

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD ANNUAL REORGANIZATION  
JANUARY 5, 2016**

At 6:59pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi, who welcomed the audience. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau, after which a moment of silence was observed.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Piergiovanni - yes, Mr. Travagline - yes; Motion carries.

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Kris Facenda and Engineer Dan Kwapinski were also in attendance.

Municipal Clerk Canesi announced that official oaths were previously administered and that the ceremonial oaths of office would be administered by Assemblyman Chris Brown.

Clerk Canesi introduced Assemblyman Brown and called forward Mayor Chau who was accompanied by his mother, Betty. Mayor Chau was reelected to a four year term in November, effective January 1, 2016. The Oath of Office was administered to Mayor Chau by Assemblyman Brown.

Clerk Canesi called forward Councilman Murray who was reelected to a three year term in November, effective January 1, 2016. The Oath of Office was administered to Councilman Murray by Assemblyman Brown.

Clerk Canesi called forward Councilman Travagline who was accompanied by his wife, ToniLynn, and children Tommy and Timmy. Councilman Travagline was reelected to a three year term in November, effective January 1, 2016. Assemblyman Brown stated that it was an honor to be here for these three gentlemen, they put the interest of the town and its residents first. The Oath of Office was administered to Councilman Travagline by Assemblyman Brown.

Municipal Clerk Canesi opened the floor for nominations for Council President for the year 2016. Councilman O’Neill nominated Councilman Travagline, seconded by Councilman Murray. Clerk Canesi called for other nominations; seeing none were the floor was closed.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Piergiovanni - yes, Mr. Travagline - yes; Motion carries.

Council President Travagline opened the floor for nominations for Council President Pro Tempore for the year 2016. Councilman Murray nominated Councilman Dewees.

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Council President Travagline called for other nominations, seeing none the floor was closed.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Piergiovanni - yes, Mr. Travagline - yes; Motion carries.

Council President Travagline announced Mayor Chau’s State of the City Address.

Mayor Chau welcomed all to the Reorganization meeting, he recognized former Councilwoman and Council President, Lisa Brown, and Acting Chief of Police Paul Newman in the audience.

**MAYOR ERLAND CHAU’S 2016 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS**

“The only words to start with are thank you. Thank you to my family, my friends, my colleagues and the citizens of our great City of Northfield. I thank each and every one of you for granting me the privilege and honor of serving as your Mayor. Your help, your support and your enthusiasm were incredible and I am so excited at the opportunities we have before us. Those who know me, will know I do not take my position as Mayor lightly. I will work tirelessly, with passion and dedication.

To Councilmen Travagline and Lischin who have been sworn in and granted this significant opportunity to serve the citizens of Northfield: congratulations. I know that you will work hard for our community and enjoy the many challenges and experiences that await you. Congratulations also to Councilman Dewees, Council President Pro Tempore.

And now my State of the Union Address to the City: We are in major transition we live in a difficult time, Northfield and Atlantic County are changing, our demographics are changing, community expectations are increasing, the State Government is imposing changes to the planning system that the Community does not often understand the consequences of and often become disillusioned with the resulting developments and most of all due to the economic turn down by the loss of thousands of jobs throughout Atlantic County. As Mayor and Council we will need to work even harder with our Community on what they want for our City. Together we can face and defeat each challenge. We live in a small community but a powerful community of 8k plus strong, united in our love for Northfield whether we arrived generations ago or just last week.

We must be conscious of the financial impact. I and this Council must remain committed to delivering and improving the basic services. This means we will need work to ensure clean, well-maintained public streets and footpaths; good waste and recycling collections; improved library services; quality open spaces and sports facilities and safety for our property and our well-being. Critical to any Mayor and

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City Council's success or failure is its sound financial accountability, viability and representing the voice of the people it serves. I promise with the help of City Council we will continue work to represent you and to make our city services as much efficient, effective and accessible to all. But keep in mind, this is a partnership that involves City government and the people who it serves and represents.

As Mayor, I pledge that our government proposals for expenditures will always be critically appraised and the implementation rigorously monitored. We will continue to seek cost saving practices such as share services, grants and continued reviews of how our City be can become more efficient. I also pledge to ensure that proper governance measures are in place so that we remain transparent in our dealings with the community.

As Mayor I will regularly communicate with our residents. I will engage with the community through technology and traditional media. A great City is one where the government returns your phone calls, where it answers your questions, where it tries to solve your problems, where you feel good about a government that listens and tries to seek a fair and justly resolution for all its people. I recognize that some of my decisions and actions may not have been accepted. It is my hope that you understand that my actions were based not as a selfish or motive for a few but rather always for the benefit of all.

The road ahead is unclear. We have heard from so many good people within our community and employees from our City government; smart, hardworking, and dedicated individuals. We need to continue to tap the insights and experience of our peers, and we need to share our own insights and experiences with others. We need to recognize that we are stronger when we work together. I ask all of you to stand with me to continue to criticize, to promote and seek positive achievements and actions for this governing body. Our visions for Northfield are achievable. To the community, I pledge to work hard to build upon the solid foundation that this Council has inherited. With your guidance, we can make the City of Northfield a shining star within Atlantic County. As we move and enter into another year, let us all travel down the same road with the continue hopes of prosperity, a strong and just government, and an advocate of recognizing that everyone in this room and this community has an equal share and responsibility.

I remember my father who once told me that in Ancient China the candidates to the post in the town administration had to pass an examination in aesthetics and display their love and understanding of the Arts. Well, time has changed, but the humanity has hardly been altered - neither have the universal principles of our government, to implement and develop the ideal of freedom to ensure adequate life and representation for its townspeople irrespective of their economic, political or social status.

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So with that said, I want to thank you the citizens of Northfield. No doubt there is hard work ahead. To the members of this City Council, I thank you for the confidence you have given me. I trust that each one of you along with the dedicated employees of our City share my belief. Together with you, the citizens of Northfield and this government, we will continue to keep our City a beautiful, safe and proud place to live. A place we can all call home and be proud of it.

Thank you and God Bless You All...”

**AGENDA REVIEW**

Council President Travagline reviewed the agenda.

Councilman Lischin questioned the vehicles on Resolution 36-2016 and asked if they were vehicles that had not sold during the last auction.

Councilman Dewees stated that these items were not listed during the last auction; these are two trash trucks and a loader from Public Works that have been taken out of service.

Seeing no more questions, Council President Travagline announced 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 by 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.

Council President Travagline made the assignments for the evening and asked if Council had any questions.

Councilman Perri motioned to approve the minutes from December 15, 2015 and December 28, 2015, Councilman Murray seconded.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Piergiovanni - yes, Mr. Travagline - yes; Motion carries.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Council President Travagline opened this meeting to the Public.

Samantha Gill - 701 Lake Avenue, gave handouts to Council. She referred to Addie's Law, sponsored by Assemblyman Mazzeo that enacted Legislation for service dogs to ride on school buses. She and her family love the area and the school is fabulous, her special needs child is bused to school. She reported that signage is incorrect for her

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street and she has called to have it addressed but nothing has happened. The area where she lives is very dark and needs a street light. The mislabeled street makes it hard for school bus staff and public safety personnel to find her house. She believed her neighborhood needed a four way stop as well. There are many special education kids in the area and asked that someone take a look at the area to see what can be done to make it safer.

Councilman Dewees asked Ms. Gill for the specific location she would be thinking of for the four way stop; he also noted that the signs have been ordered for Walnut, Lake and Evergreen Avenues.

Ms. Gill replied at Walnut and Lake.

Councilman Dewees asked where she would put the children at play signs.

Ms. Gill stated that she would defer to the Police Department for their recommendation.

Council President Travagline asked about the street light.

Councilman Dewees said typically we would get the recommendation of the Police Department.

Council President Travagline asked Ms. Gill for her phone number and stated that he thinks most of these items will be addressed.

Ms. Gill thanked Council for their time.

Freeholder John Risley wished all a Happy New Year on behalf of the Atlantic County Board of Freeholders.

Council President Travagline thanked and introduced Freeholder Risley and recognized employees in the audience, Shannon Campbell, Jim Dickinson and Tim Joo.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak the public session was closed.

**RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded to vote by consent agenda on Resolutions 1-2016 through 39-2016.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Piergiovanni - yes, Mr. Travagline - yes; Motion carries.

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Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded to adopt the consent agenda for Resolutions 1-2016 through 39-2016.

- 1-2016** Annual Schedule of Meetings
- 2-2016** To Appoint Certified Municipal Registrar
- 3-2016** Temporary Appropriations
- 4-2016** Designate the Press of Atlantic City and the Current of Northfield, Linwood, and Somers Point as the Official Instruments for the Publication of Legal Notices for the City of Northfield
- 5-2016** Annual Appointments
- 6-2016** To Authorize the Tax Assessor to File a Petition of Appeal or Appeals for the Tax Year 2016
- 7-2016** Safety and Health Committee Appointments
- 8-2016** Establishing Charges for Municipal Public Records
- 9-2016** Appointing Fund Commissioner and Alternate Fund Commissioner for the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund
- 10-2016** Appointing Public Agency Compliance Officer
- 11-2016** Appointment of Risk Management Consultant in Accordance with the Bylaws of the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund
- 12-2016** A Resolution Authorizing the Contact Persons to Access the Employment Practices Liability Consultation Service (EPL) / ACMJIF
- 13-2016** A Resolution Adopting Robert's Rules of Order
- 14-2016** Hazardous Materials Emergency Management Advisory Council Appointments
- 15-2016** To Authorize Northfield-Linwood Shared Service Committee
- 16-2016** A Resolution Adopting a Cash Management Plan

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- 17-2016** To Establish the Rate of Interest for Nonpayment of Taxes or Assessments
- 18-2016** Authorize Delinquent Tax Penalty Charges
- 19-2016** Authorizing Award of Contract for Registered Municipal Accountant as a Professional Service through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.4, Et Seq.
- 20-2016** Authorizing Award of Contract for Licensed Land Surveyor as a Professional Service through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.4, Et Seq.
- 21-2016** Authorizing Award of Contract for Bond Counsel as a Professional Service through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.4, Et Seq.
- 22-2016** Authorizing Award of Contract for Labor Relations Attorney as a Professional Service through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.4, Et Seq.
- 23-2016** Authorizing Award of Contract for Tax Appeal Attorney as a Professional Service through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.4, Et Seq.
- 24-2016** Authorizing Award of Contract for Municipal Engineer as a Professional Service through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.4, Et Seq.
- 25-2016** Authorizing Award of Contract for Municipal Solicitor as a Professional Service through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.4, Et Seq.
- 26-2016** Authorizing Award of Contract for Municipal Public Defender as a Professional Service through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.4, Et Seq.
- 27-2016** Authorizing Award of Contract for Municipal Prosecutor as a Professional Service through a Fair and Open Process Pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.4, Et Seq.
- 28-2016** Cultural Committee Appointments

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- 29-2016** A Resolution Authorizing Contracts with Certain Approved State Contract Vendors for Contracting Units Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a
- 30-2016** To Confirm the Reappointment of Harold L. Bogie as a Special Law Enforcement Officer, Class II
- 31-2016** To Confirm the Reappointment of George R. Clark as a Special Law Enforcement Officer, Class II
- 32-2016** Award of Contract for General Repairs and Maintenance of Stormwater Facilities
- 33-2016** A Resolution Recognizing Members of the Northfield Volunteer Fire Company Ladies' Auxiliary
- 34-2016** A Resolution Recognizing Northfield Volunteer Fire Company Members
- 35-2016** A Resolution Authorizing the Public Auction of Abandoned/Unclaimed Vehicles
- 36-2016** To Authorize the Sale of Surplus Property No Longer Needed for Public Use on an Online Auction Website
- 37-2016** Authorization To Create Municipal Lien for Property Maintenance Costs
- 38-2016** A Resolution Approving Specifications for a Request for Proposal for Emergency Medical Services for the City of Northfield and the City of Linwood
- 39-2016** A Resolution Authorizing the Northfield Fire Department to Apply for and Obtain a Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Roll call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Piergiovanni - yes, Mr. Travagline - yes; Motion carries.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Piergiovanni seconded for payment of bills in the amount of \$16,065.10.

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Roll call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Mr. Lischin – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes,  
Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Piergiovanni - yes, Mr. Travagline - yes; Motion carries.

Council President Travagline read the meeting notices.

At 7:36pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk