

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 7:06 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
Councilman
Councilwoman
Council President
Councilman

James P. Barsa
Frank Marino
Marianne Orecchio
Tom Brizzolara
Joseph Ascolese

Absent:

Councilman
Councilman

Allen Rapaport
Barry Scott

Also Present:

Borough Attorney
Neglia Engineering
CFO/Treasurer

Andrew Fede
Anthony Kurus
Judith Curran

Mayor Barsa pointed out the fire exits.

Consent Agenda:

Mayor Barsa reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda and asked if any Council Member wished to remove an item. There being no request he called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following items:

Approval of the following Resolutions:

- 16:80 Memorializing the granting of relief from Chapter 120-3 of the Code of the Borough of Norwood to permit the installation of a 6-foot fence to Jonathan and Ann Arnold, 92 Mohawk Avenue
- 16:81 Memorializing the hiring of Florence Savoye, 100 Martha Road, Harrington Park, NJ as Technical Assistant and Planning and Zoning Board Secretary

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

Items for Discussion:

Request for Vacation of Penfield Street

Mayor Barsa questioned Mr. Renaud, Construction Official, if there were any outstanding violations with the two properties that adjoin Penfield Street. Mr. Renaud responded that there were none. He was asked about the trailer that is parked along the railroad tracks. Mr. Renaud informed that he had spoken with Mr. Ghia regarding the trailer and that if Mr. Ghia did not remove it by Wednesday, May 4, 2016 he would issue a violation notice. When questioned regarding the noncompliance, the governing body was informed that should Mr. Ghia not comply he would be issued a fine in the amount of \$500.00 with an additional fine of \$100/day for noncompliance.

A discussion took place regarding the condition of the property adjoining Penfield Street. At this time Mr. William Falkenstern, 799 Blanch Avenue was invited to address the governing body. Mr. Falkenstern explained that he recently purchased the property on Blanch Avenue. He said that he intends to renovate the existing structure and clean up the property. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the Antique Store and the tenant's noncompliance with the zoning ordinances. Mr. Falkenstern assured the governing body that would be addressed and rectified. Mr. Falkenstern said that he is presently in the process of installing a fence along the property line, but he would like to extend that fence into the portion of Penfield that would become his property.

A question was raised regarding the fence presently in the Borough's right of way that is in the rear of the Goddard School. The governing body was informed that a resolution was approved in 2005 that authorized a Right of Way Agreement between the Borough and Mr. Ghia to allow the school to construct and maintain a fence in the right of way. Additional research into this Agreement failed to produce a signed document. No member of the governing body who was serving in 2005 could remember why the street was not vacated at that time. It was agreed that before moving forward with the vacation of Penfield Street, the governing body would like to meet with all of the affected property owners to obtain their assurances that the property would be cleaned up and properly maintained. The Borough Clerk was instructed to send a letter to all of the property owners inviting them to the May 25, 2016 Work Session to continue this discussion.

Review of Fence Ordinance Revisions 2016

Mr. Fede reviewed the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to address fences with the governing body. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the governing body to place this ordinance on the agenda for introduction at the May 11, 2016 meeting.

Revisions to Chapter 164 Licensing Outdoor Cafes

Mr. Fede reviewed his letter dated April 15, 2016 regarding the licensing of outdoor cafes and suggested that the ordinance be amended to add any establishments that were granted permission for outdoor cafes by the planning or zoning boards. It was the consensus of the governing body to have Mr. Fede prepare the amended ordinance for introduction at the May 11, 2016 meeting with the exception of Mr. Ascolese who abstained.

Discussion NJ DOT Safe Routes to School Grant Application

Ms. McMackin reported the Borough's applications for the 2016 NJDOT Safe Routes to School grants were denied. After a discussion, it was the consensus of the governing body that all applications be reconsidered in the 2017 grant program.

Northvale's request to join shared services agreement between Norwood and Harrington Park

Mayor Barsa announced that he was tabling discussion on this matter at this time.

Borough Engineer Report:

Anthony Kurus, from Neglia Engineering presented the Engineer's Monthly Report in the absence of Mr. Kaufman.

Mr. Kurus reported that we are awaiting the delivery of the lights for Livingston Street Phase III, which were ordered approximately three (3) weeks ago adding that the striping will be done shortly. He continued that negotiations for the generator are scheduled; the plans and specifications for Oak Street are complete, with funding being awaited. The easement for Oak Street is being worked on, and should be discussed in closed session.

Borough Attorney Report:

Mr. Fede reported having items for discussion in closed session.

Administrator's Report:

Ms. McMackin explained that the lights for Livingston Street were ordered after the pre-construction meeting with the hope that the Borough's order would be processed in a timelier manner.

Mr. Marino asked if the developer of the Cost Cutters site has plans to remove the large pile of rubble. Ms. McMackin said that a complaint was filed today, but cannot confirm that Mr. Renaud received it in time to make an inspection. At this time, due to a conflict, Mr. Fede excused himself and left the room. Mr. Marino wants the developer to come to a meeting and address the Council. Mayor Barsa explained that we can send a letter inviting him to a meeting and then request Mr. Regan, Conflict Counsel to attend. Mayor Barsa has asked Ms. McMackin to send a letter inviting Mr. Daibes to the May 25, 2016 Work Session.

Ms. McMackin reported that bids for the Riverside Cooperative Road Resurfacing Program were opened and Northvale will be awarding the Master Contract at their next regular meeting. Following the signing of the master contract, Norwood will be able to award their portion of the program in the amount of \$406,236.75. The Borough will be able to repave all streets on their paving list as well as the Tri-Plex. Mayor Barsa said he had received a complaint from Chief Krapels regarding residents parking behind the DPW building and blocking the fuel tanks. He has requested that the Borough look into fencing the area to prevent any parking in the lots after hours.

General Public Comment:

Steven Whaley, 360 14th Street, asked the council to be as passionate with the Dabies/Cost Cutter property as they are with the Falkenstern/Ghia property.

Chief Krapels was asked if there has been a decrease in motor vehicle accidents following the recent parking improvements on Livingston Street. Chief Krapels responded that there has been a reduction in the number of accidents especially with cars exiting the 7-11 store.

Mrs. Orecchio motioned, seconded by Mr. Brizzolara to approve Resolution 16:82 to authorize the governing body to proceed into closed session for the purpose of discussing pending and potential litigation as well as attorney client privilege. On the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted for the motion. Mayor Barsa announced that formal action may be taken upon returning to open session.

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Mayor Barsa reconvened the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Mr. Brizzolara motioned, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to approve Resolution 16:83 authorizing settlement of tax appeals of Nicholas and Lucy Bochi for years 2015 and 2016. On the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted for the motion.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 8:49 P.M. was made by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lorraine L. McMackin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Administrator/Clerk