

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 23, 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. In observance of Memorial Day, Mayor Perri also recognized those who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedom.

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

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

**READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES/May 9, 2006**

Motion by Councilman Martinez, second by Councilman Turon to dispense with the reading of the minutes of May 9, 2006. 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 Turon congratulated the organizers of the annual Health and Literacy Fair that was held at the Northfield Community School.

Councilman Martinez gave the Rescue Squad's monthly report as follows: Total number of calls – 64; Mutual aid provided for Northfield – 0; Mutual aid provided by Northfield – 2; Number of times the FD assisted – 6. The top five run-takers were: Barry Kraus – 28; Joe Libertore – 7; Maryann D'Agastino – 6; Heather Newport – 5; Randy Dennis - 5.

Councilman Schlachter reported that the work on the sprinkler system is nearly complete and is ready for the contractor to tie-in to the All-Sports Field. He offered his thanks to Steve Pinto for his volunteer work. The new Playground at Birch Grove Park has been well received by the public. The park advisory board is in the early stages of planning refurbishments to the snack bar. The next project to take under consideration is repairing the boardwalk. The Board intends to plan fundraisers in addition to seeking private and public support for these projects.

Councilman Carew noted that the low bid for the All-Sports Practice Field was reasonable. Carew and Schlachter discussed the replacement of some irrigation equipment under warranty.

Councilwoman Kern questioned the Drug-Free Zone maps that were given to Council. Council President Mazzeo responded that they should be reviewed in preparation for the next Council meeting. Kern offered her thanks to Ray Adams for the Hurricane

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 23, 2006**

preparedness tips that he provided and agreed that it would be useful to the public to have this information added to the web site.

Councilman Notaro announced that the Fire Department will be holding a blood drive on Friday, June 2, 2006 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM in the court room. He also welcomed new hire, Corry Freeman to the Public Works Department.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Perri announced the details of the Memorial Day festivities and expressed his hopes that everyone would attend. The Atlantic County veterans memorial program will be held on Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM at the veterans cemetery. Perri congratulated Jo Kapus on her designation as the 2006 Woman of the Year given by the local Order of the Sons of Italy. He announced that the new Library brochure was designed free of charge by Rowan University and is now available. He offered his congratulations to the organizers of the Health and Literacy Fair for another successful year. Perri offered his condolences to Sgt. Paul Newman and his family on the loss of his brother, Albert. He reported that he had received a petition from 35 residents on Wabash Avenue, organized by William and Gail Frank, regarding the detour route during the upcoming reconstruction of County roads. Specifically, their concerns are for the safety of the disabled and the children in the area. Perri reassured that police presence would be strong and safety is of the utmost importance.

Captain Robert James of the Northfield Police Department added that the radar trailer will be in place and police officers have been advised to strongly enforce speed limits. Additionally, he has requested that the County give travelers advance notice of the detour via message boards.

Mayor Perri gave the April Police Department Report as follows: Total adult arrests – 40; Juveniles arrested – 8; Drug offense arrests – 5; Total calls for service – 1599; Investigations opened – 59; Recovered stolen property - \$101,000.00; Motor vehicle summons issued – 159; DWI arrests – 3; Summons issued as a result of MV accidents – 31; MV accidents investigated – 31; Summons issued as a result of radar enforcement – 17.

Perri acknowledged his support for the Click-it or Ticket campaign and encouraged everyone to buckle up. He recognized the passing of Emmett Maher, noting that he was a true ambassador to the youth and the community of Northfield and will be sadly missed.

Mayor Perri reported that there have been a few ORPA requests regarding contracts that he was awarded as a private business owner, both prior to and during his term as an elected official. With hopes to put the issue at rest, he has asked the City Solicitor to render an opinion, as was done previously in 1990.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 23, 2006**

**RESOLUTIONS**

- 79-2006** On a motion of Turon, second of Notaro all in favor of adopting a Resolution Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation (Clean Communities Grant).  
Roll Call: Carew - yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries.
- 80-2006** On a motion of Schlachter, second of Martinez all in favor of adopting a Resolution Authorizing the Refund of Overpayment of Taxes, Block 177/Lot 6  
Roll Call: Carew – yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries
- 81-2006** On a motion of Turon, second of Kern all in favor of adopting a Resolution Authorizing the Reduction of a Performance Guarantee to Group Land Development for The Enclave at Shore mill.  
Roll Call: Carew – yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – no, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries.  
Mayor Perri asked the Building Department and Administrator Bruckler to follow up on concerns that were discussed during the work session.
- 82-2006** On a motion of Schlachter, second of Kern all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Authorize the Refund of Monies for a Bike Path Bench.  
Roll Call: Carew - yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries
- 83-2006** On a motion of Martinez, second of Turon all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Refund Overpayment of Taxes, Block157 / Lot 81.01  
Roll Call: Carew - yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries.
- 84-2006** On a motion of Martinez, second of Turon all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Authorize the Award of a Contract to Angelic Cleaning Services as an Outsource Janitorial Service.  
Roll Call: Carew - yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries
- 85-2006** On a motion of Turon, second of Kern to adopt a Resolution Providing for an Executive Session Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 23, 2006**

Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, Regarding an Arbitration Settlement

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

Outcome of the Executive Session: City Council has agreed to a severance package in the amount of \$17,000.00 for Phyllis Palmerino pursuant to which she will no longer be a Northfield City employee and will release all rights and claims she has against the City.

**86-2006** On a motion of Turon, second of Kern to adopt a Resolution Providing for an Executive Session Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, Regarding Possible Litigation

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

**87-2006** On a motion of Turon, second of Kern to adopt a Resolution Providing for an Executive Session Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, Regarding Contract Negotiations

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

Outcome of the Executive Session: Resolution 92-2006.

**88-2006** On a motion of Notaro, second of Schlachter all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Hire a Laborer in the Public Works Department

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

**89-2006** On a motion of Notaro, second of Schlachter all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Authorize the Rejection of Bids Received for the Reconstruction of Roosevelt Avenue – Phase II.

Discussion: At the request of Turon, Solicitor Scerni explained that the lowest bidder exceeded the 10% allowance for site clearance. It was a collective recommendation by Bruckler, Scerni and Ed Stinson to reject the bids and open it up for re-bidding.

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

**90-2006** On a motion of Kern, second of Schlachter all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Support the Click-it or Ticket Mobilization

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 23, 2006**

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

**91-2006** On a motion of Schlachter, second of Notaro all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Authorize the Award of a Contract for Improvements to the All-Sports Practice Field.

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

**92-2006** On a motion of Schlachter, second of Notaro all in favor of adopting a Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator to be the Exclusive Negotiator in Matters Pertaining to Docket No.: I-2006-153

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

**ORDINANCES**

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  
Final Reading/Open to the Public/ Published in Press 5/27/06

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

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

**10-2006** An Ordinance to Vacate Right of Way Property owned by the City of Northfield off of Mount Vernon Avenue / Block 116  
Final Reading/Open to the Public/ Published in Press 5/27/06

Public Input: Robert Webb of Revere Avenue, Northfield, NJ inquired as to the property address. The property is landlocked by other property owners and has no address.

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

**PAYMENT OF BILLS      \$1,737,619.86**

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 23, 2006**

Councilman Schlachter motioned for payment of bills in the amount of **\$1,737,619.86**, second by Councilman Martinez.

Discussion: Carew questioned the cost of the fence repairs; why was it deducted from the Birch Grove Park (BGP) trust fund and the All-Sports Practice Field when it has historically been a Buildings & Grounds line item. Schlachter responded that it was not intended to set a precedent and will not continue. At the time, the City was operating on a temporary budget and if it's possible to put the money back into the BGP trust fund – we will.

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

**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 concern over the traffic and suggested that blinking lights be installed at several of the City's most dangerous intersections. He also suggested that a "Do Not Block Intersection" sign be installed at Zion & Mill Roads. Webb commented that he had overheard a complaint regarding the cost of landscaping the monument area in front of City Hall. He believes that beautification to the monument area is a tribute to our veterans and the \$1000.00 price tag is minimal compared to the cost of their lives. Councilman Carew agreed and complimented Bayview Nursery on the landscaping. Carew also complimented Mr. Webb on the shed and model ships that he donated to the museum, noting that he took his children to see them and it was enjoyable.

Mayor Frank Perri Jr. of 7 Haddon Avenue, Northfield, NJ stepped down from the dais and addressed the Governing Body as a civilian. He stated that he wished to clear up misconceptions regarding the recent accusations of nepotism. The tax office clerk was married to a councilman at the time of her appointment; Carew voted yes to that Resolution. He also voted yes to the Resolution to appoint Mr. Ray Adams. Perri pointed out several other affirmative votes for past appointments on Resolutions (1996, 1999, 2002, 2004). He also remarked on the fact that Carew and Kern both voted on the payment of bills without abstaining from matters related to the Northfield Board of Education and both have relatives employed by the Board. All of these votes are on record and will be made available to the public and the press. Perri expressed his discontent that his family has been drug through the mud and stated that nepotism does did not begin with him.

Mr. William Frank of 201 West Glencove Avenue, Northfield, NJ came forward to express his concern over the detour route (Wabash Ave.) during the County Road improvements. He thanked Mayor Perri for addressing the issues and his petition. He requested that an officer be positioned in that area to ensure safety and commented that police presence in that area has declined since it was repaved.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 23, 2006**

Mrs. Gail Frank of 201 West Glencove Avenue, Northfield, NJ came forward to discuss the Wabash Avenue Detour route, stating that the handicap ramps increase the risk because children on bikes do not have to slow down for the curb. She asked Council to consider making the area a restricted zone – possibly doubling the fines. She thanked the Mayor for his awareness campaign. Regarding cell towers, she asked that Council reaffirm their commitment to restrict them in residential areas.

Councilwoman Kern stated, in response to the Mayor’s comments, that she had asked the City Solicitor if she should abstain from voting on Board of Education issues, but will abstain in the future.

**MEETING NOTICES/KERN**

Primary Election Day	June 6, 2006	6:00 am to 8:00 pm
Work Session	June 13, 2006	7:00 pm
Regular Session	June 13, 2006	8:00 pm

Motions were made and seconded to enter into each Executive Session. All present in favor, the Executive Sessions were not open to the public. In the case of an Executive Session being concluded, the outcome was announced to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Raph, RMC/CMC  
Municipal Clerk