



Norwood City Council

Council Chambers | Norwood City Hall

4645 Montgomery Road | Norwood, Ohio 45212

December 9, 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. Bowling, Mr. Moore, Mr. Girton, and Mr. Breadon.

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

There was a removal from the agenda, adding the finance committee report.

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

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

There were no minutes from the previous meeting.

G) SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1) Worth Avenue Market Analysis Presentation – Kayra Koprulu, UC co-op DAAP Student

Kayra worked with the Community Development Director and Norwood Together on a marketing analysis for Worth Avenue. Kayra met with community members and business owners on Worth Avenue to determine the best cause of action to transform the space to be a community hub full of resources. Kayra provided historical context of Worth Avenue, current information including the businesses and apartments. Kayra provided opportunities for Worth Avenue including, redoing the small park, support from the city, creation of a small business incubator, and converting businesses into mixed used, while adding tools and opportunities the City could use to assist Worth Avenue: vacancy registration, financial incentives (CRAs), and zoning laws to favor smaller businesses. Kayra also shared resident feedback which included: cleaner and safer streets, restaurants/cafes, green space, and city support for resources for residents and businesses on Worth Avenue.

H) PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

I) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

1) Charlene Myers

RE: FOCUS Cincinnati

Charlene Myers, 4285 Ashland Avenue, addressed council in regards to Focus Cincinnati. Focus currently operates out of Norwood and provides two community meals and a weekly food pantry at Christ the Savior. Charlene shared updates in regards to the Norwood View Elementary School's giving tree (all items have been collected). Ms. Myers shared the warming centers for Norwood will be opening in January and center will operate differently than in years past, as it be easily identifiable when open, when temperatures are 20 degrees or lower.

2) Sonny James

RE: Come Together 2.0

Sonny James, 4305 Ashland Avenue, addressed council in regards to partnering to address crime in Norwood. Bishop James invited Norwood Residents to the Come Together 2.0 event on December 20, 2025.

3) State Representative Ashley Bryant Bailey

RE: Statehouse Update

State Rep. Ashley Bryant Bailey introduced herself to Norwood residents as she replaced Rep. Cedric Denson for the 26th district. Rep. Bryant Bailey shared information in regards to current legislature, hosting a community stop in partnership with Council Member Susan Hoover on December 17 from 5-7pm at the Norwood Welcome Center.

J) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

1) Finance, Budget, Audit, and Claims Committee

Mr. Girton shared the committee report. The committee report included the City Auditor working to close out purchase orders and make any necessary adjustments to appropriations prior to year-end, scheduled a meeting with VIP Analytics to provide details on the City's accounting software, and the Safety Service Director provided a budget updated reflecting the projected 28 percent increase in health insurance costs for personnel, the actual increase was approximately 16 percent.

On a motion made by Ms. Bowling, seconded by Mr. Moore, it was moved to accept the committee report. All members present voted, "yes." The motion passed.

K) THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

1) A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT A CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF NORWOOD IN COMPLIANCE WITH OHIO'S CYBERSECURITY LAW, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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.

Mr. Girton shared the importance of the timeliness of this resolution, experienced by the City of Golf Manor and expressed appreciation for the committee's work in advancing the resolution.

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

L) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

1) AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF VIRTUAL CURRENCY KIOSKS

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

2) A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO ADOPT BACKYARD PAVING LIMITS

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

M) INTRODUCTORY READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

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

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

2) AN ORDINANCE DECLARING IMPROVEMENTS TO CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF NORWOOD, OHIO, TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE AND EXEMPT FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXATION; REQUIRING THE OWNERS OF THOSE PARCELS TO MAKE SERVICE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES; ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND FOR THE DEPOSIT OF THOSE SERVICE PAYMENTS' SPECIFYING THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE THAT DIRECTLY BENEFIT SUCH REAL PROPERTY; AUTHORIZING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE APPLICATION PORTION OF THOSE SERVICE PAYMENTS TO THE NORWOOD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND GREAT OAKS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On a motion made by Ms. Hoover, 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 asked for Mr. Woodside to come and speak in regards to this ordinance. Mr. Woodside explained this ordinance establishes a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) arrangement for the Trailhouse development located along Wasson Way and Montgomery Road. He noted the property is subject to a CRA exemption for the first 15 years, during which time it will generate little to no real property tax revenue. Under the proposed ordinance during years 16 through 30, the taxes that would otherwise be paid to the various taxing districts would instead be diverted to the city through the TIF mechanism. Mr. Woodside also shared under this ordinance the school district would be made whole under the ordinance; therefore, formal school district approval was not required. The Norwood City Schools and Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development would receive the full amounts they would otherwise be entitled to receive, with the remaining funds directed to the City for eligible public infrastructure improvements that directly benefit the subject property.

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

3) ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ROLLAND SPECIALTY VEHICLES AND PRODUCTS AKA R.S.V.P. AMBULANCE FOR THE FINANCE AND PURCHASE OF A 2026 TRAUMAHAWK MODULAR AMBULANCE 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.

Ms. Hoover asked Chief McCabe to speak in regards to this ordinance. Chief McCabe shared this was a continuation of their fleet maintenance program with 9 years of use for ambulances. Chief McCabe provided this information in the capital plan and shared the fleet maintenance plan in February 2025.

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

N) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

James Bonsall, City Treasurer, provided a Treasurer's Report. The net profits tax revenues for the current year lower than originally projected due to several businesses submitted estimated net profits tax

payments earlier in the year subsequently filed refund requests after their final federal tax returns reflected lower taxable income than estimated. As a result, the City anticipates refunding approximately \$1.2 million to various businesses by the end of January to avoid the accrual of statutory interest. Mr. Bonsall emphasized that no formal Council action was required at this time. He is working closely with the Safety Financial Supervisor, Service Director, Mayor, and City Auditor to identify available funding sources. Mr. Bonsall expressed confidence that the city can manage the refunds through reallocation of existing appropriations, subject to the Financial Supervisor due to the City's fiscal emergency status. Mr. Bonsall stated that the passage of SB56 passed in the Ohio Senate preserving the City's entitlement to 36 percent of the Host Community Fund proceeds and removed the previously proposed four-year limitation. The legislation authorizes the use of these funds for any approved municipal purpose.

Ken Miracle, City Auditor, provided the Auditor's Report. Mr. Miracle shared the Deputy Auditor is working on year-end appropriations to be presented to Council at the December 23rd meeting. The Auditor's office is coordinating closely with the Auditor of State with frequent communication. Mr. Miracle shared the Certificate of Estimated Resources is due by December 31. Mr. Miracle also shared a virtual meeting was held in partnership with SSI/VIP, with the office beginning to work on workflow development as part of the transition toward paperless operations. The VIP budget module will be used for entering the budget moving forward.

Keith Moore, Law Director shared a litigation update. Mr. Moore shared an update in regards to enforcement of zoning regulations related to short-term rentals (Airbnb properties) in R-1 and R-2 residential districts. Mr. Moore shared the city has consistently interpreted its zoning code to classify short-term rentals as a hotel or non-residential use, which is not permitted in those districts. Mr. Moore explained the current litigation was overturned by a Trial Court Judge in ruling in favor of the city. The Law Department, Building Department, and Safety Service Director are scheduled to meet to review potential zoning code updates, including provisions addressing short-term rentals. Mr. Moore also stated there are documents going back and forth with the school district's attorney.

O) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ms. Hoover requested an item be placed within the Parks Committee agenda regarding development of a formal parks master plan. Ms. Hoover shared there have been a host of reports regarding car break ins, and reiterated to residents to report break ins when they happen to the police. Ms. Hoover also provided an update on the Community Survey and the cost. Ms. Hoover provided an update on sustainability efforts reminding residents to throw holiday lights away at the drop box located behind the Norwood Board of Health building, sharing information with businesses to recycle as they are paying for it in their water bills, and working on a grant on composting that City of Norwood won. The composting site will be at Lower Millcrest and will be supported through Hamilton County Resource for the first year. Ms. Hoover reminded residents to leave their leaves at the curbs and public works would be around to gather them as well as residents receiving a Lead letter from the water department, Public Works can test your water for lead.

P) NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Franzen invited all residents to the community dinner at the Cidery on December 12th at 6 with a surprise from Santa.

Q) COMMUNICATIONS

1) Norwood Planning Commission – RE: Memorandum

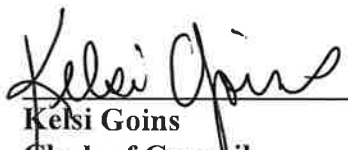
On a motion made by Ms. Franzen, seconded by Mr. Hoover, it was moved to receive and file the communication and schedule the public hearing on January 27, 2026. All members present voted, "yes." The motion passed.

R) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS

On a motion made by Mr. Girton, seconded by Ms. Bowling, it was moved to excuse absent members (Ms. Royse). All members present voted, "yes." The motion passed.

S) ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Moorse, seconded by Ms. Hoover, 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