

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
AUGUST 9, 2023
7:00 PM
MAYOR BARSA

COUNCILMAN ASCOLESE	COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA
COUNCILMAN CONDOLEO	COUNCILMAN FOSCHINO
COUNCIL PRESIDENT 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 7:00 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 Condoleo	Present
	Councilman Foschino	Present
	Council President Hausmann	Present
	Councilman Kim	Present

MAYOR’S OPENING ADDRESS

Mayor Barsa stated that the community garden is buzzing with activity. Every Wednesday night from 7pm-7:30pm members of the Environmental Commission will be harvesting at the garden. If a resident cannot make it to an evening harvest, they will also be tending to the garden during the community days of August 18th at 9:30am and September 9th at 10am. They will be there to answer any questions about the garden or the Environmental Commission.

The mayor stated that on Friday, August 11th, beginning at 5:30pm, garden members will be meeting at the garden for a picnic dinner and to harvest the bounty. This is open to all Norwood residents. Bring food and some bags to take home some delicious fruit and vegetables.

Also, Mayor Barsa advised residents to save a trip to the MVC and come to the mobile unit that will be at the community center on Wednesday, September 20th. From 10am-2pm you can renew a driver's license, registration, apply for parking placards, and obtain a non-driver ID. There is no appointment necessary for these services.

Lastly, the mayor announced that Norwood Day is quickly approaching. Everyone is busy preparing for another fun celebration with our neighbors. The headliner will be the renowned Rolling Stones cover band, Streetfighter, and the opening act will be Full Disclosure, whose band members are Norwood residents. Our town day will take place rain or shine on Saturday, September 23rd, from 1pm-6pm.

CORRESPONDENCE

Grant Writers July Report

Building Department July Fee Log

Borough Engineer August Report

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:

July 12, 2023, Mayor & Council Meeting Minutes

Approval of the following Resolutions:

2023:149 - Salary Resolution

2023:150 - Resolution for Payment to Richard Hess

*Resolution 2023:151 will be discussed later in the agenda

2023:152 - Resolution to Comply with the Internal Revenue Code of 1986

2023:153 - Resolution Approving John Circle Block Party

2023:154 – Resolution Authorizing Adjustment of Neglia Invoice for the Blanch Avenue Culvert

2023:155 - Resolution Appointing Dylan Plescia to the Norwood Fire Department

2023:156 - Resolution Authorizing Refund of Tax Over Payment

2023:157 - Resolution to Authorizing Cancellation of Outstanding Payroll Checks

2023:158 - Resolution Authorizing Cancellation of Outstanding Checks

2023:159 - Appointment of Patrolman Matthew Dottino as Permanent Police Officer in The Norwood Police Department
2023:160 - Appointment of Patrolman Matthew Rooney as Permanent Police Officer in The Norwood Police Department
2023:161 - Approving Change Order No. 2 – 2022 Municipal Road Program
2023:162 - Approving Change Order No. 1 – Walnut Street Improvements
~~2023:163 - Approving the hiring of Janet Gallagher as the Certified Municipal Court Administrator~~ **Tabled for a future meeting**
2023:164 - Authorizing Surveying, Engineering Design and Bidding Services Agreement with Neglia Engineering for the 2023 Road Program
2023:165 - Payment of Vouchers

Borough Administrator / Clerk Padovano asked Mayor Barsa to remove resolution 2023:154.

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Council President Hausmann to approve the amended Consent Agenda and that the July 12, 2023 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.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 2023:11 An Ordinance to Amend and Revise Chapter 233-23.2 for Fence Requirements

The mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Foschino, second by Councilman Ascolese, that Ordinance 2023:11 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on September 13, 2023.

Roll Call

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

Nay:

Abstain:

Motion carried.

2. Ordinance 2023:12 An Ordinance to Amend and Revise Chapter 222 “Vehicles and Traffic” of the Borough Code of the Borough of Norwood

The mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Foschino, second by Councilman Ascolese, that Ordinance 2023:12 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on September 13, 2023.

Roll Call

Aye: Ascolese, Brizzolara, Condoleo, Foschino, Hausmann, Kim
Nay:
Abstain:

Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

School Security Shared Service Agreement

Mayor Barsa explained the current shared service agreement that Norwood has with the school. He also explained that this new agreement has the same terms as last year's agreement.

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve the School Security Shared Service Agreement. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

School Gasoline Fuel Shared Service Agreement

Mayor Barsa explained the current fuel shared service agreement that Norwood has with the school. He also explained that this new agreement has the same terms as last year's agreement.

It was moved by Councilman Foschino and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve the School Gasoline Fuel Shared Service Agreement. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Housing & Rental Property Standards

Property maintenance official Chris Jackson gave an update on the Swimply website, which is a website where residents can rent out their pool or backyard for a short period of time. Neighbors of these residents have complained about the noise resulting from these rentals. Councilman Ascolese knows of a resident who rents his property out every weekend. Council President Hausmann said that there is current legislation on this kind of thing because there are no safety standards, and as a result, a young child drowned in a nearby town.

Mayor Barsa stated that from an insurance perspective, the home is now a business, and the liability is now different.

Borough Attorney Corrison stated that the Mayor and Council can draft their own terms. He will draft an ordinance that can be discussed at a future meeting.

Donated Sound System for Kennedy Field

It was moved by Councilman Foschino and seconded by Council President Hausmann to approve the installation of a donated sound system for Kennedy Field. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Request from Verizon to install a wireless facility on McClellan Street

It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Council President Hausmann to approve the installation of a wireless facility on McClellan Street. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion. A resolution will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Vacation of 15th Street Walkway

Mayor Barsa gave a brief history of Yorkview in Norwood. He suggested maybe the borough should investigate vacating the land and giving it back to the homeowners that neighbor that land. A discussion was held with the council and Borough Attorney Corrison. Kevin will look into the issue and obtain a cost estimate.

2023:151 - Resolution Appointing John Kuder as Deputy Office of Emergency Management Coordinator

It was moved by Council President Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve the resolution 2023:151. In the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Report

No report

Borough Attorney Report

Borough Attorney Corrison touched on the affordable housing status in the borough.

Borough Engineer Report

Borough Engineer Loverich stated that the paving of Northwoods finger streets will start at the end of August. Neglia Engineering hope to go out to bid for the current road program early September. The county approved all 3 crosswalk locations. Neglia Engineering is currently working on a concept plan and estimate for pickleball courts. The drainage design for 15th street is starting soon. The basketball court should be resurfaced in two weeks.

Borough Engineer Loverich stated that a wooden fence around the stream behind borough hall would not stop a car from entering the water. The council decided to look into different options other than a fence.

Borough Engineer Loverich stated that the council will get to see three different options for the Kennedy Playground redesign.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council President Hausmann:

Council President Hausmann stated that the Environmental Commission's garden is thriving. Help is needed with weeding, fertilizing, pruning, and harvesting of the community plots. The NPS kindergarten-4th grade is starting a farm to table curriculum and the EC will be partnering with the school to give them guidance on the program. They are also welcome to help tend the community plots.

The Tesla system is coming down the pike soon with new infrastructure, so the EC is going to put the charging stations on hold for right now. This is to avoid the possibility of installing obsolete equipment.

The EC has started to make changes to the proposed tree ordinance. They will continue working on it, taking into consideration Council feedback, and will present the revised proposed ordinance once it is ready.

The Board of Health has a contract with the county nurses, and they are available for a certain number of hours. The food pantry has several families in need. Council President Hausmann stated that she is trying to organize a seminar with the nurses to discuss mental health.

Councilman Condoleo:

Councilman Condoleo asked the mayor to organize a meeting about the EMS lease agreement. He also stated that there was a meeting held about the new ambulance order and he feels it was a good purchase and we should see it through. They are trying to actively reduce costs by combining efforts with surrounding towns. Discussion was held regarding other shared services with other towns.

Councilman Condoleo stated that the borough spent about 51% of their annual budget so far which is great. He advised that everyone needs to remain vigilant this year. Councilman Condoleo is also considering displaying the revenue report within the council agenda binders.

Councilman Ascolese

Councilman Ascolese advised that the police report is available to review and that a personnel meeting will be held on August 17th.

Councilman Foschino:

Councilman Foschino has no report on the Recreation Committee.

The DPW had a request from Foxhill Manor to do some tree pruning. Foxhill and DPW will take care of their respective responsibilities according to the lease agreement. Norwood has been approached by another town for use of our composting facility, there will be more discussion on that. A member of the DPW will be retiring effective December 1st. Councilman Foschino asked the Personnel Committee to start investigating filling the spot with either full time or part time workers, also the range of pay for part timers should be analyzed.

The Norwood Fire Chief explained to Councilman Foschino that there is a motor issue with the chief car. The cost to replace the motor is \$9,000. According to Dominick Congiusti and Scott Roberts, the fire company is willing to forgo that amount in rent payments for November and December from the borough, to offset their cost of the motor. Councilman Foschino is looking to replace one chief truck in 2024 capital, and one in 2025. The fire company responded to a house fire recently, and also utilized their new UTV to rescue a hiker in need. There will also be a new discussion at the next work session to discuss reallocating money from the previous capital account to purchase new hose for the fire company.

Councilman Brizzolara:

Councilman Brizzolara stated that Tasting Notes Coffee opened on Livingston Street. Councilman Brizzolara also mentioned that he will be reviewing the street light inventory in town to take advantage of the Orange & Rockland LED replacement program.

Councilman Kim:

Councilman Kim stated that both the NVHS and Greenway meetings were canceled due to lack of quorum. The library AC is now working, and 2 security cameras have been replaced.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was forwarded Councilman Kim and seconded by Councilman Ascolese. All council members present approved the motion. Meeting was adjourned the meeting at 8:23PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano
Borough Clerk