

Borough of Norwood
Work Session
January 14, 2009

The Work/Executive Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Norwood was held on the above date.

Mayor Barsa called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM.

Mayor Barsa led the Council and 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 Press Journal.

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:

Mayor	James Barsa
Councilman	Tom Brizzolara
Councilwoman	Marianne Orecchio
Councilman	Barry Scott
Council President	Anthony Guercio
Councilman	Allen Rapaport
Councilman	Edward Condoleo

ALSO PRESENT:

Borough Attorney	Andrew Fede
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Consent Agenda:

Mayor Barsa reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda and asked if any Council Member wished to remove an item. No Council Member wishing to be heard, Mayor Barsa requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following items:

- 09:17 Appointing Laura Nunnink, Esq., as Municipal Prosecutor for the year 2009
- 09:32 Awarding the Alcohol and Drug Testing Services to Commerce Risk Control Services
- 09:33 Recommending an Amendment to N.J.S.A. 40:54-8 Regarding Tax Levies for Free Public Libraries

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

Items for Discussion:

Haring Cemetery Planting Proposal

Kathy Mitchell and Lee Williams, spoke on behalf of the members of the Historic Preservation Committee who were in attendance. They reviewed the options that they found desirable to delineate the boundaries of the cemetery: a 1 ft. belgian block (cobblestone) perimeter; a dry laid stone wall approximately 2 ft. high and a 4 ft. high wrought iron fence. Ms. Mitchell explained that the Committee has been working with Lewis Landscaping and distributed a preliminary plan.

There was discussion regarding the need to delineate the boundaries of the cemetery and the desire to use a cost effective method that would also be acceptable to the area residents. The motion was made by Mr. Scott to authorize the Historic Preservation Committee to go forward with the concept of a 1 ft. cobblestone block wall delineating the Haring cemetery with funds (\$6,500.00) to be provided in the 2009 operating budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Guercio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present. Mr. Rapaport noted that the Committee is to apply for all necessary permits.

Ordinances for Review

1. Amending Chapter 50 of the Code of the Borough of Norwood entitled “Police Department”: Mr. Rapaport noted that this amendment would update and define the operations of the Police Department and that it has been reviewed by the Borough Attorney. He voiced his opinion that it is a good ordinance and commended the Chief of Police for a job well done. He advised he did have an issue to discuss in Closed Session.

2. Regulating Clothing Bins – to comply with changes to state statute: Mr. Fede explained that a new statute went into effect on January 1, 2009 that provides for municipal regulation of clothing bins whereby all persons wishing to locate or operate these bins are required to obtain a permit from the municipality for a fee not to exceed \$25.00. He provided his opinion that they could not be prohibited but only regulated. Following discussion, Mr. Fede was asked to once again review the statute to confirm that their placement could not be prohibited and whether their location could be limited to the industrial zone.

Scheduling of Bus Shelter Presentation: Decision was made to schedule this presentation for the February 11, 2009 Work Session.

Borough Attorney Report: Mr. Fede advised that he had personnel matters to discuss in Closed Session.

Administrator Report: Mrs. McMackin reminded that this Saturday, January 17, 2009, the annual Fire Department Dinner would be held at the Colonial Inn and that the inspection of firefighters and officers would begin at the Fire House at 5:30 PM.

The Administrator/Clerk reported submitting the Borough's sidewalk and road resurfacing project in response to the League of Municipalities survey regarding the federal stimulus package.

Mrs. McMackin announced that the Borough has received an Environmental Stewardship Award from the Department of Environmental Protection for meeting all stormwater regulations. She commended the efforts of all the members of the Department of Public Works, specifically Alan Schrader, the Foreman and Camilo DiRese the Superintendent.

The Administrator/Clerk will be reviewing the bids received for the Kennedy Park War Memorial with the Borough Engineer and will report to the Mayor and Council for award in February.

Mrs. McMackin advised that under the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Economic Recovery Program for 2009, municipalities are being offered low or no interest loans for projects such as wastewater infrastructure for both sanitary and storm sewers as well as treatment systems. Accordingly, she asked the Borough Engineer to work with the DPW Superintendent and Foreman to determine what would be necessary to rebuild the pump stations. She was informed that the cost would be between \$700,000 and \$1M.

Mrs. McMackin advised that should the governing body be agreeable, she would need authorization to be the municipal official and attend a meeting on January 27, 2009 with the DEP to proclaim the Borough's interest in being considered for this program. Motion was made by Mr. Rapaport and seconded by Mr. Brizzolara authorizing the Administrator/Clerk to attend the January DEP meeting with the Borough Engineer to inform them of the Borough's interest in applying for this low or no interest loan. The motion passed on the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

At this time, Mr. Condoleo questioned whether all departments had submitted their 2009 budget requests. Mrs. McMackin advised that she has not received them from Finance/Tax, Department of Public Works, Board of Health or Planning/Zoning. Mr. Condoleo advised that he was in receipt of the budgets for the Finance and Tax Departments and would forward them to Mrs. McMackin tomorrow.

Mayor Barsa asked that a followup memo be sent to the non-compliant departments and that the Finance Committee begin to schedule 2009 budget meetings.

At this time, Mayor Barsa acknowledged the presence of the new Fire Chief, Chris Mazzilli and Assistant Chief, Bernard Tuite. Mr. Condoleo announced the other 2009 Line Officers: Captain Mike Aanonsen, Lieutenant Dan Ochse, Lieutenant Brian Bourke and Lieutenant John Straub.

General Public Comment:

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

At 8:45 P.M., Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to approve Resolution 09:34 authorizing the Mayor and Council to proceed in Closed Session to discuss personnel matters and contracts. The motion was made by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Scott and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Mayor Barsa declared a five-minute recess before proceeding in Closed Session.

At 9:35 PM, Mayor Barsa reconvened the meeting and asked for a motion to adjourn.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Orecchio, seconded by Mr. Condoleo and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC

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