

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 2022**

At 7:36pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi, who welcomed the audience. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231, on January 8, 2022.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau followed by a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilwoman Bucci; Councilman Dewees; Councilman Leeds; Councilman Notaro; Councilman Smith; Councilman Utts; Council President Polistina; Mayor Chau

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

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion of Councilman Leeds with a second of Councilman Notaro, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of July 19, 2022, without formal reading.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau noted Office of Emergency Management activities for the month, including discussing intern work and attending National Night Out (NNO) and Economic Development Commission activities. They needed to modify their incident command procedures so all are on the same page. He read the Police Department report for July. He reported that the Alliance and Police Department did a fantastic job with NNO. He also commended Councilwoman Bucci, Deputy Clerk Campbell, the Police Department, and Chief Newman. Regarding CGI, the system on our website that provided free information about community highlights, we've had the program for several years. There was no cost to the City but to the businesses that advertise on the website. He wanted to continue the banner program as well. He had forwarded the agreements to the Solicitor, once he weighs in, we would move forward. Mayor Chau had gotten questions about the VA project; it was still moving forward but the project had been held up by certain permits. The bus shelter on Shore Road by Urgent Care, after several years, was expected to go in this year.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineer's report as previously distributed to Council. Paving projects were proceeding. The New Jersey American Water Company project may involve additional restoration; Engineer Nassar would try to finalize when their contractor was on site.

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Councilman Notaro stated he was contacted by a resident on Virginia Avenue who doesn't want curb or sidewalk. He didn't think we do sidewalk, but would give Engineer Nassar the address.

PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Polistina opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to comment on any subject, he asked that they state their name and address for the record and observe the five-minute limit per speaker.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Council President Polistina closed the public comment portion of this meeting.

Mayor Chau announced the winner of the recycling container contest: the July winner was Gary Goldberg of Glenwood Drive. He congratulated Mr. Goldberg.

RESOLUTIONS

Council President Polistina 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 of funds 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 has concluded. Any vote made on subjects discussed will be made in public.

- 158-2022** A Resolution Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to Execute a Contract with an Approved State Contract Vendor Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a
- 159-2022** Authorization to Create Municipal Lien For Property Maintenance Costs
- 160-2022** Inserting an Item of Revenue in the 2022 Budget
- 161-2022** A Resolution Supporting the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2022 Statewide Labor Day Crackdown
- 162-2022** Memorialize Resignation of Part Time Housing Officer
- 163-2022** Appointment of Housing Officer
- 164-2022** Resolution Authorizing Cancellation and Refund of Taxes Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 & N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.32 on Property Known as Block 92 Lot 10 (306 Clark Place)
- 165-2022** Resolution Authorizing Cancellation and Refund of Taxes Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 & N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.32 on Property Known as Block 133 Lot 7 (301 Franklin Avenue)

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- 166-2022** Authorization to Apply For American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant (ARPPFG)
- 167-2022** Employment Status Change Tax Collector
- 168-2022** Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, New Jersey, Authorizing Execution of an Inter-Local Shared Services Agreement Between Atlantic County Utilities Authority and City of Northfield for Street Sweeping
- 169-2022** 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(B)(4), Regarding Contract Negotiations for Government Workers Union Local No. 410 for White Collar Workers

On motion of Councilman Dewees, seconded by Councilman Utts, all members present were in favor of voting on Resolutions 158-2022 through 169-2022, by Consent Agenda.

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Utts seconded, to adopt the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Utts – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

ORDINANCE

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilman Leeds seconded, to adopt Ordinance 9-2022.

- 9-2022** Amending Chapter 366, Certified Copies, Vital Records
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 08/16/2022
Published in the Press of AC 8/20/2022

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this was the second reading and that there would be a public hearing, after which the matter would be considered for final adoption. 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 to any member of the public who requested same. If approved, final publication will be August 20, 2022.

Council President Polistina opened the public hearing.

Seeing no one wishing to speak Council President Polistina closed the public hearing.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Utts – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

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Councilman Utts motioned, Councilwoman Bucci seconded, to introduce Ordinance 10-2022.

10-2022 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 268 of the Code of the City of Northfield Governing Abandoned Real Property
Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 08/20/2022
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 09/06/2022

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this is the first reading, there would be no public input, and announced the publication and public hearing dates. The full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the City website, and copies are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requests same.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Utts – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$ 1,515,055.05

Councilman Notaro motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, for payment of bills.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith –yes; Mr. Utts – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

Councilman Leeds read the meeting notices and announced the next Economic Development Commission meeting as August 18th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

169-2022 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(B)(4), Regarding Contract Negotiations for Government Workers Union Local No. 410 for White Collar Workers

Clerk Canesi announced to the members of the public who were participating via Zoom that when the Executive Session commenced, she would be muting the audio, and the video would be temporarily paused. Those in attendance in-person would need to exit Council Chambers during the Executive Session. Council would resume the public session, including reactivating the audio and video, and welcoming the in-person public, as soon as the Executive Session concluded. A public statement would be made for the record at that time.

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The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title. Clerk Canesi further stated that we are required to set forth as much information as possible as to the subject matter to be discussed as well as provide for the public the amount of time they can expect to elapse before the non-public portion of the minutes can be disclosed. She deferred to the Solicitor for further explanation.

Solicitor Facenda announced that the matter to be discussed were a proposed agreement between the City and the GWU Local 420. It was anticipated that action would be taken by Council at the end of the Executive Session. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. The timeframe for the release of those minutes is unknown. Council will remain in Council Chambers and return to the general public when the Executive Session is complete for a short statement.

At 7:53pm Council entered Executive Session, and remained in Council Chambers.

At 8:04pm the Executive Session of Council was adjourned, and the Regular Meeting resumed in Council Chambers.

Solicitor Facenda announced that the Executive Session had concluded. The matters discussed were contractual negotiations and ratifications between the City and the GWU Local 420. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. The timeframe for the release of those minutes is unknown. Council would not vote on Resolution 170-2022.

170-2022 A Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Northfield and Government Workers Union Local No. 430, for White Collar Workers, Effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025 and Authorizing The Execution of a Final Agreement Consistent With Same

Councilwoman Bucci motioned, Councilman Smith seconded, to adopt Resolution 170-2022.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith –yes; Mr. Utts – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

At approximately 8:05pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk