

BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
PUBLIC MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2016

The Public Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Norwood was held at Borough Hall on the above date.

Mayor Barsa called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM and led those in attendance in a salute to the American Flag and asked for a moment of silence in remembrance.

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, filing a copy in the Borough Clerk’s office and posting on the bulletin board.”

Roll Call:	Mayor Barsa	Present
	Councilman Marino	Present
	Councilwoman Orecchio	Present
	Council President Brizzolara	Present
	Councilman Ascolese	Present
	Councilman Rapaport	Present
	Councilman Scott	Present

Also Present:	Andrew Fede	Borough Attorney
	Evan Jacobs	Borough Engineer

Mayor Barsa pointed out the fire exits and requested that all cell phones be turned off or to vibrate.

Mayor Barsa wished all in attendance a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Hanukah.

General Public Comment:

Mayor Barsa said he would entertain a motion to open the meeting to the public for general comment. It was moved by Mr. Rapaport and seconded by Mr. Scott to open the meeting to the public. All Council Members present voted for the motion.

There being no member of the public wishing to be heard, a motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Scott and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Oath of Office to Probationary Police Officer Marc D. Esposito

Mayor Barsa issued the Oath of Office to Police Officer Marc D. Esposito. The Oath was followed by a round of applause from the audience.

Presentations:

Mayor Barsa and Mayor Paul Hoelscher, Harrington Park presented Certificates of Achievement to the members of the Norwood Raiders Junior Football Team for winning the Super Bowl and having an undefeated season. Cupcakes were served to the boys following the presentations.

Mayor Barsa invited Mr. Mitch Rosenthal, Norwood Runner's Association as well as Councilmen Ascolese and Brizzolara to present checks to the various organizations that benefited from the Annual 5 K Run. Mr. Rosenthal informed that this is the 12th year the organization has held the 5K Run and they have been able to donate over \$216,000 to charities. He presented Norwood Fire Department, EMS and Library with checks for \$3,000. Mayor Barsa thanked Mr. Rosenthal for all of his efforts and wished him continued success.

Correspondence:

Mayor Barsa read the following correspondence into the record:

1. Police Department Monthly Report
2. DPW Monthly Report
3. Board of Health Monthly Report
4. Building Department Monthly Report
5. 2016 Environmental Joint Insurance Fund (EJIF) Audit

Mayor Barsa informed that anyone wishing a copy of the correspondence could request it from the Borough Clerk.

Consent Agenda:

Mayor Barsa reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda and asked if any Council Member wished to remove an item. Mr. Scott requested that Resolution 16:190 be removed for clarification and Mr. Marino requested Resolution 16:196 also be removed. Mayor Barsa said he would entertain a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

Approval of the minutes of the November 9, 2016 Regular Meeting, September 28 and October 26, 2016 Work/Executive Meeting

Approval of the following Resolutions:

- 16:187 Authorizing the payment of bills and vouchers in the amount of \$1,927,764.59
- 16:188 Confirming the Appointment of Marc D. Esposito as a Probationary Police Officer effective December 15, 2016
- 16:189 Approving the appointment John O'Sullivan to Norwood Fire Department No. 1
- 16:191 Appointment of Nicholas Hargrove as an Explorer for Norwood Fire Department No. 1

Consent Agenda Continued:

- 16:192 Authorizing the Tax Collector to cancel taxes for Block 38, Lot 3 a result of a donation of property from the property owners
- 16:193 Authorizing the Tax Collector to cancel 2015 tax overpayment on various properties
- 16:194 Approving a Budget Appropriation Transfer in the amount of \$2,000.00
- 16:195 Authorizing a Refund for a Fourth Quarter Tax Overpayment to J & J Song, 97 Oak Street
- 16:197 Approving the Appointment of Benedict Min as an Alternate Crossing Guard for the Norwood Police Department

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

Following a discussion regarding the Change Order for the Riverside Cooperative Paving Program, it was moved by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Rapaport to approve Resolution 16:190. On the roll call vote, all Council Members present voted for the motion.

Following a discussion regarding Resolution 16:196 Approving and Authorizing Execution of a Developer's Agreement with Alliotts Construction Inc. it was moved by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to table this resolution until the December 28, 2016 meeting at which time the Developer will be invited to attend the meeting to answer questions regarding ownership and deed filing and following proper procedure. It was also requested that the employees in the Construction Office be Rice Noticed to be in attendance as well to answer questions regarding office procedure. All Council Members present voted for the motion, with the exception of Mr. Marino who abstained.

Public Hearing of Ordinance 16:24

Mayor Barsa stated he had before him an ordinance for Council action entitled:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 233 titled "Zoning" in the Code of the Borough of Norwood regulating Soil Movement

It was moved by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mr. Ascolese to open the meeting to the public for comments concerning this ordinance. All Council Members present voted for the motion. There being no member of the public wishing to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Rapaport to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Rapaport to approve Ordinance 16:24. On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Marino, Orecchio, Brizzolara, Ascolese, Rapaport and Scott
Nays: None

Public Hearing of Ordinance 16:24 Continued:

There being six (6) ayes and no nays Ordinance 16:24 was approved and will take effect upon publication in the Record.

Public Hearing of Ordinance 16:25

Mayor Barsa stated he had before him an ordinance for Council action entitled:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 232 of the Code of the Borough of Norwood Titled "Subdivision of Land" regarding subdivision fees

It was moved by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mr. Ascolese to open the meeting to the public for comments concerning this ordinance. All Council Members present voted for the motion. There being no member of the public wishing to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Ascolese to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Mr. Rapaport, seconded by Mr. Brizzolara to approve Ordinance 16:25. On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Marino, Orecchio, Brizzolara, Ascolese, Rapaport and Scott
Nays: None

There being six (6) ayes and no nays Ordinance 16:25 was approved and will take effect upon publication in the Record.

Public Hearing of Ordinance 16:26

Mayor Barsa stated he had before him an ordinance for Council action entitled:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 233 titled "Zoning" in the Code of the Borough of Norwood regarding permitted encroachments and checklists

It was moved by Mr. Rapaport and seconded by Mr. Ascolese to open the meeting to the public for comments concerning this ordinance. All Council Members present voted for the motion. There being no member of the public wishing to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Ascolese to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to approve Ordinance 16:26. On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Marino, Orecchio, Brizzolara, Ascolese, Rapaport and Scott
Nays: None

There being six (6) ayes and no nays Ordinance 16:26 was approved and will take effect upon publication in the Record.

Committee Reports:

Councilman Marino:

Home for the Holiday's Parade:

Mr. Marino informed that line up for the parade will begin at 4:30 with the parade stepping off at 5:00 PM. Lineup will be on Somerset Avenue and the parade will travel down Kensington Avenue to Summit Street to Hudson Avenue and then Livingston Street. The final destination of the parade is the Fire House on Broadway where there will be a tree lighting, music and hot chocolate.

Councilwoman Orecchio

Board of Health:

Mrs. Orecchio submitted the Board of Health report for November, Attachment "A".

Board of Education:

Mrs. Orecchio informed that the Norwood Public School Board of Education conducted a forensic audit of their computer equipment.

Councilman Brizzolara:

Personnel Committee:

Mr. Brizzolara said the committee met prior to this meeting and would like to address hiring of additional personnel with the governing body in closed session following this meeting.

Councilman Ascolese:

Department of Public Works:

Mr. Ascolese submitted the Road Department's monthly report for the record, Attachment "B". He commended the department on the excellent job they did with leaf removal. Mr. Ascolese said that he received a complement from the Norwood Senior Citizen Club on what a fabulous job Mr. Rob Tracy did while driving the seniors to their Christmas Party.

Councilman Rapaport:

Planning Board:

Mr. Rapaport reported that a Master Plan Committee met recently to review revisions to the Master Plan. He said he felt the meeting was productive and is hopeful that the new Master Plan will be ready in early 2017. He informed that the Board met and approved an application for a subdivision on Blanch Avenue that met with the neighbor's approval.

Mr. Rapaport commented on a dinner that took place during the League of Municipalities Convention to which he and his wife were not invited. He expressed feelings of hurt for being excluded.

Councilman Scott

Building Department:

Mr. Scott submitted the monthly report for the record, attachment "C" and informed that the Department collected 50% more in fees this year from the previous year. He wished all in attendance a Merry Christmas and a Happy Hanukkah.

General Public Comment:

It was moved by Mr. Brizzolara and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to open the meeting to the public for comment. All Council Members present voted for the motion.

Members of Boy Scout Troop 120 were in attendance. Mike, the Troop Leader explained that the boys were working on a merit badge that required they attend a government meeting. Mayor Barsa asked if anyone had a question regarding the proceedings.

Ms. Liz Giampaglia, 430 Summit Street asked the Mayor to explain some of the legal language that was used during the meeting. Mayor Barsa explained what a Developer's Agreement and Performance Bond were and why the Borough enters into such agreements. Mrs. Orecchio explained how the Mayor and Council meetings are planned and what type of business is discussed. Mayor Barsa suggested that the Troop contact the Environmental Commission to discuss possible projects as well as the American Legion.

There being no other member of the public wishing to be heard, a motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Rapaport and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Mr. Brizzolara questioned the process for when a school wants to expand its premises. He said that a resident had contacted him regarding the new addition at the former Holy Family School that is now occupied by the Northern Valley Board of Education for their special education. The resident was never notified that a building was going to be erected on the property and they feel that they would have liked to have known about it and had some input into the structure. It was explained to Mr. Brizzolara that boards of education are not required to seek local approval for construction, but must go before the State Board of Education. The local government entities do not have a say in what is built or how it is built. It was suggested that the Northern Valley Board of Education be contacted to meet with the Council Liaison and the resident to discuss possible buffers to the area. Mr. Brizzolara said he would reach out to the resident to see if they would like to meet prior to a meeting being scheduled.

Closed Session:

It was moved by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Rapaport to approve Resolution 16:198 authorizing the governing body to convene into closed session to discuss hiring of personnel. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion and the meeting was closed to the public.

Upon returning to open session, it was moved by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Rapaport to approve the hiring of Mirella Hernandez as Administrative Assistant to the Clerk/Administrator at a starting salary of \$23/hour for 35 hours/week. On the roll call, all Council Members present voted for the motion with the exception of Mr. Scott who voted no.

Adjournment:

It was moved by Mr. Ascolese seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to adjourn. All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion and the meeting was adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Borough Clerk