

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 18, 2021**

At 7:35pm, 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 May18, 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 May 18, 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/84050504498> or by telephone using one tap mobile +13126266799,,84050504498# or direct dial +1 312 626 6799 using Meeting ID: 840 5050 4498. 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 May 18 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

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 18, 2021**

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.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Dewees with a second of Councilman Smith, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of May 4, 2021, without formal reading. They were posted, distributed to Council, and on file in the Municipal Clerk’s Office.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Chau announced we had advertised for an alternate on the Planning Board with a deadline next week. The Memorial Day event was going well, he thanked Deputy Clerk Campbell and Clerk Canesi. The event would be held at Veterans Park with guest speakers. The Cultural Committee was working on the July 4th parade, he thanked Joan Pullan and Councilman Notaro who were working diligently on that. Mayor Chau shared sad news that we did not get the Transportation Set-Aside (TASA) grant, 133 applications were submitted, with \$100 million in requests for \$9.75 million in available funding. He would be meeting with Councilwoman Madden and Councilman Dewees soon regarding the County library proposal. All have received documentation regarding the Atlantic County Court proposal, including a sample resolution and contract structure. He urged Council if we were seriously considering this to move forward with the resolution and with any questions the Council may have.

CITY ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineer’s Report as previously distributed to the Council. Regarding the TASA grant application; they awarded less than 10% of

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 18, 2021**

requests, so we were in the 90% that did not get it. Regarding the grants that were mentioned earlier, the \$2.5 million recreation grant was for the entire State, not just for one town. He stressed, however, that we should continue to apply. We applied to the Atlantic County Improvement Authority last Thursday and were working on the May 24th grant; the next one was due in June. We would apply for Oak Avenue paving under Municipal Aid based on discussion during the Work Session. Engineer Nassar was confident we would get that one, it met all of the criteria. Regarding the Local Road Program, he had a meeting with the contractor to start mark-outs, the paving is scheduled to start in two weeks and should be completed in six weeks.

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.

Alicia Garry, 202 St. James Place (speaking via Zoom) wanted to publicly thank Councilman Perri for looking in to, and addressing her concerns regarding signage on St. James Place.

Councilman Perri replied, you're welcome, adding there was another issue we were looking at for a mark out for another sign, and another that was part of another project that was ongoing.

Nunzie Cupo, 104 Cara Court (speaking via Zoom) echoed what Angela Borini said, and was appreciative of the passion and excitement. He had a 20-year-old that went through the sports systems and now has a 7-year-old. He offered to volunteer his services for whatever was needed. He had a lot of people in the community that he knew would also support. Kids were our future. He noted that he was at church every week with the Mayor, at St. Gianna. He wanted the park to be clean and safe for our community. He was happy we were having the parade again. He thanked Council and the residents for their support. He was a Veteran. He supported all of Council's efforts.

Joan Brennan (speaking via Zoom) said she was going to ask a question but Councilman Notaro had responded via text.

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

RESOLUTIONS

Council President Polistina 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

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 18, 2021**

treated as a separate matter. Any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds.”

On a motion of Councilman Perri, second of Councilman Notaro, all members present were in favor of voting by consent agenda for Resolutions 99-2021 through 101-2021.

99-2021 A Resolution to Cancel Grant Balances
100-2021 Authorizing Refunds of Overpayment of Taxes
101-2021 A Resolution Approving the Application for the Project known as “Recreation Improvements at Birch Grove Park” for the FY 2021 Local Recreation Improvement Grant (LRIG)

Councilman Perri motioned, second of Councilman Notaro, to adopt the consent agenda for Resolutions 99-2021 through 101-2021.

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.

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$438,806.99

Councilman Notaro motioned, Councilwoman Madden 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 Utts read the meeting notices.

Council President Polistina reiterated the Memorial Day Ceremony details, he would be out of town but wished he could be there.

At 7:51pm, on motion of Councilman Notaro, seconded by Councilman Dewees, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk