

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

At 7:25pm, this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on January 10, 2015, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau. Following the flag salute a moment of silence was observed.

ROLL CALL Present: Dewees, Lischin, Murray, O’Neill, Perri, Piergiovanni, Travagline

Mayor Chau and Solicitor Kris Facenda were also in attendance.

Council President Travagline welcomed everyone to the meeting.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman O’Neill, seconded by Councilman Murray to dispense with the reading of the minutes of January 28, 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 –yes; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Perri

Insurance and Safety, Sewer Inter Local, Planning Board, Senior Citizens

Councilman Perri stated that Insurance was discussed at the work session. He met with the Shared Services Committee regarding the Sewer budget and capital projects, the Planning Board meeting was canceled and rescheduled, there will be two applications at the next meeting. Plans for a Senior meeting are still ongoing.

Councilman O’Neill

Fire Department/EMS, Court/Violations, FAN, Library, Economic Development, Shared Services

Councilman O’Neill stated he had a Shared Service meeting with Linwood to discuss the Shore Medical contract renewal that will be up in the next few months. They are potentially changing their subcontractor for ambulance service in February; particulars with regard to the RFP were discussed. The library had small electrical fire; they are looking at replacing or repairing the heating unit that caused the

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

problem. FAN put in a request for basketball nets; Councilman O'Neill is meeting with Rich Gerber at the field tomorrow and will report back

Councilman Piergiovanni

Chamber of Commerce, Municipal Alliance

No report.

Councilman Dewees

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

No report.

Councilman Murray

Finance/Collections, Inspections/Engineering, Veterans Park, County/State

Councilman Murray announced the dates of the budget meetings. The Veterans Park Committee met 2 weeks ago, the Engineer is prepared to file the soil conservation permit and a quick turnaround is expected. He and Councilman Dewees are working on getting volunteers for the excavation.

Councilman Lischin

Technology, Cultural Committee, Mainland Regional, Green Team

Councilman Lischin spoke about the radio compatibility that was discussed at the Work Session; he will reach out to Mr. Gerber regarding insurance issues for the Cultural Committee events. He thanked Mary Kate, the MRHS videographer.

Council President Travagline asked Councilman Lischin to take over the task of finding a credit card vendor that will allow us to take credit cards in the tax office. There were issues with Municipipay that could not be reconciled. He asked that he to find a no fee vendor.

Councilman Lischin replied that he will talk to Dawn Stollenwerk, CFO.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chau read a press release from AC Electric that offers services to residents in need for such services as gas, electric, etc.. He will leave with the Clerk's Office. He was notified by OEM Coordinator Tim Joo that we got a \$70k grant to purchase generators for the sewer pump stations. He congratulated Mr. Joo. He also has a report from a company called ISO, which relates to insurance risk. Northfield is a level 4, which was recently upgraded from a level 5. Mayor Chau mentioned efforts

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

recently announced by County Executive Levinson to reduce the tax burden, such as reduction of hours of operation at County Library facilities. He congratulated County personnel for ongoing efforts.

Councilman O'Neill thanked the Northfield Police Department under Mayor Chau's leadership for the fine work they have done in the situation yesterday, and residents who participated, he asked if there is a program that allows residents to report tips anonymously.

Acting Lieutenant Steve Steinecke stated yes, the call will then be funneled down to their department.

PUBLIC SESSION

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

Peter Brophy, 11 Twelve Oaks Court, asked if the discussion on credit cards includes online payments. He asked in the Tax Office and was told it costs money. He suggested that the cost be passed along to the user. He also indicated that he felt it would reduce delinquencies, and may reduce workload in the Tax Office.

Dennis Gitsas, 227 East Rosedale Avenue, is concerned that the number of renters is going to increase due to economic climate. Renters are going to rent to whoever is going to pay them. He asked if Northfield is ready for what is going to be going on in the next year or two. He urged residents to keep an eye out, and report what they see is going on. Council needs to make sure this does not happen.

Council President Travagline feels in the past year or two Council has been scrutinizing these issues.

Mr. Gitsas stated 3 or 4 homes on each block, adds up quick. The Zoning Department must be overwhelmed and it's only going to get worse.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Kwapinski arrived at 7:35pm.

Engineer Kwapinski gave an overview of a proposal from South Jersey Gas to share paving costs with Northfield.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

Mayor Chau asked if there will be any re-grading of the streets to address puddling issues.

Engineer Kwapinski said they will do small, minimal corrections, and minimal concrete work, only if absolutely necessary.

Councilman Dewees asked for a completion date of the SJ Gas job and when can we start paving.

Engineer Kwapinski suggested waiting so they can tie into our seams; possibly May.

Solicitor Facenda asked if a formal plan will be provided that outlines the areas to be paved.

Engineer Kwapinski stated no, they are not preparing a plan, but we will want to get one.

Engineer Kwapinski was hoping for an update on the CDBG Grant; we are still waiting for the letter.

Councilman Perri asked if the Soil Conservation Permit application for Veterans Park has been filed.

Engineer Kwapinski stated not yet, Cape Atlantic Soil Conservation wants to see a plan that incorporates all future development as well. He is coordinating payment of fees with the Clerk.

Councilman Perri explained that the Planning Board has never had the opportunity to see the plan; they would like to see it. He suggested an agent or an official of the city should present it to the planning board. Councilman Perri offered to do it as Planning Board liaison, or the Solicitor, or the Engineer. It should be done as a courtesy.

Council President Travagline encouraged Councilman Perri to do it, as he is very familiar with the park plans.

Councilman Perri and Dewees both requested a set of the plans.

RESOLUTIONS / 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

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

Availability of Funds. The Executive Sessions 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.

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman O'Neill seconded, to vote by consent agenda on Resolutions 44-2015 to 50-2015.

- 44-2015 Change to Annual Schedule of Meetings
- 45-2015 Resolution to Amend the Agreement between Jeffrey R. Surenian and Associates, COAH Attorney, and the City Of Northfield
- 46-2015 To Approve an Application for Use of Facilities – MRHS Girls' Softball
- 47-2015 A Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of a Substitute School Crossing Guard
- 48-2015 Establishing the Easter Egg Hunt at Birch Grove Park as a City Event Sponsored by the Northfield Mothers' League
- 49-2015 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 With The Atlantic County Utilities Authority For The Performance Of Trash Collection Services In The City Of Northfield
- 50-2015 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 Mainland PBA, Local 77

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

Councilman Dewees motioned, Councilman O'Neill seconded, to adopt by Consent Agenda on Resolutions 44-2015 to 50-2015.

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

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

ORDINANCES

Councilman Murray motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded, to adopt Ordinance 3-2015.

3-2015 Calendar Year 2015 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 44.14)
*2nd Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption
Publication in the Press of AC 2/14/2014*

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 a 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 from the public wishing to speak on Ordinance 3-2015, he closed the public hearing.

Roll call: Mr. Dewees –yes; Mr. Lischin –yes; Mr. Murray –yes; Mr. O’Neill –yes; Mr. Perri – yes; Mr. Piergiovanni –yes; Mr. Travagline – yes Motion carries to adopt Ordinance 3-2015.

Councilman Piergiovanni motioned, Councilman Dewees seconded, to introduce Ordinance 5-2015.

5-2015 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 43 and Chapter A376 of the Code of the City of Northfield
*Introduction/No Public Input/Published in the Press of AC 2/14/2015
2nd Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption 7:30pm 2/25/15*

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance by title, and stated that this is the introduction, and there will be no public input. The public hearing date, and requisite publication dates were announced. The full Ordinance has been posted in the lobby of City Hall and on the City website, and copies will be 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 requests same.

Councilman Perri asked about the Finance Supervisor and the Finance Assistant, are they new positions.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

Municipal Clerk Canesi explained the positions. The change more accurately depicts the positions of the Finance Office. The change moves the position to include the stipend for the Buildings and Grounds Supervisor and makes her an exempt employee.

Councilman Perri recommended that the Payroll Specialist should include managing the time clock system.

Municipal Clerk Canesi asked if he was referring to a future purchase of time clocks.

Councilman Perri stated yes.

Councilman Perri asked why there is a Captain's position in the Fire Department on the organizational chart.

Municipal Clerk Canesi explained the Captain's position exists now. The only real change in the structure is moving the Tax Office under the supervision of the CFO and removing the City Engineer as a City employee. The Engineer and Assistant City Engineer positions are professional services, at one point they must have been City employees.

Council President Travagline asked Councilman Lischin to resume investigation of the purchase of time clocks, as started by Mayor McGee.

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 for introduction of Ordinance 5-2015.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman Perri motioned, Councilman Lischin seconded, for payment of bills in the amount of \$ 1,222,676.93

Councilman Perri noted that the payroll report was not included.

Council President Travagline said he would follow-up with Dawn Stollenwork, CFO.

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 for payment of bills.

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

Councilman O'Neill read the meeting notices.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Council President Travagline announced that Council will be entering Executive Sessions and the resolutions authorizing each session were adopted earlier in the evening as part of the Consent Agenda.

49-2015 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 With The Atlantic County Utilities Authority For The Performance Of Trash Collection Services In The City Of Northfield

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 this is a potential shared service agreement and contract negotiations with the ACUA; minutes will be kept and will be released when 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 8:20pm Council adjourned to the Mayor's Office for the Executive Session discussion.

At 8:55pm Councilman Piergiovanni left for the evening.

At 8:56pm, the Executive Session of Council concluded and Council returned to council chambers.

Solicitor Facenda announced a summary for the record as follows: during the Executive Session Council engaged in discussions that centered on contractual negotiations and potential shared service. No decisions had been made. The topic will continue to be discussed. The minutes will be available when the matter concludes.

50-2015 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 Mainland PBA, Local 77

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

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 Council will enter into an Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations with the PBA Local 77, negotiations will continue, minutes will be kept and will be released when the matter has concluded. The time for availability is unknown at this time.

At 8:59pm, Council entered the Mayor's Office for the Executive Session discussion.

At 9:30pm, the Executive Session of Council concluded and Council returned to council chambers.

Solicitor Facenda announced a summary for the record as follows: the topics discussed were matters of contractual negotiations. No official actions were taken. Negotiations will continue. The minutes will be made available when matter has concluded.

At 9:31pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC Municipal Clerk