

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 26, 2023**

At 6:02pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk, Mary Canesi. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 7, 2023, and in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Councilman Smith

Solicitor Facenda and Engineer Nassar were also present.

Council President Polistina moved to Committee reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Leeds – Fire Department/EMS; Planning Board

Councilman Leeds had no report this evening.

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

Councilman Dewees had no report this evening.

Councilwoman Bucci – Insurance and Safety; Municipal Alliance; Economic Development / Chamber of Commerce

Councilwoman Bucci announced Trunk or Treat would be held on October 7th from 5-7pm, please contact Deputy Clerk Campbell to register.

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

Councilman Smith was absent.

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

Councilwoman Carfagno reported the Cultural Committee was meeting on Saturday, September 30th, and the Fall Flea market would be held in November. Back to

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School Night at Mainland was very well attended, the next Board of Education Meeting was scheduled for October 16th.

Councilman Notaro - Inspections, Housing/Zoning; Sewer Operations; Northfield Sports (FAN)

Councilman Notaro had no report this evening.

Council President Polistina – Finance and Collections; Library; Senior Citizens

Council President Polistina had no report this evening.

Council President Polistina moved to the ad hoc committee reports.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

- Electric Vehicles (Councilmen Polistina, Notaro) – no update.
- Food Trucks (Councilwoman Bucci, Councilman Dewees)

Council President Polistina asked had everyone had the chance to review the food truck ordinance?

Council President Polistina questioned the section regarding prepared food, he asked about food prepared elsewhere?

Councilman Leeds responded he believed the county addresses this at each event.

Brief discussion resulted in a suggestion that an employee must be 18 to work in the food truck. Solicitor Facenda commented that he was not in favor of this provision; if a minor had working papers, they should be able to work.

All agreed to strike suggestion for this modification.

Clerk Canesi advised the next step would be to have Solicitor Facenda put it in ordinance form.

- Affordable Housing (Councilwoman Carfagno, Councilman Polistina)

Solicitor Facenda announced that he and Clerk Canesi have been speaking with Habitat, generally their method of operation is to build side by side townhouse structures, they were proposing four (4) on one site and three (3) on the other.

Clerk Canesi asked Engineer Nassar to provide a price for surveys for the two Dolphin Avenue properties, as requested by Habitat. It will be charged to the Affordable Housing Trust.

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- Insurance Requirements Review (Councilman Polistina, Councilwoman Bucci) – No update.

Council President Polistina moved to ongoing business.

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – ONGOING BUSINESS

- Stormwater Facilities Shared with Atlantic County–*Update if available, Engineer Nassar*
- Potential Sale / Development of City Owned Properties: Block 66 Lot 11; Block 69 Lot 1.02; Block 121 Lot 1 - *update given during ad hoc committee reports.*

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS

- Standing Item – New Grant Opportunities

Council President Polistina thanked Clerk Canesi for the lead grant, and for her assistance with the USDA grant, in gathering information and keeping that moving.

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Council President Polistina reviewed the Regular Meeting agenda.

Council President Polistina made the assignments.

PUBLIC SESSION / FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Polistina opened the public portion of the meeting for any person to comment on any subject, he asked that they state their name for the record and observe the five-minute limit per speaker.

Tom Boyd, Northfield, asked how many units Habitat was proposing?

Solicitor Facenda replied, a total of fourteen (14); eight (8) on one property and six (6) on the other.

Mr. Boyd hoped the project worked out.

Ian Brady, Linwood, announced he was a retired service member, and that he works at the Veterans Administration. He loves Birch Grove Park. He was proposing using the park, there were many aspects that were not being used. Mr. Brady works with at-risk veterans and walks the park regularly with them. He explained he used to play

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disc golf but there are no courses nearby. Birch Grove was more than suited to make it one of the best courses in the state, it is a sport that is meant to be played in the woods. He distributed handouts to show what it would look like.

Clerk Canesi displayed the proposed site on the screen in Council Chambers, as had been provided by Councilwoman Carfagno.

Mr. Brady noted all were within 100-200 feet of the road but would not impede foot traffic. There were many holes already done as they are in the campground. He would love to show you what courses look like. A course could generate revenue because you can hold tournaments.

Councilwoman Bucci asked Mr. Brady if he owned the company that builds these?

Mr. Brady replied, he was the company that builds these. There were larger dead trees that would have to come down for safety purposes. He did not feel it would be any additional costs. The estimated cost to construct the course would be \$12,000.00-\$15,000.00, without clearing any trees.

Councilwoman Bucci asked do people bring their own frisbees?

Mr. Brady replied yes. He thanked Council for their time.

Council President Polistina thanked Mr. Brady.

Seeing no one else in person or on Zoom wishing to speak, Council President Polistina closed the public session.

At 6:29pm, on motions properly made and seconded, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk