

**MINUTES  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD  
PUBLIC MEETING  
December 4, 2007**

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.

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 Press Journal on January 11, 2007, filing a copy in the Borough Clerk’s office and posting on the bulletin board.”

Roll Call:

Mayor Barsa	Present
Councilman Brizzolara	Present
Councilman Knigin	Present
Council President Scott	Present
Councilman Guercio	Present
Councilwoman Senatore	Present
Councilman Condoleo	Present

**Also Present:**

Andrew Fede	Borough Attorney
Michael Neglia	Borough Engineer

Mayor Barsa pointed out the fire exits.

**Promotions and Presentations:**

Mayor Barsa administered the oath of office to newly promoted Sergeants Steve Henrici and Perry Buongiorno. Mayor Barsa congratulated “Teacher of the Year” John Kline and presented him with a plaque from the Mayor and Council. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the boys and girl who volunteered to help with the clean up of the Fox Hill Woods. Councilman-elect Allen Rapaport read a proclamation from the New Jersey Senate and Assembly as presented by Senator Cardinale and Assembly members Rooney and Vandervalk commending Mr. Kline for his accomplishments. Mayor Barsa invited Mr. Mitch Rosenthal, Norwood Runner’s Association to make the presentations to the recipients of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual 5K Run. Mr. Rosenthal invited the board members of the association to come up and make the presentation with him. The following organizations were recipients:

1. “Sharing Network” organs for transplant
2. “Smile Forever” foundation started to raise funds for children with cancer and autism
3. “Triple Negative” Breast Cancer Foundation

**Promotions and Presentations Continued:**

4. Salvation Army
5. \$1,000 to the Norwood Historical Society for the preservation of the Haring Cemetery in memory of Ed Lamp
6. \$6,000 to the Norwood Fire Department as the principle recipient for 2007

**Public Comment:**

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

Mr. Arthur Goldberg, 75 Harvard Street, Closter expressed his opinion regarding the vacation of a portion of Blanch Avenue. Mr. Goldberg pointed out to the Mayor and Council the historic significance of Blanch Avenue and the fact that it abuts a C-1 Stream and it is unlikely the area could be developed. A discussion with the Borough Engineer, Mr. Neglia took place regarding DEP Regulations and the close proximity of the Dwarskill (C-1 waterway). Mr. Goldberg also questioned ownership of the property after the vacations and that he felt the Borough would be giving property to Northwoods since a portion of Blanch Avenue abuts their property. Mr. Fede, Borough Attorney, pointed out that whatever rights of ownership there are today will continue. Mr. Goldberg suggested that the Borough review their tax maps regarding ownership of the street prior to passing this ordinance.

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

**Correspondence:**

Mayor Barsa read the following correspondence into the record:

1. Letter dated November 2, 2007 from Sanzari Enterprises thanking the Borough for paving Maple and Chestnut Street
2. Letter dated November 21, 2007 from Ellen Davenport, Secretary of State regarding Resolution 07:168

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 requested an item be removed. Mayor Barsa requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following items:

- Approval of the minutes of September 26, October 17 and 30, and November 28, 2007 Work/Executive Session and October 4 and November 7, 2007 Public Meeting

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- 07:181 Authorizing an Appropriation Transfer in the amount of \$16,000
- 07:182 Payment of Bills and Vouchers
- 07:183 Confirming the appointment of Steve Henrici to the position of Sergeant
- 07:184 Confirming the appointment of Perry Buongiorno to the position of Sergeant
- 07:185 Adopting the Bergen County Hazard Mitigation Plan
- 07:186 Rejecting the Kennedy Park War Memorial Improvement Bids and authorizing the Clerk to re-advertise for the receipt of bids
- 07:187 Change Order No.1 2007 Riverside Cooperative Road Improvement Program – Tilcon New York, INC.
- 07:188 Accepting construction and authorizing final payment to Tilcon, New York, Inc for the 2007 Riverside Cooperative Road Improvement Program
- 07:189 Authorizing participation in the First Responder Identification Card Program

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

**Public Hearing on Ordinance 07:32:**

Mayor Barsa stated that he had before him Ordinance 07:32 for Council action entitled:

**VACATING A PORTION OF BLANCH AVENUE IN THE BOROUGH OF NORWOOD**

Mr. Guercio offered a motion to open the meeting to the public. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scott with all Council Members present voting in favor of the motion.

Mayor Sophie Heymann, Borough of Closter said that she felt the two boroughs were good friends and that Norwood had agreed to discuss in committee the vacation of Blanch Avenue. Mayor Heymann informed that Closter had never been contacted. Mayor Heymann suggested that Blanch Avenue remain a minimum of 10 feet rather than the 8 proposed because in her estimation the width is too narrow to support the purpose. Mayor Heymann wanted to know why the Borough was reluctant to maintain a footpath on the road. Mayor Heymann also questioned the rights of ownership after the vacation. Mr. Fede, Borough Attorney again explained that the ordinance does not change any rights of ownership.

Ms. Christine Hageman, 17 Garnett Place, Chairwoman, Norwood Environmental Commission informed that the Commission approved the 8 foot width of the road and feels that the width is sufficient to sustain a trail.

Mr. Stuart Bran, 101 Aspen Court said he was a resident of Northwoods and the liaison between the Association and the Mayor and Council and the Association has no intention of maintaining a path.

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Mr. Steve Isaacson, 97 Columbus Street, Closter said he did not feel that Blanch Avenue should be paved and pointed out that the Borough of Closter has appropriated \$250,000 to construct a trail system in the borough.

Mayor Heymann stated for the record that a trail system from Tenafly to the New York State border was proposed awhile ago and that most communities have completed their trails, but Closter has met with opposition from Norwood in getting the bridge over the Dwarskill rebuilt. Mayor Barsa said that Norwood would look into an access point over the Dwarskill in the future.

There being no other member of the public wishing to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Guercio to close the meeting to the public. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 07:32 was made by Mr. Guercio and seconded by Mr. Brizzolara with all Council Members present voting in favor of the motion. Mayor Barsa announced that the ordinance was finally adopted and will take effect upon publication in the Press Journal.

**Public Hearing on Ordinance 07:33:**

Mayor Barsa stated that he had before him Ordinance 07:33 for Council action entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 233 OF THE CODE OF THE  
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD REGARDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING  
DEVELOPMENT FEES**

Mr. Scott offered a motion to open the meeting to the public. The motion was seconded by Mr. Guercio with all Council Members present voting in favor of the motion.

No member of the public wished to be heard, Mr. Scott motioned and Mr. Guercio seconded to close the meeting to the public. All Council Members present voted for the motion.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 07:33 was made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Senatore with all Council Members present voting in favor of the motion. Mayor Barsa announced that the ordinance was finally adopted and will take effect upon publication in the Press Journal.

**Councilman Brizzolara:**

Mr. Brizzolara thanked the Mayor and Council for agreeing to the presentation on January 16, 2008 regarding televising council meetings by TV-TN – Virtual TV Network.

**Cablevision:**

Mr. Brizzolara informed that Cablevision instituted a Korean Channel (#263) and 2 new High Definition Channels on November 29.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED:**

**Councilman Knigin:**

Norwood EMS:

Mr. Knigin read the summary report for the Norwood Ambulance Corps (Attachment "A"). Mr. Knigin thanked Chief Al Hess for his many decades of service to the community and acknowledged Mr. Rob Kwitchoff as the new chief for 2008 and Mr. Simpson as assistant chief.

**Council President Scott:**

Mr. Scott announced that Mrs. Nancy Congiusti, a Norwood Resident received the Knights of Columbus Shield Award for her many years of dedicated service to the Ambulance Corps. Mr. Scott presented Mrs. Congiusti with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the Mayor and Council at the awards dinner.

Library:

Mr. Scott reported that the new roof has been installed on the Library building at a savings of \$80,000 to the Borough thanks to the efforts of the Construction Official, Paul Renaud.

**Councilman Guercio:**

Board of Health:

Mr. Guercio informed that the Board of Health administered 39 flu vaccinations at the recent clinic. He also thanked the Board of Health for all of their programs they run throughout the year.

Department of Public Works:

Mr. Guercio reported that the specifications for the new chipper truck have been completed and bids will be received in the near future. Mr. Guercio recommended that the Borough look into charging utility companies when the DPW is called out for road closures. The Council will look into this for 2008.

**Councilwoman Senatore:**

Senior Club:

Mrs. Senatore announced that the Community Center is not large enough to house the club since their membership continues to grow. Mrs. Senatore encouraged future Councils to continue to look after the seniors.

Police:

Mrs. Senatore said she was proud of the two officers who were promoted.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED:**

**Councilman Condoleo:**

Recreation:

No report was given.

Fire Department:

Mr. Condoleo thanked Norwood Runner's Association for their generous contribution to the Norwood Fire Department. Mr. Condoleo read the Fire Departments Monthly Report (Attachment "B").

Finance:

Mr. Condoleo informed that the Finance Committee continues to monitor the municipal budget and there are no unforeseeable expenditures

**General Public Comment:**

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

Ms. Christine Hageman, 17 Garnett Place informed that the 2005-2006 County Grant was for the clean-up of trails in Central Woods along with plantings and signs. The Environmental Commission is opposed to reconnecting the bridge on Blanch Avenue, but would consider another location for a crossing. The commission is willing to meet with Closter to discuss some options.

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

At 9:35 PM, a motion was made by Mr. Guercio and seconded by Mrs. Senatore to adjourn with all Council Members present voting in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC  
Administrator/Clerk

## General Information

Comparison of the year-to-date report with last year's totals reveals that we are significantly busier in 2007 (571 calls through the end of November) than was recorded in 2006 (545 total calls for the year). It is difficult to ascertain if there are more requests for EMS or if Norwood EMS is successfully answering more requests. The volume of mutual aid given to our neighbors is also significantly higher in 2007 than in 2006.

Norwood EMS provided standby EMS services for the Norwood Football League at its home games at Kennedy Field over several long and cold Friday nights. NEMS also fulfilled its obligation to the Northern Valley Regional High School system by providing standby EMS for freshman, JV, and varsity football games in Old Tappan, and also for the first round of the state football playoffs at OT.

Norwood EMS provided standby EMS services for the Norwood 5K run and during the run, was dispatched and responded to a Chest Pain call in the Borough.

We are proud to announce the formation of Explorer Post #326, sponsored by Norwood EMS. This organization, run under the auspices and insurance of the Boy Scouts of America, is open to young women and young men between ages 13 and 18. The response of the young people has been excellent, and the Explorers assisted in the 5K run. The Post Advisor is Ms. Erica Sposa, EMT. We look to the Explorer program as a sort of "farm team" for EMS, to get the young people interested and involved in service to the community.

Norwood EMS would again like to thank the Mayor & Council for their aggressive foresight in encouraging the DPW to join EMS. Michael Congiusti has been instrumental in riding with Norwood EMS in the daytime, and with the return of Anthony Gangeri to active duty, Norwood is confidently and competently staffed on Fridays, our day of responsibility for providing mutual aid EMS service to the Interboro and the Northern Valley.

The closing of Pascack Valley Hospital has had its anticipated impact on our agency. Calls that once could be depended to take one hour now routinely are running 90+ minutes. Area Emergency Departments, especially at this usually busy time of year, are crowded to the point of diversion of ambulances. Yesterday, December 3, Englewood, Valley, and Hackensack were all on divert. We look with anticipation to the future and hope that a corporate savior will resurrect Emergency Services in Westwood and relieve the strain.

Paramedic services lost with the closing of PVH have been taken over by Hackensack University Medical Center. Norwood EMS is working on rebuilding the close relationship that we once enjoyed with the Pascack medics. We extended the offer of unit housing to HUMC that had been given to EHMC and Valley, though at present HUMC has expressed interest in a more central location than Norwood.

As always, Norwood EMS appreciates the close teamwork and support of the Norwood Police Department and Chief Jeff Krapels, the Norwood Fire Department and Chief Rich Hess, and the continued support of our elected officials.

## Vehicle Maintenance Report

### Medtec Ambulance 326 –

Ambulance 326 has 5233 miles and is serving as the primary ambulance for Norwood EMS. The vehicle has required some warranty service, notably for the left front wheel bearing seal and is currently at International in Hackensack for investigation of a smell of antifreeze in the cab. Oil changes and routine preventive maintenance services have been performed.

### Horton Ambulance 327 –

Ambulance 327 has 25912 miles and is serving as the secondary ambulance for Norwood EMS, though currently in primary service while 326 is out for maintenance. Once 326 returns, we plan to take 327 to a Ford dealership to determine if the turbocharger is functioning properly, as it does not appear to have the power that it once had. It should be noted that there have been multiple occasions over the past month where both ambulances were in service simultaneously, proudly staffed by two full crews of Norwood EMS personnel.

### MCRU 328 –

MCRU 328 has 10769 miles and is fully equipped and standing by to respond to the needs of Norwood and our surrounding communities in the event of a larger-scale incident, such as the Closter Weyerhaeuser fire of this year. 328 is scheduled to go to Norwood Car Care for repair of an antifreeze leak and for routine maintenance and a tune-up.

### First Responder 329 –

First Responder 329 has 56175 miles, and continues to serve the Borough, with its EMT often arriving simultaneously with the Norwood Police Department to begin care. 329 is also used in the daytime as a means to transport our member to another town in our mutual aid group to ride and complete the crew in that town's ambulance. Norwood Car Care recently repaired the A/C system in the vehicle restoring function to the defroster, critical for this time of year. Norwood Car Care also was asked to investigate the unit's rough running and hesitation on acceleration, and advises Norwood EMS that there is a serious problem with the fuel injection system. In light of the anticipated replacement of the vehicle in early 2008, we do not expect to make the repair.

The new First Responder 329 was delivered from the Chevrolet dealer and we hope it will be going out for the modification and conversion very soon.



**NORWOOD  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Alfred D. Hess RN/EMT, Chief

Norwood Volunteer Ambulance Corps • PO Box 8 • Norwood NJ 07648 • Business # 201-768-4477

[www.norwoodems.org](http://www.norwoodems.org)

December 4, 2007

Commissioner Michael Knigin  
Mayor & Council, Borough of Norwood

The following are Norwood EMS' Mayor & Council monthly reports for September, October, and November 2007 including call statistics, vehicle maintenance, and general information. I apologize for the delay in providing the past months' data.

**TOTALS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2007**

<b>Norwood EMS Call Types</b>		<b>Norwood EMS Call Info</b>	
Medical Calls	15	First Response Unit	11
Trauma Calls	15	MCRU	2
Fire Calls	4	Man Hours (Training/Call)	234
RMA's	7	Mileage on 326 (9-1-07 : 9-30-07)	4209-4471
		TOTAL MILEAGE	262
Cancelled Calls	11	Mileage on 327 (9-1-07 : 9-30-07)	25659-25793
		TOTAL MILEAGE	134
Misc./ Training	8	Mileage on 328 (9-1-07 : 9-30-07)	10759-10765
		TOTAL MILEAGE	6
<b>Norwood EMS Calls Locations</b>		Mileage on 329 (9-1-07 : 9-30-07)	55737-55939
		TOTAL MILEAGE	202
Norwood	34		
		TOTAL ALL MILEAGE	598
Northvale	5		
Rockleigh	2	Buckingham/Brentwood	1
Closter / Alpine / PIP	6	Fox Hill Manor	2
Harrington Park	4	Jewish Home	1
Other	3		
<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>60</b>		

**TOTALS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2007**

<u>Norwood EMS Call Types</u>		<u>Norwood EMS Call Info</u>		
Medical Calls	24	First Response Unit		17
Trauma Calls	17	MCRU		1
Fire Calls	1	Man Hours (Training/Call)		248
RMA's	8	Mileage on 326 (10-1-07 : 10-31-07)		4471-4947
		TOTAL MILEAGE		476
Cancelled Calls	7	Mileage on 327 (10-1-07 : 10-31-07)		25793-25833
		TOTAL MILEAGE		40
Misc./ Training	7	Mileage on 328 (10-1-07 : 10-31-07)		10765-10769
		TOTAL MILEAGE		4
<b><u>Norwood EMS Calls Locations</u></b>		Mileage on 329 (10-1-07 : 10-31-07)		55939-56050
		TOTAL MILEAGE		111
Norwood	34			
		TOTAL ALL MILEAGE		627
Northvale	1			
Rockleigh	6	Buckingham/Brentwood		3
Closter / Alpine / PIP	12	Fox Hill Manor		0
Harrington Park	1	Jewish Home		2
Other	4			
<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>64</b>			

**TOTALS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2007**

<u>Norwood EMS Call Types</u>		<u>Norwood EMS Call Info</u>	
Medical Calls	16	First Response Unit	5
Trauma Calls	3	MCRU	0
Fire Calls	0	Man Hours (Training/Call)	199
RMA's	10	Mileage on 326 (11-1-07 : 11-30-07)	4947-5233
		TOTAL MILEAGE	286
Cancelled Calls	7	Mileage on 327 (11-1-07 : 11-30-07)	25833-25912
		TOTAL MILEAGE	79
Misc./ Training	5	Mileage on 328 (11-1-07 : 11-30-07)	10769-10769
		TOTAL MILEAGE	0
<b><u>Norwood EMS Calls Locations</u></b>		Mileage on 329 (11-1-07 : 11-30-07)	56050-56175
		TOTAL MILEAGE	125
Norwood	24		
		TOTAL ALL MILEAGE	490
Northvale	7		
Rockleigh	3	Buckingham/Brentwood	2
Gloster / Alpine / PIP	1	Fox Hill Manor	2
Harrington Park	1	Jewish Home	2
Other	2		
<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>41</b>		

**TOTALS YEAR TO DATE 2007**

<b>Norwood EMS Call Types</b>		<b>Norwood EMS Call Info</b>	
Medical Calls	233	First Response Unit	139
Trauma Calls	111	MCRU	14
Fire Calls	18	Man Hours (Training/Call)	2295
RMA's	59	Mileage on 326 (1-1-07 : 12-31-07)	1187-
		TOTAL MILEAGE	4046
Cancelled Calls	93	Mileage on 327 (1-1-07 : 12-31-07)	24258-
		TOTAL MILEAGE	1654
Misc./ Training	57	Mileage on 328 (1-1-07 : 12-31-07)	10483-
		TOTAL MILEAGE	286
<b><u>Norwood EMS Calls Locations</u></b>		Mileage on 329 (1-1-07 : 12-31-07)	54156-
		TOTAL MILEAGE	2054
Norwood	345		
		TOTAL ALL MILEAGE	8040
Northvale	70		
Rockleigh	32	Buckingham/Brentwood	57
Closter / Alpine / PIP	39	Fox Hill Manor	13
Larrington Park	15	Jewish Home	13
Other	25		
<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>571</b>		

CHIEFS REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2007**FIRE CALLS**

Building Fire	<u>3</u>
Brush Fire	<u>0</u>
Automobile Fire	<u>0</u>
Accident Assist	<u>    </u>
Rescue	<u>    </u>
Hazmat	<u>0</u>
False Alarm	<u>17</u>
Other Emergency	<u>1</u>

**OTHER NON EMERGENCY CALLS**

Company Drills	<u>1</u>
Mutual Aid Drills	<u>0</u>
Schools	<u>2</u>
House Duties	<u>2</u>
Miscellaneous	<u>18</u>

**TOTAL CALLS**                    44

**Man Hours Expended**

Fires	<u>132.75</u>
Drills	<u>15.2</u>
Training	<u>43</u>
House Duties	<u>17.5</u>
Miscellaneous	<u>327.76</u>

**TOTAL MAN HOURS** 536.21

**TOTALS from January 1<sup>st</sup> through the month of OCTOBER 2007**

Fires	<u>1104.48</u>
Drills & Other	<u>2099.56</u>

**TOTAL MAN HOURS** 3204.04

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard J. Hess, Chief  
Norwood Fire Company No. 1