

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION 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.

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.

Council President Mazzeo began by asking what everyone thought of receiving the agenda packets electronically. Turon reported having some trouble opening the document. Carew requested that, should anyone experience problems with their home PC, a hard copy be provided upon request.

Mayor Perri requested that hard copies of the Payment of Bills List be available to the public. City Clerk, Carol Raph, responded in the affirmative.

Council President Mazzeo reviewed the agenda. Administrator Bruckler requested that Resolutions 105 and 108 be removed from the Agenda.

Councilwoman Kern questioned what prompted Resolution 103-2006. Mazzeo pointed out that both Linwood and Somers Point currently broadcast their Council Meetings on Public Television. Bruckler reported that he receives requests from the public. Kern questioned the cost involved. Mazzeo responded that there is a \$500.00 payment, but it is considered a donation to the Mainland Communications Department. Mayor Perri commented that the City has made donations to the Department in the past. Solicitor Scerni stated that he would consult the Auditor on the matter. Kern expressed concerns over the camera placement and audio capabilities. Mayor Perri stated that he felt it would be an asset to the community as a means to publicize community events such as parades and festivities. He also pointed out that Northfield is the only one in the region who is not currently broadcasting their public meetings.

Councilman Turon questioned Resolution 94-2006; what was the amendment? City Clerk Carol Raph responded that it was merely a numerical correction due to a calculation error.

Councilwoman Kern suggested that the Resolutions be presented as a consent agenda. Mazzeo declined, stating the he felt it was important for the public to hear each one.

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In regards to Resolution 107-2006, Councilman Turon asked if the City should hold back any monies for things such as unfinished sidewalks. Scerni explained that the City had received a bankruptcy notice and court order to release all funds.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Turon questioned the status of the matter involving a resident on Juniper Drive who experienced a sewer back-up and incurred personal repair expenses. Ed Stinson of Doran Engineering responded that the resident was offered \$250.00 by the contractor. Council President Mazzeo stated that the resident is not happy with the offer and is considering legal action against the contractor. Mr. Norm Wilson, son-in-law of the resident involved and a certified private plumber himself, came forward and explained to Council how the contractor's work was done incorrectly. Additionally, the contractor did work on the property without the owner's knowledge or consent. Her sprinkler system was also damaged. Wilson expressed that the contractor needs to take responsibility for their unacceptable and incompetent work.

Councilman Carew suggested that the contractor be brought in for a meeting to discuss the matter. Mazzeo agreed and asked Administrator Bruckler to arrange the meeting.

Councilman Martinez requested Council to authorize Doran Engineering to proceed with a feasibility study on solar power for City buildings. Mazzeo stated that some local residents have realized a return on their energy bills after installing solar power in their homes. On a motion by Notaro, second by Carew to approve Doran to proceed in obtaining quotes for a feasibility study. All in favor, motion carries.

Councilman Schlachter reported that Doran met with Turfscapes regarding the improvements to the All-Sport Practice Field. The project, scheduled to begin soon, will start with a meeting between Turfscapes and Steve Pinto (volunteer) to discuss the existing infrastructure. Schlachter announced that a meeting is scheduled for July 7th at 7:00 p.m. at Birch Grove Park to discuss this year's Halloween festivities; interested volunteers are encouraged to attend. An Ice Cream Social is planned for Sunday, August 13th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Old Snack Bar.

On behalf of the Birch Grove Park Advisory Board, Schlachter reported that they would object to the new pump station at Burton Avenue until they are provided with the results of an environmental impact study. Ed Stinson of Doran Engineering responded and explained that the proposed plan for the pump station is not to direct any more water into the lake than what already goes there. Environmental concerns such as sediment and run-off contaminant would be managed with filters, as is customary with stormwater management. The pump is required to solve the problem at Philmore due to the lack of elevation in that area. Stinson explained that the only

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difference between now and after the new pump is installed is that Philmore will not flood.

Councilman Martinez and Mayor Perri discussed previously suggested solutions to the problem. Perri stated that the DEP needs to be approached; he is offended that the City has such trouble trying to maintain it's own property. Carew agreed and recollected that in years past, sump pumps were used at Philmore to deal with flooding following heavy rains and they worked. Mazzeo stated that the matter had already been discussed at great length.

Councilman Carew reported that his committee's are all fine. He commended Vicki Rutter for having maintained an injury-free workplace for the last three years.

Councilwoman Kern reported on the Municipal Alliance, stating that there are several on-going projects such as violence prevention and an anti-bullying program. The Alliance also gave \$1000.00 towards the After-Prom festivities and recently participated in the Literacy Fair. She offered her thanks to Councilmen Martinez and Schlachter for their work in getting the bandstand roof replaced at Birch Grove Park. The Cultural Committee's information will be added to the web site soon. Kern congratulated Lynn Perri of the Northfield Rescue Squad for having been named Citizen of the Year by the Cultural Committee. She announced the first baby of 2006 is James David Goldsmith III. Christina Fehr will be Miss 4th of July this year.

Councilman Notaro reported that the stop lights at Zion and Oak had not been working in recent days due the fact they are solar powered and the skies had been overcast. Public Works has been provided with a list of the City's missing and inoperative signs/signals. Administrator Bruckler explained that the back-up batteries to the solar powered signs had not been charged sufficiently, and the problem has been corrected. Notaro asked for feedback from Council on fixing up the City Garage, noting that it is located in a residential area and could use some beautification. Bruckler stated that prices would be obtained and ideas for beautification could be discussed at the Capital Meeting.

PUBLIC SESSION

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Council President Mazzeo opened this meeting to the public and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. Seeing no one, he called for a motion to adjourn.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Raph, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk