

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
October 11, 2023
7:00 PM
MAYOR BARSÀ

COUNCILMAN ASCOLESE	COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA
COUNCILMAN CONDOLEO	COUNCILMAN FOSCHINO
COUNCIL PRESIDENT HAUSMANN	COUNCILMAN KIM

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Norwood was held at Borough Hall on the above date.

Mayor Barsa called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and led those in attendance in a salute to the American Flag and asked for a moment of silence.

Mayor Barsa stated:

“Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Law, P.L. 1975, Ch. 231, setting forth the time, date, place and purpose of this Public Meeting through a legal notice published in the Record and Star Ledger, filing a copy in the Borough Clerk’s office, and posting on the bulletin board.”

ROLL CALL OF THE COUNCIL

Roll Call:	Mayor Barsa	Present
	Councilman Ascolese	Present
	Councilman Brizzolara	Present
	Council Condoleo	Present
	Councilman Foschino	Present
	Council President Hausmann	Present
	Councilman Kim	Present

MAYOR’S OPENING ADDRESS

The Israel-Hamas conflict is one that directly affects the people of our community and those of the surrounding towns. Many of us have loved ones who are in the midst of the attacks. We have lost 22 US citizens, with others not being able to come home. The Borough of Norwood stands with Israel and our thoughts and prayers are with the families whose lives have been altered by these tragic events.

The deadline to apply for a Vote-By-Mail ballot is fast approaching. All applications must be received in the County Clerk's office no later than October 31st. If you have

applied for the Vote-By-Mail ballot and have not yet received one, please contact the County Clerk's office as soon as possible.

The Borough has once again teamed up with the American Cancer Society in the fight against breast cancer. On Sunday, October 22nd, from 9am-12pm, we will be walking at Kennedy Field to raise money to help promote breast cancer awareness and education.

Norwood Day is just over two weeks away. We will be kicking off the day with the Halloween parade, beginning at the fire department and ending at Kennedy Field just in time for the start of the festivities. In addition to our yearly traditions of food trucks, rides, games, and live music we are bringing some new events to our celebration this year. We will have a costume contest, pumpkin painting, and pumpkin slingshots. I hope to see you all there on Saturday, October 28th from 1pm to 6pm.

CORRESPONDENCE

Building Department August Fee Log

Fire Department August Report

August Grant Report

CONSENT AGENDA

Matters listed below are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Council and one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member requests an item be removed.

Approval of the Following Minutes:

September 27, 2023, Mayor & Council Meeting

September 27, 2023 Mayor & Council Meeting Closed Session

Approval of the following Resolutions:

2023:180 Tax Sale Resolution

2023:184 Resolution Authorizing Construction Management Services Agreement
with Neglia Engineering for the Pedestrian Safety Improvements to
Livingston Street

2023:185 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of the Norwood Borough Commodity
Resale System for a Period of Five Years

2023:186 Payment of Vouchers

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Foschino to approve the Consent Agenda. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDNANCES

1. Ordinance 2023:13 An Ordinance Amending the Code of the Borough of Norwood to Repeal an Ordinance Regulating Campaign Contributions and Public Contracting

The mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Foschino, second by Council President Hausmann, that Ordinance 2023:13 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on October 25th, 2023.

Roll Call

Aye: Ascolese, Brizzolara, Condoleo, Foschino, Hausmann, Kim

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

Motion carried.

2. Ordinance 2023:14 An Ordinance to Repeal the Norwood Ethics Board

The mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Condoleo, second by Councilman Ascolese, that Ordinance 2023:14 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on October 25th, 2023.

Roll Call

Aye: Ascolese, Brizzolara, Condoleo, Foschino, Hausmann, Kim

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council President Hausmann

Council President Hausmann made a statement regarding the conflict between Israel and Hamas stating she stands with Israel and the Jewish community and wishes for peace.

Council President Hausmann advised the governing body that the Bergen County Health Report can be found in Board of Health office. The Board of Health has been working on a directory of town resources that is in the editing stage and should be available soon. The Board of Health is also working on an ordinance that would require food establishments to post its County Board of Health rating in the front window. Lastly, the Board of Health secretary sent letters to all establishments in town that have grease traps, explaining the new ordinance. Emails have been sent to the businesses that have not complied with the ordinance.

Councilman President Hausmann gave an update on the community garden. Things at the garden are winding down. The weekly harvests have ended and volunteers are needed to help clean out the beds and get them ready for the winter.

The Environmental Commission is looking for members of the community who would like to join the Commission as alternate members and to contact the EC secretary with any questions or if you are interested in joining.

Council President Hausmann also informed the members of the Council that we have received \$1,365,148.00 in grant money.

Councilman Condoleo

Councilman Condoleo reported that with two (2) and half months left in the year, the Borough has only used roughly sixty-three (63) % of the total budget. He feels the department heads are doing a great job being conscious of their spending.

For the months of July, August, and September EMS responded to one hundred fifty four (154) calls. Councilman Condoleo advised the governing body that EMS has depleted their vehicle maintenance and has requested permission to have repairs made to the 2001 Ford ambulance. The estimated cost of the repairs would be about \$500.00. At the time of the initial request, the decision was made to hold off on the repairs due to a possible shared service agreement with a neighboring town and the uncertainty of which ambulance would be retired when the new ambulance is received. Councilman Condoleo would like to list as a discussion item which ambulance will be retired and the possibility of a shared service and shared cost of the new ambulance on the next work session agenda.

Councilman Condoleo made a motion to approve the repairs in the amount of \$500.00 for the 2001 Ford ambulance. It was seconded by Councilman Foschino. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Councilman Ascolese

Councilman Ascolese advised that the September Police Report was provided to the Council members at tonight's meeting. He also reported that the Seniors Club were happy with the Community Center renovations. Lastly, Councilman Ascolese noted that the Personnel Committee meeting, normally scheduled for the third Thursday of the month, was moved to the Wednesday before due to a mandatory meeting the Borough Administrator must attend.

Councilman Foschino

Councilman Foschino advised that leaf season begins the week of October 16th. And to not park on or near leaf piles as it is not only unsafe but prohibits the DPW from accessing the pile. Also, when placing your leaves at the curb, make sure no rocks, branches, or logs are included in the pile. Chipping will be suspended until leaf season is over. Grass and brush pickup has also concluded until the spring. The DPW has begun the landscaping renewal process at the entrance to Cobblestone Crossing. They have cleaned out the old landscaping that was in poor condition and have ready the location for the new flowers and shrubs that will be planted by next Friday. The DPW also received the new pickup truck that will be used by the Assistant Director who is always on call. There was a fire in one of the HVAC units in the library and once the parts come in that unit will be fixed. The fields at Kennedy have suffered severe damage from being used during the recent heavy rains. They will be repaired in the spring. There was an emergency repair needed on Broad Street when a manhole cover was removed and an old clay pipe broke. The cost will be about \$20,000 plus engineering fees.

Councilman Foschino reported that there was a fire on Meadow Court and twenty six (26) members of the fire department responded. They were able to knock down the fire before it spread to the home. Truck 361 is in need of repairs that will total roughly \$7,600.00. The fire department does not have enough money in their vehicle maintenance budget to cover the cost of these repairs.

Councilman Condoleo made a motion to allow repairs to be made up to \$8,000.00 for Truck 361. It was seconded by Councilman Foschino. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Councilman Foschino explained to the governing body the situation regarding the grant for the Borough received for the Scott Packs. In August the Borough was awarded an Assistance to Firefighters Grant for the purchase of Scott Packs in the amount of \$190,476.19. Our fire department was in drastic need of new Scott Packs and in the spring of this year, prior to our knowledge of the grant award, we purchased a complete set for our volunteers. After we learned of the grant award and that it can only be used for the purchase of Scott Packs we contacted the vendor with whom we made the original purchase and he agreed to take back the packs we

purchased this spring and issue a new quote for the same amount of packs for the price of the grant.

Councilman Condoleo made a motion to work the vendor to make the exchange of the Scott Packs. It was seconded by Council President Hausmann. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Councilman Foschino advised the governing body that he is trying to schedule a meeting with Harrington Park to discuss the shared recreation programs in 2024.

Councilman Brizzolara

Councilman Brizzolara thanked Mr. Padovano and the Norwood Police Department for deciding on ten (10) streetlights to be upgraded to LED lights in the Rockland Electric program.

Councilman Kim

Councilman Kim advised that the Greenway Project is looking into hiring a consulting firm to help with logistics and marketing. The Greenway Project will have representatives at the community events in Northvale, Demarest, and Tenafly.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public. The motion was forwarded by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Council President Hausmann. All council members present approved the motion.

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public. The motion was forwarded by Council President Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara. All council members present approved the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was forwarded by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Council President Hausmann. All council members present approved the motion. Meeting was adjourned the meeting at PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano
Borough Clerk