



**NORWOOD CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
Norwood Community Center
1810 Courtland Ave- Bottom Floor
Norwood, OH 45212
January 20, 2021
7:30 p.m.**

A) CALL TO ORDER

B) PRAYER

C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council for the City of Norwood met in regular session on the above date with Mr. Ken Miracle Presiding as President. The meeting opened with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

D) ROLL CALL

All members present.

E) EMERGENCY DISPATCH COMMUNICATIONS AND THE VOTING ON THE ORDINANCE TO ALLOW THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH HAMILTON COUNTY

On motion by Mr. Geraci, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to amend the agenda to make the date on the agenda 2021 instead of 2020. Roll was called. All members voted yes. Motion passed.

On motion by Mr. DiNardo, seconded by Mr. Bonsall, it was moved to have all three readings. Mr. Geraci asking for just one reading tonight so that people have time to think about a question he would like to pose. Mr. Thompson asked Mr. Geraci to state his question. Mr. Bonsall noted that there have been multiple meetings on the topic and thinks that dragging out the issue is counter productive. Mr. Geraci wants to know if anyone has asked Hamilton County if Norwood could get a portion of the taxes designated for emergency services. He believes that since Norwood has 2.5% of the county lives in Norwood that the county should allocate that amount to Norwood for our emergency services department. Mr. Bonsall stated that the money doesn't just go to emergency services in his understanding. He also doesn't believe that the City of Cincinnati gets a portion of the money.

Mr. Geraci also asked what benefits this decision creates other than financial. The Mayor said that there are more than just money benefits. There is scalability, more resources, ability to dispatch in multiple locations, training, command structure, ability to keep the system going and the financial benefits. If the dispatchers were hit with Covid then the city would be in trouble. Mr. Geraci disagrees with the Mayor on all counts. He says he has proved that response times will be extended if the city has to rely on mutual aid. He does not believe that Chief Kramer is truly on board and is disappointed that this matter is being rushed through. Mr. DiNardo's understanding was the Chief Kramer is on board. Chief Kramer who was in the audience confirmed.

Mr. Bonsall stated that everyone is entitled to their own opinions on how this will affect the city and there were points that Mr. Geraci made that were untrue. He went through those points and noted why he believed them to be untrue but he did say that he was impressed with all the work and research Mr. Geraci did on the topic. He asked Chief McCabe to talk about mutual aid and how much it would cost to upgrade the system to get onto the Hamilton county system. He noted that the city will only send one truck for mutual aid. He said that neither he nor the Police Chief would recommend anything that would affect service for Norwood. Roll was called. Mr. Clerk did all three readings.

On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to pass the ordinance. Roll was called. Mr. Bonsall, Mr. Kelsch, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Breadon voted yes. All others voted no. Motion passed.

"Gem of the Highlands"

F) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER/S

None

G) ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Gabbard, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to adjourn. All members except for Mr. Geraci voted yes. Mr. Geraci voted no. Motion passed.

"Gem of the Highlands"