

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 15, 2022**

At 7:11pm 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 Council Pro Tempore Dewees followed by a moment of silence in remembrance of former Chief of Police Ed Kroger, who passed away this week.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Mayor Chau

Solicitor Facenda, Engineer Nassar and Chief Newman were also in attendance.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion of Councilwoman Bucci with a second of Councilman Smith, all members present, were in favor of approving the minutes of October 25, 2022, and November 2, 2022, without formal reading.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau was absent.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Nassar reviewed the Engineer's report as previously distributed to Council. He announced an upcoming ACUA budget meeting, since our flows were reduced by the slip lining project, we should get a nice credit in 2023. We will only use about 80% of our budgeted flows.

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.

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RESOLUTIONS

On motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Bucci, all members present, with an abstention from Council President Polistina on Resolution 203-2022 and an abstention of Councilman Leeds on Resolution 210-2022, were in favor of voting on Resolutions 203-2022 through 212-2022 by Consent Agenda.

- 203*-2022** Authorizing Daniel Scott Mascione Architect, LLC, to Proceed with Architectural Services for the Project Known as Northfield City Hall Roof Replacement
- 204-2022** Resolution Authorizing Cancellation of Taxes Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.26 on Property Known as Block 122 Lot 22.07 (15 Haining Place)
- 205-2022** Resolution Authorizing Cancellation of Municipal Lien 12-00056 Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-111 on Property Known as Block 122 Lot 22.07 (15 Haining Place)
- 206-2022** Resolution Authorizing Cancellation of Taxes Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.26 on Property Known as Block 158 Lot 17.20 (E Ridgewood Court)
- 207-2022** Authorization to Create Municipal Lien for Property Maintenance Costs
- 208-2022** Accumulated Absence
- 209-2022** A Resolution Amending Resolution No. 157-2021, Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to Execute a Contract with an Approved State Contract Vendor, Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a
- 210*-2022** Authorizing the City of Northfield to Accept a Subgrant Award of the Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Emergency Management Performance Grant and Emergency Management Agency Assistance
- 211-2022** Transfer of Funds
- 212-2022** 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. 10:4-12b(4), Regarding Contract Negotiations between the City of Northfield and the Northfield Professional Firefighter’s Association, Local No. 2364

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.

*Clerk Canesi noted the abstentions for Council President Polistina on Resolution 203 and Councilman Leeds on Resolution 210.

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Councilman Leeds motioned, Councilman Notaro seconded, to introduce Ordinance 12-2022.

12-2022 An Ordinance Amending Bond Ordinance No. 4-2019, Adopted on March 5, 2019, by the City of Northfield, in the County of Atlantic, New Jersey, to Provide for the Payment of the Required Down Payment Not Previously Appropriated in the Original Bond Ordinance
*Introduction / No Public Input / Published in the Press of AC 11/19/2022
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 11/29/2022*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, stated that this is the first reading, there would be no public input, and announced the publication and public hearing dates. The full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the City website, and copies are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requests same.

Council President Polistina asked if there were any questions? He noted it was a down payment it will reduce the amount when we ultimately bond that equipment

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$ 3,054,503.23

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman Utts seconded, for payment of bills.

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.

Councilman Utts read the meeting notices.

212-2022 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. 10:4-12b(4), Regarding Contract Negotiations between the City of Northfield and the Northfield Professional Firefighter’s Association, Local No. 2364

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title. Clerk Canesi further stated that we are required to set forth as much information as possible as to the subject matter to be discussed as well as provide for the public the amount of time they can expect to elapse before the non-public portion of the minutes can be disclosed. She deferred to the Solicitor for further explanation.

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Clerk Canesi announced to the members of the public who were participating via Zoom that when the Executive Session commenced, she would be muting the audio, and the video would be temporarily paused. Those in attendance in-person would need to exit Council Chambers during the Executive Session. Council would resume the public session, including reactivating the audio and video, and welcoming the in-person public, as soon as the Executive Session concluded. A public statement would be made for the record at that time.

Solicitor Facenda announced that the matter to be discussed were negotiations between the City and the Local 2364, specifically, terms of a Memorandum of Agreement and an extension of a temporary work schedule. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. The timeframe for the release of those minutes is unknown. Council will remain in Council Chambers and return to the general public when the Executive Session is complete for a short statement.

At 7:19pm Council entered Executive Session, and remained in Council Chambers.

At 7:28pm the Executive Session of Council was adjourned, and the Regular Meeting resumed in Council Chambers.

Solicitor Facenda announced that the Executive Session had concluded. The matters discussed were terms and conditions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City and the fire union pertaining to 24-hour shifts. The minutes would be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. The timeframe for the release of those minutes is unknown. No official action will be taken tonight, but, anticipated action would be taken at the next meeting.

At approximately 7:31pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk