

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 18, 2022**

At 6:49pm 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, on January 8, 2022.

Municipal Clerk Canesi read the following statement:

“Based on CDC guidelines related to Covid-19, the City of Northfield has suggested that everyone 2 years or older who is not fully vaccinated should wear a mask in indoor public places, and visitors are made aware of this decision with signs at the entrances to the building.

To ensure the health and safety of our employees and visitors, we are also continuing to adhere to social distancing requirements in our indoor public spaces, and as a result there are limited seats for in-person attendance by members of the public this evening. In order to ensure that the public may fully participate despite the limited in-person capacity, this meeting is also being presented simultaneously as a remote public meeting, live-streamed, using Zoom conferencing service.

Zoom meeting participants can dial in by telephone and listen to the proceedings, or they can access the meeting using a web-browser, and be able to view and listen.

Instructions on how members of the public could reserve one of the limited seats, as well as how they can access Zoom have been made available on the municipal website and were published in the Press of Atlantic City. The full text of the public meeting notice has been posted at the entrance to the municipal building and includes Zoom instructions, information on where to find the meeting agenda and relevant documents, as well as instructions on how members of the public could submit comments in advance of tonight’s meeting.

For those participating via Zoom, all participants will be ‘muted’ upon entry to the meeting. Web-browser participants will not be able to share their screens or see the camera-view of anyone other than the host, which is the City of Northfield.

Zoom participants wishing to exercise their right to participate during the public comment portion of the meeting should wait until the specific announcement is made to open the public comment period. At this time, one by one, any telephone users will be asked to identify themselves and will be unmuted to permit commentary. For web-browser participants, comments or questions may be submitted via the chat function and will not be acknowledged outside of the designated public-comment portion of the meeting; chat-users must also provide his/her name and address for the record in order to be heard.

Any written comments submitted in advance will be read aloud and addressed during the public comment portion of the meeting.”

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Clerk Canesi noted that the advertised date on the regular agenda was incorrect, correct date was January 8, 2022.

FLAG SALUTE

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

ROLL CALL

Present (in person): Councilwoman Bucci; Councilman Leeds; Councilman Notaro; Councilman Smith; Councilman Utts; Council President Polistina; Mayor Chau

Absent: Councilman Dewees

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

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Notaro with a second of Councilwoman Bucci, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of January 4, 2022, without formal reading.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau read the Police Department report for December; he reported there was one vacancy on the Library Board, interested parties should contact Mayor Chau or the Clerk's Office. As you all know we are losing a long-time business, Beacon Cycling, they have been an attribute to our community. An auto body shop will be going there, but he was sorry to see Beacon go. He gave kudos to the Public Works Department, and thanked and recognized Councilman Dewees and Council President Polistina who had been working with the Public Works Department and the ACUA. He asked residents to be patient. He would be having a Zoom meeting with County Court this week; any questions could be forwarded to Mayor Chau. He noted that two of our former judges have been chosen, Timothy Maguire was appointed Chief Judge and Michele Verno was appointed as one of the judges.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineer's Report as previously distributed to the Council. He referred to the change order for the paving project, additions to the scope of work and the fuel adjustment were the significant changes. The project had been inspected and all punch list items have been addressed. NJ American Water was looking to upgrade the water main on Glencove Avenue from Shore Road, east, for approximately 260 feet. They have been active recently to improve service.

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Council President Polistina asked did they have a potential start date?

Engineer Nassar replied, April 30th, according to the permit application.

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 make a comment Council President Polistina closed the public session.

RESOLUTIONS

Council President Polistina 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 of funds are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds.

RESOLUTIONS

On motion of Councilman Utts, seconded by Councilman Leeds all members present were in favor of voting on Resolutions 38-2022, and 40-2022 through 42-2022 by Consent Agenda.

- 38-2022** Work Change Order No. 1 – Final Reconstruction of Fuae Avenue, FY2020 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program
- 40-2022** Acceptance of the LOSAP Point System and Qualifiers for Members of the Northfield Volunteer Fire Company No. 1
- 41-2022** Amending Northfield Municipal Alliance Committee Appointments
- 42-2022** A Resolution of the City of Northfield, County Of Atlantic, State of New Jersey to Accept the Donation of an Automobile for Use by Municipal Employees

Councilman Utts motioned, Councilman Leeds seconded, to adopt the Consent Agenda.

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

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Councilman Utts motioned, Councilman Leeds seconded, to adopt Resolution 39-2022.

39-2022 A Resolution Authorizing Contract with Motorola Solutions, an Approved State Contract Vendor for Contracting Units pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a

Councilman Leeds made a correction to the Resolution language, where it says APX800 it should say APX8000. Clerk Canesi acknowledged and would make the correction in the final executed resolution.

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

ORDINANCES

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilwoman Bucci seconded, to adopt Ordinance 1-2022.

1-2022 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 1/18/2022
Published in the Press of AC 1/22/2022*

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 22, 2022.

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

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

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Councilman Smith motioned, Councilwoman Bucci seconded, to introduce Ordinance 2-2022.

2-2022 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)
*Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 1/22/2022
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 2/8/2022*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this is the first reading, there would be no public input, and announced the publication and public hearing 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.

Council President Polistina explained this was just a planning tool, the Ordinance gives us the ability to have a cap bank out there just in case something happens; we've never had to use it.

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$ 2,264,325.00

Councilman Notaro motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, for payment of bills.

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

Councilwoman Bucci read the meeting notices.

At approximately 7:07pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk