

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2023**

At 6:30pm 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 on January 7, 2023 and in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

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

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilwoman Bucci; Councilwoman Carfagno; Councilman Dewees; Councilman Leeds; Councilman Notaro; Councilman Smith; Council President Polistina; Mayor Chau

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Councilwoman Bucci with a second by Councilman Notaro, all members present, were in favor of approving the minutes of January 3, 2023, without formal reading.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau commented on the professionalism of public safety personnel with regard to the fire at his home, he thanked mutual aid responders from Pleasantville, Linwood and Somers Point. He thanked Councilman Leeds and Council President Polistina, who were there on the scene and offered support.

Mayor Chau reported that he appointed a current member to the Planning Board, Henry Notaro, to replace someone who resigned. Mr. Notaro had been an alternate member for over 20 years. He also appointed Paul Utts as an alternate member; Mr. Utts had served on the board as a member of Council and was very knowledgeable. Mayor Chau has had several meetings with Chief VonColln, and Chief VonColln would will be presenting a recommendation to the Council to eliminate the promotional testing for command staff, the cost was around \$10,000.00. New officers in the Department are the future leaders, retirements are expected in the next few years and it was important to get the people with experience.

Council President Polistina clarified testing was for multiple levels, not one test per level.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2023**

CITY ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reported the preconstruction meeting for slip lining was scheduled for January 26th; he would report at next meeting. Regarding the agenda there was a recommendation of award for the Oak Avenue paving project; our grant amount was \$285,000.00 and award is \$268,00.00. We would not lose money; excess funds would be used for testing and inspections.

PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Polistina opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to comment on any subject, he asked that they state their name and address for the record and observe the five-minute limit per speaker.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Council President Polistina closed the public comment portion of this meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

Council President Polistina read the following statement: “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.”

On motion of Councilman Dewees, seconded by Councilman Smith, all members present were in favor of voting on Resolutions 32-2023 through 42-2023, by Consent Agenda.

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, to adopt the Consent Agenda.

- 32-2023** Authorizing Refund of Overpayment of Taxes
- 33-2023** New Jersey Department of Transportation Division of Local Aid and Economic Development Recommendation of Award for the Project known as MA-2022 Reconstruction of Oak Avenue in the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic
- 34-2023** Authorizing Schaeffer, Nassar, Scheidegg Consulting Engineers to Proceed with Engineering Services for the Project Known as Slip Lining Deep Sanitary Sewer Pipes, Phase II

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2023**

- 35-2023** Authorizing Schaeffer, Nassar, Scheidegg Consulting Engineers to Proceed with Engineering Services for the Project known as MA-2022 Reconstruction of Oak Avenue in the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic
- 36-2023** To Approve the Hiring of Malachi J. Valentine for the Position of Police Officer
- 37-2023** To Approve the Hiring of Brenden S. O’Brien for the Position of Police Officer
- 38-2023** To Approve the Hiring of Nicholas Dunn for the Position of Public Works Laborer
- 39-2023** To Approve the Hiring of Derek Leary for the Position of Part Time Construction Official
- 40-2023** To Approve the Hiring of Derek Leary for the Position of Part Time Building Inspector
- 41-2023** Accumulated Absence Payout
- 42-2023** Authorizing the Award of Contract without Public Advertisement for Bids to JC Miller Auto Parts, dba NAPA at Northfield, Pursuant to The Provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

ORDINANCE

Councilman Leeds motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, to adopt Ordinance 1-2023.

- 1-2023** Ordinance Providing for and Establishing Salary Ranges of Officers and Employees of the City of Northfield and Repealing All Ordinances Heretofore Adopted, the Provisions of Which are Inconsistent Herewith
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration
Published in the Press of AC 01/21/2023

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this was the second reading and that there would be a public hearing, after which the matter would be considered for final adoption. Since introduction, the full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the City website, and copies have been available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk to any member of the public who requested same. If approved, final publication will be January 21, 2023.

Council President Polistina opened the public hearing. Seeing no one wishing to speak he closed the public hearing.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2023**

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

Council President Polistina announced one change to Ordinance 2-2023.

Solicitor Facenda added that the request was made by Councilman Notaro to modify section 117-4(B). Fire pits, chimineas, and similar devices shall be kept at ground level and must be placed upon a noncombustible surface such as brick or cement. No fire pits, chimineas, or similar devices shall be permitted on any type of elevated landing, surface, deck, stairway, roof or other elevated platform or portion of a structure. Notwithstanding the foregoing, fire pits, chimineas, and similar devices may be utilized on an elevated platform only in the event said platform is non-combustible, *or in the event said fire pit, chiminea or similar device is fueled only by natural gas or propane.*

Clerk Canesi confirmed that Solicitor Facenda would provide her with the written notes on the amendment.

Councilman Notaro motioned, Councilwoman Bucci seconded to introduce Ordinance 2-2023, as amended.

2-2023 Amending Chapter 117 of the City of Northfield Municipal Code,
 Entitled Outdoor Burning
Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 1/21/2023
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 2/7/2023

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this is the first reading, and announced the publication, public hearing, and final consideration dates. The full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the City website, and copies are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requests same. Clerk Canesi will amend the ordinance as published currently on the website.

Councilman Notaro thanked Clerk Canesi for picking up on the section that was ultimately amended.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

Councilwoman Bucci motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded to introduce Ordinance 3-2023.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2023**

3-2023 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 215 of the Code of the City of Northfield Governing Land Use and Development
Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 1/21/2023
Referral to City of Northfield Planning Board 01/18/2023
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 3/7/2023

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this is the first reading, and announced the publication, public hearing, and final consideration dates. The full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the City website, and copies are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requests same. The Ordinance will be referred to the City of Northfield Planning Board tomorrow, they will have a period of 45 days to review and comment.

Council President Polistina noted that the changes are mainly items that have been discussed regarding signage around town, we would get input from the Planning Board, he hoped this was a good time since they will be working on the master plan as well.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$ 3,663,892.78

Councilwoman Carfagno motioned, Councilman Leeds seconded, for payment of bills.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

MEETING NOTICES

Councilman Dewees read the meeting notices.

At approximately 6:48pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk