

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

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING
OF MARCH 12, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER AT 5:40 PM

MAYOR BARSA 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	Tom Brizzolara
Councilman	Frank Marino
Councilwoman	Marianne Orecchio
Council President	Barry Scott
Councilman	Allen Rapaport
Councilman	Joseph Ascolese

ALSO PRESENT:

CFO	Kunjesh Trivedi
Auditor	Steve Wielkocz

2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mr. Wielkocz reviewed the proposed budget worksheet, and explained that if the budget is introduced as it is the Borough will see a 1.1% increase over last year's budget. This would equate to an increase of \$57.00 for the average tax payer. The average home assessed in Norwood is \$549,852. There was an increase of \$62,000 on the appropriation side of the budget over last year's expenditures. The Borough increased its surplus in 2013 to \$1,100,000 from \$876,000 for 2012. This budget will use \$400,000 in surplus to offset the appropriations. The goal is to return the \$400,000 in surplus for next year's budget. To date the 2013 Budget has \$847,000 left unexpended. Mr. Wielkocz is sure that number will drop with bills outstanding. Mr. Wielkocz

commended the governing body for their fiscal prudence in making the hard decisions when they had to in 2009. Since, that time, the Borough has seen an increase in their revenues while maintaining minimal increases to the spending side of the budget. Certain expenditures are beyond the control of the governing body such as pensions and medical benefits. It was the consensus of the governing body to introduce the budget this evening at the Regular Meeting with the budget hearing scheduled for April 9, 2014.

It was moved by Mr. Rapaport, seconded by Mr. Scott 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 Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Rapaport to close the meeting to the public. All Council Members present voted for the motion.

There being no additional business, it was moved by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mr. Scott to adjourn the meeting. All Council Members present were in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lorraine McMackin, RMC, CMC
Municipal Clerk