

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 21, 2018**

At 6:16pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 13, 2018, in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

ROLL CALL

Present: Korngut, Lischin, Murray, Perri, Travagline, Dewees
Absent: O'Neill

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Nassar, COAH attorney Mike Jedzeniak and Planner Tiffany Morrissey were also in attendance.

WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – OLD BUSINESS

Council President Dewees welcomed everyone and deferred to Solicitor Facenda for an update on the potential land sale.

- Potential Land Sale – Update

Solicitor Facenda advised that he was reviewing list one final time before notices are prepared, he wanted to ensure none of the parcels were contemplated for future COAH related use by the City.

- “Parks and Recreation Areas” Ordinance Changes

Council President Dewees advised that he was working with the Superintendent of Public Works; some of the changes affected the Veterans Park, he hoped to have it for next meeting.

Councilwoman Korngut asked if there was any chance it wouldn't be on the agenda, and if it's not, can we do something with just the Veterans Park portion?

Council President Dewees stated if he did not get to it, it may not make the agenda, he would see what he could get accomplished.

- Sign Ordinance Changes

Council President Dewees deferred to Councilman Lischin to speak in regard to the sign ordinance.

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Councilman Lischin said he realized Council had been talking about this for a few meetings, it was time to set something up.

Councilman Perri asked about sandwich signs for non-conforming businesses.

Councilman Lischin replied that this was something that could be discussed.

Councilman Travagline asked all to email questions or concerns to him or Councilman Lischin.

- Letter to Volunteer Organizations Regarding Use of City Facilities

Council President Dewees asked about the letter to the volunteer organizations.

Clerk Canesi apologized, that matter should not have been on the agenda as it had been seen to conclusion.

- Bike Path Bollards – Update from Engineer Nassar

Engineer Nassar reported that bollards had been ordered and locations had been identified.

- Proposed 2018 Paving Project – Update from Engineer Nassar

Engineer Nassar referred to the list of roads that were identified as potentially included; he explained the options and associated costs. There was also a grant opportunity that could be used for a large portion in the Shepherd Drive area if we apply and are approved. He asked for direction from Council.

Council President Dewees asked Council to review the list and have recommendations for the Engineer for the next meeting.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS

- Chestnut Avenue Parking, between Maple Avenue and New Road

Council President Dewees moved to the next topic; Chestnut Avenue parking. Council President Dewees noted that we had a recommendation from Chief of Police Newman and he felt we should take the Chief's recommendation and implement it. He asked if we needed to review it before we do so?

Solicitor Facenda replied that he was not certain that the situation had improved, but Chief Newman and or Lieutenant Dettinger could confirm. He asked Chief Newman for his opinion.

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Chief Newman replied that in his opinion nothing had really changed in the area.

Councilman Perri reported that since the last meeting, he received a complaint about another business, at Davis Avenue at the Carluccio's property. He provided a photo to Council President Dewees that showed 2 tractor trailers parked side by side at this location, blocking traffic. He felt if we address one area, we need to address them all. We should be uniform.

Solicitor Facenda asked if Councilman Perri knew what the sign said.

Councilman Perri said they restricted parking to resident-only. The State changed the street to 2-way traffic when they redid the intersection.

Chief Newman added that he thought that the restricted parking was in front of 2 residential homes.

Councilman Travagline said the recommendation included a local ordinance; asked Solicitor Facenda to take a look at it.

Mayor Chau stated there were sections in town where commercial abuts the residential, and we have businesses where there is no access and they are forced to park in that kind of fashion. Ultimately, they have to make arrangements for some kind of delivery.

Councilman Perri noted they could have deliveries before they open, using the parking lot.

Solicitor Facenda advised the language in the proposed ordinance may not address the issue because of the zone; he could work with it though, if the Council wanted him to.

Councilman Perri said the issues with B.F. Mazzeo's were addressed at the Planning Board. If they were not following what was approved, that is a Zoning Officer matter.

Solicitor Facenda suggested we needed to see if anything in Title 39 addressed any of these matters.

Chief Newman suggested starting with 39:4-56.

Councilwoman Korngut, said at the last meeting she raised the issue of cyber security, adding that Clerk Canesi was kind enough to forward the report. The report was confidential, but Ms Korngut would like to know what had been done to remedy the issues of concern that were listed on the report.

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Councilman Dewees believed the issues had been addressed.

Clerk Canesi replied that yes the report is confidential and she had offered to go over the report in person with Councilwoman Korngut. Generically speaking, we have an outside IT vendor that handles many of the tasks that were not performed here. The report may say that we don't do them, but that's because we have an IT vendor. The JIF has appointed a consultant, Mayor Chau may be able to speak more on this, who would be going town to town to address any remaining deficiencies and work with them towards a plan to work on the "higher" risk items and move them into a more comfortable zone.

Councilwoman Korngut asked if the JIF was taking care of it?

Clerk Canesi deferred to Mayor Chau.

Mayor Chau advised that he attended a workshop with the JIF in regard to cyber security but did not recall timeframe.

Clerk Canesi suggested Councilwoman Korngut work with the Technology Chair, Councilman Lischin, and offered to meet with her to review the report line by line.

Councilwoman Korngut accepted the offer from Clerk Canesi to go over the report but would also like a contact for someone from the JIF.

Clerk Canesi suggested she contact Mr. Gerber as a representative for the JIF.

Councilwoman Korngut continued, and said she had made a recommendation about bike trails at Birch Grove Park.

Council President Dewees replied that the City applied for a grant to create bike trails which we did not get; he stated he had no interest in holding BMX events. He added that we had groups offer to help, but some wanted to be able to do bike events. He will put the request through the Advisory Board.

Councilwoman Korngut said she was also contacted by Mr. Webb, who was not able to come tonight, but asked her to inquire about moving the memorial from the front of City Hall to the Veterans Park.

Council President Dewees stated that members of the Committee met recently; Mr. Webb was there, as was Mark Doherty and Steve Vain. There is a company who will move the monument at a cost of \$10,000.00. Mr. Doherty was looking at some fund raising to address the need.

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Councilwoman Korngut announced that she had been contacted by Margaret who advised that her son was attaining the rank of Eagle Scout next month. Councilwoman Korngut wanted to bring this to Council's attention and honor Thomas Mason McGowan, who was entering his sophomore year at Mainland. He had done a lot for the town and raised funds for the museum. He also saved another child's life when he learned of a potential suicide. She recognized Tommy in the audience.

Margaret McGowan, in attendance with her son Tommy, spoke and thanked the City for recognizing him. She said her son was a special young man, and had done over 100 hours of community service at the American Legion.

Councilman Perri advised he would like to have the Planning Board adopt an ordinance addressing the network node issue, he asked permission from Council to present it to the Planning Board.

Councilman Lischin in response to Councilman Perri, agreed that we should not give these companies carte blanche.

Mayor Chau also agreed with Councilman Perri.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Dewees reviewed the regular meeting agenda. He asked if anyone wanted any resolutions voted on separately. He referred to Resolutions 158 and 159. They were in conflict, 2 teams were asking for same dates, times, and fields. He suggested tabling them, and having the groups work together to submit applications that do not conflict. He also noted past history of keeping kids under the age of 10 off of the major field.

Councilman Travagline recalled that the major field was limited to 10, 11, and 12 year olds.

Council President Dewees asked Clerk Canesi about communication so far.

Clerk Canesi explained the efforts made: she emailed both applicants to explain the conflict and asked if they could work together to address it before it was voted on, she heard back from one person.

Council President Dewees suggested tabling both resolutions; polled the Council and all agreed.

Clerk Canesi asked who would notify the applicants.

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Council President Dewees suggested that Clerk Canesi do so.

Council President Dewees continued to review the agenda and made assignments.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Dewees opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to speak on any topic.

Tom Wolfe, 317 Davis Avenue - referred to Davis Avenue and asked Mayor Chau if he'd ever seen the traffic issues at Second and Davis, near his home? There was a 4 way stop that no one stops for. Cars were doing 40-50mph.

Mayor Chau asked Clerk Canesi if the 2-way traffic was done by the State or the City.

Councilman Perri answered; he believed it was the State, as a result of the reconfiguration of the intersection. It was proposed to conform with the signalization.

Mr. Wolfe felt that Carluccio's and Mazzeo's had outgrown their businesses. Mr. Wolfe stated that Mr. Carluccio just bought the last house and he wants to tear it down and put up a parking lot.

Mayor Chau advised that would require Planning Board approval. He was amazed that there was no plan for Carluccio's to unload.

Councilman Travagline stated he would be in favor of a flashing light, but then they'd be everywhere.

Council President Dewees we should ask the Police Department to review the area and make a recommendation; he will work with the Mayor.

Councilwoman Korngut and Councilman Travagline advocated for increased police enforcement.

Brian Livesy, 529 Chestnut Avenue, stated that the Mayor had said he felt it would be a travesty if there is a box on his telephone pole, but the residents of Chestnut Avenue have to smell the diesel fumes and navigate around tractor trailers. He would like signs put up. Stop the parking, and just fix it. It's that simple.

Mayor Chau replied, and said he never said he had no problems with the odors in the area. He agreed with Mr. Livesy about the parking. He said he had presented the issues to the Council; they have the power, he did not.

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Mr. Livesy asked Mayor Chau if he was on the Planning Board that authorized the expansion.

Mayor Chau replied, yes, he was. The restricted parking had to be done by ordinance, which was City Council's prerogative. It was not City Council or the Mayor who enforced what the Planning Board established. That was the Zoning Officer; there were limitations to authority.

Mr. Livesy reported that the Police Department did a study and it had been 2 years, but Council was still talking about it.

Council President Dewees replied; as you can see, it happens in other sections of town as well. We had to be mindful how we deal with it but it will be taken care of.

Councilman Lischin advised that our sound ordinance was found to be unenforceable by the Judge.

Mr. Livesy said he couldn't open his windows at night due to the noise and the smell of the diesel.

Mr. Livesy then raised the issue of the speed limit on New Road. He felt there was no reason for it to change to 45mph in front of the post office.

Council President Dewees asked Chief Newman where the 45mph zone was.

Chief Newman believed it was 35 from Jackson to Mill, the rest was 40; he could be mistaken.

Councilman Travagline noted this came up when the sidewalks were done and he felt it should be brought back up. All of Northfield should be 35mph.

Tom Wolfe, 317 Davis Avenue, stated that he did not feel the Zoning Officer was doing his job.

Steven Goldstein, 501 Maple Avenue, reported that the street was 16 feet wide in front of his house he wanted the street widened to 20 feet.

Engineer Nassar replied that the street could be widened a few feet, but not much; perhaps the City could look at it as part of the road program.

Chris Cafiero, 303 West Revere, stated that he recently joined the Birch Grove Park Advisory Board. There is no BMX racing, they are just looking for recreational trails. He thanked Councilwoman Korngut for bringing it up. He said the reason he was in attendance was the Maryville Rehab Center; he felt across from the school was an odd place to put it since you can't put a bench out there for the Veterans.

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Mayor Chau advised Mr. Cafiero that the bus shelters were approved; it just took a while.

Mr. Cafiero continued; he understood towns were being sued because they were refusing to allow these places in their community. He didn't like the idea of people recently in recovery where his kids were walking to school. Can Council give any peace of mind?

Councilman Travagline stated that this had come up before, there was nothing we could do.

Council President Dewees asked Clerk Canesi for clarification.

Clerk Canesi explained that it is a permitted use in the zone, the Governing Body did not grant approval, nor did the Planning Board. It was not required. Just like the Caring Houses; no approval was required.

Steven Goldstein spoke; he felt if a public nuisance was created, they could be shut down.

Sean Sutley, 605 Herzel Avenue, announced that he submitted the 9U Sandshark request. Clerk Canesi had emailed him.

Council President Dewees told Mr. Sutley that Clerk Canesi would contact him.

Mr. Sutley advocated that Herzel Avenue be paved.

Mr. Cafiero asked about Mill Road paving.

Councilman Lischin replied that he'd had a meeting. The County will mill and pave the south side in the fall, as a temporary fix. The whole road would be paved in the spring.

Councilman Travagline asked why half-width?

Councilman Dewees explained that it was a requirement of the utilities opening the road.

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

At 7:28pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk