

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
DECEMBER 11, 2019 -4:30PM**

At 4:35pm this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on December 9, 2019, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

ROLL CALL

Present: Dewees, Madden, O’Neill, Perri, Smith
Absent: Korngut, Lischin

Mayor Chau and Solicitor Facenda were also in attendance.

PUBLIC SESSION/ FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Council President Pro-Tempore O’Neill 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.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Council President Pro-Tempore O’Neill closed the public session.

Council President Pro-Tempore O’Neill asked Solicitor Facenda to make a statement for the record.

Solicitor Facenda said this meeting had been convened to memorialize a Shared Service Agreement with the City of Linwood for Municipal Court. The issue has been ongoing, back and forth with Linwood, with Egg Harbor Township, and back to Linwood again. Solicitor Facenda said the Council feels we are ready to adopt. He said there is a Resolution to authorize an Executive Session on the agenda; he leaves it up to the Council as to whether the Executive Session is needed. Yesterday, key personnel had a meeting with Linwood and everything appears to be moving forward; we are coordinating with the current Court Administrator as to new tickets being written for a new date that is realistic with the commencement of Linwood's Court operations. Linwood will continue to operate Court on Wednesdays with the first Court date scheduled tentatively for January 15th. The Administrative Office of the Courts and Judge Mendez both have to approve the Agreement, but Solicitor Facenda does not anticipate that there will be issues since an Agreement was already in place. Certain filing cabinets and equipment will be moving to Linwood as part of the Agreement. A video-conferencing system owned by Northfield will be loaned to Linwood under the terms of the agreement.

Mayor Chau asked about the metal detector and if the dates for transition were firm.

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Solicitor Facenda replied that the metal detector has always belonged to Linwood. As to the Administrative Office of the Courts, we spoke with them yesterday and Court operations have to commence in the beginning of the month. Parties are optimistic that we will be able to commence in January but if not, they will commence in February.

Solicitor Facenda continued, and said our revenue is ours, their revenue is theirs. He asked members of Council if they have questions.

Councilman Perri asked about the judge, prosecutor and public defender, and their salaries.

Solicitor Facenda replied that the Agreement specifies that current appointments remain in place; the prosecutor and public defender expire this year, and the judge has two years left. Anyone who increases a salary bears the sole cost of the increase unless otherwise agreed upon.

Councilman Perri asked who appoints prosecutor and public defender.

Solicitor Facenda replied that Northfield just appointed the Judge for a three year term, Linwood would appoint the others during the period of the Judge's term.

Seeing no other questions from members of Council, Council President Pro-Tempore O'Neill called for a motion for Resolution 239-2019.

RESOLUTIONS

238-2019 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. 10:4-12(B)(7) – Contract Negotiations Regarding An Agreement For Shared Municipal Court

Resolution 238-2019 was not motioned for consideration.

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to adopt Resolution 239-2019.

239-2019 Authorizing an Agreement for Shared Municipal Court for the Municipalities of the City of Northfield and the City of Linwood

Roll Call: Mr. Dewees – yes; Ms. Korngut – absent; Mrs. Madden – yes; Mr. O'Neill – yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Lischin – absent; Motion carried.

Councilman O'Neill read the meeting notices.

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At 4:45pm, on a motion of Councilman Perri, seconded by Councilman Dewees, all members present were in favor of adjourning this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk