

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Public Meeting
April 14, 2021

MAYOR BARSA

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ASCOLESE

COUNCILMAN ROONEY

COUNCILWOMAN HAUSMANN

COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA

COUNCILMAN FOSCHINO

COUNCILMAN KIM

The Public Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Norwood was held on the above date at Borough Hall and with Zoom access to the meeting.

Mayor Barsa stated that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, pointed out the exits and asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

All members were present at roll call.

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence is available for inspection in the Clerk's office.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Buginsky advised that all documents requested from the resident at 301 Tappan regarding the removal of 8 trees have been received. The resident will replant all 8 trees.

Councilman Brizzolara made a motion to approve the tree removal at 301 Tappan. Councilman Foschino seconded the motion and the Council unanimously agreed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Foschino made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilwoman Hausmann seconded the motion and the Council unanimously agreed on a roll call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Foschino reported the expansion of the police department storage unit is nearing completion. The construction of the DPW break room has begun and should be finished in about 3 weeks. EMS responded to 16 calls in the month of March.

Councilman Kim said the Greenway project is in the process of updating their resolution to streamline the operations. Norwood Public School has hired a new superintendent that started in April. A survey went home to the parents of Norwood Public School children asking if they want school to end at 12:20pm or 1:20pm. As of April 6th the time for the end of school was changed from 12:20pm to 1:20pm.

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Councilwoman Hausmann said the Board of Health is in the process of updating their page on the borough website. Their Facebook pages is great and kept un to date by Nancy Congiusti. The Environmental Commission will be hosting a webinar on composting in April 22nd. There has been a lot of interest by young people to join the commission. On April 20th the Norwood Presbyterian Church will be holding a candlelight vigil to raise awareness of Asian hate.

Council President Ascolese advised the Council that the personnel committee met with Mr. Tessaro, who is looking for more help in the construction office. The personnel committee feels it would be beneficial to hire a part time employee to help in that office.

Councilman Brizzolara said the construction office has 180 open permits, 75 of those are from this year. The Puccio building on Livingston is finishing the inside and the parking lot curbs.

Councilman Rooney stated that the Seagrave fire truck 361 broke down while responding to a fire. In order to resolve the issue, the truck needs new batteries which is an expense of \$3,000.00. The fire department would like to add \$5,000.00 to their budget for this year to help cover any other surprises. The DPW would like to add \$40,000.00 to the capital account for much needed equipment. The budget should be introduced at the April 28th meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council President Ascolese made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Councilman Rooney seconded the motion and the Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Ermin Suljic asked if the money for the new playground is part of the budget. Councilman Rooney responded that the borough did not add it to the budget because they are confident they will receive grant money to cover the expense.

Ms. Barbara St. Martin Cho said she had 5 trees on her property that are located in an easement that were previously marked by the prior DPW Superintendent for removal but were never removed. Mayor Barsa advised her that the borough is not responsible for maintaining an easement, and that includes the removal of trees. Mr. Corrison further stated that the borough is only responsible for trees in which they have planted.

Councilman Brizzolara made a motion to close the meeting to the public. Councilman Rooney seconded the motion and the Council unanimously agreed.

Councilman Foschino made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Hausmann seconded the motion and the Council unanimously agreed.

Mayor Barsa thanked the Council and adjourned the meeting.

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Respectfully submitted,

Richard Buginsky, Deputy Borough Clerk