

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
August 20, 2025
7:00 PM
MAYOR BARSA

COUNCILMAN ASCOLESE	COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA
COUNCILMAN CONDOLEO	COUNCILMAN PRESIDENT FOSCHINO
COUNCILWOMAN 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 7:03 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
	Councilman Condoleo	Present
	Councilman President Foschino	Present
	Councilwoman Hausmann	Present
	Councilman Kim	Absent

CORRESPONDENCE

July Grant Report
Building Department July Fee Log
Police Department July Report
Fire Department July Report
Engineer July Report
EMS Q2 Report

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 2025:11 - Salary Ordinance

Public Hearing on Ordinance 2025:11 will be September 10, 2025

The mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Brizzolara, second by Councilman Ascolese, that Ordinance 2025:11 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on September 10, 2025.

There being five (5) ayes and no nays Ordinance 2025:11 was approved

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance 2025:08 - Ordinance for the Adoption of the 2025 Capital Bond

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara 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.

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 Councilwoman Hausmann to approve Ordinance 2025:08

On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Ascolese, Brizzolara, Condoleo, Foschino, Hausmann

Absent: Kim

Nays: None

2. Ordinance 2025:09 – Ordinance Authorizing a Special Emergency Appropriation

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Condoleo to open the meeting to the public for comments concerning this ordinance. All Council Members present voted for the motion.

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 Councilwoman Condoleo to approve Ordinance 2025:09

On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Ascolese, Brizzolara, Condoleo, Foschino, Hausmann

Absent: Kim

Nays: None

3. Ordinance 2025:10 – Ordinance Amending Chapter 94, Chapter 98, Chapter 127 & Chapter 237 of the Borough Code

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara 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.

Heather Garcia, 15 Dwarskill Lane, said the fines for the ordinance could be as high as being sentenced to jail and asked if the problem has been severe enough to sentence someone to jail. Mr. Corriston said that is a normal provision in the general penalty of the ordinances.

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 2025:10

On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Ascolese, Brizzolara, Condoleo, Foschino, Hausmann

Absent: Kim

Nays: None

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:

July 9, 2025, Mayor & Council Meeting

Approval of the following Resolutions:

- 2025:139 Reappointment of Gino Tessaro as Construction Code Official and Building Sub-Code Official
- 2025:140 Resolution Authorizing Bidding Services, Engineering Design, and Professional Surveying with Neglia Engineering for the Summit Street Roadway Improvement Project
- 2025:141 Resolution Exercising Option to Continue Contract for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal
- 2025:142 Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Tax Appeals of Rodgers Property Management, LLC
- 2025:143 Resolution Appointing Dawn Scherba as School Crossing Guard
- 2025:144 Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Unexpended Capital Balances
- 2025:145 Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Municipal Representatives to the Bergen County Community Development Regional Committee
- 2025:146 Resolution Authorizing Neglia Engineering Planning and Gis Services for Third Round and Phase I of the Fourth Round for Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, Gis Mapping, Master Plan Revisions, and Ordinance Amendments
- 2025:147 Payment of Vouchers
- 2025:148 Authorizing Execution of Discharge of Repayment Mortgage for Affordable Housing Unit
- 2025:149 Authorizing Settlement of Tax Appeals of Nicholas and Lucy Bochi

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve the Consent Agenda, with the exception of 2025:140, 2025:141, and 2025:146 and that July 9, 2025, 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.

Councilman Condoleo said the CFO should be approving that funds are available for Resolutions 2025:140 & 2025:146 and should sign off on the funds before they come to the Council.

Councilman Condoleo said the insurance certificate and performance bond for the IWS contract has expired. Mr. Padovano will confirm the valid copies are in the file.

It was moved by Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve Resolutions 2025:140, 2025:141, and 2025:146. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

MAYORS APPOINTMENTS

Environmental Commission:

Carolyn Nagy – fill an unexpired at large term until 12/31/25

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

2018 Neglia Invoices

Mayor Barsa said there is a Neglia Engineering outstanding invoice from 2018 for just over \$14,000.00 that was not paid. The CFO would like the Council to advise if this invoice should be paid. Councilman Condoleo has asked for a summary of the invoicing before the invoice is paid. Council President Foschino asked if the Borough receives an outstanding invoice report from Neglia Engineering. Mr. Loverich said they are working on sending out timely reminders for payment. Councilman Condoleo asked for a year end statement of all outstanding bills.

It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve the payment of the 2018 Neglia Engineering invoice. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Eyes on Art Project

Mayor Barsa said he received an email from a resident asking the Borough to display art work from the NPS students around town. They would like to display three sets of pop art painted deers at Kennedy Field, the public library, and downtown area. Mayor Barsa suggested the deer be displayed for a two week period.

It was moved by Councilman Condoleo and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann to approve the deer be displayed at the requested locations for a two week period. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Ethics Education

Councilman Brizzolara gave a brief background on an ethics program he received from his place of business and would like the governing body to take part in a class discussion ethics education and proper procedures. This would be a free class and would be the same presentation that will be given at the League of Municipalities in November.

Mayor Barsa said though there have not been any issues within the Borough, he feels it is beneficial for the employees and council members to participate in the class.

Councilman Ascolese agreed with Mayor Barsa and would like to move forward with the class.

Mr. Corrison said he supports the class and feels it will be a good refresher.

Councilwoman Hausmann asked for clarification on the reimbursement to B. Foschino and Son. She asked if they are being reimbursed or if the company is now being considered as a purchase from a vendor. Mr. Corrison said he understood it to be a reimbursement though he cannot comment on statements from the CFO because he has not seen the email. Mr. Padovano said in the eyes of the finance office the company needed to be added as a vendor for the check to be cut, but it is classified as a reimbursement. Any employee being reimbursed for expenses paid must be listed as a vendor to receive payment. Councilman Brizzolara said the Borough was not shown a bill for the flowers that were purchased. Mayor Barsa said municipalities have a strict financial procedure to follow and there has never been issues with the audit as the Borough follows all guidelines. Council President Foschino said he the product that was purchased was delivered directly to the Norwood DPW. B. Foschino and Son paid the bill directly to the vendor. There were two deliveries that were on the invoice, one to the Borough of Norwood and one to a private client. The Borough reimbursed B. Foschino and Son only for the purchase of Norwood flowers. Council President Foschino stated that prior to making the purchase he called Mr. Padovano, who called the CFO, Mr. Battaglia, to confirm that this was allowed and proper procedure. Mr. Battaglia said this was permitted.

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann to approve the ethic education class for Borough employees and the members of the governing body. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor Barsa congratulated Mr. Padovano on the birth of their son Robert Anthony who was born on August 6th. Mayor Barsa also informed the governing body that the annual senior citizen appreciation picnic will be held this Sunday at 11am at Kennedy Field.

Committee Reports

Councilwoman Hausmann

Councilwoman Hausmann said a new aerator has been installed in the pond. The leaf vacs are being prepared for the 2025 leaf season. The Environmental Commission hosted their second Mocktails at the Garden. Upwards of eighty people attended. There will be one more hosted this year. There is red tape from the DOT surrounding the federal grant for the Broad Street bridge. Mr. Loverich said they have been working on the concept development phase that is required for the replacement/repair of the bridge. The report has been accept and presented to the DOT to allow us to move to the next phase. One of the DOT Deputy Commissioners said she felt it will take at least two years to finish the project. The deadline for the grant is September 2026. We have appealed to Congressman Gottheimer's office

and we were given the same response that we have to follow the process, and the deadline is the deadline. We can use the funds to the design and bidding phase, rather than the construction which was our original approach. Mayor Barsa said we need to work quickly before another roadblock comes up. Councilman Ascolese asked if the state new this process would take two years and the grant period runs out before that time. Mr. Loverich said the state did not reach out to use until June of last year to begin the process. We were never provided with an expected time line.

Councilman Condoleo

Councilman Condoleo said the financial status of the town is very good. We are spending at about 56% of the total budget. The EMS report was included in the packet.

Councilman Ascolese

Councilman Ascolese did not attend the senior meeting but was advised by the senior club president that there was nothing that need the attention of the council.

Council President Foschino

Council President Foschino said the fire company viewed the truck that is in production. The visit went well and the truck committee will be submitting a report. The Recreation Committee has asked that the governing body remove Matt Alberti from the Committee due to lack of attendance and participation.

It was moved by Council President Foschino and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to remove Matt Alberti from the Recreation Committee. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion, with the exception of Councilman Brizzolara who voted no. Council President Foschino said he received phone calls from the teachers at Norwood Public School. The staff is upset because they are returning without a contract and 1/3 of the staff has left after the end of this past school year.

Councilman Brizzolara

Councilman Brizzolara said there were no new permits issues for new homes or home additions. A total of forty-eight permits were issued. There was a property maintenance issue on Dyer Court. The Construction Office investigated and found and resolved the issue. A property on Jay Street was housing chickens. A letter was sent to the property owner and the chickens were removed.

Borough Engineer Report

Mr. Loverich said 14th Street will be completed right after Labor Day.

Borough Attorney Report

Mr. Corrison said he has been working with Mr. Fede as Foxhill would like to have the ground lease amended because it affects the resident's availability to obtain a mortgage. Mr. Corrison is also working on deed restrictions for Norwood Gardens. A proposed bamboo ordinance will be on the September agenda as a discussion item.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Report

Mr. Padovano thanked the governing body for all the kind words.

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.

Dominick Congiusti said the Fire Department will be here on Sunday for the Senior Appreciation picnic.

Heather Garcia, 15 Dwarskill Lane, asked if the taxes are appealed where does it go. Mr. Corrison said most are negotiated between Rob Brescia and the property owner but to appear you would go to Hackensack. Ms. Garcia said the number of 1/3 of the staff that left is not correct and to please reach out to her or the school board directly for information. Lastly, if everyone is having concerns about the reimbursement check they could go through the Ethics Board for a decision.

Allen Rapaport, 844 Hemlock Ct., congratulated Mr. Padovano on the birth of his child. He asked that a Nixle can be sent when there is going to be mosquito spraying. Mr. Rapaport said Council President Foschino is a very smart man and the document should be sent to Mr. Padovano and distributed throughout the council. He also feels that Councilwoman Hausmann should be given more DPW information. Council President Foschino said the invoice for the Borough was processed with an invoice from Northwoods. We contacted the Administrator, who contacted the CFO, who advised that the matter was handled correctly.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was forwarded Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Council President Foschino. All council members present approved the motion. Meeting was adjourned the meeting at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano
Borough Clerk