

**BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING
OF MARCH 7, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER AT 8:45 AM

MAYOR BARSА STATED:

Adequate notice of this meeting was given to the press and posted as required. Date and time of this meeting was legally given as required by the "Open Public Meetings Act". This notice is on file with the Municipal Clerk and posted on the bulletin board. Minutes of this meeting will be made available to the public upon completion of typing and proofreading by the Municipal Clerk.

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:

Mayor	James Barsa
Councilman	John Nicolai
Council President	Marianne Orecchio
Councilman	Barry Scott
Councilman	Ed Condoleo

ABSENT:

Councilman	Frank Marino
Councilman	Allen Rapaport

ALSO PRESENT:

CFO	Kunjesh Trivedi
Auditor	Steve Wielkotz

2011 BUDGET:

Mr. Wielkotz distributed a budget worksheet, Attachment "A" showing the total appropriations for 2010 and 2011. Based on the appropriation and revenue numbers given to Mr. Wielkotz the average home assessed at \$549,305 will see an increase in their municipal taxes by \$73.18. This is a 2.86% increase over last year. Mr. Wielkotz informed that as a result of the Re-assessment, the average assessed home in Norwood dropped from

\$713,342 to \$549,305. There was some discussion regarding the rent the Library will be paying to the Borough in 2011. A letter, Attachment "B" was circulated. It was the consensus of the Council that this letter had not been received by the Borough. The letter requests funding in the amount of \$460,122 - a decrease of \$40,317 from last year and the annual rent will decrease from \$182,000 to \$141,683. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the rent payment and how much money the Library needs to operate. Councilman Scott offered to reach out to the Library regarding their funding and rent payment requests to get the correct number. If the Borough were to lower the amount of rent in the budget the average tax payer would see an increase on the municipal portion of the taxes of \$91.86. This amounts to a 2.84% increase from last year. There was a discussion regarding how much surplus was generated and how much was being used this year. Mr. Wielkocz informed that the Borough generated approximately \$500,000 in surplus in 2010 and the Borough would be using \$490,000 in this budget. Mr. Wielkocz reviewed the levy cap and what was inside and outside of the cap. With this year's appropriations, the Borough is under the levy cap by \$100,000 which can be banked for future use. The Council discussed additional cost savings measures such as sale of borough property and increasing fees. It was agreed that the Council would continue looking for areas to increase revenue. The date for introduction of the budget was set for Wednesday, March 30, 2011 at 8:00 p.m. and the budget hearing date will be Wednesday, April 26, 2011 at 8:00 p.m.

It was moved by Mrs. Orecchio, seconded by Mr. Scotts to open the meeting to the public for comment. All Council Members present voted for the motion. As no member of the public wished to be heard, it was moved by Mrs. Orecchio, seconded by Mr. Condoleo to close the meeting to the public.

There being no additional business, it was moved by Mr. Condoleo and seconded by Mr. Scott to adjourn the meeting. All Council Members present were in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lorraine McMackin, RMC, CMC
Municipal Clerk