

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 26, 2022
7:00 PM
MAYOR BARSA

COUNCILMAN ASCOLESE	COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA
COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOSCHINO	COUNCILWOMAN HAUSMANN
COUNCILMAN KIM	COUNCILMAN SULJIC

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 7:06 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:	Mayor Barsa	Present
	Councilman Ascolese	Present
	Councilman Brizzolara	Present
	Council President Foschino	Present
	Councilwoman Hausmann	Present
	Councilman Kim	Present
	Councilman Suljic	Present

The mayor announced that the Borough raised over \$4,500.00 from the Mayors Wellness Making Strides event. The money goes directly to the American Cancer Society to be used towards finding a cure and spreading awareness and education to all.

Mayor Barsa further announced that for the next Mayors Wellness Campaign / Healthy Norwood event on November 10th there will be a discussion forum presented by the Diabetes Foundation. They will provide information on understanding a diagnosis, risks associated with the disease, and proper nutrition. They will also be available to answer questions.

The mayor stated that this past Saturday Norwood held the last shredding and recycling event of the year. He thanked Council President Foschino and DPW

Director Tracy for organizing the event. He also thanked resident Michael Portannese, from Gaeta Recycling, for donating his time and his trucks for use. Without him, this event would not have been possible, and it came at no cost to Norwood's taxpayers.

Lastly, Mayor Barsa reminded residents that election day is just over two weeks away. The polls will be open from 6am-8pm. Voting will take place here at Borough Hall or at the community center. If you are not sure of your polling place, please contact the Borough Clerk's office and they will be happy to help you.

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 2022:06 An Ordinance Amending Article V Titled "Residential Zones" and Article XIII Titled "Parks and Public Purpose Zones" in Chapter 233 of the Code of the Borough of Norwood

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to open the meeting to the public for comments concerning this ordinance. All Council Members present voted for the motion. There being no member of the public wishing to be heard, it was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve Ordinance 2022:06.

On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Council President Foschino, and Councilmembers Ascolese, Brizzolara, Hausmann, Kim, and Suljic

Absent: None

Nays: None

There being six (6) ayes and no nays Ordinance 2022:06 was approved

2. Ordinance 2022:08 An Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition by a Gift of Property Known as Block 39, Lot 10 in the Borough of Norwood

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to open the meeting to the public for comments concerning this ordinance. All Council Members present voted for the motion. There being no member of the public wishing to be heard, it was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Council President Foschino to approve Ordinance 2022:08.

On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Council President Foschino, and Councilmembers Ascolese, Brizzolara, Hausmann, Kim, and Suljic

Absent: None

Nays: None

There being six (6) ayes and no nays Ordinance 2022:08 was approved

3. Ordinance 2022:09 An Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition by a Gift of Property Known as Block 169, Lot 4 in the Borough of Norwood

It was moved by Council President Foschino and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann to open the meeting to the public for comments concerning this ordinance. All Council Members present voted for the motion. There being no member of the public wishing to be heard, it was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve Ordinance 2022:09.

On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Council President Foschino, and Councilmembers Ascolese, Brizzolara, Hausmann, Kim, and Suljic

Absent: None

Nays: None

There being six (6) ayes and no nays Ordinance 2022:09 was approved

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 2022:10 An Ordinance Amending Article VI Titled “Business Zones” in Chapter 233 of the Code of the Borough of Norwood

The mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Brizzolara, second by Councilman Ascolese, that Ordinance 2022:10 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on December 14th, 2022.

Roll Call

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

Nay:
Abstain:

Motion carried.

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:

October 12, 2022, Mayor & Council Meeting

Approval of the following Resolutions:

2022:176 Authorizing the Execution of a Contract for Building Maintenance with
Norwood Gardens Condominium Association, Inc.

2022:177 Employment of Karin Weissbach as Alternate School Crossing Guard

2022:178 Authorizing Redemption of Tax Title Lien

2022:179 Authorizing the Submission of an Application to the NJDOT
Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program for Broadway
Beautification

2022:180 Authorizing New Emergency Operations Plan for the Borough of Norwood

2022:181 Payment of Vouchers

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Council President Foschino to approve the Consent Agenda and that the 10/12/2022 Mayor & Council Meeting minutes be approved for content and release. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Street Sign Dedications:

Council President Foschino welcomed all the families in attendance of the meeting. He stated that he wanted to create a program to dedicate street signs to families who should be recognized for their hard work and dedication to the Norwood Community. This year, the borough is recognizing three families: the Benequista, the Cerbasi, and the Falkenstern families. Council President Foschino feels that the dedication these three families show for Norwood is immeasurable.

Council President Foschino read the histories of each of the three families and presented each family with the custom street signs.

Best Practices:

Borough Administrator / Clerk Padovano explained that State Law requires the Division of Local Government Services to issue a Best Practices Inventory to be completed by each municipality every year. Municipalities must receive positive credit on a list of questions to avoid withholding of aid. The 2022 Inventory assesses each municipality's compliance with various laws and evaluates implementation of fiscal and operational best practices.

Last year Norwood scored 4 points over a perfect score. This year Norwood scored 9 ½ points over a perfect score.

Dog Park Change Order:

Borough Engineer Scott Loverich stated that Neglia Engineering has been working with the Norwood swim club to coordinate the modification of the ADA accessible parking space for the dog park. The swim club had some requests and modifications that they wanted to make. Neglia Engineering drew up the modifications and sent it to the contractor for a quote. The contractor's pricing is what is reflected in the change order.

Councilman Brizzolara wanted further clarification on why the change order is needed. Borough Engineer Loverich stated that the swim club took exception to the original location that Neglia had offered. Neglia is working with the swim club to push the parking spot towards the grassy area and fence. As a result, a section of fence needs to be moved. Neglia also will have an ADA accessible ramp incorporated. The new features included in this change order is the new ramp, walkway, and fence relocation. Councilman Brizzolara wanted to make sure that the DEP would have no issues in that new location, which Borough Engineer Loverich confirmed that they would not have an issue. Borough Engineer Loverich also confirmed that the removal of the tree with the overhanging limb is included in this work.

Councilman Kim had a question regarding the monetary 19% increase to the project. Borough Engineer Loverich explained that it is within the 20% limit of allowable change.

Councilman Suljic does not agree with the change order numbers that were quoted by the contractor. Councilman Suljic feels that the material costs should not be that

high. Borough Engineer Loverich reminded the Mayor and Council this item is only for discussion. Neglia Engineering can still go back and re-work the costs with the contractor. Councilman Suljic does not see a reason why the dog park cannot be opened to the public.

Borough Engineer Loverich explained that Neglia Engineering would like to have the tree that over hangs the park removed before the public can enter the park because of safety concerns.

Council President Foschino stated that the guardrail on the west end of the park is made of timber and stops. The fence goes from west to east where cars can park along the fence. Council President Foschino is concerned that there is no guardrail in front of the fence. It is a safety concern that there is nothing stopping a car from entering the dog park, or from damaging the fence. He stated he would like to see the guardrail extended the entire length of the park. Council President Foschino doesn't feel comfortable opening the park without some form of protection. Also, he is concerned that the parking lot is not walkable and is dangerous the way it is now.

Borough Engineer Loverich informed the council that Neglia Engineering is working with the contractor on that aspect of the job.

Councilwoman Hausmann wanted to know if there is a plan for the landscaping next to the dog park. She stated that it appeared that area has been flattened down. Council President Foschino responded that there is no landscaping planned for the outside of the dog park, only inside.

Councilman Suljic feels that the borough is being taken advantage of by letting other municipalities dump their milling material in the borough. He feels that those who are dumping should be paying a fee, even if it works to Norwood's advantage.

Council President Foschino expressed that this relationship is part of shared services. Harrington Park and Norwood work together.

Councilman Suljic feels that the contractor should fix the depressions in the parking lot since it is the contract.

The mayor advised Neglia engineering to take a look at the issues that were brought up today and come up with a plan. Ermin added to try and get better prices.

Council President Foschino expressed that his main concern is the overhanging tree. He wants to know if the borough can authorize Rich's Tree Service to remove the tree

and pay for it out of the operating account for trees. Borough Engineer Loverich doesn't see why that will not work. Borough Attorney Corrison stated that if the price of the tree work is below the bid threshold there shouldn't be a problem.

Tree Preservation Ordinance Presentation by the Environmental Commission:
Phil Maljevic, Karin Rosenthal, Brielle Olshan, and Jim Elling from the Environmental Commission were present at the meeting to present the new draft of the Tree Preservation ordinance to the Mayor and Council.

Mr. Maljevic started the slideshow by explaining the mission statement, membership roster, accomplishments, and objectives of the Environmental Commission.

Mr. Maljevic mentioned that the benefits of the proposed tree preservation ordinance would include: Lower Norwood's carbon footprint, preserve town character, protect air, soils, and wildlife, reduce stormwater runoff and flooding, prevent soil erosion, carbon sequestration, increase property values, maintain green space.

Mr. Maljevic gave an analysis of the process of drafting the new tree ordinance, which included reviewing the current ordinance, reviewing the tree ordinances from neighboring towns, meeting with the property maintenance official in town as well as the Closter Environmental Commission chair.

Karin Rosenthal stated that the proposed changes to the ordinance would include, a revised application, added standards for review of applications, added required mitigation, and creating an appeals process involving the EC and Shade Tree Commission.

Ms. Rosenthal mentioned the application process is as follows:

Dead or Hazardous Tree If a tree is not obviously dead or hazardous, the applicant must provide a written opinion from a certified arborist or tree care professional, at the applicant's expense.	Application, no fee
1-2 Trees	Application
3 Trees	Application Application Fee (\$25) Plan with detailed property map Mitigation Plan
4 or more trees	Application Application Fee (\$50) Plan with detailed property map Mitigation Plan Review of application by the Borough Engineer

She stated that most applications in Norwood fall under the 1 – 3 tree categories.

Ms. Rosenthal mentioned that the ordinance does not prohibit tree removal related to new construction, but does provide guidelines, standards for review, and mitigation requirements. The Tree Removal Application would be presented to the Zoning/Planning Board, as applicable, for their final determination.

Ms. Rosenthal also covered the Application Review Standards. She stated that every tree removal must have a permit, the Code Enforcement Official will assess whether the tree removal application complies with the new standards set forth in this proposed ordinance, mitigation is required for most tree removal of three or more trees, and will be verified by the Code Enforcement Official, and the proposed ordinance notes that the Code Enforcement Official can call on person(s) with recognized expertise (i.e., who are certified tree specialists) during the application's review.

A graph was presented to further explain the mitigation requirements:

Caliper of Tree Removed (inches)	Number Required for Mitigation
0-6	No mitigation required
6 to less than 15	1 for each removed
15 to less than 25	2 for each removed
25 and greater	3 for each removed

To conclude the presentation, Ms. Rosenthal explained a landmark tree provision within the proposed ordinance. This provision establishes the importance of Landmark Trees and sets forth a procedure for the creation and protection of these important trees.

Mayor Barsa thanked the Environmental Commission for their hard work in researching and drafting a revised ordinance. The mayor asked the council what their pleasure would be on how to proceed.

Councilman Brizzolara stated that he did not have time to read the proposed ordinance before the meeting and he acknowledges that this is not a one-meeting task. He mentioned that he would like some more time to review the proposed ordinance. Mr. Maljevic completely agreed and looks forward to working with the town to work towards an ordinance that is acceptable to the borough.

Council President Foschino asked for clarification on who is going to enforce the ordinance. Ms. Rosenthal answered by saying that the code enforcement would enforce the ordinance. Mr. Maljevic added that in Closter the police department do the enforcing. He explained Closter's permitting process for tree removals.

Council President Foschino thanked the entire Environmental Commission for all the hard work that was done for this presentation. His minor concern is that the Borough does not have the manpower to enforce this kind of ordinance. His major concern is the cost to a homeowner in Norwood. Council President Foschino cited an example which a new homeowner who wants to remove 4 trees from a property, after paying for the application fee and removal plan, hiring an engineer, submitting a mitigation plan, establishing escrow money for engineering review, paying the contractor for removal, and purchase of new replacement trees; it would cost a new homeowner in town \$11,000 to remove the 4 trees. His second scenario described a homeowner removing 3 trees of lesser caliber, but without replacement trees, would cost the homeowner \$8,000. Council President Foschino feels that the borough shouldn't have the right to tell people what to do with the trees on their own property. He is also

concerned how this ordinance would apply to apartments or town “green” in town and appreciates what the ordinance sets out to do, but he feels it should not be at the cost to the taxpayers.

Mr. Maljevic felt that those points are very good points and reaffirmed that he wishes to collaborate with the governing body to help represent those points. Mr. Maljevic reminds the council that a new homeowner must go through the construction department to build anything on a lot. Council President Foschino agrees that everyone must go to the construction department and get permission to build, but sometimes when residents get denied, they build anyway. Mr. Maljevic hopes that isn't true but wishes the governing body can come up with creative solutions to that problem.

Council President Foschino cited a prior clear-cutting incident which sparked the current ordinance.

Brielle Olshan responded by stating that some of the fees and requirements for a homeowner that Council President Foschino cited are already in the current ordinance. Mayor Barsa clarified that the costs of removal is understood for homeowners, he feels that Council President Foschino was discussing the additional fees are included.

Councilman Brizzolara feels that there may be some costs that homeowners have been avoiding over the years because our current ordinance wasn't being enforced. Councilman Brizzolara brought up a scenario if a homeowner wants to remove one healthy tree on a property. Mr. Maljevic explained that the process is the same as it is now. Councilman Brizzolara shares the concern of putting too much additional undue burden on residents.

Mr. Maljevic agreed that it is a valid concern and hopefully the next draft can address those concerns.

Councilman Suljic suggests including a hardship waiver into the ordinance for residents who cannot afford the fees, then the council or the Environmental Commission can decide. Council President Foschino feels that a hardship waiver wouldn't be fair. Councilman Suljic feels that when a resident is applying to remove more than three trees, it creates bigger problems. He feels that Neglia should review any application of more than three trees. Councilman Suljic feels that the proposal is a great draft and should get more public input. Councilman Suljic mentioned that six trees near his house were removed without input from the public. He feels that residents should be made more aware when trees are scheduled to be removed.

Council President Foschino let Councilman Suljic know that the six trees were deemed dead and a safety issue by a certified arborist at Rich's Tree.

Council President Foschino added that some trees create drainage issues in town. He feels that residents would be happy to remove a tree that creates a flooding issue in their home. He also feels that if a resident buys property in town, then that resident owns the tree, and that resident shouldn't have to pay Norwood to take the tree down. He added that some towns that have strict ordinances scare potential homeowners from purchasing in those towns.

Councilwoman Hausmann stated that Norwood has a clear-cutting ordinance in place, and it is not enforced even though it is enforceable. Other towns with similar ordinances are enforced, specifically Closter a town with one of the strictest tree ordinances, and it has not affected the property values. Councilwoman Hausmann feels in her opinion that the examples previously stated are extreme. She stated that original intention of the Environmental Commission's work on this was to address clear cutting. She feels that everyone can agree that the clear cutting is not good, that it is mostly done by developers and that it is a cheaper way to build a new house. Councilwoman Hausmann stated that there is responsibility when a resident owns a piece of property. She reiterated that Norwood has an ordinance and Norwood doesn't enforce it, but that doesn't mean that it is not enforceable.

She recognized that Council President Foschino does not like the draft ordinance and that it is fine not to like it as he is just one vote on the council. She stated that there can be exceptions, for drainage as an example, and that this ordinance is a working product. Councilwoman Hausmann thanked the Environmental Commission for working tirelessly on the draft ordinance for many hours and months. She feels that the ordinance is well worth exploring. Councilwoman Hausmann stated that she is of the opinion that a resident cannot do whatever they want on their property. She added that no one can put additions, patios, or permanent structures on a house without going through a process. She added that in light of all the hard work that has been done and with the openness of working together, all the different variables will be explored. She stated that each member of the council has one vote, and this should be explored further in respect to the town and work that has been done.

Council President Foschino wanted to know which lot and block numbers have not been enforced by the current ordinance. Councilwoman Hausmann does not want to give out addresses in town who clear cut their properties because it is over and done. She mentioned that there is cutting going on all over town, and she received phone calls regarding one job in her neighborhood. She feels that giving out addresses would be completely inappropriate.

Council President Foschino asked Construction Code Official Tessaro if there have been any clear cutting recently, to which Mr. Tessaro responded that there has not been any clear cutting recently. Councilwoman Hausmann clarified that she stated that we do not enforce the ordinance.

Councilman Ascolese thanked the Environmental Commission for their work. He stated that over his multiple years on council, he has observed many ordinances that need to be changed. The current tree ordinance has been one of the hardest to understand and enforce. Councilman Ascolese stated that he does share some of the concerns that Council President Foschino brought up regarding the added expenses. Councilman Ascolese asked the Environmental Commission if the survey that is mentioned in the draft ordinance mean that the resident has to have their property completely re-surveyed. Councilman Ascolese mentioned that he has concerns, not objections and wants to work with the Environmental Commission further. He wants to find a way to tweak the ordinance, so it is more acceptable to the general public.

Mr. Maljevic restated that he appreciates all the input from the council. He also clarified for Councilman Ascolese that resident do not need an official re-surveying of their land. He added that they just want to see a general map or rendering of the tree locations on the property. He agrees that the Environmental Commission does not want to see an undue burden be put on any resident.

Councilman Ascolese mentioned that he would like to work together to see the draft ordinance softened. Mr. Maljevic mentioned that he is encouraged by that and by all the comments from the council. He also mentioned that he does not expect a quick answer on this ordinance.

Councilman Kim thanked the Environmental Commission for their work. Councilman Kim asked if the Environmental Commission looked at ordinances from other towns. Mr. Maljevic stated that the Environmental Commission used segments from Norwood's current ordinance, as well as segments from ordinances in surrounding towns. Mr. Maljevic pointed out that Closter's ordinance was the ordinance that they used the most wording from.

Mayor Barsa summed up by addressing the Environmental Commission. He let the Environmental Commission know that there is more work to be done and that there is no hostility on the council and that the council is very passionate.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Report

Borough Administrator / Clerk Padovano explained that the deadline to apply for a vote by mail ballot is November 1st. The applications are available on our borough's homepage in English, Korean, and Spanish. Physical applications are also available in the clerk's office. They must either be mailed or dropped off at the Bergen County Clerk's office in Hackensack.

Borough Administrator / Clerk Padovano reminded residents that if a voter applied for a vote by mail ballot and have not received it yet, to call the Bergen County Clerk's office, as they are the ones mailing out the ballots. Their phone number is on their website.

Borough Administrator / Clerk Padovano explained stated that for anyone who received a vote by mail ballot but does not want to utilize the postal service there is an election drop box outside the front door of borough hall. Anyone can drop the vote by mail ballot in the secure drop box. The county picks up the ballots every day. The deadline to place a vote by mail ballot in the box is election night.

Borough Administrator / Clerk Padovano explained that he got a call from the American Red Cross who are looking to schedule another blood drive in Norwood in 2023. They still have to get back with potential dates but be on the lookout for that.

Borough Attorney Report

Borough Attorney Corrison updated the council on the Jones Court lawsuit. He stated that the deadline is extended again, and the matter is working itself out. Mr. Corrison also stated that the council just adopted two new ordinances regarding the donation of encyclopedia lots and the borough should consider updating the procedure. He will work on consolidating all the remaining encyclopedia lots in Norwood in the hopes that it may reveal usable land. Councilman Ascolese asked Mr. Corrison if the lawsuit on Jones Court will affect any of the houses. Mr. Corrison assured him that no houses will be affected by the lawsuit. Mr. Corrison also mention that Jones Court needs to be turned over to the borough before the streetlights can be turned on.

Borough Engineer Report

Engineer Scott Loverich explained that the contractor who is paving Walnut Street and the Fire Department parking lot is looking to begin work in about three weeks.

Mr. Loverich explained that Neglia Engineering is awaiting a quote for the work on Summit Street for drainage issues. Mr. Loverich also stated that the plans for the crosswalk near the Dunkin Donuts was submitted to the county for review.

Mr. Loverich stated to the council that Neglia Engineering has been attending the playground committee meetings and that project is ongoing.

Councilman Suljic asked what the “Broadway beautification” work includes. Mayor Barsa explained that the streetscape on Livingston Street will be expanded to Broadway leading to the Borough Hall.

Council President Foschino asked Engineer Loverich if he had an estimate for the new playground. Mr. Loverich explained that based on the Gametime playground layout, the estimated cost of the new playground would be approximately 1.3 million dollars. Council President Foschino asked for clarification on why that number is higher than the older estimate from prior years. Mr. Loverich clarified that the past playground project was at \$800,000 and was more of a replace-in-kind project. He further explained that due to the ADA compliancy rules and the added topographical work, the price is increased. The older estimate also did not include stormwater underdrains which are needed.

Council President Foschino stated that he wants to see this project completed and wants to know if the equipment and project proposed are too large for the current site, can an alternative site be utilized. He mentioned that the mayor and himself previously made efforts towards a shared service agreement with the high school to utilize their property in town located behind the valley program.

Mr. Loverich stated that the less earth work there is to do, the smaller the cost associated with the project would be. Mr. Loverich also mentioned that the trees located inside the playground will need to be removed to allow for the regrading of the area.

Councilwoman Hausmann mentioned that there are many grants available for ADA compliant playgrounds. She also mentioned that she spoke to one of the County Commissioners who will be attending the next playground meeting. Councilwoman Hausmann let Mayor Barsa know that the playground committee agreed to have Commissioner Tracy Zurr attend the next playground meeting to discuss ADA compliant playgrounds and available county assistance. Councilwoman Hausmann also mentioned that Tracy Zurr does a lot of work with ADA compliance which would be beneficial to the committee.

Mr. Loverich mentioned that the current estimate of the playground does not fit in the current footprint because of the zipline feature. Mayor Barsa asked for clarification on the zipline. Councilwoman Hausmann explained that it is a feature

that will make the park very beneficial to residents with all different types of abilities. Councilwoman Hausmann also pointed out that the zipline is something that there are grants available for.

Council President Foschino mentioned that he also attended the playground meeting, and he feels that the new playground is a phenomenal project and would love to see Norwood complete the project. Council President Foschino stated that there was a meeting back in January with County Clerk Hogan, himself, Mayor Barsa, Mayor Glidden of Closter, Michael Neglia, Mr. Santana from the high school, Borough Administrator / Clerk Padovano, and other high school Board of Education members including G.C. Vaghasia and Joseph Argenziano. It was proposed at that meeting to put the playground behind the valley school on one or two acres. Also proposed was a shared service agreement of 7 surrounding towns. The proposed funding would come from the 7 surrounding towns and the school district. Council President Foschino stated that the proposal was met with heavy opposition. He stated that this proposal was the epitome of a shared service agreement. He also reminded those present that Michael Neglia referred to that proposal as having the potential to be a nationally recognized playground. Also, Council President Foschino stated that Mr. Santana agreed that due to the nature of the programs at the valley school, the location behind the school would be ideal. Council President Foschino continues that even though that shared service agreement was met with opposition, now the borough is going to bring in Tracy Zurr in from the county for the project. Council President Foschino continues by saying that he noticed that Tracy Zurr is a political donor. He feels uncomfortable involving her with Norwood because of her past political donations and support of politicians in town.

Councilwoman Hausmann stated that all officials on the dais are supported by politicians. She stated that she feels disrespected by Council President Foschino. Councilwoman Hausmann went on to say that Tracy Zurr has nothing to do with municipalities and is a county executive who is very knowledgeable in the ADA field.

Councilman Suljic stated that he isn't against the ADA playground idea behind the valley program, but Norwood also has a responsibility to the children in town for a new playground near Kennedy Field.

Council President Foschino stated that all options have to be analyzed.

Councilwoman Hausmann commented that access to the playground near Kennedy Field has been very convenient. She added that Tracy Zurr is a county executive who works with all county executives and all municipalities in the county.

Mayor Barsa added that fundraising for the new playground needs to be addressed before anything is moved forward.

Councilman Suljic stated that the fundraising subcommittee needed to wait for the graphics to be secured before fundraising can begin. He also added that he is willing to donate his stipend that he will be receiving for his councilman position to the new playground.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Alexander Fruhling – 40 Cobblestone Crossing

Ms. Fruhling thanked the Mayor and Council for their work and dedication to the Dog Park project. She is hopeful that the borough can have a ribbon cutting ceremony on November 10th or 11th. Ms. Fruhling mentioned fundraising efforts for pavers and a waterline for the dog park. The mayor responded by saying that he feels the whole council will support any fundraising efforts Ms. Fruhling has in mind. Ms. Fruhling also requested the replacement of the signs for the dog park. Mayor Barsa informed Ms. Fruhling that signs on borough property break borough code and unfortunately is not allowed according to the ordinance. Mayor Barsa also stated that the dog park will be opened when Neglia Engineering approves the project's completion and deems the park safe. Councilwoman Hausmann added that Ms. Fruhling needs a ribbon cutting to complete the requirements of her gold star project, but the ceremony does not need to be official.

Phil Maljevic – 192 Piermont Road

Mr. Maljevic wanted a clarification on what an encyclopedia lot is. Chief Krapels gave an explanation on encyclopedia lots.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was forwarded by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara. All councilmembers present approved the motion. Meeting was adjourned the meeting at 9:12PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano
Borough Clerk