

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 12, 2013**

At 7:04pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 7, 2013, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

The flag salute was led by Northfield Boy Scout Troop 72. Following the flag salute Mayor Vincent Mazzeo led a moment of silence.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Carew, Dewees, O'Neill, Perri, Polistina, Travagline, Brown

Mayor Vince Mazzeo, City Solicitor Kris Facenda, City Engineer Dan Kwapinski, Chief Robert James, and Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi were also in attendance.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Council President Brown turned the floor over to Councilman Tim Carew and Mayor Vince Mazzeo to make the introductions and presentations. Councilman Tim Carew thanked everyone for attending and shared that Northfield is honoring 5 young Eagle Scouts. Councilman Carew thanked Vicki Rutter, BGP Park Supervisor, in absentia for all her work with the Scouts and, in turn, thanked the Scouts for all their work at the Park.

Councilman Carew introduced Zachary Delcher and read his accomplishments. Zachary arranged the cleaning of 5 senior citizen's yards, for which they could no longer clean themselves nor could they afford to pay for assistance. Mayor Vince Mazzeo presented Zachary Delcher with a Certificate of Achievement.

Councilman Carew introduced Kieran Lawlor and read his accomplishments. Kieran arranged for the installation of mile markers for runners and walkers at Birch Grove Park. He also led a team of volunteers to clean and clear the paths in the park. Mayor Vince Mazzeo presented Kieran Lawlor with a Certificate of Achievement.

Councilman Carew read Gavin Pullan's accomplishments, as he was unable to be there to accept his certificate in person. Gavin arranged for a group of volunteers to clean the trash, debris and fishing lines from eleven lakes at Birch Grove Park, and from the surrounding trails to protect the wildlife and enhance the park.

Councilman Carew introduced Justin Peruzzi and read his accomplishments. Justin arranged for retired FBI agents to prepare a record of approximately 100 children's DNA and fingerprints for their parents. In the event of a child's abduction the parents would have all the information needed for the authorities.

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Mayor Vince Mazzeo presented Justin Peruzzi with a Certificate of Achievement.

Councilman Carew introduced Shane Edwards and read his accomplishments. Shane's project was to refurbish the 64 benches in Birch Grove Park. He power-washed the concrete ends and removed, replaced or stained the 320 bench slats. He cut additional boards for future repairs. He also made new handles for the Bocce Ball Court scoreboard.

Mayor Vince Mazzeo presented Shane Edwards with a Certificate of Achievement.

Mayor Vince Mazzeo thanked the Scouts for all they do in Northfield, in particular their help with the Memorial Day Parade. Mayor Mazzeo praised them for their accomplishments and wished them well in their future endeavors.

At 7:12pm Council President Brown announced a 5 minute recess for family celebration and photos.

*At 7:15pm Mayor Vince Mazzeo excused himself during the recess and did not return for the remainder of the meeting.*

At 7:20pm Council President Brown resumed the meeting.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilman Travagline, second by Councilman Polistina to dispense with the reading of the minutes of February 13, 2013; February 19, 2013; and March 5, 2013. They have been posted, distributed to Council and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O'Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Perri reported that three applications were heard at the March Planning Board meeting and one new application was scheduled for the upcoming April meeting. He reported that insurance has been busy and the policies are being put in place. He reported that the Senior Committee is going through reorganization and they are urging new members to get involved. Interested parties willing to serve on the Board should contact him directly.

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Councilman O'Neill reported that the quotes for the new phone system are being reviewed and he expects to make a recommendation to the CFO in the upcoming week.

Councilman Travagline reported that he met with the JIF Committee and they reviewed health and wellness issues and the supervisor incident reports. He also met with several community members regarding infield mix for the ball fields. He indicated that 100 tons of mix was being donated and delivered next week. He estimated this to be a cost savings of about \$2,000.00, including saved staff time and maintenance on the equipment. He shared that the next FAN meeting would be March 14, 2013 at 7:00pm and invited interested parties to attend. He attended the Economic Development Committee meeting at which Rich Baehrle was elected President. He reported that the EDC is looking to match a Stockton intern with someone in the business community.

Councilman O'Neill made a recommendation that either Councilman Travagline or Mayor Mazzeo write a letter of thanks to the donor of the infield mix.

Council President Brown requested that Councilman Dewees prepare that thank you letter as the Chair for the Athletic Fields.

Councilman Polistina reported that he is working with Council members and the Finance Department on the budget for the upcoming meeting of the 28th. He thanked Mary Canesi, RMC for all her work on the city map and shared that it is being well received and greatly appreciated by the residents. Councilman Polistina also congratulated the Eagle Scouts in attendance for all their accomplishments.

Councilman Dewees reported that Public Works has cleaned up all the debris that was cleaned out from around the fields. He asked Councilman Travagline if it was okay to dispose of the old tires. Councilman Travagline responded yes but requested that they set aside and save two of the tires. In conclusion, Councilman Dewees thanked Deputy Clerk Mimi Marlor for assistance in putting together the UCC comparison survey.

Councilman Carew had no report this evening.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Council President Brown announced Mayor Mazzeo had to leave earlier in the evening for personal reasons.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

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Council President Brown had no report this evening.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

The City Engineer's written report was provided to Mayor and Council and is on file in the Municipal Clerk's office. Dan Kwapinski of Schaffer, Nassar, Scheidegg Consulting Engineers, LLC, was in attendance and available for questions. Mr. Kwapinski stated in his opening remarks that Broad Street Phase 1 concrete work started March 4, 2013 and that phase is complete. The milling and paving would begin shortly and conclude sometime in the next 7-10 days depending on weather. He reported that the feasibility study regarding the BGP sanitary sewer system was submitted to Council for review. The Engineer recommended that they use a grinder pump and he requested Council feedback. Councilman Dewees stated he'd like to see the septic tanks pumped out first, including the one at the snack bar, and the system evaluated before moving forward. Councilman Carew stated he would like to make sure we cover all our bases before making a decision.

Council President Brown asked that Council receive an update after the tanks are pumped out.

The Engineer stated that he had submitted the CDBG funding application. The Engineer also reminded Council that the stormwater system contract expires on April 19<sup>th</sup>. He met with Councilman Perri and Mayor Mazzeo separately to review the stormwater issues and requested Council's direction on whether or not they want to bid the contract with new specifications, leave it alone or let it expire.

Councilman Perri stated he would like to see two or three companies lined up to submit quotes, generating competition for non-emergency situations. Councilman Perri also noted that the sanitary sewer system historically sees more emergencies than stormwater but this is the contract that is expiring first. If we can work on the wording for this contract it will help us to evaluate the upcoming with the sanitary sewer contract as well.

The Engineer agreed that this could result in possible cost savings. The Engineer suggested that Council might consider keeping the current contractor on board until the bid specs could be revamped.

Council President Brown directed Solicitor Facenda to reach out to the existing vendor to request a 30-60 day extension of the existing contract and directed the Engineer to work on a new proposal for the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. At Solicitor Facenda's

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request, Mary Canesi stated she will provide him a copy of the current stormwater contract.

**RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilman O'Neill motioned, Councilman Carew seconded, to vote by consent agenda on Resolutions 60-2013 through 72-2013.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O'Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

- 60-2013** A Resolution for the Cancellation of Grant Fund Receivables and Appropriation Reserves
- 61-2013** Release of Escrow Monies by the Planning Board
- 62-2013** Authorize the Hiring of Joseph Ashner as Part Time Maintenance Worker for Birch Grove Park
- 63-2013** Increasing Change Fund for Birch Grove Park
- 64-2013** To Rescind Petty Cash Fund
- 65-2013** NJ Safe and Secure Communities Program Grant Application – Two (2) Police Positions - \$60,000
- 66-2013** Refund of Raffle License Fee to the Charity League
- 67-2013** Request to the County of Atlantic to Use County Roads for Parades and Other Functions
- 68-2013** Refund of Overpayment of Taxes
- 69-2013** To Hire a Laborer in the Public Works Department
- 70-2013** To Change Employment Status from Part Time to Seasonal for Birch Grove Park Maintenance Worker
- 71-2013** Authorizing Rider to Shared Services Agreement with the Atlantic County Utilities Authority for Solid Waste Collection Services
- 72-2013** To Hire a Temporary Mechanic

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Councilman O'Neill motioned, Councilman Carew seconded, to adopt the consent agenda for Resolutions 60-2013 through 72-2013.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O'Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

**ORDINANCES**

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilman Carew seconded, to introduce Ordinance 1-2013, to be read by title only.

**1-2013**            Calendar Year 2013 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)  
*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press March 16, 2013*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, announcing that there would be no public input on introduction. She provided the hearing and publication dates and noted that full copies of the Ordinance are presently posted on the City website, on the bulletin board at City Hall, and are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O'Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilman Carew seconded, to introduce Ordinance 2-2013, to be read by title only.

**2-2013**            An Ordinance Amending Section 111 of the City of Northfield Code Entitled Vehicles and Traffic  
*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press March 16, 2013*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, announcing that there would be no public input on introduction. She provided the hearing and publication dates and noted that full copies of the Ordinance are presently posted on the City website, on the bulletin board at City Hall, and are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.

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Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

Councilman Travagline motioned, Councilman O’Neill seconded, to introduce Ordinance 3-2013, to be read by title only.

**3-2013**            An Ordinance Amending Section 350 of the City of Northfield Code Entitled Towing  
*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press March 16, 2013*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, announcing that there would be no public input on introduction. She provided the hearing and publication dates and noted that full copies of the Ordinance are presently posted on the City website, on the bulletin board at City Hall, and are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.

Councilman Polistina asked if towing should go out to bid to get the best price for the City. Councilman Perri suggested that there be a review of the state statutes. Solicitor Facenda stated he thinks its exempt from public bidding but he will confirm. Mary Canesi shared that all towing licenses have been issued for this year. Council President Brown suggested this be readdressed in the fall.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – abstain; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Travagline seconded, for payment of bills in the amount of \$ 1,968,072.43.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Travagline – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. Motion carries.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

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

Robert Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, shared that his street, West Revere, needs to be paved. He also inquired whether or not the seniors will have to provide insurance certificates for use of Birch Grove Park. He commented that he disagreed with the

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Towing Ordinance and believed the business should go to one company located in Northfield.

Council President Brown clarified for Mr. Webb that the Senior Group is, in fact, endorsed as a city group and would not have to provide insurance.

At 7:53 pm seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak, Council President Brown closed the public session.

Councilman Polistina read the meeting notices.

At 7:54pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mimi M. Marlor, Deputy Municipal Clerk