

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
OCTOBER 13, 2015**

At 6:01pm this meeting was called to order by Deputy Municipal Clerk Shannon Campbell. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on February 14, 2015 in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

**FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Dewees, Lischin, Murray, Perri, Piergiovanni, Travagline

Absent: O'Neill

Mayor Chau, Solicitor Kris Facenda and Engineer Kwapinski were also in attendance.

Council President Travagline welcomed everyone to meeting then deferred to Solicitor Facenda to explain changes for the Sign Ordinance.

Solicitor Facenda explained the Planning Board had recommendations for changes; the introduction to the revisions will be discussed at the next Planning Board meeting. The size of signs will be discussed for political signs.

Councilman Perri asked if there will be a date range for length of times signs can be up.

Solicitor Facenda stated that the durational limit is a concern of his, Council can discuss it; the size requirements can be changed according to the type of sign.

Mayor Chau questioned commercial signs, store sales etc. and would Council have the ability to limit commercial signs.

Solicitor Facenda stated that commercial signs would follow the Land Use Guidelines the City sets.

Councilman Perri recommended leaving it the way it is until someone challenges it.

Council President Travagline asked Solicitor Facenda if we do not change can it can code enforcement continue to write citations according to our current Ordinance.

Solicitor Facenda noted that with or without a citation the Ordinance can still be challenged. There are grey areas with these issues. A court would decide if the signs are reasonable.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
OCTOBER 13, 2015**

Councilman Piergiovanni stated he would prefer to hear from the Planning Board for their recommendations; Council agreed and would like to know what other municipalities do.

Discussion ensued amongst Council regarding types of political signs and free speech signs.

Mayor Chau asked Solicitor Facenda if he had heard anything regarding challenges to the City of Linwood Bamboo Ordinance.

Solicitor Facenda state he had not heard anything.

Mayor Chau said he was told new homeowners are challenging the Ordinance asking why they would be responsible to clean bamboo from a property when it had been there long before they moved in.

Council President Travagline brought attention to the Resolutions on tonight's agenda. The grant applications ask whether or not the City has a Complete Streets Resolution. Engineer Kwapinski and Solicitor Facenda made a copy of Linwood's Resolution and would like the Steering Committee from the Bicycle & Pedestrian Planning Study to meet and come up with a Resolution for the next meeting. The grants are due the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month; we can send an amendment to the Grants after our meeting if we decide to approve a Resolution.

Councilman Dewees asked if the City would be responsible to do all the items listed on the proposed Resolution.

Engineer Kwapinski stated if the criteria is not met you would not have to spend the money on that street, you would only do it where it makes sense.

Council President Travagline noted that some streets would not need curbs and sidewalks.

Engineer Kwapinski stated that the Department of Transportation sets the criteria; some of the items are inexpensive options to add to a paving project.

Councilman Perri questioned if the City can waiver itself. He believed the Planning Board needed to be involved.

Engineer Kwapinski said the DOT wants to make sure cities are doing their share to support the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans. Grants are based on a points system. The more a community supports these types of improvements the more likely you would be to get a grant.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
OCTOBER 13, 2015**

Solicitor Facenda stated that there is a 20% cost factor involved, if the improvements are more than 20% of the project the City does not have to do the improvements.

Councilman Dewees said he would like to have the plan in place prior to approving the grant applications.

Councilman Perri thought the Guidelines to be extreme.

Councilman Lischin would like more time to go through it before voting.

Councilman Murray was ok with adopting the Resolution for complete streets tonight.

Solicitor Facenda was concerned about additional steps the City would have to take with present or upcoming projects based on these projects. He asked Engineer Kwapinski if he had spoken to the grant administrators.

Engineer Kwapinski reminded Council that the grant can be amended.

Solicitor Facenda noted that there are more requirements than just the amount of vehicles traveled on the road; he recommended waiting to vote on the Resolution until further research is done.

Engineer Kwapinski stated that Municipal Aid Grants would require this; many of the guidelines are already being met in our projects.

Council President Travagline told Council that we would have a better chance of getting grants if the box checked on the applications stated, yes, we have a complete streets resolution.

Engineer Kwapinski informed Council that this is a new check box. Nothing would change after the Resolutions are approved. Two applications have the check box. Grants over \$200K have been approved over the past 2 years. He then discussed Safe Routes to Transit grants that were approved.

Councilman Perri inquired if the Resolution can be limited to apply only to State grant projects. We would be exempt if we do our own roads and not need waivers.

Solicitor Facenda reminded Council that they need to understand the long term effect of a Resolution like this. He had reservations as he not had enough time to research the Resolution.

Council President Travagline took a straw poll vote as to whether the Resolution

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
OCTOBER 13, 2015**

should be considered this evening – All voted yes with the exception of Councilman Perri who voted no and Councilman O’Neill whom was absent.

The Resolution for Complete Streets would be 179-2015.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Council President Travagline opened the public session.

Seeing no one from the public wising to speak Council President Travagline closed the public session.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

Council President Travagline reviewed the agenda.

Municipal Clerk Canesi asked that Solicitor Facenda read Resolution 179-2015 as the public did not have copies.

At 6:44pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Campbell, Deputy Municipal Clerk