

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 25, 2013**

At 7:32pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 7, 2013, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Mazzeo. Following the flag salute a moment of silence was observed. Mayor Mazzeo noted the passing of George Edwards, read a short bio and expressed his condolences.

ROLL CALL

Present: Carew, Dewees, Perri, Polistina, O'Neill
Absent: Travagline

Mayor Vince Mazzeo, City Solicitor Kris Facenda, Municipal Engineer Dan Kwapinski, and Deputy Clerk Mimi Marlor were also in attendance.

Councilman O'Neill announced that in the absence of Council President Travagline he would be sitting as President Pro Tem for the evening.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE

NORTHFIELD'S FIRST BABY, PAISLEY AVALON MANNE

Mayor Mazzeo asked Rosemary O'Dowd of the Cultural Committee to make the presentation. O'Dowd announced Northfield's 1st Baby, Paisley Avalon Manne, born January 2nd, and introduced Paisley's mother Christy Anne along with Paisley's brother and sister. Mayor Mazzeo presented the certificate and thanked the family for making Northfield their home.

7:37pm Council President Pro Tem O'Neill announced there would be a short recess for photos and refreshments.

7:49pm Council President Pro Tem O'Neill resumed the meeting.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Polistina, seconded by Councilman Dewees to dispense with the reading of the minutes of May 28, 2013. They have been posted, distributed to Council and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

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Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – absent; Mr. O’Neill – yes Motion carries

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri stated that the Northfield Community School did a great job on the graduation ceremony and wished all the graduates well. He also noted that there is an upcoming Seniors Committee event scheduled at Park Center for Thursday June 27th, at 11:30 am and all are welcome to attend. He also extended condolences to the Edwards family and stated it was an honor to know George Edwards and he will be missed. He also noted the passing of Henderson Hemphill and offered condolences to his family too. Perri announced that he is still awaiting information for the health insurance comparison and hopes to do a presentation in July. The Sewer Committee is scheduled to meet tomorrow at 5:30pm at Northfield City Hall and the meeting is open to the public.

Councilman Carew asked Councilman Perri if he had any input on Resolution 130-2013 since insurance has been an issue. Councilman Perri replied that he would yield to the Solicitor and the JIF Coordinator.

Councilman Polistina extended condolences to the Hemphill and Edwards families. He announced that he would like to honor Mr. Edwards as the Veteran Honoree for the Month of July. Mr. Edwards' bio will be presented at the July meeting, along with the August honoree.

Council President Pro Tem O’Neill asked Municipal Clerk Canesi to invite the Edwards family to the July meeting.

Councilman Polistina stated that he too attended the Northfield Community School and the Mainland Regional High School graduations and they did a great job. He reported that last month the Northfield Fire Department helped with the Honor Flight Program as the veterans returned, providing each with a special welcome home. He said one firefighter will be returning to full duty from an injury tomorrow and another remains on transitional duty due to his injury. He clarified that there is no first responder on certain days due to short staffing.

Councilman Dewees stated that Department of Public Works received a letter from a resident in the 2300 block of Wabash Avenue complimenting the DPW crew. He also noted that he was in attendance at the Northfield Community School graduation and it was very nicely done.

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Councilman Carew offered his condolences to the Hemphill and Edwards families. He knew them both but knew Mr. Hemphill better than Mr. Edwards. He was a lively individual and they will both be missed. He also stated that the letters went out regarding the safety concerns at Ridgewood and Mill Roads, and deferred to Chief James for a brief update.

Chief James stated that the County did pick up accident reports going back 5 years and noted he suggested that the County representative talk to some of the residents.

Councilman Dewees asked if the back plates were requested from the County regarding the lights at Mill and Burton at the entrance to Atrium. Councilman Carew replied that they were not; Chief James spoke and indicated he will contact the County.

Council President Pro Tem O'Neill offered condolences to the Hemphill and Edwards families. He shared that he saw Mr. Edwards at the recent graduation ceremony and he was enjoying himself and seemed in good spirits. He reiterated that the school IT staff will be visiting the City on the 26th of June and the City is getting closer the installation of its new phone system. He said that they still have to pick a vendor for local and long distance service. O'Neill would like Chief James to spend time with the IT person to go over technical needs of the police department and indicated he thought the City would see significant savings.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Mazzeo announced that on June 6th the 3rd graders made their annual visit to City Hall. They split up in three groups between the Mayor, Fire Department and Police Department. The children seemed to enjoy their visit and they seem to learn a lot while here; he said it is certainly a pleasure to have them year after year. Mazzeo reported that he attended the Northfield Community School and Mainland Regional High School graduations. The addition to the Library is almost complete and the ribbon cutting ceremony is planned for Saturday July 13, 2013. The White Collar contract including the crossing guards is getting closer to completion. Mazzeo hoped that they could finalize it at the next Council meeting. He noted a pending bill in Trenton which has already passed the Senate and is presently being considered by the full Assembly. He said this legislation would ensure that municipalities can streamline certain positions including certain tenured employees in order to carry out a shared service agreement meant to lower costs. Mazzeo read the Police Department report for the month of May 2013.

