

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 9, 2016**

At 6:35pm, this meeting was called to order by Shannon Campbell, Deputy Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau, followed by a moment of silence with a special remembrance of Former First Lady Nancy Reagan who passed away during the past week.

ROLL CALL

Present: Lischin, O'Neill, Perri, Dewees

Absent: Piergiovanni, Travagline

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Kwapinski, Acting Chief Newman and Municipal Clerk Canesi were also present.

Council President Dewees announced that he would be going out of order on the agenda.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman O'Neill, seconded by Councilman Perri to dispense with the reading of the minutes from February 18, 2016, February 23, 2016 and March 3, 2016. They have been posted, distributed to Council, and were on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O'Neill –yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline –absent; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Councilman Perri noted that Solicitor Facenda and Engineer Kwapinski have been in contact with the ACUA, and the Planning Board approved the Gurwicz project.

Councilman O'Neill - Court/Violations, FAN, Library, Shared Services

Councilman O'Neill stated that he would be in contact with FAN regarding their insurance and would get an update on their budget. He was still waiting on bids for the court recording system.

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Council President Dewees questioned Councilman O'Neill about the sign at the football building.

Councilman O'Neill did speak with Tom Sher, he thought they were going to use it, he should know by the end of the week.

Councilman Piergiovanni – Insurance and Safety, Chamber of Commerce, Municipal Alliance, Northfield School

Councilman Piergiovanni was absent.

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

Councilman Murray stated that Council was in the process of getting the budget together, capital would be discussed at the next work session.

Councilman Lischin – Fire Department/EMS, Inspections, Code Enforcement, Housing/Zoning, Technology/MRHS Channel 2, Cultural Committee, Green Team, Sign Sub Committee

Councilman Lischin read the Fire Department report for February, he noted the Fire Department members were required to have EMS training, TriCare would add the firefighters to their training and hopefully this would save the City some money. He read the inspections report for February and announced that the Cultural Committee yard sale would be this weekend. Councilman Lischin also thanked MRHS for recording the meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau read the Police Department report for February noting it was a very busy month. He then spoke regarding the Gurwicz application noting his concern with the egress. He sent his concern to the Fire Department regarding the egress and was waiting for their response. His concern was that the access road to Tilton Road would not be built until phase 4; waiting to hear from the Fire Department to see if this will hinder trucks from entering/exiting in emergencies.

Councilman Dewees voiced his concern about construction traffic only using one entrance.

Councilman Perri stated the road is on the plan, but for the first 3 stages only the entrance/exit on Cresson Avenue would be accessible.

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Council President Dewees questioned Engineer Kwapinski as to if Cresson Avenue would be compromised due to heavy construction traffic.

Engineer Kwapinski replied that the road was in bad shape now, wear and tear from heavy trucks would take a toll on it.

Councilman Perri reminded Council that MGS were given leeway with the builders remedy. They do not have to do all stages now; the Planning Board would need to change what was approved.

Engineer Kwapinski asked when the first phase would be done and how many units it entailed.

Mayor Chau stated Phase I would be 50 units and would not have affordable housing, they may put the access road in at phase 3. There is no time frame; the builder would try to sell all units prior to starting the next phase.

Councilman Lischin stated the Fire Department was concerned with the size of the water main on Cresson Avenue, if utilities were not looped through, hydrant issues may arise.

Councilman Perri noted that all units were required to have sprinklers.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Kwapinski reviewed the Engineer's report and asked if Council had any questions. He reported that the Bay Drive bid would be completed by the next meeting.

Council President Dewees thanked the Engineer for working with Kline Construction to find the conduit at Birch Grove.

Engineer Kwapinski replied that Kline would be doing work around town in the next few weeks.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Dewees opened the meeting to the public and asked if anyone wished to speak on any subject.

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

CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVMENT

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Council President Dewees introduced Mayor Chau and Assemblyman Chris Brown to present certificates of achievement to the Mainland Regional High School Boys Swim Team.

Mayor Chau stated it was a privilege to present the award to the MRHS Boys Swim team, he highlighted the following moments from the year: First team in school history to go undefeated with a 15-0 record, broke 20 out of 22 school records, won the Cape Atlantic American Title, won the South Jersey Coaches Invitational Group B Title, Won the NJSIAA South Jersey Group B Title and won the NJSIAA State Group B Title. Mayor Chau said it was an honor to congratulate them on the achievement and an honor to the community and the high school, Mayor Chau called up Coach Brian Booth, and introduced Assemblyman Chris Brown.

Assemblyman Brown thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing him to be at the meeting. His son swam for a different High School and pointed out how good the Mainland team was. It was his honor to acknowledge the team; he brought Resolutions, passed by the entire State Assembly, it was a privilege to present the team with this honor.

Coach Booth called up present team members and presented them with certificates.

Mayor Chau presented Coach Booth with a Proclamation and read the following:

WHEREAS, it is one of the responsibilities of the Mayor of the City Northfield to give recognition to individuals for their hard work, dedication, and achievement; and

WHEREAS, The Mainland Regional High School 2015-2016 Boys Swim Team is the first team in school history to go undefeated with a 15-0 record; and

WHEREAS, The Mainland Regional High School Boys Swim Team broke 20 out of 22 school records; and

WHEREAS, The Mainland Regional High School Boys Swim Team Won the Cape Atlantic American Title, the South Jersey Coaches Invitational Group B Title, the NJSIAA South Jersey Group B Title and the NJSIAA State Group B Title.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Erland Chau, Mayor of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, New Jersey, does hereby recognize The 2015-2016 Mainland Regional High School Boys Swim Team

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my Hand and cause the Seal of the City of Northfield to Affixed this eighth day of March in the year of two thousand and sixteen.

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Mayor Chau then called up Megan Stafford.

Assemblyman Brown noted that Mayor Chau had been gracious enough to let him present Megan, along with him, a Resolution on behalf of the New Jersey State Legislature. It was a great honor to present this to Megan; he thanked her for her hard work.

Mayor Chau called up Megan's parents; Tim and Cindy Stafford. He read a few captions from The Current Newspaper noting that Megan had closed out the regular season having scored her 1000th point on a three-point shot early in the first quarter. He presented Megan with a certificate stating that Megan was the 11th person and first from Northfield to reach 1000 points.

At 7:03pm Council President Dewees called for a 5 minute recess.

At 7:05pm Council President called the meeting back in session.

Council President Dewees announced that the City's Annual Rabies Clinic would be held on March 19th from 9-11am and that the Northfield Mothers' League would be holding their annual spaghetti dinner on March 10th from 5-7:30 at Northfield Community School

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.

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded for Resolutions 76-2016 through 78-2016 to be voted on by consent agenda.

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O'Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline – absent; Mr. Dewees –yes; Motion carried to vote by consent agenda.

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded for the adoption of Resolutions 76-2016 to 78-2016 by consent agenda.

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O'Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline – absent; Mr. Dewees –yes; Motion carried to adopt by consent agenda.

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PAYMENT OF BILLS \$1,296,151.11

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

Councilman Perri questioned the payment of \$4,400 for the Birch Grove bathroom and asked if there was a resolution for it.

Council President Dewees replied that it was not done by resolution, but, was discussed at the budget meeting.

Councilman Perri asked if it was in capital and stated that he would have like to have voted on it.

Council President Dewees asked if there were any further questions.

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O'Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline – absent; Mr. Dewees –yes; Motion carried.

Mayor Chau asked the Engineer what section of New Road the State would be starting their sidewalk project from.

Engineer Kwapinski stated they would be starting from the south.

Mayor Chau asked if the Police would be needed to direct traffic.

Engineer Kwapinski noted that since it was a State road, the State Police would direct traffic if needed.

Council President Dewees read the meeting notices.

At 7:27, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Campbell, Deputy Municipal Clerk