

CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
JULY 14, 2020

At 6:00pm this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 11, 2020 and on July 10, 2020, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), this meeting will be live-streamed using Zoom conferencing service and the public is restricted from attending in-person. To join Zoom Meeting Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81098527732> ; Meeting ID: 810 9852 7732; One tap mobile +16465588656,81098527732# US (New York) +13017158592,,81098527732# US (Germantown) Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) 1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) Meeting ID: 810 9852 7732

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

Clerk Canesi read the following statement:

“Since March 24, 2020, Northfield City Council continues to provide access to and participation at its meetings during the Covid-19 pandemic through the use of Zoom video-conferencing and in accordance with the Governor’s Executive Orders and the Open Public Meetings Act. 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 can access Zoom have been made available on the municipal website and FB pages, and were published in the Press of Atlantic City.

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.

When the time comes for public comment, a specific announcement will be made; one by one, any telephone users will be asked to identify themselves and will be unmuted to permit commentary. Web-browser attendees may ask questions or make comments via the ‘chat’ function at the designated time. Please note that comments made via the chat function will not be acknowledged until the public comment portion of the meeting begins, at which time they will be read aloud into the record.”

ROLL CALL

Present (in person): Councilman Dewees; Councilwoman Korngut, Councilwoman Madden, Councilman O’Neill; Councilman Smith; Councilman Utts; Council President Perri; Mayor Chau

Solicitor Stein and Engineer Nassar were also in attendance.

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Council President Perri welcomed everyone including those livestreaming on Zoom. He thanked everyone on the front lines for their efforts and for keeping us safe. Everyone should observe the six-foot distancing and mask requirements.

Council President Perri then moved to old business.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – OLD BUSINESS

- Radio Tower, Rear of City Hall– *Update if applicable from Council President Perri*

Council President Perri asked Clerk Canesi to respond in regard to correspondence received.

Clerk Canesi reported that the gentleman who sent the most recent inquiry wants us to hire him before he engages with us. We may be better off, once we are able to open the public, to have the first gentleman come in; he was willing to talk to us without any sort of fee or agreement.

Council President Perri would reach out to the original vendor and try to set something up.

- Proposed Dog Park – *Update if applicable from Councilwoman Korngut*

Councilwoman Korngut was not able to attend the Planning Board meeting but she would next month and will report back.

Council President Perri moved to new business.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS

- Standing Item – New Grant Opportunities

Council President Perri asked if there were any new grant opportunities. Seeing none he moved to the bid results.

- Bid Results – City Hall / Library Paving Project – *Req by Engineer Nassar*

Engineer Nassar spoke regarding the bid opening, we received two bids, there was a big disparity in the numbers particularly with the handicapped door. He felt we were not able to get many bids because of it being combined, he recommended separating the door and paving into two separate bids; paving and then ADA separately.

- Property for Sale by Atlantic City Electric – *Req by Mayor Chau*

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Mayor Chau noted that all should have received information; Atlantic City Electric had notified Mayor Chau that they were selling the property and while they do have a potential buyer, ACE would like to know if the city is interested. The property is located on Wabash Avenue by the bike path.

Councilman O'Neill asked for the lot size.

Mayor Chau read the dimensions; the lot was sizable.

Councilman Dewees asked if the land was clean? If Atlantic City Electric owned it, it may have generated energy. We would need assurances of clear title and that it was clean.

Councilman Smith asked what the market value was.

Council President Perri assumed it would go to auction to highest bidder; if we purchase it, we lose the ratable. If someone developed it, they could put one home, or subdivide it for multiple homes.

Councilman Dewees felt we could put a walking park there or possibly recreation for seniors. He felt the property had some interest to us, but we need assurance.

Clerk Canesi advised Council that Zoom participants can't hear them.

Council President Perri felt the bike path in that area was sufficient; we have enough open space. If you put a park next to someone's house, there will be noise, with events, etc. We have the right as a municipality to make it a park under zoning laws.

Councilman O'Neill would be interested in acquiring the property.

Engineer Nassar explained that subdividing would depend on how many units you can get out of it. It would have to be clean, it would most likely be the buyer to do the studies. There are several aspects the Council should look at before entertaining buying it or not.

Council President Perri asked for confirmation that Council wanted to pursue purchasing.

Councilman Smith asked if Atlantic Electric gave us a timeframe?

Councilman Dewees suggested we ask them to give us an environmental impact study.

Mayor Chau felt we needed questions resolved.

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Council President Perri confirmed that Engineer Nassar could reach out to Atlantic Electric for the environmental request.

Engineer Nassar replied that he would speak with Mr. Mosca, and look at the property, he would report back to the Council next month.

Council President Perri noted that the appraised price was \$180,000.00.

Councilwoman Korngut asked who did the appraisal? David Neyers?

Council President Perri replied yes.

Council President Perri moved to an offer to donate private land to the City.

- Offer to Donate Private Property to the City – *Req by Councilman Smith*

Councilman Smith advised Bakersville Investment Group LLC, at 301 Shore Road, sent him information on the 73x100 vacant lot on Dolphin and Shore Road. They were looking to donate the parcel to the City. The current taxes are \$1,871.

Councilman Dewees believed there was a house there, and we'd need to know if there was an oil tank. We'd need to survey this property as well. Maybe we could add to the COAH plan, or sell a chunk of land to the County for a possible turning lane onto Shore Road, south.

Clerk Canesi shared that since the lot was undersize, we would need Planning Board approval for COAH development.

Council President Perri believed it would be preexisting nonconforming since there was already a house there.

Clerk Canesi noted that Zoning advised her that since the structure was removed it would need to go back before the board.

Councilman Smith will follow up and report at next meeting.

- Resolution to Expand Outdoor Dining – *Req by Council President Perri*

Regarding outdoor dining, Council President said he had asked Solicitor Stein to research what other towns were doing; he'd had complaints from restaurants. The Governor's orders do permit this. There had been a lot of back and forth research with different departments. These businesses need help.

Councilman Dewees was all for helping businesses, he was still concerned with people moving through parking lots. He felt the Engineer should be involved and

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work with the Zoning Officer to approve these plans. The Engineer had more traffic experience than any one of us will ever have.

Solicitor Stein did not include the Engineer in the process because there is no fee charged, and the Engineer is not an employee; he was looking at it from a financial perspective.

Councilman Dewees felt that it was a lot to put on the Zoning Officer.

Solicitor Stein stated there would be a cost if the Engineer was involved, and it is not borne by the business. He could add the Engineer's approval.

Councilwoman Korngut asked if this was consistent with what the governor was proposing?

Solicitor Stein explained what was in the Executive Order; it was permitted.

Council President Perri read from the Executive Order directly.

Councilman Dewees emphasized public safety; he felt engineering was important.

Council President Perri noted that we can only charge a fee if set forth in an ordinance. This is temporary and can be rescinded.

Councilman Dewees asked what guidelines does the Zoning Officer use to approve these.

Solicitor Stein replied, the same as everyone else uses.

Clerk Canesi asked those speaking to identify themselves for the zoom viewers.

Councilman O'Neill reiterated that businesses were hurting, Somers Point had done a nice job. Zoning Officer Dattalo should use his discretion.

Clerk Canesi pointed all to a document she sent earlier where the Zoning Official had very specifically asked for criteria.

Council President Perri replied it was in the Resolution.

Clerk Canesi noted that it was not, Somers Point's Resolution had a list, ours repeatedly says it's at the discretion of the Zoning Official, he had already denied certain things at his discretion. He needs to know what is safe, he is also asking that the owner of the parking lot has to consent, and should provide insurance.

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Councilman Dewees added that Somers Point had an Engineer look at all of their plans.

Council President Perri felt we needed to reasonably accommodate these businesses, he did not think it would be a major expense, we are only talking about 3-4 businesses.

Councilman O'Neill suggested coming up with an idea at the break and share it.

Councilman Smith noticed that in the Somers Point Resolution they also had the Chief of Police involved. He agreed with Councilman Dewees that having the Engineer involved was reasonable request. Also felt that adding the Chief of Police was not a bad idea in terms of safety.

Council President Perri was not sure about the Chief's authority on private property; whatever it takes, he was all for it.

Councilman Dewees felt we were all in agreement, the common theme was safety.

Councilwoman Korngut agreed with Councilman Dewees, and with the recommendation that we get the Engineer's input, and provide the Zoning Official the clarification they need to get the businesses up and running.

Solicitor Stein added that the OEM Coordinator just suggested that Police and Fire become involved. Things the he left out of Somers Point's Resolution involved bars, he left that out intentionally. Somers Point's Chief of Police was only involved if it is a bar, because of ABC.

Councilwoman Korngut was willing to have a Special Meeting, we didn't need to decide the details tonight.

Councilman O'Neill felt it could be worked out during the break,

Mayor Chau added that he had conversations with the Zoning Officer; we need to be consistent, and many towns worked on this for some time. There were many concerns, including those related to fire zones with some of these businesses. Where were they going to put outdoor seating? Adequate lighting was a concern; many want service at night but lighting had not been addressed. He agreed that many towns had outdoor seating, but we may not be exactly the same. We had businesses in strip malls. Some have property across the street from the main businesses. Our zoning personnel is not trained and needs guidance. He wanted to get this done as soon as possible, like Council O'Neill said. We need to do something, but we must do it with consistency and safety in mind. He felt we could make recommendations tonight.

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Council President Perri responded that maybe we needed to hire someone privately to handle it, if the Zoning Officer can't handle it. Maybe we could hire someone else's subcode official.

Solicitor Stein read the guidance as to how it should be judged, according to the Somers Point Resolution, Somers Point's Resolution does not require insurance. He argued that the parking lot owner did not need to provide insurance. If a property owner had to provide insurance it would discourage this. He felt the landlord's insurance was not necessary.

Councilwoman Korngut asked engineer to comment.

Engineer Nassar questioned item A, he suggested language to relate the number of tables to available parking.

Solicitor Stein disagreed.

Engineer Nassar felt pushing parking onto side streets would create a dangerous situation. We are approving it; it could create a liability.

Solicitor Stein disagreed that approval created liability.

Discussion ensued between Solicitor Stein and Engineer Nassar.

Mayor Chau to Solicitor Stein: in your review with Somers Point, who did they utilize to develop their criteria and parameters?

Solicitor Stein replied there are no criteria or parameters. We can't have a one size fits all.

Council President Perri suggested hours of operation of 6am-10pm.

Councilman Dewees asked are there any barriers required?

Engineer Nassar felt that should be addressed on a case by case basis depending on the location.

Solicitor Stein would create a new draft for consideration this evening.

Council President Perri deferred to Councilman Smith for the Resolution in support of law enforcement.

- Resolution in Support of Law Enforcement - *Req by Councilman Smith*

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Councilman Smith thought we all can agree the City is a phenomenal place to live, and felt we are well served by our public safety personnel, we are all aware of what is going on in the world, he felt it was worthy of giving something to our law enforcement personnel to let them know that we were behind them as a town, as a community, as a Council. He had looked at statistics, he was encouraged by the law enforcement in our town, not that things can't always be better, but he believed it was incumbent upon us to elucidate our support. He had lived in Northfield for 45 of his 50 years. He had friends and neighbors who serve. Morale is down. He felt they deserve to have the knowledge that we support them.

Councilman O'Neill thanked Councilman Smith. He implored all to put this Resolution on the agenda this evening.

Councilwoman Korngut replied that there was a lot she prepared to say, a lot she didn't want to say, she wanted to protect our citizens, police and our Council. She didn't want to embarrass anyone. She suggested at this time that we table this and give her and anyone else an opportunity to meet with the Chief and the Police Department and work on something, a joint Resolution or joint statement; if that was not successful there was the next Council Meeting. She knew people were excited to speak on this issue. Perhaps we could iron out a few things and come out as a united front, which we are, we are all on the same side. She would like the opportunity to prove that by having a meeting without having to get into it here, this evening.

Councilman O'Neill replied that this information was released. Anyone had the opportunity to put a Resolution on the agenda. It was not controversial; he would like to see it on the agenda tonight.

Councilman Utts also thanked Councilman Smith for drafting the Resolution. He did share Councilwoman Korngut's concerns with the need to revisit public safety in our Country, but we had not seen that here. In this time of bad publicity, to remind our Police Department that we appreciate and value them does not go against the need to look at systemic issues as a whole.

Council President Perri pointed out that the Resolution incorporates other entities about whom Council President Perri did not know their operations, internal affairs records, etc.; he had no problem supporting Northfield. As stated at the last meeting he supports our Police Department and did not need a Resolution to do that, but had no problem if the Resolution was just in regard to the Northfield Police Department.

Councilman Utts spoke; he said knowing Sheriff Eric Scheffler, and what he'd done, he did have confidence in the Sheriff's Department. He did not know the State Police, but did know they were one of the most respected in the Country. He was willing to include the State Police and Sheriff's Department.

Councilman Dewees also supported it on the agenda.

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Councilwoman Madden felt that Council President Perri made good points. She suggested she and Councilwoman Korngut could work together on something to incorporate all. To Councilman Smith, she asked did he author this?

Councilman Smith explained that while he borrowed some of the language from other towns, yes.

Councilwoman Madden felt we should table the Resolution and do more research.

Councilman O'Neill replied we've had four days to consider, a simple no or abstain would do. Something can be added in the future.

Councilwoman Korngut asked the downside of having a meeting with the Police, to diffuse tensions and let everyone know Northfield was a welcoming community. If this happened tonight, there would be things she says that people would not be happy with.

Councilman Utts replied the two were not mutually exclusive, he agreed that there were issues that need to be addressed, whether it's this department, the county or the state. We talked last week about a task force. This was just that we support our law enforcement.

Councilman O'Neill added that everyone had since the last meeting to put something together. He did not see the need to meet with Police Department to vote on this.

Council President Perri had no problem just including Northfield.

Councilman O'Neill shared a conversation he'd had with Council President Perri earlier today. We could always do the Sheriff's Department or State in the future. He asked the opinion of others in just including Northfield in the Resolution.

Councilman Smith had no problem just including Northfield, he was only trying to support all who have jurisdiction in our town. He was willing at this point to just list Northfield if it would move it along.

Councilman Dewees agreed.

Councilwoman Korngut explained that the way we got here, was at the last Council meeting, Councilwoman Korngut was going to draft a statement, even if it was something simple as condemning the murder of George Floyd. She read the following statement she'd prepared, into the record:

“The City of Northfield condemns the murder of George Floyd. We mourn with the black community and all who seek to hold America to its highest ideals. Racism will

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not be tolerated in any aspect of our government or our community. As always, our Police Chief Newman is committed to holding our entire police department to the highest of standards. To that end, we are working with City Council now to ensure that we are doing all we can for the safety and wellbeing of our residents and those who visit our town. While it is true that recent events have forced us to acknowledge and confront individual systemic and institutional racism in this country, Northfield's commitment will remain. I would like to personally thank everyone for their passion and commitment to make Northfield the best that we could be."

Subsequently, Councilwoman Korngut said she'd received an email from Mayor Chau that he'd consulted with the Chief of Police and the Union President, and he decided not to put anything up. Now we sit here with a Resolution to give our Police Officers a pat on the back. They work very hard, tonight could not have been better to her. There was no one here that did not support the police. They get supported every two weeks when they get a check from the taxpayers. At the last Council meeting she shared that numerous black people have shared with her that they are afraid to drive through Northfield and Linwood. Northfield had the opportunity to meet the moment. Northfield is leading from behind by choosing to make a statement that our officers' morale is low. She stated that Chief Newman told a blatant lie to the Council and she covered for him. He said she voted against body cams, which was not true, there were no repercussions because she did not say a word. She thanked Mayor Chau for his statement on the website, she thanked Mayor Chau for contacting her. She had covered for the Police when they don't do their jobs, she went to chief Newman because she didn't want to embarrass them in front of Council. The fact that she is getting anything other than gratitude is outrageous. The experiences of the all-white Council with our police department could not be less relevant. The whole point is that our town is not welcoming. After her statement at the last meeting no one came to her and asked what we can do better about black people being afraid to drive through our town. Putting a Resolution on the agenda to give them a pat on the back is so contrary with what is going on in our country. People define racism as meaning you are a bad person; this is not true.

Council President Perri, to Councilwoman Korngut, you made a statement that people are afraid to come through this town, no one had come forward.

Councilwoman Korngut responded that six people at the Brigantine march approached her to share their stories, but they were all afraid to come here to share the stories. She shared a story of how a white female was pulled over without incident but when her black husband approached, the officer drew his gun and her husband was on his knees. She urged all to come to the events she attends. She has no incentive to come here and lie.

Councilman Dewees asked if we had any data with traffic stops?

Mayor Chau replied, yes, we do.

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Councilman Dewees asked if we had data to determine if Northfield was racially profiling?

Mayor Chau replied that the Chief had done the research and Mayor Chau's response was no. He was not saying that there hadn't been, but has not received any comment or complaint during his tenure as Mayor.

Councilwoman Korngut read a statistic from force.nj.com about more black people being the subject of force than are in the black population of Northfield.

Councilman O'Neill reiterated that we should vote tonight.

Councilwoman Madden agreed that the Resolution was broad; was there any reason we had to push this through, as opposed to coming together to create a unified document that was not offensive or insensitive to people in the community? Why do we have to do this now?

Councilman O'Neill replied because we are an elected body, we have five that have agreed to vote if we make the change to include Northfield only.

Councilman Utts reminded all that at the last meeting it was decided that Councilwoman Korngut would draft a Resolution to create a county task force, he was sorry that Resolution was not here, but reiterated that the issues are not mutually exclusive. Trying to include all opinions in one document would be a muddled mess. He felt Councilwoman Korngut's claims bear investigation.

Council President Perri would entertain a voice vote to add this Resolution as 122-2020, as amended.

Clerk Canesi advised that the Resolution would have to be read in full because it was not on the published agenda.

Council President Perri called a voice-vote, with a result of five members of Council in favor, and with Councilwoman Korngut and Councilwoman Madden opposed.

Seeing no other new business, Council President Perri asked all to take out their agendas.

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Council President Perri reviewed the Regular Meeting agenda and made the assignments.

Councilwoman Korngut asked that Resolution 122-2020 be voted on separately.

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PUBLIC SESSION/ FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Perri opened this portion of the meeting for any member of the public to speak on any topic; he noted a five-minute limit per speaker. He wanted to be clear that any comments made on social media by a Councilperson were not the opinions of City Council; statements were not part of the government.

By means of typing in the Zoom Chat, Clerk Canesi advised participants that the public comment portion of the meeting was now open. She asked that the public please state your name and address and said engagement will be limited to 5 minutes per speaker.

Via Zoom Chat – “my name is Terry Benjamin 315 Jackson ave I would like to ask in light of the social unrest in the death of George Floyd I don’t understand why the yes we as a city have not made a statement”

Council President Perri replied that he did make a statement in the Minutes recognizing what happened, we chose to have Ms Korngut put something out, county wide or through a task force. The Mayor was here, he can speak on behalf of what was decided at the last meeting.

Mayor Chau said he had received a statement, and consulted and showed Chief Newman and other parties. He felt at the time it would be the best interest of everyone, that he, Mayor Chau, make another statement. He chose to write a letter to Chief Newman and the Police Department. He would submit that anyone can submit their own Resolution as Councilman Smith did. He would read the letter he submitted to Chief Newman, the Police Department and personnel in his report.

Councilwoman Korngut asked for clarification that any member of Council can put a statement on the website?

Mayor Chau replied that he believed so; he deferred to Council President Perri for confirmation.

Mayor Chau read the following into the record; it is a letter he wrote to Chief Newman on July 8, 2020:

“Chief Paul Newman
Northfield Police Department
1600 Shore Road
Northfield, NJ 08225

Dear Chief Newman:

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As the Mayor for the City of Northfield, I am writing to express my sincere thanks for the work and dedication that every employee of our Northfield Police Department gives to our city.

Northfield is a city that thrives on its diversity and I recognize that our city government and our Northfield Police Department continues to strive to root out hate crime and ensure that everyone, regardless of their background or identity, feels safe in our city.

I support all our Northfield police officers and our paraprofessional personnel. I recognize that all of our police officers put their lives on the line every day to protect and serve with our community. Again, you have my utmost support and respect for our police department and the work ethics and dedication for our city and citizens.

Sincerely yours,

Erland Chau, Mayor

CC: Michael Buccafurni, Local #77 Shop Steward
Northfield City Council”

Ms Benjamin – via Zoom Chat – “why we have instead addressed police. I support the police too: but thats not what I asked”

Council President Perri noted that the Minutes reflect what was discussed; he believed Council representatives did speak about it. We legislate as the business of government. We make our opinions felt and they are in print.

Councilwoman Korngut, responding to Ms Benjamin: she disagreed with Council President Perri that everyone here condemned police brutality. She felt the Mayor's statement was clear that the City was not ready to address racism that exists in the City or on Council.

Mayor Chau replied that he hears the statement from Councilwoman Korngut, he wanted someone to show evidence of racial discrimination. If it comes before him, he would deal with it, in a transparent manner. As an individual and as a servant for the City of Northfield will not tolerate racial discrimination.

Lisa Brown, 9 Haviv Drive – via Zoom Chat – “I am very proud of our police department and I hope this Council supports them and I am very proud of Brian Smith for bring forth this Resolution.”

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John Ordille, 116 Fairway Avenue – via Zoom Chat – “in most places where there is racial issues, it is offer the result of senseless ordinances passed by city councils where ever...Chicago, Baltimore, Minneapolis and yes Northfield. For example, what good can come from our police officers having to deal with trees being cut down on personal property, the ice cream vendor selling at 8:31pm, an Air BB rental etc? Michael Brown was approached by police for selling “Loosies” what is wrong with selling loosies? You showboat about racism but don’t do your job in reopening parks. Parks & Recreation on TV is more competent”

Council President Perri replied he couldn’t answer that, sorry.

Steve Barone 1005 2nd Avenue – via Zoom Chat – “when will we reopen the public playgrounds? Linwood has opened their playground as well as other local towns.”

Councilman Dewees replied; in reviewing the most recent executive order, they are having a difficult time managing the sanitizing issues.

Clerk Canesi added that Mr. Barone wanted to know why Linwood was open and we aren’t.

Councilman Dewees replied he cannot speak for Linwood.

Kirk Marks, 531 Ridgewood drive – via Zoom Chat – “I want to thank Mr Smith for his Resolution, I am a retired Law enforcement officer, and in these times it is very difficult to conduct your job without knowing that you are being supported and backed. Mrs Korngut has stated that she has been notified of complaints driving through the city. Whywhy is she not reporting those incidents with specifics. Where is the proof?”

Councilwoman Korngut responded that people came to her in confidence, and some happened more than a year ago. She did just report, and look at the response she got.

Councilman O’Neill thanked Mr. Marks for service as volunteer coach.

David Goldstein 116 Dolphin Avenue – via Zoom Chat – “1st - what is city council doing to try and fix speeding traffic problem on Dolphin avenue? For anyone who does not know the speed limit is 25 and most people drive over 40 2nd I support our law enforcement. The Mayor did try to help. The county is doing nothing and it is a travesty. Someone is going to get hurt!! Please do not give up on Dolphin avenue thank you”

Mayor Chau reported that he has had conversations with this gentleman and submitted a letter to the County to notify them of the complaint, and made some suggestions. The County’s response was there was no need. He had also spoken with Chief Newman; we are trying to address them.

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Mr. Barone – via Zoom Chat – “the governors executive order several months ago, let the decision of playgrounds and parks at the discretion of the local government”

Councilman Dewees replied that we continue to monitor the situation, the problem we are having is how to manage all of the governor’s requirements. We are just as anxious to get the parks open and people out there, we will do it in a safe and responsible manner.

Karen Nardone, 22 Wilson Drive – via Zoom Chat – “I think we NEED to help our local restaurants with outdoor dining. I know this was spoken about extensively...but we appreciate these businesses and NEED to keep them in business! Be Proactive!”

Sara Shissias, 416 Jackson Avenue – via Zoom Chat – “does everyone agree that the entire committee on the same side in regards to the police of Northfield being supported? the public morale is at an all-time low and as a community that is so small this is the time we should be working on kindness and support for our fellow human. can we get council to show how people can disagree but work out discussions as a unified whole”

Council President Perri felt we did that very well.

Mike Tierney 107 Northwood Court – via Zoom Chat – “I want to thank Mr Smith for his Resolution and the council for voting. I also would like to voice my support for Chief Newman and the Northfield PD.”

Stephen Funk, 3 Dani Drive – via Zoom Chat – “Resolution 122 was referred to as a ‘dog whistle’ during the discussion. Please expand on that. What language in the Resolution is ‘coded or suggestive’?”

Councilwoman Korngut felt what she said before speaks for itself.

Seeing no others wishing to speak, Council President Perri closed the public session.

At 8:10pm, on a motion of Councilman Dewees, seconded by Councilman Smith, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk