

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION 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.

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

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.

Council reviewed the agenda. Administrator Bruckler explained the changes to Ordinance 14-2006 and stated that they were not significant. Council President Mazzeo explained the changes to Resolution 190-2006. He also requested that Council vote on the new Library Agreement. Bruckler summarized the most recent changes to the Library Agreement. Mayor Perri commented that it has been in the works for several years and that the Agreement serves to clarify the responsibilities of both parties.

Councilman Turon and Engineer Ed Stinson discussed Resolution 187-2006. Turon questioned Resolution 193-2006 and asked that the funds be held until the City Engineer confirms that the issue surrounding a sign on the property has been resolved. CFO Dolcy agreed to hold the funds until she receives confirmation from the City Engineer.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Turon congratulated Officer Michael Trimble on his retirement and the Fire Auxiliary on the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Councilman Schlachter congratulated Officer Trimble and commended him on his many years of dedication to the City's Police Department. He reported that work is continuing at the Babe Ruth Field. The Parks & Recreation Department is working on the 2007 project plan and will meet with Administrator Bruckler to discuss.

Councilwoman Kern reported that the Municipal Alliance held their Volunteers of the Year Celebration during which former Police Chief Robert Carty, Police Chief Robert James, Lieutenant Arthur Faden and Lieutenant Randy Clark were all honored and received nominations. She announced that the Jewish Community Day School may ask the City for assistance with their Hanukah celebration.

Councilman Notaro thanked Councilman Schlachter for his hard work in the past year and wished him well in the new year.

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Council President Mazzeo gave the Tax Office Report for the month of November as follows: Amount turned over to the Treasurer for the month - \$2,553,661.23; Year to Date - \$21,883,291.88. He commended the Tax Office for doing a great job. Mazzeo thanked Councilman Schlachter and wished him well.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Perri offered his thanks to Councilman Schlachter for his time in community service and wished him well in the future.

He reported that the County had released it's report on the Oak Avenue and Zion Road traffic study. The study concluded that a speed limit change is not warranted and recommended traffic enforcement. The report will be kept on file in the City Clerk's office. Administrator Bruckler has asked the County to consider a 4-way stop at the Oak and Zion intersection. Perri requested the Police Department to perform a traffic study at the municipal Bike Path intersections to determine the feasibility of implementing 4-way stops. He also recommended parking distance-to-curb restrictions.

As for employee health benefits, there is an anticipated four percent increase in 2007. Perri noted that the Police Department would be increasing DWI patrols over the Holidays.

Councilwoman Kern asked if the County's report will be made available to the public. Mayor Perri indicated that the report contained sensitive information and deferred to the City Solicitor as to whether or not it should be released.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

The City Administrator reported on the following: all operational budgets will be reviewed with department heads by December 22<sup>nd</sup>; Horizon Dental Insurance will be implemented on January 1, 2007 - The plan complies with CBA requirements and representatives from Horizon will be on site to answer questions on December 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm; He met with members of the PBA to hear their concerns about the proposed Ordinance 14-2006 and as a result, some insignificant changes were made to the verbiage; Assistant Chief Jake Lees and Captain Leon Delcher are scheduled to retire from the Fire Department by the end of 2006 – an employment advertisement for an entry-level Fire Fighter was placed in the press; an ill raccoon was picked up by Animal Control in Birch Grove Park and is being tested for rabies; the new 5-day trash collection schedule will be displayed on public access television, the press will be notified and flyers will be distributed to homes in the affected areas; Installation of the new Police Department server will begin soon and he is gathering quotes for a new time keeping/biometric attendance system; he received a letter from

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the Atlantic County Utilities Authority advising of an approximate two percent increase in rates.

Councilwoman Kern asked if Bruckler had received a response from the County regarding lighting and curb issues on Dolphin Avenue. Bruckler indicated that he would follow up again with the County Engineer.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

The Engineer's report is on file in the City Clerk's office. Regarding the drainage problems at Marietta and Leeds, Councilman Schlachter indicated that the resident involved may be agreeable to an easement. As this resident opposed the idea in the past, Schlachter suggested that Administrator Bruckler contact him. Mayor Perri inquired about the pavement patch on Roosevelt and Davis. Engineer Ed Stinson indicated that it may have been the water company and will follow up on the matter.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, Council President Mazzeo called for a motion to adjourn.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Raph, RMC/CMC