

Minutes, Mayor and Council Work Session – September 26, 2018
Work Session Meeting Minutes

Borough of Norwood
Work Session Minutes
September 26, 2018

The Work/Executive Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Norwood was held on the above date.

Mayor Barsa called the meeting to order at 7:12 P.M.

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 Barsa
Councilman	Paul Haberman
Councilman	Thomas Brizzolara
Council President	Joseph Ascolese
Councilman	Barry Scott

Absent:

Councilman	Frank Marino
Councilman	John Rooney

Also Present:

Borough Attorney	Andrew Fede
Borough Engineers	Evan Jacobs
Borough CFO	Lubna Muneer

Mayor Barsa pointed out the fire exits.

Mayor Barsa thanked all the Borough employee for a wonderful job they did on the Norwood Day celebration. The Council expressed their gratitude to the employee's due diligence. Mayor Barsa also thanked Councilman Ascolese for serving as the Master of Ceremonies. He further stated that more than \$30,000 had been raised for Norwood Day.

Mayor Barsa asked the Council Members to look over the Resolutions that will be considered at the October 10 meeting. He inquired if any of the Council Members had any questions.

RESOLUTIONS discussion for next Public Meeting Agenda

. Refunds- Trust Fund-Animal Bank Account

- Tax Overpayment Refunds
 1. Block 139, Lot 19
 2. Block 120, Lot 16
 3. Block 68, Lot 1

RESOLUTIONS CONTINUED:

Mayor Barsa asked Councilman Scott to speak about the appointments for the Fire Department, as he is the commissioner for that Department. Mr. Scott stated he would be in California for the October 10 Council Meeting. Mr. Scott spoke highly of the applicants. Mr. Scott offered a motion to appoint the Firemen. Mr. Ascolese seconded with a majority of the Council Members present voting in favor, the motion carried.

- Appointments: Junior Firemen
 1. William C Goodman
 2. Michael G. Pepe

- Appointments: Firemen
 1. Mark V. Ippolito
 2. Richard W. Seufferheld

Mayor Barsa requested that Councilman Brizzolara to speak on behalf of the Personnel Committee with regard to hiring Department of Public Works (DPW) workers. Mr. Brizzolara stated they held interview for two (2) seasonal workers that may receive permanent appointments, contingent on their work performance. He further states they conducted several interviews and that the Superintendent, Alan Schrader, of the Public Works Department expressed an interest in two individuals. Mr. Brizzolara offered a motion to place the Resolutions appointing the gentleman on the Consent Agenda for the October 10 meeting, with Mr. Ascolese seconding. The motion carried with an affirmative majority of the Council Members voting in favor of the placing resolution on the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Barsa requested that Norwood Fire Chief, Michael Congiusti, report on the Fire Department. Mr. Congiusti stated that a module in the engine's pump needs to be repaired. Mr. Congiusti asked the Council to about transferring funds before November 1st because he did not have enough money in his operating budget to fund the repair. He stated he thought it was in the Borough's best interest. Mayor Barsa requested that the CFO, Lubna Muneer, look into finding the funding for the repair. Mr. Congiusti stated he needed \$3,100 for the repair. Ms. Muneer stated she would look further into the issue and find a way to fund the repair as soon as possible.

Items for Discussion:

- Cho Dae Presbyterian Church

Mayor Barsa stated that Cho Dae Church had been invited to come before the governing body. He further stated they were not present.

- DOT 2019 Grant Program-Road Paving

Evan Jacobs discussed various roads to apply for grant funding for 2019; further stating that any street is eligible to apply for funding, with a typical awarding being approximately \$100,000. He asked if any of the Council Members had any incite onto

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streets they think should be prioritized. The Mayor and Council Members agreed that the priorities should be for Der’Cole Court and Fairway Terrace. Mr. Jacobs agreed to submit the application for the aforementioned streets.

Councilman Ascolese offered a motion, with Councilman Haberman seconding and a majority of the Council Members present approving the Grant Application for Der’Cole Court and Fairway Terrace.

- Suez: Increase in rate for Water Service

The Mayor and Council discussed the prospect of Suez increasing water rates. The Council concurred that they did not see a value in endorsing or opposing an increase in the rates as they did have any authority over the Public Utility.

- Cannabis/Marijuana Legalization and the Local Option Tax
- Agreement for Professional Services-Neglia Engineering
- OPRA-Abolishment of GRC

Mayor Barsa requested that the Municipal Clerk, Laura Borchers, stated her opinion. Ms. Borchers gave the governing body background information on the resolution to abolish the Governments Records Council (GRC). The Governing Body did not see a reason to endorse or oppose the initiative.

- Opposing the Construction of the North Bergen Liberty Generating Power Plant

The consensus of the Governing Body was they saw no reason to endorse or oppose the project.

- Borough Clerk Report

Ms. Borchers did not have anything to be discussed in open session.

- Borough Attorney Report

Mr. Fede said he had no items to be discussed in open session.

- Borough Engineer Report

Public Comment:

Fire Chief Michael Conguist spoke about his concerns regarding one of the fire trucks needing repair.

Dominic Conguisti, 195 Livingston Street, addressed concerns had for Norwood Day.

Marrienne Orrechio, 345 Tappan Road,
the majority of the members present voting in favor.

CLOSED SESSION

Approval of Resolution 18:147 Authorizing the Council to proceed in Closed Session
Formal action may be taken upon reconvening in open session.
Litigation and Personnel

Adjournment:

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A motion to adjourn at 9:15 PM was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Ascolese and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Everett Falt, RMC
Deputy Borough Clerk