



Norwood City Council

Council Chambers | Norwood City Hall

4645 Montgomery Road | Norwood, Ohio 45212

June 24, 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.

B) MOMENT OF REFLECTION

C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D) ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following members answered present: Ms. Franzen, Ms. Hoover, Ms. Royse, Ms. Bowling, Mr. Moore, Mr. Girton and Mr. Breadon,.

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

There were additions made to the agenda with three communications from the Planning Commission, remove ordinance M1 under introductory readings to provide an updated version of the ordinance addressing the same matter and will appear as M4. On a motion made by, Ms. Franzen, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: three communications from the Planning Commission, removal of the M1 ordinance to update to M4. All members present voted, "Yes." The motion passed.

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 1) May 13, 2025 – Regular Meeting
- 2) May 27, 2025 – Regular Meeting
- 3) June 10, 2025 – Regular Meeting

On a motion made by Ms. Hoover, seconded by Mr. Girton, it was moved to accept the minutes of May 13, 2025, May 27, 2025, and June 10, 2025 meetings, as if read. All members present voted, "Yes." The motion passed.

G) SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1) Ralph Wolfe, Re: Chief Building Official – Building Department

Mr. Wolfe presented an update on the operations and performance of the Building Department, reviewing and highlighting accomplishments from the past year and outlining goals for the current year. Mr. Wolfe provided an overview of his team, a performance overview including the permit fees collected in 2024, as well as the total investment in Norwood. Mr. Wolfe provided a year-to-date update for 2025. The Building Department will be working to automate their permit process to improve accessibility, for developers and contractors external to Norwood. Mr. Wolfe emphasized the modernization initiative are being implemented gradually. Mr. Wolfe provided an update on 2025 projects, that will include Factory 52 – Phase 2, Multicolor South, Trailhouse on Wasson Way, Ventura Projects, Gaslight Properties, Volkswagen Dealership, and the Senior Housing.

H) PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

I) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

1) Charlene Myers Re: Focus Cincinnati & Cooling Shelter Program

Ms. Myers lives at 4285 Ashland Avenue. Ms. Myers addressed the cooling shelter program in partnership with a local church during the summer months. In addition to the cooling shelter, Focus Cincinnati is providing meals at Christ the Savior Church.

2) Joe Kaufman Re: Youth and Safety

Mr. Kaufman lives at 3923 Burwood Avenue. Mr. Kaufman addressed council in regards to the Norwood Planning Commission meeting held on June 19, 2025 in regards to the proposal for 48-unit townhome development at the corner of Robertson Avenue and Beech Street.

3) Virginia Patterson Re: Juneteenth

Ms. Patterson lives at 2278 Norwood Avenue. Ms. Patterson addressed council in regards to the Norwood celebrations for Juneteenth at New Vision Missionary Baptist Church. The celebration included a flag presentation, meals served, performances, guests of honor, and a keynote speaker.

J) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

There were no committee reports.

K) THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

1) ORDINANCE AMENDING NORWOOD CODIFIED SECTION 1759.07 "NUISANCES" TO REVISE THE TYPES OF WEEDS DETERMINED TO BE A NUISANCE

On a motion made by Ms. Franzen, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved to have the third reading of the ordinance. All members present voted, "Yes." The motion passed.

Ms. Franzen provided clarity regarding the ordinance allowing for native gardens to prevent neighbor complaints.

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

L) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

1) A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE FINAL HAMILTON COUNTY 911 PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE CHAPTER 128 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On a motion made by Mr. Girton, seconded by Ms. Hoover, it was moved to suspend the rules to allow a second and third reading. All members present voted, "Yes." The motion passed.

On a motion made by Ms. Bowling, seconded by Ms. Royse, it was moved to pass the resolution. All members present voted, "Yes." The motion passed.

2) RESOLUTION DECLARING JUNE 2025 TO BE PRIDE MONTH IN THE CITY OF NORWOOD

On a motion made by Ms. Bowling, seconded by Ms. Hoover, it was moved to suspend the rules to allow a second and third reading. All members present voted, "Yes." The motion passed.

Ms. Bowling acknowledged community feedback from the June 10, 2025 meeting. Ms. Bowling reaffirmed Pride Month and recognizing the dignity, inclusion, and humanity of LGBTQ+ residents. Ms. Franzen credited Eric Thompson for originally introducing the Pride resolution. Ms. Hoover provided the origins of Pride.

On a motion made by Ms. Royse, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved to pass the resolution. All members present voted, "Yes." The motion passed.

M) INTRODUCTORY READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

1) RESOLUTION DESIGNATING JUNE 19,2025, AS "JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY" IN THE CITY OF NORWOOD

On a motion made by Ms. Bowling, seconded by Ms. Franzen, it was moved to suspend the rules and have all three readings. All members present voted, "Yes."

Ms. Hoover thanked Ms. Patterson and community members for Juneteenth celebrations. Ms. Hoover provided an overview of Juneteenth and the importance of the holiday.

On a motion made by Ms. Franzen, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved to pass the resolution. All members present voted, "Yes." The motion passed.

2) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO APPROVE A "THEN AND NOW" CERTIFICATE FROM THE STREETS FUND 1001-0852-57200

On a motion made by Ms. Bowling, seconded by Ms. 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 Ms. Bowling, seconded by Mr. Moore, it was moved to pass the resolution. All members present voted, "Yes." The motion carried.

3) ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A PROMOTIONAL OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

Ms. Hoover requested further detail from Human Resources. Human Resources provided background regarding the position and selection process.

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

N) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

James Bonsall provided an update regarding hiring for Tax Clerks; there are three positions open. Mr. Bonsall is working with Human Resources and the union to find creative ways to attract candidates. The base pay for this position is \$21/hour with flexibility based on experience. Candidates must have a high school diploma and experience in business, accounting, or clerical processes.

Mary Yeager provided an update for the Auditor's office. Ms. Yeager provided an update on the Tax Budget Status; all three readings will need to occur in July. For the Tax Budget, the financial Committee and a member of the FRP (Financial Recovery Plan) were involved throughout the drafting stages. This was a collaborative and transparent process.

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

O) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ms. Hoover and Mr. Geers provided an update on the Community Survey. The survey remains open and available on the city website and in local parks. There is planned outreach to churches, as well as distributing printed versions to restaurants and businesses. The survey allows for multiple submissions to accommodate households with more than one respondent.

Ms. Hoover provided an update to the Juneteenth Event and recapped the success. Ms. Bowling shared Pride Events that had occurred, and were going to occur throughout the month of June.

Ms. Hoover provided an update for the two Community Gardens – Williams Avenue and Emily’s Garden at Hunter Park. Open plots are available at Williams Avenue, as well as joining and volunteering. For Emily’s Garden, volunteers are needed for watering and weeding.

Ms. Hoover provided an update on Cooling Centers in addition to the information shared by Ms. Myers and Pastor Mingo. Norwood Public Library, neighboring libraries, and recreation centers are also informal cooling centers.

Ms. Franzen provided a reminder for the Norwood Parade, registration for community organizations and nonprofits closed on June 30, 2025. Ms. Bowling added the festival will feature a dedicated area for community organizations and interested organizations should contact the event organizers.

P) NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Franzen shared an update for the Gem of the Highlands 5k scheduled for November 1, 2025. Event information and registration will be available at norwoodrun.com.

Mr. Breadon recognized the public works team working in the extreme heat. Ms. Bowling encouraged residents leaving water or electrolyte drinks for delivery personnel.

Ms. Hoover provided an update regarding Recycling and Compost Initiative for the pilot partnership with Hamilton County Resource and Norwood. There are free yard waste bags available at the Board of Health.

Ms. Hoover and Ms. Bowling provided updates for the 988 Suicide Prevention hotline. The LGBTQ+ support option is being removed from the 988 hotline. Ms. Bowling promoted the Trevor Project, which offers 24/7 chat, call, and text based crisis support through texting 678-678.

Q) COMMUNICATIONS

- 1) **Ohio Division of Liquor Control** **Re: CoWorking Cincinnati, LLC dba Fueled Collective**
2) **Ohio Division of Liquor Control** **Re: CoWorking Cincinnati, LLC dba Fueled Collective**

On a motion made by Ms. Franzen, seconded by Ms. Breadon, it was moved to receive and file both communications as read, with no objections. All members present voted, “Yes.” The motion passed.

- 3) **Norwood Planning Commission** **Re: Place PUD overlay and Expansion**

Ms. Franzen requested clarification on procedural requirements regarding reading communications aloud. Upon confirmation that reading them aloud was not required, she summarized the items and shared the public hearing on August 12, 2025 per Planning Commission guidance and Norwood Codified Ordinances.

- 1) 2741 Robertson Avenue – The property owner request to sell the property to PLK Communities for inclusion in a proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD).
- 2) Robertson South PUD – 4500 Beech Street – There is a request to apply a Neighborhood Business District PUD overlay to support construction of proposed townhomes.
- 3) Robertson South PUD Expansion – Proposed inclusion of 2741 Robertson Avenue into the broader PUD at 4500 Beech Street

On a motion made by Ms. Franzen, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to receive and file the letter regarding 2741 Robertson Avenue and to set a public hearing for August 12, 2025. All members present voted, “Yes.” The motion passed.

On a motion made by Ms. Franzen, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to receive and file the next two memorandums (Robertson South PUD and 4500 Beech Street) as if read and to set a public hearing for August 12, 2025. All members present voted, “Yes.” The motion passed.

On a motion made by Ms. Hoover, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved that Council enter Executive Session for the purpose of pending litigation. All members present voted, “Yes.” The motion passed.

Council entered Executive Session

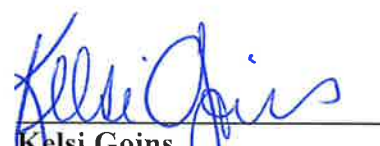
Council returned from Executive Session.

R) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS

There were no absent members.

S) ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Ms. Bowling, seconded by Ms. Royse. It was moved to adjourn the meeting. All members present voted, “Yes.” The motion carried.


Kelsi Goins
Clerk of Council


Joseph S. Geers
President of Council