



Norwood City Council
Council Chambers | Norwood City Hall
4645 Montgomery Road | Norwood, Ohio 45212
April 23, 2024 | 7:30pm

A) CALL TO ORDER

The Council for the City of Norwood met in a regular session on the above date with Mr. Joseph Geers presiding. The meeting opened with a moment of reflection and the Pledge of Allegiance.

B) MOMENT OF REFLECTION

C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D) ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following members answered present: Mrs. Franzen, Mrs. Hoover, Mrs. Royse, Mrs. Bowling, Mrs. Winterbauer, Mr. Girtton, and Mr. Breadon.

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mrs. Winterbauer, seconded by Ms. Royse, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: add the minutes from the March 12th, March 26th, April 2nd, and April 9th meetings and add an appropriations ordinance under Introductory Readings. All members present voted “Yes”. The motion passed.

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 1) March 12, 2024 – Regular Meeting
- 2) March 26, 2024—Regular Meeting
- 3) April 2, 2024—Special Meeting
- 4) April 9, 2024—Regular Meeting

On a motion by Ms. Royse, seconded by Mr. Girtton, it was moved to accept all of the meeting minutes, as if read. All members present voted “Yes”. The motion passed.

G) SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Police Department—Chief Summer

Chief Summer presented on the structure and work done at the Norwood Police Department, including staffing levels, goals for the future, crime rates, future equipment needs, and other relative matters. These other relative matters included hiring a school resource officer, diversifying the department, a graph of patrol and crime statistics, recognition of staff achievements, a bias based profiling report, etc.. A copy of the presentation is on file in the Clerk of Council’s office.

H) PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. *The City of Norwood will hold a public hearing on April 23, 2024 and April 29, 2024 at Norwood City Hall, second floor in Council Chambers at 4645 Montgomery Road, Norwood, OH 45212 for the purpose of hearing public comments on the City of Norwood’s community development needs, and to discuss the submission of one or more community development block grant (CDBG) applications for the next three year cycle of 2024-2026. The CDBG program is administered by the State of Ohio Office of Community Development (OCD), and will make funds available to eligible local governments over the three year program cycle for housing, economic development, public facilities, public infrastructure, and planning activities with the principle purpose of benefiting low or moderate income persons. The City of Norwood is applying for any available amount in CDBG funds for those purposes. The hearing will provide further information about the CDBG program and will allow for citizen participation in the development of any proposed grant applications and/or to provide technical assistance to develop alternate proposals. Comments on the CDBG program or proposed projects will be received at this time. The hearing is being conducted pursuant to 570.486 subpart 1 of the CFR in compliance with the requirements of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended.*

Mr. Geers declared the public hearing open.

Anyone interested in speaking in favor of the matter was asked to step forward; no one stepped forward. Anyone interested in speaking against the matter was asked to step forward; no one stepped forward.

Mr. Geers declared the public hearing closed.

I) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

- 1) Lynn Ellis Re: Alcohol in Victory Park

Ms. Ellis, residing at 4630 Baker Avenue, addressed Council on the topic of alcohol permits being allowed in Victory Park. She referenced the April 15, 2024 Community Conversation regarding alcohol permits in Victory Park which she attended. Ms. Ellis emphasized the importance of Council

to the ordinance) qualify for mediation at this time due to berating and lack of empathy and understanding.

12) Polly Burroughs

Re: Alcohol in Victory Park

Ms. Burroughs submitted a letter that addressed Council on the topic of alcohol permits being allowed in Victory Park. She spoke in opposition to the ordinance due to the adverse effects of children witnessing casual consumption of alcohol in their environments.

J) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

1) Infrastructure: Streets, Parks, Recreation & Public Places—4/15/24

On a motion made by Mrs. Winterbauer, seconded by Mrs. Hoover, it was moved to accept the report. All members present voting, “Yes,” the motion passed.

2) Law, Ordinance, Human Resource & Compliance Committee—4/16/2024

On a motion made by Mrs. Winterbauer, seconded by Mrs. Bowling, it was moved to accept the report. All members present voting, “Yes,” the motion passed.

K) THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

1) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 561 OF THE NORWOOD CODIFIED ORDINANCES ENTITLED “PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS” TO EXPAND AND CLARIFY ALCOHOL PERMITS, AND TO MODIFY VICTORY PARK’S STATUS

Mr. Breadon made a motion to table the reading until a further time. There was no second to the motion.

On a motion by Mrs. Franzen, seconded by Mr. Girton, it was moved to have the third reading of the ordinance.

Mr. Breadon said to Mrs. Franzen that she did not have to second just because the motion was made. Mr. Girton asked Mr. Breadon not to disparage other members of Council. Mr. Breadon stated that he did not mean any disrespect. Mrs. Bowling stated that the decision was a conflicting one for her to make and that in her interactions with other members of Council it was not a unanimously decided issue at any point in time. Mrs. Hoover stated she also had been conflicted over the decision regarding the ordinance given her personal ties to members of the armed forces. Mr. Girton stated that the ordinance states that alcohol is only to be permitted in the designated shelter space in the park, which he stated is the gazebo approximately 600 square feet from the memorial. Mr. Breadon stated that no one believes that the members of Council’s minds were not made up. He stated that voting for the ordinance would be a disrespect to veterans. Mrs. Hoover stated her interest was to make the park the best it can be. She stated that if she votes no it is not because of the ordinance but because of the narrative around it. Mrs. Royse stated that her vote is one based on policy that she believes will help Victory Park. Mrs. Franzen stated that it was not her intent to introduce an ordinance that was disrespectful to veterans. She stated that she apologizes to anyone who she may have offended at previous meetings.

Mr. Breadon made a motion to table the ordinance, but due to an existing motion being on the floor, Mr. Breadon’s motion was not considered.

Mrs. Winterbauer stated that she sees Victory Park on her commute each day, and has seen active drug deals, drinking, and other illicit activities, though less frequent drug deals in more recent months. She stated that Norwood Police and Public Works do a great job but can’t be present all the time. She stated that illicit activities have become less frequent as more activities have been held over the last year and a half. She stated that the park is a sacred space and that she does not want to see anyone drunk at the park, and that she wants to see less drug use, drinking, defecation, and urination in the park.

Mr. Breadon voted, “No,” all other members present voted, “Yes.”

On a motion by Mr. Girton, seconded by Mrs. Franzen, it was moved to pass the ordinance. Mrs. Bowling and Mr. Breadon voted “No.” All other members present voted “Yes.” The motion passed.

L) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

There were no second readings.

M) INTRODUCTORY READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

1) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 505.15 OF THE NORWOOD CODIFIED ORDINANCES ENTITLED “PROHIBITED ANIMALS” TO MODIFY THE RULES REGARDING KEEPING CHICKENS, AS AMENDED

On a motion by Mrs. Bowling, seconded by Mr. Girton, it was moved to suspend the rules and have all three readings of the ordinance.

Ms. Royse stated that the fee was lowered to a one-time \$25 fee and a waiver was added for cases where an individual receives benefits from the government. Mrs. Bowling noted that all three readings were being held in order for the ordinance to take effect in time for chicken season.

All members voted “Yes.” The motion passed.

On a motion by Mrs. Bowling, seconded by Ms. Royse, it was moved to pass the ordinance. All members voted “Yes.” The motion passed.

2) AN ORDINANCE CHANGING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2024 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On a motion made by Mrs. Franzen, seconded by Mrs. Winterbauer, it was moved to suspend the rules and have all three readings of the ordinance.

Mr. Miracle stated that passing this will aid in efforts to continue operating the City moving forward. All members present voted, “Yes.” The motion passed.

On a motion made by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mrs. Hoover, it was moved to pass the ordinance. All members present voted, “Yes.” The motion passed.

N) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Mayor Schneider stated that he may veto the ordinance allowing alcohol permits in Victory Park. He referenced notable events held in the past at the park such as playing movies like Jurassic Park. He noted that he is not sure if he agrees or disagrees at this time, and that he will take time to consider the ordinance and see if there is a way to adjust the ordinance in a manner that addresses all parties’ concerns. The Mayor also read a letter regarding frequent flooding on Elm Avenue that was sent to residents in that area. The letter stated that financial constraints that have prevented a solution being implemented are in position to be overcome with the partnership of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners. He encouraged community support to ensure the success of the proposed solution. Public Works and the Safety Service Director will also be involved in resolving the issue.

James Bonsall, Norwood Treasurer, stated that the extended tax deadline resulted in a notable success in processing taxes and assisting residents. This was the first year extending the deadline. He encouraged residents to notify the Treasurer’s Office if their checks have not been deposited within two weeks. Mr. Bonsall also reported on the success of the e-filing system.

Ken Miracle, Norwood Auditor, stated that the appropriations ordinance was a result of tremendous work from the staff in the Auditor’s Office.

Keith Moore, Norwood Law Director, stated that he did not have a report at this time.

O) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Hoover stated that the Norwood Yard Sale is coming up from May 10-12, 2024. It will be held again in September. She noted that there will be a compost bin sale in May and June of 2024.

P) NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Franzen noted that there is a free event hosted by Keep Cincinnati Beautiful where individuals can drop off any form of trash other than paint. It is held the last weekend of each month through October.

Mrs. Franzen stated there will be a ribbon cutting at Hunter Park on May 11, 2024. She noted that the garden is not her garden, but coincidentally shares her name. Mrs. Franzen placed the matter of NCO 1759.01 Nuisances into the Law and Ordinance Committee.

Mrs. Hoover stated that recently planted irises are now blooming in Emily’s Garden at Hunter Park.

Mrs. Bowling stated that a Pride celebration is in the early phases of planning for June 1, 2024.

Ms. Royse scheduled a Law and Ordinance Committee meeting for Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 6pm in Council Chambers.

Q) COMMUNICATIONS

1) Ken Miracle, Norwood Auditor: Confirmation of Financial Reports

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Ms. Royse, it was moved to receive and file the letter. All members present voted “Yes.” The motion passed.

2) Ohio Division of Liquor Control Re: TIREX—Birdies Coffee Co. LLC

On a motion by Mrs. Bowling, seconded by Mrs. Franzen, it was moved to receive and file the letter.

Mrs. Bowling asked to amend her motion and send it to the Small Business Committee. Mrs. Franzen amended her second. Mrs. Hoover asked how the Building Department would connect with the neighboring residents. Mr. Moore stated that the company would need to expand its permissive use through the Building Department. After some discussion with Mr. Moore regarding the Building and Zoning Departments’ necessary roles.

Mrs. Bowling amended her motion to now table the matter until the next Council meeting. Mrs. Franzen agreed to amend her second again. Ms. Royse, Mrs. Winterbauer, and Mr. Breadon voted “No.” All other members present voted “Yes.” The motion passed.

R) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS

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There were no absent members.

S) ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. Bowling, seconded by Mrs. Hoover, it was moved to adjourn. All members present voted, "Yes." The motion passed.



Natalie Assaf. April 5 2024
Clerk of Council Pro-Tem



Joseph S. Geers
President of Council