

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 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., accompanied by Ryan Brenner of the Northfield 10-Year Old All Star Team. Following the flag salute, Perri called for a moment of silence to recognize those who serve our community, as well as those touched by the recent tragic event that took place in a Pennsylvania Amish school house.

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/SEPTEMBER 5, 2006

Motion by Councilman Martinez, second by Councilman Turon to dispense with the reading of the minutes of September 19, 2006. They have been posted, distributed to Council and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office. All present in favor, motion carries.

8:15 PM PRESENTATION

Mayor Perri and Councilman Schlachter presented Certificates of Achievement to the 10 year-old All Star baseball team and the Northfield Cardinals Babe Ruth Team in recognition of their victories. Coach Dennis Foreman thanked the Mayor, City Council and the community for their support. On behalf of the Babe Ruth Coaches, he thanked everyone for their support. Mayor Perri thanked the coaches and the parents.

There was a five (5) minute recess following the presentations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Turon thanked the Mayor for suggesting that copies of Ordinance 8-2005 be provided for Council to review. After briefly quoting some verbiage from the Ordinance, he asked Council to reconsider using recreation fees to fund Resolution 148-2006.

Councilman Martinez gave the Rescue Squad's report for the month of August as follows: Total number of calls -96 ; Mutual aid provided for Northfield - 1; Mutual aid provided by Northfield - 2; Number of times the FD assisted - 2. The top five run-takers were: Barry Kraus -27; Randy Dennis -15; Heather Newbert - 11; Guy Schlachter -10; Ray E. Adams - 7. Standby support services for the month included two transports, two Mainland Mustangs football games, two Northfield Cardinals football games, the Family

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Fest, and the Police Department P.T. training. He reported Officer totals as follows: Chief Lynn Perri – 50; Asst. Chief Ray J. Adams – 42, Captain John Fredericks – 35.

Martinez reported that the Rescue Squad is having difficulty recruiting new volunteers. He met with Chief Perri and Administrator Bruckler to discuss strategies for recruitment. Many good ideas were brought to the table including the possibility of promotional advertisements. Using the televised Council meetings as a communications tool, he reiterated the need for new volunteers and asked that anyone interested please contact the rescue squad.

Councilman Schlachter expressed appreciation for the steps taken by Acting Captain Robert James to control speeding. Concerned about the safety of children, he urged the public to take notice that the Police Department will be issuing tickets. He reported that the park is preparing for the annual Halloween festivities and that volunteers are needed. Boy Scout Troop 72 will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary and everyone is invited to attend a campfire dinner on Saturday, October 21st at the Burton Avenue Fire Pavilion. Schlachter asked the City Engineer to contact the County about repositioning the Mill Road detour signs.

Councilman Carew stated that he would address the lighting issues on Burton Avenue. He supports the objective of Resolution 148-2006, but believes the monies should come out of the Buildings & Grounds account and that a committee should be formed to discuss the use of recreation fees. Councilman Martinez agreed, after review of Ordinance 8-2005, that the funds for Resolution 148-2006 should be reallocated.

On a motion of Carew, second of Schlachter, all were in favor of funding Resolution 148-2006 from the Buildings & Grounds account.

Councilman Notaro welcomed new hire, Maximilian Van Gorder to the Public Works Department.

Council President Mazzeo discussed shared services and a press article regarding the same. During a recent shared services meeting, public safety was discussed as a possible area of consolidation, but it was decided that the best course of action would be to apply for a grant to fund a feasibility study. Going forward, Mazzeo intends to include Councilmen Carew and Martinez in shared services meetings. Councilwoman Kern thanked him for clearing up any misunderstandings that may have stemmed from the press article.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Perri offered his condolences to City Clerk, Carol Raph and her family on the passing of her son, Scott. Raph thanked the Mayor and the Public for their thoughts, prayers and condolences. Perri also expressed his condolences on the passing of the following: long-time City employee, Bill Mitchell; the Local Eckerds Community

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Coordinator; Jacquelin and Christina Becker, daughters of the Northfield Middle School Principal.

Perri reported that the Library book sale was a success. He attended a recent football game and commended the volunteers for their hard work; the Shockey Memorial looks great. He thanked the Rescue Squad and Police Department for providing stand-by support during the games. He announced that that Rescue Squad is seeking new volunteers. He mentioned a letter that was received from a resident on Oakcrest Avenue thanking Mayor and Council for the new traffic cones at the bike Path Intersections. Perri advised that he had provided Council with copies of information related to the new accounting standards that are to take effect in 2008.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

City Administrator Bruckler had nothing further to report. Councilman Turon advised Bruckler that the maintenance of grass on City properties has been done by City employees in the past.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Ed Stinson of Doran Engineering reported on the following: the 2005 Paving Project is substantially complete and the Final Work Change Order is on the agenda; The bid for Reconstruction of Davis Avenue and Harvey Drive has been awarded to Arawak Paving Co., but notice to proceed is pending confirmation that the City does not own property on Harvey; construction is ongoing with the 2006 Community Development Block Grant; A bid opening has been scheduled for October 20th for the Revere Avenue Drainage Project; Administrator Bruckler, Solicitor Scerni and he met with representatives from K. Hovnanian to discuss the Sutton Woods Basin Restoration plan; Line striping at various intersections of the Bike Path is complete – pending final inspection; A bid for Improvements to the Babe Ruth Field has been opened and is on the agenda.

Councilman Turon and Engineer Stinson discussed the Revere Avenue Drainage Project. Stinson explained that the issue is one of a damaged pipe that crosses at Erie and Revere.

RESOLUTIONS

145-2006 On a motion of Notaro, second of Schlachter, all in favor of adopting a Resolution Granting Authorization 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.

