

**NORWALK CITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**

January 10, 2017  
7:30 p.m.

Municipal Court  
Norwalk, Ohio

**WORK SESSION**

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Council President Steve Euton called the meeting to order. The following Council members were present: Steve Euton, Chris Mushett, Chris Castle, Steve Schumm, Dave Wallace, and Kelly Beck. Deb Lucal and Samantha Wilhelm were absent.

Mayor Rob Duncan, Law Director Stu O'Hara, Finance Director Diane Eschen, Safety Service Director Dan Wendt, Fire Chief John Soisson, Police Chief Dave Light, and Public Works Director Josh Snyder were also in attendance.

*Item No. 17-008*

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO OHIO ENTERPRISE ZONE AGREEMENT 17-1

Mayor Duncan introduced Ben Kenny, Enterprise Zone Manager, who explained the enterprise zone process. Mr. Kenny said this is the first time he knows of two agreements happening simultaneously.

Mr. Mushett asked if property tax recipients other than the schools receive any money. Mr. Kenny said no.

Mr. Schumm asked if 10 years is the typical length of an enterprise zone agreement. Mr. Kenny said yes.

Chris Kromer, the Chief Financial Officer of Borgers Ohio Inc. was present and spoke about the planned 150,000 square foot expansion.

Council members agreed to place this item on the agenda.

*Item No. 17-009*

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO OHIO ENTERPRISE ZONE AGREEMENT 17-2

Mike Porter, Vice President of Operations for New Horizons Baking Company was present and discussed the 15,000 square feet of freezer space they plan to construct.

Council members agreed to place this item on the agenda.

*Item No. 17-010*

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 549.08 OF THE NORWALK CODIFIED ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO FIRING RANGES

Mr. Wendt explained that this legislation is an amendment to allow outdoor shooting ranges within the City. He shared a map depicting the M-2 districts. He said the shooting range currently in question is planned for Laylin Road. Chief Light added that this is a unique situation and request. He said the planned shooting range seems to be safe and in compliance with the NRA Range Sourcebook.

Mr. Mushett asked if the NRA Range Sourcebook has guidelines for proximity to parks, roadways, and parking lots which may not be located in a residential area for both safety and sound concerns. Mr. Wendt said sound is an issue and it is not addressed. He said there is no way to prevent the sound.

Mr. O'Hara said *Item No. 17-011* restricts indoor and outdoor shooting ranges to the M-2 district. He said it is also in the M-2 district as a conditional use which must be approved or denied by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mr. Euton asked if there is any limit to the size or type of guns permitted. Mr. Wendt said such limitations are not currently in the legislation, but the planned outdoor range is for handguns only. He added that the NRA Range Sourcebook outlines what is permitted based on the construction of the range.

Mr. O'Hara explained that *Item No. 17-011* will require approval of the Planning Commission following first reading. He recommended that Council also table and refer *Item No. 17-010* to the Safety Committee for consideration.

Mr. Euton asked if the NRA Range Sourcebook is available to the public. Chief Light confirmed that it is. He also suggested that time constraints be considered due to noise.

Mr. Mushett asked if automatic weapons present different concerns from handguns. Chief Light said not as far as bullet travel goes.

Mr. Wallace asked where in the process would Council put time constraints in the legislation. Mr. O'Hara explained that either *Item 17-010* could be modified to include time constraints, the Board of Zoning Appeals could place conditions on the permit, or time limitations could be added to *Item 17-011*. He said any actual amendment to the ordinance has to be done by Council.

Council members agreed to place this item on the agenda.

*Item No. 17-011*

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1165.01B OF THE NORWALK CODIFIED ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO CONDITIONAL USES IN THE M-2 HEAVY MANUFACTURING DISTRICT

Council members agreed to place this item on the agenda.

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Chief Soisson presented an update to the Fire Station Project.

Mr. Euton requested a project update every three months. Chief Soisson agreed.

Mr. Euton said that there will be a group photo taken at the next regular session which will be posted on the Norwalk City Council Facebook page.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mr. Euton said that January 17, 2017 will be a regular session. It was decided that the January 24, 2017 meeting will be cancelled and January 31, 2017 will be a work session.

**ADJOURNMENT** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

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Stephen E. Euton  
President

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Jaime L. Peiples  
Clerk