adhered to. He stated that the City Engineer suggested at a recent Planning/Zoning Board meeting that the City adopt an Ordinance and impose fines for non-compliance.

Councilman Notaro asked if the resurfacing of the parking lot at Northfield Community School was being approached as a shared service in conjunction with the City's paving projects. Engineer Stinson replied in the affirmative, stating that the two are working together, but that separate quotes are also being evaluated to determine if there are savings.

Councilman Mazzeo reported that a meeting has been tentatively scheduled for June with Administrator Bruckler and the CFO to discuss the 2008 budget. Councilman Vain has agreed to be on the Budget Committee. Mazzeo told Council that he had spoken with a representative from South Jersey Economic Development, a public organization that is funded by the State which specializes in grant-writing for municipalities. He suggested that Council meet with this organization to discuss how they may serve the needs of Northfield. He announced that he would be attending a meeting of the Atlantic County Steering Committee for Shared Services scheduled for May 23rd. Councilman Mazzeo had attended a Northfield Board of Education meeting where the issue of elections was discussed. The School Board expressed concerns over safety due to the fact that some elections are held while school is in session. Council discussed the matter and expressed that they are in favor of keeping the polling place at the school because it meets the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and it is convenient for voters.

Council president Kern announced that the Cultural Committee will be featured on Channel 2 and interviewed by the Current newspaper at the Museum on May 23rd. Seven senior citizens, two of which have reportedly lived on Mill Road for over ninety years, will be interviewed as they discuss Northfield's history. The Cultural Committee named Mr. John Fredericks as Citizen of the Year and Maya Muzerick as the First Northfield Baby of the Year.

Councilman Carew entered the meeting at approximately 8:00 pm.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION MEETING
MAY 22, 2007**

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Perri announced that the reconstruction of the Tilton Road and Route 9 intersection is complete. He congratulated everyone involved and commented that that project was thirty years in the making. He reminded everyone of the Memorial Day services scheduled for May 28th.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Bruckler reported on the following: The Sewer inter-local agreement will be presented to the Linwood City Council in the near future; Mr. Ray J. Adams has tendered his resignation and interviews were held for both Mr. Adams' part time position and the seasonal grounds-keeping position; the DPW is scheduled to begin the necessary work at the Cedarbridge & Oak four-way stop on May 23rd; street sweeping is scheduled for the end of June and all appropriate public announcements will be made; the Municipal Court has received \$1,719.60 from the New Jersey Municipal Court Alcohol Education, Rehabilitation and Enforcement Fund.

Bruckler announced the following meetings and events: The American Red Cross will be holding a Blood Drive on June 1st in Council Chambers from 12:00 to 6:00 pm; He and Engineer Ed Stinson attended a meeting on May 17th at 4:00 pm with the Egg Harbor Township MUA and developers to discuss the proposed development on Mill and Fire Roads and its impact on the City of Northfield – this will be discussed in detail during executive session; a meeting is scheduled with Council President Kern, Mayor Perri, Councilmatic Chair Martinez and Chief Lynn Perri to discuss the status of volunteer enlistment in the Rescue Squad; He is scheduled to attend a workshop with the NJDEP concerning the Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program on June 6th at 9:00 am.

PUBLIC HEARING/ 8:00 pm

At approximately 8:00 pm the City Clerk announced the Public Hearing to discuss the Proposed Purchase of 1913 Oak Avenue (Block 14, Lot 10.01) for Preservation as Open Space. This meeting was open to the public. Robert Webb of 218 West Revere Avenue came forward and questioned the specific location of the property.

Engineer Stinson explained that the public hearing is a requirement of the application process. Stinson and Council discussed the intricacies of the application process and its requirements. Stinson explained that, although Northfield has received Open Space grants twice in the past, the City has most likely paid more into the fund than what it has received. Solicitor Bonchi explained that certain matters, such as environmental clean-up, can be negotiated with the seller.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, Council President Kern closed this public meeting at 8:19 pm.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION MEETING
MAY 22, 2007**

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The City Engineer's report was provided to Mayor and Council and is on file in the City Clerk's office. Councilman Vain questioned the status of redesigning the intersection of Cedarbridge & Zion Roads. Stinson replied that he has not heard back from the County on the matter. Councilman Mazzeo questioned the format of the new tax maps. Stinson and Mazzeo discussed new technology that may be available as a shared service.

Council President Kern opened this meeting to the public. Jason O'Grady of 2531 Cedarbridge Road came forward and voiced his support for a City Ordinance that would impose fines for non-compliance with tree-cutting in conjunction with housing construction. As a member of the Planning/Zoning Board, O'Grady stated that he witnesses many instances where the developer is aware of the regulation, but does not adhere to it.

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

On a motion properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Raph, RMC/CMC