



Norwood City Council

Council Chambers | Norwood City Hall

4645 Montgomery Road | Norwood, Ohio 45212

September 23, 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, and Mr. Girton.

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

There were additions made to the agenda with introductory readings to three additional ordinances and resolutions, M6 this resolution is regarding a street levy, M7, this resolution is regarding an operating levy, and M8 this ordinance is regarding the CRAs. The last addition includes a committee report from the Finance, Budget, Audit Claims Committee.

On a motion made by Ms. Franzen, seconded by Ms. Hoover. It was moved to amend the agenda. All members present voted, "yes." The motion passed.

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- August 26, 2025
- September 2, 2025
- September 9, 2026

On a motion made by Mr. Girton, seconded by Ms. Royse, it was moved to accept and file minutes from the previous meeting as if read. All members present voted, "yes." The motion passed.

G) SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1) Michael Gabbard, Recreation Director – Recreation

Mr. Gabbard started his presentation by stating how many people have been impacted by Norwood Recreation – 250,000. Norwood Recreation has seen incredible growth with its memberships. The Waterworks pool was contracted for a second year with Cincinnati Pool Management. The pool passes were increased with increased revenue. The pool facility saw improvements that included deck and concrete work, upgraded bathrooms, HVAC, roof repairs, windscreens, and additional cameras. The Recreation center expanded their programs and activities, made major changes to the Lower Millcrest Park, Victory Park, upcoming upgrades for the pool, and long-term development to the former outdoor pool at Norwood's Recreation Center and two key parks annually. The Senior Center was placed under the Recreation Management in January of 2024. The Senior Center has members ranging in age from 55-93, 26 members are enrolled through Silver Sneakers. The Senior Center has weekly programming and activities, including meals every Thursday. A new fitness center was added to the Senior Center portion of the Community Center. Currently the Norwood Recreation Center has the most economical price within the area to join.

Council Members shared and expressed their gratitude to Mr. Gabbard

H) PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

I) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Council President Geers provided a reminder for all addressing council, it must be 5 minutes, attendees must state their name and address, and all requests must be received 10 minutes before the City Council meeting begins.

1) Nyoka Cope

Re: Speeding Out of Control

Nyoka Cope, 1751 Lincoln Ave expressed serious concerns about speeding on Lincoln Avenue following recent street improvements. Ms. Cope reported watching three children nearly being struck by vehicles in one evening. Her cameras were unable to capture speeding cars due to excessive speed. Ms. Cope is requesting urgent action such as speed bumps or speed radar signs, noting proximity to schools and heavy pedestrian traffic.

2) Ramon Tweedy

Re: Safety

Ramon Tweedy, 2750 Park Avenue reported ongoing theft and intimidation at his business stall. Mr. Tweedy filed a police report on August 27 but had not received a follow-up. Mr. Tweedy stated the alleged suspects remain nearby and continue intimidating behavior. He expressed fear for personal and family safety and is considering escalation to Hamilton County Prosecutor, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

3) Sonny James

Re: Community and Come Together

Bishop Sonny James, 4305 Ashland Avenue shared concerns about disrespectful remarks while visiting a local business. Bishop James provided clarity around his thoughts for Phase III near Factory 52 and his reasoning for his thoughts. Bishop James is asking the city and residents to be more collaborative to move the city forward.

4) Anthony Boyle

Re: Mayor's Veto

Tony Boyle, 2739 Robertson Avenue provided council with his concerns regarding the Phase III of the Robertson South development. Mr. Boyles strongly opposes the zoning change. Mr. Boyles provided feedback regarding council calling a special meeting to override the Mayor's Veto.

5) Diane Farrell

Re: Mayor's Veto

Diane Farrell, 2749 Robertson Avenue spoke to council and urged council to vote no on Phase 3 of the South Robertson development due to concerns regarding size and safety.

6) Terri Meagher

RE: Speed and Phase III

Terri Meagher, 4335 Beech Street raised concerns about disregard for resident safety, inadequate parking, privacy, and density. Ms. Meagher believes the project is too large and noted disruption from previous projects could repeat. Ms. Meagher is encouraging council to see the site firsthand and consider the impact.

7) James Lynch

RE: Roberson South – Veto

James Lynch 2721 Robertson Avenue asked to address council, but was not present at this time.

J) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

1) Finance, Budget, Audit, and Claims Committee

Mr. Girton shared the Auditor's Office is updating the city's accounting software and contraction with Monday.com for project Management. The applications for the Deputy Auditor position were narrowed to five candidates. The tax department is preparing for five-year projections. There is early discussion held regarding the 2026 Budget, Council encouraged to submit requests to the Safety Service Director.

On a motion made by Ms. Bowling, seconded by Ms. Hoover, it was moved to accept and file this report. 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

M) INTRODUCTORY READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

1) ORDINANCE TO CHANGE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2025, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

2) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART 7, BUSINESS REGULATION CODE, OF THE NORWOOD CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO ADD CHAPTER 773, "CRYPTOCURRENCY ATM WARNING REQUIREMENT"

On a motion made by Ms. Royse, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved to have the first reading of this ordinance. All members present voted, "yes." The motion passed.

Ms. Royse is hoping an additional sign can be added to the machines to call the police.

3) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE NORWOOD CITY TREASURER, JAMES BONSALE, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NORWOOD, TO FILE CLAIMS AND COLLECT UNCLAIMED FUNDS HELD BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR VARIOUS CITY DEPARTMENTS AT THEIR VARIOUS STREET ADDRESSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AS AMENDED

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

Ms. Hoover asked Mr. Wagers (Tax Commissioner) came forward to provide detail regarding this ordinance, these are unclaimed funds being held at the Ohio Department of Commerce. After Mr. Wagers provided this information, Ms. Hoover made a reminder for residents to claim their unclaimed funds.

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

4) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POSITION OF EVIDENCE TECHNICIAN – AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICER WITHIN THE NORWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

Ms. Hoover asked for the Police Chief, Sumner to come forward to discuss. Chief Sumner stated the position has been vacant since April 2025, and would like to fill the position.

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

5) A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2005 TO OCTOBER 15, 2025, AS "HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH" IN THE CITY OF NORWOOD

On a motion made by Ms. Hoover, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved to suspend the rules and have all three readings, with the first reading in full. All members present voted, "yes." The motion passed.

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

6) RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY TO LEVY A TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION FOR GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, RESURFACING, AND REPAIR OF STREETS, ROADS, BRIDGES, IN THE CITY OF NORWOOD, AND REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On a motion made by Ms. Franzen, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved to have the first reading of this resolution. All members present voted, "yes." The motion passed.

Mr. Moore asked for Mr. Powers, the Safety Service Director to come forward to share more information regarding this resolution or the Mayor could address. Mayor Schneider provided additional information and stated this is due to the deteriorating streets and this was not a definite yes for a levy, but wanted to be prepared in the event this needs to be a levy. Council provided additional information, they will seek information from the Auditor with numbers before Council decides to vote for this to be on a ballot in May 2026.

7) RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY TO LEVY A RENEWAL TAX FOR CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSES IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION AND REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY MATTERS IN CONNECTION, THEREWITH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On a motion made by Ms. Franzen, seconded by Ms. Hoover, it was moved to have the first reading of this resolution. All members present voted, "yes." The motion passed.

8) ORDINANCE AMENDING 62-2024, WHICH SUPERSEDED ORDINANCE 51-2024, WHICH SUPERSEDED ORDINANCE 47-2024, WHICH AMENDED ORDINANCE 18-2009 IMPLEMENTING SECTIONS 3735.65 THROUGH 3735.70 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE TO ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA IN THE CITY OF NORWOOD, TO REVISE CERTAIN PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS AND REFLECT CHANGES IN STATE LAW, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On a motion made by Ms. Hoover, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved to have the first reading of this ordinance. All members present voted, "yes." The motion passed.

N) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Mayor Schneider began by commending the efforts of Mr. Gabbard and the efforts of the Recreation Team. Mayor Schneider shared development updates, the former Quality Inn Site, it is planned for 178 senior living units. The financing and development planning are ongoing. A formal update letter will be shared with council. For the Zumbiel Lot, there has been interest expressed in redeveloping the former industrial site. For the Allison Avenue Development, it has been awarded significant grant funding, including infrastructure work includes a new water line connection on Montgomery Road to support fire safety and future capacity. The Ventura Group continues work on financing and planning. The Trail House Apartments construction is progressing quickly with rental anticipated by Spring 2026. There is ongoing discussion regarding Lexington Avenue to support the project and surrounding area. Mayor Schneider provided an update regarding the abandoned rail line, with negotiations of the unused tracks connecting Xavier University to Millcrest with the goal of linking East Norwood to the Wasson Way Trail and creating new parkland. Mayor Schneider provided a Montgomery Road corridor update, with massive improvements for pedestrian safety, landscaping, and beautification. Road paving work is scheduled for overnight hours. Mayor Schneider provided an update regarding Community Reinvestment Areas (CRA), and explained the contributing factors considered for exemptions. Mayor Schneider also highlighted the Gem of the Highlands Race, which raises funds for local park improvements. Mayor Schneider is encouraging participation as runners, walkers, or volunteers.

Ken Miracle, City Auditor shared several ongoing administrative initiatives. For records retention, Ms. Hackworth has been hired part-time to assist with organizing and clearing out archived boxes with Ohio Revised Code. Mr. Miracle shared an update regarding the P-card Manual, Project Management System, and the technology update.

Keith Moore, Law Director did not have an administrative report to share at this time.

O) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ms. Hoover provided an update on the community survey with additional responses continue to be collected. A QR Code tailored to Xavier University Student was created to increase student participation. Outreach to schools and local business remains ongoing. Due to limited staffing, progress has been gradual, but continued commitment.

P) NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Royse requested to schedule a meeting for the Law and Ordinance Committee. A meeting for the housing committee was scheduled.

Q) COMMUNICATIONS

1) Mayor Victor Schneider – August Mayor’s Court Fines

On a motion made by Ms. Franzen, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved to file the communication as if read. All members present voted, “yes.” The motion passed.

2) Mayor Victor Schneider – Veto Statement

On a motion made by Ms. Hoover, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved to receive and file the mayor’s veto letter. All members present voted, “yes.” The motion passed.

Mr. Moore asked Mr. Moore (Law Director) for procedural matters relating to the veto.

Mr. Girton shared a letter written to the Mayor and City Council, with his intent to seek override of the Mayor’s Veto.

After the letter was shared, Council discussed scheduling a special meeting to consider an override.

Council set a date for a special meeting on September 30, 2025 at 6:30pm.

R) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS

On a motion made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Ms. Franzen, it was moved to excuse absent members (Mr. Breadon). All members present voted, “Yes.” The motion carried.

S) ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Ms. Franzen, seconded by Mr. Moore. It was moved to adjourn the meeting. All members present voted, “Yes.” The motion passed.



Kelsi Goins
Clerk of Council



Joseph S. Geers
President of Council