

**BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
PUBLIC MEETING
December 14, 2011**

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 8:10 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 Nicolai	Present
Councilman Scott	Not Present for Roll Call – arrived 8:35PM
Council President Orecchio	Present
Councilman Condoleo	Absent
Councilman Rapaport	Present
Councilman Marino	Present

Also Present:

Andrew Fede	Borough Attorney
Dan Kaufman	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. Nicolai and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to open the meeting to the public for comment. All Council Members present voted for the motion.

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

Presentations:

Mayor Barsa invited Mr. Mitch Rosenthal to come forward to make the presentations for the Norwood Runners Association. Mr. Rosenthal thanked all of the Mayor and Council and Borough Staff for their continuous support. He reported that since the inception of the 5 K Run, they have donated \$150,000 to Norwood Organizations and noteworthy charities. Mr. Rosenthal presented Lt. Col. Blanch Reynolds, Salvation Army with a check for \$1,500 and the Norwood PTO President, Samantha Furling with \$15,000. Both Lt. Col. Reynolds and Ms. Furling thanked the Runner's Association for their generosity.

Correspondence:

Mayor Barsa read the following correspondence into the record:

1. A thank you letter from the Straub Family
2. A letter from Cynthia McSweeney, 1065 Blanch Avenue regarding water damage caused to the basement by Takton Construction Co.
3. A letter from Ralph LaRossa, President and Chief Operating Officer, PSE&G thanking the Borough for support, assistance and patience after the October nor'easter
4. Construction Office, November Permit Fee Log
5. Fire Department November Monthly Report
6. Letter from William Longhi, President and CEO, Orange & Rockland thanking the Borough for their support, cooperation and communications during the October snowstorm

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. Mr. Rapaport reported that he had a conflict with Resolution 11:231 and asked that it be removed for separate vote. Mayor Barsa noted the removal of Resolution 11:231 and called for a motion on the following items:

Approval of the minutes of the November 9, 2011 Regular Meeting and Executive Session and November 30, 2011 Work/Executive Meeting

11:224 Authorizing the payment of bills and vouchers in the amount of \$2,653,751.71

11:225 Appointment of Robert Tracy as Foreman Buildings and Grounds commencing January 1, 2012

- 11:226 Appointment of Kathy Shalhoub as Full-Time Finance Clerk commencing January 1, 2012
- 11:227 Cancellation of Tax Overpayments or Delinquent amounts less than \$10.00
- 11:228 Awarding Contract for the Norwood Library Door Improvements to LKL Contracting
- 11:229 Authorizing the issuance of a Street Opening Permit (No. 11:03) to United Water Co., for Broadway and Railroad Avenue
- 11:230 Opposing a request for a rate increase for United Water Co.
- 11:232 Authorizing the CFO to void and/or stop payment of checks and reissue checks if necessary
- 11:233 Refund and Reduction of taxes for Block 104, Lot 9
- 11:234 Refund and Reduction of taxes for Block 96, Lot 22
- 11:235 Authorizing Cancellation of Tax arrearages of \$128.66 due for Lot 5, Block 167
- 11:236 Appointing Matthew E. Tuite, 328 High Street as an Explorer for Norwood Fire Co. No. 1, Explorer Post 911
- 11:237 Approval 25th Annual George Washington Bridge Challenge – American Cancer Society
- 11:238 Authorizing the issuance of a Street Opening Permit (No. 11:04) to PSE&G for 14 Winthrop Street
- 11:239 Approving the American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure
- 11:240 Approving a refund of \$20.00 to Paul Sweeney, 403 Sutton Place for copies of vital records that he was not entitled to
- 11:241 Approving Change Order NO.2 for the Drainage Improvements on Livingston Street
- 11:242 Approving Change Order NO.1 for the Drainage Improvements on Livingston Street
- 11:243 Approving Change Order NO.1 for the Blanch Ave. Sidewalk Improvements
- 11:244 Approving an Appropriation Transfer in the amount of \$149,109.22

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

Mayor Barsa stated he would entertain a motion on Resolution 11:231 - Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract for a Ford F-250 Truck. It was moved by Mrs. Orecchio and seconded by Mr. Nicolai to approve Resolution 11:231. On the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted for the motion with the exception of Mr. Rapaport who abstained.

Public Hearing of Ordinance 11:11

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

An Ordinance Amending the Code of the Borough of Norwood Entitled to Regulate Campaign Contributions and Public Contracting

It was moved by Mr. Rapaport and seconded by Mr. Nicolai to open the meeting to the public for discussion on this ordinance. There being no member of the public wishing to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Rapaport and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to close the meeting to the public. Following the closing of the meeting to the public, a lengthy discussion took place on the merits of this ordinance. Following the discussion a motion to not approve Ordinance 11:11 was made by Mr. Rapaport and seconded by Mr. Nicolai. On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Nicolai, Orecchio, Rapaport and Marino
Nays: None
Absent: Condoleo
Abstain: Scott

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Ordinance 11:11 was not approved.

Public Hearing of Ordinance 11:12

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

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO FIX SALARIES, WAGES, AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF NORWOOD, COUNTY OF BERGEN, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY" AND SETTING FORTH THE METHOD OF PAYING SALARIES AND ANY OTHER ORDINANCES AMENDING SAID ORDINANCE.

It was moved by Mr. Rapaport and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to open the meeting to the public for discussion on this ordinance. There being no member of the public wishing to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Rapaport and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Mr. Rapaport, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to approve Ordinance 12:12. On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Nicolai, Orecchio, Rapaport and Marino
Nays: None
Absent: Condoleo

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Ordinance 11:12 was approved. Mayor Barsa stated that this ordinance will take effect upon publication in the Record.

Committee Reports:

Councilman Nicolai:

Mr. Nicolai had nothing to report at this time.

Councilman Scott:

Mr. Scott had nothing to report at this time.

Council President Orecchio:

Board of Education:

Mrs. Orecchio reported that the Mayor and Borough Administrator met with Mr. Gatens to discuss sharing services.

Norwood EMS:

Mrs. Orecchio read the November Monthly Report, Attachment "A".

Councilman Condoleo:

Norwood Fire Department:

In the absence of Mr. Condoleo, Mr. Rapaport read the November Monthly Report, Attachment "B".

Councilman Rapaport:

Personnel:

Mr. Rapaport informed that the Police Chief has been given permission to advertise to hire two new police officers in 2012. He will begin the process by placing an ad in The Record.

Beautification Committee:

Mr. Rapaport reviewed the most recent meeting of the committee where the new town center was discussed. The committee is working with Ms. Heidi Cohen from Neglia Engineering on the pavers, planters, shrubbery and benches.

Councilman Marino:

Mr. Marino had nothing to report at this time. He did question the procedure to get the Northwoods property on the selling block. Mr. Fede informed that the Borough would have to sell the property at public auction. A discussion took place regarding the zoning of the property and if it needs to be rezoned. It was the consensus of the Council to discuss this at the next work session.

Public Comment:

At this time, Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public for comment. The motion was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Rapaport and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

There being no 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. Rapaport and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Adjournment:

It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Rapaport to adjourn. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion and the meeting was adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Borough Clerk