

**BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
PUBLIC MEETING, FEBRUARY 3, 2009**

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 8:05 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 Press Journal, filing a copy in the Borough Clerk’s office and posting on the bulletin board.”

Roll Call:

Mayor Barsa	Present
Councilman Brizzolara	Present
Councilwoman Orecchio	Present
Councilman Scott	Present
Council President Guercio	Absent
Councilman Rapaport	Present
Councilman Condoleo	Present

Also Present:

Andrew T. Fede	Borough Attorney
Matthew Neuls	Borough Engineer

Mayor Barsa pointed out the fire exits and requested that all cell phones be turned off or to vibrate.

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only:

It was moved by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to open the meeting to the public for comment. All Council Members present voted for the motion.

Mr. Greg Salerno, 401 D’Ercole Ct. informed that he recently heard pops that sounded like gun shots in the woods behind his home. Mr. Rapaport informed that he would speak with Chief Krapels about the incident and Mr. Salerno was instructed to contact the police department the next time he hears those noises so they can respond and investigate the complaint.

There being no other member of the public wishing to be heard, a motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Presentations:

Mayor Barsa read a Certificate of Appreciation for the many years of service that Mr. William Himmelman has given to the Borough of Norwood on the various boards and committees he has served on.

Proclamation:

Mayor Barsa read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Borough of Norwood stand firmly committed to promoting reading as the catalyst for our students' future academic success, their preparation for America's jobs of the future, and their ability to compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Norwood has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education of our youth, grounded in the principal that educational investment is the key to the community's well-being and long-term quality of life; and

WHEREAS, NEA'S Read Across America, a national celebration of reading will be conducted on March 2, 2009, which would have been the 105th birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss; and

WHEREAS, Read Across America-NJ is being conducted statewide by the New Jersey Education Association, in partnership with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the New Jersey Library Association, Saturn-UAW, and their local affiliates across the state to promote reading and adult involvement in the education of our community's students

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Norwood calls on the citizens of the Borough of Norwood to assure that every child is in a safe place reading together with a caring adult on March 2, 2009.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body enthusiastically endorses NEA's Read Across America and Read Across America-NJ, and recommits our community to engage in programs and activities to make America's children the best readers in the world.

Appointment:

It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to appoint Mr. Joseph Saccoccio to a three-year term on the Recreation Committee. All Council Members present voted for the motion.

Correspondence:

Mayor Barsa read the following correspondence into the record:

1. A letter from Norwood Public Library opposing the NJLOM resolution to cut funding to municipal libraries from 1/3 mil to 1/6 mil
2. A letter from Bergen County Municipal Clerk's Association informing that Lorraine McMackin, Borough Clerk is the Treasurer of the Association
3. Construction Office December 2008 Monthly Report
4. A letter from Norwood Public Library requesting \$527,027 in funding for 2009 with a return of \$157,000 in rent paid to the Borough
5. A letter from the BCUA informing that the 2009 sewer charge is \$442,513.27

Mayor Barsa informed that anyone wishing a copy of the correspondence could request it from the Borough Clerk.

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:

Approval of the minutes of the January 6, 2009 Reorganization Meeting, and December 17, 2008 and January 14, 2009 Work/Executive Meeting

- 09:36 Approving 2008 Budget Appropriation Reserve Transfers in the amount of \$13,726.14
- 09:37 Authorizing the payment of bills and vouchers in the amount of \$1,395,480.86
- 09:38 Awarding a contract to Donald J. Helmstetter of Mason-Helmstetter Associates, LLC to assist the Tax Assessor and Attorney with Tax Appeals in the Borough
- 09:39 Awarding a contract to Joseph A. Pojanowski, III for Professional Services as Special Counsel to defend a Tax Appeal
- 09:40 Refunding overpayment of taxes on Block 148, Lot 2 in the amount of \$1,915.43
- 09:41 Granting a Street Opening Permit to PSEG, 451 New Milford Avenue, Oradell, NJ for 330 Livingston Street
- 09:42 Granting a Street Opening Permit to Verizon of NJ, 1500 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, NJ for Mohawk Ave, Rio Vista Dr., Wood Turtle Run and Daffodil Ave. for the installation of Fiber Optic Cables
- 09:43 Granting a Street Opening Permit to Verizon of NJ, 1500 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, NJ for Railroad Avenue for the installation of Fiber Optic Cables
- 09:44 Granting a Street Opening Permit to Verizon of NJ, 1500 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, NJ for Blue Hill Road for the installation of Fiber Optic Cables
- 09:45 Granting a Street Opening Permit to Verizon of NJ, 1500 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, NJ for Kensington Ct. for the installation of Fiber Optic Cables
- 09:46 Granting a Street Opening Permit to Verizon of NJ, 1500 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, NJ for Dearborn Road for the installation of Fiber Optic Cables
- 09:47 Granting Raffle Licenses 09:01, 09:02 & 09:03 to Holy Family School and Raffle License 09:04 to PTO BF Gibbs School
- 09:48 Establishing appropriate agency to regulate Clothing Donation Bins and Establishing Fee

It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Brizzolara to approve the Consent Agenda. On the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted for the motion.

Introduction of Ordinance 09:01:

Mayor Barsa stated he had before him an ordinance for Council action entitled:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 115 of the Code of the Borough of Norwood Regarding “Fees” to Establish Fees for Clothing Donation Bin Applications

It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to introduce this ordinance on first reading. On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Brizzolara, Orecchio, Scott, Rapaport and Condoleo
Nays: None
Absent: Guercio

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Ordinance 09:01 was introduced and the Public Hearing scheduled for Tuesday, March 3, 2009.

Mayor Barsa informed that a bi-partisan committee has been formed between the Boroughs of Norwood, Northvale and Harrington Park to explore sharing services. The committee is looking at a joint building department and Mayor Barsa is hopeful that all the details will be worked out in the near future. Mayor Barsa thanked Mr. Brizzolara and Mr. Rapaport for participating on this committee. Mayor Barsa also reported that the Livingston Street Beautification Committee should receive the final engineering report in early spring from Neglia Engineering.

Committee Reports:

Councilman Brizzolara:

Shared Services: Mr. Brizzolara commended the Mayor on his leadership in forming this committee to look at shared services. Mr. Brizzolara said the committee has held three productive meetings and the committee is seeking assistance from Bergen County with implementation of this project.

Councilwoman Orecchio:

Board of Education: Mrs. Orecchio reported that she has attended two Board of Education meetings since joining the Council. Two areas of concern for the Norwood Board is the amount of state aid they will receive this year and that one first grade classroom is without an aid.

Emergency Medical Services: The Norwood Ambulance Corps presently has 21 members and 13 explorers. Mrs. Orecchio urged all to contribute to the fund drive that is presently underway.

Council President Scott:

Construction Department: Mr. Scott reported that the Building Department's revenue for 2008 was just under \$100,000 and that it is not expected to improve this year.

Councilman Guercio:

Recreation: In the absence of Mr. Guercio, Mayor Barsa reported that he attended the Recreation Committee and the topic of background checks for coaches was re-visited. The Board reviewed numerous ordinances from other municipalities and would like to use the one Northvale adopted. Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to have Chief Krapels work with Mr. Fede, Borough Attorney on finalizing an ordinance for Norwood. Mrs. Orecchio moved on Mayor Barsa's request, seconded by Mr. Condoleo with all members present voting to the affirmative.

Councilman Rapaport:

Ice Skating Pond: Mr. Rapaport referred to a number of phone calls he received regarding the "No Skating" sign at the Pond. Mr. Rapaport requested that the criteria used to determine whether the ice was thick enough be revisited and the pond opened for skating when permissible. Mr. Rapaport suggested that the Borough consider hosting an evening of ice skating with the Fire Department providing the lighting and hot chocolate being served.

Interlocal Agreements: Mr. Rapaport commended the bi-partisan efforts of the Boroughs in exchanging ideas and expressing their needs and concerns with moving forward with this interlocal agreement.

Beautification Committee: Mr. Rapaport reported that a lighting demonstration was held on Wednesday, December 17, 2008 and the committee chose a fixture for the streetscape.

Police Department: Mr. Rapaport referenced a letter of thanks received from a Norwood businessman for the professional way the Norwood Police Officers conduct themselves.

Councilman Condoleo:

Finance: Mr. Condoleo reported that the Finance Committee held their first meeting regarding the budget and he is hopeful that they will be prepared to present the budget to the Council for their input at the February 25, 2009 work session.

General Public Comment:

It was moved by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mr. Scott to open the meeting to the public for comment. All Council Members present voted for the motion.

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Mr. Greg Salerno, 401 D'Ercole Court corrected the date he gave previously regarding the gun shots he heard. Mr. Salerno was reminded to contact the police with any complaint he may have.

Mr. George Hertzberg, 24 Carter Street commended the police regarding a recent attempted break-in of his vehicle. He informed that Detectives Amatucci and Federici are very knowledgeable.

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

Adjournment:

It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Brizzolara to adjourn. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion and the meeting was adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Administrator/Clerk

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