

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2013**

At 7:09pm, 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.

ROLL CALL

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

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

**PRESENTATION – “CITIZEN OF THE YEAR”
GEORGE W. EDWARDS, JR., *posthumously***

Mayor Mazzeo called Marie Edwards and her son, Scott forward for the presentation. He also introduced Carol Patrick, Chairperson of the Northfield Cultural Committee, who would make the presentation to Mrs. Edwards.

Mrs. Patrick stated that the Cultural Committee spent months seeking a suitable candidate for its “Citizen of the Year” to be honored at the annual 4th of July parade. She said this year they wanted to choose a Veteran and the name George W. Edwards came up many times. She noted that Mr. Edwards was born in Kensington and moved to Philadelphia in 1921, then to Atlantic City in 1933 and finally to Northfield in 1955. His service record included enlistment in the Army Air Corp Cadets in 1942. He transferred and served as an aircraft mechanic. He served in the Pacific theatre in WWII until his discharge in 1946. He worked for NJ Bell for 37 years. He and his wife Marie had three children, Janice, Jeffery and Scott. He served as Commander of the American Legion and was an active volunteer at St. Bernadette’s Church.

Mayor Mazzeo addressed the family. He said he met George Edwards later in George’s life. He described George as a gentleman and someone who was always a pleasure to deal with. He noted that he appreciates that Mr. Edwards was a part of the community and he will be greatly missed. He presented the plaque from the City to Mrs. Edwards.

Joyce Pullan presented a plaque to Mrs. Edwards from the Cultural Committee and additionally gave her the banners from the cars in the parade.

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7:18pm Council President Travagline announced a five minute recess.

7:26pm Council President Travagline resumed the meeting. He reviewed the regular agenda and noted the addition of Resolution 169-2013.

Councilman Perri asked for confirmation that if the agreement happens that is referenced in 169-2013, there will still be a written inter-local. Solicitor Facenda confirmed this to be true.

Council President Travagline made assignments for consent agenda and meeting notices.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri referred to a letter from Mike Dattalo about the 47 vacant homes in Northfield. He noted that he knew several of the names on the list and offered to call them personally but says he will yield to the solicitor for advice.

Councilman O'Neill stated the new phone system is a few weeks away. He noted a scheduled meeting with the phone vendor and Comcast, and that department heads would be included.

Councilman Mahon had no report for the evening.

Councilman Polistina announced that the Cultural Committee is hosting an open house at the Museum Tuesday September 17, 2013. He reminded the Mayor and all of Council that they are invited and they should RSVP to Joyce Pullan. He noted that the public has been invited as well.

Councilman Dewees stated that the Household Renovation Debris pick up will be the week of September 23rd 27th.

Councilman Carew commended Councilman O'Neill, Council President Travagline and the Family Association of Northfield for all the work being done at the fields.

Council President Travagline had no report for the evening.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Mazzeo stated that he attended the ribbon cutting on August 28th for the new Tiki Tee Mini Golf and reported it was well attended and a fun event. He said it is a great addition to the town. He referred to a letter from County Executive Levinson

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regarding centralizing tax assessment at the County level. He explained the advantages as a stabilized County tax rate, equalized value, and lower costs of re-evaluation. He would be in favor of exploring this as an option. He reported that the Northfield Police Department, through Egg Harbor Township, is working on an interactive crime mapping tool at no cost to the City. The data would be available through the City website.

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 he received an update from the County Planning Board that there will be reconstruction on Tilton Road. He reported that the message boards are now in place. The project will include curb work and grading that will start on September 17th. He also reported that the Sanitary Sewer Contract that was bid out by Linwood is complete and they will be making the recommendation to award to Lafayette Utility.

Councilman Perri asked if stop bars are on the punch list for Broad Street Phase I. Engineer Kwapinski replied he did not think there were stop bars there before the project and therefore they were not part of the planned installation.

RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA

Council President Travagline 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.

Councilman Carew motioned, Councilman Polistina seconded to vote by consent Agenda on Resolutions 166-2013 through 169-2013.

166-2013 A Resolution Authorizing the City of Northfield to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the 2014 Bikeway Program Reconstruction of the Running Path, New Traffic Markings, Signs and Stripes along the Bike Path Project

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- 167-2013** Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the 2014 Municipal Aid Reconstruction of Broad Street Project Phase III
- 168-2013** Resolution Authorizing the Waiver of the Imposition of Construction Permit Fees
- 169-2013** Authorizing the Negotiation of an Inter-local Agreement with the County of Atlantic to fund the design and construction of curbs and sidewalks along portions of Mill Road and Zion Road between Route 9 and EHT boundary.

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

Councilman Carew motioned, Councilman Polistina seconded, to adopt by consent agenda Resolutions 166-2013 through 169-2013.

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

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Travagline opened this meeting to the public and asked if anyone wished to speak on any subject.

Robert Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, stated he was not in favor of an administrator, that’s the Council’s responsibility. He noted his experience as a military leader and that today’s world is different. He encouraged Council to use common sense.

Joan Brennan, 116 Dolphin Avenue, provided an account of an incident on the bike path that involved the Pleasantville Police pursuing a vehicle; the Pleasantville Police ran multiple stop signs while doing so and had no emergency lights on at the time. She claimed that other Pleasantville Police were unaware of what was happening and asked her if she knew. She suggested that vehicle barriers be placed on the bike path.

Lynn Perri, 7 Haddon Avenue, asked if a shared service Fire Department had been discussed. Council President Travagline replied that Councilman Perri had brought it up earlier in the evening.

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Seeing no one else wishing to speak, Council President Travagline closed the public session.

Councilman Perri read the meeting notices

At 7:50pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC Municipal Clerk