

MINUTES  
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
OCTOBER 13, 2021

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|                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| MAYOR BARSА                |                       |
| COUNCIL PRESIDENT ASCOLESE | COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA |
| COUNCILMAN FOSCHINO        | COUNCILWOMAN HAUSMANN |
| COUNCILMAN KIM             | COUNCILMAN ROONEY     |

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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 7:00 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.”

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|------------|----------------------------|---------|
| Roll Call: | Mayor Barsa                | Present |
|            | Council President Ascolese | Present |
|            | Councilman Brizzolara      | Present |
|            | Councilman Foschino        | Present |
|            | Councilwoman Hausmann      | Present |
|            | Councilman Kim             | Present |
|            | Councilman Rooney          | Present |

Mayor Barsa spoke the importance of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and announced that he will be signing a proclamation that night to officially declare October 2021 as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Norwood.

Mayor Barsa recapped the success of Norwood day on 9/25/21.

Mayor Barsa gave an updated timeline for the Blanch Ave drainage project, as well as the blanch ave bridge. Both of which will span the month of October into November.

The mayor explained that there was an open house at the Daibes project and a large number of prospective tenants toured the property.

The mayor also listed important dates to remember for voting and elections.

Mayor Barsa reminded the public that the Norwood Food Pantry is looking for donations and their most needed items can be found listed on our website.

Lastly, the Mayor offered a reminder that our next Healthy Norwood / Mayor's Wellness event will be held on Sunday October 17<sup>th</sup> at Kennedy Field at 10am.

### CORRESPONDENCE

The mayor stated that there are several pieces of correspondence which are available at the Municipal Clerk's office.

### INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

Ordinance 2021:09 An Ordinance Amending Article V Titled "Residential Zones" in Chapter 233 of the Code of the Borough of Norwood to Adjust Accessory Building Height Requirements.

(Public hearing will be held on October 27th, 2021 at 7:00 PM)

The Mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Brizzolara, second by Council President Ascolese, that Ordinance 2021:09 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on October 27th 2021.

In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.  
Motion carried.

Ordinance 2021:10 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 50 of the Code of the Borough of Norwood Titled "Police Department."

(Public hearing will be held on October 27th, 2021 at 7:00 PM)

The Mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Brizzolara, second by Councilman Rooney, that Ordinance 2021:10 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on October 27th 2021.

In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.  
Motion carried.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Barsa reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda and asked if any Council Member wished to remove an item. Mayor Barsa asked for a motion approving the Consent Agenda consisting of the following items, as well as approval of the minutes from 9/22/21 for content and release.

Approval of the following Resolutions:

2021:174 Authorizing Renewal of BCMJIF Membership (in agenda folder w/ sample resolution)  
2021:175 Authorizing Redemption of Tax Title Lien  
2021:176 Authorizing the Person-to-Person Liquor License Transfer from 530 Livingston Street Investment Group, LLC. to Eve Group LLC.  
2021:177 Appointment of Junior Member Kevin J. McLaughlin to Norwood Fire Department  
2021:178 Appointment of Heather Garcia to Norwood Zoning Board of Adjustment  
2021:179 Payment of Vouchers

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann to approve the Consent Agenda and the minutes be approved for content and release. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor Barsa congratulated the newly appointed Jr. firefighter Kevin McLaughlin.

#### APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS:

The Mayor appointed Tim Luby (Current Alternate), Alan Rappaport, Phil Maljevic, & Siddhi Samant (New Alternate) to the Norwood Environmental Commission.

Mayor Barsa also wanted to recognize Councilwoman Hausmann and her important work she is doing with the Environmental Commission. He wanted to commend Councilwoman Hausmann on the time and effort that it takes to get the Environmental Commission revitalized and back on it's feet.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilwoman Hausmann: Board of Health meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum. The Zoning Board meeting was cancelled due to no applications on file. The Environmental Committee had a meeting last night, which had 3 resignations and 3 appointments tonight, thank you to the Mayor. The Environmental Commission had its 1st "Hike the Northern Valley" despite rain, they had a showing of 18 people, and it was roughly 3 miles. Everyone had a great time and asked for more, so the EC is scheduling one each Sunday for as long as the community shows up. The EC have established a Clear-Cutting Committee and will establish new committees at the next meeting with new membership. The commission has a 6-, 12-, 18-, and 24-month plan which includes a REI or Resource Environmental Inventory to see what lands Norwood is composed of. They will work towards being a part of Sustainable NJ which we have had in the past and let wain with lack of a working EC. They are interested in joining ANJAC – Association of New Jersey Environmental Commission. ANJEC's programs support strong local action for the environment and aim to help citizens protect the

environment. The EC has rescheduled the Backyard/Community Composting Workshop with the New Jersey Composting Council for March, they would like to join again for 2022 as they are a great resource. The Environmental Commission would like to increase their budget to attain these goals, Councilwoman Hausmann will get back to the mayor and council with a proposal.

Councilman Rooney: September was a busy month for the fire department. They had 65 calls this month and did a tremendous job. Property taxes are due November 1<sup>st</sup>. Chris Battaglia and Councilman Rooney are looking at budget transfers this year but looks like not much will be needed.

Council President Ascolese: We are currently in contract negotiations for the Police Department contract.

Councilman Foschino: There were 36 EMS calls for the month. There are currently issues with the new ambulance regarding supply chain. Chris Barron has a plan b in place. DPW just recently ascertained new turf equipment and the library is almost 90% done with the landscaping. Some trees in town have been pruned. Thank you to DPW superintendent Rob Tracy for amazing work.

Councilman Brizzolara: The construction department is running at a brisk pace. 26 permits were received for the month. This summer we received a letter from Habitat for Humanity and they will be making a presentation at the next meeting. They have done amazing work.

Councilman Kim: The public school had it's first live meeting. There was public discussion regarding teacher issues. Out of 316 students, 310 will be graduating which is amazing. Policies discussed included mask mandates, vaccines, and remote learning. Complaints regarding Critical Race Theory were brought up at the meeting. All board members were very knowledgeable and had strong opinions.

#### 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 Councilman Foschino. All councilmembers present voted in favor of the motion.

**Mr. Dominic Congiusti– 195 Livingston St.:** Employee appreciation night was a big success. Thank you, October 31<sup>st</sup> the Fire Department is hosting a Halloween Parade. They are assembling at the library at 1pm and the parade starts at 1:30pm. Candy was purchased. The chief suggested hot cider and donuts, but President Congiusti feels that is not smart with COVID.

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public. The motion was forwarded by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann. All councilmembers present voted in favor of the motion.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Council President Ascolese, second by Councilman Brizzolara, and unanimously agreed that Resolution #2021:180 be approved. The meeting temporarily adjourned to Closed Session at 8:30 PM.

The meeting resumed in open session at 9:00 PM.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to approve the negotiating committees to move forward with 4% salary increases for the DPW and Police for 5 years. The motion was forwarded by Councilman Foschino and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann. All councilmembers present voted in favor of the motion

With no further discussion to come before the Council, Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was forwarded by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann. All councilmembers present approved the motion. Meeting was adjourned the meeting at 9:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano  
Borough Clerk