

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 26, 2012**

At 7:35 pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was properly advertised according to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

The flag salute was led by Mayor Vincent Mazzeo. Following the flag salute a moment of silence was observed

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mrs. Brown, Mr. Dewees, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Perri, Mr. Polistina, Mr. Carew  
Absent: Mr. Vain

Mayor Vince Mazzeo, CFO Dawn Stollenwerk, City Solicitor Keith Bonchi, and City Engineer Matt Doran were also in attendance.

Council President Carew introduced Rosemary O'Dowd from the City of Northfield Cultural Committee.

**PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES**

**NORTHFIELD'S FIRST BABY, SCARLETT KHALEESI TOWE**

O'Dowd introduced Northfield's 1<sup>st</sup> Baby, Scarlett Khaleesi Towe, born January 1<sup>st</sup> weighing 8 pounds, to proud parents James and Amanda Towe, both of whom graduated from Mainland and lived in Northfield most of their lives. O'Dowd presented gifts and a certificate from the Cultural Committee. Mayor Mazzeo presented a certificate from the Mayor and Council, thanked the Towe family for making Northfield their home, and congratulated them on the birth of their beautiful baby

**MISS 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY, JADE MACCINI**

O'Dowd introduced Jade Maccini, Miss 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2012, as a special young lady and a Junior at Mainland Regional. She is an active member of Tri-M Music Honor Society, sings at nursing homes, for children and more. Maccini is a member of the National Honor Society, and engages in many volunteer efforts and activities. She also earned a place this year in the All State Mixed Choir. She congratulated Maccini for her accomplishments and pinned her sash and crown.

Mayor Mazzeo praised her vocal talents and said he has known Jade Maccini for many years; he is very proud to have her represent Northfield.

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**CITIZEN OF THE YEAR, JOAN GRIST**

O'Dowd introduced Joan Grist as a 22-year Crossing Guard who is representing all Crossing Guards in her capacity as 2012 Citizen of the Year. Grist is married to Bob Grist, and has three grown children, seven grandchildren. O'Dowd thanked Grist and all Crossing Guards for caring for and protecting our children.

Mayor Mazzeo thanked Grist and presented her with a certificate; O'Dowd presented Grist with a plaque and offered congratulations.

Mazzeo also thanked the Cultural Committee and Mrs. O'Dowd on behalf of the City, for their presentation of these annual awards.

**VETERAN HONOREE FOR THE MONTH OF JULY**

Councilman Polistina introduced Veteran of the Month Honoree, Jim Dickinson, Jr. Dickinson graduated from MRHS in 1965, joined the US Army in May of 1966, and completed basic training at Ft Dix, New Jersey. He was sent to school at Ft Eustis, Virginia, as a transportation manager. He was sent to Vietnam in November 1966 on a troop ship, USS Polk. He served two tours in Vietnam at HQ Company, and returned stateside and was honorably discharged in May 1969.

Polistina and Mayor Mazzeo congratulated Dickinson and presented him with a Certification of Appreciation; Dickinson said he appreciates it and that it was an honor to serve.

At 7:48pm, Carew announced a 10 minute recess; the meeting was resumed at 7:59pm.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

Council President Carew reviewed the agenda.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Motion was made by Councilman Perri, second by Councilwoman Brown to dispense with the reading of the minutes of March 27, 2012 and April 24, 2012. They have been posted, distributed to Council and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Roll call: Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O'Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Vain –absent; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Perri attended the NCS graduation, it was a wonderful night and an honor to be there and present the academic award. He congratulated all graduates from NCS and MRHS. Perri attended the Seniors Fishing tournament and said it was well run and well attended. He thanked all involved. There will be another Senior event in July, with details forthcoming.

Councilman O'Neill also attended the MRHS graduation. There was a dedication of a plaque for the four students who died last year. O'Neill said he is looking to change the City's IT contract to go month to month; it will include blocks of time, will be local company and will save money. He is also looking into eliminating some phone lines to save money. He said more information will follow.

Councilman Polistina announced upcoming Library events and said that ten interested parties have picked up EMS RFP's; they are due July 10<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Perri asked about the Fire Manual; Polistina explained that the City Clerk's copy has disappeared. Perri referred to EMS billing and provided examples of actual bills. He said costs have increased over \$300 in 3 years and that increases are supposed to be approved by Linwood. Polistina responded that he would find out if they were.

Councilman Dewees said Public Works will re-mulch the 1stStreet Playground, and will be cleaning out storm basins in the next week or so. It will take 3-4 months to complete. He invited all residents out to upcoming tournament play for youth baseball and softball.

Councilwoman Brown said the July 10<sup>th</sup> Economic Development Commission meeting will be postponed. She said both graduations were great, and announced that the NCS principal has resigned. She announced the new officers for NCS PTO and stated that the NCS now includes 8th grade graduates in their camp program. The Kindergarten will be getting a new green top, which will now be blue. The next Board of Education meeting will be July 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Municipal Court Deputy has resigned and we are looking to hire a replacement; we will be hiring a part time Violations Clerk tonight. The Judge has resigned and a temporary Judge will be here this week. The remainder of the Judge's term will be Linwood's appointment. Brown said the Court office should be complete within 30 days. She also said she would like to suggest adopting Robert's Rules of Order for Council procedure going forward.

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**COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Council President offered thanks in advance for everyone who will work on the July 4th festivities, and announced that the Babe Ruth A are the Atlantic County Champions.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Mazzeo said the Memorial Day parade and ceremony were well attended; he thanked Bill Coulter and everyone who participated. In the beginning of June, groups of 3rd graders visited City Hall over two days. He thanked all who participated. He also attended the 8th grade graduation and gave his annual address. He said he wishes outgoing principal Caiafa well, and the new principal also. The MRHS class of 2012 had a tough start and he thanked the school administration for holding the class together and the kids for finishing on a high note. Mazzeo said Patrolman Bach was named top cop for DWI arrests, and offered his congratulations. He referred to the lease purchase of police vehicles on the agenda this evening, adding that they are much needed at this time. The new time and attendance software will centralize time records and reduce paperwork, and will hopefully include time clocks in the future. Mazzeo said Captain Faden has announced his retirement, and that he will begin terminal leave in September, with an effective date of April 2013. He thanked Faden for his service to our community. Mazzeo read the Police Department report for May and stated that all resolutions of Council are now available on the City website in addition to the meeting agenda.

Councilman Perri mentioned gangs of motorcycles going through town, terrorizing neighborhoods and engaging in illegal activity. Chief James responded, and said he believes the activity is coming through Pleasantville. James explained the restrictions of pursuing/chasing vehicles but added that officers are encouraged to get close enough to video the vehicles.

Council President Carew mentioned staffing in the City Clerks' office, and said he wants to pursue putting a full time Deputy Clerk in that office. It is necessary due to the work load. Mayor Mazzeo spoke, and suggested that personnel issues be handled in the Clerk's office, which may be possible with full time help. Councilman Perri asked how it would be funded; CFO Stollenwerk explained that the money is in the budget, with the part time person's salary and the full salary from the CFO's office. O'Neill inquired about a budget shortfall; Stollenwerk replied that none is anticipated. Perri asked about the Deputy's credentials. The Municipal Clerk replied that the person would not have to have an RMC license, but would have the Clerk's statutory authority. Councilwoman Brown explained that Northfield is one of four

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towns without a Deputy, and the other towns are much smaller. Carew stated that he looking to move forward with a full time Deputy.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT**

The City Engineer’s report was provided to Mayor and Council and is on file in the Municipal Clerk’s office. Updates were as follows: Doran referred to the projects on the agenda for award this evening. He also said that Roosevelt and Davis is 90 % complete, and the Broad Street paving is 50% complete. He hopes to award at least one in July. Councilwoman Brown asked about Seminole; Solicitor Bonchi explained the bid protest. Councilman O’Neill requested the scope for Resolution 92-2012; Doran replied approximately \$400-\$450,000. Mayor Mazzeo asked about the small wind energy systems fee in the Land Use ordinance; Doran replied that it would go in the fee ordinance.

**RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion of Councilman Polistina, second of Councilman Dewees, all in favor of voting by consent agenda on Resolutions 90-2012 through 98-2012, Resolutions 100-2012 through 101-2012, and Resolutions 103-2012 through 111-2012.

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>90-2012</b>  | Authorization for a Lease-Purchase Agreement for Three Fully Equipped Police Cars  |
| <b>91-2012</b>  | Award of Contract for the Replacement of Valves at the Oak Avenue Sanitary Sewer Pump Station                            |
| <b>92-2012</b>  | Authorization for the Municipal Engineer to Proceed - Drainage Improvements at Roosevelt Avenue                          |
| <b>93-2012</b>  | Authorization for Renewal of Liquor License for LGM Enterprises  |
| <b>94-2012</b>  | Authorization for Renewal of Liquor License for Northfield Liquors, LLC  |
| <b>95-2012</b>  | Governing Body Certification of the Annual Audit   |
| <b>96-2012</b>  | Refunds of Overpayment of Taxes - Various  |
| <b>97-2012</b>  | Reappointment of Municipal Clerk   |
| <b>98-2012</b>  | Approval of Bid Specifications for the Purchase of a Backhoe   |
| <b>100-2012</b> | Authorization for the Northfield Fire Department to Apply for and Obtain a Grant from New Jersey American Water          |
| <b>101-2012</b> | Authorization to Create Liens for Property Maintenance Performed by the City of Northfield - Various                     |
| <b>103-2012</b> | Inserting an Item of Revenue in the 2012 Budget – Cops in Shops Grant  |
| <b>104-2012</b> | Inserting an Item of Revenue in the 2012 Budget - Municipal Court Alcohol Education, Rehabilitation and Enforcement Fund |

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- 105-2012** Accepting the Resignation of the Deputy Court Administrator
- 106-2012** A Resolution Extending the Agreement Between the City of Northfield and the City of Linwood to Share a Police Chief/Share Police Chief Services for a Period of One Year
- 107-2012** Authorization for the Northfield Police Department To Apply For And Obtain A Grant From The Atlantic County Office Of Highway Safety
- 108-2012** To Hire a Part Time Violations Clerk for Shared Municipal Court
- 109-2012** Affirmation Of Bid Protest And Award Of Contract For The Project Known As Drainage Improvements At Leeds Avenue And Revere Avenue In The City Of Northfield
- 110-2012** Renewal of Liquor license Atlantic City Country Club 1 LLC
- 111-2012** A Resolution Providing For An Executive Session Not Open To The Public In Accordance With The Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12B(4), Regarding Contract Negotiations For The Northfield Fire Department

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded to adopt the consent agenda for Resolutions 90-2012 through 98-2012, Resolutions 100-2012 through 101-2012, and Resolutions 103-2012 through 111-2012.

Solicitor Bonchi advised that Resolution 111-2012 authorized an Executive Session which would be held at the end of the regular meeting.

Councilman Perri stated that he would be voting on Resolution 95-2012 under protest; if the City gets time clocks he will vote on the audit.

Roll call: Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Vain – absent; Mr. Carew – yes.

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Resolution 99-2012.

- 99-2012** Authorization for Continued Participation in the Community Development Block Grant Program

At Councilwoman Brown’s request, Council President Carew explained that the County is the qualifying agency for CDBG; we apply for and receive monies via CDBG funds.

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Roll call: Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Vain – absent; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Resolution 102-2012.

**102-2012** A Municipal Resolution Authorizing the Conduct of a Legislative Inquiry and Investigation into Emergency Medical Services by an Ad Hoc Committee of City Council of the City of Northfield

Mayor Mazzeo asked Councilman O’Neill what he is looking for; O’Neill said the Committee will consult with Mayor and study all issues, look at ways to improve communication, explore how pricing increased so much, and look at billing records to ensure citizens were appropriately charged. O’Neill anticipates there will be two or three meetings, maximum.

Mazzeo suggested Councilwoman Brown as the Chair for the Committee.

Roll call: Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – no; Mr. Vain – absent; Mr. Carew – no. Motion carries.

**ORDINANCES**

Councilman O’Neill motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded to introduce Ordinance 7-2012, to be read by title only.

**7-2012** Amending Chapter 194 of the Municipal Code of the City of Northfield Entitled Games of Chance  
*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press June 30, 2012  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption July 24, 2012*

The Municipal Clerk read the ordinance by title, and announced the publication, public hearing and final adoption dates. Full copies of the ordinance are posted in the lobby of City Hall and are available on the Municipal website.

Roll call: Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Vain – absent; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for introduction of Ordinance 7-2012.

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Councilman Polistina motioned, Councilwoman Brown seconded to introduce Ordinance 8-2012, to be read by title only.

**8-2012**      An Ordinance Amending the Municipal Code of the City of Northfield to Establish the Position of Purchasing Agent  
*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press June 30, 2012  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption July 24, 2012*

The Municipal Clerk read the ordinance by title, and announced the publication, public hearing and final adoption dates. Full copies of the ordinance are posted in the lobby of City Hall and are available on the Municipal website.

Roll call: Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Vain – absent; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for introduction of Ordinance 8-2012.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, for payment of bills in the amount of \$ 499,318.29.

Councilman Perri inquired about Labor Counsel bills and the Auditors fees; Carew clarified that they relate to the Fire Contract negotiations. CFO Stollenwerk replied that the final payment of the 2011 audit is on the bills list. Perri also inquired about payment to Richard Gerber and \$14,000 for fields; Carew stated the Gerber payment is the Allsports policy. CFO Stollenwerk will provide Perri with the capital ordinance number for the fields.

Roll call: Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Dewees – yes; Mr. O’Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Mr. Vain – absent; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for payment of bills.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Council President Carew opened this meeting to the public and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak.

Robert Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, complimented Kiely Construction for the neat road work, and wanted to know why Atlanticare can't be charged with fraud.

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Dennis Mahon, 7 Twelve Oaks Court, cited several local officials who said the Open Public Meetings Act does not govern the conduct of meetings, specifically motions. Solicitor Bonchi explained that his research was based on the opinion of an expert in the field, Michael Pane. Councilman Perri stated that NJSA 40A: 61-5 and 6 governs Council, and suggested adopting Roberts Rules of Order.

Harry Ann Burnstein, 4 North Plaza Place, Atlantic City, said she was an applicant for the part time position. She urged Council to consider a part time position in the Clerks' office and consider her resume.

Lynn Perri, 7 Haddon Avenue, said she is confused why the Master Plan allows one end of Shore Road to do something but not another and said she does not understand why Mr. Perri would have a conflict in voting on the Land Use Ordinance, or why the Atlanticare issue is not being pursued.

At 9:21pm, Councilman Perri announced that he would be removing himself to speak as a member of the public.

Frank Perri, 7 Haddon Avenue, said he is owner of 517 Shore Road and that he has aired concerns at three public Planning Board meetings. He said the Master Plan intends to maintain the residential character of Shore Road. He has utmost respect for the Planning Board but has a problem with selective changes being made on Shore Road. He suggested that these zones be office professional with no medical.

Craig Tanzola, 10 Magnolia Court, suggested taking the medical use out of zoning changes. He said the flashing lights at Mill and Burton 'half work'. His wife was in a car accident at his development and Mill Road; the cars don't stop.

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

Councilwoman Brown read the meeting notices, including the addition of a July 10<sup>th</sup>, 5pm Special Meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION OF COUNCIL**

The resolution was adopted earlier in the evening.

**111-2012**      A Resolution Providing For An Executive Session Not Open To The Public In Accordance With The Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12B(4), Regarding Contract Negotiations For The Northfield Fire Department

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The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title and said she would defer to the Solicitor for an explanation of the subject matter to be discussed and the amount of time which could be expected to elapse before the minutes of the non-public session could be released.

Solicitor Bonchi stated that this session would be convened to provide an update to Council on contract negotiations. Information regarding strategy will not be released. There will be no note tonight but any vote in the future will be made in public.

At 9:37pm, Council left the dais and entered the City Clerk's Office; Solicitor Bonchi was also in attendance. At 10:05pm, the closed session was adjourned and the regular meeting of Council resumed. Bonchi announced a summary for the record as follows: Council has just come out of a closed session. The Mayor and Councilman Polistina provided a report and an update on the position of the City and of the Union. No action was taken. There will be another meeting in the future.

At 10:05pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk