

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 18, 2016**

At 6:04pm this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City 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, Travagline

Absent: O'Neill, Piergiovanni

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

Council President Travagline announced that Councilman Piergiovanni couldn't be at the meeting due to recent treatments. Councilman Piergiovanni would report on his attendance at the recent school board meeting at our next meeting.

- NJDOT TAP Grant

Council President Travagline spoke regarding the NJTAP grant. The committee met and came up with a few good ideas, but it has come to light that there may be a few issues of concern. As a result, the committee felt it would not be in the best interest of the town to proceed at this time. The committee consisted of Councilmen Dewees and Piergiovanni, Council President Travagline, and Engineer Kwapinski. Concerns were related to some areas where having a joint bicycle-vehicle lane, and having children in the road, was not in the best interest.

Councilman Perri asked about the Police and Planning Board.

Council President Travagline stated that as they did not have full support of the police, the committee would not present the resolution for approval at this time.

Councilman Perri explained that he had a request from a resident requesting that a landlocked piece of property that abuts the bike path be paved. The family had been in town for a hundred years. The parcel is 200' x 113', between Virginia and Franklin Avenues. The owner was Tom Flanagan.

Councilman Lischin asked if the property was improved currently.

Councilman Perri replied no, it was a vacant lot.

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Solicitor Facenda asked if there were other easements across the bike path; his concerns would be liability, etc.

Council President Travagline asked Councilman Perri to present the request to Solicitor Facenda for his review and recommendation.

Councilman Lischin expressed concern about the owner subdividing and putting multiple homes there, adding to the amount of traffic that would cross the easement across the bike path.

Solicitor Facenda would research and advise.

Mayor Chau asked Chief Newman to provide information about an upcoming grant.

Chief Newman explained that this as the second time a grant had been offered for body worn cameras, they would cover approximately \$500.00 per camera, and with 9 cameras that's \$4,500.00. Representatives would be coming Monday to give more information – the deadline was coming and the paperwork had been provided to the CFO. Newman stated that the rules with regard to privacy etc. are very different with regard to body worn cameras; they have to have a very restrictive policy with limited officer discretion. The Department was looking at a quote of \$15,000.00 and another for \$20,000.00. The company was the same that we use for our dash cameras. The problem with dash cams is that we are at the end of life; warranty runs out the 20th of this month and any future repairs are going to be out of pocket. Newman said he was looking for authorization to apply for the body camera grant; everything today is about transparency and these cameras offer more of that.

Mayor Chau asked for the status of the dash cameras.

Chief Newman thought that was the difference in the two quotes, the dash cameras had a replacement warranty. If any part broke they just replaced it; but that comes at a cost.

Councilman Lischin asked about the City's required match, and service life.

Chief Newman noted the match could be \$10,000.00 depending on the price; he would have to check into the service life.

Mayor Chau noted that Chief Newman could report back at the next meeting and Council can decide whether to proceed.

Clerk Canesi requested confirmation that 184-2016 was being removed from the agenda.

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Council President Travagline replied no, it was not.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Travagline opened the meeting to the public for discussion on any topic.

Bob Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, asked about the Veterans Park. He said that they were bringing in a small cannon and would do a gun salute.

Councilman Dewees stated that they were meeting tomorrow.

Mr. Webb asked if the sewerage was staying local.

Council President Travagline said, as stated previously, the matter would continue to be discussed; there would be meetings with community input, and it would have to go to the voters in the form of a referendum.

Mr. Webb felt shared services did not save any money. He was thankful we had a Chief of Police that lived in town; he added that all managers should have to live in town.

Mayor Chau stated there was an article in the paper that said we had talked with the Atlantic County Utilities Authority about the Sewer Department and asked if it was true?

Council President Travagline replied that we had presentations from 2 companies, Aqua America and NJ American Water.

John Hafner, 402 Cresson Avenue, wanted to know why residents couldn't get answers from Council. He stated that he had called different members of Council that had not returned his calls. He felt that Council was not informed and was unable to answer questions. The trash at Tilton Shopping Center was still all over the place and nothing was done.

Councilman Lischin replied that he follows up on all complaints with Mr. Dattalo, and that he himself was not directly involved in the day to day. Perhaps the department was a little more reactive, than proactive. He was working towards a better solution.

Mr. Hafner noted that the trash had been behind ACE Hardware for 6 months with nothing done.

Councilman Lischin stated that they can address that.

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Mr. Hafner directed a question to the Engineer: he claimed that the Engineer said at the last meeting that the City could not put 16" pipes in, because they would not fit.

Council President Travagline clarified that it was two meetings ago and had since been resolved.

Councilman Dewees said field studies had to be done to determine if the 18" pipe will fit.

Engineer Kwapinski explained that the plan was to have the largest pipe possible that would fit, that was feasible, and was cost effective. The sizes on the plans and drawings were conceptual, they were not plan designs.

Mr. Hafner said as he told it would happen this year.

Engineer Kwapinski noted that the project had to be designed, and put out to bid; it was highly doubtful that it would happen this year.

Mr. Hafner asked Councilman Dewees if the Road Department put cold patch in the depression near ACE Hardware.

Councilman Dewees explained that cold patch will not hold, and said he was checking in to using hot mix.

Mr. Hafner thanked Mayor Chau.

Mr. Webb reported that the Veterans Memorial at City Hall was over grown and not maintained. He would like to have the plaque out front moved to Veterans Park.

Councilman Dewees replied that the area was recently cleaned up.

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

AGENDA REVIEW

Council President Travagline reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

Solicitor Facenda requested that Ordinance 12-2016, amending the sign ordinance, be removed from the agenda, as it was not ready for introduction.

Councilman Perri asked about Resolution 190-2016, Authorization to Apply for New Jersey Department of Transportation Bicycle Network Improvement Grant.

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Council President Travagline noted that would also be removed.

Councilman Perri asked if there were any changes to the library agreement.

Mayor Chau replied no.

Clerk Canesi noted that a request was made to remove 189-2016, to Reject All Bids and Authorize Re-Advertisement of Request for Bids for the Purchase of a Portable Generator for the City of Northfield Office of Emergency Management; she said more time was needed and it is not recommended that the bid be rejected at this time.

Council President Travagline approved the deletion.

Mayor Chau asked if a resolution was needed to accept the donation from the Bunting family to the Veterans Park referred to earlier email.

Clerk Canesi replied no.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk