

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
AUGUST 31, 2026**

At 6:01pm this meeting was called to order by Deputy Municipal Clerk, Shannon Campbell. This meeting was properly advertised on the Municipal Website on August 19, 2026, and in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilwoman Carfagno; Councilman Dewees; Councilwoman Kern; Councilman Notaro; Councilman Polistina; Council President Bucci.

Absent: Councilman Smith

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Nassar, and Chief Pollak, were also present.

Council President Bucci moved to Committee Reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Polistina – Finance and Collections; Library; Municipal Alliance; Senior Citizens; Affordable Housing

Councilman Polistina attended an ACUA meeting a couple of weeks ago at their Atlantic City location. He reported our flows were increasing, we were budgeted low after the slip lining, he added that we did receive a credit; as of now Northfield was at budgeted at 2.4% of the population, year to date we are 2.8%. We were a little over what we budgeted; several towns' flows were down due to the decrease in rainfall over last 2 years. He commented on the shore towns not getting the same flows due to less homes not being occupied all year. The ACUA was working on upgrades of replacing their centrifuge furnace to make it work effectively and efficiently. Regarding Finance and Collections, the hiring for a Deputy Tax Clerk was on the agenda tonight, also temporarily also extending the hours of the part-time assistant during the transition. The tax office was very busy with taxes due now. The last Senior meeting was held on the 20th, Christine King from the County spoke regarding storms. Rob Patrick from the Cultural Committee would be the guest speaker at the next meeting and would provide information about Birch Grove Park and the Somers Brick Company.

Councilman Dewees – Buildings/Grounds, Athletic Fields; Birch Grove Park, Bike Path, 1st Street Playground, Veterans Park; Public Works; Roads, Engineering; Stormwater Sewer Operations; Cultural Committee

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Councilman Dewees reported he attended the Cultural Committee event on Thursday, everyone had a fun time at the concert.

Councilwoman Kern – Inspections, Housing/Zoning; Northfield Sports (FAN); Library; Mainland Regional

Councilwoman Kern announced the Library Board did not meet in August, their Summer reading program was successful; 155 people participated and read over 1100 books. They would be holding an adult computer class on September 8th, check their website for times and dates of future classes. Regarding FAN, they had a very successful night last night, their first home game was scheduled for September 27th. Mainland Regional High School's first day would be tomorrow, there was a new cell phone rule from the state, no cell phones in school called Bell to Bell. Personal electronic devices must be in their back pack or locker. An e-bike policy was also implanted, students must obtain a parking permit, the requirements were meant to promote student safety and compliance, students must show registration and license or permit to get the parking permit.

Councilwoman Bucci – Insurance and Safety; Planning Board; Economic Development / Chamber of Commerce

Council President Bucci reported Max Slusher with the ACEA did an economic study the found Atlantic City could lose over 8,000 jobs by 2035 and \$1.8 billion dollars due to the growth of online gaming and competition from New York casinos. This would have a significant impact on our local economy, businesses, and tax revenue. They were looking for South Jersey communities to strengthen their efforts. As a result, she spoke with Michael Grossman, member of the EDC, they are planning a meeting with businesses to educate them and come up with a plan for the community. She is also working on getting Northfield Film Ready Certified; more information would be available at the League of Municipalities to help streamline permitting process for production. Atlantic City, Cape May, and, Somers Point were already certified. It's estimated that the certification would result in an uptick in businesses of 20-30%, she would start the process for the City.

Councilman Smith - Central Municipal Court; Little League and Babe Ruth; Northfield Community School; Shared Services; Grants

Councilman Smith was absent.

Councilwoman Carfagno - Fire Department / EMS; Technology / MRHS Channel; Veteran Liaison

Councilwoman Carfagno read the Fire and EMS report for July. She still needed two more Home Town Hero flags to place the next order; those flags would be hung up next year. She suggested Council begin talks about technology upgrades in Council

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Chambers. She thanked all who came out during the torrential rain last week, it was a huge effort done by Police and Fire, they did a great job.

Councilman Notaro – Sanitary Sewer Operations

Councilman Notaro did not have a report.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Regulations regarding Keeping of Chickens – *Councilwoman Carfagno, Councilman Notaro*

Solicitor Facenda reported he would have something for the next meeting.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – ONGOING BUSINESS

- Changes to Road Opening Ordinance Fees – *will be adopted in 2026*

No update.

- Appoint new Municipal Housing Liaison

No update.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS

- No Knock Registry – Council President Bucci

Council Bucci advised that Absecon had recently passed an ordinance creating a No-Knock Registry. Council President Bucci explained our current ordinance and asked for Council's opinion. She noted the no knock registry would be a lot of work, she felt our current ordinance was working and suggested residents post a sign for "No Solicitors".

Councilman Polistina agreed, we had an ordinance in place, residents would still get non licensed solicitors.

Councilman Notaro agreed the problem was with the non-licensed solicitors.

Mayor Chau recommended that we require solicitors to wear a temporary badge.

Deputy Clerk Campbell explained our current policy and that each licensed solicitor is provided a bright green badge and is told they were required to wear it.

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Solicitor Facenda, regarding the bike path, did Council want to remove the speed limit of 10mph if all motor vehicles are prohibited?

Councilmen Dewees and Notaro wanted to leave the speed limit in and leave the signs up.

Solicitor Facenda wanted to confirm.

Council President Bucci moved to the regular meeting agenda.

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Council President Bucci asked all to take out their Regular Meeting agenda.

There were no questions or comments.

Council President Bucci made the assignments.

PUBLIC SESSION / FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Bucci opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to comment on any subject, she asked that all persons state their name and city of residence for the record and observe the five-minute limit per speaker.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Council President Bucci closed the public session.

At 6:21pm, on motions properly made and seconded, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Campbell, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk