

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 10, 2011**

At 7:00pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was properly advertised according to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

The flag salute was led by Mayor Vincent Mazzeo. Following the flag salute a moment of silence was observed

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Dewees Mrs. Kern, Mr. Perri, Mr. Polistina, Mr. Smith, Mr. Vain,
Mr. Carew

Mayor Vincent Mazzeo, City Engineer Matt Doran, and Solicitor Keith Bonchi were also in attendance.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Carew reviewed the agenda. He welcomed Councilman Dewees back to City Council, and congratulated Councilwoman Kern on the birth of her grandchild.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilman Perri, second by Councilman Smith, to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the April 19th meeting. They have been posted, distributed to Council and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office. Councilman Dewees abstained; all others present in favor. Motion carries for approval of minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri welcomed Councilman Dewees, and congratulated the recently elected school board members. Perri wants to set up a Senior Council meeting; he said the group can be recognized by ordinance, as in the same manner as the Birch Grove Park Advisory Board, as an elected body, or as an association. He has several interested parties. Council President Carew said he will coordinate a meeting with Mayor Mazzeo and with Councilman Perri. Perri provided a recap of the situation surrounding the sanitary sewer repairs contract; Linwood wants us to pay to do the bid because they did it last time. Doran has advised that they can do the bid for \$1200. As of now, we have no contract and have to get three quotes on any new repairs or installation. Council President Carew stated he will review the situation and have a decision for the next meeting.

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Councilman Polistina said there will be a Library Board meeting this week and they will continue to discuss expansion, including a feasibility study. He attended the MRHS budget meeting, and the resolution for a proposed reduction is on agenda this evening.

Councilman Vain said construction of the flashing light at Zion and Oak is scheduled to start at the end of May and should take about two weeks. The crosswalks at Burton Avenue went in, as did the two-hour parking signs at Cedar Bridge Road. Hopefully residents will see improvement. Vain said he met with City Engineer Matt Doran and Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Mike Dattalo, and came up with a list of recommendations to ease code enforcement issues for new businesses; he provided the list to Council and would like to discuss it at the next meeting. Vain said he and Councilwoman Kern are working on creating a Veteran's Park Committee, with the Oak Avenue site as a potential location. They are also looking for community participation. Vain attended the MRHS defeated budget meeting, but will defer to the Mayor for a report.

Councilwoman Kern attended the Cultural Committee meeting on Thursday, May 5th; they are preparing their annual concert series and are also in the process of selecting Citizen of the Year. Northfield's 1st baby has been identified as has Miss 4th of July. As in the past, they would like to present these awards at our June Council meeting. Kern said she presented an Eagle Scout Award on behalf of Congressman LoBiondo to John Doerr; the young man's grandmother is a member of the Cultural Committee and a long time Northfield resident. Kern offered congratulations to John and his family, and to the Fehr family. Kern recently spoke to a group of 2nd graders about City Council; they were a very thoughtful group who had a lot of interesting questions. She thanked their teacher, Mrs. McGlynn. Our Veteran honorees for the month of May are Richard Newell, Dawn Schol and Aaron Schol, who are father, daughter, and son-in-law, respectively.

Councilman Smith said the Fire Department extinguished a fire last night on Banning Avenue, and he thanked them for their efforts. He read the EMS report for the month of April. Smith met with the President of the Board of Trustees of the 4 Seasons Condominium Complex to address rumors with regard to emergency medical services. At the meeting, he distributed a letter for residents that clarified the issues of concern. Councilman Perri stated that Smith's letter is misleading because it only addresses the Medicare and Medicaid patient. It should be clarified that if you do not have insurance the information does not apply. Smith replied that in his letter he was addressing rumors with regard to Medicare and Medicaid, but can address the issue of private insurance. He proceeded to explain balance-billing. Council President Carew said he does not feel the information is misleading; Perri added that he has gotten direct questions from folks who were confused. Smith replied that questions

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from those who are privately insured may be addressed to the individual insurance carriers. Atlanticare also offers charity care. He hopes if people have questions, they will ask questions. Smith said the local School Board reorganization meeting is Thursday, May 12th at the school at 6:30pm; he congratulated new and re-elected board members.

