

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

At 7:25pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 5, 2019, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Korngut, Madden, O'Neill, Perri, Smith, Lischin
Absent: Dewees

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

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Perri, seconded by Councilwoman Madden, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of February 5, 2019, without formal reading. They were posted, distributed to Council, and on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri - Public Works, Roads, Engineering, Sewer Operations, Planning Board, Senior Citizens

Councilman Perri reported that the senior meeting was Thursday at noon at the Library; Mayor Chau would be addressing the members, he thanked Mayor Chau in advance for his attendance. Things were going well in Public Works, the bypass pump at Davis Avenue was also going well, he had received no complaints. There was one application for next month's Planning Board meeting. He also met with the Senior Committee and looked at dates and future events; that went well.

Councilman O'Neill - Inspections, Code Enforcement, Housing/Zoning, Court/Violations, FAN

Councilman O'Neill reported that he would like to work with Councilman Dewees on the condition of the football field, to be proactive. For Zoning and Housing, the new complex looks like it is pretty close to opening.

Council President Lischin announced that he had spoken with Mr. Gurwicz about the opening and a possible tour. They expected the Certificate of Occupancy sometime in April, a tour could be at the end of March or beginning of April. The first building was a 10-unit building.

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Solicitor Facenda reminded that all of Council cannot be present for a tour.

Councilwoman Korngut – Library, Municipal Alliance, Northfield School, Economic Development, Chamber of Commerce, Technology/MRHS Channel 2

Councilwoman Korngut reported that she attended the February Library meeting; she reported the library volume and revenue statistics. In March there would be a presentation on NJ women in WWII. A Stockton Professor would be discussing local women and their contributions.

Councilman Dewees - Buildings/Grounds, Athletic Fields, Bike Path, Parks, Playgrounds

Councilman Dewees was absent.

Councilman Smith– Finance/Collections, Little League/Babe Ruth, Shared Services

Councilman Smith reported that we have our budget meeting this Thursday at 5pm in Council Chambers. In regard to Little League and Babe Ruth, Councilman Smith had discussions with Pat McCarthy (Vice-President of Northfield Babe Ruth), they have joined their team with two other towns; they would be using our fields. There was a request put in by an outside organization (National Adult Baseball Association) for a tournament on Memorial Day, they requested in their application to have up to 4 games per day, with lights if needed; they were willing to pay a fee if necessary. They would have to look and see if there were any conflicts with our teams, and whether or not we want that here. In regard to Shared Services, Councilman Smith and Councilwoman Korngut met with Linwood on February 7th as part of an introductory discussion.

Councilwoman Korngut asked Councilman Smith for clarification about the Babe Ruth team.

Councilman Smith explained that the games would be split between the Somers Point and Northfield fields. The team was comprised of kids from all 3 towns; Linwood no longer had a Babe Ruth field.

Councilwoman Madden felt some of the applications were illegible.

Councilwoman Korngut advised that the Clerk's Office was always very helpful if Councilwoman Madden wanted to stop in and view the originals.

Councilwoman Madden – Insurance and Safety, Mainland Regional

Councilwoman Madden announced that the safety meeting was next week, and, she attended a finance seminar. The Mainland School Board meeting was today. She also attended the League of Municipalities dinner. Steve Sweeney was the speaker, and he

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spoke about the rail line. Mr. Sweeney suggested there may be a shortage of train conductors, and suggested training. He was also a proponent of medical marijuana. When marijuana use increases opioid use decreases. She met the Mayor of Ventnor, who gave her a few pointers about serving as MRHS liaison, as the mayor had served on her school board for years.

Council President Lischin - Fire Department/EMS, Cultural Committee

Council President Lischin reported there was a structure fire and our Fire Department and brave volunteers responded and did a great job, as they always did.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau reported that he continued to get compliments regarding the presence of the Class 2 Officer at the school. There were no OEM incidents last month but they did respond to the fire. Councilman Lischin and Mayor Chau met with the PBA Shop Steward. He thanked Councilman O'Neill for bringing up concerns about a new officer. The Police Department did have concerns about manpower with regard to the housing complex, the youth shelter, and with medical marijuana.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineer's report as previously distributed to Council. The Davis Avenue Pump Project was on schedule to be completed by April. In regard to Walnut Avenue, we were advertising for bid this week. Engineer Nassar was looking to bring this to Council for award on April 2nd, with the hope of having the project completed by mid-June. The County and the contractor were working on costs to repair the area of Roosevelt Avenue at Tilton Road.

Councilman Perri added that he had received a pretty comprehensive email from Joe Pantalone, but had not gotten any answer on metering. He did look at the flows, and they are some of the highest Councilman Perri had ever seen; he would reach out to Mr. Pantalone again. He thought the back-up had inflated the meters by reading them as full.

Engineer Nassar reported that the portable pumps at Davis Avenue were showing average flows. The meter at that station was flawed, it did not measure flow, it measured the volume, so if the pipe was full and not flowing, it could read as actual flows.

Engineer Nassar suggested complaining higher up, to Rick Dovey.

PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Lischin opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to speak on any subject.

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Joe Bunting – said he submitted an application for an ACBL team, which the Council could review. In the last 6 years, he had spent \$40,000.00 on the fields, he loved this town, loved baseball, and with the opioid epidemic, is actively trying to do something. He participated in the Coaches versus Cancer game, which involved Mike Trout, it was scheduled for Friday, April 26th and would ask for the field use in the proper manner. He pulled his eight-year team over concerns about field time for other groups. For him to hold the game, the field needs to be kept in good shape, he had to commit to that to get the game here in Northfield. This would be his last year with his other team as well.

Council President Lischin was saddened to hear that Mr. Bunting would no longer be fielding these teams. Mr. Bunting's contributions are greatly appreciated.

Mr. Bunting added that there had been field maintenance issues due to mistakes made by Public Works, sprinkler heads positioned improperly or damaged during mowing. There had been flooding issues. The field condition was poor. Mr. Bunting had spent a lot of money on them and they have not been maintained. He felt like nobody cared. He asked that Council consider when other groups were coming up and using the field, they needed to be more diligent on maintaining the field afterwards. He had made a few improvements in the past few weeks, the field looks better. He just asked that someone maintain it.

Council President Lischin replied that he did not know if we had the staff to maintain it this way, we rely a lot on the volunteers. The use of the fields did increase the need for maintenance.

Mr. Bunting added that he spent \$10,000.00 on a sign. No one can find the panel to run the scoreboard.

Councilman O'Neill thanked Mr. Bunting for his service, donations, and business.

Councilwoman Korngut, stated for the record that Mr. Sheeran was here but missed his chance to speak during the work session. Councilwoman Korngut said Mr. Sheeran left based on Councilwoman Korngut telling him that she believed there would be no issues with his application tonight.

Mr. Bunting advocated for Mr. Sheeran as a responsible user of the fields.

Seeing no one wishing to speak Council President Lischin closed the public session.

RESOLUTIONS

Council President Lischin 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

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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.

On a motion of Councilman O’Neill, second of Councilwoman Korngut, all present were in favor of voting by consent agenda on Resolutions 57-2019 through 67-2019.

- 57-2019** Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Awarding a Contract to Vendor with State Contract for 2019 Ford F450 Truck with Dump Body and Plow
- 58-2019** Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Northfield Supporting Assembly Bill 4439 to Protect Hotel Employees from Sexual Assault and Other Dangerous Working Conditions
- 59-2019** Authorizing Northfield Fire Department to Apply for a Grant from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation
- 60-2019** Authorizing the Northfield Fire Department to Apply for a Grant from the New Jersey American Water Company
- 61-2019** Authorizing the Submission of All Applications and Other Required Documents for Financing Under the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Financing Program for Various Sanitary Sewer Projects in and by the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey
- 62-2019** Authorizing Refund of Construction Permit Fees to Trinity Heating and Air, Inc.
- 63-2019** To Approve an Application for Use of Facilities – Atlantic County Baseball League
- 64-2019** To Approve an Application for Use of Facilities – 14U Hammerheads
- 65-2019** Employment Status Change for Substitute School Crossing Guard
- 66-2019** To Accept Land Sale Bid for Block 67, Lots 9 and 10
- 67-2019** Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Northfield, in the County of Atlantic, Calling Upon New Jersey Transit to Complete its Activities to Return the Atlantic City Rail Line to Service and Provide a Schedule of the Date or Dates when those Activities are Expected to be Accomplished

Councilman O’Neill motioned, Councilwoman Korngut seconded, to adopt Resolutions 57-2019 through 67-2019.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - absent, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

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ORDINANCES

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilman Perri seconded, to adopt Ordinance 2-2019, to be read by title only.

2-2019 Amending Chapter 15 of the City of Northfield Municipal Code, Entitled Claims and Purchasing Procedures
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration
Published in the Press of AC 02/23/2019

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, and stated that there would be a public hearing, after which the matter would be considered for final adoption and thereafter published. 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 between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requested same.

Council President Lischin opened the public hearing for any member of the public wishing to speak on Ordinance 2-2019. Seeing no one wishing to speak he closed the public hearing.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - absent, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilwoman Madden seconded, to introduce Ordinance 3-2019, to be read by title only.

3-2019 Calendar Year 2019 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40a: 4-45.14)
First Reading / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 2/23/2019
Second Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 3/05/2018

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this is the first reading, 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 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requests same.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - absent, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilman O’Neill seconded, to introduce Ordinance 4-2019, to be read by title only.

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- 4-2019** Bond Ordinance Appropriating One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) and Authorizing the Issuance of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) in Bonds or Notes of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, New Jersey for Certain Clean Water Projects to be Undertaken by and within the City of Northfield, Atlantic County, New Jersey
*First Reading / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 2/23/2019
Second Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 3/05/2018*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this is the first reading, 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 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requests same.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - absent, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilwoman Korngut seconded, to introduce Ordinance 5-2019, to be read by title only.

- 5-2019** 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
*First Reading / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 2/23/2019
Second Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 3/05/2018*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this is the first reading, 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 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requests same.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - absent, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$ 1,597,012.19

Councilwoman Madden motioned, Councilman Perri seconded, for payment of bills.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - absent, Ms. Korngut – yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. O’Neill - yes, Mr. Perri – yes, Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Lischin – yes; Motion carried.

Council President Lischin read the meeting notices.

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At 8:10pm, on a motion of Councilman Perri, seconded by Councilwoman Korngut, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk