

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION**  
**APRIL 21, 2026**

At 6:01pm this meeting was called to order by Deputy Municipal Clerk, Shannon Campbell. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 10, 2026, and in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

**FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Council President Pro Tempore Dewees.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilwoman Carfagno; Councilman Dewees; Councilwoman Kern; Councilman Notaro; Councilman Polistina; Council President Bucci.

**Absent:** Councilman Smith; Mayor Chau

Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Nassar, and Chief Pollak were also present.

Council President Bucci welcomed all and offered condolences to the family of Mitch Gurwicz, although she did not know him personally, his family has had a significant impact on the City. She acknowledged all of the boards he sat on and thanked him for his service to the community. Council President Bucci called for a moment of silence.

Council President Bucci moved to committee reports.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Councilman Polistina** – Finance and Collections; Library; Municipal Alliance; Senior Citizens; Affordable Housing

Councilman Polistina reported the new CFO was on the agenda tonight to replace CFO Stollenwerk. The next senior committee meeting would be April 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am at the Library, Chief Pollak would be speaking.

**Councilman Dewees** – Buildings/Grounds, Athletic Fields; Birch Grove Park, Bike Path, 1<sup>st</sup> Street Playground, Veterans Park; Public Works; Roads, Engineering; Stormwater Sewer Operations

Councilman Dewees met with Superintendent Boyd and Engineer Nassar regarding the First Street Playground, bleachers, and pavilions; he would inform Council as details come in. The speed signs had been installed on the bike path, and the Stormwater Plan was in progress.

**Councilwoman Kern** – Inspections, Housing/Zoning; Northfield Sports (FAN); Library; Mainland Regional

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Councilwoman Kern, regarding Mainland Regional High School, last week they held the annual Jazz Fest with bands from South Jersey, they held their annual job fair in March, and will host a college fair tomorrow with 60 schools. The fourth marking period was underway and state testing would start in coming weeks. The prom would be held on June 6th and graduation would be held on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Spring sports have been successful: lacrosse, tennis, golf, softball, baseball, and track. Area youth leagues were invited to the baseball game it was well attended. For the Library, they host story time every Thursday and several other events; they were very busy. She referred to an email from a resident that was sent to Council regarding a merchant on Tilton Road, she asked if the Police were addressing it?

Council President Bucci replied it was referred to the Police Department.

Chief Pollak noted that he sent an email to Council earlier with his recommendations.

**Councilwoman Bucci** – Insurance and Safety; Planning Board; Economic Development / Chamber of Commerce

Council President Bucci attended first JIF meeting in Ocean City, the elected officials training was due by May 1st, cyber training was sent out as well.

**Councilman Smith** - Central Municipal Court; Little League and Babe Ruth; Northfield Community School; Shared Services; Grants

Councilman Smith was absent.

**Councilwoman Carfagno** - Fire Department / EMS; Technology / MRHS Channel; Cultural Committee / Veteran Liaison

Councilwoman Carfagno congratulated Don "Mike" Morey, he was honored last week for 50 years of service with the Volunteer Fire Department, she thanked him for his service. She read the Fire report and EMS reports for January to present. She referred to a letter from Chief Cummings and asked Captain Nixon, in audience, to speak.

Captain Nixon felt the need to send out a letter, prices for trucks are climbing, lead times are very long, sooner is better than later to purchase. He did not know Council would be discussing the truck, he was under the impression it was going on, it was on the capital plan.

Councilman Notaro asked Captain Nixon to explain the trucks.

Captain Nixon replied, they have one ladder and three pumpers. The pumper is a reserve, they would like to replace it, it has been on the front line for 15 years.

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Councilman Notaro confirmed that they have three trucks that do the same job? Captain Nixon replied, yes, they rotate four pieces and try to stay on 7-year cycle.

Councilman Notaro questioned the need for three?

Captain Nixon explained the need for a four-truck rotation. It was in the event something goes down; they've always rotated four pieces. They plan on sunsetting Truck 62.

Councilman Notaro asked what was entailed for a large fire?

Captain Nixon replied, all equipment is used, the department has several volunteers, it was common for all pieces to leave the station.

Councilman Notaro asked was there any sort of credit from the state?

Captain Nixon was not aware of any. He referenced the ISO rating; we are a four, he would like to be at three. We have added extra staffing recently.

Councilman Dewees added that part of the discussion was that there were problems with our infrastructure that we need to address which is why he changed his mind.

Councilman Polistina noted that it comes down to a final vote, he understood the purchase price would change.

Captain Nixon just wanted their concerns on record. He understood Council's concerns with infrastructure. He would have liked more conversation.

Councilman Polistina replied the City just can't afford to do both this year, it was a hard choice.

Captain Nixon thanked Council for their time.

Councilmembers thanked Captain Nixon.

Councilwoman Carfagno continued with her report. She announced the 250<sup>th</sup> Committee would be meeting tomorrow at 5:00pm, she thanked Council President Bucci for filling in for her at the last meeting, noting, there would be a subcommittee meeting at 5:30pm.

**Councilman Notaro – Sanitary Sewer Operations**

Councilman Notaro gave an update on the project at Mill and Zion, the underground work would take a few more days, they would apply a temporary patch after that.

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**AD HOC COMMITTEES**

Regulations regarding Keeping of Chickens – *Councilwoman Carfagno, Councilman Notaro*

**WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – ONGOING BUSINESS**

- Changes to Road Opening Ordinance Fees – *will be adopted in 2026*

Council President Bucci announced the ordinance regarding chickens and the road opening ordinance were still being worked on.

**WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS**

Seeing no new business, Council President Bucci moved to the regular meeting agenda.

**REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Council President Bucci asked all to take out their Regular Meeting agenda. Before she made any assignments, she asked were there any resolutions that anyone had questions about or would like to discuss?

There were none.

Council President Bucci made the assignments.

**PUBLIC SESSION / FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER**

Council President Bucci opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to comment on any subject, she asked that all persons state their name and city of residence for the record and observe the five-minute limit per speaker.

Ed Nixon, Ocean City – addressed Council and announced he was lifelong member of the VFW and Knights of Columbus, and, a member of the American Legion in Ocean City. He thanked Council for honoring Veterans on Memorial Day, the 82<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Invasion of Normandy on June 6<sup>th</sup>. He recognized that we would be celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary America this year. Many fought, some never returned, we still have Armed Forces fighting overseas. He asked Mayor and Council to consider dedicating the month of August to our Military Veterans. These men and women have sacrificed for us. It is the Veteran that has given us our freedoms. He would like to honor those who made it possible.

Council President Bucci thanked Mr. Nixon for his service.

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Sabrina Holleran, Northfield referenced a scam alert on posted to the City website - targeting individuals and businesses regarding Planning and Zoning board applications. She would like the City to send out postcards, she felt it should be taken seriously - seniors are victimized.

Council President Bucci replied that Council could discuss it.

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

At 6:25pm, on motions properly made and seconded, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Campbell, RMC  
Deputy Municipal Clerk