

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2013**

At 6:03pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi Municipal Clerk. It was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 7, 2013 in accordance with Public Law 75, 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: Dewees, Mahon, O'Neill, Perri, Polistina, Travagline

Absent: Carew

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

WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

- Commercial Utility Consultants

Council President Travagline deferred to Mayor Mazzeo to address the topic.

Mayor Mazzeo provided an overview of the firm's history and explained the purpose of the aggregation program. He attended a presentation in Margate and Commercial Utility Consultants (CUC) subsequently presented to Northfield at Mazzeo's request at the August 27, 2013 meeting of City Council. CUC would like to establish an aggregation program of 30,000-100,000 meters among several local communities. The program should provide a residential savings on the purchase of electricity with CUC as the third party.

Councilman Mahon asked how many meters are in the proposed 5 town co-op, and whether the program forces people to opt out rather than to opt in?

A spokesperson from CUC identified himself as Ryan Carr and was available to answer questions. He responded that the individuals would need to opt out and the co-op could include Margate, Linwood, plus 11 others in Atlantic County, including Northfield. These are the towns that have expressed interest. He explained the three year averaging for rates.

Councilman O'Neill asked when someone has a problem with their bill who would they contact? Carr stated they would contact Atlantic City Electric directly.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2013**

Councilman O'Neill asked what the expected savings is. Carr answered the expected savings is 10%. If the Ordinance is passed then the RFP will go out requesting different term lengths of 12, 18, and 24 months. He further explained that if the resident does not save money, the program cannot exist and the City would not enter into the agreement.

Discussion ensued among the Council members.

Councilman Mahon asked if the rate could be negotiated. Carr responded that their experience is that the RFP produces a more competitive rate.

Councilman Polistina asked what happens if during the life of the contract the Atlantic City Electric rate falls below that of the third party provider. Carr replied that this can be put into the RFP in one of several different ways; the RFP can specifically state that the resident will be guaranteed the lowest of either rate.

Mayor Mazzeo asked Council for direction.

Council President Travagline asked if Council would like to move forward with introduction of an ordinance at the next meeting. In addition, he asked Council to direct any questions to Solicitor Facenda so that he can draft an Ordinance for consideration that takes their questions, comments and concerns into account.

- County-wide Tax Assessment

Mayor Mazzeo referred to a letter sent by the County Executive with regard to the exploration of county-wide tax assessment. He is in favor of exploring this as an option.

Several members of Council posed questions that could not be immediately answered. Council President Travagline asked Mayor Mazzeo to reach out to the County for more details that would help Council make a decision. Mayor Mazzeo indicated that he would contact the County.

- Memorandum of Understanding with Mainland Regional High School

Council President Travagline stated they have Resolution 172-2013 on the agenda this evening to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding with Mainland Regional High School. The partnership with the City will be in its second year and he introduced the program director from MRHS, John Capasso who was available to answer any questions.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2013**

Councilman O'Neill noted that he didn't have a question but explained the changes to the program. He stated there will be a reduction in the number of students that will participate this year at City Hall.

John Capasso stated he will work directly with each department to schedule accordingly. He thanked Mayor and Council for the opportunity to partner with the City.

Council President Travagline reviewed the agenda for the regular meeting and made assignments. Councilman O'Neill requested that Resolution 170-2013 be voted separately from the consent agenda.

Council President Travagline opened the meeting to any member of the public wishing to speak on any subject.

Robert Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, congratulated Councilman Polistina for his hard work on the Veterans Park and said he will be missed in January when he steps down. Webb commended the Vain brothers as well for doing an excellent job. He stated that he would like to see Councilman Perri take over that committee.

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

At 6:46pm on motions properly made and seconded this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC
Municipal Clerk