

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 25, 2022**

At 6:25pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi, who greeted the audience. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231, on January 8, 2022.

**FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau followed by a moment of silence.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilwoman Bucci; Councilman Dewees; Councilman Leeds; Councilman Notaro; Councilman Smith; Councilman Utts; Council President Polistina; Mayor Chau

Solicitor Facenda and Engineer Nassar were also in attendance.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On a motion of Councilman Dewees with a second of Councilman Smith, all members present, with the exception of Councilman Utts who abstained, were in favor of approving the minutes of October 11, 2022, without formal reading.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Chau reported during the work session.

**CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineer's report as previously distributed to Council. He explained the change order on tonight's agenda; it was \$20,000.00 above the grant. New Jersey American Water finished all paving, Hemsley was done, and minor punch list items remained, but the project was otherwise complete. The Local Road Program was almost complete and it looked like it would be under budget. The list for the next phase of the slip lining project was finalized today with Superintendent of Public Works Vitale and Darren Boyd, the bid docs were being prepared with the bid opening date of December 2nd.

Councilman Leeds noticed that on Tilton Road, it looked like they paved over manhole covers.

Engineer Nassar replied, most were not manhole covers, they were depressions from settlement.

Mayor Chau asked that someone go out to Mr. Goff's property to take photos to compare tire tracks to the type of vehicles commonly driven by the ACUA.

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Clerk Canesi stated that she had been contacted by the AUCA and their GPS data indicated the AUCA truck did not enter the driveway at this residence.

Mayor Chau added that he thought it would be something we could do to assist the homeowner.

Solicitor Facenda noted it would be an issue for law enforcement or the resident's homeowner's insurance.

**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 and address for the record and observe the five-minute limit per speaker.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Council President Polistina closed the public comment portion of this meeting.

**RESOLUTIONS**

On motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Bucci, all members present were in favor of voting on Resolutions 197-2022 through 201-2022 by Consent Agenda.

- 197-2022** Work Change Order No. 1 – Final MA-21 Reconstruction of Ridgewood Drive and a Portion of Ridgewood Drive - 00608
- 198-2022** Authorizing Refund of Zoning Permit Fees
- 199-2022** Acknowledging the Notice of Retirement from Mike Adamson, Supervisor of Public Works
- 200-2022** Resolution of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Amending Resolution No. 144-2018, Requesting Permission for the Dedication by Rider for an Affordable Housing Trust Fund
- 201-2022** In Support of Including Casinos as Workplaces Covered Under the New Jersey Smoke Free Air Act

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilwoman Bucci seconded, to adopt the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – yes; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Utts – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

Council President Polistina stated that “all matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature, and having been reviewed by Council, will be

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enacted by one motion. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of any Council Member and if so removed, will be treated as a separate matter. Any items requiring expenditure of funds are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds.”

**PAYMENT OF BILLS      \$ 1,484,099.59**

Councilwoman Bucci motioned, Councilman Notaro seconded, for payment of bills.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bucci – yes; Mr. Dewees- yes; Mr. Leeds – abstain; Mr. Notaro – yes; Mr. Smith –yes; Mr. Utts – yes; Mr. Polistina – yes; Motion carried.

Councilman Leeds read the meeting notices including a special meeting of Council.

*At 6:36pm Councilman Leeds called for a recess, seconded by Councilman Utts.*

*At 6:58pm Council President Polistina resumed the meeting.*

Council President Polistina announced that it had been determined that the Zoom access to tonight’s meeting was not functioning, and apologized to the public.

**CEREMONIAL OATH - Patrolman Brandon Garofalo**

Mayor Chau greeted the audience and announced that Chief Newman could not be here this evening as he was under the weather. The Chief had asked Patrolman VanPelt to speak on his behalf.

Patrolman VanPelt introduced himself and read the following bio about Patrolman Garofalo:

Brandon was born in South Korea and raised in Egg Harbor Township, he graduated from Egg Harbor Township High School in 2015, and Stockton University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice in 2019. He started his career in law enforcement as a Class I Officer in 2018 with the Borough of Longport and Class I with the City of Ocean City in 2020. Brandon attended the Cape May County Police Academy Basic Class #58. Brandon joined the Northfield Police Department as a Class II Officer in February of 2022.

Patrolman VanPelt called Brandon forward and asked him to introduce his family.

Patrolman Garofalo introduced the members of his family: parents Phil and Laurreta, sister Lauren and his mentor, Al Maiorano.

Mayor Chau welcomed all, adding that everyone was here to honor Brandon. He wished him a long and successful career in Northfield.

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Mayor Chau administered the oath of office while Patrolman Garofalo's father held the bible and Mr. Maiorano pinned the badge on him.

Patrolman Garofalo thanked Chief Newman for the opportunity, and thanked his family.

Mayor Chau thanked Patrolman Garofalo and stated that he knew he would do well. Council President Polistina congratulated Patrolman Garofalo and thanked the Police Department for all they do.

At approximately 7:04pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk