

Borough of Norwood
Work Session
January 28, 2009

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

Mayor Barsa called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM.

Mayor Barsa led the Council and those in attendance in a salute to the American flag and asked for a moment of silence.

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 Press Journal.

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:

Mayor	James Barsa
Councilman	Tom Brizzolara
Councilwoman	Marianne Orecchio
Councilman	Barry Scott (8:15 PM)
Council President	Anthony Guercio
Councilman	Allen Rapaport
Councilman	Edward Condoleo

ALSO PRESENT:

Borough Attorney	Andrew Fede
Borough Engineers	Matthew Neuls
	Brian Intendola

Items for Discussion:

Summit Street Traffic Study

Mr. Neuls reminded that due to the opposition raised by many residents regarding the raised intersections, Neglia Engineering was asked to examine other options. Mr. Neuls introduced Mr. Intendola who explained that due to changes in NJ Department of Transportation rules and regulations, a three-way stop sign by the school would now be permitted. He noted that another option would be to have speed humps at the following locations: one at the north end of Summit Street; a second on Summit Street south of Hudson Avenue and Broadway; and a third on High Street between Hudson Avenue and Rockland Avenue.

Mr. Intendola referred to photographs of speed humps in area towns; Lydecker Street, Englewood-installation is approximately five years old; Upper Mount Avenue, Montclair-new installation that has non-mandatory signage and mandatory striping; Canterbury Avenue, North Arlington-new installation. He explained that speed humps provide more speed reduction than raised intersections. Mr. Itendola also reminded that according to the grant received from the NJ Department of Transportation for this project, a contract has to be awarded by September 2009.

At this time, Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public. The motion was made by Mrs. Orecchio, seconded by Mr. Brizzolara and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Craig Jacobs, 361 High Street, voiced opposition to both the raised intersections and speed humps and recommended more police enforcement.

Joseph Ascolese, 400 High Street, voiced agreement with Mr. Jacobs' comments and noted that speed humps installed on streets without curbs would result in cars being on lawns.

George Hertzberg, 24 Carter Street, advised that his street also experiences high speeding cars, voiced concern about the safety of children who sometimes play in the street or near the street, and agreed with the recommendations for increased policing.

No one else wishing to be heard, Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public. The motion was made by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mrs. Orrechio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Mayor Barsa advised that he would like more research regarding a three-way stop sign on Summit Street.

Clothing Bin update re Borough Attorney letter dated 01-21-09

Mr. Fede reviewed and explained the State Statute (40:48-2.61) that went into effect January 1, 2009 regarding the placement of clothing bins and the requirement to obtain a permit from the municipality. He advised that the Borough could only regulate the placement of a bin if determination is made that it would cause a safety hazard, i.e., within 100 yards of any place storing or selling fuel, or other flammable liquids or gases. Additionally, the permit is to be issued within thirty days of filing the permit.

There was discussion concerning the number of parking spaces an establishment is required to have according to its site plan. If the placement of bins reduced the required number, the permit application could be denied. It was the consensus of the Council that the Construction/Zoning Official would be the appropriate municipal official to enforce

this statute. Motion was made by Mr. Scott that the Borough Attorney be authorized to prepare the resolution designating the Construction/Zoning Officer as the municipal official to enforce the State statute and an ordinance amending the fee schedule to include the \$25.00 permit fee for action at the February 3, 2009 Public Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rapaport and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Kennedy Park War Memorial recommendation for award of contract

Mr. Neuls reminded that this project was bid in March, May and July of 2008 with unsuccessful results on all occasions. Therefore, in compliance with the Open Public Contracts Law, four contractors who previously bid were invited to participate in contract negotiations. Mr. Neuls explained that following the negotiations, revised prices were provided for the base bid as well as for alternate bids A, B & C. It is the Borough Engineer's recommendation that the contract be awarded to Let It Grow, Inc. in the amount of \$129,119.00. Following a brief discussion, motion was made by Mr. Guercio and seconded by Mr. Scott authorizing the Borough Attorney to prepare a Resolution awarding this contract to Let It Grow, Inc. in the amount of \$129,119.00 for approval either at the February 3, 2009 Public Meeting or February 11, 2009 Work Session. The motion was approved upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection Economic Recovery Program for 2009

Mr. Neuls explained Neglia Engineering's agreement for professional services for the upgrade of the Borough's Piermont Road and Brook Street Sewer Pumping Stations. He advised that the \$82,500.00 would include surveying, design, permitting, preparation of contract documents and bidding assistance. Mr. Neuls reported that this project would be in compliance with NJDEP's low interest loan program to fund municipal needs regarding the Drinking Water and Clean Water Act. He noted that the estimate for this project would be approximately \$1M.

There was discussion regarding the cost of the professional service proposal and the fact that there is no guarantee that the application will be approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Neuls was asked to speak with Mr. Neglia to see whether there could be a reduction in the fees for further discussion at the February 11, 2009 Work Session.

Elected Officials' Training Seminar on February 25, 2009 at Closter Borough Hall beginning at 6:30 PM

Mrs. McMackin reminded that this is a JIF sponsored seminar and that there is a premium reduction of \$250.00 for every elected official who attends this one-half hour to forty minute program. She noted that it is being held prior to a regularly scheduled Work Session and that she will enroll every member of the governing body.

At this time, Mayor Barsa explained that there has been difficulty scheduling basketball practices and that the Recreation Committee has an alternate plan to use the batting cage when indoor soccer is not scheduled. He explained that a draw back with this plan is the lack of bathrooms in this facility and the lack of heat in the football stand bathroom that is near the batting cage. The Recreation Committee has volunteered to install heat at their expense; however, since the Borough would pay the cost for the gas/electric, Mayor and Council permission is needed. Mayor Barsa asked that permission be given with the understanding that the Recreation Committee would obtain all the necessary permits and follow all Building Department guidelines. Motion authorizing the Recreation Committee to install heat in the football stand bathroom was made by Mr. Guercio, seconded by Mr. Scott and carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Borough Engineer Report

Mr. Neuls referred to the monthly report (Attachment "A") and highlighted the following items:

Kennedy Park War Memorial: Mr. Neuls advised that Sprung Memorial Group is waiting for confirmation for the names and spellings to be engraved on the monument. Mrs. McMackin reported that she would schedule a meeting for Tuesday evening February 3, 2009 at 7 PM with Messrs. Bocchino, Elling, Traudt and Judge Kaplan to finalize the list.

Mr. Rapaport referred to the Livingston Street Beautification Project and confirmed with Mr. Neuls that the layout plans include the improvement of Jay Street and that the drainage portion of the project has not been completed.

Borough Attorney Report

Mr. Fede advised that he had personnel and attorney/client matters to discuss in Closed Session.

Mrs. McMackin reported learning from AR James Media that they have issued a moratorium on construction for the next year and maybe longer as there is little demand for advertising in New Jersey. She advised that she would contact the NJ Department of Transportation to find out their requirements and possibly schedule a presentation.

At this time, motion was made by Mrs. Orecchio and seconded by Mr. Scott to open the meeting to the public.

Joseph Ascolese, 400 High Street, referred to the discussion regarding clothing bins confirming that very large bins are currently located in the Cost Cutters parking lot directly behind his property. He agreed with the previously made suggestion that when an application for a permit is made, the site plan be examined to determine whether there would still be sufficient spaces to comply with it after placement of the bins.

George Hertzberg, 40 Carter Street, noted that his wife has been appointed to the grants committee and hopes that the governing body will take advantage of her knowledge concerning grants.

Bernard Tuite, 327 High Street, Assistant Fire Chief, reported that the Fire Department Truck Committee will be working on specifications for a new truck for delivery in late 2011 or 2012 to replace the 1986 Hahn.

No one else wishing to be heard, motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

At 10:00 PM, Mayor Barsa asked for a motion approving Resolution 09:35 authorizing the Council to proceed in Closed Session to discuss personnel and attorney-client privilege matters. The motion was made by Mr. Rapaport, seconded by Mr. Guercio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

General Public Comment:

Mayor Barsa reconvened the meeting at 10:33 PM and asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public. The motion was made by Mr. Brizzolara, seconded by Mr. Condoleo and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present. No one wishing to be heard, motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Council President Guercio, seconded by Mr. Scott and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

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Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 10:35 PM was made by Mrs. Orrechio, seconded by Mr. Condoleo and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Administrator/Clerk

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