

Borough of Norwood
Work Session Minutes
June 28, 2017

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

Council President Scott called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

Council President Scott 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:

Council President	Barry Scott
Councilwoman	Marianne Orecchio
Councilman	Thomas Brizzolara
Councilman	Joseph Ascolese
Councilman	John Rooney

Also Present:

Borough Attorney	Andrew Fede
Borough Engineer	Evan Jacobs

Absent:

Mayor	James Barsa
Councilman	Frank Marino
Chief Financial Officer	Judith Curran

Council President Scott pointed out the fire exits.

Consent Agenda:

Council President Scott asked if any Council Member wished to remove any item from the Consent Agenda. No Council Member wishing to be heard, Council President Scott asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following items:

- 17:109 Appointing the Municipal Representative for the Open Space Trust Municipal Program Regional
- 17:110 Appointing the Municipal Representative for the Community Development Regional Committee
- 17:111 Approving the renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption and Plenary Retail Distribution Licenses in the Borough of Norwood for 2017-2018

The motion was made by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Rooney and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Approval of Resolution 17:112 - approving the renewal of Norwood American Legion Post 272, Inc. Liquor License for 2017-2018

Motion of approval was made by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion with the exception of Council President Scott who abstained.

Public Hearing of Ordinance 17:07:

At this time, Mrs. McMackin reported that the publication for Ordinance No. 17:07 had an incorrect adoption date. Therefore, Mr. Fede explained that the Public Hearing would be held this evening and continued at the next meeting scheduled for July 12, 2017.

Council President Scott asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing of Ordinance 17:07 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO FIX SALARIES, WAGES, AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF NORWOOD, COUNTY OF BERGEN, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY" AND SETTING FORTH THE METHOD OF PAYING SALARIES AND ANY OTHER ORDINANCES AMENDING SAID ORDINANCE

The motion was made by Mr. Rooney and seconded by Mr. Ascolese with all Council Members present voting in the affirmative.

Allen Rapaport, 844 Hemlock Court, questioned the exact increase amounts for those non-union employees covered under this ordinance. Mrs. McMackin explained as follows:

Section 1:

A: All reflect a 2% increase

B: All except the Magistrate, Prosecutor and Tax Assessor reflect a 2% increase

Construction Office: Other than the \$1.00 per year for Messrs. Herman and Renaud, all reflect a 2% increase

Bureau of Fire Prevention: All reflect a 2% increase

Board of Health: Secretary - \$20.00/hr.; Registrar, Deputy Registrar and Meetings - No increase

Recreation: Only Part-time Recreation Director reflects a 2% increase

Section 2: no amendment

Section 3: Retroactive date to January 1, 2017

Section 4: 24 pays per year rather than 25

Sections 5 through 11 – no amendment

No one else wishing to be heard, motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion. Council President Scott announced that the Public Hearing on this ordinance would be continued to the July 12, 2017 Public Meeting.

Items for Discussion:

Review of proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 177 of the Code of the Borough of Norwood titled Property Maintenance – Mr. Scott reported that currently the Borough does not have an ordinance prohibiting parking on grass. He continued that Chief Krapels, Mr. Fede and the Administrator/Clerk investigated this matter and the Borough Attorney prepared the proposed ordinance.

During discussion Mr. Scott confirmed that no one would be grandfathered from adhering to this ordinance. It also was the consensus of the Council that grass pavers be an exception to Section 3 and that the ordinance be introduced at the July 12, 2017 Public Meeting.

Update on outstanding Property Maintenance Issues - Mr. Ascolese voiced his opinion that this report should be more detailed showing when the warning was issued, when the problem was abated, and if not, when a summons was issued.

During discussion, Mrs. McMackin noted that storage of any type is prohibited in the light industrial zone. Since some members of the Council considered this to be a hardship on residents, the Borough Attorney will investigate what other town ordinances mandate.

Mrs. Orecchio reported observing an attractive nuisance at the new construction area on Railroad Avenue. She explained that ladders are left overnight attached to the building going up to the second floor. She continued that she called the Building Department on three occasions with no resolve. Mr. Scott asked that this be further investigated.

Finalize capital purchases for bond ordinance – Mr. Scott requested that in the absence of the Mayor, this matter be postponed to the next Work Session (July 26, 2017).

Borough Attorney Report – Mr. Fede advised that he had a matter for Closed Session.

Borough Engineer Report – Mr. Jacobs referred to his monthly report (Attachment “A”). He noted that the Borough did not receive the NJDOT grant for the Broad Street Bridge improvements. Mr. Ascolese questioned whether the life span of this bridge could be determined and Mr. Jacobs advised a construction analysis would be very costly without guaranteed funding. Mr. Jacobs continued that the deck was replaced and the abutments reinforced. Mrs. McMackin explained that decision was

made to go ahead and bond for this project to be bid sometime in January of next year, possibly with the Oak Street project. She continued that the \$1.9M being borrowed this year is from last year.

Administrator's Report – Mrs. McMackin reported having an item for Closed Session. She referred to a letter received from the Meadowlands Conservation Trust regarding the Fox Hill Woods property that was deeded to them and the need for better upkeep, including restricting the use of AV's. Mrs. McMackin suggested that the Environmental Commission look at this area for their cleanup projects.

Public Comment:

Motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Brizolara and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Allen Rapaport, 844 Hemlock Court, referred to the discussion regarding property maintenance issues and recommended the governing body consider mandating that a construction gate be erected around every construction project. He also referred to the discussion regarding storage in the light industrial zone and urged the Council to be mindful of potential hazardous fire conditions. Mr. Rapaport suggested that Mr. Walter Deptuch's help be sought regarding a paper trail for property maintenance issues. He reminded that Mr. Deptuch is not only a member of the Planning Board but the Construction Official in the City of Englewood.

Mr. Paul Haberman, 481 Tappan Road, thanked the Mayor and Council for their support of the Northern Valley Green Way Project.

Mr. Andrew Mikesh, 50 Sherwood Road, Tenafly, also thanked the Mayor and Council for their support of the Northern Valley Green Way Project, reporting that the responses from the area towns have been very positive. Council President Scott thanked Mr. Mikesh and his committee for their efforts.

No one else wishing to be heard, Council President Scott asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public. Motion was made by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

Closed Session:

Council President Scott asked for a motion to approve Resolution 17:113 authorizing the Governing Body to convene into closed session to discuss personnel and pending litigation. Formal action may be taken upon returning to open session. The motion was made by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Ascolese and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

At 8:00 PM Council President Scott reconvened the meeting.

Motion to appoint Mr. William McGuire as temporary Construction Official for the Borough was made by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mr. Rooney. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion. A Resolution memorializing this action will be prepared for the July 12, 2017 Public Meeting.

At this time Mr. Rooney questioned who would be providing the update for the Livingston Street construction. Mrs. McMackin voiced her opinion that it would be Mr. McGuire. She added that the two ladies manning the construction office (Mrs. Savoy and Mrs. Volpitta) have stepped up to the plate and are doing an excellent job.

Mr. Ascolese stressed that the sharing of information with the governing body regarding the Livingston Street construction is very important. He voiced his displeasure that there is no difference in the conduct of a Work Session as opposed to a Regular meeting and provided his opinion that the Work Session should be more informal with the governing body not seated at the dais.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 8:11 PM was made by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mr. Rooney with all Council Members present voting in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Administrator/Clerk