

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2021
7:00 PM
MAYOR BARSA

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ASCOLESE
COUNCILMAN FOSCHINO
COUNCILMAN KIM

COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA
COUNCILWOMAN HAUSMANN
COUNCILMAN ROONEY

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 7:02 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:	Mayor Barsa	Present
	Council President Ascolese	Present
	Councilman Brizzolara	Present
	Councilman Foschino	Present
	Councilwoman Hausmann	Present
	Councilman Kim	Present
	Councilman Rooney	Present

Mayor Barsa recapped the success of the Norwood Menorah and tree lighting ceremonies. He also thanked the Girl Scouts for entertaining everyone during the tree lighting.

Mayor Barsa explained that the Girl Scouts decorated our town tree at the Bergen County Winter Wonderland and that it looks fantastic.

Mayor Barsa gave an update for the Blanch Ave bridge. The bridge has been delivered and the crews are continuously working.

The mayor explained that the Mayors Wellness event will be online and accessible through the month of December. The holiday season is a stressful time for everyone. You can find articles on our website or a link to articles on our Facebook page.

Mayor Barsa let the public know that the Norwood Public School 2021 Volleyball finished the regular season with a 7-4 record. On November 10th these 19 girls and boys won the Northern

Valley Regional High School Elementary Volleyball Tournament. This was an intense tournament made up of 6t -8th graders from schools throughout the area. They beat Harrington Park and Old Tappan to advance to the championship game against Northvale. Our Eagles fought hard and were able to come out of the tournament as champions. This is the first volleyball championship in 20 years. Each athlete brought something special to the team and their positive attitudes and energy helped shape this group into an amazing team.

CORRESPONDENCE

The mayor stated that there are several pieces of correspondence which are available at the Municipal Clerk's office.

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE 2021:11

Ordinance 2021:11 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 50 of the Code of the Borough of Norwood Titled "Police Department"

Council President Ascolese ____
Councilman Foschino ____
Councilman Kim ____

Councilman Brizzolara ____
Councilwoman Hausmann ____
Councilman Rooney ____

It was moved by Council President Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to open the meeting to the public for comments concerning this ordinance. All Council Members present voted for the motion. There being no member of the public wishing to be heard, it was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Council President Ascolese to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Rooney to approve Ordinance 2021:11. On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Ascolese, Brizzolara, Foschino, Hausmann, Kim, and Rooney

Absent: None

Nays: None

There being five (6) ayes and no nays Ordinance 2021:11 was approved.

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 10, 2021 Mayor & Council Meeting

Approval of the following Resolutions:

2021:207 Authorizing Budget Transfers for Calendar Year 2021

2021:208 Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriations
NJS 40A:4-87

2021:209 Authorizing Requests for Qualifications

2021:210 Authorizing Redemption of Tax Title Lien for Block 99, Lot 5

2021:211 Authorizing Refund of Tax Overpayment for Block 68, Lot 1, CT172

2021:212 Awarding Contracts to AACOM IP Solutions for Emergency Repairs to
CCTV and Security Equipment

2021:213 Appointment of Valley Physician Services for Alcohol & Drug Testing
Services

2021:214 Authorizing Budget Transfers for Calendar Year 2021

2021:215 Rejection of Bids for Knickerbocker Baseball Field Improvements

2021:216 Payment of Vouchers

2021:217 Authorizing A Contract With Houston-Galveston Area Council, A
Nationally Approved Cooperative Purchasing Program, For The Purchase
Of A Braun Chief Xl Type I F550 4x4 Ambulance Pursuant To N.J.S.A.
52:34-6.2(3)(P.L. 2011, C. 139)

It was moved by Councilman Rooney and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve the Consent Agenda and the minutes be approved for content and release. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Hausmann:

Zoning Board: No meeting, we will meet this week for December

Board of Health: We met last night Monday December 8th 2021.

Restaurants in Norwood are all Satisfactory

No new issues regarding hair and nail salons

Revenue Report given and budget for 2021 was tabled until next meeting in January as there were questions from members about the budget.

It was reported that the nurse visit for seniors and Covid vaccines would move back to the Senior center from the Library (as requested by Seniors) now that they are meeting in person again, nurse to come 1x per month.

New Board members were appointed by Mayor – Sam Park and Majorie Scott as alternates.

Environmental Commission: Met on November 9th, 2021, we had a quorum – yippee

Hikes are going very well, every Sunday @ 11:30 very well attended, next one this Sunday, please join us. Discussed using an app to track hikes, for now we are using Strava and posting route to Social Media. We will continue to monitor weather, but everyone seems to want to continue as long as it is safe.

Entire Commission is on the Sustainable NJ committee, we are working towards getting that designation, this will be presented at the next work session.

The EC has unanimously decided to do away with separate committees for now in favor of collectively working on projects until the Commission grows.

The EC will have a resolution ready for the next M & C work session to form a Green Team as there is much interest in involvement, especially from those participating in hikes.

We would like funding to order Environmental Resource Inventory – Sustainable NJ may be able to help with this, research is being done. I do not think we have had an ERI in quite a few years.

The Commission is in early stages of rewriting The Clear-Cutting Ordinance. All including the Construction Office are in favor of the same parameters based on neighboring towns and their ordinances. We will notify the DPW and Councilman Foschino when we have a more clear picture of what that will look like.

EV Charging Stations – I have reached out to George Koutsouradis, Sales Manager who I met at League of Municipalities to inquire about an interview in January of 2021 to research the installation of 1 or maybe 2 charging stations on Municipal properties.

Food Pantry: 2nd annual Holiday event December 18th from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Needed slightly used coats

PBA is donating New Toys

In addition, it is also a regularly scheduled Food Pantry Day so it will be busy. All volunteer spots are filled but the pantry would love to see members of the governing body stop by and see the great work done there.

Monetary donations are tax deductible and always welcome, we are a little short on end of year and could use any amount.

The sense of community that Joanne has received from Norwood and HP has been heartwarming and outstanding. We put something out on social media the community responds, including, schools, all churches/houses of worship and local families.

It could not be done w/o community so on behalf of the entire Norwood Food Pantry WE Thank You!!

Councilman Rooney: For the finance department, budget season is approaching soon. We are looking to develop a department head form which can be distributed through the borough offices. We will be revisiting the town run recreation program after the new year. To only have these few budget transfers at the end of the year is a commendation to our CFO and staff. If anyone is questioning the body camera resolution tonight, it is just a requirement from the state to have that resolution passed. It was a busy month for the fire department and their work is extremely

impressive. Grant information for Scott packs were gathered and the process is well underway.

Council President Ascolese: The Police report for November is available through the clerk's office. As far as the Personnel Department there were 2 collective bargaining agreements reached for the DPW and PBA.

Councilman Kim: Greenway meeting was postponed. The last meeting of the Board of Education was canceled. The NPS volleyball champions were the first to win this championship since 2003. The school is looking to update their television systems which is estimated to cost around 1.2 million as it is a very high-tech system. The NVHS is trying to navigate through controversial issues as best it could. The board was not aware of any problems, but investigations will be made.

Councilman Brizzolara: The Blanch Avenue bridge is underway and the crews are working feverishly. The fee log was submitted and disbursed to the councilmembers. There are home improvements in town and they are rising to a record rate. Livingston street looks great thanks to the DPW.

Councilman Foschino: No report yet from EMS and will be featured at the next month's meeting. We will be entering into a contract for the ambulance. It will be the same type of ambulance and came in under budget. As far as leaf pickup is concerned, every street in town was done 4 different times. Summit street is being picked up every day. We voted tonight to reject the bid for the Knickerbocker field. We may have to have some discussion on what to do there. The DPW is down 2 employees now and we are working on soliciting proposals for supplemental snow removal from Westphal and Falkenstern for work on the west side of town. The PTO is looking to have a carnival the last weekend in May here in the Borough Hall parking lot. May be using the front lawn as well. Need to book with the carnival vendor by June 2, 3, or 4.

It was moved by Councilman Rooney and seconded by Council President Ascolese to approve the PTO's request to hold a carnival in the Borough Hall parking lot on the last weekend in May. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present 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 Brizzolara and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann. All councilmembers present voted in favor of the motion.

No members of the public spoke.

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 councilmembers present voted in favor of the motion.

PRESENTATION

On behalf of the Mayor and Council, a presentation of certificates was made to the NPS Volleyball Team honoring their recent championship win.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Councilman Brizzolara , second by Councilman Rooney, and unanimously agreed that Resolution #2021:218 be approved. The meeting temporarily adjourned to Closed Session at 8:02 PM.

The meeting resumed in open session at 9:00 PM.

RETURN TO OPEN

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to table the vote on Ordinances 2021:12, 2021:13, & 2021:14. The motion was forwarded by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Kim. All councilmembers present voted in favor of the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was forwarded by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann. All councilmembers present approved the motion. Meeting was adjourned the meeting at 9:02PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano
Borough Clerk