

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2011**

At 7:00pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was properly advertised according to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

The flag salute was led by Mayor Vincent Mazzeo. Following the flag salute a moment of silence was observed

ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Kern, Mr. Perri, Mr. Polistina, Mr. Smith, Mr. Vain, Mr. Carew

Absent: Mr. Dewees,

Mayor Vincent Mazzeo, City Engineer Matt Doran, and Solicitor Keith Bonchi were also in attendance.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Carew reviewed the agenda.

INTRODUCTION OF MR. ROBERT BURNES AND MR. ROBERT WEBB

Councilwoman Kern announced that for the month of March, the flag in front of City Hall would be flown with pride in honor of local Veterans Mr. Robert Burness and Mr. Robert Webb.

After being drafted at age 18, Mr. Burness served in the US Navy from 1944-1968. He was discharged after WWII but recalled for the Korean War and also served in the Viet Nam War. He speaks at many City events on behalf of Veterans; we thank him for that and for his service to our country and community. Mayor Mazzeo presented Mr. Burness with a certificate of appreciation, and thanked him for his service.

Councilwoman Kern introduced Mr. Robert Webb, who attended this evening in full uniform. Mr. Webb began serving in the US Navy in 1947, and learned various specialties during his service while stationed in places such as Illinois, California, the Panama Canal, Spain, and Portugal. Mr. Webb speaks at many City events on behalf of Veterans. Kern thanked Webb for his service, and for always caring about our Country. Mazzeo thanked Mr. Webb for his military service, and for serving as police officer in our City, presenting him with a certificate of appreciation.

PRESENTATION – FIBERTECH

Council President Carew introduced John Marchaesi and Al Kothe from Fibertech, a privately owned facilities-based telecommunications company, in business since

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2011**

2000, and operating in NJ since 2008. They are proposing to install fiber on existing utility poles, and have agreements with Verizon and Atlantic Electric to do so. The area involved is approximately 1/3 of a mile on Burton Avenue, which is a municipal road. They already have the requisite County and State approvals for Route 9 and Zion and Mill Roads. Municipal approval for use of local roads is required by NJSA 48:17-10.

Council President Carew requested that any lane closures be coordinated with the police department; Kothe agreed and explained that work would be structured to accommodate local traffic patterns. Kothe was asked to provide a schedule to the City Clerk when it becomes available. Under ideal conditions, Kothe said the project would take approximately 10 days.

Councilman Smith asked if our expenses would be reimbursed, including legal review, police overtime, etc. Marchaesi affirmed they would. Kothe stated that an escrow account would be established for the police overtime and the City can submit an invoice for legal expenses

Councilman Perri asked if there were any antennae on poles, or other structures; Marchaesi replied there were not. They install only fiber cable. Perri questioned the need for a 50 year contract. Marchaesi said it has been what is customary, but they are open to discussion, such as a fixed term with renewals. Perri asked who is benefitting from the installation. Marchaesi said he can't divulge the name, but it is a large wireless company. Perri asked if any of our franchise taxes would be increased, or if there is any financial benefit to the community other than enhanced service, such as connections to the fiber network for our library or school. Marchaesi replied no on all counts, but said that the library or school could be a customer; it wouldn't be a trade off, it would be a sale. Perri inquired about repairs in the event of damage to a pole; Kothe said they will be notified as a matter of course, along with the other companies. Their repair is staff on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Perri asked if the City would be held harmless; Marchaesi said yes, their agreement calls for it.

Council President Carew suggested a 10 year contract with four 10-year renewals; the next Council Meeting is April 19th and it will be voted on then

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri has not heard from Linwood on the sewer installation and emergency repair contract. He would like to create a Senior Citizens' Council to the Governing Body, to meet quarterly to hear their concerns and get their recommendations. He would like Council's approval to move forward.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2011**

Mayor Mazzeo agreed; saying he likes the idea. Carew suggested that the Committee be comprised of a few members of Council and four members of the community. Perri replied that he wanted to gauge demand, maybe have an election if there is enough interest. Carew suggested establishing a 2nd Chair for the Senior Committee along with members of the public.

Councilwoman Kern said she would like to participate and wanted to ensure all members of the public would be invited to participate. Perri agreed; this would not be a political group. Carew requested a meeting with Perri and Mayor Mazzeo to get it moving.

Councilman Polistina attended the Library Board meeting, on the 24th. The NCS drama club will be doing an excerpt of their play at 5pm. There was a problem with the City Hall mail server; it is very old and we are looking at options. Our contract for I.T. support and service has expired; Polistina would like to do a voice vote to authorize the City to go out to bid for I.T. support and service.

Mayor Mazzeo asked for confirmation that the server was on the verge of complete failure; Polistina affirmed that it was, adding that once we identify a provider that they would evaluate our equipment needs.

Council President Carew called for a voice vote to authorize the City to go out to bid for IT service and support. All in favor; none opposed.

Councilman Smith asked if this was a shared-service opportunity; Polistina said that may be a possibility.

Councilman Vain received a letter from Robbie Dollard regarding the Safe Routes to Schools grant; there are funds remaining which will be used to purchase 18 signs for school crossing guards and one speed box for the police department. Vain thanked Dollard and Chief James for their efforts. The flashing light at Oak and Zion is ready to go out to bid; hopefully we can award on the 19th of April and start work in May. The next Planning Board meeting is Thursday, April 7th. Vain announced that the NCS Think Day team won 1st place at their recent competition; they placed 2nd last year.

Councilwoman Kern said the Cultural Committee held their flea market and garage sale last week at the NCS, and it was very successful. All monies raised support the museum. The Northfield Mother's League held their spaghetti dinner last week and it was also very successful; the League does a lot of good deeds for the community and Kern congratulated them. She has had inquiries about new flags for Shore Road.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2011**

Mayor Mazzeo said Assistant Chief Crooks gave a price of approximately \$1,000 to replace the flags; Mazzeo does not want to do only half of Shore Road.

Kern said the Cultural Committee did a fund drive several years ago and purchased many flags, but they need to be replaced. Councilman Perri suggested an 'adopt a flag' program. It was suggested that this could be an option for next year.

Kern made a motion to authorize an expense not to exceed \$1,000 for the purchase of flags, based on availability of funds. Councilman Smith seconded. All in favor; none opposed.

Councilman Smith congratulated Councilman Vain and Mr. Miller for the Think Day victory. He also congratulated NCS student Kevin Meglathery for his recent spelling bee win. Dave's Day will be held Saturday, March 26th. The public hearing for the school budget is 6pm on March 28th; Smith encouraged the public to attend.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Council President Carew noted there will be lots of activities for kids at Dave's Day, and it is well worth it to stop by. The opening of Park Center is April 9th, with a fishing tourney in the morning and the dedication of the Center at noon.

MAYOR'S REPORT

As part of the Mayor's Wellness Committee, Mayor Mazzeo has initiated a walking club which will meet for the first time on May 15th at noon at the Library. Last year, NCS 5th grader Sophia Guidara, suggested a Day of Play. Dr. Fipp has advised that the event has been planned for April 19th. Mazzeo has invited Sophia to Council that evening and will be issuing a proclamation celebrating the Day of Play. Plans for the Memorial Day parade have begun. He asked if the funding for the Mainland Channel was in the budget; CFO Dolcy replied that no one added it. Mazzeo said this will have to be discussed. He read the statistics from the Police Department report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The City Engineer's report was provided to Mayor and Council and is on file in the Municipal Clerk's office. There were no updates.

RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Kern motioned, Councilman Vain seconded for consent agenda for resolutions 55-2011 through 60-2011.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2011**

Roll call: Mr. Dewees – absent; Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

- 55-2011** Refund of Overpayment of 2010 Taxes
- 56-2011** Refund of Overpayment of 2011 Taxes
- 57-2011** Release of Maintenance Guarantee and Inspection Escrow Block 109 Lot 32
- 58-2011** Authorizing a Raffle License to Bacharach Institute for Rehabilitation Auxiliary
- 59-2011** Authorizing Execution of an Agreement Consenting to an Easement Dedication
- 60-2011** Final Change Order No. 1 Walkway at Birch Grove Park Phase II
Councilman Dewees announced he would be abstaining from the vote on Resolution 39-2011.

Councilwoman Kern asked for clarification of resolution 59-2011; she hopes they are being sensitive to the needs of area homeowners. City Engineer Doran replied that he has reviewed plans.

Councilman Perri asked for the source of funding for 60-2011; Doran replied that it is within the grant.

Councilwoman Kern motioned, Councilman Vain seconded to adopt resolutions 55-2011 through 60-2011.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees – absent; Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

ORDINANCES

On a motion of Councilman Polistina, second of Councilman Perri, all in favor of reading Ordinance 2-2011 by title only.

- 2-2011** Bond Ordinance Appropriating One Million Two Hundred Five Thousand Dollars (\$1,205,000) And Authorizing The Issuance Of One Million One Hundred Forty-Four Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,144,750) In Bonds Or Notes Of The City Of Northfield

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2011**

For Various Improvements Or Purposes Authorized To Be
Undertaken By The City Of Northfield, In The County Of Atlantic,
New Jersey

*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press 03/26/2011
2nd Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption 7pm, 04/19/2011*

Full copies of the ordinance are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk, Monday through Friday, between 9am and 4pm.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees – absent; Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for introduction of Ordinance 2-2011.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilwoman Kern motioned, Councilman Vain seconded, for payment of bills in the amount of \$ 2,250,405.03. . Vain and Kern announced they would be abstaining from the vote on certain line items; said abstentions are on file in the City Clerk's office.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees – absent; Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for payment of bills.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Carew opened this meeting to the public and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. Seeing none, he closed the public session.

Councilman Smith read the meeting notices.

On motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk