

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD WORK SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2020**

At 6:01pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk, Mary Canesi. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 11, 2020 and on November 20, 2020, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

*Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), and N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 - 1.7, the previously advertised November 24, 2020, meeting of Northfield City Council, to be held in Council Chambers, 1600 Shore Road, Northfield, New Jersey, 08225, will be held in-person and as a remote public meeting (live-streamed) using Zoom conferencing service. Due to social distancing requirements related to Covid-19, there are limited seats for in-person attendance by members of the public. Visit the November 24, 2020 date on the events calendar page of [www.cityofnorthfield.org](http://www.cityofnorthfield.org) determine current availability for this meeting. Face coverings and social distancing will be required for in-person attendance. To reserve an available seat, contact the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 609-641-2832, ext 125, no later than 2:00pm on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Once all available seats have been reserved, virtual attendance will be required using a web-browser to Join the Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84810006562> or by telephone using one tap mobile +16465588656,,84810006562# or direct dial +1 646 558 8656 using meeting ID: 848 1000 6562. For those wishing to comment during the dedicated public comment portion of the meeting, but who may be unable to attend (in person or via Zoom), public comments may also be submitted in advance via email to [mcanesi@cityofnorthfield.org](mailto:mcanesi@cityofnorthfield.org), or by written letter to the Office of the Municipal Clerk, 1600 Shore Road, Northfield NJ 08225, or by hand delivery to the drop box at the rear of the municipal building, addressed to the attention of the Municipal Clerk. Comments shall contain the name and address of the author, will be read aloud and addressed during the remote public meeting, and must be received by 2:00pm on November 24, 2020.*

**FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

Municipal Clerk Canesi read the following statement:

“Due to social distancing requirements related to Covid-19, there are limited seats for in-person attendance by members of the public this evening. For this reason, this meeting is also being presented simultaneously as a remote public meeting, live-streamed, using Zoom conferencing service, and in accordance with the Governor’s Executive Orders and the Open Public Meetings Act.

Zoom meeting participants can dial in by telephone and listen to the proceedings, or they can access the meeting using a web-browser, and be able to view and listen.

Instructions on how members of the public could reserve one of the limited seats, as well as how they can access Zoom have been made available on the municipal

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website and FB pages, and were published in the Press of Atlantic City. The full text of the public meeting notice has been posted at the entrances to the municipal building and includes Zoom instructions, information on where to find the meeting agenda and relevant documents, as well as instructions on how members of the public could submit comments in advance of tonight's meeting.

For those participating via Zoom, all participants will be 'muted' upon entry to the meeting. Web-browser participants will not be able to share their screens or see the camera-view of anyone other than the host, which is the City of Northfield.

Zoom participants wishing to exercise their right to participate during the public comment portion of the meeting should wait until the specific announcement is made to open the public comment period. At this time, one by one, any telephone users will be asked to identify themselves and will be unmuted to permit commentary. For web-browser participants, comments or questions may be submitted via the chat function and will not be acknowledged outside of the designated public-comment portion of the meeting; chat-users must also provide his/her name and address for the record in order to be heard.

Any written comments submitted in advance will be read aloud and addressed during the public comment portion of the meeting."

**ROLL CALL**

**Present (in person):** Councilman Dewees; Councilman Smith; Councilman Utts; Council President Perri; Mayor Chau

**Present (via telephone):** Councilwoman Madden

**Absent:** Councilwoman Korngut; Councilman O'Neill

Solicitor Stein and Engineer Nassar were also in attendance.

Chief Newman was present via Zoom.

Council President Perri welcomed everyone including those on Zoom. He gave a great thanks to our frontline workers who were keeping us going during this pandemic.

Council President Perri moved to old business.

**WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – OLD BUSINESS**

- Radio Tower, Rear of City Hall– *Update from Engineer Nassar*

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Engineer Nassar reported that it would cost around \$20,000.00 to remove the tower; the contractor would need a 50' crane and it would take three men two-to-three days, plus equipment. He suggested Council may want to work around it.

Councilman Dewees felt we should take it down; he felt it may eventually become a problem.

Council President Perri agreed and suggested we get competitive quotes.

Engineer Nassar replied that he would solicit quotes and report at the next meeting.

- Zion Road Pump Station Easement – *Update from Engineer Nassar*

Engineer Nassar advised that he met with Brian Heun, attorney representing the property owner. He was receptive to the property becoming part of the right-of-way; apparently there was an old survey. It would not require subdivision. The County would accept the right-of-way and we would have an agreement with the County that our station was in their right-of-way. The County would do legal work at no cost to us, if legal work was required on our behalf.

Councilman Dewees asked Engineer Nassar for the old survey.

- Northfield Avenue at Rt 9 Drainage – *Update from Engineer Nassar*

Engineer Nassar reported that we were still waiting for a response from the County.

Councilman Dewees noted significant flooding during the rain last Monday.

Engineer Nassar replied it was due to the size of the pipe.

- Oxford and Bay Force Main Break – *Update from Engineer Nassar*

Council President Perri moved to Oxford and Bay Force Main Break.

Engineer Nassar spoke with Superintendent Vitale who advised that it would cost about \$20,000.00 to have it paved; Engineer Nassar would try to get a better price.

- Emergency Medical Services – *Update if available from Clerk Canesi*

Clerk Canesi did not have an update.

- Policy Addressing the Protection and Safe Treatment of Minors – *Clerk Canesi*

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Clerk Canesi reported that she and the labor attorney were still working on the policy. Ms. Curio wanted to reach out to the MEL to get their opinion on some of the issues. We are planning on having this implemented by the end of this year. The draft will be made available to Council with the anticipation of hopefully approving it at the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS**

- Standing Item – New Grant Opportunities

Engineer Nassar reported that the application was filed today for the TASA Grant; we requested \$1,000,000.00 to widen the bike path, upgrade the lights, ADA and safety improvements, signage, and major intersections would have more visible beacons. He hoped to hear from the DOT in the next 4-5 months, with project completion in 2022.

Mayor Chau asked Engineer Nassar if he knew of any grants for solar or carports for municipalities?

Engineer Nassar replied he did not.

Mayor Chau noted he knew schools were getting them; he would contact the schools.

Councilwoman Madden asked to bring up the extension of the fire contract for discussion.

Council President Perri replied the issue would be addressed during the Executive session pertaining to the Fire and Police Departments.

Seeing no other new business, Council President Perri asked all to take out their agendas.

**REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Council President Perri reviewed the Regular Meeting agenda and made the assignments.

**PUBLIC SESSION/ FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER**

Council President Perri opened this portion of the meeting for any member of the public to speak on any topic; he noted a five-minute limit per speaker.

Clerk Canesi stated that she had typed in the zoom chat that the public comment portion of the meeting was now open.

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Seeing no one wishing to speak, Council President Perri closed the public session.

At 6:18pm, on a motion of Councilman Utts, seconded by Councilman Dewees, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk