

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 24, 2015**

At 7:06pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on February 14, 2015 in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Dewees, Lischin, Murray, O'Neill, Perri, Travagline
Absent: Piergiovanni

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

Council President Travagline called forward Barbara Fehr.

Mayor Chau announced that this is one of the best parts of his job and read the following statement prepared by Carol Patrick:

Barbara Dixon Fehr was born, 31 May 1924 in Westerville, New York, she attended school and was raised in Rome, New York. She graduated with an Associate's Degree in Merchandizing from the Rochester Institute of Technology, and was a buyer for Nelson's Dept. Store in Rome, New York.

She later worked for the Federal Government as a librarian at Griffith Air Force Base in New York State. It was there that she met her husband, Donald Fehr. They moved to Northfield 1960 to be close to her husband's job at NAFEC. There are four children from this marriage: Kurt, Karen, Kathy and Kevin. Three are still in the area.

Never one to sit idle...she was a member of the NAFEC Wives Club, a Girl Scout den leader, and worked at "Contact" with the Presbyterian Church in Pleasantville. She could often be seen driving seniors to medical appointments. She and husband Don were active members of the Square Dance group known as the "Haylofters", and the Antique Car Collectors Club. This didn't give her much free time.

In 1973 she became a member of the Northfield Bicentennial Committee and was the first Curator of Northfield's museum, which opened in 1976. When the job was offered to her...she asked, "What would I have to do?". Carol Patrick, Chairwoman of the Committee, told her, "You would just have to identify old things." It was her hard work that got the Museum off to a good start.

After the Bicentennial was over the city decided to keep the committee on to run the museum. The decision was made to change the name to the Northfield Cultural Committee.

The Museum was first located behind City Hall but was moved to Birch Grove Park in 1985 when the new City library was opened. Barb had turned over the Curator's

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job to Mary Dvorsky. It then passed to Roy Clark where it remains today. Barbara would soon take on an even the more monumental task, that of organizing and running our semi-annual Flea Markets. These are still held to raise funds for museum maintenance. It's a tough job and Barb threw herself into all aspects of the task, and did it all herself. That included contacting vendors, collecting table money from them, pricing the items for sale, setting up tables for the committee's "junk", then marking off the spots on the floor where each vendor would set up. Usually setting up the tables as well. When we first started these twice yearly sales they were held at the Recreation Lodge, then in Mill Road School. And we can't forget the delicious brownies she made for vendors and customers.

Barbara has retired from that job now but still stays on as advisor and helps out when we have the sales. But, she is volunteering once or twice a week at the gift shop at Meadowview, and when it isn't too windy; she can be seen riding her bike on the bike path.

The Cultural Committee wishes to join the city in honoring Barb for her many, many years of volunteer service, not just to the Cultural Committee, but to the City as well.

Mayor Chau congratulated Mrs. Fehr and presented her a Proclamation. Mayor Chau asked her to remain seated and introduced Assemblyman Mazzeo.

Assemblyman Mazzeo stated that on the drive over, he realized he's known Mrs. Fehr his whole life, they lived on the same street, she and her husband raised a lovely family and she was always a family-first person. She was also always dedicated to her community and understood the value of giving back. He shared a story of how Mrs. Fehr always rode on the bike path and kept a keen eye on it and always knew what was going on. He presented a certificate from Senator Whelan, commending Mrs. Fehr for her contributions to the community.

At 7:20pm Council President Travagline announced a short recess and that there will be a reception in the Clerk's office thereafter.

At 7:23pm Council President Travagline reconvened the meeting and thanked all for their contributions.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Dewees, seconded by Councilman O'Neill to dispense with the reading of the minutes October 27, 2015. They have been posted, distributed to Council, and are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O'Neill –yes; Mr. Perri –yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline –yes Motion carries.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri – Fire Department/EMS, Insurance and Safety, Sewer Inter Local, Planning Board, Senior Citizens

Councilman Perri announced there will be no Planning Board applications for December and said the Senior event at library was nice. He thanked the Sewer Department employees again for a job well done and read the Fire Department report.

Councilman O’Neill - Court/Violations, FAN, Library, Economic Development, Shared Services

Councilman O’Neill stated the courts and violations were busier these days; he thanked FAN coaches and families for a great season.

Councilman Piergiovanni - Chamber of Commerce, Municipal Alliance

Councilman Piergiovanni was absent.

Councilman Dewees - Buildings/Grounds, Birch Grove, Public Works, Little League/Babe Ruth, Northfield School

Councilman Dewees announced that the City had encumbered funds for the two bath houses at Birch Grove Park, bathrooms have all been shut down for the year, with the exception of the football snack bar which will be shut down this weekend. He asked Council President Travagline to make sure that the freezers etc. are cleaned out. He then announced the Holiday Tree lighting to be December 4th at 7pm; Shore Road will be closed.

Acting Chief Newman stated that he had also coordinated for additional lighting with the Fire Department and road closure with Public Works; there will be ample manpower present.

Councilman Murray - Finance/Collections, Inspections/Engineering, Veterans Park, County/State

Councilman Murray said the Veterans Day ceremony at the park was very nice and well attended. He thanked Mr. Webb and others for organizing the event. The City is working with NJ American Water to finalize work at the park.

Councilman Lischin - Technology, Cultural Committee, Mainland Regional, Green Team

Councilman Lischin reiterated what the Mayor said for the Cultural Committee and for Barbara; volunteers do a great job and do a lot of work, he felt they need an influx

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of new people and he will work towards that. The time clock project is moving forward. Birch Grove Park had an issue on Google with the hours being incorrect etc. he has been responding to comments that people have left, so it is working.

Council President Travagline stated that members of the City and Labor Counsel had negotiations over the last month with the Government Workers Unions; they went relatively smoothly, we have hammered out contracts and they were on the agenda tonight but we didn't have all of the paperwork so we will not vote on it this evening. He thanked all who participated.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau advised that he had a conference with Councilman Perri to inform him that he had submitted a letter to the Township of Egg Harbor requesting a meeting for further discussions of a shared EMS service; he had not received a reply so he asked the City Clerk to send another letter. Our contract expires in February. Earlier this month he attended a meeting at the Atlantic County Institute of Technology regarding the County dispatch, the representative from the County was County Administrator Jerry Delrosso. The meeting became a little disruptive as the various municipalities had an increasing number of questions. Buena Vista Township Mayor Chuck Chiarello asked what documentation the County had to confirm the participation of the 22 towns that the County says have signed on. Mayor Chau indicated that he'd never signed on.

Mayor Chau asked former Mayor Jerry McGee, in audience, if he had ever received or signed anything.

Mr. McGee stated no, he did not.

Mayor Chau then referred to the noise related complaints about the construction that took place on Shore Road and caused so much disturbance. He was very unhappy with the lack of communication and he will continue to investigate. He was also dissatisfied that Northfield was not notified in advance of the closure by the County of Mill Road this past Monday and Tuesday. The County claims they sent a letter to Northfield inviting us to a meeting, but that no one showed up. Mayor Chau did not receive any letter. He stated that he told the county representative that it would have been prudent to reach out to us, when no one showed up for this meeting. He reiterated that the City of Northfield could have been proactive with notifying residents and in reacting to the increased traffic on our roads. He will continue to investigate this as well, and will report back. He formally invited the public and Council to the dedication of the Volunteer Fire Company memorial brick walkway this Sunday at 2pm at the Burton Avenue Fire House. He also congratulated Councilmen Lischin, Murray and Travagline on their recent reelection. They have

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shown dedication to their community and the residents have responded. He wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Council President Travagline asked Mayor Chau to report back when he concluded his investigation so that steps can be taken to improve communication in the future.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Kwapinski reviewed the Engineer's report. There are still a punch list items for Broad Street Phase III that are in progress. Grading at Veterans Park by NJ American Water should begin next week. He commented that Councilman Perri covered the emergency sewer repair in his earlier report. The bids were opened today for the general repairs and construction of sanitary sewer facilities; the low bid was from Kline Construction, who is also presently the stormwater contractor. That contract will go out to bid next month.

Councilman Dewees asked when the trees will be removed from Davis Avenue.

Engineer Kwapinski stated the contractor is out there now, he will follow up tomorrow to make sure these trees have been removed.

Councilman Dewees asked if Kline Construction had provided a schedule for the drainage at Birch Grove Park.

Engineer Kwapinski did not have a schedule yet and would follow up tomorrow.

Mayor Chau added to his Mayor's report by reading the Police Department report. He commended the Chief for his service and leadership, and commends the men for protecting the City.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Travagline opened the meeting to the public and asked if anyone wished to speak on any subject.

Jerry McGee, 1620 Zion Road – advised that there are trees on Juniper Avenue between the school and Zion Road that need to be trimmed. There are low hanging branches that a tall truck hits when it goes down the street.

Councilman Dewees stated he will check into it.

Mr. McGee asked if the police weren't notified of the work that made so much noise.

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Mayor Chau noted that the Police were notified about the New Road and Roosevelt Avenue work; the Police Department was notified at 4:35pm the afternoon it happened that the work would extend to Shore Road, but no indication was made about noise, type of work, or hours during which the work would occur.

Mr. McGee felt the work violated many City Ordinances by working during those hours and the Police Department should have shut them down.

Mayor Chau stated he would defer to Solicitor Facenda, who may not be prepared to respond; but this is not simply a County situation. He did not believe it should matter if they are going through the City of Northfield.

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

RESOLUTIONS/CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Lischin motioned, Councilman Murray seconded for Resolutions 186-2015 through 199-2015 to be voted on by consent agenda.

Council President Travagline stated that all matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature, and having been reviewed by Council, will be 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 are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds. The Executive Session of Council will be held at the end of the meeting and we will come back in public session to make a comment for the record after the Executive Session. Any vote made on subjects discussed will be made in public.

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| 186-2015 | Authorizing The Award Of Contract Without Public Advertisement For Bids To Ultra Equipment, LLC |
| 187-2015 | Refund of Unused Police Detail Fee |
| 188-2015 | A Resolution To Cancel Grant Balances |
| 189-2015 | A Resolution Inserting An Item Of Revenue In The 2015 Budget |
| 190-2015 | A Resolution Of The City Of Northfield, County Of Atlantic, State Of New Jersey, Awarding An Emergency Sewer Repair Contract To Lafayette Utility Construction Company, Inc. |
| 191-2015 | Authorizing Refund Of Overpayment Of Taxes |

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- 192-2015 Transfer of Funds
- 193-2015 Authorizing Release Of Planning Board Escrow And Maintenance Guarantee Block 41, Lot 22
- 194-2015 End Of Seasonal Assignment Birch Grove Park Employee Loretta Mazzone
- 195-2015 End Of Seasonal Assignment Birch Grove Park Employee Kathleen Steelman
- 196-2015 Refund Of Raffle License Fee To St. Gianna Beretta Molla
- 197-2015 Approval Of Specifications And Authorization To Proceed With Public Bidding For General Repairs And Construction Of Stormwater
- 198-2015 Award Of Contract For General Repairs And Maintenance Of Sanitary Sewer Facilities
- 199-2015 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 For Government Workers Union Numbers 410, 420 And 430

Roll call: Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O’Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries to vote by consent agenda.

Councilman Lischin motioned, Councilman Murray seconded for the adoption of Resolutions 186-2015 to 199-2015 by consent agenda.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O’Neill - yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries to adopt by consent agenda.

ORDINANCES

Councilman O’Neill motioned, Councilman Perri seconded adopt Ordinance 17-2015.

- 17-2015** An Ordinance Amending Chapter 111-35 Of The Code Of The City Of Northfield To Remove Certain Streets Or Parts Thereof From Being Designated As Through Streets And Amending Chapter 111-36

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To Add Stop Intersections

2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 11/24/2015

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, and announced the final publication date. This is the second reading and the matter will be considered for final adoption after the public hearing. Since introduction the full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the City website, and copies have been available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requested same.

Council President Travagline opened the public hearing.

Seeing no one wishing to speak the public hearing was closed.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries to adopt Ordinance 17-2015.

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded adopt Ordinance 18-2015.

18-2015 Amending Article IX, City Administrator, of Chapter 43 of the City of Northfield Municipal Code in its Entirety
2nd Reading / Public Hearing / Final Consideration 11/24/2015

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, and announced the final publication date. This is the second reading and the matter will be considered for final adoption after the public hearing. Since introduction the full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and copies have been available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday to any member of the public who requested same.

Council President Travagline opened the public hearing.

Seeing no one wishing to speak the public hearing was closed.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries to adopt Ordinance 18-2015.

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$ 4,439,320.58

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman O’Neill seconded, for payment of bills.

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Roll call: Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –absent; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries.

Council President Travagline read the meeting notices and announced an Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

199-2015 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 For Government Workers Union Numbers 410, 420 And 430

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution by title and said she would defer to the Solicitor for an explanation of the subject matter to be discussed and the amount of time which could be expected to elapse before the minutes of the non-public session could be released.

Solicitor Facenda stated that the Executive Session is in regards to contractual negotiations regarding for the three Government Workers Unions. The minutes will be kept and made available when permitted and required by law. Timeframe is not known as negotiations will continue. This session is for discussion purposes only; no action is anticipated by council.

At 8:03pm members of Council moved to the Mayor’s Office.

At 8:27pm Council returned from the Mayor’s Office.

Solicitor Facenda stated that the Executive Session had concluded. Council discussed contractual negotiations regarding the three Government Workers Unions and the general status of the negotiations. It is anticipated that these matters will be resolved at the next meeting and minutes will be available once released to the City.

At 8:28pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk