

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2018**

At 7:09pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 13, 2018, 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, Lischin, O'Neill, Perri, Dewees

Absent: Murray, Travagline

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

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion of Councilman Perri, second of Councilman O'Neill, all were in favor of approving the minutes of the meetings of February 13, 2018 and February 15, 2018, without formal reading. They have been posted, distributed to Council, and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Councilwoman Korngut stated that regarding the February 15th budget meeting, her question about yard waste was whether or not it continued through the winter. She said it was not worthy of a formal amendment to the minutes, but she wanted to clarify.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri - Sewer Inter Local, Planning Board, Senior Citizens

Councilman Perri reported that the March 1st Planning Board meeting had been canceled. The seniors meeting last week had a good presentation from Tax Collector, Michele Kirtsos, regarding benefits for seniors, and he thanked Collector Kirtsos for her efforts, adding that she did a great job. There was no report on sewer this evening.

Councilman O'Neill - Inspections, Code Enforcement, Housing/Zoning, Court/Violations, Chamber of Commerce, Little League/Babe Ruth, Traffic Safety, Green Team Advisory Board

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Councilman O'Neill reported that he sat in on court, we have a new prosecutor and he did an excellent job. O'Neill stated that the court was very efficient and Donna Clark did a great job running our shared court.

Councilman Lischin asked when the new e-ticket was supposed to go "live".

Councilman O'Neill replied that it was already "live".

Councilman Lischin asked have we seen any efficiencies or are there any issues?

Councilman O'Neill stated that there had been issues with the printer but they were working through them.

Councilwoman Korngut – Library, Municipal Alliance, Economic Development, Shared Services

Councilwoman Korngut reported she that attended the seniors luncheon and it was very informative. She also attended the Forest Friends program at the Community School with Kathi Smith today; the kids were very engaged and excited about the program. The program was for first graders and was a very beneficial program. With regard to the Library, Director Aubrey Hiers had indicated in reference to the snow program for seniors that it makes people feel more like part of a community and less alone. The library does a lot of programs for children and would like to create a program to target those in the middle, ages 20-50. Regarding economic development, she met with Councilman Murray to discuss ideas, such as incorporating Northfield into restaurant week.

Councilman O'Neill noted that he talked to Somers Point a few years back and they have a PR budget of \$20,000-30,000 a year. O'Neill suggested that Northfield may want to see if businesses will fund some sort of a PR campaign.

Councilwoman Korngut replied that she knew Somers Point used Suasion, but their PR campaign wasn't geared totally towards restaurant week. She was looking forward to figuring out how to get the most out of any available funds.

Councilman Travagline – Insurance and Safety, Northfield School, FAN; Shared Services

Councilman Travagline was absent.

Councilman Murray - Finance/Collections, Mainland Regional, Traffic Safety, Economic Development

Councilman Murray was absent.

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Councilman Lischin – Fire Department/EMS, Technology/MRHS Channel 2, Cultural Committee, Green Team Advisory

Councilman Lischin, in the absence of Councilmen Travagline and Murray, said he wanted to make sure that they reach out to the school boards to have them come in and make a presentation to the Council before they adopt their budgets. Lischin read the EMS report for January. Councilman Lischin's son is in the Mainland Drama Club and the NJ Drama and Forensics League (NJDFL); they won again at the state level and his son was MVP for the 4th year. He thanked the Police and Fire Departments for the escort they provided to the NJDFL, the swim team, and girls basketball team. The escort meant a lot to the kids and they would always remember it. He thanked Riley for video services tonight.

Council President Dewees - Buildings/Grounds, Athletic Fields, Bike Path, Veterans' Park, 1st Street Playground, Birch Grove, Public Works, Roads, Engineering

Council President Dewees reported that he met with Qwin Vitale to discuss Birch Grove Park; meetings would continue and he would keep Council updated.

Councilman O'Neill asked about progress with residents and sidewalk project.

Council President Dewees had two meetings and met with three families; they were very positive. The project was moving along. There were still a few we haven't been able to reach but Council President Dewees had been trying.

Mayor Chau recounted comments of Freeholder Coursey about paving Tilton Road during the day, and he spoke with the County Administrator, who expressed concerns about the quality of paving if it is done at night. He asked Council how they would like to proceed. The County Administrator was happy to come to a council meeting to explain their position.

Council President Dewees knew there have been issues with the quality of paving at night.

Councilman Lischin asked why a subpar contractor would be given the job again.

Engineer Nassar added that it was not always the contractor, lighting conditions at night are challenging.

All members of Council who were present were okay with the work being done during the day, so the work would be done well.

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Mayor Chau explained his conversation with the County Administrator and the reasons for the day time work. He would ask Mr. Delrosso to come in and talk to Council.

Mayor Chau stated that we had been awarded a grant for the paving of Walnut and Maple from the NJDOT in the amount of \$284,000.00; the process was very competitive, we were very fortunate to receive this. He asked about punch lists for paving work done by the gas company.

Engineer Nassar advised that asphalt plants have been closed but are opening again next week and work will resume if the weather cooperated.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau gave a shout-out to the Fire Department for their service in suppressing a fire on Mimi Court, no one was home at the time and the structure was able to be saved. He acknowledged the passing of former Sergeant Ed Woltmann, who was a police officer in the 1970's and although he resided in Florida, he still had family in Northfield. Mayor Chau offered condolences to his family. Regarding the Somers Point Economic Development group, Clerk Canesi and Mayor Chau met with the group last year and they were very interested in getting Northfield and Linwood to join them. He was glad Councilwoman Korngut was able to meet with them.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed the engineer's report as distributed to Council. There would will be a small change order on the Bay Drive contract and hopefully we would be able to close out that project. He also hoped to close out the 2015 paving project. Engineer Nassar attended the ACIA grant meeting, we received approximately \$23,000.00 for ADA improvements to the parking lot, he also picked up our 2018 packet and he hoped to be able to use this year's funds in conjunction with prior funds to have a total of approximately \$60,000.00 to make improvements to the parking lot. He was also working on the redevelopment grant application for ACIA. Engineer Nassar hoped to get approval for the bid documents for the Davis Avenue Pump station; plans are in the Clerks' office. He had hoped to get approval at the next meeting. The Cresson Avenue paving project is anticipated to start in September; we can add any additional concrete to that job. The Cresson Avenue drainage plans had been picked up by 9 contractors so far, he hoped to get favorable bids; that bid opening is March 16th.

Councilman O'Neill asked if the Route 9 project in Northfield was done.

Engineer Nassar replied yes, that job was done.

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Engineer Nassar reported that 3 contractors submitted prices for the museum job, that was on the agenda this evening.

Councilman Lischin asked Engineer Nassar to coordinate with him, so he can coordinate with the museum staff.

Mayor Chau attended a meeting of a consortium that was strongly opposed to recreational marijuana legalization. The speakers presented information that this leads to increased crime and substance abuse. He reported that a recent police grievance was denied, so that will now be up to them to see if they want to proceed.

Councilman Perri, on behalf of Mr. Wolfe of Davis Avenue advised that no work has been done yet.

Engineer Nassar said he would be first on the punch list.

Councilman Perri asked about warranty on the work.

Engineer Nassar replied that they will be accountable.

Councilman Perri would give Engineer Nassar a few areas to look at.

PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Dewees opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to speak on any subject; seeing no one wishing to speak he closed the public session.

RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA

Council President Dewees 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 are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds.

The Executive Session of Council will be held at the end of the meeting, and we will come back in public session to make a comment for the record after the executive session has concluded. Any vote made on subjects discussed will be made in public.

Councilwoman Korngut motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded for Resolutions 59-2018 through 61-2018 and Resolutions 63-2018 through 66-2018 and Resolution 68-2018 to be voted on by consent agenda.

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- 59-2018** A Municipal Resolution Authorizing the Filing of a 2017 Recycling Tonnage Grant Application
- 60-2018** Request to the County of Atlantic to Use County Roads for Parades and Other Functions
- 61-2018** A Resolution Approving Participation with the State of New Jersey Federal Grant Program Administered by the Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Law and Public Safety
- 63-2018** Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Awarding a Contract for Body Worn Cameras to State Contract Vendor: Advanced Electronic Design
- 64-2018** Authorizing Refunds of Overpayment of Taxes
- 65-2018** Authorizing Award of Contract without Public Advertisement for Bids to Tara Management
- 66-2018** A Resolution Recognizing the Board Members of Northfield Little League
- 68-2018** A Resolution Providing for an Executive Session Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 Regarding Litigation and Matters Falling within the Attorney Client Privilege Requiring Confidentiality – Mt Laurel Litigation

On a motion of Councilwoman Korngut, second of Councilman Lischin, all present were in favor of voting by consent agenda.

Councilwoman Korngut motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded, to adopt the consent agenda for Resolutions 59-2018 through 61-2018 and Resolutions 63-2018 through 66-2018 and Resolution 68-2018.

Roll call: Ms. Korngut – yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –absent; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Travagline –absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

Councilwoman Korngut motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded, to adopt Resolution 62-2018.

- 62-2018** A Resolution Approving an Agreement Between the City of Northfield and Government Workers Union Local No. 420, for Blue Collar Workers, Effective January 1, 2018 Through December 31, 2020

Councilman Perri thanked the committee, Council President Dewees, Clerk Canesi and Dawn Stollenwerk. There were many hours of negotiations.

Councilwoman Korngut echoed Councilman Perri’s sentiment; negotiations involve give and take, to be in the room is a lot tougher, she understood it was a difficult negotiation.

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Roll call: Ms. Korngut – yes; Mr. Lischin –no; Mr. Murray –absent; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Travagline –absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

Councilwoman Korngut motioned, Councilman Perri seconded to adopt Ordinance 1-2018, to be read by title only.

1-2018 Calendar Year 2018 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)
Second Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 2/27/2018

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 Dewees opened the public hearing. Seeing no one wishing to speak he closed the public hearing.

Roll call: Ms. Korngut -yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –absent; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Travagline –absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carries.

Councilman O’Neill motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded to adopt Ordinance 2-2018, to be read by title only.

2-2018 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
Second Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 2/27/2018

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.

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PAYMENT OF BILLS \$834,180.52

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilman O’Neill seconded, for payment of bills.

Roll call: Ms. Korngut – yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –absent; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Travagline –absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

Council President Dewees read the meeting notices and announced the executive session for Resolution 68-2018

68-2018 A Resolution Providing for an Executive Session Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 Regarding Litigation and Matters Falling within the Attorney Client Privilege Requiring Confidentiality – Mt Laurel Litigation

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title and deferred to the Solicitor for further explanation.

Solicitor Facenda stated that the matter to be discussed was litigation concerning Mt. Laurel litigation, Council would be called upon to review an agreement to resolve issues between the City of Northfield and the Fair Share Housing Center concerning the City’s fair share obligation and the means by which the City shall satisfy same. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. In addition to Council, the City’s Planner, Tiffany CuvIELLO would attend in person and Mike Jedzeniak, the City’s Mt. Laurel attorney would attend by telephone.

At 7:59pm Council moved to the Mayor’s Office for the Executive Session.

At 8:31pm the Executive Session of Council was adjourned, and the Regular Meeting resumed in Council Chambers.

Solicitor Facenda announced that the Executive Session had concluded. Council was prepared to act on Resolution 68-2018 authorizing a settlement with Fair Share Housing Center.

Councilwoman Korngut motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded, to adopt Resolution 69-2018.

69-2018 Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Northfield Authorizing the Execution of a Settlement Agreement with Fair Share

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Housing Center

Roll call: Ms. Korngut – yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –absent; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Travagline –absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

At 8:33pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk