

Borough of Norwood
Work Session
October 3, 2012

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 8:03 PM.

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.

Present at Roll Call:

Mayor	James P. Barsa
Councilman	John Nicolai
Councilwoman	Marianne Orecchio
Councilman	Barry Scott
Council President	Frank Marino
Councilman	Allen Rapaport
Councilman	Edward Condoleo

Also Present:

Borough Attorney	Andrew Fede
Borough Engineer	Anthony Kurus
Construction Code Official	Paul Renaud

At this time, Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public. The motion was made by Mrs. Orecchio and seconded by Mr. Scott with all Council Members present voting in favor of the motion. No one wishing to be heard, a motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

The Construction Code Official, Mr. Paul Renaud, advised the Council that in reviewing the New Jersey State Uniform Construction Code fee schedule, he noticed that in many instances the Borough's fees were substantially lower. He recommended that the governing body adopt the State fee schedule. Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that they be provided the fee

schedule to review for further discussion at a future Mayor and Council Work Session.

At this time, Mr. Scott referred to an item on the Borough Administrator's report, "Elevator Sub-code Services – Contract for 2013" – Mr. Scott reminded that Kevin Doherty has been the Borough's Elevator Sub-code Inspector for a number of years and that he not only inspects but performs the billing and collection functions as well. He also advised that the Construction Official strongly recommends his re-appointment for the year 2013. There was a brief discussion regarding a letter from the Department of Community Affairs reminding that contract with third party agencies are subject to the Local Public Contracts Law. Therefore, motion to proceed with Request for Qualifications for Elevator Inspector was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Nicolai and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Items for Discussion:

Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Harrington Park re DPW – Mrs. McMackin explained that Norwood and Harrington Park have a hand-shake agreement whereby Harrington Park dumps their leaves and brush at our compost facility in exchange for use of their roll-off container to transport to O&R all debris that cannot be mulched with the cost of dumping at O&R shared between the two towns. She recommended that a formal interlocal agreement be entered into and that it include Norwood's use of Harrington Park's hydraulic crimper, chipper and larger front-end loader, if needed, and the use of Norwood's sewer jet by Harrington Park. Therefore, motion was made by Mr. Rapaport to endorse an interlocal agreement with Harrington Park regarding their dumping of leaves and debris at Norwood's compost facility and the use of the sewer jet in exchange for Norwood's use of Harrington Park's equipment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Condoleo and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

At this time, Mr. Rapaport recommended that the hand-shake agreement with the Borough of Northvale concerning use of their garbage truck for grass pick up also be formalized in a written interlocal agreement. Mrs. McMackin explained that next year she would like to go out to bid for the pickup of grass since it would free three men for each of the two days a week grass is picked up.

Mrs. McMackin advised that she would contact Harrington Park regarding Norwood's recommendations for an interlocal agreement. The Borough Attorney explained that both towns would require a resolution to enter into an agreement.

At this time, Mayor Barsa provided an update on Livingston Street – Phase II. He explained that the three property owners involved with the Cousin's strip of stores and the Wild Wusabi strip have been asked to consider the concept of shared parking whereby there would be 90 plus parking spaces and 4 ADA spots exiting onto Jay Street. Mayor Barsa advised that all seem to be on board with the concept and Neglia Engineering will be asked to submit a proposal to prepare a formal drawing.

Engineer's Report

Monthly Report:

Livingston Street - Mr. Kurus reported that there was a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Town Center and that there remains a couple of minor punch list items regarding Phase I of Livingston Street.

Pump Stations - Mr. Kurus advised that both pump stations are on line and functioning. Mr. Rapaport reminded that guarantees and equipment warranties are to be obtained from the vendor.

Fifth and Fifteenth Street Drainage (Letter dated 9/11/2012) – Mr. Scott reminded that the flooding in this neighborhood persists and asked that Neglia Engineering revisit this area.

Borough Attorney's Report

Mr. Fede advised that he had matters to discuss in Closed Session regarding the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property.

Administrator's Report

Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund Program/Kennedy Park Basketball Court Roof Structure; Haring Family Cemetery; Fox Hill Conservation Area Trail – At this time, Mrs. McMackin explained that the CDBG grant for Senior Citizen Activities is due on Friday. Mr. Scott recommended that \$5,000.00 be the amount requested. Motion to approve submission of the CDBG grant for Senior Citizen Activities in the amount of \$5,000.00 was made by Mr. Rapaport, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Mrs. McMackin referred to correspondence received from Mr. Robert Abbatomarco, Executive Director of the Open Space Trust Fund advising that the amount requested by Norwood for the basketball court roof structure exceeded the entire funding for this cycling. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that the application request be reduced to \$150,000.00. She advised that the Haring Family Cemetery project has been completed and that documentation will be provided to the County for reimbursement. Mrs. McMackin reported that the Bocci Courts have been completed and that reimbursement will be sought from the County for the benches and checker board tables. She commended the DPW on a job well done. Mr. Scott explained that he will recommend to the Senior Citizen Club that they schedule a bocci tournament.

First Environment Proposal re Groundwater Investigation/Borough Hall – Mrs. McMackin reminded that contaminated ground water was found due to the removal of an underground storage tank thirteen (13) years ago. In order to pursue this investigation, First Environmental has submitted a proposal for \$5,860.00. She further explained that although there are not sufficient funds in the engineering line item, transfers can be done in November and recommended that a resolution authorizing this expenditure be done at the next Public Meeting to be held on October 10, 2012. All governing body members were in agreement. Mrs. McMackin informed the Mayor and Council that the possibility exists that legal action may be taken against the original contractor as the backfill used may have been contaminated.

Loss of Verizon Business Personal Property Tax beginning in 2013 (Appeal of Hopewell v. Verizon Tax Court Case) - Mrs. McMackin referred to correspondence received from the League of Municipalities requesting a \$200.00 contribution for Hopewell to continue the appeal process against Verizon. Motion authorizing this expenditure was made by Mr. Rapaport, seconded by Mr. Condoleo and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

5 Windsor Court request for Block Party Permit – Motion approving this block party permit was made by Mr. Rapaport and seconded by Mr. Scott. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Dental Coverage Rates for 2013 – Mrs. McMackin reported that since Guardian rates are up 6% since last year, she asked our insurance agent to investigate other carriers. He found that Delta Dental has a lower rate with premier coverage but determination would have to be made that the rates will be held until the Borough transfers which would be January 1, 2013. Additionally,

there will have to be discussion with both unions and certainty that retirees would be covered.

Best Practices Report – Mrs. McMackin advised that the report was filed timely on September 28, 2012 and that there will be no impact to State aid. Areas that need to be addressed are the lack of a pay to play ordinance as well as governing body attendance at a minimum of one course offered by Rutgers. She offered to try to schedule a class an hour to an hour and one-half before a Work Session. It was the consensus of the Council that she do so.

Mr. Scott referred to the Norwood Public Library renovation and voiced his opinion that all drawings may not be in place by January to coincide with the introduction of the bond ordinance.

Mayor Barsa thanked all who contributed to the success of Norwood Day, Chief Tuite and the Fire Department for cooking 2,100 hot dogs; the Woman's Club for selling \$1,900.00 in wrist bands for the rides; and the Norwood Public School contingent.

General Public Comment:

Motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present. No one wishing to be heard, motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Closed Session:

Approval of Resolution 12:168 authorizing the Mayor and Council to convene into closed session to discuss matters relating to the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property after which time formal action may be taken. Motion was made by Mrs. Orecchio, seconded by Mr. Rapaport and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

At 9:00 P.M. Mayor Barsa declared a two-minute recess before proceeding in Closed Session.

Mayor Barsa reconvened the meeting at 9:43 P.M.

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Motion was made by Mr. Scott to modify the agreement for donation of property known as Block 66, Lot 3 and Block 71, Lot 4 forgiving taxes which over the years total less than \$1,000.00. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Orecchio with all Council Members present voting aye.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 9:45 P.M. was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Administrator/Clerk