

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Woodbury held on the above date was called to order by President Harry R. Riskie at 7:30 p.m.. The meeting was held in Council Chambers located at Woodbury City Hall, 33 Delaware Street, Woodbury, N.J.. The 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 5, 2005.

President Riskie requested a Moment of Silence

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Curtis, Louis, Graziani, Grimming, Tierney, Riskie, Mayor Clark

**Absent:** Brown, Sloane, Schreyer

**PRESIDENT RISKIE**

President Riskie reminded Council about the Budget Workshop that would be held on Saturday, March 5, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.. President Riskie stated that copies of the Budget worksheet have been distributed this evening for everyone to look over and advised Department Heads to also be available for the meeting. President Riskie thanked Mr. Robert Law for all his work in preparing the materials.

**CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

President Riskie advised that Ordinance #1985-05 would not be introduced this evening as the group that was to represent International Senior Development was not present tonight; the ordinance would be held over for another meeting.

**MINUTES**

On motion of Councilman Graziani, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the minutes of February 14, 2005 were approved as submitted.

**PUBLIC**

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Graziani, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the floor was opened to the public for Agenda Items Only.

Mr. Anthony Toffoli, who owns a property in Woodbury on Penn Street came forward to explain a problem he had with his water and sewer bill at this location. Mr. Toffoli continued by explaining the series of events that occurred up to this date. Mr. Toffoli received a very high water bill indicating there was the possibility of a leak somewhere in the line. Whether the leak was on

his side of the system, or on the City's side was not immediately apparent. Although there was a resolution on the agenda this evening to reimburse a part of Mr. Toffoli's water bill, Mr. Toffoli still felt the reimbursement of \$660.00 was not nearly enough. Mr. Toffoli then went into a lengthy explanation of why he believed he was entitled to a significantly higher reimbursement. Mr. Toffoli advised Council that he was told by a number of plumbers that when something of this nature occurs usually the municipality will average out the last two billing cycles and come up with a reasonable amount to charge.

Several Council members had questions.

Mr. Bowe, Clerk/Administrator, explained that Mr. Robert Law, CFO and the Water/Sewer Clerk, Lisa Leech, had sat down and determined that the amount contained in the resolution before Council was a fair reimbursement based on all of the data available.

It was decided that Resolution #05-62, the resolution to adjust the water and sewer charges to Mr. Toffoli, would not be adopted this evening. President Riskie suggested that the Utilities Committee meet to review the situation again and have Mr. Toffoli resubmit another figure that he feels is fair. Mr. Toffoli is then to share that amount with Mr. Bowe and have further discussion if necessary.

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

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

#### **RESOLUTION #05-60 - RESOLUTION TO REIMBURSE TAX OVERPAYMENTS**

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

#### **RESOLUTION #05-61 - RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE TAX EXEMPTION AND CANCEL TAXES FOR A DISABLED VETERAN, HARRY L. WEID JR.**

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

#### **ORDINANCE #1985-05 - ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.40A:12-13, N.J.S.A.40A:12-1 AND N.J.S.A.40:55C-37: BLOCK 142, LOT 6.01**

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the above-entitled ordinance was tabled.

### **VOUCHERS**

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

Councilman Louis reminded everyone about the Budget Workshop which will be held on Saturday, March 5th at 9:00 a.m..

### **MAYOR CLARK**

Mayor Clark congratulated Chief Merinuk of the Woodbury Police Department on receiving a grant in the amount of \$60,000 to use to update their equipment.

Also Chief Merinuk was recognized by the Mayor for his efforts as our of Safety Co-Ordinator, and Gail Scheffler, for her efforts as our JIF Claims Co-Ordinator, in helping the City achieve a Standard of Workplace Safety that earned us a \$2,150.00 award.

Mayor Clark also reminded everyone that the public hearings on the light rail transportation in Gloucester County are scheduled for this week: tomorrow at Rowan University, and on Thursday at the Deptford Municipal Bldg.. Both of the meetings will be from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m..

The Mayor stated that last week after the adoption of the resolution pertaining to the Conversion Program for single-family dwellings, there was a newspaper article the following day which prompted two responses from local residents who are interested in participating in the program.

### **PRESIDENT RISKIE**

President Riskie strongly urged everyone to attend the meetings that the Mayor spoke of pertaining to the light rail line. The more public opinion there is in support of the decision to use the existing rail line, the greater the benefit there would be for the City of Woodbury.

### **CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Bowe advised that Councilman Sloane requested that a safety survey be conducted regarding the skateboard park.

Mayor Clark stated that she has requested a meeting with the JIF and Members of the Skateboard Committee to discuss matters pertaining to safety issues. Conducting a safety survey at this time may be a little premature as there are no definite plans available to review.

Mr. Bowe stated that there is a problem involving a water leak near the railroad tracks adjacent to the Red Eagle Packing Plant. After a meeting tomorrow with Conrail and officials from our Public Works Department, we will hopefully be able to determine exactly what is causing this leak.

The Clerk/Administrator requested authorization to move forward on a request to Green Acres for an additional \$350,000.00 in grant money for the Stewart Park Project. The reason for the request centers on the opinion by the DEP's Division of Tidal Lands that part of the property included in the original grant application may not be under City control. Therefore, the original project is to be divided into two separate considerations giving the City the opportunity to apply for more funding.

Mr. Schiavo explained that at one time the area in question was considered tide lands which requires a waterfront permit. What this means is that the City can still do the project; however, there is other paperwork needed to accomplish this. On motion of Councilman Graziani, seconded by Councilman Louis, Mr. Schiavo was directed to proceed and do whatever is necessary to complete the project as needed.

Mr. Bowe thanked everyone who came out to support the Woodbury Boys' High School Basketball Team, and also a "special thank you" to the Mayor and Councilpersons Louis and Tierney who attended multiple games.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

President Riskie presented the Treasurer's Report which was received as filed.

### **PUBLIC**

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

Dave Jenkins, 345 Glover Street, came forward to inquire about the status of the West End Tennis Resurfacing Project.

Mr. Schiavo stated that all the contractor was waiting for was for the weather to cooperate.

Mr. Riggins of 72 DuBois Avenue addressed Council relating to a situation that had arisen between himself and the City's Electrical Inspector. Mr. Riggins went on to complain about Charles Bastow, the Inspector in question and how he handled the inspection of Mr. Riggins' home on DuBois Avenue. Mr. Riggins stated that Mr. Bastow has been both unprofessional and somewhat intimidating. Mr. Riggins gave the details of why he felt unfairly treated advising of how he attempted to answer questions that Mr. Bastow had, and how Mr. Bastow not only questioned him but a friend of Mr. Riggins as well who had helped Mr. Riggins with advise on how to do the electrical modifications necessary for his home to pass inspection. Every time Mr. Riggins accommodated Mr. Bastow, it seemed that Mr. Bastow came up with something else with which Mr. Riggins had to comply, often using an intimidating manner. Even after complying with Mr. Bastow's recommendations for corrections, he was fined \$50.00 for having someone else do the actual work that Mr. Riggins emphatically related that he had done. Mr. Riggins is currently

filing an appeal with the Gloucester County Board of Appeals. He did not want this situation to go unnoticed regarding the conduct of one the City's inspectors.

President Riskie advised Mr. Riggins that the Personnel Committee would look further into this complaint.

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

As there was no further business, on motion of Councilman Graziani, seconded by Councilman Curtis, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m..

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THOMAS B. BOWE  
Clerk/Administrator

**OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Assessor: Roy Duffield  
Chief financial Officer: Robert Law  
City Engineer: Joseph Schiavo  
Deputy City Clerk: Gail Scheffler  
Librarian: Jean Wipf  
Police: Chief Reed Merinuk  
Solicitor: Michael Aimino, Esq.