

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 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., and following the flag salute, he called for a moment of silence to recognize those fighting at home and abroad for our liberties, as well as those who serve the community, that they may return safely to their families and that there be peace among all nations during this Holiday Season.

ROLL CALL: Present: Kern, Martinez, Notaro, Schlachter, Turon, Mazzeo
Absent: Carew (entered at 7:56 pm)

City Solicitor Alfred Scerni, 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 / November 21, 2006

Motion by Councilman Martinez, second by Councilman Turon to dispense with the reading of the minutes of November 21, 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 report for the month of November as follows: Total number of calls –83 ; Mutual aid provided for Northfield – 0; Mutual aid provided by Northfield – 3; Number of times the FD assisted – 2. The top five run-takers were: Barry Kraus –24; Guy Schlachter - 11; Ray E. Adams - 9; Ben Nixon - 8; Randy Dennis – 7. He reported Officer totals as follows: Chief Lynn Perri – 39; Asst. Chief Ray J. Adams – 30, Captain John Fredericks – 22.

Councilman Guy Schlachter thanked his family for their support over the last year and stated that it has been a pleasure serving the citizens of Northfield as a Councilman. He expressed discontent over various matters that occurred in the past year and during the recent election campaign.

Councilman Carew reported that the revenue from the Building Department was low for the year but is expected to improve in 2007. Regarding the swearing in of Councilman-elect Steven Vain, Carew commented that it was a misinterpretation between the City Clerk and the City Solicitor and that the matter was corrected. Solicitor Scerni explained that he had discussed the matter at length with the City Clerk and that the outcome was compliant with Election Laws. As for any press articles, City clerk Carol Raph stated that she had not talked to the press.

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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Perri thanked Deputy Clerk Kim Hodsdon for organizing the Employee Safety and Wellness Fair that took place on December 4th. He thanked Jackie Somers for organizing the Annual Turkey Trot; it was a great day and a worthy cause. He congratulated Officer Michael Trimble on his retirement, stating that his retirement dinner was a very nice event. Perri thanked everyone involved in the tree lighting ceremony and wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday. He thanked Councilman Schlachter for his service on City Council this past year and stated that he is an asset to the community.

Perri gave the November Police Department report as follows: Total adult arrests – 31; Juveniles arrested – 4; Drug offense arrests – 2; Total calls for service – 1101; Investigations opened – 33; DWI arrests – 2; Total Summons issued -117 ; MV accidents investigated – 37.

RESOLUTIONS/ Consent Agenda 184-2006 through 197-2006

On a motion of Councilman Notaro, second of Councilman Martinez, Resolutions 184-2006 through 197-2006 were read by title only.

- 184-2006** A Resolution to Authorize Award of Contract for a New Triple Combination Pumper for the Fire Department
- 185-2006** A Resolution to Authorize Patrolman E. Michael Trimble to Buy Back his City Issued Service Handgun
- 186-2006** A Resolution to Cancel the Reserve for Salaries Payable in the Current Fund in the Amount of \$18,530.76
- 187-2006** A Resolution to Authorize Return of Escrow Fees to In Freedom Rings, LLC
- 188-2006** Transfer of Funds
- 189-2006** Final Work Change Order No. 2, Reconstruction of Lesley Lane, City of Northfield
- 190-2006** Authorizing Doran Engineering to Proceed with Certain 2006 Projects
- 191-2006** To Authorize a Refund of Resale Inspection Fee, Block 173 / Lot 18
- 192-2006** To Authorize Award of Contract for Sanitary Sewer Repairs at East Revere Avenue

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- 193-2006** Authorizing Return of a Performance Guarantee for Commerce Bank, Block 46/ Lot 5
- 194-2006** To Cancel Sewer Charges for Block 41 / Lot 1
- 195-2006** 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 a Police Matter
- 196-2006** 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 the Police Department
- 197-2006** 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 the Fire Department

A motion to adopt Resolutions 184-2006 through 197-2006 was made by Notaro and seconded by Martinez.

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

APPROVAL OF THE LIBRARY AGREEMENT

On a motion of Councilman Turon, second of Councilwoman Kern, all were in favor to approve the new Library Agreement.

ORDINANCES

- 14-2006** An Ordinance Amending Chapter 35 of the Code of the City of Northfield Promotional Procedures in the Police Department

Final Reading / Opened to the Public /Advertised in the press 12/16/06

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman Schlachter motioned for payment of bills in the amount of **\$3,787,062.95** second by Councilman Martinez.

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

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PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Mazzeo asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. Seth Brilliant, President of the Library Board, came forward and thanked Council President Mazzeo for bringing the parties together and moving forward on the Library Agreement. He also thanked Mr. Malone, Administrator Bruckler, CFO Marilynn Dolcy and Mayor Perri for their time and efforts in the matter. Mayor Perri thanked Mr. Brilliant.

Jackie Somers came forward and thanked everyone involved for supporting the Turkey Trot event. It turned out to be a great day with over 400 participants and over \$11,000 raised for the Rescue Mission.

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

MEETING NOTICES – Announced by Councilwoman Kern

Work Session	January 2, 2007	7:00 pm
Reorganization Meeting	January 2, 2007	8:00 pm

On a motion of Schlachter, second of Notaro, the Regular Session was adjourned and Council entered into Executive Session 195-2006.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 195-2006

On a motion properly made and seconded, this Executive Session was adjourned and Solicitor Scerni announced a summary for the public as follows: during Executive Session, City Council discussed certain disciplinary matters currently pending in regards to Police personnel. They received a special report from Labor Counsel William Blaney. Attorney Blaney and Police Chief Robert James were given direction by City Council as to how they wish these matters to be handled. Further information will be made available to the public upon conclusion of these matters which is anticipated in the next thirty to forty-five days.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 196-2006

On a motion of Councilman Carew, second of Councilman Notaro, Council entered into Executive Session 196-2006. On a motion properly made and seconded, this Executive Session was adjourned and Solicitor Scerni announced a summary for the public as follows: during Executive Session, City Council discussed the organizational structure of Northfield City Police Department. Any potential changes will be done so through Ordinance and the public will be made aware of any changes at the time the Ordinance is introduced.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION 197-2006

On a motion of Councilwoman Kern, second of Councilman Carew, Council entered into Executive Session 197-2006. On a motion properly made and seconded, this Executive Session was adjourned and Solicitor Scerni announced a summary for the public as follows: during Executive Session the City Council discussed the organizational structure of the paid portion of the Northfield City Fire Department. They reviewed recommendations from Administrator Bruckler and Fire Chief Martinelli. It was decided to accept Bruckler's recommendation.

On a motion of Councilman Carew, second of Councilman Notaro, all present in favor, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Raph, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk