

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019**

At 6:07pm this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 5, 2019, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

ROLL CALL

Present: Dewees, Korngut, Madden, O'Neill, Perri
Absent: Lischin, Smith*

**Councilman Smith arrived at 6:21pm.*

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

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill asked Councilman Dewees to comment on the bike trails.

WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – OLD BUSINESS

- Bike Trails at BGP – *Signage and maps for public being developed*

Councilman Dewees stated he had nothing new to report and asked Engineer Nassar about the status of the maps.

Engineer Nassar replied that he needed the trails marked on a map and was waiting on information from Superintendent of Public Works Vitale and Deputy Clerk Campbell.

- Plastic Bag Restrictions – *Requested by Council President Lischin*

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill asked Solicitor Facenda to speak regarding the bag ordinance.

Solicitor Facenda recalled that at the last meeting, some of the Council members were going to try to get public input; he asked for comments.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill reached out to Capri and Nick's; they were not too crazy about it.

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Councilwoman Korngut, referencing the Somers Point Ordinance, said there is a span of time before fines are issued. Tilton Market and 7-11 had previously expressed that they would go with whatever we did.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill deferred further discussion until Council President Lischin was present.

- Use of Lights on Athletic Fields – *Requested by Councilman Smith*

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill announced that even though there was not a fee ordinance, Mr. Rosenfeld made a donation of \$250.00 toward the lights. Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill gave the check to Mayor Chau and thanked Mr. Rosenfeld for his donation.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill reported that he received a notice from the Northfield Community School regarding a helicopter landing for November 15th at the school. He asked the protocol.

Clerk Canesi advised that the school needed to reach out to the Fire Department regarding the Safe Landing Zone.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS

- Standing Item – New Grant Opportunities

Mayor Chau announced that he received a phone call from Congressman VanDrew and Senator Menendez congratulating us on the award of grant funds for the Fire Department.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill asked Councilman Perri to speak regarding the radio tower in parking lot.

- Radio Tower, Rear of City Hall – *Requested by Councilman Perri*

Councilman Perri explained that there was a radio tower at City Hall; it was a pre-existing structure. Once you take it down you are done; there was talk of it being removed as part of the parking lot renovations. He felt we should keep it for possible future use.

Engineer Nassar added that we could design around it.

Councilman Perri noted that there was language that pre-existing towers should be first, there was a need. We could go out to bid.

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Solicitor Facenda replied that there may be zoning implications; if we want to test the water for interest, we could go out for RFP.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill did a straw poll vote to rent or lease our current tower for communications equipment.

Councilwoman Korngut asked if there was any downside.

Councilman Perri replied that it was pre-existing; it was one of the few structures visible above the tree line from Margate Boulevard. He advised that there was a dead zone from Jackson Avenue to the Four Seasons.

All members present were generally in favor.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill directed Clerk Canesi and Solicitor Facenda to proceed.

Councilwoman Korngut announced that she received a resolution from the Council President of Tinton Falls; the resolution was in support of spouses of veterans that do not qualify for tax breaks to receive incentives, she was not sure if it affected Northfield, but wanted to put it out there for discussion.

At 6:21pm Councilman Smith entered the meeting.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill took a straw poll and all were in general agreement to put the resolution on the next agenda.

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill reviewed the regular meeting agenda and made assignments.

PUBLIC SESSION/ FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill opened this portion of the meeting for any member of the public to speak on any topic; he noted a 5-minute limit per speaker.

Darren Boyd, 402 Franklin Avenue, said at the last meeting he was surprised to hear the discussion about Airbnb, he would like Council to consider regulating. There were owner occupied homes that make money. He also asked about the bike path extension grant.

Engineer Nassar explained the restrictions that required an extension to the existing bike path.

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Mr. Boyd suggested extending the bike path to the First Street Playground; he also suggested a walking path. He mentioned there were a lot of young families in the neighborhood. He also suggested it as a possible space for a dog park.

Mayor Chau asked if it would involve private property.

Mr. Boyd replied no, and explained the route he would suggest.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill added that if we are going to look at grant money to extend, he suggested additional benches as well.

Darren Delcher, 681 Pasadena Drive, informed Council that his neighbors from Pasadena Drive greatly appreciate their action. He also advised that a resident very close to City Hall was hosting multiple guests; he did not think it was safe and it could come back to the City. The Code Enforcement officer was aware. There were still three individuals listing on Airbnb. In Linwood, despite an ordinance, they were still hosting guests. He thanked Council for their actions. He felt most residents would appreciate the ordinance.

Jason Scanny, 8 Julie Drive, asked Council if there was a resolution for Halloween in regard to the request for the closure of Dani and Julie Drives.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill replied no, he believed there were other individuals who were supposed to come tonight and asked the resident if he would mind waiting.

Mr. Scanny asked was there an ordinance that they cannot put up barricades, and what do we have to do to get this done?

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill asked Chief Newman to speak.

Chief Newman reported that on September 11th he responded to Mayor Chau. This should be a Police detail. The 3 locations requested had been identified. It would take three officers as overtime or a detail. His department would not check ID's, but they could restrict vehicular traffic. If it was not going to be done that way, and the Council wanted to pay it as overtime it was going to cost around \$1,100.00, if he could staff it. Under normal circumstances, he did schedule two Class II officers down there. It was discussed this afternoon that perhaps Mill and Haviv could be closed; he would normally have one Class II officer there anyway; this was because cars park on Mazza Drive and pedestrians cross in the dark. He could probably close that off with barricades, again, assuming he can staff it. This would leave Dani Drive open, as well as Glenwood and Sutton.

Solicitor Facenda asked Chief Newman for the process for a detail.

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Chief Newman explained that there was an application on the City website, there was also a hold harmless agreement and insurance requirement. Interested parties should contact Captain Steinecke.

Solicitor Facenda asked was the cost of a detail paid by an applicant.

Chief Newman replied yes.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill confirmed that we'd already be assigning a Class II.

Chief Newman replied yes, but, if it is an expectation that it will be done every year, other neighborhoods may want the same thing.

Councilman Dewees asked if the Council had no 'say' in this matter.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill wanted to know if we'd have the residents pay for something the Chief was already going to do.

Chief Newman advised that the Class II was not the detail.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill began to conduct a straw poll.

Solicitor Facenda clarified that this was not a matter for Council to vote on.

Mr. Scanny asked if barricades have to be manned.

Chief Newman said he was not comfortable with unmanned barricades.

Councilman Dewees asked if anyone had the authority to close a City road.

Chief Newman replied no.

Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill directed the resident to the City website for the application packet.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, Council President Pro-tempore O'Neill closed the public session.

At 6:46pm, on a motion of Councilwoman Korngut, seconded by Councilman Perri, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Canesi, RMC, Registered Municipal Clerk