



Norwood City Council

Council Chambers | Norwood City Hall

4645 Montgomery Road | Norwood, Ohio 45212

February 25, 2025 | 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, followed by the appointment of Mr. Jon Moore to as Councilmember for Ward 2 of the City of Norwood.

B) MOMENT OF REFLECTION

C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D) ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following members answered present: Mrs. Franzen, Ms. Royse, Mrs. Winterbauer, Mr. Girton, and Mr. Breadon. Mrs. Bowling was absent.

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Mrs. Franzen, seconded by Mr. Moore, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: add a special presentation from Commissioner Alicia Reece, remove both DEI Committee reports, and add the updated final page of the first ordinance under item M.

Mrs. Hoover stated that the DEI minutes are complete but waiting on signatures.

All members present voted "Yes". The motion passed.

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

There were no minutes of the previous meeting.

G) SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1) Commissioner Alicia Reece—Declaration of Susan Hoover Day

Hamilton County Commissioner Alicia Reece addressed Council to declare March 1, 2025 as Susan Hoover Day in honor of Black History Month and Women's History Month. She noted that Mrs. Hoover has dedicated her life to serving others as a mental health therapist, member of Council, and through efforts to recognize historical contributions of indigenous and African American residents in Norwood.

2) Chief Tom McCabe—Fire Department

Chief McCabe presented the Fire Department's 2024 annual report to Council. Chief McCabe reported that the Fire Department is currently staffed at 52 total positions and had an average response time of three minutes and seventeen seconds (with EMS being the most common run type). He noted that 32% of responses occur concurrently. The Department has received mutual aid 127 times and provided mutual aid 112 times. The Department saved 2.75 million dollars in 2024. Total services provided include EMS, fire suppression, fire prevention, fire safety inspections, hazmat mitigation, hydrant maintenance, hose testing, SCBA maintenance, incident reporting, and apparatus maintenance.

H) PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

I) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

1) Wayne Allen Stanton III Re: Violation of Rights

Mr. Stanton lives at 1632 SR 134. Mr. Stanton addressed Council regarding a traffic stop conducted by Norwood Police that he stated was a violation of his rights.

2) Peterson Mingo Re: Current Events

Pastor Mingo's congregation is at 2141 Williams Avenue. Pastor Mingo addressed Council regarding the positive experience his congregation has had since moving its location to Williams Avenue.

3) Sonny James Re: Community

Mr. James lives at 4305 Ashland Avenue. Mr. James addressed Council regarding the importance of community safety.

J) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

1) DEI Advisory Board —12/4/2024

Removed during amendment of the agenda.

2) DEI Advisory Board —1/8/2025

Removed during amendment of the agenda.

3) Infrastructure: Streets, Parks, Recreation, and Public Places —1/22/2025

On a motion made by Mrs. Franzen, seconded by Ms. Royse, it was moved to move the report to the next meeting. All members present voted “Yes”. The motion passed.

K) THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

There were no third readings of ordinances/resolutions.

L) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

There were no second readings of ordinances/resolutions.

M) INTRODUCTORY READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

1) ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORWOOD, OHIO AUTHORIZING NON-UNION EMPLOYEE PAY RATES

On a motion made by Mrs. Franzen, seconded by Mr. Girton, it was moved to suspend the rules and have all three readings. All members present voted “Yes.” The motion passed.

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

2) ORDINANCE CONCERNING AGREEMENT WITH ODOT FOR THE FY2025 URBAN PAVING PROJECT FOR A PORTION OF US 22 (MONTGOMERY ROAD) IN THE CITY OF NORWOOD, WITH EMERGENCY PROVISION

On a motion made by Ms. Royse, seconded by Mrs. Hoover, it was moved to suspend the rules and have all three readings. All members present voted “Yes.” The motion passed.

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

3) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO APPROVE A “THEN AND NOW” CERTIFICATE FROM FUND 1001-0815-57300 TO PAY FOR UNASSIGNED TRANSPORTATION COSTS OF \$7,711.04 FOR FUEL ALREADY PROVIDED BY WORL FUEL SERVICES, INC. DBA WORLD KINECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On a motion made by Ms. Royse, seconded by Mrs. Franzen, it was moved to suspend the rules and have all three readings. All members present voted “Yes.” The motion passed.

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

N) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Mayor Schneider thanked the Xavier students in attendance for coming to observe the meeting. He also commended the administration for its regular participation in Council meetings; he noted that the HR Director, Safety Service Director, Auditor, Treasurer, and Law Director were all present for the meeting. The Mayor congratulated Mrs. Hoover on being recognized for her work in the community and congratulated Jon Moore for being appointed to Council.

James Bonsall, Norwood Treasurer, credited Mayor Schneider for his work in the Elm Avenue project and also thanked the Xavier students for attending. He noted that April 18, 2025 is the municipal tax

filing deadline. Mr. Bonsall also welcomed Jon Moore to Council. Mrs. Hoover asked Mr. Bonsall for an update on the cannabis tax. Mr. Bonsall stated that the State Legislature is considering using some funds from the cannabis tax collected in Norwood but has not come to a final decision. The revenue from the tax in Norwood is projected to be \$150,000-\$200,000. This revenue will be eligible for allocation to a local Special Fund or the General Fund. Mr. Bonsall recommended placing the revenue in a Special Fund for local streets.

Ken Miracle, Norwood Auditor, stated that the annual audit will take place on March 4th-6th. He stated that he had met with the State Auditor's office to discuss GASB method. He also stated that financial statements are due on May 30, 2025 and that the Finance Committee will be meeting with the Treasurer's Office.

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

O) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Hoover stated that the community survey is still active; the ivy abatement event was successful in saving hundreds of local trees; a grant for Dorl park is pending based on federal funding decisions; the Marsh Park historical marker will be ready in 6-9 months. Mrs. Hoover provided an overview of some of the work done by the DEI Committee, which includes the following: a list of black owned businesses every Black History Month, annual MLK Day of Service, hosted two blood drives, hosted first Pride market in Norwood during Pride Month, hosted book discussions and trips to museum exhibits relative to black history, and always keep meetings open to the public.

Ms. Royse stated that the next DEI meeting will be held on March 5, 2025 at 6:30pm.

P) NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Franzen stated that the next Finance Committee meeting will be held in three weeks on March 18, 2025 at 6:30pm.

Mrs. Hoover stated that she had spoken to Norwood Police Chief Sumner regarding Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) involvement in Norwood. She stated that Chief Sumner had told her that his priority is safety in Norwood, and that officers do not inquire about immigration status when responding to calls. Mrs. Hoover encouraged anyone with questions to reach out to her. Mrs. Hoover also spoke against the Nazi demonstration that took place in Hamilton County and reiterated the importance of being firm in denouncing such acts. She confirmed that Norwood Police Department is in regular contact with the Greater Cincinnati Fusion Center to combat terrorist activity. At this time no threats have been detected in Norwood. Mrs. Hoover requested that immigration concerns be placed in the Law Committee. Mrs. Hoover also stated that the local Girl Scout troop will be making its annual visit to Council on March 11, 2025. She asked Council if a youth council could also be arranged in addition to the troop's flag raising ceremony.

President Geers stated that the next Committee of the Whole meeting will be on March 4, 2025 at 6:30pm.

Mr. Jon Moore thanked everyone for the warm welcome and stated he looks forward to being on Council.

Q) COMMUNICATIONS

1) Mayor Victor Schneider Re: Mayor's Court Fines: January 2025

On a motion made by Mrs. Franzen, seconded by Ms. Royse, it was moved to receive and file the letter. All members present voted "Yes." The motion passed.

2) Ken Miracle, Auditor Re: EOM Report Letters

On a motion made by Mrs. Franzen, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to receive and file the letter. All members present voted "Yes." The motion passed.

3) Ken Miracle, Auditor Re: Letter to Council to approve Mary Yeager Salary

On a motion made by Mr. Girton, seconded by Mrs. Franzen, it was moved to receive and file the letter as if read and approve the salary of a public official.

Mrs. Franzen asked if an Executive Session would be necessary to discuss the matter. Law Director Moore stated that it is not required. Mrs. Hoover stated she would be in favor of entering Executive Session. Mr. Girton tabled his motion and Mrs. Franzen tabled her second.

On a motion made by Mrs. Hoover, seconded by Mrs. Franzen, it was moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss the appointment and compensation of a public official under ORC 121.22(G)(1). All members present voted "Yes." The motion passed.

Council returned from Executive Session. On a motion made by Mrs. Franzen, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to receive and file the letter as if read and approve the salary of the public official. All members present voted "Yes." The motion passed.

4) Noah Powers, Safety Service Director Re: Request for Executive Session

On a motion made by Mrs. Franzen, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to go into Executive Session under ORC 122.22(G)(4) and receive and file the letter as if read. All members present voted "Yes." The motion passed.

R) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS

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

S) ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ms. Royse, seconded by Mr. Girton, it was moved to adjourn. All members present voted "Yes." The motion passed.



Natalie Assaf.
Clerk of Council



Joseph S. Geers
President of Council