

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
December 10, 2025
7:00 PM
MAYOR BARSА

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 7:05 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	Absent
	Councilwoman Hausmann	Present
	Councilman Kim	Present

CORRESPONDENCE

October Grant Report
Building Department October Fee Log
Police Department October Report
October Fire Department Report

SWEARING IN OFFICER LESHО

Mayor Barsa swore in Officer Joseph Lesho as the newest member of the Norwood Police Department and wished him luck in his new position.

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:

November 12 2025, Mayor & Council Meeting

November 12,2025, Mayor & Council Meeting Closed Session

Approval of the following Resolutions:

2025:191 Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Joseph Lesho to the Norwood Police Department

2025:192 Resolution Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Closter for the Use of the Police Firearms Training Facility

2025:193 Resolution Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement Between the Borough of Norwood and the Borough of Old Tappan for Motor Vehicle Repair Services

2025:194 Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Phyllis Bernstein as School Crossing Guard

2025:195 Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Marilyn Vertullo as School Crossing Guard

2025:196 Payment of Vouchers

It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve the Consent Agenda, and that November 12, 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.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Approval of Meeting Dates for 2026

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann to approve the 2026 meeting dates. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Hartman Excavating Compost Facility Contract

Mr. Padovano said he has spoken with Matt Hartman and they are discussing the contract. Hartman Excavating is currently moving leaves and maintaining the dump. A contract will be signed before the spring.

Orangetown Databank Application

Councilman Brizzolara said he will recuse himself from the discussion of this item and will not vote on the resolution due to his employment with Orange & Rockland.

2025:197 Resolution Opposing the Databank Orangetown Phase 2 Lga-4 Application

It was moved by Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve Resolution 2025:197. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion, with the exception of Councilman Brizzolara who abstained.

Committee Reports

Councilwoman Hausmann

Councilwoman Hausmann said the hike with Nature Marc went well. The Commission will be asking to increase the budget in 2026 due to the popularity of the events. They would like to purchase a new shed for the garden, with the DPW taking over the current shed. Hikes will be determined on a weekly basis throughout the winter based on weather.

For the Board of Health, the chair yoga program is a big hit and more classes will be scheduled. They are looking into yoga at Kennedy Field in the spring.

Councilwoman Hausmann has been speaking with Cole Touehy, Congressman Gottheimer's Chief of Staff, regarding a crosswalk at Piermont Road. There are a few grants available that could help with this.

There were over two million dollars in grants awarded in 2025.

Councilwoman Hausmann met with Billy Guyte from the Northvale DPW, along with Mr. Tracy, to arrange to borrow the Northvale DPW. In another matter, Harrington Park borrowed the bucket truck and returned it inoperable. Harrington Park said they are not responsible for 50% of the repairs because it is not listed in the new shared service agreement. Councilman Brizzolara asked if it is worth it to make the repair or purchase a new bucket truck with other municipalities. Mr. Tracy asked if it was worth repairing and was told by the vendor it was. Councilman Ascolese asked what we will do if we need a bucket truck before the

repair is complete. Mr. Tracy said he could borrow one from Old Tappan. The community is very happy with the leaf pickup. Mr. Tracy thinks the DPW budget should be revisited as it's been slashed greatly in the last two years. If the governing body is going to be hiring a new full-time DPW employee in the future, it should be considered to hire a person that is a certified mechanic. A subcontractor for PSE&G would like to rent the swim club parking lot until two weeks before the swim club opens. In lieu of paying rent to the town for storage of the trucks they would do work around the Borough at no cost. Councilman Brizzolara said that Orange & Rockland rented that property also. It is a common staging area for big utility companies doing work in the area. Mayor Barsa asked Mr. Padovano to look up the agreement with Orange & Rockland from about five years ago. Councilman Ascolese asked how soon they want to start the agreement. Mr. Tracy said their current contract expires at the end of the year.

Councilman Condoleo

Councilman Condoleo said the 2017 ambulance is in for repairs. They went just slightly over the budget.

The overall budget is at about 91% and is in good shape with no department significantly exceeding their budgets.

Councilman Ascolese

Councilman Ascolese said he attended the Seniors business meeting and the seniors asked about the senior bus bettering servicing the senior population. They need a more structured bus schedule with more hours than currently allowed.

The Personnel Committee will have a meeting before the end of the year.

Chief Federici said that Det. Sgt. Duelfer has been on loan with the Bergen County Prosecutors Office and has been involved in a number of arrests in underage children being exploited.

Councilman Brizzolara

Councilman Brizzolara said the construction permits have increased from this time last year.

Councilman Kim

Councilman Kim said in 2019 the Greenway project began speaking with CSX to acquire 69 acres through 6 towns. Talks with CSX have started up again to discuss a possible sale.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Report

Mr. Padovano said he spoke with the Harrington Park Borough Administrator and was advised that the check for the shared service agreement will be issued after their December 15th Mayor and Council meeting. The remainder of the library rent check is due by December 31st.

In the back of the building there is a book recycling bin. It will be emptied every few months and the company will supply the Borough with a report that can be used towards a credit for our recycling program.

Borough Attorney Report

Mr. Corrison said there was an update in the packet about the Montvale litigation. We are waiting for the judge to sign off on the documents. The Borough has met all legal obligations and timelines and has done all we can do at this time.

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 council members present approved the motion.

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 council members present approved the motion.

CLOSED SESSION

2025:198 Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Council to Proceed in Closed Session – Matters of Employment

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to close the regular meeting and go to closed session. The motion was forwarded by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese. All council members present approved the motion.

RETURN TO OPEN

The meeting resumed in open session at 11:00 PM.

It was moved by Council President Foschino and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was forwarded Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Condoleo. All council

members present approved the motion. Meeting was adjourned the meeting at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano
Borough Clerk