

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 8, 2022**

At 6:32pm 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 spaces, 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, we are having some technical difficulty this evening and the audio does not seem to be functioning. Please raise your hand during the public comment portion if you would like to speak. Please state your 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.”

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

ROLL CALL

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

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Absent: Councilman Notaro

Engineer Nassar and Chief Newman were also in attendance

Solicitor Facenda was present via telephone and Zoom.

Council President Polistina offered condolences to the family of Mark Sykes, who recently passed away. He was our Tax Assessor for the past 24 years. Services are this weekend.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Smith with a second of Councilwoman Bucci, all members present, with the exception of Councilman Dewees who abstained, were in favor of approving the minutes of January 18, 2022, without formal reading.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau read the Police Department report for January; 159 motor vehicle stops, 894 property checks, 191 citations and 3 DWI's. He reminded Council that the annual JIF training was available online. We received a \$250.00 premium credit for all Council members that attend.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineer's Report as previously distributed to the Council. Final payment request for Fuae Avenue was submitted, so we can close out the project. Slip Lining was on hold due to weather; they also need to obtain an occupancy permit from the State for positioning on Route 9 at Roosevelt Avenue. When the weather warms up, we will finalize. Tthe final payment would be made when the project was complete.

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.

Due to difficulties with audio functionality for Zoom participants, Clerk Canesi asked Zoom viewers to raise their hand if they wished to speak.

Seeing no one wishing to make a comment Council President Polistina closed the public session.

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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

Councilman Dewees confirmed that Resolution 47-2022 was being removed from this evening's agenda.

Councilman Smith announced he would abstain from the vote on Resolutions 52-2022 and 53-2022.

Based on Smith's desire to abstain, Clerk Canesi advised it was preferred if these Resolutions were voted on separately..

On motion of Councilman Dewees, seconded by Councilman Leeds all members present were in favor of voting on Resolutions 43-2022 through 46-2022, and 48-2022 through 51-2022 and 54-2022 through 57-2022 by Consent Agenda.

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|----------------|---|
| 43-2022 | Special Law Enforcement Officer, Class II, Reappointment |
| 44-2022 | Amending an Agreement between the County of Atlantic and the City of Northfield Regarding the Installation and Maintenance of Flashing Signal Equipment on Shore Road |
| 45-2022 | Authorizing Refund of Zoning Permit Fees |
| 46-2022 | Memorialize Resignation of Electrical Inspector |
| 47-2022 | REMOVED |
| 48-2022 | Application for Use of Facilities – Mainland Youth Lacrosse |
| 49-2022 | Application for Use of Facilities – MRHS Varsity baseball – Babe Ruth Field |
| 50-2022 | Application for Use of Facilities – Northfield Little League |
| 51-2022 | Application for Use of Facilities – 10 U Sand Sharks |
| 54-2022 | Hire Temporary Electrical Inspector |
| 55-2022 | Appoint Special Law Enforcement Officer, Class II |
| 56-2022 | A Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey to Accept Any and All Annual Distributions from the Elliott Howard Krevens Foundation |
| 57-2022 | A Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey to Open a Bank Account |

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

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

On motion of Councilman Dewees, seconded by Councilman Leeds all members present were in favor of voting on Resolutions 52-2022 and 53-2022 by Consent Agenda.

52-2022 Application for Use of Facilities - South Jersey Baseball – Cardinals
53-2022 Application for Use of Facilities– South Jersey Baseball – South Jersey Surf

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

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

ORDINANCES

Councilman Utts motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, to adopt 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)
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration
Published in the Press of AC 2/12/2022

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 February 12, 2022.

Council President Polistina opened the public hearing.

Clerk Canesi asked zoom participants to raise their hand if they wished to speak

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

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

Councilman Utts motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, to introduce Ordinance 3-2022.

3-2022 Amending Chapter 97, Article I, Section 6 of the City of Northfield
Municipal Code
Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 2/12/2022
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 2/22/2022

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.

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$ 2,811,526.54

Councilman Leeds motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, for payment of bills.

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

Councilwoman Bucci read the meeting notices.

Councilman Leeds thanked the community for their support of Officer Joe Vola on the recent loss of his home due to fire; he thanked the surrounding communities as well.

At approximately 6:49pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk