

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2023**

At 6:32pm this meeting was called to order by Municipal Clerk Mary Canesi, who welcomed the audience. This meeting was properly advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 7, 2023, and in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

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

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

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

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Councilwoman Carfagno with a second by Councilman Notaro, all members present were in favor of approving the minutes of November 28, 2023, without formal reading.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau announced the Holiday Tree Lighting went well considering the rainy weather, he thanked Councilwoman Bucci, Councilmen Dewees and Leeds for attending, and thanked the Police Department and Public Works for all the work in setting up the event. The Mayor's Holiday Light contest has been established with 24 participants. He thanked Deputy Clerk Campbell for all her work, and said the map was online. There is a Green Acres Grant opportunity for inclusive playgrounds with a 75% match; the deadline is February 7, 2024. He referred to a recent energy efficiency grant and said we are in process of implementing \$85,000 in upgrades at a cost to the City of around \$45,000, at zero interest paid over five years. There will be an estimated savings of \$5,000 per year in energy costs. He wanted to remind all, about recent vehicle break-ins, people leave car fobs in cars that are accessed by breaking windows. For some other cars if the rear window is broken it does not trigger the vehicle alarm. He reminded the public that we must be more aware of the need to lock your cars and take the fobs and keys. He thanked Chief VonColln and his administration for their efforts in minimizing overtime. He read the Police Department report statistics for the month of November.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Nassar did not have any updates to his previously submitted report.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2023**

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 city of residence 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.

Mayor Chau asked to add to his report that he received an update from the ACUA for the 2024 budget; contract costs could increase by 3.4% based on the consumer price index. He read the estimated costs for the various components of the contract. Any questions can be referred to the ACUA.

RESOLUTIONS

Council President Polistina read the following statement: “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.

On motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Leeds, all members present were in favor of voting on 226-2023 through 233-2023 by Consent Agenda.

- 226-2023** Cancel Capital Improvement Authorizations
- 227-2023** Rejection of Bid and Award of Contract for the Project known as City Hall Roof Replacement in the City of Northfield
- 228-2023** Resolution Authorizing Exemption of Property, Cancellation of Taxes and Refund of Taxes Paid Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 & N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.32 on Property Known as Block 34 Lot 21.18 (7 Meredith Court)
- 229-2023** Authorizing Refund of Overpayment of Taxes
- 230-2023** To Amend Resolution No. 206-2023 and Establish a New Effective Date for an Employment Status Change for Patricia Dougherty, Substitute School Crossing Guard
- 231-2023** Inserting an Item of Revenue in the 2023 Budget
- 232-2023** To Authorize the Repeal of Resolution 191-2023
- 233-2023** To Authorize Refund of Overpayment of Taxes

Councilman Smith motioned, Councilman Leeds seconded, to adopt the Consent Agenda.

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

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2023**

PAYMENT OF BILLS \$361,524.31

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

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

MEETING NOTICES

Councilwoman Carfagno read the meeting notices.

At approximately 6:46pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk