

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 11, 2012**

At 7:22pm, 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: Mrs. Brown, Mr. Dewees, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Perri, Mr. Polistina,
Mr. Vain, Mr. Carew

Mayor Vince Mazzeo, City Solicitor Keith Bonchi, Police Chief Robert James, CFO Dawn Stollenwerk, and City Engineer Matt Doran were also in attendance.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Carew reviewed the agenda.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri offered condolences to the survivors and families of those lost on 9-11, and to rescue personnel involved.

Councilman O'Neill announced a dedication ceremony would be held at MRHS on October 12th at 4:30pm, there will be a guided tour, and hors d'oeuvres. All are invited.

Councilman Vain said Phase One of Veteran's Park is complete; engraved bricks have been ordered. The dedication will be the 2nd week of October on a Saturday. Vain said Robbie Dollard from Doran Engineering is doing a great job, as has Mayor Mazzeo, Mr. Webb, Bill Vain, and Mr. Burness. Mark Biehl has done an outstanding job of soliciting donations. Vain said all donors will be invited to the dedication.

Councilman Polistina announced that Shore Medical took over as EMS provider on August 31st. The report for the first ten days indicates all is going well.

Councilman Dewees reminded all that household renovation debris collection would be done this week.

Councilwoman Brown said the school will be closed until September 24th, with a possibility of an earlier opening on September 19th. Mold was found at the school and the Superintendent is working with the County Board of Health and

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Environmental Consultants. Court staff is now up to speed and the new judge is working out well. She announced the date of the upcoming meeting of the Economic Development Commission.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Council President Carew announced that the hayrides will start in October and will run through Halloween; volunteers are needed. He announced that street sweeping has been scheduled to begin the week of September 24th.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Mazzeo noted that Ordinance 9-2012 was sent back to planning board with recommendations, which were approved. It will be back to Council at the October meeting for final adoption. He announced the date of Fun Fest, and said all are welcome. He thanked the Committee for their hard work. On September 29th, Operation Take Back will occur for the collection of prescription drugs that are no longer needed. He made note of the need for outsourcing some maintenance work for the City vehicles; he said Chief James suggested a possible shared service with Linwood.

Councilman Perri suggested that Linwood and Northfield businesses be considered first; says he would not be able to do the service but that others should be considered.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The City Engineer's report was provided to Mayor and Council and is on file in the Municipal Clerk's office. Updates were as follows: Doran advised that drainage at Revere and Leeds is complete and there will be a change order in October. The Valves at Oak Cedar Bridge is also complete. There were problem with hatch doors that are being addressed. He made note of other projects on the Engineer's Report.

Councilman Perri noted an area of Mt Vernon Avenue that he said is not holding up. Doran advised that he would take a look

RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion of Councilwoman Brown, second of Councilman Dewees, all in favor of voting by consent agenda on Resolutions 138-2012 through 142-2012. Council President Carew stated that Resolution 142-2012 would authorize a closed session of Council, to take place at the end of the regular meeting. Action may or may not be taken when Council resumes the public session.

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- 138-2012** Final Change Order No. 1 Drainage at Marita Ann Drive and Leeds Avenue
- 139-2012** Refunds of Overpayment of Taxes - Various
- 140-2012** Authorizing Cancellation of Tax Sale Certificate
- 141-2012** Award of Contract for Walkways at Birch Grove Park, Phase III
- 142-2012** 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 Pending Litigation In The Matter Of Jack Trocki Development Co., LLC, v City Of Northfield

Councilwoman Brown motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded to adopt the consent agenda for Resolutions 138-2012 through 142-2012.

Roll call: Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes.

ORDINANCE

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilwoman Brown seconded to adopt Ordinance 10-2012, to be read by title only.

- 10-2012** Bond Ordinance Appropriating Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$900,000) And Authorizing The Issuance Of Eight Hundred Fifty Four Thousand Dollars (\$854,000) In Bonds Or Notes Of The City Of Northfield For Various Improvements Or Purposes Authorized To Be Undertaken By The City Of Northfield, In The County Of Atlantic, New Jersey
2nd Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption
Published in the Press with Statement September 15, 2012

The Municipal Clerk read the ordinance by title, and announced that since introduction, full copies of the ordinance have been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the Municipal website, and have been available at no cost in the Office of the Municipal Clerk to any person requesting same. The Clerk’s Office is in receipt of the returned copy of the Supplemental Debt Statement filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Council President Carew opened the public hearing. Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, he closed the public hearing.

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Councilwoman Brown noted the need for a new truck for Public Works, and said the City does need the new bathrooms and Veteran's Park, but with \$1 million in surplus, she feels we should not be bonding this out and for that reason she will vote no.

Roll call: Mrs. Brown – no; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O'Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – no; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for final adoption of Ordinance 10-2012.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilman Vain seconded, for payment of bills in the amount of \$ 1,643,924.28.

Councilman Perri made note of the problem with the sod at the football field.

Roll call: Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O'Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for payment of bills.

PUBLIC SESSION

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

John Hafner, 402 Cresson Avenue, said he rode around town counting boats and trailers, and that construction vehicles are parked on streets in violation of the weight restriction. There are sections of Catherine Place where construction equipment is parked. He urged further consideration of the land use ordinance and said the City did not properly clean up storm debris in the northwest and south sections of town. There is a business on Tilton Road near Wabash that parks vehicles on Wabash, and storm drains at Cresson and at Burton that flood. Cresson Avenue needs paving. The land use ordinance should restrict tractor trailer parking and idling. He commented that City employees have poor attitudes and he wants action taken.

Erland Chau, 1001 Shore Road, says the Code Enforcement department is slow to respond to concerns and complaints, and cited examples of complaints he has made that went unanswered.

Craig Tanzola, 10 Magnolia Court, urged the inclusion in land use ordinance of advancing technology with regard to signs. He asked if insurance will pay for replacing the batting cages, and urged soil testing of football field

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

Councilman Dewees read the meeting notices.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF COUNCIL

The resolution was adopted earlier in the evening.

142-2012 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 Pending Litigation in the Matter of Jack Trocki Development Co., LLC, v City of Northfield

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 Bonchi stated that this session would be convened to provide an update to Council on the status of the litigation; most likely no vote will be taken. There is a settlement proposal that will be reviewed with Council. Strategy and negotiations will not be disclosed at a future date. If there is a settlement, it will be voted upon in public session and the terms of the settlement will be made public.

At 8:09pm, Council left the dais and entered the City Clerk's Office; Solicitor Bonchi was also in attendance. Councilman Perri recused himself due to a conflict.

At 8:39pm, the closed session was adjourned and the regular meeting of Council resumed. Bonchi announced a summary for the record as follows: he provided an update to Council by providing a history of the litigation and bringing them up to date on what is pending and what is not. He relayed a settlement proposal to Council and was given direction on how to respond to the proposal. Settlement negotiations and strategy will not be released at a future date.

At 8:40pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk