

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 20, 2021**

At 8:42pm, 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 20, 2021 at [www.cityofnorthfield.org](http://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 20, 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/83935418461> or by telephone using one tap mobile +16465588656,,83935418461# or direct dial +1 646 558 8656 using Meeting ID: 839 3541 8461. 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](mailto: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 20, 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, Engineer Nassar and Chief Newman were also in attendance.

Council President Polistina stated Council would be going out of order as to matters of business on the agenda; we will have the budget resolutions and hearing first, and then move on to other agenda items.

**PUBLIC HEARING 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Councilman Smith motioned, second of Councilman Dewees to adopt Resolution 85-2021.

**85-2021** A Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Reading of the Budget by Title Only

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.

**Public Hearing**

Council President Polistina announced that the public hearing on the 2021 municipal budget was now open for any member of the public wishing to comment. He asked those wishing to comment to please state their name and address for the record.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to comment, the public hearing on the municipal budget was closed.

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Resolution 67B-2021.

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**67B-2021** Resolution to Amend Budget

Clerk Canesi explained the amendment to the budget as consisting of approximately \$24,000 in grant funds that had been received after the budget was introduced on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Grants had a neutral effect on the budget, as they consisted of revenue and an associated expense. Our tax increase was still at ‘zero’.

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 Smith motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Resolution 67C-2021.

**67C-2021** Adoption of the 2021 Budget

Councilman Perri thanked everyone, employees, Council for their hard work in putting this together. We do a frugal job of providing the service we do, given everything.

Council President Polistina agreed.

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.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On motion of Councilman Perri with a second of Councilwoman Madden, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of April 6, 2021, without formal reading. They were posted, distributed to Council, and on file in the Municipal Clerk’s Office.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Chau congratulated Johnathan Scull, SLEO II, who completed the coursework with two high awards. Mayor Chau said he received a complaint from Mrs. Delcher regarding homes that are being leased or rented out, including a complaint that there are 13 people are living in one home. He is sharing her concern with Council and consult with the building inspector.

**CITY ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineer’s Report as previously distributed to the Council. The concrete work for the 2020 Road Project would be wrapped up by the end of the week, and then we could proceed with paving, one section at a time, he was waiting on the water company to relocate the water line at Birch Grove Park Road. He had noticed while driving through the town that there were people with

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sump pumps in their basements. Our ordinance was silent about sump pumps, water drains into street and sits while the water waits to travel. He felt we should address the discharge of sump pumps.

Councilman Utts asked if that would encourage homeowners to tie into the sanitary sewer system?

Clerk Canesi asked if our recent stormwater ordinances don't address this?

Engineer Nassar replied it was exempt.

Councilman Dewees noted the area Engineer Nassar was referring to has a curbed drain coming from the house.

Councilman Notaro asked was it a detriment to the road?

Engineer Nassar stated if the road had a nice slope it drains, if it is a flat road, the water sits and becomes stagnant.

**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.

**RESOLUTIONS**

On a motion of Councilman Utts, second of Councilman Notaro, all members present were in favor of voting by consent agenda for Resolutions 86-2021 through 89-2021.

- 86-2021** Resolution Approving Right-of-Way Use to Cross River Fiber
- 87-2021** Approval of Application for a Coin Drop Family Association of Northfield
- 88-2021** To Approve an Application for Use of Facilities
- 89-2021** Approval of Specifications and Authorization to Proceed with Public Bidding for the Project known as Slip Lining Deep Sanitary Sewer Pipes

Councilman Utts motioned, second of Councilman Notaro, to adopt the consent agenda for Resolutions 86-2021 through 89-2021.

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**ORDINANCE**

Councilwoman Madden motioned, second of Councilman Smith, to adopt Ordinance 4-2021, to be read by title only.

**4-2021** Amending Chapter 111 of the City of Northfield Municipal Code, Entitled Vehicles and Traffic  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration*  
*Published in the Press of AC 04/24/2021*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this was the second reading and public hearing, after which the matter will be considered for final adoption. 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 24, 2021.

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

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 \$527,661.17**

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Smith 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.

Councilman Notaro read the meeting notices.

At 9:08pm, on motion of Councilman Utts, seconded by Councilman Notaro, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk