

February 27, 2003

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Woodbury held on the above date was called to order by President Curtis at 7:30 p.m.. The meeting was held in Council Chambers located at Woodbury City Hall, 33 Delaware Street, Woodbury, N.J.. The Deputy Administrator, Robert Law, 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 2, 2003.

The Reverend Robert Moore, Pastor of One-Way Missionary Church, delivered the Invocation.

Councilwoman Brown introduced a Quartet from Bethlehem Baptist Church who presented a song in honor of Black History Month.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

President Curtis stated that under the Public Safety Committee an addition was being made to include an approval for Membership to the Friendship Fire Company.

ROLL CALL

Present: Riskie, Schrock, Schreyer, Brown, Sloane, Grebb, Louis, President Curtis and Mayor Clark

Absent: Graziani

MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Riskie, seconded by Councilman Schrock, the minutes of February 13, 2003 were approved as submitted.

PUBLIC

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Riskie, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the floor was opened to the Public for Agenda Items only.

As no one desired to address Council, on motion of Councilman Riskie, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the Public Portion was closed and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE #1952-03 – ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE IMPOUNDMENT OR IMMOBILIZATION OF VEHICLES FOUND WITHIN THE CITY OF WOODBURY FOR OUTSTANDING WARRANTS AGAINST THAT VEHICLE

Councilman Schrock presented the above-entitled ordinance for final adoption.

The Deputy Administrator read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilman Schrock, seconded by Councilman Riskie, the ordinance was ordered opened for public hearing.

On motion of Councilman Schrock, seconded by Councilman Riskie, the public hearing was ordered closed.

On motion of Councilman Schrock, seconded by Councilman Riskie, the ordinance was passed on second and final reading by a roll call vote.

Ayes	8	
Nays	0	
Absent	1	(Graziani)

RESOLUTIONS

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

RESOLUTION #03-54 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CHANGE IN CONTRACT PRICE, INCLUDING CHANGES DUE TO AN EMERGENCY, FOR THE WEST STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND MOUNT CONSTRUCTION

Councilman Sloane presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Deputy Administrator read the title of the resolution.

Councilman Louis inquired if a compromise had been established for item #1. Mr. Fleming advised that the City had decided that no compromise had been reached for item #1.

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

RESOLUTION #03-56 – RESOLUTION TO REIMBURSE TAX OVERPAYMENTS

Councilman Sloane presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Deputy Administrator read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Schrock, the resolution was adopted by a voice vote.

RESOLUTION #03-59 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REDUCTION IN SEWER BILLING TO CERTAIN COMMERCIAL USERS FOR THE YEAR 2003

Councilman Sloane presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Deputy Administrator read the title of the resolution.

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

RESOLUTION #036-60 – RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF WOODBURY COMMUNITY FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN AND AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR APPROVAL

Councilman Sloane presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Deputy Administrator read the title of the resolution.

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

VOUCHERS

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Riskie, the vouchers as presented, listed and certified were authorized paid.

Councilman Sloane advised that on Monday, March 10, 2003, a Budget Work Session is tentatively scheduled in Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m.. Councilman Sloane stated that he has advised all department heads to keep their budget figures as close as possible to those submitted in 2002.

President Curtis stated that Mr. Law will e-mail the budget figures to each Councilperson for their review prior to the March 10th meeting. Notification to each Councilperson will be made to advise whether the Budget Work Session will be necessary or not.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Councilman Grebb inquired if the City Engineer has devised any plans for the use of the grant money that is scheduled to be used for the lighting on W. Barber Avenue along the parking lot area. The Engineer responded he had.

UTILITIES

Councilman Riskie advised of a letter he received from a Project Engineer working in Wenonah advising that the Township of Wenonah is anticipating the possible construction of townhouses near their swim club; the engineer would like Woodbury to supply water for this project. Councilman Riskie stated that the City of Woodbury is not in any position to take on additional services.

Councilman Louis inquired if the City of Woodbury Engineer had an opinion.

Mr. Fleming stated that he just recently heard of the request; there are many factors involved in making a final decision.

Dialogue continued regarding this topic.

On motion of Councilman Riskie, seconded by Councilman Sloane, the request to supply water to Wenonah at this time was rejected.

Councilman Riskie commended Sergeant Cope from the Emergency Management Office on the snow removal emergency recently experienced. Councilman Riskie did, however, suggest that the Emergency Management start its plan of action at an earlier time instead of 7:30 a.m. . Councilman Riskie advised that on a personal note, his wife, being in the medical field, had a very difficult time starting out in the morning. It appears that we must start to address snow removal earlier.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

RESOLUTION #03-57 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION HOME PROGRAM FUNDS FOR BLOCK 69 LOT 10 a/k/a WEST BARBER AVENUE

Councilwoman Brown presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Deputy Administrator read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the resolution was adopted by a voice vote. Councilman Riskie abstained from the vote.

RESOLUTION #03-58 – RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION #03-203 AUTHORIZING THE USE OF NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION HOME PROGRAM FUNDS FOR BLOCK 58 LOT 5 a/k/a 416 GLOVER STREET

Councilwoman Brown presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Deputy Administrator read the title of the resolution.

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

RAFFLE APPLICATION

Councilman Schrock presented two raffle applications: one from the Elks Lodge #2708 in Deptford which is holding its raffle at St. Patrick's on April 5, 2003; the other from the South Jersey Mothers Of Multiple Births whose raffle is to be held on April 6th at the Woodbury Country Club. Seeing both applications in order, on motion of Councilman Schrock, seconded by Councilman Louis, the applications were approved as submitted.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP TO FRIENDSHIP FIRE COMPANY

Councilman Schrock presented an application for membership to the Friendship Fire Company from Elizabeth Nichols of Woodbury. On motion of Councilman Schrock, seconded by Councilman Riskie, the application was approved as submitted.

Councilman Schrock addressed the introduction of an ordinance that would amend the existing ordinance pertaining to snow removal. There was much conversation regarding the

amount to be charged for the fine involved, as well as exactly who is responsible for snow removal.

Mr. Dukelow stated the procedure used now is that once notified the Police Department is notified along with Mr. Dukelow and then time permitting Don Hall, Community Service Director, will make arrangements to have the snow shoveled.

More conversation ensued touching on the following topics: whether warnings should be issued; how quickly the snow should be removed; how much of an area should be done; whether corner property owners should clear a passage at their corners; whether tenants or landlords are responsible for properties; and snow piles created by plowed snow.

Mr. Hasbrouck advised Council that when preparing the final ordinance a range should be established with a minimum and a maximum fine, and let the court decide on the final fine amount. Also there were other issues brought up that should be decided by our Municipal Court.

In conclusion, Councilman Schrock stated that that he would review what was discussed and present the final ordinance for Council's consideration for adoption at the next regularly-scheduled meeting on March 13, 2003.

PRESIDENT CURTIS

President Curtis stated that the Planning Board has forwarded a revised schedule of fees for Council's review and ultimate approval. President Curtis advised that if any changes were recommended Councilmembers contact him prior to the Planning Board Meeting on Monday, March 3, 2003.

President Curtis also advised that during the last snowfall there was a situation whereby our City personnel were put in a precarious situation. Because of this President Curtis stated that he had instructed the City Clerk/Administrator to issue a policy whereby no complaints will be acted upon unless the individual is willing to leave his name, address and phone number. Mr. Hasbrouck suggested that the insurance agency be notified to ensure that this request would not create any liability issues for the City.

Councilman Sloane advised that he recently had a problem that justified President Curtis' statement whereby a resident called him to complain about a drainage problem on Evergreen Avenue. Unfortunately, said caller did not leave her name or phone number so Councilman Sloane could not get back to her to let her know that Evergreen Avenue was the responsibility of the County.

MAYOR CLARK

Mayor Clark complimented Sergeant Cope and the entire Police Department, Chief Bain of the Woodbury Fire Department, Mike Walsh, Public Works Director and Tom Dukelow for the superb job they did during the recent snow storms. Mayor Clark stated she even received compliments from residents from other towns on Woodbury's snow removal.

The Mayor announced the opening of a new business, Charlie and Sal's Take Out Seafood on the South Evergreen Avenue Circle. The grand opening will be on Saturday, March 1, 2003.

Mayor Clark also advised of another ribbon cutting which was scheduled for Friday, February 28, 2003 on North Broad Street which has been posted until Friday, March 7, 2003 between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. for a Group entitled Parent's Anonymous.

The Mayor announced that the Don Sanderson Roast will not be cancelled due to the weather.

Mayor Clark recognized members of Troop #74 from Evergreen Avenue School who were in the audience this evening. Each Boy Scout introduced himself.

Mayor Clark stated that the local Small Business Association had a workshop which the Mayor and Stanley El recently attended. The information provided will be beneficial.

DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Law addressed the following subjects:

1 An update to the Code Book was recently distributed; this was a one page amendment;

2. A Public Hearing notice was distributed this evening advising of a Planning Board Hearing to be held in Deptford; and

3. Mr. Law referenced the Engineers Report which included recommendations for the repair of the roof at the Friendship Fire House.

PUBLIC

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

Roy Neal, 119 Hunter Street, came forward to express his concern regarding the snow removal procedure. Mr. Neal stated that he shoveled his property only to have the snow plow push the snow back onto his property. He was then visited by the Woodbury Police Department and issued a warning for not removing the snow from his property. Mr. Neal stated that consideration should be given to this type of situation, as well as going after property owners who never shovel their properties..

Councilman Schrock stated he thoroughly understood Mr. Neal's concerns. Some type of ordinance has to be put into place to clarify situations like this.

Councilwoman Brown inquired if the City plowing was on some type of schedule.

Mr. Dukelow advised there was no schedule. Snow removal is a never ending process.

President Curtis commended our Public Works Department, as well as explaining how even the County, when plowing, buried the sidewalks at Evergreen Avenue School causing our City forces to clear the way.

Paul Bunn, 18 E. Packard Street, also addressed the snow removal ordinance and stated that residents should use common sense in the shoveling of their sidewalks, especially those residents who have a corner property. Mr. Bunn also suggested that Council indicate how wide the average footpath should be.

Another issue Mr. Bunn addressed was the lack of a sewer vent for the drainage of water on Packard Street.

Finally, Mr. Bunn expressed his displeasure with TLC Ambulance Service and their lack of consideration in using his street as a short cut back to their location. Mr. Bunn stated that he

attempted to discuss this directly with TLC only to be advised by one of the drivers that they do not intend to change their route because they are entitled to use any public street they choose.

Councilman Sloane advised that TLC will be talked to and this type of attitude could cost them a renewal contract with the City for next year.

Bob Rogers, 130 Rugby Place, complimented Mayor and Council for their attempt to update the recent snow removal ordinance. Mr. Rogers stated that many residents take great efforts to remove the snow from their driveways, but all too often leave their pavements unattended.

As no one else desired to address Council, on motion of Councilman Grebb, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the Public Portion was closed and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

There being no further business, on motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Grebb, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m..

ROBERT LAW
Deputy Administrator

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT

Deputy Clerk: Gail R. Scheffler
City Engineer: William Fleming
Librarian: Jean Wipf
Neighborhood Preservation Director: Virginia Horn
Police: Lieutenant McKnight
Public Works: Tom Dukelow
Solicitor: Bruce Hasbrouck, Esq.