146-2006 On a motion of Notaro, second of Turon, all in favor of adopting a Resolution Grating Authorization to Begin Formal Bidding for a New Fire Response Vehicle

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

147-2006 On a motion of Schlachter, second of Martinez, all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Authorize Award of Contract for Improvements to the Infield at the Babe Ruth Baseball Field

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

148-2006 On a motion of Schlachter, second of Martinez, all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Authorize Award of Contract for Improvements to the Outfield at the Babe Ruth Baseball Field

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

149-2006 On a motion of Carew, second of Notaro all in favor of adopting a Resolution Authorizing Doran Engineering to Proceed with Certain 2006 Projects

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

150-2006 On a motion of Kern, second of Turon, all in favor of adopting a Resolution to Authorize Final Work Change Order No.1, 2005 Paving Project

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

151-2006 On a motion of Turon, second of Kern, all in favor of adopting 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.

ORDINANCES

Motion by Councilman Notaro, second by Schlachter, for Ordinance 13-2006 to be read by title only. All present in favor.

13-2006 An Ordinance Regulating and Controlling the Collection and Disposal of Solid Wastes and Recyclables Within the City of Northfield and Repealing All Ordinances and Amendments Thereto Heretofore Adopted, the Provisions of Which are Inconsistent Herewith

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Final Reading/Open to the Public/Published in Press 10/7/06

Council President Mazzeo opened this matter to the public before final adoption. Wayne Thomas of 29 Jackson Avenue came forward and discussed the rules pertaining to the timeframes for when residents may put their trash at the curb and take the cans back in. Dr. Richard Levitt of 2204 Bay Drive came forward and inquired about personal computer items, collection by unauthorized persons and the prohibition of trade waste. Public questions were answered by Administrator Bruckler. Mazzeo closed the Public Session.

A motion to adopt was made by Councilman Notaro and seconded by Councilman Schlachter.

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

City Clerk, Carol Raph announced that full copies of the Ordinance are available to the public in the City Clerk's office and can be viewed on the City of Northfield's web site.

Mayor Perri explained that the changes in this Ordinance are necessary. Mazzeo thanked Bruckler for drawing on his past experience with the ACUA and writing it.

PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Mazzeo asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. Robert Webb of 218 W. Revere Avenue came forward and praised the new pedestrian crossing signs at Bike Path intersections. He warned Council against having Police Department Heads as elected officials.

Valerie Lonkart of 2313 Burroughs Avenue came forward to ask about the possibility of closing her street for the Halloween trick-or-treaters. She was advised that Burroughs Avenue is a County Road. She also reported that the speed limit on her street is not obeyed by drivers and expressed concern over the safety of the neighborhood's children. Acting Captain Robert James explained that both Linwood and Northfield have the jurisdiction to enforce traffic rules on that street and said that he would address it with the Police Department. Lonkart and City Engineer Ed Stinson discussed speed humps.

Dr. Richard Levitt, President of the City of Northfield Planning/Zoning Board came forward and advised that the City's Master Plan has been updated, but there is a need for a professional planner to put it into the correct format. Mayor Perri recommended that the City advertise for a professional service. Due to the new State construction requirements, Levitt advised that the City's Zoning Ordinance needs an extensive rewrite. Regarding pedestrian and traffic safety, Levitt asked Council to look into the use of storage trailers parked on City streets and mentioned one such trailer on Rosedale Avenue.

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Peter Deprato of 517 Marita Ann Drive came forward and announced that he had attended the Atlantic County Freeholder's meeting. He commended the Mayor for his letter to the County Engineer regarding the intersection of Oak Avenue and Zion Road. He brought the issue in front of the Freeholders and asked for a traffic light. He also thanked Councilman Schlachter.

Robert Webb came forward again and expressed that the traffic problems on Zion Road have been a long-time complaint of residents.

Wayne Thomas of 29 Jackson Avenue came forward and inquired as to the status of the acting positions within the Police Department. Mayor Perri responded that changes are in progress. Thomas inquired about the Governing Body's ability to solicit private donations and, in return, make certain promises. Solicitor Scerni explained that the Governing Body would have to vote to approve the 'naming' of a recreation field and that any promises would not be binding. Councilman Turon expressed his concern that a promise was made to rename the recreation field without Council being included. Councilman Schlachter advised that the matter was discussed, but that no promises were made. Thomas spoke of a letter written by Schlachter and published in the press regarding the County Committee. Mayor Perri clarified for the record that his wife does not vote in the second ward.

Mayor Perri advised Council that an Ordinance is needed regarding 4-way stops. He reported that a resident of Roosevelt Avenue is experiencing flooding on his property and it may be as a result of the reconstruction of that street. Stinson took note.

Council President Mazzeo closed the public session.

MEETING NOTICES/KERN

Work Session	October 17, 2006	7:00 pm
Regular Session	October 17, 2006	8:00 pm

Council President Mazzeo announced that Council would enter into Executive Session with the Regular Session to reconvene afterwards. All present in favor, motion carries.

Proper motions were made to enter into Executive Session 151-2006. On a motion made and seconded, all in favor, the Executive Session was adjourned. Solicitor Scerni announced a summary for the public as follows: City Council discussed a matter of potential litigation. Specifically, the current situation in and around Burton Estates. Council was updated by it's professional staff as to the status of certain deficiencies in regard to infrastructure improvements. Council discussed the possibility of litigation to correct this matter and further advised it's professional staff as to the preferred course of action. The matter will be carried forward for another thirty days and an Executive Session will be scheduled for the regular meeting of City Council in November to facilitate further discussion.

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Council discussed the Assistant City Engineer.

On a motion made and seconded, the Regular Session was adjourned. All present in favor, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Raph, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk