

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 27, 2018**

At 7:00pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 13, 2018, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau, followed by a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL

Present: Korngut, Lischin, O'Neill, Perri, Travagline, Dewees
Absent: Murray

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Nassar and Chief Newman were also in attendance.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion of Councilwoman Korngut, second of Councilman Perri, all present were in favor of approving the minutes of the meetings of November 13, 2018, without formal reading. They were posted, distributed to Council, and on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri - Sewer Inter Local, Planning Board, Senior Citizens

Councilman Perri reported that the Planning Board had a minor sub-division and a "D" variance on the next meeting schedule; the taxes for the variance are not up to date so that may not be heard. The senior meeting was coming up.

Councilman O'Neill - Inspections, Code Enforcement, Housing/Zoning, Court/Violations, Chamber of Commerce, Little League/Babe Ruth, Traffic Safety, Green Team Advisory Board

Councilman O'Neill had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Korngut – Library, Municipal Alliance, Economic Development, Shared Services

Councilwoman Korngut reported that the Library had a meeting on November 15th, the Library Director brought to the Board's attention that the school had a lockdown due to a suspicious person. The Police were deployed to the school, after school the teachers told the kids to go to the library; so, the library had a day where they were inundated. She wanted to bring this to the attention of the school liaison so the Library can be better prepared if there were, god forbid, another day like that. The

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Library Director also went to an active shooter drill; one suggestion was to have deadbolts installed. The question is whether the City would pay for that.

Council President Dewees would contact Councilwoman Korngut to discuss.

Councilman Perri noticed at last Library meeting the gutters were extremely clogged and overflowing, especially near the main entrance.

Council President Dewees would check to see whose responsibility that was.

Councilman Travagline – Insurance and Safety, Northfield School, FAN; Shared Services

Councilman Travagline had nothing to report.

Councilman Murray - Finance/Collections, Mainland Regional, Traffic Safety, Economic Development

Councilman Murray was absent.

Council President Dewees - Buildings/Grounds, Athletic Fields, Bike Path, Veterans' Park, 1st Street Playground, Birch Grove, Public Works, Roads, Engineering

Council President Dewees had nothing to report.

Councilman Lischin – Fire Department/EMS, Technology/MRHS Channel 2, Cultural Committee, Green Team Advisory

Councilman Lischin had nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau reported that he received correspondence from Senator Brown with regard to cannabis legislation, Senator Brown wanted to bring this to our attention. Many municipalities have not taken a position with regard to the legalization of marijuana.

Mayor Chau had concerns about the flashing lights in Northfield and had been talking with County Officials. He was happy to report that the signs in front of the Shore Road Fire Station would be replaced. The County will purchase and replace them but the City would be responsible for maintenance and future replacement. The new system would be computerized and they will train our people to use it. He reminded all about the Mayor's Annual Holiday Lighting Contest, any Northfield resident can get an application at the City Clerk's Office or can request one via email.

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The winners would be notified on the 17th and announced publicly on the 18th at our Council meeting.

Dunkin Donuts was having a Toys For Tots event on Saturday, December 8th at 10am. Councilwoman Korngut and Clerk Canesi had expressed interest in attending.

Councilman O'Neill asked if the Mayor has discussed police staffing with the Chief, based on the new housing development.

Mayor Chau replied yes, he has had discussions but that is a matter for Council to decide based on funding.

Mayor Chau asked Clerk Canesi for the status of our recording system; he asked for update.

Clerk Canesi explained that for several years she had requested to have the recording system redone; it's never been approved. Most recently, 3 or 4 years ago we spent \$7,000.00-\$8,000.00 on new microphones. We don't know why the system is failing. It comes down to funding.

Council President Dewees replied it's another budgetary item; comes down to money.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed the engineer's report as previously provided to Council. He reported that there had been issues with road openings with no notification or permit application. The matters had been addressed, road work will be done at night with police escorts. The Davis Avenue Pump Station work will begin shortly. The bypass pump would be tested before the job starts to ensure that there will be no issues. Cresson Avenue paving project should be complete by December 10th. The Cresson Drainage Project is also complete, but there was some additional work in the field that resulted in the change order that is on the agenda tonight. The pipes on Cresson Avenue would be cleaned by Public Works when the road is closed.

Mayor Chau asked about the status of Ireland Avenue for Mr. Wolfe.

Engineer Nassar replied they were working on the design; the work won't happen until the spring.

Mayor Chau then asked about punch list items for Mrs. Garry on St. James Place, also Roosevelt and Tilton.

Engineer Nassar advised that Tilton and Roosevelt was a County project, but that would be taken care of this year. The other punch list items were completed.

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Mayor Chau asked the location of the restoration on Davis Avenue.

Engineer Nassar replied that it was from Davis Avenue all the way to the pump station, but that would not be done until next year.

PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Dewees opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to speak on any subject.

Seeing no one wishing to speak Council President Dewees closed the public session.

RESOLUTIONS

Council President Dewees 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.

The Executive Session of Council will be held at the end of the meeting, and we will come back in public session to make a comment for the record after the executive session has concluded. Any vote made on subjects discussed will be made in public.

Solicitor Facenda announced the addition of Resolution 206-2018 and read the full Resolution into the record:

RESOLUTION NO. 206-2018 is 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 threatened litigation.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Northfield is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-12 provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the City Council of the City of Northfield to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to a threat of litigation for a claim for payment being made by Indian Harbor Insurance Company concerning alleged amounts due from the City of Northfield.

WHEREAS, the purpose of this meeting is to provide information to the Council about the claim for payment.

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Northfield that Council move into Executive Session, closed to the public.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be released when a decision with respect to the matter has been made and all rights to litigate or appeal are exhausted; provided, that material entitled to Court protection or subject to attorney-client privilege shall not be disclosed.

On a motion of Councilman Lischin, second of Councilman Travagline, all present were in favor of voting by consent agenda on Resolutions 204-2018 through 206-2018.

- 204-2018** Work Change Order No. 1 Cresson Avenue Drainage Improvements
- 205-2018** Authorizing Schaeffer, Nassar, Scheidegg Consulting Engineers to Proceed with Certain Projects
- 206-2018** 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 Threatened Litigation

Councilman Lischin motioned, Councilman Travagline seconded, to adopt Resolutions 204-2018 through 206-2018.

Councilman Perri commented regarding the subcontractor for the ADA improvements, and questioned if that was something the Engineer could handle.

Engineer Nassar replied no, it was architectural.

Roll call: Ms. Korngut – yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –absent; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$ 117,706.45

Councilman O’Neill motioned, Councilman Travagline seconded, for payment of bills.

Roll call: Ms. Korngut – yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –absent; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

Council President Dewees read the meeting notices then announced the executive session.

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206-2018 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 Threatened Litigation

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title, and stated that we are required to set forth as much information as possible as to the subject matter to be discussed as well as provide for the public the amount of time they can expect to elapse before the non-public portion of the minutes can be disclosed. Clerk Canesi then deferred to the Solicitor for further explanation.

Solicitor Facenda announced that the matter to be discussed was a threat of litigation for a claim for payment being made to Indian Harbor Insurance concerning alleged amounts due by the City of Northfield. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law.

At 7:24pm Council moved to the Mayor's Office for the Executive Session.

At 7:31pm the Executive Session of Council was adjourned, and the Regular Meeting resumed in Council Chambers.

Solicitor Facenda announced that the Executive Session had concluded. Council authorized the payment of \$7,500.00 to Indian Harbor Insurance, and authorized the funds to be wired by the CFO. The minutes were kept but will not be released until the matter had concluded and they would be released when permitted by law.

At 7:32pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk