

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
February 12, 2025
7:00 PM
MAYOR BARSÀ

COUNCILMAN ASCOLESE	COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA
COUNCILMAN CONDOLEO	COUNCIL 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 7:02 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 OF THE COUNCIL

Roll Call:	Mayor Barsa	Present
	Councilman Ascolese	Present
	Councilman Brizzolara	Present
	Councilman Condoleo	Present
	Council President Foschino	Present
	Councilwoman Hausmann	Present
	Councilman Kim	Absent

CORRESPONDENCE

Building Department January Fee Log
Police Chief January Report

PRESENTATION

Celebration for the NVOT Football and Volleyball Championship Seasons

Mayor Barsa thanked everyone for coming and congratulated them on their championship season. Each athlete was presented with a certificate honoring their accomplishment and then offered cake in the conference room.

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 2025:01 Establishing Salaries or Wages of Officials and Employees of the Borough of Norwood

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese 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 Condoleo to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve Ordinance 2025:01

On the roll call vote:

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

Absent: None

Nays: None

There being six (6) ayes and no nays Ordinance 2025:01 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:

January 22, 2025, Mayor & Council Meeting

Approval of the following Resolutions:

2025:52 Resolution Approving Member Appointment to Norwood Fire Co. No. 1
Michael McMahon

2025:53 Resolution to Advertise for Bids For 14th Street Roadway and Drainage
Improvements

2025:54 Resolution Approving the Appointment of a Recycling Coordinator for the

Borough of Norwood
2025:55 2025 Appropriation Reserve Transfers
2025:56 Resolution Annual Appointment Of Municipal Representatives To
Bergen County Community Development Regional Committees
PY 2024 - 2025 Covering Period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025
2025:57 Payment of Vouchers

It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Condoleo to approve the Consent Agenda and that the January 24, 2024, regular meeting minutes be approved for content and release, with the exception of Resolution 2025:57. In a roll call vote, all Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

Regarding Resolution 2025:57, Council President Foschino asked why there are EZ-Pass violations. Mr. Padovano advised that the Borough is unable to get an EZ-Pass due to prior issues with EZ-Pass. A memo will be distributed to avoid EZ-Pass lanes in the future. Council President Foschino asked which account the money for the leaf vac repairs was taken from. Mr. Padovano advised that those funds were taken from an emergency account. Council President also asked why the heating bills for the DPW and Fire Department were much higher than normal. He asked that the departments be instructed to make sure bay doors are shut.

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve Resolution 2025:57. In a roll call vote, all Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor Barsa appointed Fernando Petrone to the unexpired term for the Recreation Committee as the football representative. It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Council President Foschino. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilwoman Hausmann

There was no Environmental Commission meeting due to lack of a quorum. The Board of Health is in discussions with the inspector from the Borough of Closter to be the health inspector. Councilwoman Hausmann thanked Director Tracy for having patience with her as she learns the department. They have been having weekly meetings to go over purchases and other DPW related issues. The DPW did a great job cleaning up after the last two (2) snowstorms. The DPW is currently down three (3) of the big trucks. A check for \$7,000.00 was received from the county for the plowing of county roads. The Northern Valley Central school has asked the DPW to salt the parking lots. They said they will pay for the salt. Councilwoman

Hausmann presented the DPW vehicle list to the other members of the governing body. Councilman Condoleo asked Mr. Padovano to send the reports to the CFO. Councilwoman Hausmann advised that some vehicles are not in good shape. There are two (2) that need to be replaced sooner rather than later. These trucks could be auctioned off. Councilwoman Hausmann also informed the governing body that Director Tracy has a document listing the reasons why he needs new employees. He is looking to hire two (2) full-time employees. Mayor Barsa asked Director Tracy to contact Michael Neglia and bring the matter to personnel.

Councilman Condoleo

Councilman Condoleo asked Mr. Padovano to remind the department heads to have their budgets submitted by the end of next week. Mayor Barsa said it is unacceptable to not have budgets by this time and beginning next January if a budget request is not delivered by the first week of January a 5% decrease to the budget will be processed. Councilman Condoleo also advised that an ambulance is being serviced for a steering issue. The EMS will be meeting tonight to discuss their approach for the meeting with Northvale EMS.

Councilman Ascolese

Councilman Ascolese said the seniors met in January and have begun working on their trip schedule for this year. The anniversary lunch has been set for June 12th.

Council President Foschino

Council President Foschino thanked all involved in the Winterfest. The Recreation Committee would like to be involved in capital purchases and the timing of projects. They would like to give their ideas and what they see as needs for the community. The public school has had staffing issues, particularly the principal leaving at the end of last year. We need to keep shared services in mind for all aspects of Borough operations. One member of the fire department suffered a medical emergency on a fire call. He is now home resting and doing well.

Councilman Brizzolara

Councilman Brizzolara said Mr. Padovano has been working with Rockland Electric to get estimates to add streetlight to McKenna Drive. The construction office had an increase in permits compared to last January. There were eight (8) homes sold in January. Poke the Bear has opened on Livingston Street, and a medical billing office opened on Walnut Street. Summons issued to 133 Railroad Avenue was addressed in court. The homeowners were found guilty and ordered to clean the property and pay a fine.

Councilman Kim

Councilman Kim said the NVOT tennis team won the sectional championship in January. The 2025-2026 school year calendar has been finalized. The Library Director will be working with BCCLS to develop an AI policy. There was a lunar new year celebration held in January, and it was a big success with over one hundred (100) people. The Greenway project asked to have the NJSE study to be refreshed. A development of a new website has been discussed.

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.

Francesca Costa, 82 Everett St, Closter. Ms. Costa is a local historian from Closter who researches history on the northern valley. She has been researching Dyer Court and the Dyer family. F.M. Dyer was a possible member of the KKK. She recommends the changing of the name Dyer Court. Mayor Barsa said he will research the situation.

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

2025:58 – Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Council to Proceed in Closed Session – Matters Relating to Employment

It was moved by Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve the Resolution to go into closed session. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

RETURN TO OPEN

The meeting resumed in open session at 9:34 PM.

It was moved by Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve the hiring of Officer Michael Marcellari for the position of Police Officer. 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 by Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara. All council members present approved the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:34PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano
Borough Clerk