

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 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, as well as those who serve our community as volunteers, that they may return safely to their families.

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

Solicitor Alfred Scerni, Jr., Engineer Ed Stinson of Doran Engineering, CFO Marilyn Dolcy, City Administrator Jeffrey Bruckler, and Deputy City Clerk Kim Hodsdon were present.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES/May 23, 2006

Motion by Councilman Martinez, second by Councilman Turon to dispense with the reading of the minutes of May 23, 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 Martinez gave the Rescue Squad's monthly report as follows: Total number of calls – 76; Mutual aid provided for Northfield – 0; Mutual aid provided by Northfield – 2; Number of times the FD assisted – 4. The top five run-takers were: Barry Kraus – 25; Heather Newbert – 13; Ray E Adams – 10; Randy Dennis – 7; Guy Schlachter – 6.

Councilman Schlachter reported that two additional flashing lights will be purchased for the intersection of Oak and Cedarbridge – making it a 4-way stop. Streets that cross-over the Bike Path are scheduled to have additional signage installed warning motorists to 'yield to pedestrians'. White striping is also scheduled to be painted on the roadways that intersect the Bike Path. With the upcoming construction on the major thoroughfares, Schlachter stated that these improvements will warn motorists and deter speeding along the secondary streets.

Councilman Carew commended Eileen Pantalena, member of the Friends of Birch Grove Park, for her work on the memorial area of the Park.

Councilwoman Kern announced that everything went well on the previous Wednesday, the first day that Municipal Court was held during the day time hours.

Councilman Notaro gave the Fire Department Report for the month of May as follows: Total Fire Incidents – 22; Total EMS Incidents – 26; Total Emergency Responses – 10. No injuries or fatalities.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2006**

Council President Mazzeo announced that the 2007 Capital Projects Meeting is anticipated to be held in either July or August of this year – as opposed to January for better planning purposes. He also announced that he anticipates forming a committee in order to determine how best to utilize the funds generated from Recreation Fees.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Perri offered his thanks to all of the people involved in the Memorial Day services, noting that his son and daughter produced a presentation in lieu of the musician’s who were scheduled, but could not attend. Specific people/organizations named and thanked by the Mayor for their participation in the services included: Chief Paul Gunning of the 177th Fighter Wing, the 295th Post for placing of the wreath, Sue Cairo, and Monsignor Valazzo. Additionally, Perri thanked all of the community volunteers who participated in the parade and to the Fire Department for putting up the flags around town.

Perri reported that the Police Committee met to discuss the restructuring of the department and a subsequent meeting is planned for the near future. He announced that he is still seeking volunteers to take over the planning of the annual Family Fest. He is still awaiting responses on the Mayor’s Cup / Northfield Day.

He reported that the Shore Road Reconstruction Project is on schedule and the County has given approval for the installation of the Library signs in conjunction with the project – at no cost to the City of Northfield. He offered his thanks to Councilman Schlachter for his work in getting the safety improvements started along the Bike Path and intersections. He stated that he would like to have a study done to analyze the feasibility of 4-way stops on Bike Path intersections. Perri offered his thanks to both the Volunteer Fire Department and the Fire Department as well as the Volunteer Rescue Squad, noting that there were 4 very serious accidents recently and that they had done a fine job in responding.

Mayor Perri mentioned areas experiencing drainage problems as follows: Ridgewood, Roosevelt & Shore, and Davis / Bike Path.

Perri reported on a recent incident involving a missing child. He offered his thanks to the Police Department and the Office of Emergency Management. The incident was handled very well by everyone involved. With the assistance of the New York Police Department, the child was located later that evening.

