

Borough of Norwood
Work Session
July 28, 2010

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 8:00 PM.

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:

Councilman	Frank Marino (8:50 PM)
Councilwoman	Marianne Orecchio
Councilman	Barry Scott
Council President	Ed Condoleo
Councilman	John Nicolai

Absent:

Councilman	Allen Rapaport
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Also Present:

Borough Attorney	Andrew Fede
Borough Engineer	John Speer

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

Mayor Barsa announced that the President of the Norwood Library Board of Directors advised him that the Board reconsidered their position on the Public Question as to whether the Library should become a Municipal Library and was no longer in favor of it due to the financial hardship it would place on the Borough. Therefore, Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to rescind the question. The motion was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Mayor Barsa explained being informed by the Municipal Clerk that the renewal of the liquor license for Roger Wheat, Inc. d/b/a Holiday Liquors could be now be acted upon prior to the July 31 deadline. Therefore, motion to approve renewal for the 2010-2011

license term was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Mayor Barsa announced that the Third and Fourth Grade Girls Summer Recreation Basketball Team won their championship game. He also proudly announced that his daughter, Lauren, is a member of this winning team. The audience offered a round of applause.

Approval of Resolution 09:139 Approval of Raffle Licenses 10:14 and 10:15 for Norwood Fire Co. #1

Motion to approve Resolution 09:139 was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Public Hearing of Ordinance 10:10:

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

AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 164 TO THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORWOOD TO AUTHORIZE THE LICENSING OF OUTDOOR CAFES IN CERTAIN AREAS OF THE BOROUGH OF NORWOOD

It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio to open the meeting to the public for discussion on this ordinance.

George Hertzberg, 24 Carter Street, voiced his assumption that there would be no obstruction of pedestrian traffic and the Borough Attorney advised that the ordinance calls for a minimum of four (4) feet of unobstructed passageway.

Stu Bran, 101 Aspen Court, questioned when outdoor cafes would be permitted to operate. The Borough Attorney explained that the license would be valid for one season from April 1 to October 31 for renewal every year. He continued that the hours of operation would not extend beyond 12 Midnight on Thursday, Fridays and Saturdays; and not after 10 PM on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

No one else wishing to be heard, a motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present. A motion to adopt Ordinance 10:10 was made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Nicolai.

Ayes: Marino, Orecchio, Scott, Condoleo and Nicolai
Nays: None
Absent: Rapaport

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Ordinance 10:10 was approved. Mayor Barsa announced that the ordinance was finally adopted and will take effect upon publication in the Press Journal.

Items for Discussion:

Historic Preservation Committee to discuss Haring Cemetery – Judith Lamp, Vice Chair of the Committee, provided handouts outlining their recommendations to delineate the boundaries of the cemetery with a landscaping plan and cost estimates (Attachment A). She prioritized the items as follows: survey of the cemetery, construction of the wall to delineate the boundaries of the cemetery, placement of the corner markers that are being stored at the DPW. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that there be administrative supervision of the project and Messrs. Condoleo and Scott volunteered to be the project managers.

Robert Garner, 8 Meadow Lane, reminded that a neighborhood coalition was formed and that one of their major concerns was to replace the trees that were cut down. He also noted that an architectural plan prepared by Scenic Landscaping was submitted by this group and suggested the two plans be compared and the best taken from both. Mr. Garner asked that he and other members of the neighborhood coalition be notified and invited to attend the next Historic Preservation Committee. Mrs. Lamp advised that the next meeting would be in September and Mr. Scott confirmed that a special meeting could be scheduled at his and Mr. Condoleo's request.

2009 Municipal Audit – Approval of Resolution 09:140 Governing Body Certification of the Annual Audit and Signing of Group Affidavit – due to the absence of Messrs. Rapaport and Marino, this resolution will be placed on the August 3, 2010 Public Meeting Agenda.

Request for establishment of a Senior Advisory Committee – Mayor Barsa explained that the formation of a Senior Advisory Committee was requested by Mrs. Martha Kleinlaut, President of the Senior Citizen Club and asked for a motion of approval. The motion was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present. Mr. Fede asked whether the Council wished to establish the committee by resolution or ordinance and it was the consensus that it be done by resolution. Mr. Fede confirmed that it would be a nine member committee appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council. Mayor Barsa recommended that the Committee be composed of the Mayor, Senior Citizen Club Liaison, the President of the Senior Citizen Club, two representatives from Fox Hill Manor and two representatives from the proposed senior housing on Livingston Street, if approved, or two members of the public at large. Mr. Fede will prepare the resolution for approval at the August 3, 2010 Public Meeting.

Review of changes to the resolution authorizing a referendum question to conduct a study of a Police Department Merger with the Borough of Harrington Park – Mr. Fede explained that the Borough of Harrington Park approved a resolution to conduct a study of a Police Department merger with the Borough of Norwood and other contiguous communities. He voiced his opinion that contiguous communities to Harrington Park may not be the same as those to Norwood. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that Norwood's resolution mirrors that of Harrington Park's. Therefore, motion authorizing the Borough Attorney to prepare a modified resolution for approval at the August 3, 2010 Public Meeting was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Condoleo and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Request to amend Chapter 211 of the Code of the Borough of Norwood regarding Taxicabs – Mrs. McMackin explained that an inquiry was made as to the requirements to license a taxicab in the Borough of Norwood. Upon review of the ordinance, it was found that the license fee for a Taxicab Owner was \$15.00/yr. and for a Taxicab Driver \$3.00/yr. A review of other towns revealed that the fees are \$50.00/yr. as with limousine licenses. It was the consensus of the Council that the Borough Attorney prepare an amendment to Chapter 211 for introduction at the August 3, 2010 Public Meeting.

Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund Applications – due October 8, 2010 - Following a brief discussion, the following suggestions were made: Phase II for Fox Hill; additional funds for Haring Cemetery and construction of bocce courts. It was the consensus of the Council that going forward all such matching grants be funded through the penny tax.

Porterhouse request for Mayor and Council to change the Code of the Borough Chapter 77-4(b) to permit the sale and consumption of alcohol on Sundays at 11:00 AM - Mrs. McMackin explained that she reached out to all seventy municipalities and received very little response. Only two towns in Bergen County responded—Westwood with 11:00 AM and Fairlawn with 9:00 AM. Motion was made by Mr. Condoleo and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio authorizing the Borough Attorney to prepare an amendment to Chapter 77-4(b) permitting the sale and consumption of alcohol on Sundays at 11:00 AM for introduction at the August 3, 2010 Public Meeting. All Council Members present voted yes with the exception of Mr. Scott who voted no.

Neglia Engineering Proposal for Survey of Compost Facility – Mayor Barsa advised that the proposal cost is \$6,500.00.

Neglia Engineering Proposal for construction management of Blanch Avenue sidewalk replacement – Mayor Barsa noted that the proposal cost is \$7,500.00.

Neglia Engineering Proposal for construction management of five sidewalk ramps on Blanch Avenue – Mayor Barsa reported that the proposal cost is \$1,500.00.

A motion authorizing the preparation of resolutions accepting the three above-noted Neglia Engineering proposals was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Condoleo and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Mr. Condoleo questioned whether a proposal was prepared for the survey of the Haring Cemetery. Mr. Speer voiced his opinion that one was done, and if so, will provide Mrs. McMackin with a copy.

Engineer's Monthly Report – Mr. Speer highlighted his monthly report (Attachment B).

Attorney's Report – Mr. Fede advised that he had tax appeals to discuss in Closed Session.

Administrator Report – Mrs. McMackin explained that a satisfactory police report regarding the Liquor License Transfer of Arly Inc. d/b/a Wine and Whiskey Barrel was recently received. She advised that a resolution authorizing the transfer would be placed on the August 3, 2010 Public Meeting Agenda providing all other paperwork is in order.

Mrs. McMackin reported that letters were sent to Borough residents, business vendors and professionals requesting donations for Norwood Day scheduled to be held on September 25, 2010 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM (Rain date September 26). To date, \$6,085.00 has been received and Mr. Neglia, Borough Engineer, was thanked for his generous contribution. She advised that the Norwood Raider Cheerleaders would be holding a pep rally and that the Norwood Public School band will be invited to perform. Mrs. McMackin announced that she and Mayor Barsa would be scheduling a Norwood Day Committee Meeting in the near future and invited anyone wishing to participate to contact her.

At this time, Mayor Barsa referred to the power outages caused during the recent storm explaining that the Buckingham and Brentwood generator systems were not strong enough to keep the air conditioning going. He reported that members of the Fire Department and EMS worked tirelessly from 7:30 PM until the power returned at approximately 2:30 AM operating fans and enabling the over 200 patients from being transported to other facilities. Mayor Barsa extended thanks on behalf of the Council and residents of Norwood.

Mr. Condoleo also extended his thanks as the Fire Department supplied his home with a generator so that a guest could sleep with a needed apnea machine.

General Public Comment:

Motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

George Hertzberg, 24 Carter Street, announced that due to the lack of response for volunteers, he would have to postpone the sale of his late mother's artwork to benefit the Norwood Library. He noted with pleasure the greater communication and cooperation between the members of the Historic Preservation Committee and neighbors of the Haring Cemetery and questioned whether a study was done to determine if there are graves in addition to those already identified. Mrs. Lamp explained that although a probe is needed, the Committee's priority is the survey and placement of the markers. Mr. Hertzberg referred to the audit and questioned whether there was an audit committee to review the findings. Mr. Condoleo confirmed that the Finance Committee acts in this capacity.

Mike Neglia, 39 Ehret Avenue, Harrington Park, explained that the Norwood Raiders football program begins on August 14, 2010. Due to the condition of the field, Mr. Neglia asked for Mayor and Council permission for Norwood Football to pay \$3,400.00 for the field to be aerated and seeded. Motion approving this request was made by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

Resident of 107 Kensington Avenue, referred to and displayed pictures of the extreme flooding being experienced at his residence. He voiced his opinion that the cause is insufficient catch basins to handle the water that comes from Tappan Road. The Borough Engineer, Mr. Neglia, advised that he is aware of the problem and that in his opinion it is a private property matter. However, he suggested that he and Mayor Barsa examine the area to see if there is an inexpensive remedy that can help this property owner.

Stu Bran, 101 Aspen Court, questioned whether the Norwood Library's budget was available for public inspection and Mr. Scott advised it was and that he should request it from the Librarian, Siobhan Koch.

Jaye Homan, 151 Kensington Avenue, referred to the power outage experienced at the Brentwood and questioned why the Borough does not force them to have a stronger generator backup system. Mayor Barsa advised that the Borough has no control as they are governed by the New Jersey State Department of Health.

Martha Kleinlaut, 110 Glenn Avenue, thanked the Mayor and Council for their support of the Senior Advisory Committee.

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Lisa Kurtz, 401 D'Ercole Court, questioned the function of the Senior Advisory Committee, and Mayor Barsa explained it would bring the concerns of the senior population to the attention of the governing body.

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

At 9:40 PM, Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss tax appeals and a personnel matter. The motion was made by Mr. Nicolai, seconded by Mr. Scott and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present.

At 10:15 PM, Mayor Barsa reconvened the meeting and asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Mr. Condoleo and seconded by Mr. Nicolai with all Council Members present voting aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine L. McMackin, RMC, CMC
Administrator/Clerk