

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING & WORK SESSION
July 12, 2023
7:00 PM
MAYOR BARSA

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

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 7:03 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	Absent
	Councilman Kim	Absent

MAYOR’S OPENING REMARKS:

The weather held out and our 4th of July fireworks celebration went off without any issues. Thank you to all involved who helped organize this event. I would especially like to thank our Recreation Director, Anthony Plescia, who once again secured a fantastic fireworks display.

On Sunday, August 20th we will be having our Senior Citizen Appreciation Lunch at Kennedy Field. If you are age 60 or older, please join us from 11am-1pm for some good food and even better company.

Due to the success of our first mobile MVC unit, I have scheduled a date to bring them back for those who were not able to attend in June. The mobile unit will be here on Wednesday, September 20th from 10am-2pm. The link to schedule an appointment for a REAL ID will be posted to the borough website and borough Facebook page shortly.

The food pantry, located at the Church of the Holy Communion, is in desperate need of supplies. Some of the most needed items are personal hygiene items like toothbrushes and toothpaste. The link to the food pantry is on our website. There you will find a list of items they have a great need for, as well as other important information. If you would like to donate, there is a collection box located in the front vestibule of borough hall.

Mayor Barsa wished Councilman Foschino and Police Chief Krapels a happy birthday.

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.

Councilman Condoleo asked for further discussion on Resolution 2023:116.
Councilman Foschino asked for further discussion on Resolution 2023:144

Approval of the Following Minutes:

June 14, 2023, Mayor & Council Meeting Minutes

Approval of the following Resolutions:

2023:116 Approval of the Governing Body Certifying the Annual Audit

2023:117 Approval of the Authorization Submission of a FY24 Municipal Aid Grant Application and Execution of a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Improvements to Summit Street and High Street

2023:118 Approval of the Updates to the Employee Handbook

2023:119 Approval of Escrow Refund for 490 Summit Street
2023:120 Approval of Escrow Refund for 360 Tappan Road
2023:121 Approval of Escrow Refund for 326 High Street
2023:122 Approval of Escrow Refund for 323 High Street
2023:123 Approval of Escrow Refund for 231 Rockland Avenue
2023:124 Approval of Escrow Refund for 88 Mohawk Avenue
2023:125 Approval of Escrow Refund for 75 Demarest Street
2023:126 Approval of Escrow Refund for 59 Sherwood Road
2023:127 Approval of Escrow Refund for 57 Cobblestone Crossing
2023:128 Approval of Escrow Refund for 28 Lamb Court
2023:129 Approval of Escrow Refund for 22 Lamb Court
2023:130 Approval of Escrow Refund for 20 Helen Court
2023:131 Approval of Escrow Refund for 15 Lamb Court
2023:132 Approval of Escrow Refund for 9 Lamar Place
2023:133 Approval of Escrow Refund for 26 Jay Street
2023:134 Approval of Escrow Refund for 819 Blanch Avenue
2023:135 Appointment of Counselors for Norwood Summer Camp
2023:136 Authorize the Hiring of Zoraida Martinez as a Part-Time Violations Clerk
for The Norwood Municipal Court
2023:137 Approving Member Appointment to Norwood Fire Co. No. 1 Zachary
Smith
2023:138 Approving Member Appointment to Norwood Fire Co. No. 1 Matthew Daly
2023:139 Approving Junior Member Appointment to Norwood Fire Co. No. 1 Joseph
Bae
2023:140 Approving Junior Member Appointment to Norwood Fire Co. No. 1 Gavin
Smith
2023:141 Authorizing Inclusion in the Bergen County Community Development
Program
2023:142 Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with the County of Bergen to
Supersede the Cooperative Agreement Dated July 1, 2021, and
Amendments Thereto Establishing the Bergen County Community
Development Program
2023:143 Resolution Authorizing Redemption of Tax Title Lien for 601 Nottingham
2023:144 Escrow Refund for 521 Livingston Street
2023:145 Payment of Vouchers

It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve the Consent Agenda, excluding Resolution 2023:116 and Resolution 2023:144, and that the 06/14/2023 Mayor & Council Meeting minutes be approved for content and release. In the roll call vote, all Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve Resolution 2023:144. In the roll call vote, all Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

Councilman Condoleo put on the record that Mr. Padovano sent an email to the governing body advising that all personnel who are required to submit the annual Financial Disclosure Statement have done so. Councilman Condoleo also advised the governing body that Mr. Battaglia, Borough CFO, will address the remark suggesting all accounts with checks over 180 (one hundred eighty) days be reconciled at the next meeting.

It was moved by Councilman Condoleo and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve Resolution 2023:116. In the roll call vote, all Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Removal of the Knickerbocker Baseball Representative Position on the Recreation Committee

Mayor Barsa explained the Recreation Committee ordinance and the required positions. He advised the Council that the Knickerbocker Baseball league is now part of Norwood Softball/Baseball and the position of the Knickerbocker representative is no longer necessary. That position would be changed to an At Large position. Mayor Barsa feels it would be in the best financial interest to not change the ordinance until the reorganization meeting at the start of the new year. Mr. Corrison advised that the Borough should not have ordinances that are no up to date. It was agreed that the Recreation Committee will continue as is for the remainder of the year, with the change taking place in the new year.

Fence Ordinance

Mayor Barsa informed the Council that the current fence ordinance requires the fence be placed 1 (one) foot from the property line. This causes a problem when two homes next door to each other both put up a fence. It leaves a two (2) foot gap between the fences that is unable to be maintained. The Construction Official, Mr. Tessaro, has asked the ordinance be revised to reflect the fence to be placed two (2) inches off the property line. If both neighbors agree the fence can be placed directly on the property line.

It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve the revised fence ordinance. In the roll call vote, all Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

Annual Bergen County Community Development Regional Committee Municipal Appointments

Mr. Padovano notified the Council that it was time for the annual appointing of members to the Bergen County Community Development Regional Committee, which will allow the Borough to apply for Community Development Block Grants. The Mayor will make two (2) appointments and the Council will make two (2) appointments. Last year Mayor Barsa appointed Mr. Padovano and Councilman Ascolese and the Council appointed Council President Hausmann and Councilman Foschino. It was decided all parties would move forward with the same appointments as the previous year.

It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve Resolution 2023:146 Authorizing the Appointment of Municipal Representatives to Bergen County. In the roll call vote, all Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Report

Mr. Padovano informed the governing body that Resolution 2023:108, approval for Neglia Engineering to design the pickleball court, was a duplicate resolution. This resolution has been renumbered to 2023:147.

Borough Attorney Report

Mr. Corrison advised the governing body that he has a call out to the attorney regarding the man who fell on Livingston Street. He was also made aware of an individual who is in the process of suing the County for malicious prosecution for an arrest stemming from Norwood. Norwood is not named in the suit and the Borough has not received a tort claim.

Councilman Foschino asked Mr. Corrison for a status update regarding the ambulance lease. Mr. Corrison replied that he is waiting to hear back from the attorney who is currently on vacation.

Borough Engineer Report

There were no representatives present from Neglia Engineering due to a conflict. Their report was submitted electronically.

Committee Reports:

Councilman Brizzolara

Councilman Brizzolara said the construction office was starting to see more permit applications for new homes and home renovations. There are only three (3) available stores left in the Daibes building. Fantastic Foods should be open in one (1) to two (2) months. The last store in The Grande has been leased by B&B Coffee Shop and Desserts.

Councilman Foschino

Councilman Foschino informed the governing body that the Recreation Committee is working on a Spectator Code of Conduct. Once a draft proposal is ready it will be shared with the Council for approval or denial. Registration for fall sports is underway, with practices beginning in August.

The Fire Department submitted their report electronically, and it is part of the agenda packet.

Councilman Foschino congratulated DPW Assistant Director Eric Schuck on the birth of his son, Logan. He also thanked the DPW for their hard work during the 4th of July fireworks show. Also, he informed the Council that the signed advertising Norwood on the thoroughfares that lead into town are in need of replacing and possibly a fresh look. The DPW will be meeting with a sign company to discuss the possible project. Lastly, Councilman Foschino noted that the bid opening for the new DPW pickup truck will be held on August 3, 2023.

Councilman Ascolese

Councilman Ascolese said the police report was submitted and a copy was left on the dais for each Councilmember. He attended the business meeting for the Senior Citizens club and all is going well. There is also a Personnel Committee meeting scheduled for next Thursday.

Councilman Condoleo

Councilman Condoleo advised that he has not yet received the 2nd quarter EMS report but should have it for the August meeting. The budget as a whole is currently at forty (40) percent which is good for this time of the year. He also noted that the budget status report includes open purchase orders that are not yet part of the bills list.

Councilman Condoleo informed the governing body that a small committee meeting was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss the spending of the volunteer emergency services and what the Borough could do to get back control. Mr. Padovano drafted a resolution outlining the new stipulations for volunteer emergency services

that includes the required approval of the OEM Coordinator for any and all purchases up to \$1,000.00. This approval must be received before services are provided or goods are purchased. Mr. Padovano will be sending a memo to the volunteer emergency services advising them of the new policy.

It was moved by Councilman Condoleo and seconded by Councilman Foschino to approve an ad hoc Resolution 2023:XXX authorizing the volunteer emergency services to obtain approval from the OEM Coordinator prior to any spending up to \$1,000.00. In the roll call vote, all Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

There was no one present who wished to speak.

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public. The motion was forwarded by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese. 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 Councilman Ascolese. All council members present approved the motion. The meeting was adjourned at **PM**.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano
Borough Clerk

