

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
AUGUST 11, 2020**

At 6:08pm 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 August 8, 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/84524726994>; Meeting ID: 845 2472 6994; One tap mobile +13017158592,,84524726994# US (Germantown) +13126266799,,84524726994# US (Chicago) Dial by your location +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose) Meeting ID: 845 2472 6994*

**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. Due to social distancing requirements, members of the public are still restricted from attending in person. Zoom meeting 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. 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. Those using the chat function must state their name and address for the record, and may ask questions or make comments via the ‘chat’ function at the designated time.”

**ROLL CALL**

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

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Solicitor Stein, Engineer Nassar, and Chief Newman were also in attendance.

Council President Perri welcomed everyone including those livestreaming on Zoom. He thanked everyone on the front lines and wished them good health and wealth.

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 announced that there will be a future presentation once we open to the public.

*Clerk Canesi stated that Chief Newman was attending via telephone this evening, it was an oversight that this was not mentioned after the roll call of Council Members.*

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

Councilwoman Korngut as stated at the last meeting she planned to attend the Planning Board Meeting and did so last week. The Planning Board was unanimous that their input was not needed because there was no structure. They appreciated that she was there, they did have general questions, as the public has had. Someone had suggested that there is nothing in the deed that would preclude a dog park.

Clerk Canesi confirmed that there was not.

- Property for Sale by Atlantic City Electric – *Update if Applicable, Mayor Chau*

Mayor Chau spoke regarding the property sale by Atlantic City Electric. He has had no further correspondence from Mr. Mosca, and was waiting to see if Council wanted to proceed. Are we interested? Mayor Chau had been assured it was clean.

Councilwoman Korngut believed the last time this was discussed the issue was the need for confirmation that the property was clean; she would want that in writing.

Mayor Chau replied that if Council was interested, he would ask Mr. Mosca for the documentation.

Councilman O'Neill was hearing from residents that they'd rather have ratables than open space.

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Engineer Nassar had tried unsuccessfully to contact Mr. Mosca. He reminded Council that this area was low, it seemed like it was created as a drainage basin. He wanted to ensure whatever we do, that we do not have a problem with drainage in this area.

Mayor Chau asked do we have liability for poor drainage, from a future owner?

Engineer Nassar replied, no.

Councilwoman Madden suggested maybe that is why Atlantic City Electric is trying to get us to buy it.

Mayor Chau advised Council that years ago Mayor Mazzeo wanted to purchase the property for Veterans Park. Mayor Chau had spoken with residents and it is a ratable, on the other hand, families can bring children to our schools.

Engineer Nassar suggested meeting with Mr. Mosca and Mayor Chau to discuss.

Solicitor Stein added that when we get an appraisal, the appraiser would have to know about water problems.

Councilman Smith and Council President Perri discussed the value of the property.

Council President Perri believed what started the ball rolling was that a private individual made an offer; Atlantic City Electric gave us first right of refusal.

Councilman Dewees noted that if land was developed it could impede our drainage.

Engineer Nassar replied the only thing we could do is not allow a builder to disturb that area, the Planning Board was there for a reason. One house would not affect our streets.

Councilwoman Korngut felt based on Engineer Nassar's comments and comments that residents don't want a playground or something there, what was the upside of the City taking this property?

Engineer Nassar responded that it could be used for open space. The property doesn't work for recreation.

Councilwoman Korngut guessed the appraiser did not know about the drainage issues.

Council President Perri said, just to clarify, the appraisal Council President Perri was aware of was a verbal conversation with a dollar amount of \$180,000.00; he did not

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know what was in the document. He asked if Mayor Chau had a letter from Mr. Mosca or an email?

Mayor Chau had an email asking that Mayor Chau call; the rest was verbal.

Councilman Smith suggested asking Atlantic City Electric if they want to donate it.

Council President Perri asked if Mayor Chau and Engineer Nassar could meet with Mr. Mosca for further discussion.

- Offer to Donate Private Property to the City – *Update if Applicable, Councilman Smith*

Councilman Smith said after the last meeting, he'd reached out to the owner regarding Council's questions regarding the survey and any environmental concerns. The response was yes, it had been surveyed, and that the Construction Office had the documentation. The Clerk's Office had since advised Councilman Smith that the Construction Office did not have such documents. He suggested asking the owner for said documentation.

Council President Perri asked Solicitor Stein if this would show in a title search?

Solicitor Stein replied what will show is a tank sweep; it will show if currently a tank or even a partial tank and costs around \$350. Tanks used to be cut and filled but there was no way of knowing if an old tank leaked. What is done now is the tank is removed. If there was no tank in the ground, you know it was done.

Council President Perri asked Councilman Smith to advise the owner and report back to Council.

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.

Engineer Nassar advised Council that Mayor Chau received a letter from NJDOT regarding a set-aside program grant for bike path upgrades. Engineer Nassar would look into it and prepare an application but needed guidance from Council.

Councilman Dewees suggested the lights; we have four now that need to be replaced. We also may want to consider upgrading, new poles, adding poles, and expanding the width of bike path, as Somers Point was doing.

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Engineer Nassar explained the details of the grant project guidelines; he felt we would have a good chance if we applied for funds for the Bike Path.

Councilman Utts asked could electrification for some of the poles be included?

Engineer Nassar replied, yes.

Councilman Dewees noted that we can't match the old poles anymore when we buy new poles.

Engineer Nassar proposed safety-related lighting improvements; this was mentioned in the bicycle and pedestrian plan. He would like to get the application going. He asked if he needed further Council approval? There are no engineering costs to apply; he won't bill for his time unless we get the grant.

Council President Perri and Councilman Dewees replied that Engineer Nassar could proceed.

Mayor Chau advised that he received a message from Mr. Mosca and he had agreed to meet with regard to the proposed sale of the Atlantic City Electric property.

- Possible Paving of 180' Section of Cedar Bridge Road – *Req by Engineer Nassar*

Engineer Nassar asked to go out of order on the agenda for the purposes of discussion.

First, he spoke in regard to the 2020 Local Road Program. Engineer Nassar referred to a diagram presented to Council and explained that a 180' section of Cedar Bridge Road could be added to this project for approximately \$20,000.00. The paving on this section was not in great shape, we could add it to the road program. The street would be all done from Mill Road all the way to Route 9.

Council President Perri asked if there are concerns. There were none.

- Final Paving of Cedar Springs Drive – *Req by Engineer Nassar*

Engineer Nassar explained the Cedar Springs Drive subdivision issue; the owners are no longer in this area. They have proposed turning over the \$54,000 cash bond to the City to have the final paving be completed as part of one of our road programs, at no cost to the municipality. He was also proposing upgrading the handicapped ramps to current standards, and 20-30 feet of gutter that has to be replaced. The maintenance guarantee would be posted by the contractor.

Councilman Dewees asked if all the utilities were in.

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Engineer Nassar replied, yes.

Council President Perri asked Solicitor Stein if we needed an agreement.

Solicitor Stein replied that we would need a Resolution at the next meeting authorizing their release in exchange for. He would prepare an Agreement with them.

Engineer Nassar would ask the attorney to send a formal request in writing to the municipality.

Solicitor Stein suggested having the developer prepare the Agreement to save money.

- English Lane, Concrete Vault – *Req by Engineer Nassar*

Engineer Nassar moved to discussion of a concrete vault, and referred to a map provided to Council to show the location. He explained that the homeowner found the vault when it collapsed as a result of the resident's vehicle driving over it. It may be part of the old irrigation system from the Country Club. Our Public Works staff videoed the line and there is no connection, but our system was involved. It was going somewhere with positive discharge, if we plug it, it could cause issues.

Council President Perri suggested further investigation with our staff, possibly with the use of dye; it could be a private property issue.

Engineer Nassar explained that further investigation may require access by our personnel across private property; we may need an agreement.

Council President Perri was in agreement with whatever Engineer Nassar recommended. He just wanted to make sure if we abandon it that we are not causing a problem in another location.

Council President Perri added that the homes in that area were built on top of existing infrastructure.

Councilman Smith asked if this made it our responsibility?

Council President Perri replied, not necessarily, but if it is tied in to our system it could be a problem.

Councilman Utts explained that a friend of his on Heather Drive seems to have a similar structure.

- Resolution Condemning Racism and Police Brutality – *Req by Councilwoman Korngut*

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Councilwoman Korngut said it had been discussed two meetings ago, and more at the last meeting, that she felt it was important for Northfield to pass this Resolution condemning racism, and she hoped she would have everyone's support.

Councilman Utts spoke; he explained that he and Councilman Smith were also proposing a Resolution and it does not necessarily conflict with Councilwoman Korngut's. However, Councilman Utts disagreed with the first line of Councilwoman Korngut's Resolution that condemned the entire Minneapolis Police Department for the killing of George Floyd. It also did not mention a County task force. Being new to Council, Councilman Utts had never proposed a Resolution before, he was not sure how to proceed.

Solicitor Stein explained it could be moved to the Regular session and he would read it into the record or it can be proposed, advertised, voted on and adopted at the next meeting. It was Council's choice.

Councilman Utts again mentioned the problematic first line of Councilwoman Korngut's Resolution.

Councilwoman Korngut responded that she had no problem changing that line.

Councilman Utts shared that when he moved to Northfield, his deed included a clause that said people of color and Jewish people could not buy the property, that it was deed restricted. This was from the 1920's. There was such a thing as systemic racism. He suggested getting together with other municipalities and the County to make changes.

Councilman O'Neill said, for the record, he could support Councilman Utts' and Councilman Smith's Resolution but not the Resolution by Councilwoman Korngut.

Councilwoman Korngut did not see why we couldn't put both Resolutions on the agenda this evening. She would change the Resolution to say was killed by one officer while three officers stood by.

Council President Perri noted that this had not come to fruition yet. He was in favor of striking it entirely. There was other language Council President Perri had issues with as well.

Councilman Dewees was concerned that the Resolution seemed to indicate that we only mourn with the Black community.

Councilwoman Korngut clarified that it also says and "all who seek to hold America to its highest ideals". She felt his objection was covered.

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Councilman O'Neill commented that he was not comfortable singling out certain races. He did not agree with the first line of the Resolution either. He requested additional documentation. He preferred the Resolution presented by Councilmen Smith and Utts.

Council President Perri said he had been following the Attorney General and Prosecutor, and thought it was interesting that in 2018 the Attorney General, via uniform Use of Force standards, was ahead of the game. They have had forums in Cape May and Atlantic County and they are the proper authority for these issues; it is not like they are not being addressed. This was already being done; he felt New Jersey was ahead of the curve in holding people accountable. Some of the language was good and some not. He had not had time to read Councilman Smith's and Councilman Utts' Resolution as it was just handed to him. He would like to pass these on to the next meeting.

Councilman Dewees asked if the listed organizations were State organizations.

Councilwoman Korngut read the names to make affiliations clear.

Councilman Dewees did not know that they were State organizations.

Council President Perri, to Councilman Utts, Councilman Smith and Councilwoman Korngut, asked if they be combined into one?

Councilman Utts, Councilman Smith and Councilwoman Korngut replied yes, and they would work together.

Council President Perri asked if we can try to simplify?

Councilwoman Korngut asked what was problematic? She stated one killed and three officers stood by; what was the issue? She added, for the record, there were stats in last month's Resolution and not one person asked for supporting documentation.

Councilman O'Neill had seen a number of lawsuits for bad decisions, for bad language in Resolutions and contracts. We need to be careful. He felt passing Councilwoman Korngut's Resolution in its current form exposes us to liability. We have to watch out what we put in documents, we may have different agendas but, when we get sued it's the taxpayers who are paying the bill. He said he'd briefly read over Councilman Smith's and Councilman Utts' Resolution, and he had no issues with it, but was disturbed by the first Resolution.

Councilwoman Korngut replied that if Councilman O'Neill was disturbed that makes her happy. She agreed to make the change Councilman Utts requested. She hoped the implication was not that she had ever been sued. She also reminded Councilman O'Neill that she had access to court documents that others may not.



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- FAN Football Program – Opening of Bathrooms / Snack Bar – *Req by Councilman Dewees*

Councilman Dewees said he'd distributed a document to Council this evening; the football program wanted to resume operation and they would monitor the things they needed to monitor. Councilman Dewees asked for Council's input on the snack bar, the bathrooms and bleachers. The snack bar would be operated in accordance with guidelines from the Atlantic County Health Department, and seemed to have taken care of itself; food would be served outside. FAN has suggested that they could move the bleachers out the other option was they would use a fogger and sanitize the bleachers after every use, he felt that made sense. We risk damaging the bleachers each time we move them; they are willing to make sure they are sanitized and will oversee how people are sitting on them. He recommended to leave the bleachers in place. As to bathrooms, FAN's recommendation was to bring in port o' pots, that they would sanitize themselves. Councilman Dewees was in favor of the port o pots.

Councilwoman Madden, to Councilman Dewees, what you are saying is that this team wants to have football this season? You were aware that the two biggest colleges have indicated they will not have football. Was it necessary? Isn't it dangerous? We were still in the midst of a very dangerous virus. Why do we have to have football? Was it a necessity for the city to have football this season?

Councilman Dewees replied yes, it gives kids a sense of normalcy.

Councilwoman Madden noted that the Olympics have been canceled.

Councilman Dewees asked Clerk Canesi if we had communication from any other agency?

Clerk Canesi explained that the plan was created in accordance with guidelines from Atlantic County Jr. Football League and was in compliance with the Governor's current Executive Order on football.

Councilman Utts added that there was a difference between this and Big 10 Football. He felt it was a decision that parents had to make. He wouldn't let his kids play football regardless of Covid. There were guidelines that needed to be followed. It was an important community builder.

Councilman O'Neill thanked FAN for all of their hard work in providing Council with clear documentation of their plans. Councilman O'Neill was in favor of it.

Councilman Smith agreed with Councilman Utts. FAN had done its due diligence. In the absence of any further Executive Order we should encourage this. He did support it.

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Councilwoman Korngut agreed with Councilman Utts and Councilman Smith, she personally would not let her own child play. It's a parental decision.

Council President Perri confirmed that Solicitor Stein had reviewed the documents.

Councilman Dewees replied, yes.

Council President Perri called for a voice vote to let FAN proceed with resumption of football and cheerleading.

Solicitor Stein did not believe the packet included the bleacher and restrooms.

Clerk Canesi clarified that there were four highlighted areas in the packet, they would be revised prior to being given to FAN. The highlighted areas pertained to the snack bar, bleachers and bathrooms.

Council President Perri called for a vote, all in favor except Councilwoman Madden, who said no.

Council President Perri reported that he had a resident who was looking to buy a lot on Glencove but there was a moratorium in place.

Clerk Canesi asked if it was Nugent?

Council President Perri replied, yes.

Clerk Canesi advised that she had explained the process to Mrs. Nugent.

Clerk Canesi reiterated the process.

Engineer Nassar noted that the owner needs to apply for the hardship waiver.

Councilwoman Madden reported that she had received a second email from neighbors of Ventura's regarding outdoor dining; the complaints were about trash and noise.

Council President Perri felt we could address it with the owner.

Councilman O'Neill advised that he has been there, there were signs. He believed across the street there was a trash can; he believed it was a County issue.

Council President Perri replied no, it's ours, the ACUA picks it up.

Clerk Canesi asked who sent the most recent letter and who received it?

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Councilwoman Madden noted it was from Jacqueline McGinty but she did not know the date.

Council President Perri had noticed bus stop and other trash cans that are at capacity

Clerk Canesi asked for copy of the letter, based on the date it may have been after Zoning Officer spoke with the owner. She asked if the Zoning Officer was notified of the second letter?

Councilwoman Madden did not know.

Council President Perri would talk to Superintendent Vitale about more frequent pick up.

Councilman Dewees had been asked to address the possible vacation of a portion of an unused paper street. He asked for the process.

Engineer Nassar replied there were three property owners who would gain property.

Councilman Dewees asked what would happen if one owner did not want their portion?

Engineer Nassar replied they can give the ownership to an adjoining owner.

Solicitor Stein noted the ordinance would call for the vacation and allocation; the owner who does not want it can then convey it.

Engineer Nassar added that they have no say, if we vacate.

Council President Perri asked if there were any easements or utilities?

Engineer Nassar replied no, and it makes no sense to improve. He would need to know if the City wanted to vacate because he would have to create parcel maps.

Council President Perri asked how much will it cost.

Engineer Nassar replied there would be cost for the preparation of the maps and legal fees as well.

Solicitor Stein explained. The ordinance would not cost much, it's nominal.

Council President Perri called a voice vote. All were in favor. He directed Engineer Nassar and Solicitor Stein to proceed.

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Councilman Utts had one more new business item. He received a letter from Edward Little, Eagle Scout candidate. Councilman Utts suggested Cove Avenue Park (Bird Sanctuary). Possibly cleaning up plaques and entryways, due to vegetation.

Councilman Dewees suggested another project could be restoration of benches at Birch Grove Park, they are in need of scraping and painting.

Councilman Utts would suggest options to Mr. Little. He would like to see a project in this area. Possibly an archway, or removal of trees across some of the paths. There was no clear access to the property from the end of Cornwall; but there was a plaque there.

Mayor Chau has had complaints from neighbors in the area about questionable individuals in the area, at night.

Councilman Utts had lived in area since 1985, he has seen all of these things. In the long term he would like to see the park cleaned up and made more friendly to wildlife and native plants.

Council President Perri asked what Councilman Utts would like the scout to do?

Councilman Utts replied that he would mention benches at Birch Grove, cleaning up the monuments and possibly some plantings.

Council President Perri noted that the lack of access was an issue; he asked Clerk Canesi to pull the file on Cove Avenue Park and Bird Sanctuary. He noted there were deed restrictions.

Councilman Dewees said he wanted to give a shout-out to Joe Bunting. He pulled his team out of the ACBL playoffs, he did the right thing and he is a stand-up guy. He thanked Joe, saying he's done a great service to the community and he is a great neighbor. Some of the FAN guides were based on what Mr. Bunting had created.

Mayor Chau asked did Bunting have players who had been exposed?

Councilman Smith replied no, he explained that players from other teams had traveled to a State on the quarantine list but upon return did not quarantine, the league president declined to remove the players from the roster. There were players from at least two other teams, this was in violation of what the league agreed upon at the start of the season.

Councilwoman Korngut announced that she was contacted by Freeholder Fitzpatrick, who wanted to be here and, on the agenda, but was denied. She wanted to respond to some questions she received from some residents. She asked that a statement be read into record.

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Clerk Canesi provided the statement, that was emailed to her, for Councilwoman Korngut to read; Clerk Canesi said she had asked Freeholder Fitzpatrick to provide information on the specific area she was referencing in her statement, but did not get response.

Councilwoman Korngut read the following statement:

“The potholes on Tilton road are related to the Northfield sewer line. The City started repairs at Burton and Tilton and that appears to have worked. Their engineer told county engineering staff that they will be attempting to slip line the sewer line and will be out for design and repair presently. The city of northfield is doing the work. Freeholder Caren Fitzpatrick. Thank you”

Engineer Nassar responded, and said the statement was not entirely accurate. The County has been aware of sinkholes on Tilton Road, coming from Burton past Roosevelt, in the drive lane. The Country tried to fault our sewer line. About a year ago we had our sewer lines video piped, and no cracks were found; Engineer Nassar provided the video to the County Assistant Engineer. He confirmed that we were not causing the sinkholes. What they are referring to was a line at Roosevelt and Tilton; the drop connection by the manhole separated, but this caused the area around the manhole to settle. Engineer Nassar will have a contractor fix that section. But not the sinkholes, they don't know what causes them, he did not feel the County did an in-depth investigation. The cause of those is unknown, and those sinkholes they are talking about are not Northfield's problem.

Councilwoman Korngut understood that Freeholder Fitzpatrick said she got her information from Jerry DelRosso.

Engineer Nassar would provide Councilwoman Korngut with the email from John Musto, to share with Freeholder Fitzpatrick.

Councilman O'Neill added that there have been issues, could we send a letter to Freeholder Fitzpatrick to get something going on these issues.

Council President Perri explained that the issue at Roosevelt Avenue and Tilton is ours.

Engineer Nassar replied that only at the manhole, we would be fixing it. The other issues that people are complaining about are on the right side, they look like potholes. Every time it sinks, they add asphalt, something is causing these issues.

Council President Perri asked who is the County Road Inspector was.

Engineer Nassar replied, Tom Durand.

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Council President Perri suggested Engineer Nassar contact Tom Durand.

Engineer Nassar would rather deal with the County Engineer. He has emails that he would forward to Council.

Mayor Chau was concerned about water freezing in the winter at Roosevelt and Tilton.

Engineer Nassar explained we should request a letter to the County asking that they fix it.

Councilwoman Korngut noted that this is not a Freeholder Fitzpatrick issue, she was just responding to concerns. She agreed that a letter would be appropriate.

Council President Perri replied that once we open to the public, Freeholder Fitzpatrick is welcome.

Councilman Smith referred to proposal about county court; all had received it. He raised the question, was there any interest?

Councilman Dewees thought the Mayor should send a letter, he felt it was a good idea.

Council President Perri felt a committee to explore all options should be formed, there were other issues out there that haven't been moved. Taxation went by the wayside. We want to keep our revenue. There were a lot of variables, our officers would have to go to the County seat, they could outweigh the benefits.

Councilman Dewees replied that the first step was to draft a letter to express interest.

Council President Perri suggested including the tax operation as well. He noted that we are not involved in central dispatch. We need regionalization and consolidation. We are open minded about all of it.

Mayor Chau recalled that initial discussions regarding dispatch were met with opposition. If we continue it's just one big bill, he was not sure we would get what we need. The recent storm was a big strain on Egg Harbor Township.

Councilwoman Korngut agreed with Council President Perri.

Council President Perri directed Clerk Canesi to draft a letter to the County in response, from Mayor and Council.

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

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**REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

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

**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 – “Alicia garry 202 Saint James Place status on reopening playgrounds? sanitation protocol? if not opened have you checked with other towns protocol?”

Councilman Dewees replied that he had to meet with Superintendent Vitale, he was looking into it. We do have a piece of equipment that will assist us with sanitization. He would report back at the next meeting. Our priority has been the reopening of Birch Grove Park. He had not checked with other towns.

Via Zoom Chat – “Eric Leeds 802 Deborah St. just want to see the Public Works did a fantastic job with the storm”

Council President Perri replied, thank you.

Viz Zoom Chat – “Eric Leeds - say not see sorry”

Via Zoom Chat – “alicia garry - anticipating schools reopening crossing guards will be on 4xs a day? will there be increase in wages to accommodate for additional time and where will funds come from to cover increase?4 times a day”

Councilman Smith advised that he had a meeting today with Mayor Chau and Chief Newman with regard to the plan the school released that caught the City off guard. We were not consulted. We were drafting a letter to the school and Board of Education to express our concerns and we would have to wait for a response.

Mayor Chau advised that he just signed the letter. The school officials did not consult with the City, it's a financial situation and logistic situation that has been placed

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upon us, we were not prepared. We discussed the problems and concerns and the letter will be sent tomorrow to the Superintendent.

Council President Perri understood there were also contractual issues; he hoped we could get this resolved.

Mayor Chau confirmed. We do not feel we will have enough time to address the problems this schedule created.

Council President Perri asked if the next meeting was enough time to make a decision?

Mayor Chau did not think so.

Council President Perri replied we may need special meeting, he asked Mayor Chau to keep us advised.

Via Zoom Chat – “eric leeds - Last comment. was at Ventura’s Saturday night they made it clear that they closed at 10pm.”

Council President Perri replied, thank you.

Clerk Canesi asked again if any zoom participants have questions or comments.

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

At 8:01pm, on a motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman O’Neill, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk