

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
October 8, 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	Present

CORRESPONDENCE

September Grant Report
Building Department September Fee Log
Police Department September Report

Presentation

Boys 7th/8th Grade Summer Basketball Champions

Mayor Barsa welcomed the Boys 7th/8th grade summer basketball team and congratulated them on their championship season. Certificates were presented to all players and they celebrated with cake.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 2025:13 – Bamboo Ordinance

The Public hearing for Ordinance 2025:13 will be held on November 12, 2025

The mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Ascolese, second by Councilman Brizzolara, that Ordinance 2025:13 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on November 12, 2025.

There being six (6) ayes and no nays Ordinance 2025:13 was approved

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance 2025:12 – Ordinance Amending Chapter 222-32 Schedule I: No Parking

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Council President Foschino 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 Councilman Ascolese to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve Ordinance 2025:12

On the roll call vote:

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

Absent: None

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:

September 10, 2025, Mayor & Council Meeting

Approval of the following Resolutions:

2025:162 Resolution Approving Fire Department Application for Giacomo DiMartino
2025:163 Resolution Approving Escrow Refund for 41 Virgil
2025:164 Resolution Authorizing Change Order for Summit and High Improvements
2025:165 Resolution Approving Permission for the Dedication by Rider for Self-Insurance Program Pursuant to N.J.S. 40a: 10-1 et seq.
2025:166 Resolution Approving Items of Revenue and Appropriation NJS 40a:4-87
2025:167 Tax Appeal Settlement
2025:168 Resolution Authorizing the Capital Purchase of Various Attachments for the Department of Public Works Hook-Lift Body Trucks Utilizing State Contract #ESCNJ 23/24-04 For an Amount Not to Exceed \$171,000
2025:169 Resolution Authorizing Redemption of Tax Title Lein
2025:170 Resolution
2025:171 Payment of Vouchers
2025:172 Resolution Approving Block Party 366 Fourteenth Street

It was moved by Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve the Consent Agenda, and that September 10, 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

Harrington Park Shared Service Agreement

Mayor Barsa advised that he has been working with the Harrington Park Mayor to update the shared service agreement between the two DPW's. Councilwoman Hausmann said the cost of grinding has doubled between 2023 and 2024. Director Tracy said the contractors that do work in Norwood are permitted to use the dump for their chips. Council President said it benefits the Borough to have these chips and to use them to fulfill the orders from the residents. Harrington Park also takes a portion of the chips for use in their town.

It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Condoleo to approve the Shared Service agreement with Harrington Park. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Fire Siren

Chief Federici had an officer who is a Deputy Fire Chief in a nearby town poll the surrounding towns on the use of their fire signals. These results were shared with the governing body and fire department. The Fire Chief informed Chief Federici that they will discuss this issue at their next meeting.

Tappan Road Flooding

Mr. Loverich said the resident has reached out to the Administrator multiple times due to a flooding issue. As it is on a county road we contacted the county and have met and discussed the issue. The project from their prospective must be in conjunction in the installation of curbs and sidewalks, which would be the responsibility of the Borough. We have come up with a cost estimate of about \$160,000.00 that would help resolve this issue with effects about four (4) residents. Mayor Barsa said the Borough has history with the county regarding the curbs and sidewalks as they have helped with this in the past. Mr. Loverich said he will continue to discuss and negotiate with the county as part of this project. Councilwoman Hausmann asked if this will put the Borough in a position where other residents will ask for curbs. Mayor Barsa said that is possible and if it should happen the Borough will contact the county.

Amended Ground Lease for Foxhill Manor

Mr. Corrison said as a result in the change in a federal law the residents of Foxhill are having difficulty selling their property. We were asked to make one change to the ground list in regards to providing notice. It will change the notice provisions regarding defaults. This is the third time the ground lease has been amended. Councilman Ascolese asked if anything else needs to be changed. Mr. Corrison said we only need to update the lease when the federal law has changed.

It was moved by Council President Foschino and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann to approve the Foxhill ground lease amendment. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Meadow Lane Drainage Improvement Site Work Proposal

Mr. Loverich advised that the DEP permits to reconstruct the outfall at 5 Meadow Lane was received. They would like to award the contract to Sanzari, who is under State Contract.

It was moved by Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve Sanzari Construction as the contractor for the Meadow Lane drainage improvements. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Committee Reports

Councilwoman Hausmann

Councilwoman Hausmann said the Environmental Commission will be holding the last mocktail mixer of the year this Friday beginning at 5pm. Nature Mark from the Closter Nature Center will be leading a nature hike in November. The Board of

Health had representatives from the county attend Norwood Day. There is a vacancy on the Board of Health. The Board would like to appoint Tej Patel to the alternate position.

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve the appointment of Tej Patel as an alternate in the Board of Health. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

The DPW is ready for leaf season which will begin on October 15th. We will have four (4) leaf machines running.

The Department of Transportation is preparing the design for the Broad Street Bridge. It will then be sent to the DEP for approval. Local Recreation Improvements Grant is a grant that can be used towards the Borough's required contribution of matching the Bergen County Open Space Grant. The Borough could receive up to \$200,000.00. The application closes at the end of January.

Councilman Condoleo

Councilman Condoleo said all department heads are doing a great job, only spending what is necessary, and we are in good shape. EMS is requesting that the 2001 ambulance be permitted to have repairs made up to \$3,000.00. Chief Barron said the 3rd ambulance does get a good amount of use. There are some items on the ambulance that need repairs including the front suspension and drive shaft hanger bearing on the back. If the repairs are not made, this could lead to more expensive repairs. Council President Foschino said if they are actively transporting residents, the request should be granted. Councilman Condoleo said the EMS vehicle maintenance account is in good shape, all regular maintenance for this year is done.

Councilman Ascolese

Councilman Ascolese said he attended the Seniors Club business meeting and a presentation from Care One. A personnel meeting will be held on October 15th. Chief Federici advised the governing body that the Police Department works with the municipal alliance to schedule programs for the residents. In November there will be a program designed to explain Narcan and teach how to administer it. They will also be given Narcan to keep with them. Det. Sgt. Duelfer was recognized for his contributions to the Computer Crimes Task Force and an arrest that was made involving a Bergen County resident who was involved in child pornography.

Council President Foschino

Council President Foschino said football is underway. He was asked by residents who use the pickleball courts to get brooms that are specific to pickleball. There is also a need for a net to stop the pickleballs from going into the swim club. The swim club is closed and they do not have access to retrieve their balls. The Diwali festival was well attended. The new fire truck is in New Jersey. The next step is to get it

lettered and then have the tools mounted. We should have the truck here in about four (4) weeks. There was a nice affair for the fire department president, Dominick Congiusti, celebrating 50 years with the fire department. Council President Foschino would like to have a ceremony next year with the fire department in honor of the September 11th attacks. The school board meeting was over 3 hours. There was a resignation at the last meeting. There are three (3) candidates in the running for the position. A special meeting will be held next Tuesday to vote again.

Mayor Barsa thanked Mr. Congiusti for all he has done for the Borough of Norwood. He is proud to know him and appreciates all he has done for the community. Mr. Congiusti thanked the governing body for the plaque and he has enjoyed working with everyone over the years.

Councilman Brizzolara

Councilman Brizzolara said the Personnel Committee met to follow up on the ethics training that was discussed in August. They could only provide one session per town. The Northern Valley Mayors Association had a meeting with Rockland Electric discussing infrastructure improvements and the cost of electricity. Data centers in the tri state area are one reason the price has been driven up. Construction activity is up from last year. There were no new home permits issues. There were three CO's issued for new businesses.

Councilman Kim

The NPS back to school night was held on October 15th. NVOT filled four (4) HIB reports, and nine (9) instances of violence. The Greenway Project representative gave a speech at the past Northern Valley Mayors meeting. There will be a moon festival in two weeks in the library parking lot.

Mayor Barsa thanked all involved for Norwood Day. It was a wonderful day.

Mayor Barsa said the state health benefits are going up almost 37% in January and that will have a large effect on the budget. There are HIF's, health insurance funds, that is another option. Almost all of our employees are enrolled in either Direct 10 or the Difference Card. The HIF in this area already has 13 municipalities enrolled. They underwrite the plan, matching the Horizon plans. Mr. Padovano has been working with the representative to work on a quote for Norwood. If we decided to do this, you must give the state health benefits a two month notice. We would not be able to do this before the end of November.

Borough Engineer Report

Mr. Loverich said the Mills Ave roadway improvement will have a bid on November 6th. There will be a pre construction meeting next week for the Meadow Lane improvements. The MS4 stormwater mapping field work is completed and being sent to DEP ahead of December 31st deadline.

Borough Attorney Report

Mr. Corrison said the Montvale litigation is moving along.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Report

Mr. Padovano thanked Mrs. Volpitta for all her work on Norwood Day. October 28th is the deadline to apply for a vote by mail ballot. Early voting will be October 25th through November 2nd. The closest location to Norwood is River Vale. There is also a secure drop box located in the front of Borough Hall. As of September 25th six hundred seventy four (674) residential properties have been appraised. That is 37% of properties. The reassessment should be completed by early November.

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.

Mr. Dominick Congiusti said the Fire Department cooked one thousand four hundred (1400) hot dogs on Norwood Day. The Halloween parade will be held on October 25th beginning at 2pm. It will leave from the library and the children will march to the fire house.

Dennis Corchran asked what the timeframe will be for the Foxhill ground lease amendment to take effect. Mr. Padovano said he will forward the resolution to the attorney tomorrow.

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

2025:173 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 Condoleo and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann. All council members present approved the motion.

RETURN TO OPEN

The meeting resumed in open session at 8:41 PM.

It was moved by Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve the hiring of new police officers. 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 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano
Borough Clerk