

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
OCTOBER 8, 2013**

At 6:05pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi Municipal Clerk. It was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 7, 2013 in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Dewees, Mahon, O'Neill, Perri, Polistina, Travagline

Absent: Carew

Note: At 6:06pm Councilman Carew entered Council Chambers immediately following roll call and took his seat at the work session table and was in attendance for the entire meeting.

Mayor Mazzeo, Solicitor Kris Facenda, Municipal Engineer Dan Kwapinski, Chief Robert James and Deputy Clerk Mimi Marlor were also in attendance.

WORK SESSION TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

- Presentation of petition from residents requesting paving of East Oakcrest Avenue

Council President Travagline announced the presentation of the petition and introduced Ann Jungels.

Ann Jungels, 138 East Oakcrest Avenue, referred to the work being done on their street by the New Jersey American Water Company, and noted the poor current condition of the road with respect to the work being performed. In addition she noted that the road has been in disrepair for years and it has not been repaved in over 30 years. She shared that New Jersey American Water indicated that they will be providing trench paving and lane paving over the section they are working on. She asked Council if they were in receipt of the petition that she had filed and Council concurred they all had copies. She presented pictures taken of the potholes on the street. She referred to those pictures noting the areas that were patched by public works and stated she was not satisfied with this as the City's solution to the paving issues.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
OCTOBER 8, 2013**

Stella Blumberg, 127 East Oakcrest Avenue, stated that due to lack of sidewalks pedestrians have to walk in the street. She further stated that she believed this presents the threat of a lawsuit in the event of an injury. She asked that the City negotiate with New Jersey American Water to have the street properly paved.

Robert Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, stated his dissatisfaction with the areas of town that the City chooses to pave.

Maggie Hanson, 130 East Revere Avenue, stated that the street is not properly graded and she is concerned about mosquitos breeding in the standing water.

Council President Travagline asked Councilman Dewees about temporary patching and if there were any other solutions.

Councilman Dewees shared that the patch material we use is what we have and it isn't a long term solution.

Mayor Mazzeo shared that an area near Ace Hardware was paved and the area close to these resident's streets is slated to be paved but the City was going to start at Oxford Circle and work their way down. He suggested that maybe they could start at the other end; but he noted that you always have to see how far the money goes. He did state to the residents in attendance that their presence puts their concerns on the radar.

Councilman Dewees stated he liked the idea of working with New Jersey American Water. He suggested that our contractor work with them or get a financial reimbursement from New Jersey American Water so that the City can use it toward a more comprehensive paving plan.

Engineer Kwapinski stated he met with New Jersey American Water to review all of the restoration they have to do as a result of the water main and lateral installation. He noted that he has looked at the Oakcrest Avenue area several times and it is a high priority. He shared that he is trying to see what New Jersey American Water's plan is and to see if the City can work with them.

Council President Travagline stated that the area is a priority.

Councilman Carew asked how far the water company is going, and shared his past experience with New Jersey Water Company and the road restoration at that time as an example of coordinated effort.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
OCTOBER 8, 2013**

Councilman Perri stated that he thought they would have to go curb to curb to restore the paving.

Engineer Kwapinski stated there are many variables that are considered in determining the restoration width requirement, such as age, condition of roadway, and location of the excavation etc.

Stella Blumberg, 127 East Oakcrest Avenue, thanked Council for their consideration.

Council President Travagline asked Engineer Kwapinski for a breakdown of New Jersey American Water's projected work schedule over the next five years. Engineer Kwapinski replied he has already done that to a certain extent.

Ann Jungels, 138 East Oakcrest Avenue, asked for a timetable.

Mayor Mazzeo explained that the Capital Ordinance will be introduced tonight and adopted on the 22nd of October; then any of the considered projects have to go out to bid. He stated that weather conditions becomes a factor with a project such as paving, so it would more likely take place in the Spring of 2014 or even 2015.

Ann Jungels, 138 East Oakcrest Avenue, stated she was not happy to hear him say 2015 and urged Council to get it done in 2014.

Council President Travagline reiterated that it will depend on how far the money goes and further noted that if New Jersey American Water can work with us that would help the cause greatly.

Robert Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, noted that he has been asking for his street to be paved for over 10 years.

Councilman Perri stated he did not think Northfield should negotiate with New Jersey American Water. He stated he'd rather see them do what they have to do and we'll come back later.

- Addition of golf to list of City sports programs administered by the Family Association of Northfield

Council President Travagline spoke to this issue and stated he asked Municipal Clerk Canesi to contact the risk manager who advised it would be \$400.00 for an additional sport. He further stated that this could be costly per athlete. He explained that they

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
OCTOBER 8, 2013**

would use Atlantic City County Club and that would not cost the City anything; however it would depend on the per person cost. The sport would not be added until the spring so Council has time to evaluate it. He reiterated that the insurance coverage would be the only cost to the City.

Councilman Perri asked if there would be a fee charged to each athlete.

Councilman Polistina stated that FAN may in fact be able to shift money from one sport to another without costing the City any money.

Municipal Clerk Canesi asked all to speak up.

Council President Travagline shared that the FAN organization has used up all \$10,000.00 of funding they had for this year.

Councilman Carew stated he thinks it is a great idea and good for the kids. He additionally noted that the fees can be addressed next year.

- Discussion of hours of operation at Birch Grove Park

Council President Travagline referred to comments presented by a resident at the last Council meeting about opening the park from dawn to dusk. He further noted that due to Councilman Carew's absence at the last meeting and as a member of the Park Advisory Board it was tabled until this evening. He stated he had done some research on the New Jersey state parks and they are open dawn to dusk; but he noted that he will have the Deputy Clerk investigate further regarding staffing and restroom accessibility.

Councilman Carew stated he wanted to talk to the insurance consultant. Some parks do not have 27 lakes and we want to make sure we have all our ducks in a row, all the proper signage in place and shared he had concerns about keeping the bathrooms open with no staff on duty

Councilman Perri suggested that the Birch Grove Park Advisory Board should make a recommendation to Council and the Park Supervisor should be involved.

Councilman Carew stated that if the insurance is not an issue, he has no problem with it.

Mayor Mazzeo stated he feels that the City would need to provide staffing.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
OCTOBER 8, 2013**

Councilman Polistina made a comparison to local beach use. He stated lifeguards get everyone out of the water before they leave and after that the users do so at their own risk. He also expressed concern with the use of grills, fires, tables etc. with no staff present and reiterated the need to consult with the Advisory Board.

Councilman O'Neill mentioned that the residents who came to the last meeting indicated a willingness to pay a user fee.

Councilman Carew stated he will meet with the Advisory Board, will review the research with the Deputy Clerk and present at the November meeting.

Council President Travagline asked if Council had any other items to discuss.

Councilman Mahon shared he has spoken with residents who are opposed to the energy aggregation ordinance. They want to be able to opt in to the program not have to opt out if they don't want to participate.

Mayor Mazzeo reviewed the outreach program.

Councilman Polistina explained that if a resident already has a 3rd party supplier they stay with that supplier because they are already under contract.

Councilman Carew suggested a public notice or an email blast or both, to explain the program. This gives the residents an opportunity to come out to voice their opposition or support. I'd rather the City not decide for the residents without giving them a say.

Council President Travagline stated he was in favor of the Ordinance. He thinks it's a great idea and the residents will only see savings or the same rate.

Councilman O'Neill suggested that the Current newspaper do an article.

Ryan Carr, representative from Commercial Utility Consultants, clarified that the introduction of the Ordinance only establishes the program.

Councilman Perri asked about the Use of Facilities Resolution 176-2013 and was it for Northfield kids.

Councilman Dewees shared that it was a travel team, outside of Northfield Little League; but stated there are Northfield kids on the team. He stated that he thought it

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
OCTOBER 8, 2013**

was predominantly Linwood, Northfield and Somers Point; but some other towns as well.

Councilman Carew explained the process of teams going outside the Northfield charter, which makes the whole program better.

Councilman Perri asked if the Bond Ordinance 12-2013 is for 2013-2014. Councilman Polistina confirmed that it is.

Council President Travagline reviewed the agenda for the regular meeting and made assignments.

Council President Travagline opened the meeting to any member of the public wishing to speak on any subject.

Robert Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, noted the heavy emphasis on sports programs for children but stated morality and respect are also important. He feels today children are lacking in morality.

Council President Travagline noted that the majority members of Council have been sports coaches for decades and feels they are teaching children morality.

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

At 7:00pm on motions properly made and seconded this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC
Municipal Clerk