

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD BUDGET WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 26, 2015**

At 5:01pm, this meeting was called to order by. It was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on February 7, 2015, in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Chau.

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

Absent: Piergiovanni

Also in attendance were Mayor Chau and CFO Dawn Stollenwerk.

Council President Travagline welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if there were any questions after yesterday's work session.

CFO Dawn Stollenwerk explained the changes in the revised budget and that we are at 3.5 cents.

Councilman Dewees confirmed that the vehicle maintenance and buildings and grounds lines are now at \$75,000.00.

Council President Travagline also stated that all sports groups have been reduced by \$1000.00 per sport and suggested that Babe Ruth do more fundraising or think about merging with one of the other organizations if they can't sustain themselves.

Councilman Lischin asked if the fuel line could be reduced since there will be three less trash trucks to fuel.

CFO Stollenwerk reminded him that we have to consider the snow plows.

Councilman O'Neill questioned the increase in the audit fees.

Council President Travagline stated that the City only received one RFP for the auditor and it was an increase of \$10,000.00.

Discussion ensued between Council President Travagline and Councilman O'Neill regarding reducing the legal budget to \$150,000.00.

Councilman Perri asked where the lawsuit money came from.

Council President Travagline stated from Trocki.

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Discussion ensued between Councilman O'Neill and Council President Travagline regarding staffing issues. There is one police officer in the budget and Council President Travagline recommended keeping the additional part-time employee at Birch Grove.

Council President Travagline said he was comfortable using more surplus because of decisions that will be made in the next few months.

Council President Travagline took a straw poll vote to see who was in favor of increasing the use of surplus; he was the only person in favor. The budget remains at 3.4 cents.

Council President Travagline opened the meeting to the public.

Jerry McGee, 1620 Zion Road – Asked what does Council see down the road that will reduce our costs.

Council President Travagline stated employment and benefit factors and items that could not be discussed now. He stated it could also involve selling other assets. The finance committee is discussing options.

Council President Travagline read the meeting notices.

Council President Travagline asked Municipal Clerk Canesi to add a discussion regarding capital to the work session for the March 24th council meeting and the discussion of parades to the March 10th work session.

At 5:43pm, on motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk