

Borough of Norwood
Work Session
February 27, 2008

CALL TO ORDER AT 7:08 PM

Council President Scott 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 Press Journal.

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:

Mayor	James Barsa
Councilman	Tom Brizzolara
Councilman	Michael Knigin (7:15 PM)
Council President	Barry Scott
Councilman	Anthony Guercio (8:45 PM)
Councilman	Allen Rapaport
Councilman	Edward Condoleo (7:15 PM)

ALSO PRESENT:

Borough Attorney	Craig P. Bossong
Borough Engineer	Brian A. Intindola
Borough Engineer	Matthew Neuls

Mayor Barsa asked Mr. Joe Ascolese to address the public. Mr. Ascolese announced that Hackensack Hospital and Touro Medical College have acquired Pascack Valley Hospital to be used in the beginning as an emergency care facility.

Traffic Calming Presentation by Neglia Engineering for Summit and High Streets

After Mr. Intindola presented an overview of the study that included raised intersections and speed tables, a motion was made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Brizzolara to open the meeting to the public. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Frank Marino, 420 High Street, voiced concern that cars traveling 40+mph would bottom out going over the speed tables. Mr. Intindola explained that they are not projectile ramps and that speeds would have to be 70 to 80 mph to cause damage.

Suzanne DeBiosa, 500 Summit Street questioned whether there would be signage cautioning motorists beforehand about the speed tables and was advised there would be.

Joe Ascolese, High Street, voiced disapproval with the 36" size of the cautionary signage. Mr. Scott agreed and it was the consensus of the Council that the size be re-examined and reduced.

Rae Anne Tuite, 328 High Street, confirmed that the plan was a combination of raised intersections and speed tables.

Bob Abbot, 186 Rockland Avenue voiced concern about the noise that would be caused from the vehicles going over the speed tables.

Adam Cook, 394 Summit Street, disapproved with the size of the signage and questioned why the yellow line could not be removed from Summit Street. The Borough Engineer explained that the line was probably needed for a no passing zone and that it is now optional.

No other member of the public wishing to be heard, a motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Knigin and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

CONSENT AGENDA:

At this time, Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda consisting of the following items:

- 08:56 Authorizing a 2007 Budget Appropriation Reserve Transfer in the amount of \$46,652.00
- 08:57 Authorizing the issuance of Raffle Licenses 08:04 and 08:05 to Holy Family Interparochial School
- 08:58 Authorizing the purchase and installation of a monument at Kennedy Park War Memorial from Sprung Memorial Group for a cost of \$9,104.00

Motion approving the consent agenda was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Brizzolara and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Items for Discussion:

Installation of Bus Shelters by NJ Transit - Mrs. McMackin explained that New Jersey Transit has offered to install bus shelters at existing bus stops within the Borough free-of-charge with the stipulation that the Borough maintain them. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Rapaport advised that he would ask the DPW Superintendent to provide him with a list of every bus stop within the Borough. The Borough Engineer recommended that the County be contacted to determine whether their approval is necessary since the stations would be in the County right-of-way.

Central Woods Sign – Motion was made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Rapaport to approve the purchase of the sign with funds from the County Open Space grant. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Jose O'Reilly' Request for Temporary Banners – Mrs. McMackin referred to a letter dated February 20, 2008 from Jose O'Reilly's requesting permission to display a 3' x 12' temporary banner from March 1st until March 18th advertising St. Patrick's Day and from April 14th until May 6th advertising Cinco DeMayo Day. She reminded that the Borough Code permits temporary banners for grand openings only. Mr. Scott voiced objection to the size of the banner and recommended that the request be denied as the Code does not permit it. Mr. Knigin voiced his opinion that the request should be approved since the banner would be on the building itself, the Council should help promote neighborhood businesses but that there be a time limit for the banner to be hung. Therefore, motion was made by Mr. Knigin and seconded by Mr. Rapaport that approval be given with the stipulation that the display period be ten days before each holiday. Before roll call vote, Mr. Brizzolara noted that exceptions to the Code would now have to be made going forward. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Knigin amended his motion that a picture of the banner be provided the Council before it is hung and Mr. Rapaport seconded the amended motion. Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Knigin, Rapaport and Condoleo

Nays: Brizzolara, Scott and Guercio

There being a tie vote, Mayor Barsa broke the tie and voted aye. The motion carried.

The Borough Clerk will inform Ms. Robinson, General Manger of Jose O'Reilly's, in writing of the governing body's decision.

Review of Explorer Applications – Motion was made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Brizzolara for resolutions appointing Luke Van Brandenburg and Michael E. Panella as Explorers to Norwood Fire Co. No. 1 be prepared for adoption at the Mach 4, 2008 Public Meeting. The motion was declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Discussion of Resolutions for NJ DOT Safe Streets to School Grant – Mrs. McMackin reminded that the deadline for submission of this grant application is April 18, 2008. She reported that the Borough of Old Tappan has agreed to a joint application. Mr. Condoleo suggested that supporting resolutions from the towns attending NVRHS at Old Tappan be requested for inclusion with the grant application. The Administrator/Clerk will contact Harrington Park and Northvale to request these resolutions.

Borough Engineer Report:

Monthly Report - Mr. Neuls referred to the Engineer's Report (Attachment A). Mr. Scott voiced his displeasure that the report was provided to the Council this evening and asked that it be provided for distribution with the Agenda for the last Work Session of the month so that the Mayor and Council can digest it and ask questions at the meeting.

Borough Administrator Report:

NJDEP Annual Municipal Stormwater Report – Mrs. McMackin informed the governing body that a proposal was received from Neglia Engineering to prepare the annual stormwater report for a cost of \$3,500.00. She advised that she has been preparing the report in-house and asked for Council authorization to continue. It was the consensus of the Council that she do so.

Quiet Zones – Mrs. McMackin reported learning from Mr. Allen Olsen that the City of Teaneck adopted a Resolution requesting the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders to begin the process to have the CSX railroad crossing at New Bridge Road in Bergenfield designated as a "Quiet Zone". He suggested that the Borough do likewise for the railroad crossings at Broadway and Blanch Avenue. After a brief discussion it was the decision of the Council that the Borough Clerk obtain the Township of Teaneck Resolution and prepare a similar one for adoption at the March 4, 2008 Public meeting.

Finance Clerk Interviews – Mrs. McMackin informed that interviews have been scheduled with two of the three final candidates with the Personnel Committee for Tuesday, March 4, 2008 at 7:00 PM immediately before the Public Meeting.

Other – Mrs. McMackin reminded that a list of roads for the Riverside Cooperative would be needed by April and that decision has to be made as to what items should be included in the Capital Budget.

At this time, Mayor Barsa asked if any Council Member has any item to report.

Mr. Scott informed that a grant in the amount of \$400,000 for solar paneling for the Municipal Building, Police Building and Library has been applied for through Senator Lautenberg's office for FY 2009 Appropriations. He also explained that an additional \$500 was received from Bergen County Community Development for the Senior Program bringing the amount to \$3,500.00.

Mr. Rapaport referred to the proposed decrease in State aid for municipalities with less than 10,000 people and voiced his opinion that this is a way for the Governor to force regionalization. He asked for Council support to apply pressure on the Governor to reinstate this funding. It was the consensus of the Council that no action be taken until the extent of the cuts is definitely known.

Mr. Condoleo asked that a Budget Meeting be scheduled for Saturday, March 8th. After a brief discussion, decision was made to advertise the March 4, 2008 Public Meeting to begin at 5:30 PM for budget discussion with those department heads who requested additional funds in their 2008 budgets.

No other Council Member wishing to be heard, a motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Guercio, seconded by Mr. Rapaport and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Judith Lamp, 120 Summit Street, questioned when the fire gong would be reinstalled and Mr. Condoleo advised as soon as the warm weather begins. Mr. Scott requested the Historic Preservation Committee to provide current quotes for the Haring Cemetery fence.

Murray Bass, 331 Piermont Road, questioned whether the public would be invited to attend the Budget Meeting on March 4, 2008 and was informed the meeting is open to the public.

George Hertzberg, 24 Carter Street, asked all to remember and mourn the recent death of William S. Buckley, Jr.

No one else wishing to be heard, a motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Rapaport and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

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Motion to adjourn at 8:25 PM was made by Mr. Knigin, seconded by Mr. Rapaport and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Administrator/Clerk