Councilman Dewees had no committee report this evening.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Council President Carew congratulated the School Board, newly and re-elected candidates, and to everyone involved. This level of involvement is a sign of a quality community.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Mazzeo said this Sunday is the Walking Club's kick-off event, at noon at the Library. He hopes to have a great turnout and to follow this event up with future events. He reminded everyone of the Memorial Day parade times and line up information. Mazzeo mentioned the proposed changes to the City's road opening ordinance as it relates to sidewalks and curbing. He asked that Council please review it and let him know if there are questions. He would like to introduce it at the next meeting. He attended the MRHS budget meeting, after which there is a recommendation for a reduction of \$312,000 total for the three communities. This was not an easy thing to do, but the meeting was well attended and we are doing what we need to do to maintain the quality of the education. He mentioned the availability of limited funding for Open Space, with an application deadline of July. He commended the Police and Fire departments for quickly finding a lost child at Birch Grove Park last week, and the Police Department today for their efforts at locating another missing child. The Police Department is getting prices for a system that will reduce the amount of administrative time spent tracking attendance, and will be funded by the Drug fund. Mazzeo referred to Mrs. Tierney, 107 Northwood Court, who had a damage claim denied by the City's insurance carrier. A City-owned tree blew down and damaged her fence; she is appealing the denial of the claim and is seeking reimbursement of \$400.00.

Councilman Vain made the proper motion to reimburse Kathy Tierney, 107 Northwood Court, the amount of \$400.00 for damage done to her fence. Councilwoman Kern seconded.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees – yes; Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

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Mazzeo stated that he asked the County's Arborist to look at remaining trees in the area but they don't have the equipment; Jim Clark has gotten prices for an outside contractor.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The City Engineer's report was provided to Mayor and Council and is on file in the Municipal Clerk's office. There were no updates.

Council President Carew asked for a full explanation at the next meeting for available options as a result of the lack of an easement being granted by the owner of 427 West Revere Avenue.

RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Vain motioned, Councilman Polistina seconded for consent agenda for resolutions 73-2011 through 84-2011.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees – abstain; Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

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| 73-2011 | Authorization to Cancel Tax Sale Certificate |
| 74-2011 | A Resolution Approving Participation with the State of New Jersey Safe and Secure Communities Program Administered by the Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Law and Public Safety |
| 75-2011 | Authorization to Cancel Tax Sale Certificate |
| 76-2011 | Final Change Order No. 1 Concession Stand at Birch Grove Park |
| 77-2011 | Authorizing Doran to Proceed |
| 78-2011 | Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Property via Online Auction |
| 79-2011 | Authorizing the Police Department to Apply for and Obtain a "Cops in Shops" Grant from the NJ Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control |
| 80-2011 | Authorizing Raffle Licenses for the Rowan University Foundation |
| 81-2011 | Amending Resolution 41-2011, Authorizing the Northfield Fire Department to Apply for and Obtain a Grant from the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program |
| 82-2011 | To Ratify the Grant Application and Accept the Grant Known as 'Click it or Ticket' |
| 83-2011 | A Resolution Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation as per N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 |
| 84-2011 | Reduction of the Proposed Mainland Regional High School District Board of Education Budget |

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Councilman Perri requested discussion with regard to 76-2011. Council President Carew explained that it involves the replacement of a pump and a well repair not in the scope of the original project. Funds are coming out of the Birch Grove Park trust fund. Perri also asked if there was a match on the grant in 81-2011; Carew explained that it's a reimbursement grant for money we already spent.

Councilman Vain motioned, Councilman Polistina seconded to adopt resolutions 73-2011 through 84-2011.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees – abstain; Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

ORDINANCES

On a motion of Councilwoman Kern, second of Councilman Smith, all in favor of reading Ordinance 3-2011 by title only.

3-2011 An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Northfield to Enter into an Agreement to Share a Police Chief/Share Police Chief Services with the City Of Linwood
*2nd Reading/Public Hearing/No Public Comments Received
Published in the Press of Atlantic City on 05/14/2011*

Roll call: Mr. Dewees – abstain; Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Perri – abstain; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for final adoption of Ordinance 3-2011.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Carew opened this meeting to the public and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak.

Dunia Barreda, 505 Pincus Avenue, explained that she submitted a street opening hardship waiver request to City Council due to the need to convert from oil to gas. Council President Carew explained the reason for the road opening moratorium ordinance. Barreda said SJ Gas has explained that they may be able to trench under the sidewalk. Doran said if there is a newer service on an adjoining project, the gas company can tie into that and run two houses off of it. He advised Barreda to have SJ Gas revise their permit request to show that they'll tie-in to existing service, and the City will approve it.

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Seeing no others wishing to speak, Council President Carew closed the public session.

Councilman Dewees read the meeting notices.

On motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk