

January 25, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Woodbury held on the above date was called to order by President C. Barry E. Sloane at 7:30 pm. The meeting was held in Council Chambers located at Woodbury City Hall, 33 Delaware Street, Woodbury, NJ. The Clerk/Administrator, Thomas B. Bowe, stated that it was a Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Woodbury City Council and due notice had been given to both the press and the public by reason of a resolution for Regular Meetings adopted January 4, 2010.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation delivered by Evangelist Samuel Jackson.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Villari, Pottillo, Riskie, Brown, Fleming, Louis, Tierney, Trout, President Sloane, and Mayor Curtis

**Absent:** No One

**MINUTES:**

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Trout, the minutes of January 12, 2010 were approved as submitted.

**CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

President Sloane stated that there would be a change of sequence from the agenda due to the promotions of two Woodbury Police Officers, which was done first.

**RESOLUTION #10-44 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF A LIEUTENANT IN THE WOODBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT** (John Atkinson)

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Riskie, the resolution was adopted by a voice vote.

**RESOLUTION #10-45 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF A SERGEANT IN THE WOODBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT** (Donnell Davis)

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Riskie, the resolution was adopted by a voice vote.

### **MAYOR ADMINISTERED OATH OF OFFICE**

Mayor Curtis administered the Oath of Office to both John Atkinson and Donnell Davis as Lieutenant and Sergeant respectively in the Woodbury Police Department.

### **K-9 PRESENTATION**

Chief Merinuk first thanked Council for supporting the two promotions this evening, both individuals have long standings with the department and will do an excellent job in fulfilling their roles.

Chief Merinuk then discussed the potential of a adopting another K-9 Unit within the Woodbury Police Department. Years ago we had one, but it has been defunct for a long period of time. The Woodbury Police Department would now like to reinstate the K-9 Unit.

Sergeant Cope continued with the presentation giving more details regarding the money involved in implementing the program and how the City would benefit from such a program. Sergeant Cope then discussed the types of duties for which the dogs would be used. Obviously, with our own unit one would not have to depend on other towns whenever a dog is needed.

Sergeant Cope answered several of Council's questions about cost especially regarding insurance liability, how the local breeder would give us a one year guarantee and a canine medical insurance policy from the University of Pennsylvania. Also discussed was the amount of time it would take to train the dog.

### **PUBLIC:**

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Trout, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the floor was opened to the Public for Agenda Items Only.

Seeing no one, on motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Trout, the Public Portion was closed and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

### **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

**RESOLUTION 10-43 – RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE TAX EXEMPTION AND CANCEL TAXES FOR A DISABLED VETERAN (Ronald A. Drews)**

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Louis, the resolution was adopted by a voice motion.

**RESOLUTION #10-48 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENERGY AUDIT PROGRAM**

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Louis, the resolution was adopted by a voice motion.

**RESOLUTION #10-50 – RESOLUTION AWARDING ELECTRICAL MODIFICATION CONTRACT REGARDING DELAWARE STREET FIREHOUSE**

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Louis, the resolution was adopted by a voice motion.

**VOUCHERS**

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Louis, the vouchers as presented and certified were authorized paid.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**RESOLUTION #10-49 – RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY GIVING ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE**

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Riskie, the resolution was adopted by a voice motion.

Councilman Louis stated that he was contacted by a neighbor regarding a sewer problem he was having and was getting a mixed message when trying to reach City Hall or Public Works after hours, which happened to be a Sunday, January 124, 2010. The message one gets is to call 911 for an emergency or 845-0064 which is the Clayton Dispatch number. The message should be changed to call the duty man at 845-0065 which is the non-emergency number for the Police Department through which matters such as water/sewer problems can be addressed after hours or during the week-end. Councilman Louis stated he eventually did just that and the matter was resolved in a very expeditious manner; however, no one would know that this is the correct way by listening to the two message that are currently on the City Hall message machine and the Public Works message machine. Mr. Rich Leidy was asked to rectify the problem.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES**

Councilman Pottillo had nothing to report.

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Councilman Villari advised that the meeting held in the County Ceremonial Courtroom a week and a half ago to discuss the GG Green Redevelopment Project was very informative. Another follow-up meeting scheduled for February 3, 2010 at Nicolosi's will also further discuss the topic.

#### **PERSONNEL**

#### **RESOLUTION #10-51 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CLOSED SESSION REGARDING PERSONNEL CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS**

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Trout, the resolution was adopted by a voice motion.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

Councilman Riskie stated that he received a communication that on Friday, January 29, 2010 a meeting will be held in Bordentown for municipalities that want to go "green" listing

various incentives to do so. Councilman Riskie will be attending and will report back to Council to advise of the outcome.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

#### **RESOLUTION #10-46 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT HELPING HAND PROGRAM FUNDS FOR BLOCK 115, LOT 24 A/K/A 145 FRANKLIN STREET**

Councilwoman Brown presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilman Pottillo, the resolution was adopted by a voice motion.

#### **RESOLUTION #10-47 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT HELPING HAND PROGRAM FUNDS FOR BLOCK 100, LOT 12 A/K/A 71 CARPENTER STREET**

Councilwoman Brown presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the resolution was adopted by a voice motion.

Councilwoman Brown advised that on Monday, January 18, 2010 she will be representing the City for Martin Luther King Day at the High School. The students have decided not to take the traditional day off but instead they will donate their time to the senior residents at Colonial Park Apartments to do any small jobs that are needed. In addition, there will be a group who will sing for the residents.

### **GREEN ACRES PROGRAM**

Councilman Trout had nothing to report.

### **MAYOR CURTIS**

Mayor Curtis thanked Council for its support of the Police Department and Municipal Court.

The Mayor also reminded everyone that there is an on-going movement to start up a Boys and Girls Club, but there is a need for financial support to move forward. The goal is to have the program up and moving by September 2010.

**CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Bowe stated that Colonial Park is scheduled to be remodeled this year at a cost of around 8 million dollars. Residents will be relocated on a gradual schedule during the work.

**PUBLIC**

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the floor was opened to the Public for Non-Agenda Items.

Connie Rosin of 240 S. Broad Street, Apartment 2D in Woodbury Court Apartments, along with Margaret Key, Apartment 16D of the same complex, approached Council to discuss their concerns regarding what they consider a dangerous fellow tenant at their complex. Chief Merinuk and Lieutenant Cope met privately with the two women to further address their issues.

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Trout, the Public Portion was closed and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD PRESENTATION REGARDING 2010 BUDGET**

Rich Leidy, Supervisor of Public Works, came forward to discuss the budget for Public Works advising that there were some questions regarding salaries because of a turnover of employees in 2009. Mr. Leidy advised why there were monies moved around and wanted to explain why there were budgetary changes.

Mr. Leidy continued by stating that Mike Walsh, Manager of Public Works, is kept aware of any budgetary changes with a close watch especially being kept on all costs involving maintenance and equipment needs for daily operations.

Councilman Fleming stated that he appreciated Mr. Leidy's interest in informing Council on the Public Works Budget; the Fire and Police Departments will present their budgets at the next meeting.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Trout, there was a five minute recess before Council went into Executive Session (8:25 pm).

**EXECUTIVE      SESSION**

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Trout, the meeting was resumed at 9:18 pm.

Mayor Curtis stated that he has been approached by several members of the Goodwill Fire Company and they would like the City to take over their building.

The Mayor is requesting that he send a letter to the Members to conduct a meeting to discuss the proposed transfer.

On motion of Councilman Riskie, seconded by Councilman Pottillo, the Mayor was authorized to proceed with the letter.

Councilwoman Brown inquired who replaced Don Hall and how he can be reached.

Mayor Curtis stated that the individual is Tom Cirone and he works Monday through Friday during normal working hours and can be contacted at the Public Works phone number.

Councilwoman Brown stated that the area along Railroad Avenue and Carpenter Street is not being maintained as it was while Mr. Hall was attending to it.

President Sloane advised that this will be addressed.

Bob Law advised that he is in the process of making arrangements to have the Recording System replaced and will need more detailed information when we start using the system. One of the things that will be required will be to have Councilpersons state their name when they second a motion.

There being no further action, on motion of Councilman Riskie, seconded by Councilman Pottillo, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

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THOMAS B. BOWE  
Clerk/Administrator

**OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Assessor: Roy Duffield  
Chief Financial Officer: Robert Law  
City Engineer: Ted Wilkinson, PE  
Deputy Clerk: Gail Scheffler  
Emergency Management Officer: Lieutenant S. Cope

Main Street Director: Ronda Abbruzzese  
NPP Coordinator: Virginia Horn  
Police Chief: Reed Merinuk and Captain Sheehan  
Solicitor: James Pierson, Esq.  
Streets: Rich Leidy, Supervisor