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ENGINEER'S REPORT

The City Engineer's written report was provided to Mayor and Council and is on file in the Municipal Clerk's office. Dan Kwapinski of Schaffer, Nassar, Scheidegg Consulting Engineers, LLC, was in attendance and available for questions. Engineer Kwapinski stated that the Birch Grove Park sewer pump station and bathrooms project is out to bid and the opening is scheduled for July 17th at 10:00 am. He also noted that the City has received 3 quotes for the garage repairs and 1 is within the acceptable limits. He clarified for Council that there were alternate bid items included for projects that still need completion. He asked that they consider which amount that they want to award, just the base bid or to include the alternate bid items which totals \$34, 655. He specified that if they award the alternate bid they would have to allocate an additional \$615.00 to get all the work completed.

Councilman Carew motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded to award the bid to Tara Management LLC including the base bid and all the alternates totaling \$34,655.00.

Municipal Clerk Canesi announced that she would assign Resolution Number 132-2013 to Award the Contract for City Garage Repairs to Tara Management LLC for the base and all alternates pending certification of funds contingent upon their agreement to complete the job within 60-90 days from date of award in the amount of \$34,655.00.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – abstain; Mr. Travagline – absent; Mr. O'Neill – yes Motion carries

Engineer Kwapinski corrected an earlier statement that Broad Street Phase II extends from Putting Green to Roosevelt, not Jackson Avenue. In addition, the Engineer noted that his office will attend the Sewer Inter-local meeting on Wednesday June 26th

Councilman Perri asked if anyone knew when Roosevelt will be paved. Mayor Mazzeo responded that it would be Thursday or Friday.

RESOLUTIONS/ CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to vote by consent agenda on Resolutions 117-2013 through 131-2013.

117-2013 Governing Body Certification of the Annual Audit

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- 118-2013** To Authorize Liquor License Renewal for the Year 2013-2014
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- 120-2013** Acknowledging the Terms and Conditions of the South Jersey Power Cooperative Bid Results for the Purchase of the Commodity Retail Electricity
- 121-2013** A Resolution Extending the Agreement between the City of Northfield and the City of Linwood to Share a Police Chief/Share Police Chief Services for a Period of One Year
- 122-2013** Refund of Overpayment of Taxes, Block 42 Lot 123
- 123-2013** To Hire a Laborer in the Public Works Department
- 124-2013** A Resolution Amending Resolution 103-2013, Which Established Salaries for Non-Union Employees of the City of Northfield For 2013
- 125-2013** Inserting an Item of Revenue in the 2013 Budget
- 126-2013** To Authorize a Change in the Number of Hours Worked per Week for Seasonal Concession Stand Attendant
- 127-2013** To Authorize the Hiring of Brittney Ann Jarvis as Seasonal Concession Stand Attendant for Birch Grove Park
- 128-2013** A Resolution for the Cancellation of Grant Fund Balances and Appropriation Reserves
- 129-2013** Authorizing Schaeffer, Nassar, Scheidegg to Proceed with Certain Projects
- 130-2013** Resolution Approving the Appointment of a Volunteer to Assist the Economic Development Commission with its Business Survey Project
- 131-2013** 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 Personnel Matters and Contract Negotiations with Regard to a Step 4 Grievance Filed by Mainland PBA Local No. 77

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Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – absent; Mr. O’Neill – yes Motion carries

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt the consent agenda for Resolutions 117-2013 through 131-2013.

Council President Pro Tem O’Neill stated that all matters listed under the consent agenda are considered to be routine in nature, and having been reviewed by Council, will be enacted by one motion. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of any Council Member and if so removed, will be treated as a separate matter. Any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – absent; Mr. O’Neill – yes Motion carries

ORDINANCES

Councilman Carew motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to introduce Ordinance 7-2013, to be read by title only.

7-2013 Amending Section 350 of the City of Northfield Code (Towing)
*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press of AC 6/29/2013
2nd Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption 7/23/2013*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, announcing that there would be no public input on introduction. She provided the hearing and publication dates and noted that full copies of the Ordinance are presently posted on the City website, on the bulletin board at City Hall, and are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Perri – abstain; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – absent; Mr. O’Neill – yes Motion carries

Councilman Carew motioned, Councilman Perri seconded, to introduce Ordinance 8-2013, to be read by title only.

8-2013 Ordinance Providing For And Establishing The Position Of Personnel Coordinator For The City Of Northfield
*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press of AC 6/29/2013
2nd Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption 7/23/2013*

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Councilman Perri noted that he'd like to see an Administrator hired and the personnel duties be part of that job description.

Councilman Carew stated he was not in favor of an Administrator and he thought the people and duties are presently in place except for personnel.

Councilman Dewees stated he is in favor of the ordinance but wants to see a job description.

Councilman Perri stated that he believed that an Administrator would generate savings in less need for labor counsel. Councilman Carew disagreed, adding that the City would still need labor counsel.

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, announcing that there would be no public input on introduction. She provided the hearing and publication dates and noted that full copies of the Ordinance are presently posted on the City website, on the bulletin board at City Hall, and are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Perri – no; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – absent; Mr. O'Neill – yes Motion carries

Councilman Carew motioned, Councilman Polistina seconded, to introduce Ordinance 9-2013, to be read by title only.

9-2013 An Ordinance Appropriating \$20,000.00 From The Capital Improvement Fund For The Purchase Of Computer And Electronic Equipment For The City Of Northfield, County Of Atlantic, State Of New Jersey

*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press of AC 6/29/2013
2nd Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption 7/23/2013*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, announcing that there would be no public input on introduction. She provided the hearing and publication dates and noted that full copies of the Ordinance are presently posted on the City website, on the bulletin board at City Hall, and are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.

Councilman Perri asked if this is from new capital or old capital.

Council President Pro Tem O'Neill stated that it is from old capital as prompted by Municipal Clerk Canesi.

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Councilman Perri stated he'd like to see more information considering the amount of this expenditure. Council President Pro Tem O'Neill agreed and stated he would try to nail down the specific amounts for the services.

The Municipal Clerk clarified that the ordinance serves only to authorize the expenditure of up to the amount specified; if the entire amount is not needed it will not be spent.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – absent; Mr. O'Neill – yes Motion carries

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Polistina seconded, for payment of bills in the amount of \$ 354,591.04.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – absent; Mr. O'Neill – yes Motion carries

Council President Pro Tem O'Neill opened this meeting to the public and asked if anyone wished to speak on any subject.

Sal Rinaldi, 1112 2nd Street, asked when the section from Jackson to Davis on 2nd street will be paved.

At 8:29 pm seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak, Council President Pro Tem O'Neill closed the public session.

Councilman Perri read the meeting notices

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF COUNCIL

Council President Pro Tem O'Neill announced that Council will be entering an executive session and the resolution was adopted earlier in the evening.

131-2013 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 Personnel Matters and Contract Negotiations with Regard to a Step 4 Grievance Filed by Mainland PBA Local No. 77

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The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title and said she would defer to the Solicitor for an explanation of the subject matter to be discussed and the amount of time which could be expected to elapse before the minutes of the non-public session could be released.

Solicitor Facenda stated that Council will discuss personnel matter and ongoing negotiations with a Step 4 Grievance filed by PBA Local 77. Council will keep minutes of that executive session as required by law and they will be made available for inspection when the negotiations conclude. It is not likely they will conclude this evening and will continue to next meeting. If a contract is agreed upon the minutes will be made available at that time.

At 8:31pm, Council left the dais and entered the Mayor's Office; Solicitor Facenda, Mayor Mazzeo and Deputy Municipal Clerk Mimi Marlor were also in attendance.

At 8:54pm, the Executive Session was adjourned and the regular meeting of Council resumed. Facenda announced a summary for the record as follows: during the Executive Session, Council discussed continuing negotiations relating to personnel matters and a Step 4 Grievance filed by PBA Local 77. Continuing negotiations will ensue and Council will be seeking additional advice of labor counsel. He noted that no decision will be rendered tonight and no vote will be taken. He stated that when the contract is agreed upon and negotiations conclude the contents of the minutes of the executive session will be made public.

At 8:55pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC Municipal Clerk