

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK/EXECUTIVE SESSION
APRIL 24, 2019
7:00 PM

MAYOR BARSA

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ASCOLESE
COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA
COUNCILMAN SCOTT

COUNCILMAN ROONEY
COUNCILMAN HABERMAN
COUNCILMAN FOSCHINO

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Council President Ascolese led all in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of prayer.

Statement of Compliance was read. 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.

At roll call members present were Ascolese, Brizzolara, Haberman, Scott, Rooney and Foschino.

Absent: Mayor Barsa

RESOLUTION for approval May 7, 2019

- Certifying Members of Norwood EMS who successfully qualified for the L.O.S.A.P. Incentive Program for 2018

- Authorize 2015 Tax Appeal Refunds:
 1. 55 Oak Street Block 89 Lot 7
 2. 55 Walnut Street Block 88, Lot 13
 3. 65 Oak Street Block 89, Lot 8
 4. 75 Oak Street Block 89, Lot 9
 5. 70 Oak Street Block 88, Lot 5
 6. 535 Walnut Street Block 88, Lot 9

- Authorize 2016 Tax Appeal Refunds:
 1. 55 Oak Street Block 89 Lot 7
 2. 55 Walnut Street Block 88, Lot 13
 3. 65 Oak Street Block 89, Lot 84.
 4. 70 Oak Street Block 88, Lot 5
 5. 535 Walnut Street Block 88, Lot 9

- Authorize 2017 Tax Appeal Refunds:
 1. 55 Oak Street Block 89 Lot 7
 2. 55 Walnut Street Block 88, Lot 13
 3. 65 Oak Street Block 89, Lot 8.
 4. 75 Oak Street Block 89, Lot 9.
 5. 70 Oak Street Block 88, Lot 5

- Authorize 2018 Tax Appeal Refunds:
 1. 55 Oak Street Block 89 Lot 7
 2. 55 Walnut Street Block 88, Lot 13
 3. 65 Oak Street Block 89, Lot 8.
 4. 75 Oak Street Block 89, Lot 9.
 5. 70 Oak Street Block 88, Lot 5
- Payment of Vouchers

Items for Discussion:

- Clear Cutting: 301 Tappan Road and 328 Westwind
 Gino Tessaro summarized the process of clear cutting. Council President Ascolese to discuss the clear cutting at the corner of Tappan and Blanch, whereby the homeowner clear cut more trees than what the Ordinance allowed.
 Matthew 328 Westwind Court summarized his application with the clear cutting on his property. Gino Tessaro stated that residents are allowed to clear cut 20% of trees on their property. Councilman Brizzolara commented that as long as the residents work with the construction official, he sees no issues with the clear cuttings.
 Councilman Foschino made a motion to approve the resolution for clear cutting as it stands, seconded by councilman Haberman, all ayes, motion carried.
- Borough Clerk Report
 Discussed the resolution approved by other municipalities opposing PBU from coming into the municipalities and trimming trees on properties without any consent. Councilman Brizzolara commented that he would abstain from the resolution if the borough decided to act upon it. Mr. Brizzolara also stated that the municipality has no say unless, the municipality adhere by the plan that was submitted by the BPU clearance ordinance. The company will work with the local highway department before they do anything major and talk about the project and make sure they are not in any violation with the local municipality. Mr. Brizzolara stated that the company that he works for does not have any position on this bill, because they have enough latitude with the change in law. Mr. Ascolese asked that we discuss it before we took action.
 Borough clerk discussed savings with the cell phone bills that deputy clerk Rick Buginsky has done through investigating all the numbers that were not in use but was being billed for. A cost savings to the borough of \$450 a month. Ms. Borchers mentioned that Mr. Buginsky has completed 3 of his 5 RMC classes and has passed all three classes with an average grade of 92%
 Last day to register to vote is in the June Primary is Tuesday May 14, and as a courtesy to the residents, borough hall will be open until 8PM on that night. Lastly, municipal vehicles and equipment will be auctioned off at 10AM at the swim Club.
 Councilman Brizzolara asked that the Gun Violence resolution be added to the next agenda for approval.
- Borough Attorney Report

Mr. Fede received the Masterplan review from Bob Regan, Mr. Fede will have it sent to the Council for review, so it can be brought up and discussed at the work session.

Councilman Ascolese asked that the Ordinances be looked at to agree with the Masterplan.

- Borough Engineer Report

Evan Jacobs reported that 13 Inlets is in need of repairs, the estimated cost for all will be about \$200,000. 3 Inlets are quite large the rest are 5x5 inlets. In coordinating with Michael Neglia and Robert Tracy, Mr. Evan suggested that the big inlet that is being repaired on Maple Street can tie in with the Oak street project. A property owner from Chestnut Street requesting new drainage on his property because of flooding and ponding and he proposed a connection to the back of one of the inlets and, is willing to work with the borough to rebuild the inlet instead of going out to bid. If that gets approved he would have to build it to the same standards as the borough as far as specifications for public bidding. Mr. Rooney asked if there were no inlets currently. Mr. Brizzolara asked if they were the storm drain culverts and how many Inlets were being repaired. Mr. Brizzolara asked if this would be a capital fund project or operating fund. Mr. Rooney responded that it would be in capital budget for next year. Mr. Evan stated that they were recently authorized to start work for the Kennedy Field lighting project. Mr. Ascolese asked how the lighting works, with shutting off when the fields are not being used. Mr. Evan replied that it is a timer could be set by many ways.

Councilman Scott mentioned the Knights of Columbus will be soliciting contributions for Handicapped Children in Norwood, and asked Mr. Fede to verify that a permit is not required to solicit, but criteria will be followed. Discussed with the police chief who suggested a few safety measures.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Annie Hausmann 71 Briarwood asked about the Gun Violence resolution. Ms. Hausmann wanted clarification on the Blanch Avenue clear cutting and asked what can be done to avoid issues like this. Gino Tessaro commented that there is an Ordinance in place. Ms. Hausmann discussed the sidewalks that was removed on Briarwood and never replaced.

Richard Lubitz 29 Carter Street discussed the CSX railroad crossing and asked if anyone has contacted them about the railroad tracks being in very poor Condition. Mr. stated that there is stream that runs by his house that floods his property.

Maryanne Orrechio ,401 D'Ercole Court inquired about the status of 521-525 Livingston street project and questioned why a representative was not present to give an update. Mr. Ascolese asked Mr. Tessaro for an update, he reported that work is being done every day. Mr. Brizzolara asked if there is anything that can be done to get the project complete. Mr. Foschino asked what if the borough can do to make them build it faster. The laws changed after Sandy hurricane whereby there are no time frame for a project to be built. Mr. Brizzolara asked how

the taxes were being billed? Was it by assessment or vacant land. Mr. Foschino suggested the borough have a welcome packet for new residents with Ordinances and rules and regulations of the borough. Ms. Orrechio asked about the Bocchino property. Mr. Brizzolara asked Mr. Tessaro to look into application.

CLOSED SESSION

Approval of Resolution 19:107 Authorizing the Council to proceed in Closed Session Formal action may be taken upon reconvening in open session.

Attorney/Client Communication and Tax Appeal Litigation

Motion: Brizzolara

Second: Councilman Scott

All Ayes

ADJOURNMENT

With no discussions to come before the Council, Council President Ascolese adjourned the meeting at 8:23PM

Respectfully submitted

Laura Borchers RMC/CMR
Borough Clerk