

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
MARCH 5, 2019**

At 6:03pm this meeting was called to order by Deputy Municipal Clerk Shannon Campbell. This meeting was properly 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.

ROLL CALL

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

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

Council President Lischin welcomed everyone, and moved to old business.

WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – OLD BUSINESS

- Potential Sale of Landlocked City Owned Property

Solicitor Facenda advised he was working on final paperwork for the piece sold to Mr. Castro that Council approved at the last meeting, he forwarded the notice of public auction to the Clerk and they would work on that in the next 30 days.

- Bike Trails at BGP – *Identification of Trails is Pending*

Councilman Dewees reported he was still working on the bike trails; the last Advisory Board meeting was canceled.

- 2018 Road Paving Project – Tree Conflicts on Walnut Avenue

Solicitor Facenda advised a letter was composed and sent certified to affected owners last week. He was waiting for their responses and would follow-up with them next week should he not hear from them.

- Invitation from Freeholder Board to Host Freeholder Meeting at Northfield City Hall
 - *August 27th is available, per the Freeholder Board*

Council President Lischin and Council agreed that the August meeting was best, Clerk's Office would make arrangements with the Freeholder Board.

- Fee Ordinance for Use of Athletic Field Lights

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Councilman Smith reported that he spoke with Solicitor Facenda in regard to a fee ordinance for the use of lights. He advised that Councilman Dewees recommended a fee of \$25.00 per game. He would review an email sent by the Solicitor earlier today and report at the next meeting.

Council President Lischin felt that \$25.00 per game was fair.

- Sign Ordinance Changes
 - *Referral from February 7, 2019 Planning Board Meeting*

Council President Lischin, in regard to the sign ordinance change, stated there were no changes from what was discussed, the Solicitor should have the ordinance on for next month.

Councilman Perri requested the changes prior to the meeting.

Council President Lischin replied he would provide him with them.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS

- Standing Item – New Grant Opportunities

Council President Lischin asked if there were any new grant opportunities, there were none.

Councilman O’Neill added that he had reached out to Senator Chris Brown and he asked to be notified if the City were applying for any grants.

Council President Lischin advised that the Fire Department was looking into one, he would get the information.

Councilman O’Neill felt that Assemblymen Mazzeo and Armato should be made aware as well.

Council President Lischin felt the letter should come from the Mayor.

Mayor Chau agreed to send the letter with the help of the Clerk’ Office.

Councilman Lischin noted that the Fire Department did apply for a grant from New Jersey American Water Company.

- *15 Minute Parking at the Community School – requested by Chief Neman*

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Council President Lischin deferred to Chief Newman to speak regarding the 15-minute parking at the Community School.

Chief Newman explained that he had received a call on the 27th from the Principal. People were not abiding to the 15-minute regulation inside the school parking lot. The Principal asked resident to move their car and the resident refused. Our current Ordinance does not include the 15-minute parking, so there are “no teeth” behind the sign/restriction. He asked Council to consider adopting an Ordinance to add the 15minute spots to our ordinance, he provided the solicitor with the state statute that should be enforceable.

Council President Lischin added that Clerk Canesi also mentioned some stop signs on the property may not be enforceable, should they be included?

Chief Newman advised that he would look into it and explained some reasoning that people would be parked there.

Mayor Chau thought it was because of the staggered times of dismissal.

Chief Newman felt the general problem was the people were parking there more than 15 minutes.

Councilwoman Madden asked about existing parking.

Chief Newman explained the layout of the parking lot.

Councilman O’Neill asked if police were making sure no one was parking in fire zone.

Chief Newman replied, yes.

Council President Lischin announced the resignation of our Fire Official who was retiring. We will need to start looking to find another Fire Official, he felt it would be possible to share with another town. Linwood is sharing with another town.

Deputy Clerk Campbell clarified it was not a shared service, they just happen to be using the same person.

Councilwoman Korngut, brought up honoring a youth of the month, she explained her program and gave a handout to Council members, she would like Mayor Chau to add it to the website, she would deliver to the Library and the Community School, Councilwoman Madden agreed to take it to Mainland.

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Council President Lischin thought it was a great idea and wanted to get people involved.

Councilman O'Neill reported that he went to the last FAN meeting and advised them the Council wanted them to pay their insurance. They were in agreement but asked to phase it in next year as they were making an investment in safety equipment this year. They would like something in writing so they can budget next year. He also asked a representative to come to one of the Council meetings.

Council President Lischin liked the idea.

Councilman O'Neill also met with Councilman Dewees regarding some issues with the football field.

Councilman Dewees would have recommendations in a couple of weeks.

Mayor Chau reported that Chief Newman looked into speed the limits on New Road. A letter was distributed to Council, based on observations the State did not see any reason to change the speed limit. The CCO was also issued to the youth center, and they should be operating shortly.

Councilman O'Neill noted that he did not realize what we were getting into with the youth shelter and asked Chief Newman if he was meeting with them.

Chief Newman stated that he tried to reach out about a year ago, he was willing to meet with them, but he had no luck.

Councilman O'Neill felt that they may need to make arrangements to have an officer on location or their own security.

Mayor Chau noted that he spoke with the County Administrator to see if any grant funding was available for that sort situation.

Councilman O'Neill asked Chief Newman about security at the YALE School.

Chief Newman advised that they have a paid school resource officer, paid security, not a police officer; the Police Department may still need to respond to certain calls.

Council President Lischin asked Councilman O'Neill to reach out to the Clerk's office to have a letter drawn up to send to FAN.

Councilman O'Neill replied that he would.

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

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Council President Lischin reviewed the regular meeting agenda and made assignments.

PUBLIC SESSION/ FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Lischin opened up this portion of the meeting for any member of the public to speak on any subject, announcing a five minute per-speaker time limit.

Richard Levitt- 2204 Bay Drive – asked what the proposed changes to the sign ordinance were?

Council President Lischin replied that they were in the process of being prepared and they would be presented to Council.

Dr. Levitt asked what would happen if they were not the same as presented by the Planning Board.

Solicitor Facenda explained the process of a zoning ordinance; it would be prepared and given to Council, it will then go to the Planning Board and they would have 35 days to respond, Council would then consider it for approval.

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

At 6:28pm, on a motion of Councilman Perri, seconded by Councilman Dewees, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Campbell, Deputy Municipal Clerk