

Borough of Norwood
Work Session
August 25, 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 8:03 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:

Councilwoman	Marianne Orecchio
Councilman	Barry Scott
Council President	Ed Condoleo
Councilman	Allen Rapaport
Councilman	John Nicolai

Absent:

Councilman	Frank Marino
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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.

Items for Discussion:

Limousine License Fee Ordinance Revision- Mr. Fede explained that the proposed ordinance reflects the fees mandated by State Statute and recommended that it be introduced at the September 7, 2010 Public Meeting. All Council Members present were in agreement.

Neglia Engineering Proposal for surveying of the Haring Cemetery – Mr. Condoleo explained that he, Mr. Rapaport and Mrs. McMackin attended the August 19, 2010 meeting at the cemetery with the area residents and members of the Historic Preservation Committee. He voiced agreement that the boundaries of the cemetery

should be defined. However, he did not realize the scope of the plan until he visited the site. He recommends that all Council Members view the site to get a clear understanding of what is being proposed. Mr. Rapaport voiced his opinion that there was constructive input from both sides and agreed that all Council Members should visit the site. Mayor Barsa recommended that the next Work Session on September 29, 2010 be re-advertised to begin at 7:00 PM at the Haring Cemetery and no objections were voiced.

DOT Grant Application for Carter Street – Mr. Speer advised that this grant application was submitted electronically to the NJDOT by the August 13, 2010 deadline. He noted that the approximate cost of the project to address the extensive drainage problems on this street is estimated at \$237,000.00. He explained that should the grant be awarded Neglia’s engineering and design costs of approximately \$24,000 to \$30,000 would not be covered. Mrs. McMackin clarified that the Borough would have to borrow the full amount of the award but would be reimbursed by the State. It was the consensus of the Council that the Borough proceed. Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to prepare a resolution approving submittal of the grant application and executing a grant agreement between the Borough and the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Carter Street Resurfacing project. The motion was made by Mr. Rapaport, seconded by Mr. Scott and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of all Council Members present. The Resolution will be placed on the agenda for the September 7, 2010 Public Meeting.

Engineers Report – Mr. Speer referred to the monthly report (Attachment “A”). He noted that the County Engineer’s office is preparing a formal agreement to commence with the proposed drainage improvements along Livingston Street and Jay Street. Mr. Speer requested that a resolution authorizing the Clerk to go out to bid for the Blanch Avenue sidewalks be prepared for approval at the September 7, 2010 Public Meeting. Mayor Barsa advised that he would like to walk the area and Mrs. McMackin said she would like to examine the cost figures.

Attorney’s Report – Mr. Fede advised he had a tax settlement to discuss in closed session.

Administrator Report – Mrs. McMackin reported that it looks very favorable that the State will approve funding from the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust for the two pump station repairs. As such, she has gone over meeting dates with Bond Counsel who is in the process of preparing the necessary resolutions and ordinances for adoption by the Mayor and Council.

The Administrator/Clerk advised that the premium for Guardian dental insurance will be increased by 7% in November and reminded that State Health Benefits will be increased by 11% in January.

Mrs. McMackin informed the Council that the DPW is in dire need of a chipper and that the recycling tonnage grant monies can be used for the purchase of one. Three quotes were received and Modern in Hasbrouck Heights submitted the lowest at \$37,970.

She requested and received Council approval to prepare a resolution for the September 7, 2010 Public Meeting authorizing the purchase. Although no objections were voiced, Mr. Scott asked that the reputation of this vendor be explored.

Mrs. McMackin referred to the JIF Loss Control Report wherein comment was made regarding the power shed for the field lights and the recommendation that a sign be posted stating that admittance is only for authorized personnel. She explained that Musco Lighting has almost completed installation of the control panel. Schedules for football and soccer will be programmed and the lights would be set to go on 15 minutes before sunset. Head coaches will be given an 800 number to call with a pin number to make changes. Mrs. McMackin stressed the importance of the power shed being off limits since it is imperative that the lights remain in auto mode. She noted that usage reports can be generated on a monthly basis.

Mrs. McMackin reported that due to Borough Hall hours being extended with Fridays off, the following utility costs were compared to last year's: for the period June 24 through July 24, although 1200 kw hours less were used, the cost was \$250.00 more; for the period July 24 through August 24, 4100 kw hours less were used with a savings of \$650.00 being realized. She voiced her opinion that although there was a savings, there were very few residents that came after the 4:00 PM hour. In speaking with Mayor Barsa, it is their recommendation that the offices remain open until 7:30 PM on Wednesday evening and that the offices close on Fridays at 12 Noon beginning after Labor Day. She continued that should the Council wish, the extended hours for a four-day week could be resumed next summer. Motion approving the following Borough Hall hours was made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Orecchio: Monday 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM; Tuesday 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM; Wednesday 8:30 AM to 7:30 PM; Thursday 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM; Friday 8:30 AM to 12 Noon. All voted in favor of the motion. The Mayor and Council commended Mrs. McMackin for her efforts to reduce the Borough's utility costs.

General Public Comment:

Motion to open 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.

George Hertzberg, 24 Carter Street, referred to the Engineer's report regarding the proposed NJDOT grant application to address the drainage problems on Carter Street and voiced his opinion that more catch basins are needed. He also suggested that probing of the Haring Cemetery be pursued to determine whether there are any other graves beyond the ones known.

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

Approval of Resolution No. 10:154 Authorizing the Mayor and Council to proceed in Closed Session to discuss tax appeals and labor contracts

At 8:50 PM, Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to approve Resolution 10:154. The motion was made by Mr. Condoleo, seconded by Mrs. Orecchio with all Council Members present voting aye.

Mayor Barsa declared a five-minute recess before proceeding in Closed Session.

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Adjournment:

Mayor Barsa resumed the meeting at 9:05 PM and asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Rapaport, 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