

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 14, 2010**

At 7:00pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was properly advertised according to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

The flag salute was led by Mayor Vincent Mazzeo. Following the flag salute a moment of silence was observed.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Kern, Mr. O’Grady, Mr. Perri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Vain, Mr. Carew
Absent: Mr. Martinez

Mayor Vincent Mazzeo, City Solicitor Keith Bonchi, and City Engineer Matt Doran were also in attendance.

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Carew reviewed the agenda.

CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT, NORTHFIELD LITTLE LEAGUE:

Four Northfield Little League teams were honored for their 2010 accomplishments, and a large crowd of family, friends, and supporters gathered for the event. Players were announced individually by name by Council President Carew, and were presented with personalized certificates of achievement by Mayor Mazzeo. Each team’s players, coaches, and management were also recognized.

8U ALL-STAR BASEBALL TEAM

This year’s team won both the Egg Harbor Township and Linwood 8U All-Star Tournaments, coming back in extra innings to defeat Galloway Township for the championship in the Egg Harbor Township tournament. The team outscored the competition 48-13 to win the Linwood Tournament. This is only the second time a Northfield 8U team has won two tournaments in the same season.

Players are: Spencer Albuquerque, Devin Begley, Ben Arena, CJ Brown, Ben Brandt, Nick Bucci, Kevin Foreman, Braden Garth, John Madkiff, Liam Meade, Daniel Misa, Charlie Murray, Tony Tamanini, Ava Zanaras. Coaches are Rick Albuquerque, Greg Arena, and Chet Brown, and Team Manager is Tom Zanaras.

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10-11 YEAR OLD ALL-STAR SOFTBALL TEAM

These girls were District 16 Champions, with an undefeated record and a combined 22 hits. Winning two out of three games, they were also Section 4 Champions, with a combined 45 hits including 7 extra base hits and a home run by Alencia Yeoman. They placed 3rd in the State Championships, having lost in the semifinal round.

Players are: Ashley Lawler, Alencia Yeoman, Kelsey Dewees, Mackenzie Mindish, Moira Haberkern, JoJo Schallus, Jenny Margolis, Gabriela Baker, Gigi Matta, Alexis Yard, Gianna Meoli, Mindy Parson, and Mikaela Sheridan. Coaches are Greg Dewees, Jason Yard, and Brian Haberkern, who was unable to be in attendance this evening.

9-10 YEAR OLD ALL-STAR BASEBALL TEAM

The 9-10 year old All-Star baseball team finished the season as District 16 Champions, and South Jersey Section 4 runners up, the 9-10 All-Star players are: Shaun Summers, Connor Foley, Sean Dillon, Anthony Lord, Patrick Turner, Connor Juckett, Matt Lawler, Joel Burgos, Jayson Hoopes, Joe Bonczek, and Joe Palmieri. Coaches are Mike Dillon and Dale Foley, with Joe Summers as Manager.

11-12 YEAR OLD ALL-STAR BASEBALL TEAM

The Northfield 11-12 year old team won the District 16 title as they went undefeated during District play. This is the second District Championship for Northfield at this age group; with the previous one coming in 2002. Next, the boys participated in the Section Tournament; Northfield became the first District 16 winner since 1988 to claim a Section 4 Championship. Following the win in Cherry Hill, the players were warmly received by many in the community as fire trucks escorted the boys and their families through town to Birch Grove Park. Northfield was then one of four teams remaining in a tournament that started with 380 teams. The boys, along with the three other teams received a State Police escort to the State capital and met Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno. Northfield went on to win the first game of the State Tournament when they defeated West New York Little League, but the magical baseball run finally came to an end when they lost to eventual Mid Atlantic Champion, Toms River. The boys from Northfield were lauded by the tournament directors and media alike for their sportsmanship, class, and volunteerism as they assisted in a Challenger Division game for children with special needs and disabilities. The team finished the season in mid August with an 11-0 victory over Linwood in the 12th annual Mainland Cup.

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The boys who proudly represented Northfield are: RJ D'Amico, Nicholas Droboniku, Bryan Foreman, David Goodman, Cornelius Masterson, Danny McCabe, Joe McGee, George Morton, Cody Sadreameli, Matthew Thomas, and Michael Toner. Coaches are Mike toner and Craig Smith; Team Manager is Dennis Foreman, and Little League President is Nick Droboniku.

The players and coaches of the 11-12 All-Star baseball team presented a plaque to team manager Dennis Foreman in appreciation of his years of dedicated service to the children and to the Little League organization. Foreman thanked the players, their families, and the City. Council President Carew announced a brief recess.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilman Vain, second by Councilman O'Grady, to dispense with the reading of the minutes of July 13th and August 10th. They have been posted, distributed to Council and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office. All present in favor, motion carries for approval of minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri said the negotiations for the sewer interlocal are still ongoing with Linwood. The cell tower committee met recently.

Councilman Vain congratulated all players who were recognized this evening. The Safe Routes to School event was a huge success, and many children were able to exchange their damaged helmets. He thanked NCS, Dr. Fipp, Chief James, Lt Faden, the police department, Robbie Dollard and all other volunteers for their participation and efforts. This event was planned for over a year, and in addition to the Bike Rodeo, this money was also used to produce a safety video, breakaway stop signs, and purchase hand held radar guns. Vain has heard from some in the community that the Safe Routes to Schools money should have been used to put in more sidewalks around the school, instead of how it was actually spent. Vain clarified that the Safe Routes to Schools grant could not be used for any infrastructure projects; it could only be used for education and safety projects. Vain added that the grant funds that were used to install sidewalks on Cedar Bridge Road in 2009 were from the DOT's non-discretionary grant program, not Safe Routes to Schools. The City is, however, vigilant in looking for additional grants for infrastructure projects. The estimate for sidewalks for Mill Road is \$350,000 and requires easements from some homeowners; also Mill Road is too narrow in some spots. Sidewalks from Cedar Bridge to Oak were estimated at a cost of \$250,000 and easements are an issue here as well, as is elevation. Vain said he wanted to meet with Council in committee to discuss the 2011 budget. Carew responded that there is always ongoing dialogue between

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himself, the CFO, and the Mayor, and that we will be working on that in the very near future. Vain commented, as Insurance Chair, that there were three elected officials who did not attend the JIF training; the City Clerk has emailed them to find out if they did go or not.

Councilwoman Kern said the summer concerts sponsored by the Cultural Committee very well attended this year; the Cultural Committee also seeks grant funding for events. They are having their annual garage sale in November. The Mill Road School reunion was held a few years ago, and there is talk of another one next year. The Municipal Alliance grant is on the agenda again for this year to fund programs for seniors and at the NCS and MRHS. Kern also attended the Bike Rodeo, and congratulated Vain and the other coordinators. The kids were excited and the parents appreciative. Parking on Cedar Bridge continues to be an issue; residents are dissatisfied with the parking situation. Councilman Vain responded, saying that Chief James is monitoring the situation to determine if the two hour parking needs to be extended down the street. Chief James also responded, saying they have monitoring the area since school opened. Volume is considerable in the morning and afternoon, mostly parents. After drop off is over, there are only 6-8 cars remaining on any given day. Kern said she will report on shared court at the next meeting. She said evening's like tonight bring the community together and she wishes we could do it more often.

Councilman Smith said as a baseball coach at MRHS, he'd love to have a pipeline of talented athletes coming through. He read the Fire Department and EMS reports for the month of August. He met with the cell tower committee, and said the initial response is that major carriers do not have a need at this time. He added that it doesn't mean there won't be a need in the future.

Councilman O'Grady read a list of upcoming library events, and said the next Library Board meeting will be on September 16th. He will report on e-commerce at next meeting. Email blasts continue to provide good information and encouraged all to sign up if they've not already done so. The energy audit wrap up conference call was conducted recently. He urged Council to help follow through on the recommendations. We are eligible for grants through SustainablejerseyTM, and were recently awarded a \$1,000 grant.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Council President Carew mentioned the unfortunate passing of Northfield teenager Dale Krause. Dale contributed a lot in terms of volunteer labor and time for Northfield, at the park, at the fields and other areas of the City. He will be deeply

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missed. Carew said the happy and haunted hayrides are in the works, volunteers are needed during the day. Construction started today on the Birch Grove Park Center.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Mazzeo praised the Little League players for their extraordinary accomplishments. He referred to Ordinance 14-2010 on this evening's agenda to authorize the purchase of property next to the bird sanctuary, and thanked Claire Moyer for her hard work, and Keith Bonchi for his assistance with the project. The City received a plaque from the US Census thanking us for partnering with them. Mazzeo recently met with Jim Clark and Councilman Vain about the Clean Communities Clean Up event scheduled for the week of October 4th; this will be funded by the Clean Communities Grant. The Family Funfest is quickly approaching, with many vendors and events for the kids. We received a Local Government Best Practices Checklist from the state; it consists of 88 yes or no questions; some may require the passage of an ordinance to be able to answer in the affirmative. Our state aid depends on achieving at least a certain percentage of yes answers. Mazzeo noted that when state aid was established its intended purpose was to be a revenue stream for municipalities, and gradually over the years the state has taken more and more for themselves. The Planning Board recently held a Land Use Ordinance meeting and will be making recommendations. He relayed two stories where Northfield patrolmen were making routine traffic stops, one ending in a foot pursuit and the other yielding stolen hand guns and a quantity of heroin. Police officers face a lot of challenges, even in Northfield, and are doing a great job. Mazzeo noted that in-car video cameras in the works. He contacted Leon Delcher about increasing the fire inspection permit fee; the current \$25 fee dates back to 1990. Linwood charges \$35, and EHT ranges from \$25 to \$180 based on square footage. Delcher recommended a straight increase to \$40 or a sliding scale based on square footage.

At 8:14pm, Councilman Perri left the dais.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The City Engineer's report was provided to Mayor and Council and is on file in the Municipal Clerk's office. There were no updates.

RESOLUTIONS/CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Kern motioned, Councilman Smith seconded for a consent agenda for resolutions 139-2010 through 161-2010. All present in favor. Council President

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Carew noted that resolution 161-2010 was an Executive Session that will take place at the end of the regular meeting.

- 139-2010** Authorizing Cancellation of Tax Sale Certificate
- 140-2010** Authorizing Cancellation of Tax Sale Certificate
- 141-2010** A Resolution Authorizing the City of Northfield to Apply to the Frank H. Stewart Trust for Grant Funds to be Used for the Purchase of Block 157 Lots 4 and 33 in the City of Northfield
- 142-2010** A Resolution to Ratify the Grant Application and to Accept the Grant Known as “National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators Grant”
- 143-2010** A Resolution Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation as per N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87
- 144-2010** Authorizing a Raffle License for the Dominic DiCicco Memorial Trust
- 145-2010** Authorizing the Refund of Overpayment of Taxes - Various
- 146-2010** Authorizing the Refund of Sewer Charges and Cancellation of Future Charges for Block 65 Lot 11
- 147-2010** Authorizing the Release of a Maintenance Guarantee for Block 95 Lot 13
- 148-2010** Authorizing the Release of a Maintenance Guarantee for Block 99 Lot 9
- 149-2010** To Authorize the Hiring of Donald McBride as Temporary Part Time Electrical Subcode Inspector
- 150-2010** Request for Time Extension from the County of Atlantic for the Round 9 Open Space Trust Financial Assistance Agreement for Development in the City of Northfield
- 151-2010** Release of Escrow Monies by the Planning Board Block 27 Lot 36

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- 152-2010** To Authorize Hiring of Michael Kane as Seasonal Maintenance Employee for Birch Grove Park
- 153-2010** Authorizing Release of Performance Guarantee for Centres Northeast
- 154-2010** Recognizing Name Change for Northfield Allsports
- 155-2010** Authorization to Create a Lien on Block 40 Lot 18.25
- 156-2010** Authorization to Create a Lien on Block 81 Lot 26
- 157-2010** Authorization to Create a Lien on Block 36 Lot 8
- 158-2010** Release of Performance Guarantee and Posting of Maintenance Guarantee Block 46 Lots 14-16
- 159-2010** Refund Overpayment of Mercantile License Fee for Sage Jewelers
- 160-2010** To Apply for 2011 Municipal Alliance Grant
- 161-2010** A Resolution Providing For An Executive Session Not Open To The Public In Accordance With The Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 Regarding Pending Litigation In The Matter Of Jack Trocki Development Co., LLC, v City Of Northfield, et al, Docket No. ATL-CL130-09

Councilwoman Kern motioned, Councilman Smith seconded to adopt by consent agenda resolutions 139-2010 through 161-2010.

Roll call: Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Martinez – absent; Mr. O’Grady – yes; Mr. Perri – absent; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

ORDINANCES

On a motion of Councilman Smith, second of Councilman Vain, all present in favor of reading Ordinance 12-2010 by title only.

- 12-2010** Private Storm Drain Retrofitting Ordinance
Introduction/No Public Input/Published 09/18/2010
Second Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption 09/28/2010

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At 8:17pm, Councilman Perri returned to the dais.

Roll call: Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Martinez – absent; Mr. O’Grady – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for introduction of Ordinance 12-2010.

On a motion of Councilman Smith, second of Councilman O’Grady, all present in favor of reading Ordinance 13-2010 by title only.

13-2010 An Ordinance Regulating Certain Aspects of Refuse Container/Dumpster Usage
Introduction/No Public Input/Published 09/18/2010
Second Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption 09/28/2010

Roll call: Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Martinez – absent; Mr. O’Grady – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for introduction of Ordinance 13-2010.

On a motion of Councilwoman Kern, second of Councilman Smith, all present in favor of reading Ordinance 14-2010 by title only.

14-2010 An Ordinance Providing for the Purchase of Real Property within the City of Northfield from Sylvia Danzenbaker
Introduction/No Public Input/Published 09/18/2010
Second Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption 09/28/2010

Councilman Vain requested discussion; he clarified that this purchase is entirely grant funded; the contract of sale is contingent upon receipt of grant funding.

Roll call: Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Martinez – absent; Mr. O’Grady – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for introduction of Ordinance 14-2010.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilman Vain seconded, for payment of bills in the amount of \$ 1,476,230.49. Vain and Kern announced abstentions from certain line items on the bill list.

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Roll call: Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Martinez – absent; Mr. O’Grady – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries for payment of bills.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Carew opened this meeting to the public and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak.

Jim O’Neill, 7 Cara Court, wants someone to look at the football and practice fields as they are in need of attention. Carew agreed. O’Neill suggested that someone regularly check the fields, with a checklist of some sort, even in the off season.

Seeing no others wishing to speak, Council President Carew closed the public session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF COUNCIL

The Municipal Clerk read the Paff injunction under which the City of Northfield has been bound with regard to closed sessions of Council, and read Resolution 161-2010 by title.

161-2010 A Resolution Providing For An Executive Session Not Open To The Public In Accordance With The Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 Regarding Pending Litigation In The Matter Of Jack Trocki Development Co., LLC, v City Of Northfield, et al, Docket No. ATL-CL130-09

Solicitor Bonchi announced that in the closed session Council will talk about whether or not to appeal an order by Judge Kane; a vote may be taken in public after the closed session. Information may be disclosed when the matter is closed and all rights to appeal have been exhausted, but matters of strategy will not be made public.

Councilman Perri excused himself from the closed session due to a conflict.

At 8:35pm, Council entered closed session; they remained in Council chambers. At 8:42pm, on motions properly made and seconded, the closed session was adjourned and Mr. Bonchi announced a summary for the record as follows: legal strategy was explained to Council with regard to an order issued by Judge Kane; the status of the case was explained and legal questions posed by Council were answered. Council will now take a vote to allow the Solicitor to file a motion of appeal.

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Motion by O’Grady, seconded by Smith to allow the Municipal Solicitor to file a motion of appeal in the matter of a ruling by Judge Kane in the case of Jack Trocki Development Co., LLC, v City Of Northfield, et al. Docket No. ATL-CL130-09.

Roll call: Mrs. Kern – yes; Mr. Martinez – absent; Mr. O’Grady – yes; Mr. Perri – absent; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Vain – yes; Mr. Carew – yes. Motion carries.

On motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned at 8:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk