

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025**

At 6:03pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk, Mary Canesi. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 11, 2025, and in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Chau led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Councilman Smith*

Councilman Smith was not present when attendance was taken but arrived at 6:05pm.

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Mauro, and Captain of Police Pollak were in attendance.

Council President Bucci moved to committee reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Councilman Polistina had no report.

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

Councilman Dewees reported that Public Works was working to clean storm drains in addition to their regular maintenance tasks.

Councilwoman Kern – Northfield Sports (FAN)

Councilwoman Kern referred to Chalk the Walk, members of the Police Department came out and greeted the kids, took photos and gave them Rita's and Jersey Cow certificates. She thanked the Police Department for that. FAN had their first game this weekend, Taxi was a tie, Peewee and JV did not win, Varsity did. The first home game is scheduled for this Sunday, she invited all to come out and watch the boys and girls.

**Councilman Smith arrived at approximately 6:05pm.*

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

Councilwoman Bucci announced the ACEA was having a networking event on October 8th at Josie Kelly's, and another event on November 12th to discuss a redevelopment plan for Tilton Road; Egg Harbor Township would be attending as well.

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

Councilman Smith reported on the shared court with Hammonton and the County. Based on a report from CFO Stollenwerk we will receive \$14,354 from Hammonton for court fines, we've also received \$24,353 from the County court for fines issued prior to January 2025. Our total net revenue as of July 31st is \$38,708. We previously operated at a deficit of around \$59,000; we are looking positive going forward.

Councilwoman Carfagno - Fire Department / EMS; Technology / MRHS Channel; Cultural Committee / Veteran Liaison; Mainland Regional

Councilwoman Carfagno announced school closures for September holidays and the dates for back-to-school night for Mainland; the next Board of Education meeting was scheduled for October 20th. The Cultural Committee met Saturday, September 6th; they discussed their upcoming flea market on November 22nd, \$35 per table, from 8am-12. Their next meeting was scheduled for October 25th. They will have another meeting soon for the semi quincentennial event. They also discussed the possibility of a city-wide yard sale. She asked all to keep in mind for next year's July 4th honorees. She announced she needs three more Hometown Hero applications to place another place another order, she encouraged all to spread the word. Members of our Fire Department attended the annual convention in Wildwood this year, and Engine 65 won second place in the best 6–15-year-old pumper category. She announced the dates for the upcoming hayrides and classic car show on October 5th.

Council President Bucci asked if for the semi quincentennial, was Councilwoman Carfagno able to apply for the grant?

Councilwoman Carfagno replied she was not, stating the grant was very complicated and a lengthy application.

Council President Bucci asked if Councilwoman Carfagno reached out to Mainland or Northfield Community School for volunteers for the Cultural Committee, they are always kids looking for service hours.

Councilwoman Carfagno replied they did discuss using them for events.

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Councilwoman Bucci asked do they have bylaws.

Councilwoman Carfagno replied they have not been located so far; the committee was supposed to ask Roy Clark if he knew where they were.

Councilman Polistina added that during his Committee report, he'd forgotten to announce the bike rodeo date for this weekend; Kiwanis donated helmets and lights. Mainland Key Club members will be helping out at the event.

Councilman Notaro – Sanitary Sewer Operations; Inspections, Housing/Zoning.

Councilman Notaro did not have a report.

Council President Bucci moved to ad hoc committee reports.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Road Opening Ordinance / Remaining Proposed Amendments – *Councilmen Dewees and Notaro.*

Council President Bucci announced this was on the agenda this evening.

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

Councilwoman Carfagno stated the committee would be meeting soon.

Council President Bucci asked if we could establish a deadline for this.

Councilwoman Carfagno replied, less than 60 days.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – ONGOING BUSINESS

- Future Amendment to Bulk Waste Collection Rules – Councilman Notaro

Councilman Notaro stated that we'd had a meeting with the ACUA, Mayor Chau reported on it and Superintendent Boyd was a part of the meeting. We would be reviewing our solid waste collection rules; Clerk Canesi took the time and reviewed it and provided comments. He asked all for input, noting most of it was housekeeping. The big item would be bulk waste, going from every week to once a month and down to two items, and the other would be how many cans.

Councilman Polistina asked was this just solid waste and not recycling.

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Councilman Notaro replied there were a few things that pertained to recycling for commercial properties.

Clerk Canesi suggested that everyone review it and send comments to Councilman Notaro or to her. She agreed with Councilman Polistina that the recycling for commercial properties needed to be reviewed.

Councilman Notaro asked Clerk Canesi to provide the draft to Superintendent Boyd.

Clerk Canesi asked if Public Works was going to be involved in solid waste collections; in the draft document being discussed, she had removed the references to them but can put them back in.

Councilman Notaro felt it would be good for them to be involved.

Clerk Canesi asked for clarification as to who the contact would be.

Councilman Notaro wanted the input from Superintendent Boyd and maybe put him back in.

- Draft Ordinance Regulation of Ebikes, Etc.

Solicitor Facenda replied; the final review should be on for introduction at next the meeting.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS

- Standing Item – New Grant Opportunities

Engineer Mauro said that back in July their firm had submitted the PPG Grant; she was waiting to hear from the USDA on loan information; she believed the I-bank may be a better option for the force main replacements.

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Council President Bucci reviewed the agenda and made the assignments.

Councilman Dewees noted he would be abstaining from vote for approval of the minutes.

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.

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Kurt Fehr, Northfield, regarding the ACUA yard waste pick up, said it goes to every other week in the fall. That is when the trees drop their leaves, he doesn't use the ACUA in the summer. In September he has pick up twice a week, in the summer he has one barrel every other week.

Councilman Notaro offered to take a look at it.

Mr. Fehr, referring to discussion at the last meeting, stated that the Council was talking about speed limits. He tested it and he can go 15mph on his bike, that's too fast, on a mellow ride he can sustain 8-12 mph. He didn't know how you can enforce it, he asked would there be size limits on vehicles on the bike path and would there be limits on propulsion systems?

Councilman Notaro replied, no gas-powered vehicles.

Mr. Fehr asked why.

Councilman Notaro replied because it's a different class of vehicle.

Mr. Fehr asked about golf carts.

Councilman Notaro replied, no.

Mr. Fehr asked why.

Councilman Polistina reiterated that it's a different class of vehicle.

Councilman Notaro noted that e-bikes are here to stay, we don't want to push kids into the street.

Mayor Chau felt no one could have foreseen, when the bike path was created, that we would have these electric vehicles. We were trying to address it and remain consistent with other municipalities.

Mr. Fehr added that our code says no motor vehicles on the bike path.

Captain Pollak explained the classes of e-bikes and their differences; the governing body is exploring options to limit which classes can be allowed on the bike path.

Councilman Polistina stated we were still working on the ordinance – regarding the ACUA schedule, yard waste is collected three out of the five weeks in December.

Mr. Fehr replied, but that is when he needed it most.

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

At 6:35pm, on motions properly made and seconded, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk