

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 6, 2021**

At 7:48pm, this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk, Mary Canesi This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 9, 2021, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), and N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 - 1.7, this meeting will be held in-person and as a remote public meeting (live-streamed) using Zoom conferencing service. Due to social distancing requirements related to Covid-19, there are limited seats for in-person attendance by members of the public. Visit the event calendar page for April 6, 2021 at www.cityofnorthfield.org to determine current seating availability. Face coverings and social distancing will be required for in-person attendance. To reserve an available seat, contact the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 609-641-2832, ext 125, no later than 4:00pm on April 6, 2021. Once all available seats have been reserved, virtual attendance will be required using a web-browser to Join the Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83690097198> or by telephone using one tap mobile +13017158592,,83690097198# or direct dial +1 301 715 8592 using Meeting ID: 836 9009 7198. For those wishing to comment during the dedicated public comment portion of the meeting, but who may be unable to attend (in person or via Zoom), public comments may also be submitted in advance via email to mcanesi@cityofnorthfield.org or by written letter to the Office of the Municipal Clerk, 1600 Shore Road, Northfield NJ 08225, or by hand delivery to the drop box in the parking lot at the south corner of the municipal building, addressed to the attention of the Municipal Clerk. Comments shall contain the name and address of the author, will be read aloud and addressed during the remote public meeting, and must be received by 2:00pm on April 6, 2021.

Municipal Clerk Canesi read the following statement:

“Due to social distancing requirements related to Covid-19, there are limited seats for in-person attendance by members of the public this evening. For this reason, this meeting is also being presented simultaneously as a remote public meeting, live-streamed, using Zoom conferencing service, and in accordance with the Governor’s Executive Orders and the Open Public Meetings Act. Zoom meeting participants can dial in by telephone and listen to the proceedings, or they can access the meeting using a web-browser, and be able to view and listen. Instructions on how members of the public could reserve one of the limited seats, as well as how they can access Zoom have been made available on the municipal website and were published in the Press of Atlantic City. The full text of the public meeting notice has been posted at the entrances to the municipal building and includes Zoom instructions, information on where to find the meeting agenda and relevant documents, as well as instructions on how members of the public could submit comments in advance of tonight’s meeting. For those participating via Zoom, all participants will be ‘muted’ upon entry to the meeting. Web-browser participants will not be able to share their screens or see the camera-view of anyone other than the host, which is the City of Northfield. Zoom participants wishing to exercise their right to participate during the public comment portion of the meeting should wait until the specific announcement is made to open the public comment period. At this time, one by one, any telephone users

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will be asked to identify themselves and will be unmuted to permit commentary. For web-browser participants, comments or questions may be submitted via the chat function and will not be acknowledged outside of the designated public-comment portion of the meeting; chat-users must also provide his/her name and address for the record in order to be heard. Any written comments submitted in advance will be read aloud and addressed during the public comment portion of the meeting.”

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau, followed by a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL

Present (in person): Councilman Dewees Councilwoman Madden; Councilman Notaro; Councilman Perri; Councilman Smith; Councilman Utts; Council President Polistina; Mayor Chau

Solicitor Facenda and Engineer Nassar were also in attendance. Chief Newman was present via Zoom.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion of Councilwoman Madden with a second of Councilman Dewees, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of March 16, 2021, without formal reading. They were posted, distributed to Council, and on file in the Municipal Clerk’s Office.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Chau reported that all have received a document from County Administration; he would like permission to have County representatives appear during our work session on April 20th.

Council President Polistina replied, yes.

Mayor Chau announced a vacancy on the Library Board, the president, and one more coming soon. Anyone interested please send their resume to the City Clerk. He was happy to report that the Municipal Alliance Grant had increased this year to just over \$8,000.00. He has spoken with Kathi Smith regarding National Night Out and plans were in the works. He did a grand opening for Bizzy Bee, a new child study program at Jackson Avenue and New Road. He welcomed them on behalf of City Council. Over the past several weeks we had received concerns about houses being flipped who have not followed procedures regarding permits and CO's. Permits should be prominently displayed. One incident involved a \$1,000.00 fine to a contractor.

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Mayor Chau read the following Police Report for March: 2,338 total calls, 139 motor vehicle stops, 1,359 property checks, 2 drug arrests, 120 total citations and 1 DWI citation.

Councilman Dewees asked were the contractors who violated the rules caught by us or were they reported?

Mayor Chau replied, by us.

Councilman Perri suggested language in the form of a resolution to support the Asian community; he received communication from Mayor Chau's sister.

Mayor Chau would like to do so, he was working to get a copy of a resolution adopted in Atlantic City.

Councilman Smith recalled we adopted something similar, adopting a position against racism in all forms.

Council President Polistina welcomed Bizzy Bee and thanked them for coming to Northfield.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineer's Report as previously distributed to the Council. Regarding Shepherd Drive, the final change order was on the agenda this evening; there was a reduction of \$16,000.00. The City Hall parking lot had been finished, the ramp was open, we were dealing with a few punchlist items. The existing asphalt curbing around the parking lot could not be saved so it was replaced since the contractor was on site. The bumper stops at the Library had to be replaced. The job was substantially complete. The handicapped signs should be added shortly and Public Works would remove all of the temporary signs.

Council President Polistina noted it looked wonderful.

Engineer Nassar agreed and stated it was 100% ADA compliant.

For the 2020 Road Program, the contractor removed trees along Birch Grove Road, the water company would be moving their line next week, then after 45 days the contractor could realign the road to put it where it belonged. The concrete work on Maple had started, he referred to a resident last week who wanted curbing. Engineer Nassar spoke with the contractor, they were willing to work with the resident directly at the resident's expense, we would only pay the cost of what the railroad ties would have cost. The additional \$2,600.00 was on the resident's part. He asked if Council wanted Engineer Nassar to have the contractor contact the resident directly?

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Solicitor Facenda confirmed that we were not involved, just the contractor and the resident?

Engineer Nassar replied, yes.

PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Polistina opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to comment on any subject, he asked that they state their name and address for the record and observe the five-minute limit per speaker.

Seeing no one wishing to make a comment, Council President Polistina closed the public comment portion of this meeting.

Councilman Notaro stated it was nice to see the 4th of July Parade would be back. He thanked Ms Brennan for her help in stepping up. Regarding Resolution 80-2021, he recognized members of the volunteer fire company for their hard work.

Mayor Chau commended them for the “Bunny Run” as well.

RESOLUTIONS

On a motion of Councilman Perri, second of Councilman Notaro, all members present were in favor of voting by consent agenda for Resolutions 75-2021 through 84-2021.

Council President Polistina announced 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.

75-2021 A Resolution Awarding the Contract to Inspira Health Network, Inc. for Shared Emergency Medical Services in the City of Linwood and the City of Northfield

76-2021 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

77-2021 Request to the County of Atlantic to Use County Roads for Parades and Other Functions

78-2021 A Resolution Amending Resolution 190-2020, Approving Participation with the State of New Jersey Federal Grant Program Administered by the Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General

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- 79-2021** To Authorize the City of Northfield Police Department to Submit an Application to, and Enter into an Agreement with, the Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General, to Participate in the State's Body-Worn Camera Grant Program
- 80-2021** Amending Resolution No. 41-2021, Recognizing Members of the Northfield Volunteer Fire Company
- 81-2021** Work Change Order No. 1 – Final ‘FY 2019 Reconstruction of Shepherd Drive and North Shepherd Drive’
- 82-2021** Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle July 2021 – June 2022
- 83-2021** A Resolution Memorializing a Grant Application Submitted by the Northfield Police Department for a ‘Cops in Shops’ Grant from the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control - Grant #AI-21-45-05-04
- 84-2021** A Resolution to Cancel Grant Balances

Councilman Perri motioned, second of Councilman Notaro, to adopt the consent agenda for Resolutions 75-2021 through 84-2021.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. Notaro – yes, Mr. Perri - yes, Mr. Smith – yes, Mr. Utts - yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

Councilman Perri motioned, second of Councilwoman Notaro, to adopt Ordinance 3-2021.

- 3-2021** An Ordinance Amending Section 215 of the Code of the City of Northfield Governing Land Use and Development
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration
Published in the Press of AC 04/10/2021

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this was the second reading and public hearing. 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 to any member of the public who requested same. If approved, final publication will be April 10, 2021.

Council President Polistina opened the public hearing. Seeing no one wishing to speak he closed the public hearing.

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Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. Notaro – yes, Mr. Perri - yes, Mr. Smith – yes, Mr. Utts - yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

Councilman Utts motioned, second of Councilman Smith, to introduce Ordinance 4-2021.

4-2021 Amending Chapter 111 of the City of Northfield Municipal Code, Entitled Vehicles and Traffic
*Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 04/10/2021
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 04/20/2021*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this is the first reading, and announced the publication and public hearing dates. The full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the City website, and copies are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requests same.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. Notaro – yes, Mr. Perri - yes, Mr. Smith – yes, Mr. Utts - yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$2,035,624.77

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, for payment of bills.

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees - yes, Mrs. Madden – yes, Mr. Notaro – yes, Mr. Perri - yes, Mr. Smith – yes, Mr. Utts - yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

Councilwoman Madden read the meeting notices.

At 8:16pm, on motion of Councilman Notaro, seconded by Councilman Smith, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk