

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

At 6:31pm, 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, Murray, O'Neill, Perri, Travagline, Dewees

Absent: Lischin

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

**READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilman Murray, seconded by Councilman Perri to approve the minutes from March 13, 2018 without formal reading. They have been posted, distributed to Council, and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Councilwoman Korngut stated there was a word in the minutes she would like to clarify. She does not want to make more work for the Clerk to go back and look at it because she does not feel it is that material, but she wanted to clarify on the record that she said she spoke with more than one female employee with regard to the issue of extending the hours of City Hall, but what she believed she said was more than one female employee mentioned 'safety', but the minutes it say 'money'. If she did in fact say 'money' it was relevant to safety, and she wanted to clarify that. Ms Korngut did agree to approval of the minutes as written.

All were in favor of approving the minutes of the meetings of March 13, 2018, without formal reading.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Councilman Perri reported that the Senior Social last week was canceled due to the weather and had been rescheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup> with same program. The Planning Board has three applications for the next meeting. The committee was still working on the language for the new sewer interlocal agreement for the access and the charges. He met with the Sewer Department and Superintendent Qwin Vitale and an alternative had been suggested.

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

Councilman O’Neill got a report from the Zoning Official that two properties have had some cars, 106 E. Vernon had been taken care of, and the other is going to court. Mr. Dattalo also rectified some issues with the ACUA.

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

Councilwoman Korngut reported that the Alliance Fishing Tournament date has been changed and would be held Saturday April 14th, for kids ages 5-15, and would also be open this year to veterans and kids with disabilities; registration begins at 7am. The library would be hosting a guest speaker tomorrow, Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, from 6pm-7pm, the topic is Jewish Women of Atlantic County past and present, with discussion centering on notable Jewish women who have contributed to cultural and social life of Atlantic County.

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

Councilman Travagline had nothing to report.

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

Councilman Murray announced that on March 15th the City conducted a tax lien sale with \$125,864.00 to be collected; all but 3 liens sold. There were also significant sewer fees collected.

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

Councilman Lischin was absent.

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

Council President Dewees had nothing to report.

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**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Chau referred to a letter he provided to Council that came from the ACIA about a proposed bond issue where municipalities can apply for funding. He had the forms for Council for additional opportunities through the ACIA. The Police Department had a Class II Special Officer resign, and the Chief would like to replace this individual. There were discussions about expanding the duties of this officer. Mayor Chau said he was not sure if funding was available, but duties such as periodic inspections of the school could be added. We would be replacing the officer, even if the expanded duties were not possible. Mayor Chau read the Police Department report for February. He also said in past, capital plans had included two police vehicles, and asked the Council if they will allow him to proceed.

Council President Dewees reminded Council that a resident at the last meeting commented about the police fleet. He would like to see a list of the fleet and how they are used now.

Mayor Chau stated that the plan, based on his discussions with the Chief, would be to take two vehicles out of service that needed to be replaced. Mayor Chau asked Chief Newman to provide the information requested to Council President Dewees.

Councilman O'Neill asked if the proceeds from the tax lien sale could be realized in this year's budget.

Councilman Murray replied no, but they would be next year.

Councilman Perri asked if we have an armed officer at Northfield Community School or at Mainland.

Mayor Chau responded that Linwood has a Class III officer at Mainland, but Northfield did not. Mayor Chau stated he's had a discussion with our Chief about a police presence at our school, and Northfield had none. We did have a car at the school today, but nothing permanent. If they get a call, they are out.

Council President Dewees reported that we took a big hit on the bike path with the last storm, losing between 10 and 15 trees, most of which have been cleared. There was also a large 36" tree behind Fire Station 2 that fell and took out the fence. We are working with the fire company to replace the fence.

Mayor Chau asked if the bike path trees were ours.

Council President Dewees replied yes, and said they were Bradford pears. Over the years they had been replaced with Crape Myrtles.

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Mayor Chau referred to people who put in vegetation without City permission, and said this is another reason why he was opposed to things being planted.

**CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Nassar reviewed the engineer's report as distributed to Council. He also advised that a resident of Catherine Place reported a foul odor on Wilson Drive that was evident when he was walking his dog recently. Engineer Nassar stated that checked the area the next day and did not smell anything.

Councilman Perri replied that the ACUA should be notified to increase their conditioning upstream.

Engineer Nassar noted that approval is on the agenda tonight for the plans and specifications for the Davis Avenue Pump Station. The low bidder on the Cresson Avenue Drainage project was \$304,000.00 with the high bidder at \$621,000.00. The low bidder had not done work in Northfield before. Engineer Nassar checked with other towns that had worked with the low bidder in the past, and received good recommendations about prior jobs. The request for approval to proceed with plans for Walnut Avenue was also on the agenda.

**PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER**

Council President Dewees opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to speak on any subject.

Bill Garry, 202 St. James Place, said that the last time he was here a gas main project was just finishing up. He asked when the punch list items would be complete.

Engineer Nassar replied that they would start April 16<sup>th</sup> and that the work may take a few weeks. They would start and work until finished. It would not be piece-meal.

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

Council Travagline motioned, Councilman O'Neill seconded to adopt Ordinance 3-2018, to be read by title only.

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**ORDINANCES**

- 3-2018** Bond Ordinance Appropriating Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) and Authorizing the Issuance of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) in Bonds or Notes of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, New Jersey for the Rehabilitation and Upgrade of the Davis Avenue Sanitary Sewer Pump Station to be Undertaken by and within the City of Northfield, Atlantic County, New Jersey  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 03/27/2018*  
*Published in the Press of AC 3/31/2018 with Estoppel Statement*

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 with the required estoppel statement. 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 –absent; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O’Neill – yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carries.

**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.

On a motion of Councilman Perri, second of Councilwoman Korngut, all present were in favor of voting by consent agenda on Resolutions 80-2018 through 89-2018 and 91-2018.

- 80-2018** Approval of Specifications and Authorization to Proceed with Public Bidding for the Project Known as Davis Avenue Pump Station Renovation
- 81-2018** A Resolution Approving Release of a Performance Guarantee, for Block 113 Lots 13-16 Located at 321 Mt Vernon Avenue, Posted as a Condition of a Hardship Exception from Road Opening Moratorium

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- 82-2018** Authorizing Refund for Overpayment of Sewer
- 83-2018** Refund of Tax Sale Certificate
- 84-2018** To Approve an Application for Use of Facilities – 10U Sandsharks
- 85-2018** Authorizing the Appointment of a COAH Attorney as Special Counsel in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 (1) as a Professional Service, and in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5
- 86-2018** Authorizing a Professional Planner to Provide Planning Services for the City of Northfield’s Affordable Housing Obligations, and in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40a:11-5 (1) as a Professional Service
- 87-2018** A Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Filing of an Application for a Short Term Construction Loan from the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (F/K/A New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust) Under the 2018 Construction Financing Program for the Davis Avenue Sanitary Sewer Pump Station Upgrade Project
- 88-2018** Resolution of the City of Northfield, in the County of Atlantic, New Jersey, Determining the Form and Other Details of its “Note Relating to the Construction Financing Program of the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (F/K/A New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust)”, to be Issued in the Principal Amount of up to \$300,000, and Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Such Note to The New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (F/K/A The New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust), and Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of Such Note by the City of Northfield in Favor of the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank, all Pursuant to the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank Construction Financing Loan Program for the Davis Avenue Sanitary Sewer Pump Station Upgrade Project
- 89-2018** Authorizing Schaeffer, Nassar, Scheidegg Consulting Engineers to Proceed with Preparation of Bid Documents for the Project known as Reconstruction of Walnut Avenue
- 91-2018** To Approve an Application for Use of Facilities MRHS Baseball

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilwoman Korngut seconded, to adopt Resolutions 80-2018 through 89-2018 and 91-2018 by consent agenda.

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

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman O’Neill seconded, to adopt Resolution 90-2018.

- 90-2018** Award of Contract for the Project known as Cresson Avenue Drainage Improvements

Mayor Chau asked why there was a big swing in bids.

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Engineer Nassar responded that you may see that sometime; if you look at the unit prices, there was a significant difference in cost of linear pipe.

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

**PAYMENT OF BILLS \$1,772,755.67**

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

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

Council President Dewees read the meeting notices.

At 6:59pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk