

CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
July 18, 2013

At 5:34pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on July 13, 2013, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Carew, Dewees, O'Neill, Perri, Polistina, Travagline

Mayor Vince Mazzeo and City Solicitor Kris Facenda were also in attendance.

NOMINATION/S

Council President Travagline opened the meeting for discussion by Council members.

Councilman Carew asked if all nominees are seeking the nomination. Solicitor Kris Facenda replied that he has heard that Mr. Dunn has withdrawn his name. The Solicitor called Mr. Dunn forward to confirm this on the record.

Mr. Dunn confirmed that he is withdrawing his name from the list for filling the Council vacancy.

Councilman Dewees asked if the nominees were interviewed and asked about the process for that. Mr. Dennis Mahon, 17 Twelve Oaks Court, Municipal Chair of the Northfield Republican County Committee, responded and explained the process that the County Committee used to select nominees. He clarified that some were interviewed and some were not.

Councilman Dewees asked what happened with Mr. Chau. Mr. Mahon replied that Mr. Chau's name was not submitted until after the deadline.

Councilman Polistina asked for background information and noted that he would have liked it to have been provided. He further stated that he was disappointed that Mr. Dunn had withdrawn his name and dropped out, as the temporary position would be an excellent opportunity for Mr. Dunn to show voters an example of his expertise before the November election.

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Mr. Mahon offered to have each of the nominees speak. Councilman Polistina declined the offer.

Councilman Dewees stated he was disappointed the Mr. Chau was disqualified due to an error.

Councilman Carew stated he was disappointed with how the County Committee handled the process.

Council President Travagline opened the floor for nominations.

Councilman Perri stated he knows both nominees personally but not professionally.

Councilman O'Neill nominated Mr. Larry Carlson to fill the vacant Ward 1 Council seat. Council President Travagline seconded the nomination.

Council President Travagline called for any other nominations, seeing none called for a motion to close nominations. All were in favor of a motion by Councilman Perri, second of Councilman O'Neill to close the floor for nominations.

RESOLUTION

Councilman O'Neill motioned, Council President Travagline seconded, to adopt Resolution 133-2013.

133-2013 To Fill a Vacancy on Council

Solicitor Kris Facenda stated for the record that the name for consideration to fill the vacancy was Mr. Larry Carlson.

Roll call: Mr. Carew – no; Mr. Dewees –no; Mr. O'Neill – yes, Mr. Perri – abstain; Mr. Polistina – no; Mr. Travagline –yes. Motion fails.

Solicitor Kris Facenda announced that the matter now reverts to the Republican County Committee for consideration for another 15 days and they must choose from the list of two names.

Councilman Perri clarified that they can only choose from the remaining two names and asked if the person can run in November. Solicitor Facenda confirmed that they can run in November.

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PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Travagline opened this meeting to the public and asked if anyone wished to speak on any subject.

Robert Webb, 218 West Revere, stated that he feel Mr. Travagline is too inexperienced to be Council President. He also stated that Council members who say they don't take a salary really do, and donate to charities of their choice. He stated that he would like to see the money go back to the City. He said he feel the towing process is unfair and he would like to see the Northfield School Board revert to a type I School Board.

Maggie Segal, 21 Ridgewood Court, together with Marissa McDole, 7 Ridgewood Court, addressed Council to thank Councilman O'Neill for communicating with them and stated she would like to get the results of the traffic study done on her street.

Councilman Carew stated that Chief James would have that information once it is provided to Northfield by the County.

Dennis Mahon, 7 Twelve oaks Court, asked the Solicitor to clarify what happens next regarding the council vacancy. Solicitor Kris Facenda read directly from statute 40A:16-11.

Councilman Polistina asked if Mr. Dunn can change his mind. Solicitor Kris Facenda replied that he thinks that he can.

Marissa Mahon, 7 Twelve Oaks Court, stated that there is a tree on her street that is blocking traffic.

Council President Travagline, seeing no one else wishing to speak, closed the public session.

Councilman Perri read the meeting notices.

At 5:58pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC Municipal Clerk