

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 25, 2017**

At 6:25pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City 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: Lischin, Murray, O'Neill, Perri, Travagline, Dewees

Absent: Piergiovanni

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

MINUTES

Councilman Travagline motioned, Councilman O'Neill seconded, for approval of the minutes without formal reading, from March 28, 2017.

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O'Neill –yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri - Sewer Inter Local, Planning Board, Senior Citizens, Shared Services

Councilman Perri reported that Planning Board meeting for May had been canceled. Ed McGettigan gave a presentation to the seniors at their last meeting and also did photo ID's for the seniors that should be in within a week.

Councilman O'Neill - Court/Violations, Library

Councilman O'Neill advised Council that he met with Donna Clark; Courts are running smooth. He thanked Council President Dewees and Engineer Nassar for expediting work on the parking lot at the Library.

Councilman Piergiovanni – Insurance and Safety, Chamber of Commerce, Municipal Alliance, Northfield School

Councilman Piergiovanni was absent.

Councilman Travagline – FAN, Sign Sub Committee, Shared Services, Green Team Advisory

Councilman Travagline had nothing to report.

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

Councilman Murray had nothing to report.

Councilman Lischin – Fire Department/EMS, Inspections, Code Enforcement, Housing/Zoning, Technology/MRHS Channel 2, Cultural Committee, Green Team, Sign Sub Committee

Councilman Lischin reported that they were still in talks to hire two part time firefighters and get the Ordinance amended. The Code Enforcement Office had been much more proactive with an increased presence around town. The first meeting of the year for the Cultural Committee would be next week.

Council President Dewees - Buildings/Grounds, Athletic Fields, Bike Path, Veterans' Park, 1st Street Playground, Birch Grove, Public Works, Roads, Engineering, Little League/Babe Ruth, Sign Sub Committee, Traffic Safety

Council President Dewees had nothing to report for buildings and grounds; fields were scheduled to be aerated this week; may be delayed due to the weather. Extra waste stations would be put on the Bike Path with grant funds. The Veterans Park Committee would meet to begin planning the Memorial Day Ceremony. The City recently hired a contractor to cut down a tree at the First Street Playground, and another at the Jack Sloan easement.

Councilman Perri asked for a sign at the First Street Playground reminding all about the pooper scooper ordinance.

Council President Dewees replied yes, he would take care of it.

Clerk Canesi asked if there was a dog waste bag dispenser at the playground, and if not, we can purchase one with Clean Communities Grant Funds.

Councilman Perri did not believe there was.

Council President Dewees agreed, and would take care of it.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau reported that he met with Verizon; the nodes are just an extension of antennae where there was the need for additional coverage, and for Northfield it may be only 3 locations. Last week he attended the Atlantic County League of Municipalities, and said he ran across a vendor who provided services that the City may be interested in, including an update of motor vehicle laws. He would pass the information along to City Clerk Canesi. The Atlantic County League of Municipalities would be sending a letter objecting to the less than 13% share from the PILOT program. Mayor Chau stated that he objected to a letter in the Press of Atlantic City indicating that the Governor felt that the County Executive did not do

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his job when it came to the PILOT program, and that the County Executive was to blame.

Mayor Chau attended the Veterans Clinic bench dedication in memory of the gentleman who took his life at that location. It was a very somber and memorable occasion. The bus shelters near the school are still a work in progress. The American Red Cross offered several workshops that may be of interest to seniors, and Mayor Chau had passed this information along to Councilman Perri. The Library received interest from one vendor regarding their solar project, but that vendor would not entertain the project unless the City of Northfield also joined the solar installation project. As a result, that project is presently not being pursued. Mayor Chau announced that there was still an opening on the Library Board, anyone interested should contact the Library Director or City Clerk. Planning for the Memorial Day Ceremony would begin soon; anyone with ideas should contact the City Clerk. The Ceremony would be held at the Veterans Park again this year. Mayor Chau thanked Mr. Webb, and former Councilmen Polisitina and Vain for their efforts on the park. The promotional interviews for the police were finished today, and announcements would be made at the recommendation of the Chief, with the Mayor's endorsement, with Council voting to approve by resolution at the next meeting.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed updates to the Engineer's report as provided to Council. The contractor for Bay Drive was provided with a remedial plan and work would start on April 28th to fix the low areas, including the installation of an earth berm to stop water from flowing onto the property. The work should be finished in a few days, with final items the following week. The grant application for the rear entrance at City Hall was submitted. South Jersey Gas was still working on the main extensions and was almost finished. Wells Avenue has been paved from Zion to the end. Work continues with other streets to be finished in the next few weeks, with final restoration on other streets by August. Engineer Nassar reported that the design work on the Davis Avenue Pump Station had begun, he hoped to have it for Council approval by next month. Engineer Nassar suggested another alternative to the Cresson drainage design due to increasing costs. He and Council President Dewees would meet once the concept design had been completed to get his feedback.

Councilman O'Neill had a request on for a street light on Helen Drive West and asked what the process was.

Clerk Canesi requested that Councilman O'Neill have the resident contact the Clerk's Office; there was a process that involved the Police Department determining the need, and then approval by Council.

PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Dewees opened the public session.

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

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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.

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded for Resolutions 104-2017 to 107-2017, to be voted on by Consent Agenda.

- 104-2017** Authorizing Schaeffer, Nassar, Scheidegg Consulting Engineers to Proceed with Certain Projects
- 105-2017** Amending the Job Description for Deputy Municipal Clerk
- 106-2017** A Resolution Establishing Salaries for Non-Union Employees of the City of Northfield for 2017
- 107-2017** Amending Resolution No. 103-2017, Regarding the Start Date for Dean O'Brien, Public Works Laborer

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O'Neill –yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried to vote by consent agenda.

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded for Resolutions 104-2017 to 107-2017, to be adopted by consent agenda.

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O'Neill –yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried to adopt the consent agenda.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: \$ 2,073, 208.31

Councilman Lischin motioned, Councilman Perri seconded, for payment of bills.

Roll call: Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O'Neill –yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline –yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Motion carried.

Council President Dewees read the meeting notices.

Council President Dewees introduced Mark Doherty from the American Legion and announced a brief recess prior to the award presentation.

At 6:52pm Council took a short recess.

At 7:00pm Council President Dewees resumed the meeting.

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PRESENTATION: Patrolman of the Year Andrew Griess presented by the American Legion

Commander Mark Doherty stated that every year the American Legion tried to recognize a local officer for the work they have been doing and it was their privilege to present the award to Andrew Griess. Commander Doherty read the statement from the award, and presented it to Officer Griess.

Chief Newman thanked the American Legion; Officer Griess was a great example for our community, he thanked Officer Griess as well.

Mayor Chau congratulated Officer Griess noting that he and Council were very proud.

Bob Webb stated that as a retired Police Officer, he knew firsthand how different things were now for an officer. Officer Griess was doing a wonderful job.

Officer Griess extended a thank you to everyone he worked with who had been there for him; he brought forward his wife Audrey for pictures.

Council President Dewees congratulated Officer Griess.

At 7:04pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk