

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
September 11, 2024
7:00 PM
MAYOR BARSÁ

COUNCILMAN ASCOLESE
COUNCIL PRESIDENT CONDOLEO
COUNCILWOMAN HAUSMANN

COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA
COUNCILMAN FOSCHINO
COUNCILMAN KIM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayors' Remarks on September 11th

The events of September 11, 2001, forever changed the course of history, leaving a deep scar on the hearts of millions of people.

On that day, innocent lives were lost, families were torn apart, and our sense of security was shaken. But through the immense grief, we also witnessed incredible acts of heroism, unity, and resilience. First responders and countless others put their lives on the line to save strangers, displaying the very best of human nature.

While remembering this day, let us honor those who lost their lives and the brave men and women who responded with courage. Let us also remember how we, as a nation and as a community, came together in the face of tragedy. We will never forget.

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 7:00 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 President Condoleo	Present
	Councilman Foschino	Present
	Councilwoman Hausmann	Present
	Councilman Kim	Present

Mayor's Remarks

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks is a highly regarded group of individuals that is made up of Municipal Clerk's across the globe. Our Municipal Clerk, Jordan Padovano, has earned the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk and has become an official member of the Institute. Please join me in congratulating Jordan on this momentous achievement.

CORRESPONDENCE

Engineering September Report
Building Department August Fee Log
Fire Department August Report
Police Chief August Report
Grant August Report
EMS August Report

FIRE TRUCK DISCUSSION

Councilman Foschino advised the governing body that the new fire truck that is on order will replace the Hahn fire truck (truck 363) which is thirty eight (38) years old. Truck 363 is currently the first due truck for the fire department. In order for the new truck to replace 363, it must be outfitted as a first due truck. To make the new truck a first due truck it must be upgraded to include a longer chassis and more cabinet space.

Councilman Ascolese asked what would happen if the changes were not approved. Councilman Foschino said truck 361 would be the first due truck. Truck 361 is a 2008 and only has about four (4) more years. By making the new truck the first due, that would allow the department to make truck 361 a spare truck and extend its life. If truck 361 had to be replaced it would be well over a million dollars. It will cost \$115,00.00 to make the changes to the new truck. Truck 363 will be auctioned off when the new truck is delivered.

Councilman Brizzolara asked when the new truck is expected to be delivered. Councilman Foschino advised that it should be ready in the spring of 2025. It is currently in the engineering stage, with the next stage being the chassis assembly. Councilman Foschino also advised that this is a time sensitive issue. If the change to chassis will be made Pierce needs to be informed of this during the engineering stage.

Mr. Padovano said the introduction to the ordinance, 24:11, is on the agenda tonight to approve an amendment to the capital bond ordinance.

Mr. Foschino also stated that if the Borough were to prepay \$365,000.00 there would be a \$13,000.00 credit applied. Mr. Corriston informed the governing body that there is no law that says the Borough should or shouldn't prepay the truck, but if they were to do that he recommends having a performance bond for the down payment amount to protect the Borough in case there are any issues such as Pierce going out of business. Mr. Padovano said there is time to discuss the prepayment further as it is not due until December. Mayor Barsa asked Mr. Padovano to find out how much the performance bond would be per year and to have that information for the next meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

1. Ordinance 2024:11 Bond Ordinance to Appropriate an Additional Sum Of \$115,000 For the Acquisition of a New Pumper Fire Engine

Public Hearing for Ordinance 2024:11 will be on September 25, 2024

The mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Ascolese, second by Councilwoman Hausmann, that Ordinance 2024:11 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on September 25, 2024.

Roll Call

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

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE

2. Ordinance 2024:08 Establishing Salaries or Wages of Officials and Employees of the Borough of Norwood

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 Councilman Ascolese to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve Ordinance 2024:08. All Council Members present voted for the motion.

3. Ordinance 2024:09 Bond Ordinance (amending 2023 capital)

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Adcolese 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 Council President Condoleo and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve Ordinance 2024:09. All Council Members present voted for the motion.

4. Ordinance 2024:10 Multipurpose Bond Ordinance

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Council President 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 Council President Condoleo and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve Ordinance 2024:10.

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:

August 7, 2024, Mayor & Council Meeting

Approval of the following Resolutions:

2024:165 Resolution Authorizing the Redemption of Tax Title Lien

2024:166 Resolution for Renewal of Membership in the Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund

~~2024:167 Resolution Authorizing the Participation in Litigation to Address the Constitutionality and/or Validity of New Jersey's Affordable Housing Mandates~~

2024:168 Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Tax Appeals of Per and Berit Brevig

2024:169 Authorizing Salaries for Borough Employees

2024:170 Resolution Authorizing Engineering Services Agreement with Remington & Vernick Engineers for The Broad Street Bridge Replacement

2024:171 Resolution Of The Borough Council Of The Borough Of Norwood, In The County Of Bergen, New Jersey, Covenantee To Comply With The Provisions Of The Internal Revenue Code Of 1986, As Amended, Applicable To The Exclusion From Gross Income For Federal Income Tax Purposes Of Interest On Obligations Issued By The Borough Of Norwood And Authorizing The Mayor, Borough Clerk, Chief Financial Officer And Other Borough Officials To Take Such Action As They May Deem Necessary Or Advisable To Effect Such Compliance And Designating An \$8,727,000 Bond Anticipation Note, Dated July 12, 2024 And Payable July 11, 2025, As A "Qualified Tax-Exempt Obligation" Pursuant To Section 265(B) (3) Of The Internal Revenue Code Of 1986, As Amended.

2024:172 Chapter 159 (2022 Kennedy Park Grant)

2024:173 Chapter 159 (2023 Kennedy Park Grant)

2024:174 Chapter 159 (2023 LRIG)

2024:175 Chapter 159 (2023 NJ DOT – Summit & High Street)

2024:176 Chapter 159 (2023 NJ DOT – HIP Grant – Broad Street Bridge)

2024:177 Chapter 159 (2024 NJ DOT Grant)

2024:178 Chapter 159 (2024 LRIG)

2024:179 Resolution to Amend Capital Budget

2024:180 Resolution Awarding A Contract To 4 Clean-Up Inc For The Improvements To Summit Street And High Street (NJDOT FUNDED)

2024:181 Resolution To Authorizing Construction Management Services Agreement With Neglia Engineering For Improvements to Summit Street and High Street (NJDOT Funded)

2024:182 Payment of Vouchers

It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Council President Condoleo to approve the Consent Agenda and that the August 7, 2024, regular meeting minutes

be approved for content and release. In a roll call vote, all Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilwoman Hausmann

Councilwoman Hausmann noted the Board of Health met after the summer. All vital statistics are in the Board of Health office. The Environmental Commission has resumed hikes and has a garden dinner coming up the first week of October.

Councilwoman Hausmann stated that the time line for the new playground has been delayed and it is out of the hands of the governing body. All guidelines were followed and the delay is due to the contractors backlog.

Council President Condoleo

Council President Condoleo informed the governing body that 55% of the total budget has been spent through this point of the year and the Borough is in good shape. The Borough should also see a benefit from the increase to the police traffic rate. Council President Condoleo also noted that the swim club has not yet paid its rent for the year and asked Mr. Padovano to stay on top of that.

Councilman Ascolese

Councilman Ascolese stated the seniors met on the 3rd of September. They have two trips planned to close out the month. The Personnel Committee did not meet this month.

Councilman Foschino

Councilman Foschino advised that earlier today there was a fire at the Buckingham in an air conditioner unit. There was a large response from the neighboring towns. The fire department will grill hot dogs for the Norwood Day attendees as they have done in the past.

Councilman Foschino informed the governing body that a member of the Recreation Committee resigned and will need to be replaced.

The DPW has started to install new plantings along the front of the triplex and the project should be finished by the end of next week.

Councilman Brizzolara

Councilman Brizzolara said the Construction Office saw the normal seasonal dip in August. The amount of permits issued to date this year are one (1) less than this time last year. The fees are up 150% due to a new home being built in Tilden Place and a

large project at Impact Zone. A warning was issued for a residential property who had a commercial trailer parked on the property.

Councilman Kim

Councilman Kim said that the 9th grade held its orientatin earlier this month and that Northern Valley Old Tappan will hold the first pep rally of the year tomorrow.

Councilman Kim thanked the Norwood Fire Department for hosting the fire department from Busan, South Korea. The Bosun Fire Department was very impressed with the informative presentation.

The library is looking to hire a children's librarian. An ad will be placed for the position. The library is also creating a signup sheet for the Norwood Day table. The members of the Library Board have asked for permission for senior citizens and those with handicapped plates to be able to park close to Kennedy Field on Norwood Day. Chief Federici said he will have enough officers working to help with that and will look into the best solution.

Councilman Foschino asked if the Norwood Board of Education would be able to archive its meeting and post them on its website to be accessible to the people looking to watch them. Councilman Kim said he will discuss it with the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Mr. Dominick Congiusti, 195 Livingston Street, thanked the governing body for approving the increase in funds for the new fire truck. He also stated the fire department has ordered two thousand (2,000) hot dogs for Norwood Day and asked permission to have an employee from the DPW pick up the rolls at Rockland Bakery the day before the event. The governing body granted permission.

Paul Haberman, 15 Lamb Court, thanked Mayor Barsa, Mr. Padovano and Mrs. Volpitta for helping his daughter achieve volunteer hours that are needed for school. His daughter has been helping at the community garden.

Paul Haberman, 19 Engle Street, Tenafly, is representing Mr. Jay Meadows, owner of Flutech. Mr. Meadows would like to purchase the paper street next to his business at 105 Oak Street.

Mr. Corrison is researching if the property has to be put up for auction or if it can be sold to one person. That would depend on the percentage and size of the property as it respects to the acreage in that zone. Mr. Corrison said it appears that piece of property is .21 acres in a 2 acre zone.

Mayor Barsa said things like this have been done in the past on undevelopable lots. Me believes that the property needs to be offered to the property owners on either side, 50% 50%. If they were to offer the property to Chodae Church, it would belong to a Northvale property owner. Mayor Barsa is also concerned that the paper street could be developed into a real road that would cause many traffic issues in that area.

Councilman Brizzolara said that area is always underwater and questioned if it were DEP property.

Mr. Jay Meadows, 11 Ampsler Way, Old Tappan, said he would like the property so he would be able to expand his business by 2,000 square feet and add twelve (12) to thirteen (13) more parking spaces. If he were to apply for approval for the addition currently, he would need a variance. If he had the area of the paper street he would no longer need the variance.

Mayor Barsa said the governing bosity should first decide if they are in favor of giving him the land. If they are not in favor of vacating that area he does not want mr. meadows to waste his money. Mayor Barsa also noted that if the governing body were in favor of donating the land, Mr. Meadows would be responsible for all associated costs.

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

2024:183 Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Council to Proceed in Closed Session – Matters Relating to Contract Negotiations

Motion by Councilman Brizzoalra, second by Council President Condoleo, and unanimously agreed that 2024:183 Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Council to proceed in Closed Session – Matters Relating to Contract Negotiations be approved. The meeting temporarily adjourned to Closed Session at 7:50 PM.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The meeting returned to open at 8:09pm.

Councilman Foschino made a motion to approve extending the PBA and DPW contracts for a two (2) year period. There was no second to 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 8:12PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano
Borough Clerk