

CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
JULY 14, 2026

At 6:00pm this meeting was called to order by Deputy Municipal Clerk, Shannon Campbell. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 10, 2026, and in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

ROLL CALL

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

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Nassar, and Chief Pollak, were also present.

Council President Bucci introduced Mike Bongiorno.

PRESENTATION – Mike Bongiorno – Veteran Advocate

Mike Bongiorno, Egg Harbor Township – stated he was here on behalf of a new non-profit ‘Spirit of 1776’ spirit celebration. They were trying to celebrate all of South Jersey, he was visiting all municipalities. The celebration would be held in September, they were hoping to get kids involved. The event would be hosted in EHT but was not an EHT event. Several historical societies were involved, the event would be held September 18th-20th, they would be shutting down portions of Ocean Heights for 2 hours, the main event would be on September 19th. He offered the City to come set up a table to educate kids. They would be having face painters, a petting zoo, and historical characters. He was hoping to bring in a Cobra helicopter to land at Veterans Park in EHT. He stated that EHT Police Department was nervous about the Freedom 250 truck as it would attract between 10,000 to 20,000 people. He was here on behalf of his committee; he would like Northfield Police Department to help with security and traffic. He has enlisted the help of the NJ State Police.

Council President Bucci asked if he reached out to the Sheriff’s Department.

Mr. Bongiorno replied, yes, they were receptive and would help.

Councilman Smith asked were other counties helping?

Mr. Bongiorno replied would be reaching out to Burlington County and he’ll be meeting with Galloway this week.

Councilman Polistina asked what day the truck was expected?

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Mr. Bongiorno stated he would be trying to get it from 18th until the 20th until the 20th; he also asked Council to spread the word through the school.

Mayor Chau asked how many days he needed Police assistance?

Mr. Bongiorno replied, 1 day, the 19th, as there may be issue with fireworks, the Fire Department may not have enough staff.

Chief Pollak advised that EHT Chief Spano would put a plan together, Chief Spano would contact other Chiefs if he needed help, it was not our jurisdiction.

Mr. Bongiorno asked Mayor Chau for a proclamation on the 250th celebration.

Mayor Chau agreed to a proclamation.

Mr. Bongiorno explained the Freedom 250 truck and asked all to take a look online about the history of it; it takes the viewer on a virtual history of the United States.

All members present thanked Mr. Bongiorno for his time.

Before moving to committee reports, Council President Bucci reminded all members to please check their emails and to reach out to committee chairpersons, not department heads, if there was an issue in another department.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Polistina – Finance and Collections; Library; Municipal Alliance; Senior Citizens; Affordable Housing

Councilman Polistina thanked all involved in the parade, it was a wonderful event and not as hot as 2 years ago. The next Seniors meeting was scheduled for tomorrow at 10:30.

Councilman Dewees – Buildings/Grounds, Athletic Fields; Birch Grove Park, Bike Path, 1st Street Playground, Veterans Park; Public Works; Roads, Engineering; Stormwater Sewer Operations

Councilman Dewees did not have a report.

Councilwoman Kern – Inspections, Housing/Zoning; Northfield Sports (FAN); Library; Mainland Regional

Councilwoman Kern announced it had been a busy couple of weeks, she felt the City stepped up with 250th events, she thanked all involved including the Atlantic City Country Club for the fireworks. Northfield Little League was going well. The

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Coaches vs Cops softball game went well, she thanked the committee again. She felt other towns were not doing much, she was very proud that Northfield was. The Library would be celebrating their 100th Birthday in August.

Councilwoman Bucci – Insurance and Safety; Planning Board; Economic Development / Chamber of Commerce

Council President Bucci reported she has an upcoming meeting with the ACEA, Thursday, to revamp the EDC. She echoed Councilwoman Kern, Northfield had been busy with several community events, she was very happy and hoped moving forward we'd do the same. She attended the July 8th event, she thanked Joe Bunting for trophies and live broadcast, she thanked County Executive Levinson, Sheriff O'Donohue, Commissioner Byrnes and Commissioner Schenker for attending as well. She heard that Northfield Little League may try to make this an annual fundraising event. Council President Bucci reminded all to complete their cyber training if they had not done so already.

Councilman Smith - Central Municipal Court; Little League and Babe Ruth; Northfield Community School; Shared Services; Grants

Councilman Smith, regarding the 250th events, echoed the same appreciation as Councilwomen Kern and Bucci; he thanked the committee, they put in a lot of effort and it showed well for Northfield. The last event would be held on August 14th, the Grand Opening of the Disc Golf Course. He thanked Northfield Little League for their help with the July 8th events, he was unable to attend, but it looked outstanding. Regarding Northfield Community School, graduation was a success. To Chief Pollak, he asked him to reach out to Hammonton regarding a dispatch proposal, our contract with Egg Harbor Township was ending this year and Hammonton expressed interest.

Councilwoman Carfagno - Fire Department / EMS; Technology / MRHS Channel; Cultural Committee / Veteran Liaison

Councilwoman Carfagno reported the next Cultural Committee was scheduled for the 25th at park center, the committee was outgrowing meeting at the museum. Northfield's Shining Star talent show would be held in August, there were 12 spaces available, the veterans' banners are up, she has 3 ready to order, but, needs a total of 5 to place the order. She announced we would be honoring our Veterans at the August Council meeting, she thanked Deputy Clerk Campbell for sharing it on social media; each veteran would be presented with a proclamation.

Councilwoman Carfagno read the Fire and EMS report for June. She thanked members of the 250th committee and all who pitched in including the following: Mayor Chau, Hurley, Polistina, Dewees, Kern, Bucci, Smith, and Carfagno Families, County Executive Dennis Levison, Commissioners June Byrnes and Art Schenker,

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Sherriff Joe O'Donoghue and Undersheriff Mario Suarez, Sigano's Management, Library staff, Cultural Committee, Northfield Police Department, Northfield Crossing Guards, Northfield Fire Department, Northfield OEM, Northfield Public Works, Atlantic City Country Club, Northfield Mother's League, Jason Yard & Northfield Little League, Bunting Family Pharmacy, Kerry Burns, SVN Plumbing & Heating, Spectrum Rehabilitation, Tilton Market, Darrel Ingram, Martin's Potato Rolls, Dietz and Watson, Sherwin Williams, Jersey Shore Federal Credit Union, Deputy Clerk Shannon Campbell, our Fire hydrant artists – Yennifer Cahuana and Jillian Tafeen and all our residents who participated in the house decorating contest. Regarding the house decorating, there were 10 homes entered, she gave out some of the awards on July 8th; she thanked all for showing spirit.

Councilman Notaro – Sanitary Sewer Operations

Councilman Notaro also appreciated the 250th events, all did a great job. The Connolly Mile had 974 runners compared to 15 years ago when they had 200. The event was much better being a part of the City. He thanked the Fire Department, Police Department, Public Works and OEM for setting everything up and helping with clean up.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Regulations regarding Keeping of Chickens – *Councilwoman Carfagno, Councilman Notaro*

No update.

Northfield Plaza – Decorative Street Lights – *Councilman Notaro*

Councilman Notaro noted there was a teams meeting set up for tomorrow with Atlantic City Electric.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – ONGOING BUSINESS

- Changes to Road Opening Ordinance Fees – *will be adopted in 2026*

No update.

- Potential Ordinance to Restrict Parking on Zion Road between Tilton and the Bike Path

Engineer Nassar reported he sent an aerial view of the area to all via email.

Mayor Chau asked for direction.

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Council President Bucci felt Jersey Cow was very successful, she did not want them to go elsewhere. The no parking in the area was not being enforced now. She spoke with Tilton Market today, they were still having problems, Jersey Cow has agreed to put up signs to not park at Tilton Market. She suggested Council wait until we see what comes of their residential properties.

Councilman Dewees agreed Council should wait to see what comes of the residential properties.

Council President Bucci explained Jersey Cow owns a single home, next door, they came before the board to put 2 single family homes, with sidewalk and curb.

Councilwoman Kern noted that won't include parking.

Council President Bucci replied, they were previously approved for nine additional parking spaces. Making it no parking won't create parking spaces.

Councilman Notaro asked if there were any accidents, did we get a complaint?

Council President Bucci reminded him we had a resident come before Council complaining about parking.

Mayor Chau, regarding parking in the street, the resident was concerned with deterioration of her property, another resident was concerned that parking was going down the street, the Mayors concern was safety and being proactive, there have been no fatalities to date. He recalled there was a proposal for no parking before.

Councilwoman Carfagno recalled Council also talked about lights when Mrs. Thompson was here.

Council President Bucci noted Mrs. Thompson wanted light but not a street light.

Councilman Smith, regarding the Planning Board application Council President Bucci referred to, would Jersey Cow be responsible for putting in curb and sidewalk? He had driven by the area, going toward Shore Road, car doors do open, he agreed with Mayor Chau's safety concern. He would like to see the plans.

Solicitor Facenda reminded Council Zion Road is a County road, they would have input.

Councilman Polistina did not feel the shoulder was wide enough for them to park.

Engineer Nassar explained the subdivision approval would dictate where the curb and sidewalk go.

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Councilwoman Carfagno again, noted as far as lighting, she felt it was a safety concern.

Solicitor Facenda stated the when the County looked at the sub-division, they would see it.

Mayor Chau, regarding enforcement, stated we can't be everywhere, he would ask the Police Department to make an extra effort during the season, we had an obligation regarding safety.

Councilwoman Kern did not feel it was Jersey Cow's problem that people were not parking legally.

Chief Pollak questioned the alternative, if Council eliminated parking, customers would be walking further down the road, where would they go?

Councilman Notaro added, we have not had any issues in four years, it's a public street, he stated maybe it would be better after the subdivision.

Council President Bucci felt it was more dangerous to cross Tilton Road.

Councilwoman Kern recalled a resident had pictures and made a complaint.

Councilman Smith also suggested Council wait to see the plan.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS

- Appoint new Municipal Housing Liaison

Councilwoman Carfagno replied she was working on appointing a new liaison and was going to meet with CFO Bauer.

Council President Bucci moved to the regular meeting agenda.

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Council President Bucci asked all to take out their Regular Meeting agenda. Before she made any assignments, she asked were there any resolutions that anyone had questions about or would like to discuss?

There were no questions or comments.

Council President Bucci made the assignments.

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PUBLIC SESSION / FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Bucci opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to comment on any subject, she asked that all persons state their name and city of residence for the record and observe the five-minute limit per speaker.

Chief Pollak, regarding the 250th events, all of the events went well and he thanked City Council for their support. He also wished to thank Public Works, the Fire Department, OEM and the Prosecutor's Office for all of their help.

Andrew Gillman, Northfield – was here regarding a fundraiser he was planning at the football field, he previously spoke with Councilwoman Kern, he was looking for approval from the City. He asked did anyone on Council have any questions? He was getting Mainland Regional High School football players and coaches and was giving back to the community. He understood he could not have a BBQ without a permit, he would bring food in, and would not be having live music. The fundraiser was a way to give back to the community and to a local family with cancer.

Mayor Chau confirmed he would will not need access to the snack bar.

Mr. Gillman replied he used it last year for storage for water and refill trays, he can work around not using the snack bar. Mr. Gillman added that he would have the same type of insurance as Mr. Mace.

Mayor Chau asked if Mr. Gillman had the access to get the appropriate insurance.

Mr. Gillman replied, he would get the same type of insurance as Ja'briel Mace had for his clinic.

Solicitor Facenda asked Deputy Clerk Campbell how the event was approved last year?

Deputy Clerk Campbell stated the event was not approved last year. She explained that she had spoken with Mr. Gillman several times regarding his request that was on the agenda tonight, and sent him information on how to apply for the State Fire Permit as well as a raffle license. He did not ask to use the snack bar on his application.

Councilman Dewees asked exactly what they would be doing on the field, he was concerned since we have not had any rain.

Mr. Gillman explained the kids would not be wearing cleats, they would be doing a 4-yard dash, Klemic Performance would be providing a vertical jump, and skills and drills. They'll also do a few different contests.

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

At 6:51pm, on motions properly made and seconded, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Campbell, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk