

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2015**

At 6:01pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on February 14, 2015 in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

**FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Mayor Chau and Solicitor Kris Facenda were also in attendance.

- COAH Round 3 Housing Plan – Tiffany CuvIELlo to Provide Update

Council President Travagline introduced Tiffany CuvIELlo.

Ms. CuvIELlo stated that Judge Johnson scheduled a conference that was to be held in August, but it has been rescheduled until September 10th. After that conference Northfield will have more information as to what our obligation is for round three. The assumption is that the City will have to have an approved, adopted plan by December 8<sup>th</sup> of this year. At this time she doesn't know what the obligation will be, but we do know where available parcels are. The City should start working towards a formal mapping for a vacant land adjustment. The City may want to do that in order to say "it doesn't matter what our number is, this is all we can accommodate". If it can be certified through the courts, it can alter the obligation, but the City does have to do so in keeping with the timelines as they are given. Judge Johnson may more than likely assign a Special Master, the cost for which will be shared by the various municipalities. Ms. CuvIELlo spoke with John Peterson at County Planning; they are able to assist if mapping is needed. There may be a need to have a joint meeting of the Planning Board and Council prior to December 8th. Ms. CuvIELlo will know more on Thursday afternoon, after the conference with Judge Johnson.

Council President Travagline asked Tiffany to update him, Councilman Dewees and Planning Board Secretary Robin Atlas on what happens at Thursday's conference.

Ms. CuvIELlo added that firm numbers for Northfield have never been determined.

Council President Travagline thanked Tiffany for coming.

- Land Use Ordinance – Vehicle Storage in a Residential Zone

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Solicitor Facenda explained the recent discovery of two sections of the Land Use Ordinance that are inconsistent with each other, as it relates to commercial vehicle storage, and read the two sections verbatim, 215-32 and 215-105. The matter was referred back to the Planning Board and their suggestion was to have no vehicles allowed in excess of 1.5 tons.

Councilman Perri expressed concern because of how many residents use these types of vehicles for their livelihood, and further suggests that they not be banned altogether; his recollection was that at the Planning Board they only suggested removing the one line of contradictory language.

Solicitor Facenda stated he will prepare a red lined version for Councilman Perri to review.

Councilman Dewees stated there are several trees on the Bike Path that were downed in storms over the past several years, he has received recommendations from the County for replacement trees, and would like to get the Planning Board's input on the selection of replacement trees.

Councilman Dewees stated that he was asked on behalf of the Northfield Mothers League to ask Council to waive the insurance requirement for a Halloween fund raiser. Council has done this in the past for the Cultural Committee. The Mothers' League is a 501-c(3) entity that raises money to help Northfield families in need, and has been doing so since 1932. The concept is to have 100% of the proceeds, which he believed to be \$1 per child, going back to the community. The cost of a TULIP policy, at \$75-\$100 is a substantial amount of money for this group.

Councilman Dewees asked for a Resolution to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting if there are no objections from Council.

Municipal Clerk Canesi explained in more detail the concept of the proposed event.

Council President Travagline took a straw poll, there were no objections. He directed Solicitor Facenda to draft a Resolution.

Councilman Perri stated the next step for Wilson Drive will be to install traps but they first have to determine if there are utility conflicts, and then if there are none, we can possibly do in house.

Councilman Murray noted that he talked to Solicitor Facenda briefly; with the amount of foreclosures and people leaving their homes, he suggested a review of the property maintenance Ordinance to see if there are changes that can be made to allow us to act sooner. He would like to establish a committee.

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Councilman Dewees agreed, and suggested working with the County if possible, since it is a County wide problem.

Mayor Chau referred to a letter from County Executive Levinson about a no cost program that would collate information about these types of properties and establish a property registry, and to suggest ways to address the issues. He urged anyone from Council to attend, but if they cannot, Municipal Clerk Canesi will attend to represent Northfield.

Councilman Dewees reviewed the appraisal quotes for the Arthur Henry property and would like to recommend Cape Island Appraisals; she was the lowest quote and he had a long conversation with her. He did explain that the City was primarily interested in the land, but not the buildings.

Council President Travagline asked if there are any objections to using Cape Island there were none.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

Council President Travagline reviewed the agenda.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Council President Travagline opened the public session.

Helen Havlick, 203 West Revere Avenue, stated she has lived in her home since 1961. Trailers and trucks in her neighborhood are out of control. People from other towns and neighborhoods are storing their trailers in her neighborhood. These vehicles do not move when streets are swept or when roads need to be plowed. For what residents are paying in taxes, the situation is getting very bad and it doesn't look nice. Ordinances are passed but are never enforced. Code enforcement is lacking. She asked Council to ride through her neighborhood and see what is going on.

Mayor Chau mentioned that he has also observed vehicles parking on the Bike Path, they and have worn away the grass and soil. He had the Police Department visit the area to enforce.

Councilman Murray said he will review the area this week.

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

Council President Travagline asked for update on Police overtime.

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Mayor Chau advised Council that 3 were individuals on Workers Compensation, one went off and then came back on the following week. That, along with the unfortunate passing of one of our Officers, resulted in necessary overtime to cover shifts.

Acting Chief Newman confirmed that is correct, plus one officer is on medical leave, unrelated to Workers Compensation. The Department has 11 officers to cover the streets.

Mayor Chau stated that two recent new hires should help.

At 6:48pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk