

**MINUTES
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
PUBLIC MEETING
April 3, 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 8:00 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	Absent
Council President Scott	Present
Councilman Guercio	Present
Councilwoman Senatore	Present
Councilman Condoleo	Present

Also Present:

Andrew Fede, Esq.	Borough Attorney
Christopher Taverna	Borough Engineer

Mayor Barsa announced that he was going to amend the agenda to allow the members of the Council time to tour the new Ambulance that Norwood EMS brought this evening. The Mayor and Council left Council Chambers to inspect the new vehicle. Upon returning, Mayor Barsa thanked Norwood EMS for the tour and their dedication to the residents of Norwood. EMS Chief Al Hess thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing them to purchase the vehicle.

A motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Senatore with all Council Members present voting in favor of the motion.

Mr. Greg Salerno, 401 D’Ercole Court said that he has observed surveyors in Fox Hill and wanted to know where the Borough was going with the survey. Mayor Barsa informed that the survey is being done as part of a feasibility study to see if the property would support senior housing. Mr. Salerno said that the Mayor and Council had reassured the residents that they would be looking at other sites besides Fox Hill. Mr. Chris Taverna, Neglia Engineering answered that the Borough has looked at property on the east side of Piermont Road and in the Industrial area and both sites are not appropriate. Councilman Guercio said he would like to see Fox Hill preserved if it could not be built upon.

Mr. Salerno expressed his opinion that the Mayor and Council should not just give the land to the Meadowlands Conservation Trust, but let the people of Norwood decide whether the land should be preserved. Council President Scott replied that he has been authorized to meet with the Meadowlands Conservation Trust to begin discussions on preserving the property west of McClellan. Mr. Salerno again asked why the people of Norwood can't vote on the preservation. Councilwoman Senatore said that it is the Council's responsibility to the people to preserve the land. Again Mr. Salerno asked to let the people decide. Councilman Brizzolara asked if the Environmental Commission has evaluated the property in Fox Hill and made recommendations for its usage. Councilman Brizzolara went on to explain why he wasn't happy with the process used to locate senior housing.

Mr. Chubby Bocchino, 455 Livingston Street wanted to know who owns the property on the south side of Broadway. He was informed that the property is owned by the Board of Education. Mr. Bocchino wanted to know if the Borough could get the property back from the Board of Education. Mr. Fede, Borough Attorney informed that the Borough could acquire the property through Eminent Domain, but it would be very costly. Mayor Barsa said he would ask Councilman Knigin to approach the Board of Education with the idea of donating the property back to the Borough.

Mr. Murray Bass, Piermont Road asked what percentage of the property is wetlands. Councilman Scott said it was between 25-50% wetlands.

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

Mayor Barsa read the following proclamations:

“Autism Awareness Month”

WHEREAS, Autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting the social, learning and behavioral skills of those affected by it, and

WHEREAS, Autism was once thought to be a relatively rare disorder, affecting only one in 10,000 people, and

WHEREAS, as more and more health professionals become proficient in diagnosing Autism, more children are being diagnosed on the autistic spectrum, resulting in rates as low as one in 500 children, and

WHEREAS, while there is no cure for Autism, it is well-documented that if an individual with Autism receives treatment early in their lives, it is often possible for that individual to make significant improvement, and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Center for Outreach and Services for the Autism Community (COSAC) is spearheading an awareness effort in order to educate parents, professionals and the general public about Autism and its efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, James P. Barsa, Mayor of the Borough of Norwood, do hereby proclaim April 2007 as *AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH* in the Borough of Norwood, and urge all employees and residents to participate in our municipality's Autism Awareness Month activities, in order to become better educated on the subject of Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

“National Safe Kids Week”

WHEREAS, unintentional injury is the number one killer of children 14 and under; and
WHEREAS, each year, more than 5,000 children 14 and under die from unintentional injuries; and
WHEREAS, emergency rooms experience nearly 2.4 million visits from children 14 and under each summer; and
WHEREAS, 90 percent of these injuries and deaths are preventable; and
WHEREAS, 41 percent of these deaths occur during “trauma season,” the months of May, June, July and August; and
WHEREAS, the risk areas that show the greatest seasonal surge in deaths and injuries between May and August compared to the rest of the year are biking, drowning, pedestrian, motor vehicle occupants and falls; and
WHEREAS, Safe Kids Worldwide and Safe Kids New Jersey, led by the New Jersey State Safety Council promote childhood injury by uniting diverse groups into local and state coalitions, developing innovative educational tools and strategies, initiating public policy changes, promoting new technology and raising awareness through the media; and
WHEREAS, Safe Kids Worldwide, with the support of founding sponsor Johnson & Johnson, launches Safe Kids Week 2007, “Make it a Safe Kids Summer,” which focuses on five of the deadliest warm-weather risk areas of motor vehicles, drownings, pedestrian, biking and falls; and
WHEREAS, Safe Kids New Jersey has planned special childhood injury prevention activities and community-based events for Safe Kids Week 2007 in an effort to educate families about summer safety.
NOW, THEREFORE, I, *James P. Barsa*, Mayor of Norwood do hereby proclaim April 28 – May 6, 2007,

NATIONAL SAFE KIDS WEEK

in the Borough of Norwood and call upon all the residents of the Borough to join with me in supporting the efforts and activities of Safe Kids New Jersey to prevent childhood injury.

Mayor Barsa read the following correspondence into the record:

1. Letter from Wanda Worner, Clerk, Borough of Northvale advising that the Mayor and Council have no objection to the installation of speed bumps on Summit Street
2. Memo from Chief Krapels announcing recognition of Ptl. Salvatore Russino by the Bergen-Hudson Chapter of the American Red Cross and the National Association of Police, Washington D.C.
3. Memo from Chief Krapels requesting that Deacon James Puliatte be made Honorary Police Chaplain
4. Letter from John A. Conte (J.S.C.ret.) offering his services as an Arbitrator, Mediator or Consultant

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. Brizzolara requested Resolutions 07:79 and 07:81 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. Mayor Barsa requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following items:

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- Approval of the minutes of February 6, 2007 Public Meeting and Executive Session; February 13, 2007 Work Session and Executive Session; March 6, 2007 Public Meeting; March 10, 2007 Special Budget Meeting
- 07:69 Emergency Temporary Budget
- 07:70 Authorizing the payment of bills and vouchers in the amount of \$1,426,859.17
- 07:71 Street Opening Permit 07:02 for 39 Broad Street, PSE&G
- 07:72 Street Opening Permit 07:03 for 19 Mohawk Avenue, PSE & G
- 07:73 Appointing Leonard Herman Fire Protection-Sub-code Inspector for a three-year term to expire on April 1, 2009
- 07:74 Authorizing the issuance of Raffle Licenses 07:06 to the Immaculate Conception Church and 07:07 to Norwood Fire Company #1
- 07:75 Supporting and committing to co-operate and participate in the PARIS Grant
- 07:76 Awarding a Professional Services Contract to Donald J. Helmstetter of Maso-Helmstetter Associates, LLC to assist the Tax Assessor and Attorney with Tax Appeals
- 07:77 Authorizing a refund for Tax Overpayment to Chun Lee, 30 Briarwood Avenue in the amount of \$3,115.00
- 07:78 Supporting renewal and strengthening of the Garden State Preservation Trust to provide \$335 million annually for New Jersey to continue its programs to acquire open space and farmland and improve historic sites and preserved lands
- 07:80 Granting permission to the Interreligious Fellowship for the Homeless of Bergen County to travel through the Borough on Sunday, May 6, 2007 during its 14th Annual Bike Bergen
- 07:82 Appointing Deacon James Puliatte as Honorary Police Chaplain

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

It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Senatore to approve Resolution 07:79. On the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted for the motion with the exception of Mr. Brizzolara who voted “no”.

It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Senatore to approve Resolution 07:81. On the question, Mr. Brizzolara asked what the application entailed since the Council had not reviewed it prior to this evening. Mayor Barsa informed that the application is for a study of the flora and GIS mapping of the streams, etc. Most of the Borough portion of this grant will come from in-kind services. On the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted for the motion.

EMS Request to purchase new First Responder:

Mayor Barsa invited Chief Hess to address the Council regarding Norwood's EMS request for a capital budget item, the purchase of a new First Responder. Chief Hess informed the Council that he is a 20 year emergency medical technician. He gave a brief history of when the First Responder was instituted in 1994:

1. The First Responder goes directly to a call for help. He explained that even though all police vehicles are equipped with Defibrulators they are not capable of defibrulating a child. The First Responder also carries injectible Epinephrine.
2. The First Responder establishes Incident Command and makes assessments. Chief Hess handed out pamphlets regarding NIMS.
3. The present First Responder was purchased in 1997 for \$46,500 and is showing serious signs of age and is need of costly repairs.
4. Norwood EMS is requesting \$70,000 for the purchase of a new vehicle and all of the equipment to outfit it including light bars and radios.

Chief Hess thanked the Council for their time and consideration.

Introduction of Ordinance 07:09

Mayor Barsa stated that he had before him Ordinance 07:09 for Council action entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF
PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 123, LOT 4 IN THE
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD

It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Senatore to introduce this ordinance on its first hearing. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion. Mayor Barsa informed that the public hearing on this ordinance would be held on May 1, 2007.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Brizzolara:

Public Utilities: Mr. Brizzolara informed that he had a conversation with Mr. Chris Taverna from Neglia Engineering regarding the installation of Wayside Horns. Mr. Taverna has spoken with a representative from CSX Railroad and they will be putting together preliminary engineering contract for the Council to review. This should take place within the next month.

Mr. Brizzolara reminded that Thursday, April 19th is the next Planning Board Meeting and an application will be heard to permit a restaurant to go in at the new building on Livingston Street. Mr. Brizzolara said that many of the adjoining property owners feel it is a poor area for a restaurant and he urged the public to attend the meeting.

Mr. Brizzolara requested that the Council continue discussing budget issues and that the matter be placed on the next work session agenda and that Mr. Wielkotz be invited so that he may present his view on the proposed budget.

Councilman Knigin: In the absence of Mr. Knigin no reports were given.

Council President Scott:

Property/Zoning: Mr. Scott agreed with Mr. Brizzolara regarding the variance application to permit a restaurant to operate in the new building on Livingston Street. Mr. Scott said that they did not have adequate parking.

Norwood Public Library: Mr. Scott informed that the roof at the Library is leaking and in need of repair. Mr. Scott reviewed a proposal he received from Mr. John Fellgraff AIA for architectural services in designing a new roof for the Library. Mr. Fellgraff's hourly fee is \$125.00. It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Senatore to authorize the Borough Attorney to prepare a resolution awarding a professional services agreement to Mr. John Fellgraff for the design of the Library roof at an hourly rate of \$125/hour not to exceed \$7,000. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Environmental Commission:

The Commission discussed the design for the trail markers in the Central Woods and is planning on dedicating the wood sometime in the beginning of May.

Councilman Guercio:

Board of Health: Mr. Guercio read the Board of Health's monthly report and informed the Council of the Board's request that the dog license fee increase from \$8.20 to \$10.20 and the cat licenses from \$6.00 to \$8.00. This will be discussed at the April 25th Work Session. Mr. Guercio also asked the Council to consider the Board's request to increase the Deputy Registrar's salary from \$500/annum to \$1,200/annum.

Councilwoman Senatore:

Police: Ms. Senatore informed that Police Officer Sal Russino has been invited to Washington D.C. by the National Association of Police as a recipient of an award for the outstanding service he preformed during a tense situation. Mrs. Senatore informed that former Police Captain Doty passes away recently. Mayor Barsa said that he and Chief Krapels attended the service today.

Senior Club: Membership in the Club has reached over 100 members and they are no longer accepting new members. Mrs. Senatore informed that parking for the senior meetings is a problem and asked that it be addressed. She also informed that Chief Krapels has instituted a new program whereby seniors may register with the Police Department and are called daily to see if they are okay.

Councilman Condoleo:

Recreation: The Borough Engineer has indicated that the land on which the new flag football field is to be built may be wetlands and permits may need to be obtained from DEP. Mr. Neglia is looking into this further. The new score board on Kennedy Field will be installed on April 3. The Recreation Committee has requested that the Fire Trucks be assigned to follow the children in the Memorial Day Parade to prevent the children from inhaling the exhausts. Recreation presented Westy Storage with a plaque in appreciation for their recent fundraisers. Recreation has issued a permit to Spartan Baseball for the use of the fields during the summer for baseball camp. Also, Recreation would like to know who is responsible for cleaning the lavatories at the field house and if they could clean them more frequently.

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Fire Department: Mr. Condoleo read the Fire Department Monthly Report for January, Attachment "A". A wet down for the new truck is scheduled for the summer. It was moved by Mr. Condoleo and seconded by Mrs. Senatore to approve the application of Maryanna Petikas as an Explorer in the Norwood Fire Department. All Council Members present were in favor of the motion.

Finance: Investment income was \$21,122 at a yield of 5.01%. Revenue and expenses had no unforeseen or unusual costs. The check scanning machine, for Commerce Bank is in house and will be implemented in April. A new timesheet system has been implemented to ensure all time worked and/or taken off is properly documented. The Council has requested a log of all open Bonds and Letters of Credit quarterly.

Budget Status: The introduced budget is a sound spending plan with capital improvements earmarked for road repair and maintenance of the Borough's assets. The Borough received \$15,433 in additional State Aid. Major increases were:

1. Library 15% increase from \$356,798 to \$410,318 – up \$53,520
2. Utilities – Street Lighting up 18%/Gas/Oil up 12%
3. Police Pension Contribution up 49%
4. Insurances up 7%

Councilman Condoleo also asked that the Council discuss salary increases for the staff at the next work session.

General Public Comment:

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

Mr. Lee Wallum, 2 Austin Place, Norwood EMS, Membership Chairman informed the Council that the EMS is having difficulty getting individuals to join because of the liability. Mayor Barsa said that the Borough provides liability insurance and he requested that the Borough Attorney provide Norwood EMS with a summary of state statutes that protect volunteers.

Mr. Murray Bass thanked the Mayor and Council, the Borough Administrator, Chief Krapels and the Volunteers for their hard work and cohesiveness. Mr. Bass said that he was a lifelong resident of the Northern Valley.

Mr. Greg Salerno, 401 D'Ercole Court thanked Chief Krapels for addressing the residents at Fox Hill regarding their emergency evacuation plan.

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 Mr. Guercio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

At 9:35 PM, a motion was made by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mrs. Senatore to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,


Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Administrator/Clerk

CHIEFS REPORT FOR MARCH 2007**FIRE CALLS**

Building Fire	<u>3</u>
Brush Fire	<u>0</u>
Automobile Fire	<u>0</u>
Accident Assist	<u>2</u>
Rescue	<u>0</u>
Hazmat	<u>0</u>
False Alarm	<u>1</u>
Other Emergency	<u>1</u>

OTHER NON EMERGENCY CALLS

Company Drills	<u>1</u>
Mutual Aid Drills	<u>1</u>
Schools	<u>3</u>
House Duties	<u>2</u>
Miscellaneous	<u>12</u>

TOTAL CALLS 26**Man Hours Expended**

Fires	<u>37</u>
Drills	<u>74</u>
Training	<u>156</u>
House Duties	<u>14</u>
Miscellaneous	<u>181</u>

TOTAL MAN HOURS 462**TOTALS THROUGH MONTH OF** **MARCH 2007**

Fires	<u>59</u>
Drills & Other	<u>373</u>

TOTAL MAN HOURS 1,040

Respectfully Submitted,

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