

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 7, 2024**

At 6:48pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 6, 2024, and in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilwoman Bucci; Councilwoman Carfagno; Councilman Dewees; Councilman Polistina; Councilman Smith; Council President Leeds.

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Mauro, and Chief VonColln were also present.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Councilwoman Carfagno with a second by Councilman Polistina, except for Councilman Notaro who abstained, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of April 23, 2024, without formal reading.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau reported there was a meeting with the County and Diocese Friday of this week at 8am to discuss concerns raised by the public, for example the results of the ground penetrating radar, the presence of bodies over which construction will occur, etc.

Solicitor Facenda asked if the meeting was open to the public?

Councilman Notaro didn't believe it was, it's a Zoom meeting.

Solicitor Facenda felt it may make sense to have the County address these concerns instead of the public coming back to us.

Mayor Chau continued; he'd received a request from a resident that felt very strongly that Zion Road should have sidewalks.

Councilman Notaro noted that Council did just discuss that as a possible grant opportunity.

Mayor Chau, to Solicitor Facenda, asked about a letter he had written regarding potential lawsuits.

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Solicitor Facenda explained that this was the annual audit letter; only one matter was actively being litigated, and that is the COAH matter. It was required by our auditor annually; most were just potential claims.

Mayor Chau mentioned an individual who wanted to sell wine and have it consumed on their premises. Mayor Chau informed them of new legislation but was not familiar with it. He believed they had to buy a license from someone. He asked Solicitor Facenda for clarification.

Solicitor Facenda advised that Planner Morrissey was working on declaring the entire city an area in need of rehabilitation or redevelopment, that is the first thing.

Mayor Chau would be attending the NJ Mayor's Convention in Atlantic City; last year he engaged with a company who provided grants for lighting upgrades. CFO Stollenwerk assisted with the grant and we were successful. He hoped to find another similar grant opportunity this year. He read the Police Department report for April, noting the Police Department had been very busy, he thanked Chief VonColln.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Mauro reviewed the engineer's report as previously distributed to Council. She heard from the USDA regarding the grant, but because the City did not have a utility account the USDA had to seek guidance at a national level. She should have word soon. Regarding Bonnie Lee Drive, she contacted New Jersey American Water to look at the condition of the temporary restoration and determined that the restoration was within their quality standards; she would follow up on final restoration.

Councilman Notaro referred to a section of Bonnie Lee Drive, we may have to add this to a road paving project.

Councilwoman Carfagno asked about Cedar Bridge Road and the proposed berm.

Engineer Mauro advised that Public Works was going to clean it.

Councilwoman Carfagno asked Engineer Mauro if she looked at Roosevelt Avenue.

Councilman Dewees explained that was a County issue; he would discuss with the County Engineer.

Engineer Mauro added that the plans and specifications for the slip lining project are being finalized.

Council President Leeds stated that we would be going out of chronological order on the agenda and announced the public hearing on the recently amended 2024 budget.

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**2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET, 7PM
PUBLIC HEARING ON RESOLUTION 74B-2024**

Council President Leeds opened the public hearing on Resolution 74B-2024, which amended the municipal budget prior to final adoption.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, he closed the public session.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Leeds opened this meeting for any member of the public to speak on any topic.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, the public comment portion of this meeting was closed.

RESOLUTIONS - BUDGET

On motion of Councilman Polistina, seconded by Councilman Dewees, all members present were in favor of adopting Resolution 94-2024.

94-2024 A Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Reading of the Budget by Title Only

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Resolution 74C-2024.

74C-2024 Adoption of the 2024 Budget, as Amended

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – no; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees-yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Smith – no; Mr. Leeds – yes; Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA

Council President Leeds read the following statement: “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 motion of Councilman Dewees, seconded by Councilwoman Bucci all members present, were in favor of voting on Resolutions 95-2024 through 102-2024, by Consent Agenda.

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- 95-2024** Accumulated Absence Payout
- 96-2024** Memorialize Resignation of Tax Collector
- 97-2024** Promotion of Robin Atlas to Tax Collector
- 98-2024** To Hire Deputy Tax Collector
- 99-2024** Authorizing the Disposal of Obsolete Equipment and Further
 Authorizing the Donation of Equipment to the 911 Fund
- 100-2024** Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract for the
 Purchase and Installation of Fencing at the City of Northfield’s
 Recreation Facility
- 101-2024** Award of Contract for the Project Known as Zion Pump Station
 Renovation for the City of Northfield
- 102-2024** A Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Agreement Between the
 City of Northfield and Mainland PBA Local No. 77 Regarding
 Promotional Process for the Position of Captain in the Northfield
 Police Department

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilwoman Bucci seconded, to adopt the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees-yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Motion carried.

Councilman Notaro motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, to adopt Resolution 103-2024.

- 103-2024** A Resolution to Authorize the Promotion of Scott Pollak to the
 Position of Captain within the Northfield Police Department

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees-yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Motion carried.

Councilman Notaro motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, to adopt Resolution 104-2024.

- 104-2024** A Resolution to Authorize the Promotion of Michael Buccafurni to
 the Position of Lieutenant within the Northfield Police Department

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees-yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Motion carried.

Councilman Notaro motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, to adopt Resolution 105-2024.

- 105-2024** A Resolution to Authorize the Promotion of Peter Czaplinski to the
 Position of Sergeant within the Northfield Police Department

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Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees-yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$2,511,294.18

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilwoman Carfagno seconded, to approve payment of bills.

Councilman Polistina announced he would be abstaining from the vote on the payment being made to Daniel Scott Mascione.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mrs. Carfagno – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Polistina– yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Motion carried.

MEETING NOTICES

Councilman Smith read the meeting notices.

At 7:15pm, on motions properly made and seconded, all members present were in favor of adjourning the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk