

AGENDA
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK/EXECUTIVE MEETING
APRIL 22, 2015
6:00 PM

MAYOR BARSÀ

COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA
COUNCILMAN MARINO
COUNCILWOMAN ORECCHIO

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ASCOLESE
COUNCILMAN RAPAPORT
COUNCILMAN SCOTT

Call to order

Flag Salute

Statement of Compliance: 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 Star Ledger.

Roll Call of the Council:

Mayor Barsa _____	
Councilman Brizzolara _____	Council President Ascolese _____
Councilman Marino _____	Councilman Rapaport _____
Councilwoman Orecchio _____	Councilman Scott _____

Mayor Barsa points out the Fire Exits

Introduction of Ordinance No. 15:07, "An Ordinance Authorizing An Emergency Appropriation N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53" for preparation of Master Plan

Public Hearing on this ordinance will be Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7:00 PM

Items for Discussion:

- CSX Bakken Oil Update
- On-line Tax Payment
- Review of Andrew Fede letter dated April 14th re Master Plan Adoption Process
- Borough Engineer's Report
- Borough Attorney's Report
- Administrator's Report

General Public Comment:

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Mayor and Council Work/Executive Session Agenda – April 22, 2015

Closed Session:

Resolution 15:98 authorizing the Council to proceed in Closed Session to discuss proposed sidewalk installation by Cho Dae Presbyterian Church and personnel matters

Adjournment:

Borough of Norwood
Work Session
April 22, 2015

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 6:05 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 and Star Ledger.

Present at Roll Call:

Mayor	James P. Barsa
Councilman	Frank Marino
Councilwoman	Marianne Orecchio
Council President	Joseph Ascolese
Councilman	Allen Rapaport
Councilman	Barry Scott

Also Present:

Borough Attorney	Andrew Fede
Borough Engineer	Anthony Kurus
Chief Financial Officer	Judith Curran

Absent: Councilman Thomas Brizzolara

Introduction of Ordinance No. 15:07, "An Ordinance Authorizing An Emergency Appropriation N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53" for preparation of Master Plan

Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 15:07 was made by Mr. Rapaport, seconded by Mr. Ascolese and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Public Hearing on this ordinance will be Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

Items for Discussion:

On-line Tax Payment – The CFO/Tax Collector explained that with the Edmunds System, there is the option for residents to pay real estate taxes on line. She explained that the company is offering this service free for the first year and thereafter an annual fee of \$1200.00. Residents would pay \$1.05 for an e-check; \$2.95 for debit card and 3% of the tax bill for other credit cards. Ms. Curran continued that the Borough has 1800 line items so the cost per tax bill would be minimal. She advised that neighboring towns do have on-line payment and has been told that more than 50% of taxpayers avail themselves of this service. Ms. Curran stated that on-line payment would reduce the number of phone calls made to the tax/finance office as well as the window traffic. Additionally, the taxpayer can pay any amount they choose through a secure website. Since six weeks are needed to get on line, she recommends that the service begin with the third quarter August payment should the Council approve.

Motion approving on-line payment for real estate taxes with an annual fee of \$1,200.00 was made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Ascolese. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Review of Andrew Fede letter dated April 14th re Master Plan Adoption Process – Mr. Fede explained that the adoption of the Master Plan is the responsibility of the Planning Board and that a public hearing has to be scheduled before adoption. Mr. Fede stressed that although adoption of zoning ordinances is the responsibility of the Mayor and Council, they cannot pass one that is in opposition to the Master Plan. He advised that the suggestion was made for a joint meeting of the Planning Board and Governing Body regarding the Master Plan and voiced his opinion that since there are two separate processes, that they remain separate, i.e. the Planning Board being responsible for the adoption of the Master Plan and the governing body being the legislative body responsible for the adoption of zoning ordinances that are in compliance with the Master Plan. Mr. Fede continued that the governing body can attend the Public Hearing and give their individual input as members of the public. He reminded that the Mayor and Councilman Rapaport sit on the Planning Board and can present the views of the governing body during the planning stages.

During discussion, Mr. Scott voiced his opinion that the scope of the light industrial area should be expanded.

(At 6:30 PM, Mayor Barsa interrupted this discussion to proceed with the following agenda item)

CSX Bakken Oil Update – Chief Krapels advised that the Bergen County Executive held a meeting regarding the transportation of Bakken Oil by CSX and provided a brief account of what was presented. He explained the oil is unfiltered, goes straight into the tank cars and is highly explosive. Approximately thirty to thirty-eight tanks travel through the region per day and there is a need for an alternative rail since the only other option would be to barge the oil through the Great Lakes pipeline. Chief Krapels will be attending an education and training class from June 1 to June 5 in Atlanta and will be in the process of writing a new emergency plan. He advised being told that the way to deal with an explosion is to let it burn out.

At this time, Chief Krapels was asked to provide an update on the coyote situation. He explained that there were four dens and five more were discovered on Summit Street. All coyotes living in these dens had to be considered as having rabies. Chief Krapels noted that 47,000 people were following on face book, twitter and nixel. It is unknown at this time whether the coyote killed was the one that bit the resident. He stressed that coyotes are aggressive only if they are sick. The areas of Livingston Street/Somerset and Blanch are active sites. There seems to be no activity in the Northwoods or Fox Hill areas.

Chief Krapels announced that a community meeting is being planned to be conducted by the Division of Fish and Wildlife either Monday or Tuesday of next week depending on school availability. Mayor Barsa advised that the Borough website is directing individuals to the Chief's twitter and facebook sites. Mr. Rapaport commended the Mayor and Chief of Police for fielding the calls and e-mails regarding this issue.

Borough Engineer's Report – Mr. Kurus reported as follow:

Ballfield Netting: work to begin mid-May.

DPW Garage: work to begin mid-May

Livingston Street: the contractor, Zuccaro, is back working on site.

Ballfield Dugouts: the dugouts are partially built.

Borough Attorney's Report – Mr. Fede advised that he had a matter to discuss in Closed Session.

Administrator's Report – Mrs. McMackin reported that the Riverside Cooperative received five bids last week for the roadway improvement program with the lowest bidder being J.A. Alexander at \$75.00 per ton. In light of this low price, Mrs. McMackin anticipates that the cost for portions of the Borough's road improvement project will also decrease. She advised having a matter to discuss in Closes Session.

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.

Lucille Mascolo, identified herself as the owner of the Sander Performance Group located at 63 Oak Street. She advised being at this location for 30 years. She described the condition of Oak Street as horrible with huge pot holes and motorists driving on the wrong side of the road or behind the buildings to avoid them. She also referred to the rainstorm of last August and showed pictures on her telephone of water flooding Oak Street, which she believes came from Jay Street. Mayor Barsa explained that with the construction on Jay Street an underground drainage system was designed whereby water goes to retention basins that run the entire length of Jay Street. There were some issues with the water not flowing properly with debris in the stream identified in September following the August storm.

Mrs. McMackin explained that the drainage pipes have to be televised, that a pipe did collapse and sediment has to be removed. She continued that she will direct the DPW Superintendent to get hot asphalt and borrow the hot box from the Borough of Closter to fill the holes. Also the Borough is contacting the County to dredge the underground streams. However, easements may be needed to access private property.

Ms. Mascolo thanked the governing body for providing her the opportunity to voice her concerns.

At this time, Mr. Marino noted that the roads in Northwoods are in bad shape and his understanding that only Hemlock is being addressed because of a collapsing sewer basin.

No one else wishing to be heard, motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Ascolese and seconded by Mr. Rapaport. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Closed Session:

At 7:20 PM, motion to approve Resolution 15:98 authorizing the Council to proceed in Closed Session to discuss proposed sidewalk installation by Cho Dae Presbyterian Church and personnel matters was made by Mr. Rapaport and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor Barsa reconvened the meeting at 7:44 PM and resumed discussion regarding the Master Plan.

Mr. Scott voiced his opinion that the governing body should present their thoughts and ideas for the laboratory and light industrial zones. Mr. Ascolese said his personal message would be to keep the residential zone as residential and to not have a mixed use in this zone. He voiced his opinion that the Master Plan has to be defensible and not open to a builders' or developers' remedy.

Mr. Fede reminded that the Mayor and Council Member sit on the Planning Board and that the governing body's ideas and thoughts be presented to them for submission to the Planning Board. Members of the governing body should feel free to attend the Public Hearing on the Master Plan as residents.

In conclusion, Mr. Scott recommended that the governing body present their ideas at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

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

Respectfully submitted,



Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Administrator/Clerk