

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD ANNUAL REORGANIZATION
JANUARY 5, 2010**

This meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi, who welcomed the audience. This meeting was properly advertised under Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

The flag salute was led by Mayor Vincent Mazzeo. Following the flag salute there was a moment of silence was observed.

The Oath of Office was administered to Councilman at Large Tim Carew by County Executive Dennis Levinson. Carew was accompanied by his wife Donna and Sons Zack and Sean. He thanked the public, friends and family for their support. He said it is a privilege to serve as he enters his 10th year on Council.

The Oath of Office was administered to Councilman 2nd Ward Steve Vain by County Executive Dennis Levinson. Vain was joined by his wife Louisa and daughters Allie and Julia. Vain thanked the public and his family for their support.

The Oath of Office was administered to Councilman 1st Ward Frank Perri by Senator Jim Whelan. Perri was joined by his wife Lynn, daughter Donna and son Frank. Perri thanked Senator Whelan, his parents, wife, children and the public. He said he is ready to hit the ground running as he enters his 6th term of on Council.

Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi took Roll Call as follows:

Present: Timothy Carew, Cynthia Kern, Jimmy Martinez, Frank Perri, Brian Smith, Steven Vain
Absent: Jason O'Grady

City Solicitor Keith Bonchi and City Engineer Matt Doran were also in attendance.

Councilwoman Kern recognized County Executive Levinson, Senator Whelan and other local dignitaries. A 5 minute recess was called to allow for photographs.

Canesi then called for a motion to elect a Council President for the year 2010. Motion by Councilwoman Kern, second by Councilman Vain to elect Council at Large Tim Carew as Council President.

Roll call: Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Martinez – yes; Mr. O'Grady – absent; Mr. Perri – no; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

Council President Carew thanked the members of Council for the opportunity. He provided a recap of key issues from 2009 and reviewed plans for 2010 to involve the commercial district. Carew announced that the 2010 Committee Assignments will be distributed at the end of the evening.

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES/ DECEMBER 8, 2009 and December 22, 2009

Motion was made by Councilwoman Kern, second by Councilman Vain to dispense with the reading of the minutes of December 8, 2009 and December 22, 2009. They have been posted, distributed to Council and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Roll call: Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Martinez – yes; Mr. O'Grady – absent; Mr. Perri – abstain; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

MAYOR VINCENT MAZZEO'S 2010 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor Mazzeo stated that in 2009 the City of Northfield continued to provide great services to residents but saw the strain of the economic recession. The Planning Board saw decreases in applications and permits, and court revenue was slightly lower than 2008. There were State issues that trickled down to Northfield as well, and 2010 will bring increases in pension payments and an anticipated 16% increase in the cost of State Health Benefits. State aid as a 'given' is becoming an uncertainty. The City was able to offset some of 2009's revenue decreases by auctioning off surplus assets; Mazzeo thanked CFO Dolcy, Councilman Smith, and City department heads who worked on the project. Northfield had added assessment of \$3.8 million with a total valuation of \$971 million. Our tax collection rate fell slightly but remains strong at 97.45%. The City's total debt is \$6,569,000.

KEY EVENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2009

- Passage of 212 Resolutions and 17 Ordinances
- Execution of two Shared Service Agreements with Linwood for Shared Municipal Court and Emergency Medical Services
- Completion of the reconfiguration of the intersection of Zion Road, Cedarbridge Road and Burroughs Avenue in accordance with an interlocal agreement with Atlantic County and Linwood, resulting in a much safer intersection
- The sidewalks on Cedarbridge Road were completed through grant funding and an Ordinance was passed making that road one-way, making this a safer route to the Northfield Community School
- Northfield experienced the third highest amount of rainfall in the past 100 years, resulting in many drainage issues for our residents
- Phase II of the repaving of Mt Vernon Avenue was completed through grant funding
- New bridges and fencing around the drainage ditch that leads to Birch Grove Park have beautified this area and made it safer

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- In 2009 the city became a proud member of Sustainable New Jersey
- The Green Team Advisory Board was created, and members Councilman Carew, Councilman O'Grady and Councilman Martinez will follow a step by step process to certify our community to go green, reducing the tax burden to our residents
- Our website was updated to include many commonly used forms, affording easier access for residents and reducing copy and paper costs
- Residents can now sign up on our website to receive Northfield news via email
- The public works department is on line and has contact via e-mails with residents and city officials
- The Traffic Safety Committee, chaired by Councilman Vain, was successful in their efforts to reduce the speed limit on Burton Ave to 25mph
- Juniper Drive and sections of Cedarbridge Road were designated as two-hour parking zones to relieve congestion leading up to the school
- Our police department had various checkpoints throughout the year including driving under influence, seatbelt, cell phone use, and pedestrian right of way; Mazzeo thanked Chief James and the entire police department for their efforts in 2009
- Our police department received a donated motorcycle through the help of Jimmy Binns and the generosity of George Siganos, benefiting traffic safety throughout our city
- A Neighborhood Watch was formed and is meeting monthly; this is a direct relationship between residents and police department to make our community safer
- The fire department was faced with the worst fire Northfield has seen in years; their training and experience helped them to successfully extinguish the fire. Mazzeo thanked them for their work that night.
- October of 2009 brought the successful return of Family Fun Fest after a one year hiatus; Mazzeo thanked the organizing committee for their hard work
- The City Of Northfield Sign at Tilton and New Rd was finally constructed adding a nice touch to this intersection

YEAR 2010 OBJECTIVES INCLUDE

- Capital projects to address many drainage issues in various parts of town
- Pavement projects for Pincus Avenue, Debora Street and Adele Avenue
- The final phase of the repaving of Mt Vernon Avenue through grant funding

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- A new snack bar at Birch Grove Park, also through grant funding
- A new speed hump on Shepherd drive in the spring of 2010

Mazzeo thanked all of the volunteers who help our City, including the volunteers from the fire dept, planning board, birch grove advisory board, cultural committee, library trustees, Northfield all sports, Northfield Little League, those who plan and organize city events, such as July 4th parade and tree lighting; all of these people are the backbone of our community. He thanked the veterans of our community who make sure we remember Memorial Day and Veteran's day.

Mazzeo concluded by saying the fine tuning of our great City must always be realized. The public works department makes our city clean, keeps the lights on the bike path in good working condition and removes snow. Those in the tax office and finance office process revenues as they come in and ensure that City bills are paid so we can provide our great services the residents expect. He thanked all City of Northfield employees for their dedication and hard work. He said he is looking forward to 2010; every year new challenges present themselves and by working together we can continue the tradition of this great community of which we are all so proud.

AGENDA REVIEW

President Carew reviewed the agenda.

RESOLUTIONS

On a motion by Councilman Martinez, seconded by Councilman Smith, all present in favor of adopting Resolutions 1-2010 through 20-2010 by Consent agenda, as follows:

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| 1-2010 | Annual Schedule of Meetings – Published in the Press 1/09/10 |
| 2-2010 | Temporary Appropriations |
| 3-2010 | Designate the Press of Atlantic City as the Official Instrument for the Publication of Legal Notices for the City of Northfield |
| 4-2010 | Annual Appointments |
| 5-2010 | Authorizing Awards of Contracts for 2010 Professional Services |
| 6-2010 | Cultural Committee Appointments |

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- 7-2010** Safety and Health Committee Appointments
- 8-2010** Establishing Charges for Municipal Public Records
- 9-2010** Authorize Delinquent Tax Penalty Charges
- 10-2010** To Establish the Rate of Interest for Nonpayment of Taxes or Assessments
- 11-2010** To Authorize the Tax Assessor to File a Petition of Appeal or Appeals for the Tax Year 2010
- 12-2010** Appointing Fund Commissioner and Alternate Fund Commissioner for the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund
- 13-2010** Community Development Block Grant Program
- 14-2010** Appointment of Risk Management Consultant as Required by the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund
- 15-2009** A Resolution Authorizing the Contact Persons to Access the Employment Practices Liability Consultation Service (EPL)/ ACMJIF
- 16-2010** A Resolution Appointing Jay Hurley of Morgan Stanley as the Approved Broker of Record for the City of Northfield's Deferred Compensation 457 Plan
- 17-2010** A Resolution Adopting a Cash Management Plan
- 18-2010** Hazardous Materials Emergency Management Advisory Council Appointments
- 19-2010** To Authorize Northfield-Linwood Shared Service Committee
- 20-2010** Acceptance of LOSAP Point System and Qualifiers for the Northfield Volunteer Fire Company No. 1

Roll call: Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Martinez – yes; Mr. O’Grady – absent; Mr. Perri – no; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

ORDINANCES:

On a motion of Councilman Vain, second of Councilwoman Kern, all in favor of reading Ordinance 1-2010 by title only.

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1-2010 Bond Ordinance Appropriating One Million Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,450,000) And Authorizing The Issuance Of One Million Three Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,377,500) In Bonds Or Notes Of The City Of Northfield For Various Improvements Or Purposes Authorized To Be Undertaken By The City Of Northfield, In The County Of Atlantic, New Jersey
*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press 01/09/2010
Will be Taken up for Public Hearing/Final Adoption 01/26/2010*
Full copies of the ordinance are available upon request in the City Clerk's Office Monday-Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm

Roll call: Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Martinez – no; Mr. O'Grady – absent; Mr. Perri – no; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Carew opened this meeting to the Public. Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, the public session was closed.

Council President Carew read the meeting notices.

On motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi
Municipal Clerk