

Borough of Norwood
Work Session Minutes
February 22, 2017

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

Councilwoman Orecchio called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Orecchio 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:

Councilwoman	Marianne Orecchio
Councilman	Thomas Brizzolara
Councilman	Joseph Ascolese
Councilman	John Rooney

Also Present:

Borough Attorney	Andrew Fede
Borough Engineer	Evan Jacobs
Chief Financial Officer	Judith Curran
Chief of Police	Jeffrey Krapels

Absent:

Mayor	James Barsa
Council President	Barry Scott

Councilwoman Orecchio pointed out the fire exits.

Review of the 2017 Municipal Budget:

The governing body reviewed the 2017 preliminary budget work sheets. It was noted by the Borough Administrator that if this proposed budget was approved, the average taxpayer in Norwood would see a \$90 increase in their municipal budget. The average assessed home in Norwood for 2016 was \$549,264. The CFO informed that a tax point is \$118,540. After review the following items were requested for the March 1, 2017 special meeting:

1. Copies of the Appropriation Transfer Resolutions for 2016
2. That the Budget Work Sheet reflect actual charges for O/E for 2016 with reserved shown as well
3. A Surplus/Fund Balance Analysis be prepared for review from 2014 to present

The Council will meet with department heads on Wednesday, March 8, 2017 to discuss the capital budget and budget introduction is set for Wednesday, March 22, 2017.

Proclamation:

Councilwoman Orecchio read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Borough of Norwood stand firmly committed to promoting reading as the catalyst for our students’ future academic success, their preparation for America’s jobs of the future, and their ability to compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Norwood has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education of our youth, grounded in the principle that educational investment is the key to the community’s well-being and long-term quality of life; and

WHEREAS, *NEA’s Read Across America*, a national celebration of Dr. Seuss’s 113th birthday on March 2, 2017, promotes reading and adult involvement in the education of our community’s students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Norwood calls on the citizens of the Borough to assure that every child is in a safe place reading together with a caring adult on March 2, 2017.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body enthusiastically endorses NEA’S “Read Across America” and recommits our community to engage in programs and activities to make America’s children the best readers in the world.

Approval of Resolutions:

17:58 Consenting to Agreement Designating Acting Municipal Court Administrator between Norwood and Haworth

17:59 Approving Appointment of Clark J. Heffernan to Norwood Fire Co. No. 1

Motion of approval was made by Mr. Rooney, seconded by Mr. Ascolese and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Items for Discussion:

Borough Attorney’s Report – Mr. Fede reported that the Fire Department has approved the lease agreement that he prepared. The next step in finalizing the agreement is for the governing body to approve by ordinance the execution of the agreement. Mr. Fede will have an ordinance prepared for introduction at the March 8, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Borough Engineer’s Report – See attachment “A”.

Administrator’s Report - Mrs. McMackin reported as follows:

The County is requesting a letter granting permission for the Mosquito Commission to perform fly over spraying for mosquitoes during the summer months. This is an

annual event that Norwood has approved in the past. It was the consensus of the governing body to send the letter granting permission.

Mrs. McMackin reminded the governing body that the Annual JIF Kickoff Breakfast will be held at 8:30 a.m. on March 7, 2017 at Seasons. If any member of the governing body wishes to go they should let her know so she may RSVP for them.

General Public Comment:

Motion to open this portion of the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Rooney with all Council Members voting in favor of the motion.

Paul Haberman, 41 Tappan Road informed that he is presently finalizing the amendment to the shade tree ordinance and will be ready to present to the governing body in April. He asked if the Borough had passed a resolution supporting the “Rails to Trails” that many other towns have done. He was informed that the resolution was approved at the February meeting. He reminded that the Earth Fair is Saturday, April 22nd in Closter. He thanked the governing body.

Allen Rapaport, 844 Hemlock Court, welcomed back the Clerk/Administrator. He requested a copy of the preliminary budget sheets that the governing body is reviewing. He said that with the increase in the appropriation to the Library the governing body may want to look at the number of man hours the DPW spends on cleaning the Library and the actual cost to the Borough. He suggested that the Library no longer provide that service as a way to save money. The governing body was in agreement and requested that the Clerk/Administrator reach out to the Library for a copy of their latest audit as well as their operating budget.

No one else wishing to be heard, motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mr. Rooney. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 7:45 PM was made by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Ascolese with all Council Members present voting in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Administrator/Clerk