

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
TO DISCUSS PROPOSED 2010 CAPITAL PROJECTS
DECEMBER 8, 2010, 4:00PM**

At 4:00pm this meeting was called to order by Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk. It was properly advertised according to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Mazzeo and a moment of silence was observed.

ROLL CALL

Present: Carew, Martinez, O’Grady, Smith, Turon, Vain, Kern

Council President Kern welcomed the public, and invited Councilman-Elect, 1st Ward, Frank Perri, to join the discussion.

Councilman Carew stated that addressing drainage issues will make up the largest portion of capital expenditures being proposed; he listed the areas that will be targeted and the associated costs. If any of the jobs come in lower, we can use surplus funds to address smaller drainage projects around town, such as Leslie Lane.

Discussion ensued as to the needs of police, fire and public works for capital projects. Mayor Mazzeo stated the police department had originally requested 2 new SUV’s but would forgo the acquisition this year.

The proposed list of capital projects discussed is as follows:

Hollywood and Pasadena - Drainage	\$ 575,000.00
Marita Ann - Drainage	\$ 400,000.00
Bike Path – Davis Drainage	\$ 100,000.00
Madison and Davis - Engineering and Permitting for Drainage	\$ 150,000.00
Completion of Paving Mt Vernon Avenue	\$ 60,000.00
Police Department In-Car Cameras (5)	\$ 50,000.00
Radios - Fire, DPW	\$ 15,000.00
Flashing Light Oak/Zion - Municipal Share	\$ 35,000.00
Safety Improvements to Fencing at Sports Fields	\$ 40,000.00
Safety Improvements, ADA Issues - Municipal Court	<u>\$ 25,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 1,450,000.00

Councilman Vain said he was asked by residents to broach the subject of a leaf vacuum for Northfield. Jim Clark was in attendance and said the machines are

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costly and may require additional staff to operate. Vain said Linwood does not have the capacity to share their machine, but he and O'Grady will research sharing with other towns or possible use of a private contractor.

Discussion continued regarding to the timing of planning the capital budget; Carew feels the work can be completed in a year. Councilman Elect Perri feels no money should be allocated until revaluation is complete and the tax rate has struck. Mayor Mazzeo said the projects as outlined are more of a 2 year plan. Martinez said there are more areas than are being addressed, and a 5 year plan to address drainage should be formulated. Kern noted that historically, 3 or 5 year plans get interrupted due to other issues that arise.

CFO Dolcy stated that the creation of a bond ordinance and actually borrowing the money are separate events; we don't borrow until we need the money and then only as we need it. The State requires that the 3 year capital plan be updated on an annual basis; the \$500,000 bond ordinance from 2009 has not been spent and when it is it still needs to be voted upon by Council.

PUBLIC SESSION

President Kern opened the meeting for public input.

Robert Webb, 218 West Revere Avenue, expressed concern about a large pile of sand on Revere Avenue. He also said that drainage should be the only priority for capital expenditures in tough economic times.

Peri Pantazes, 1 Madison Avenue, asked why the various components of the Madison Avenue project had to be approved as a whole. City Engineer Doran explained that this is the County's decision. Pantazes also expressed concern about tax dollars being wasted on the restriping of Zion Road.

Robert Pantazes, 1 Madison Avenue, asked if the proposed flashing light at Zion and Oak could be a 4-way stop. Vain replied that the County denied that request. Pantazes suggested that all bike path intersections be 4-way stops, including Zion and Tilton Roads. Pantazes suggested that the City may be able to purchase less expensive communications equipment if Linwood, Northfield, and Somers Point shared 911 service.

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Jim Clark, 1924 Cedarbridge Road and Manager of the Department of Public Works, stated that the purchase of a new dump truck has been referred to as a luxury when in fact it is not. In 2003 the City sold one of its trucks, and in 2009 it sold 2. No new trucks have been purchased since 2003. The proposed purchase of a new dump truck is supported by a valid business decision; without it the City will not be able to properly plow the City streets in the event of snow.

Frank Perri, 7 Haddon Avenue, asked if the gutter was still being installed on Madison Avenue. Doran replied that the design has been done and bids have been received; we are waiting on the County road opening permit. Perri said he feels the County should finance the project; Vain replied that they have repeatedly declined to do so.

Seeing no others from the public wishing to speak President Kern closed the public session.

On motions properly made and seconded, this meeting was adjourned at 5:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Canesi, RMC
Municipal Clerk