

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 29, 2014**

At 7:53pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 11, 2014, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

**FLAG SALUTE**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Chau, Devine, Dewees, O'Neill, Perri, Travagline  
Absent: Piergiovanni

Mayor Jerry McGee, Solicitor Kris Facenda, and Municipal Engineer Dan Kwapinski were also in attendance.

Council President Travagline announced that Councilman Piergiovanni could not make the meeting due to his wife sustaining a fall. He wished her well and introduced Mayor McGee for the presentation of the clocks to Former Mayor Mazzeo and Former Council President Carew.

**PRESENTATION OF CLOCKS**

Former Mayor Vincent Mazzeo  
Former Councilman Timothy Carew

Mayor McGee stated we are here tonight to show our appreciation and gratitude for dedication and service to the community from two gentlemen; one a former Councilman and Mayor and the other a former Councilman and City Council President. He read the following remarks:

These two individuals are in two different parties but share a common goal: to do what is best for the residents of Northfield. So many decisions to make and so many problems to solve. They were always active in the community and tried to make things better for the residents. It sure seemed like a lot to do for a 10 year plus span of time.

These men did that plus more. Tim was always active in the Northfield sports programs and also worked tirelessly to improve Birch Grove Park. Matter of fact, Tim was mostly involved in everything that had to do with the betterment of the City for the benefit of the residents. He was always willing to give a helping hand and volunteer. He was best known as the "go to" man for any program that came down the line. Tim was truly a great asset to the City of Northfield.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 29, 2014**

Assemblyman Vince Mazzeo was on City Council from 2004 to 2007 and Mayor of Northfield from 2008 to 2014. Simply stated, Vince was the kind of man who always took black and white and tried to make it gray. He was always working between the parties and getting the work done. He was well respected and well known and always a gentleman. Vince had a way of making soup out of feathers. He could take something that seemed impossible and turn it into something positive!

With sincerest appreciation and gratitude for your service to the City of Northfield and its residences, I would like to present you with these clocks for your years of Service.

Mayor McGee read each inscription and presented the clocks.

Former Mayor Mazzeo thanked the City for acknowledging his service. He thanked his family for putting up with all the time away. He thanked the City employees for their dedication; it all meant a lot and made his job a lot easier. He stated that it is a thankless job sometimes and he understands that. He tried to promote fairness in his leadership and sees his work around town. He said it meant a lot to him to be Mayor. The people make this a great town and he hoped that people understand that he always tried to do his best.

Former Council President Carew thanked Council, present and past that he served with. He said it was an honor and a privilege. He noted that his family was not there but they continue to support him. He expressed that Birch Grove Park was an absolute pleasure and remembers fondly how Flora Dickinson looked after the park. He shared that his wife is a third generation Northfield resident and his kids are fourth generation. He stated he was not allowed to deviate. He noted that he grew up in Somers Point but now tells people to move to Northfield. He stated the employees do a great job and encouraged them to reach out to him should any need arise. He referred to Former Mayor Mazzeo and the relationship they were able to cultivate despite their differences. He commented that they didn't always agree but always found common ground. He encouraged Council to communicate.

Councilman Perri thanked Vince Mazzeo and Tim Carew for their contribution to the community. He too commented they didn't always agree but they got it done.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD – LUKE WILLIAMS**

Council President Travagline introduced Councilman Chau who will be presenting a service award to Luke Williams. He said tonight is one of the nights elected officials thoroughly enjoy. He read the inscription on the certificate and introduced stakeholders: family of John and Nancy Sullivan.

Nancy Sullivan introduced the balance of the family members present including several children and grandchildren. She shared that Luke came upon her mother

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 29, 2014**

when she had fallen in an alley due to a heart problem. She said that even though she had a life alert, if it wasn't for Luke, her mother may not be here today.

Councilman Chau introduced Luke Williams and his parents and asked him to tell his version of the story.

Luke Williams stated that he and his sister were walking home from school down the alley and saw Mrs. Sullivan. He called 911 and stayed to make sure she was alright.

Councilman Chau explained that on June 6<sup>th</sup>, Luke Williams, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Northfield Community School came upon Nancy Sullivan's 93 year old Mother-in-law in the alley between Yorkshire and Surrey Avenues. She had passed out and hit her head. She had regained consciousness and Luke tried to lift her up. She told Luke she pushed her life alert button but Luke called 911 and ran home returning with water for her. Luke didn't hesitate or panic in this situation. It was learned a little later that the elder Mrs. Sullivan's heart had stopped and this caused her to fall. She now has a pacemaker. What if she didn't have life alert? The results could have been quite different; what if Luke Williams wasn't there?

On behalf of the City of Northfield's Mayor and Council, Chau presented Luke Williams with a Community Service Award for unselfish service rendered to this community and good citizenship. Chau congratulated Williams.

Council President Travagline stated that it is a pleasure to have Luke and his family in town.

Councilman O'Neill stated that Carluccio's Pizza has donated a gift certificate for Luke and his friends.

Council President Travagline announced that resolution 141-2014 will be motioned now, as some people are waiting.

Councilman Chau motioned, Councilman O'Neill seconded to adopt Resolution 141-2014.

**141-2014** Establishing National Night Out as a City Event Sponsored by the Municipal Alliance for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

Roll call: Mr. Chau – yes; Mr. Devine – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. O'Neill –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni – absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 29, 2014**

**READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilman O'Neill seconded by Councilman Perri to dispense with the reading of the minutes of June 24, 2014 and June 30, 2014. They have been posted, distributed to Council, and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Roll call: Mr. Chau – yes; Mr. Devine –yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. O'Neill –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni – absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Perri reported that the Seniors Advisory Committee is tentatively scheduling an event on August 21<sup>st</sup> at noon at the Library and will bring forth more information prior to the event. He stated he met with the Shared Services Committee for Pleasantville and he deferred to the Chairman. He commended all involved in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade.

Councilman O'Neill stated the new server will be installed within the next 30-60 days. He explained that switching server is a big undertaking and will ensure that information is properly communicated through the clerk. He stated he will make sure he is present during installation in case any decisions need to be made. He reported he had a shared service meeting with Pleasantville. He thanked Councilman Perri and Council President Travagline for attending. He reported that they reviewed several topics and discussed how they ran their City and how we run ours.

Councilman Dewees stated the ice cream social will be on August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Erland Chau read the Fire report for June. He noted that he was disturbed that Mr. Webb reported that EMS response took too long. He advised that he clarified that the response took 4 minutes. He commended the Fire Department for their response to the girls softball team, who won sectionals a few weeks ago and again last night, when they won the state championship. He thanked Fire Department for their demonstration at the Good Shepard Church. He reported that this month's Planning Board has been canceled. He mentioned recent renewed interest in solar panels. The Fire Department is very concerned with solar panels and they are very concerned about their response to a fire where solar panels are present. Even with a cutoff switch, they are still technically hot.

Council President Travagline stated the shared service meeting with Pleasantville was very interesting, with lots of opportunities. He noted if we can get a plan together we could be sharing services with them in 3-5 years. He announced that National Night Out will be on Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. He commented that he would rather have it

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 29, 2014**

on the bike path and he hopes that the Police prove him wrong this year. He explained that he feels that the bike path makes it feel more like an event for the community; but, noted the hard work on the part of the Police Department and that he is sure it will be a fabulous event.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor McGee commended Carol Patrick and Joyce Pullan for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. He reported that all the rules were followed and it was nice event.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Kwapinski reported that Enclave at Shore Mill is in final close out stages and the project is complete. He stated Broad Street Phase II is also complete and on the agenda for close out this evening. He announced that the Broad and Fuae project is scheduled to start next week. He added that they are scheduled to proceed with the 2014 Paving Project. He would like to award at the first meeting in September.

Councilman O'Neill asked if we found a vendor to help with the grading at Veterans Park.

Engineer Kwapinski noted that he did the plan and turned it over to Public Works and to the Park Committee.

Councilman Dewees stated that Public Works will do their part after the cutting season and then they will address it.

Council President Travagline directed the Engineer to email Clerk Canesi with any information that he would like emailed out to the residents.

Councilman Perri suggested asking the County if we can get additional grant funding for the Veterans Park.

Council President Travagline suggested that Councilman Piergiovanni make that call since he is on the Grants Committee, as well as Veterans Park.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

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

Robert Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, apologized for using the words he said but he was angry and stated he is still angry. He expressed that he feels Northfield needs

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 29, 2014**

its own Chief. He acknowledged that the ambulance call that Councilman Chau referred to did take four minutes, but asserted that the 911 operator wasted time asking too many questions about the dog that bit the resident. He stated he would like to see more done at Veterans Park; however he did commend Councilman Dewees for the work the Public Works Department did mowing the grass.

Heather Mellon, 2509 Herbert Drive, stated she was here before about the house on 2505 Herbert Drive. Councilman O'Neill interjected that that he did do some check-up and they are mowing the lawn. Heather Mellon further noted that the house is almost crumbling because it has so much moss and mildew on it. She also shared that the neighbors have reported rats.

Councilman Dewees stated the code official has looked into it and does not see any violations.

Heather Mellon, 2509 Herbert Drive, responded that she does not understand how tax and sewer are up to date but the property is deteriorating.

Gail Poholsky, 114 East Revere Avenue, asked who is in charge of the trash department.

Council President Travagline replied that it is Councilman Dewees.

Gail Poholsky, 114 East Revere Avenue, shared that she has a problem with broken trash cans. She noted that Public Works Department men bought her a new trash can and now it is broken again. She added it has no handles and is broken on the bottom.

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

**RESOLUTIONS / CONSENT AGENDA**

Council President Travagline stated that 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 treated as a separate matter. Any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds.

The Executive Session of Council will be held at the end of the meeting, and we will come back in public session to make a comment for the record after the Executive Session. Any vote made on subjects discussed will be made in public.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 29, 2014**

Councilman Chau motioned, Councilman Devine seconded to vote by Consent Agenda on Resolutions 131-2014 through 140-2014 and 142-2014, 143-2014 and 145-2014.

- 131-2014** To Hire a Part Time Violations Clerk for Shared Municipal Court
- 132-2014** Authorization to Create Municipal Liens - Various
- 133-2014** Governing Body Certification of the Annual Audit
- 134-2014** Automatic Notification to Office of Emergency Management
- 135-2014** Amending Resolution 41-2014 Municipal Emergency Management Team and Community Emergency Response Team Volunteer Appointments
- 136-2014** Authorization to Extend 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Tax Payments
- 137-2014** Final Work Change Order No. 1 – Reconstruction of Broad Street Phase II
- 138-2014** Final Work Change Order No. 1 – Enclave at Shore Mill – Final Paving
- 139-2014** A Resolution to Authorize the Refund of Sewer Payments on Block 116 Lot 15
- 140-2014** Approval of Specifications and Authorization to Proceed with Public Bidding for 2014 Road Paving Project in the City of Northfield
- 142-2014** To Approve an Application for Use of Facilities
- 143-2014** To Hire a Laborer in the Public Works Department
- 145-2014** 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. 10:4-12

Roll call: Mr. Chau – yes; Mr. Devine – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni – absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries.

Councilman Chau motioned, Councilman Devine seconded to adopt by Consent Agenda on Resolutions 131-2014 through 140-2014 and 142-2014, 143-2014 and 145-2014.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 29, 2014**

Roll call: Mr. Chau – yes; Mr. Devine – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni – absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries.

**ORDINANCES**

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman O’Neill seconded to adopt Ordinance 5-2014.

**5-2014** An Ordinance to Mandate Direct Deposit for Municipal Employees by the City Council of the City of Northfield Pursuant to c.52:15-15F et .seq.  
*Second Reading/Public Hearing/No Public Comments Received  
Published in the Press of AC August 2, 2014*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, and stated that since introduction, the full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the City website, and copies have been available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.

Council President Travagline opened the public hearing. Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak on Ordinance 5-2014, he closed the public hearing.

Roll call: Mr. Chau – yes; Mr. Devine – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri – Yes; Mr. Piergiovanni – absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries.

Councilman O’Neill motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded to introduce Ordinance 6-2014.

**6-2014** An Ordinance Establishing No Parking on a Portion of Merritt Drive  
*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press of AC August 2, 2014  
Second Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption August 26, 2014*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, announcing that there would be no public input on introduction. She provided the hearing and publication dates and noted that full copies of the Ordinance are presently posted on the City website, on the bulletin board at City Hall, and are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.

Roll call: Mr. Chau – yes; Mr. Devine – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri – Yes; Mr. Piergiovanni – absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**



**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 29, 2014**

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilman Devine seconded, for payment of bills in the amount of \$ 4,730,110.42.

Councilman Perri asked if the City gets reimbursed for primary ballots.

Municipal Clerk Canesi answered yes.

Roll call: Mr. Chau – yes; Mr. Devine – yes; Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni – absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries.

Councilman Dewees read the meeting notices.

Councilman Chau wished Municipal Clerk Canesi a Happy Birthday.

Council sang Happy Birthday to the Clerk.

**EXECUTIVE SESSIONS OF COUNCIL**

Council President Travagline announced that Council will be adjourning to the Clerk’s office for an Executive Session and the resolution was adopted earlier in the evening.

**145-2014** 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. 10:4-12 Regarding Pending Litigation in the Matter of Caesars Entertainment, Inc. v. City of Northfield, Docket No. ATL-L-7733-12

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 Facenda stated Council will enter into an Executive Session not open to the public in accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, to discuss pending litigation with respect to lawsuit brought by Caesars Entertainment in connection with the zoning of certain real estate that Caesars Entertainment owns. He added that minutes will be kept and made available for public inspection when required and permitted by law.

*At 8:46pm Council adjourned to the Clerk’s office.*

*At 8:59pm the Executive Session ended and Council returned to chambers*

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 29, 2014**

Solicitor Facenda stated that the Executive Session had concluded and Council is back in Public Session. During the Executive Session Council topics were settlements and negotiations and will continue until the matter is resolved. Minutes will be released when permitted by law but it is unknown when that will occur.

At 9:00pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC Municipal Clerk