

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 19, 2013**

At 7:14pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on November 2, 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: Dewees, O'Neill, Perri, Piergiovanni, Polistina, Travagline  
Absent: Carew

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

**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 October 22, 2013. They have been posted, distributed to Council, and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Perri thanked all the candidates that ran in the election, whether they won or lost. He stated his appreciation for everyone who put their effort into the community. He congratulated the winners. He reported that the Planning Board heard three applications at their last meeting. He also thanked Vicky Rutter for all her assistance with the seniors hayride and luncheon. He also reported that the holiday celebration is tentatively set for December 12<sup>th</sup> at noon at Denny's restaurant. He clarified that is it for Northfield residents only but there would be more information to follow. He also said that he hopes to have a resolution to the insurance matter in the next month or so.

Councilman O'Neill thanked the candidates and congratulated them all. He introduced Aubrey Gerhardt, the new library director, who was present in the

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audience. He thanked Northfield Community School and school board candidates and all winners.

Councilman Polistina stated that he attended the Veterans ceremony on Veterans Day at the new Veterans Memorial Park. He noted that it had great attendance and he guessed that there were between 50-75 people. The event was coordinated and run by Robert Webb. He also commented that it was a great day and he is looking forward to the next event. He hopes that the community will come out and enjoy the park.

Councilman O'Neill asked for a meeting to discuss the new fire truck.

Councilman Polistina stated that it is in the works.

Councilman Perri added congratulations to Councilman Polistina, Mr. Vain and Mr. Webb and all others involved in the efforts for the Veteran's Park.

Councilman Dewees reported that the irrigation pipes at the fields and the plumbing in the bathrooms have all been winterized. He also stated the damage to the outfield located at the boys' field has been repaired. He also advised Aubrey Gerhardt, the new library director, that the trash enclosure would be fixed shortly.

Council President Travagline commended the Department of Public Works on the fields noting they are pristine.

Councilman Perri questioned the \$14,000.00 light bill.

Councilman Dewees stated it was damaged in a storm and was paid for by insurance.

Councilman Perri asked about the damaged light pole on the bike path. He asked if an insurance claim was filed.

Municipal Clerk Canesi stated she had no knowledge of such a claim.

Councilman Perri asked Chief James to provide the information.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Mazzeo stated that he attended the Veterans ceremony at Mainland Regional High School on November 1, 2013. He shared that it was well-attended and commended Mrs. Kearney for a great job. He said that Officer Peary provides transportation for the Veterans and picks them up on his own time every year for the event. He thanked Councilman Perri and announced that the Veterans ceremony at

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Northfield Community School, planned by Mrs. Devine, was also a great event. He noted that Mr. Webb was in attendance at the NCS event and always does a great job. He noted that the Veterans Park event was well attended. It was a great crowd and he thanked the committee, Mr. Webb, and all involved. He shared that he attended the grand opening of the new facility at Meadowview. He also stated that he attended grand opening at the new building on Route 9 across from the diner. He commented that it is a great addition to our community. He announced the December 6<sup>th</sup> tree lighting event which is sponsored by the ladies auxiliary and said the Northfield Community School choir will sing. He congratulated all candidates, and said he is looking forward to serving on the Assembly but as Mayor it's bittersweet. He reported that there was a Northfield sponsored zumba event at City Hall this past weekend and congratulated all involved for its success. He read the Police Department report.

**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 asked if there were any questions but noted first that he had talked to the County Inspector with regard to paving and he noted they were a few days behind schedule due to the weather. He reported they will meet tomorrow to discuss paving, which was originally anticipated to be this week. Milling and paving may occur as early as next week but this work is temperature sensitive. He reviewed the areas that were recently completed by New Jersey American Water for road restoration including Juniper, Forest and Burton. He asked if Resolution 192-2013 authorizes him to go out to bid.

Municipal Clerk Canesi confirmed after discussion among Council members, that it did.

Councilman Perri asked for a report from Doran Engineering on Roosevelt Avenue, including a status update.

Council President Travagline stated he will obtain that for him.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

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

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Robert Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, said he was touched by the Veterans Day events this year. He noted the increased attendance at the new Veterans Park over years past before the park's existence. It was a great day for the Veterans. He commended Mrs. Devine at Northfield Community School for her program and its impact on the Veterans. He noted there is still more to do at the new park. He stated more donations are needed to get the work completed. He thanked Mayor Mazzeo, Councilman Polistina, and Councilman Perri and all others involved. He additionally thanked Bill and Steve Vain for their tireless efforts. He shared that there will be another Veterans presentation at the Northfield Community School on December 7<sup>th</sup> in honor of Pearl Harbor. He expressed his condolences to Councilman Perri on the passing of his Aunt.

Councilman Piergiovanni stated that as a Veteran, he was moved by the Veterans Day event. He shared that since commencement of global war on terror there have been 3.1 million new combat veterans in the United States and Veterans Day has taken on a new meaning and has become more important. He commended the tremendous effort by the school. He stated that today is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Gettysburg address. He encouraged people to Google it and read it if you have the chance; it's a great reminder of what this country has gone through.

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

**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. He announced that 194-2013 will not be voted on this evening, as he would like the solicitor to review it.

Councilman Perri stated that he would like it to remain on the agenda for a vote as it's his committee. He asked if all the statutory requirements were met.

Municipal Clerk Canesi confirmed that the statutory requirements were met.

Council President Travagline conducted a straw poll asking if they would like to see it removed from the agenda. All were in favor postponing a vote except Councilman Perri.

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Council President Travagline suggested that Solicitor Facenda review the contract to ensure there are no problems going forward.

Councilman Perri asked for clarification that there were no irregularities with the bid opening.

Municipal Clerk Canesi confirmed there were no irregularities with the bid opening.

Councilman O'Neill motioned, Councilman Perri seconded to vote by Consent Agenda on Resolutions 185-2013 through 193-2013.

- 185-2013** Authorizing Release of Performance Guarantee and Posting of a 2-Year Maintenance Guarantee for Football Field Restrooms and Sewer Upgrade at Birch Grove Park, City of Northfield
- 186-2013** Final Change Order No. 1 - Tricomm Service Corporation - Purchase and Installation of Telephone System
- 187-2013** Resolution of the City Council of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, New Jersey Authorizing a Governmental Energy Aggregation Program and Appointing Commercial Utility Consultants, Inc. as Energy Agent to Assist the City in the Implementation of the City's Energy Aggregation Program and Making Other Determinations in Connection Therewith
- 188-2013** Resolution of the City of Northfield Authorizing Entry into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement
- 189-2013** Community Development Block Grant Program
- 190-2013** To Authorize the Sale of Surplus Property No Longer Needed for Public Use on an Online Auction Website
- 191-2013** Request to County of Atlantic to Use County Roads for Municipal Holiday Tree Lighting
- 192-2013** Authorizing Schaeffer, Nassar, Scheidegg Consulting Engineers to Proceed – Reconstruction of Broad Street Phase II
- 193-2013** Transfer of Funds

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

Councilman O'Neill motioned, Councilman Perri seconded, to adopt the Consent Agenda for Resolutions 185-2013 through 193-2013.

Councilman Perri asked if Resolution 186-2013 takes into consideration the free internet connection that the City is entitled to.

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Councilman O'Neill confirmed that it does.

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

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilman Perri seconded, for payment of bills in the amount of \$ 5,683,591.28.

Councilman Perri stated that the charges for labor counsel fees regarding tax appeals seemed very expensive. He noted that it is a reflection of the economic times and does not think next year will be any better but it's very expensive.

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

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