To summarize the results of the recent Click-it or Ticket campaign, Perri gave the following report: Motor Vehicle Stops – 202; Tickets Issued – 134; Drug Arrests – 3; Criminal Warrant Arrests – 1. Traffic Summons were broken down into the following categories: Seatbelt Violations – 104; Child Restraint Seat Violations – 1; Speeding – 1; equipment violations, cell-phone violations, and other moving & non-moving violations.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2006**

Councilman Carew inquired as to whether the Mayor needed any assistance in addressing the reported drainage issues. Perri responded that the City Engineer needs to evaluate the problem at Ridgewood because the street, driveway and front yard appear to be caving in to the storm water system. Administrator Bruckler reported that the Public Works Department was aware of the problem at Davis and Fuae and they have cleaned the street around the drain. Public Works and Engineer Stinson are also aware of the problem at Ridgewood; the storm-water inlet needs to be replaced. Bruckler and Stinson will inspect the site at Shore Road. Quotes will be obtained for these projects.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Bruckler reported that Street Sweeping began on June 6th and will continue until June 23rd. Residents are notified via flyers on the day preceding the sweeping.

He is still receiving quotes for Dental Care and plans to make a recommendation to Council at the next meeting. He is also scheduled to meet with a representative from AFLAC Insurance to discuss the upcoming open enrollment period.

Bruckler reported that he has been interviewing for the Seasonal Birch Grove Park Laborer position and will continue to do so as he has not yet found a suitable candidate. Interviews for the open Public Works Laborer position will commence soon.

Bruckler advised Council that a meeting between Mille DeFeo of the DEP Bureau of Storm Water Regulation, representatives of Doran Engineering, Public Works Manager Jim Clark and himself is scheduled for June 19th in order to discuss Northfield's Tier-A Storm Water Permit.

He reported that the directional antenna needed for the dispatch software upgrade is scheduled to be installed on the Municipal Building on June 14th at 10:00 a.m. Installation will be completed by the Cardiff Fire Company because they have the necessary equipment.

Bruckler reported that the City had received a letter from Attorney Michael Rann concerning an appeal of a road opening permit denial for Block 79, Lots 20 & 20.01. The appeal is based on the fact that the road in question is on the 5-year moratorium and the property owner was not aware of the new ordinance. Council President Mazzeo questioned the timing of the events which took place. City Solicitor Alfred Scerni explained that it is a matter of when he applied for the road-opening permit. Scerni stated that, after his review of the file, he did not believe there was any question as to whether or not the ordinance was in affect. The property owner submitted the street-opening application in May; the ordinance went into effect back in February/March. Thus, Scerni stated that the ordinance was in effect when the application was made and he is comfortable that the ordinance does control this particular issue.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2006**

Bruckler suggested that Council hold a special session to discuss the matter. Councilman Schlachter stated that he had discussed the matter with Ed Stinson and that it is possible for the street to be opened. Bruckler advised that the matter needed to be appealed before Council before they can proceed in any manner. Councilwoman Kern questioned the date of the ordinance, noting that the applicant's letter of appeal stated that he was given approval for the sub-division on March 2nd and the ordinance was passed on March 7th. Mayor Perri responded that the two issues are separate and that he did not apply for the street opening permit until May. The ordinance was properly advertised and passed. Perri stated that the applicant should come before the Governing Body to give a statement and explain, should a concession be granted, how he plans to address the reconstruction. Mayor Perri commented on the utility connections that would be required for the applicant to build on the new sub-divided lot and the considerable amount of disruption it would cause to the street.

Councilman Carew commented that he believed the ordinance specified the conditions of reconstruction in cases where road openings were permitted. Stinson responded in the affirmative – that there are provisions within the ordinance that govern hardship applications and the requirements of reconstruction.

Council President Mazzeo suggested that the applicant's appeal hearing be scheduled for the next Council Meeting. Turon questioned if that would be enough time considering the applicant's obligation to notify neighboring property owners. Solicitor Scerni stated that the applicant should have ample time to notify surrounding property owners of his intent; the requirement is 10 days. It was decided that the matter would be heard at the next scheduled regular meeting of the City Council on July 18th at 8:00 p.m. Furthermore, Scerni stated that additional advertising would not be necessary because the matter was to be included on the agenda for the already-advertised public meeting.

Councilwoman Kern asked Bruckler if he had received any feedback from the Church regarding parking as the City was going to begin using the recreation fields at the Jewish Community Day School in the next month. Bruckler responded that he had not received a response from the letter that he had sent in that regard.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Ed Stinson of Doran Engineering reported that the check valve for the Cedarbridge and Juniper Drive drainage system has been delivered to Lafayette and installation is scheduled in the near future. The award for the Reconstruction of Roosevelt Avenue was on the agenda and Stinson reported that the low bidder was Arawak Paving Co with a low bid of \$197,500.00. A bid date has been set for June 30th for the Reconstruction of Leslie Lane. The design for the reconstruction of Davis Avenue is on-going. A bid date is forthcoming. The field work and design has begun on the CDBG (a continuation of installing accessible curb ramps at various intersections) and a bid date is anticipated for July.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2006**

Stinson reported that the application for Municipal Aid FY2007 has been completed. The application for Roadway Reconstruction will be for the reconstruction of Banning Avenue and will include drainage improvements on that street. The application for Safe Streets to Schools would be used for the sidewalk along Cedarbridge from Juniper Drive to Wabash Avenue. The application for Bike Lane Improvements would be used for the installation of double yellow lines on each side of the bike lane and for the repainting of bike symbols at every intersecting street. This will be the third year that the City has applied for the Bike Lane Improvements grant and has yet to receive it.

Stinson provided Mayor and Council with copies of a report he had received from developer K. Hovnanian regarding Sutton Woods. He explained that it is a conceptual report which provides a written plan of how they intend to restore the basins. It is not the formal report that was promised, however the recommendations made in this report do appear to be in line with what Doran's requirements.

He attended a pre-construction meeting with the contractor of the All Purpose Field at Birch Grove Park. The project is scheduled to begin within this month. In regards to the Birch Grove Park storm water pump station, Stinson clarified that the Public Works Department does have the right to maintain the City's ditches. However, the City can not re-grade them without a permit from the DEP. Councilman Carew commented that Public Works has cleaned out the ditches in the past.

Councilman Turon reported that he observed what he thought to be a second sewer line installed at The Enclave at Shore Mill model home. He asked Stinson to look into it. Turon also inquired as to whether the City had received any correspondence regarding the reforestation of the site. No one responded. Regarding the Sutton Woods matter, Turon asked if the report they submitted met the timeline set forth in the City's letter. Solicitor Scerni explained that the report they provided to the City was not the formal one requested, but as reported by Mr. Stinson, the plans that were laid out were in line with the recommendations of Doran Engineering. Scerni stated that it is at the discretion of Council to decide if the report in front of them is satisfactory. Turon expressed concern that the developer may be trying to stall. Scerni responded that he believed there was a significant increase in communications between his office and the developer's attorney.

Mayor Perri expressed concern that page three of the Sutton Woods report was missing. Stinson apologized but assured the Mayor that he did review it and it was in line with his recommendations. Perri further commented that it was discouraging to see such a deviation from the original site plan of three years ago and he re-affirmed the recommendations that he had made during a recent Executive Session.

RESOLUTIONS

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2006**

- 93-2006** On a motion of Schlachter, second of Martinez all in favor of adopting a Resolution To Authorize Release of Escrow Monies From the Planning/Zoning Board
- Roll Call: Carew - yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries.
- 94-2006** On a motion of Notaro, second of Turon all in favor of adopting a Resolution Amending Resolution 81-2006 Performance Guarantee for Group Land Development, LTD – Enclave At Shore/Mill
- Roll Call: Carew - yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries.
- 95-2006** On a motion of Martinez, second of Kern all in favor of adopting a Resolution To Authorize Liquor Licenses for the Year 2006-2007
- Roll Call: Carew - yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries.
- 96-2006** On a motion of Notaro , second of Carew all in favor of adopting a Resolution Authorizing Participation of the City of Northfield in the Atlantic County Community Development Block Grant Program, FY 2007, 2008 and 2009
- Roll Call: Carew - yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries.
- 97-2006** On a motion of Turon, second of Carew all in favor of adopting a Resolution Authorizing the Award of Contract to South Jersey Energy for the Commodity Natural Gas
- Roll Call: Carew - yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries.
- 98-2006** On a motion of Schlachter, second of Kern all in favor of adopting a Resolution To Award a Contract to Winner Ford of Cherry Hill, NJ for the Purchase of Two Ford Crown Victoria Police Cars; State Contract # T0098
- Roll Call: Carew - yes, Kern – yes, Martinez – yes, Notaro – yes, Schlachter – yes, Turon – yes, Mazzeo- yes. Motion carries.
- 99-2006** On a motion of Carew, second of Turon all in favor of adopting a Resolution Authorizing the Release of Various Performance Bond Guarantees & Escrow Fees for Completed Projects

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2006**

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

100-2006 On a motion of Carew, second of Turon all in favor of adopting a Resolution Authorizing the Release of a Letter of Credit and Escrow Fees for DRA, L.L.C., Block 67, Lot 1.02

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

101-2006 On a motion of Schlachter, second of Martinez all in favor of adopting a Resolution To Authorize Award of Contract for the Purchase and Installation of Security Equipment for the Municipal Building, Court Room and Police Department (NJ State Contract #A-81193)

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

102-2006 On a motion of Martinez, second of Schlachter all in favor of adopting a Resolution To Authorize Award of Contract for a New Emergency Medical Vehicle for the City of Northfield Rescue Squad

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

103-2006 On a motion of Schlachter, second of Notaro all in favor of adopting a Resolution A Resolution Authorizing an Agreement for Televising Council Meetings

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

104-2006 On a motion of Notaro, second of Kern all in favor of adopting a Resolution To Authorize Award of Contract for Reconstruction of Roosevelt Ave. Phase II

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

105-2006 Removed during Work Session

106-2006 On a motion of Turon, second of Schlachter all in favor of adopting a Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Additional Monies to Doran Engineering

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

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2006**

107-2006 On a motion of Martinez, second of Kern all in favor of adopting a Resolution To Authorize return of Funds to Miller Homes, LLC

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

108-2006 Removed during Work Session

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman Schlachter motioned for payment of bills in the amount of **\$1,957,945.52**, second by Councilman Notaro. Councilman Turon announced that he would be abstaining on certain line items in the Payment of Bills. Kern also abstained from certain line items. Both were duly noted by Council President Mazzeo and are on file in the city Clerk’s office.

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 came forward and expressed his discontent with the recent article written by previous Mayor Munafo regarding the charges of nepotism against Mayor Perri. He encouraged everyone to work together. He also expressed his displeasure over the Northfield Dispatch being moved to EHT as well as other various happenings that occurred during Munafo’s term. Webb commented on the amazing volunteer work that goes on at Birch Grove Park.

Ms. Ida Margolis of 106 Cara Court came forward to report that speeding traffic in the development in which she lives, Sutton Woods, is a safety concern. She suggested that several of the streets need traffic signs such as “no outlet” or “slow – children at play”. Mayor Perri stated that such signs could be installed. Council President Mazzeo stated that he would make public works aware of it. Councilman Carew noted that there may be more than one street, or cul-de-sac, that needs such signs and suggested that the Police Department evaluate the needs in the neighborhood. Mazzeo agreed but stated that Ms. Margolis’ street could be taken care of first.

Mr. Peter Deprato of 517 Marita Ann Drive came forward and announced, for the record, that he has absolutely no relation to the Mayor. On behalf of the Northfield Democratic Party, County Committee, Deprato stated that they chose Councilman Guy Schlachter for the Council seat and that the Mayor had nothing to do with it. He commended Schlachter for doing an excellent job. He also stated his dissatisfaction at the personal attacks against the Perri family.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2006**

Robert Webb of 218 West Revere Avenue, Northfield, NJ came forward again and addressed another newspaper article that was published regarding Mayor Perri's towing services to the City. Webb stated that Perri had been providing that service for the City as a local businessman long before he became Mayor.

MEETING NOTICES/KERN

Work Session	July 18, 2006	7:00 pm
Regular Session	July 18, 2006	8:00 pm

Mayor Perri expressed great concern and dissatisfaction at the Sutton Woods report and stated that it is important for Council to understand that the developer deviated from the original plans for the site and continues to fail to correct the problems.

Motion to adjourn made by Carew, second by Schlachter. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Raph, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk