

March 27, 2006

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 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 3, 2006.

Reverend Christine Regan of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church delivered the Invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present: Brown, Curtis, Louis, Tierney, Sloane, Schreyer, Grimming, Belko, President Riskie and Mayor Clark

Absent: No One

MINUTES

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Curtis, the minutes of the meeting of March 13, 2006 were approved as submitted. Councilman Sloane abstained from the vote.

PUBLIC

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Curtis, 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 Sloane, seconded by Councilman Belko, the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

ORDINANCES

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

ORDINANCE #2020-06 - ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 106 OF THE WOODBURY MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED: HOUSING STANDARDS

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-entitled ordinance for final adoption.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Louis, the ordinance was ordered opened for public hearing.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Louis, the public hearing was ordered closed.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Louis, the ordinance was placed on second and final reading.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Louis, the ordinance was passed by a roll call vote.

Ayes 9
Nays 0

ORDINANCE #2021-06 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 89, ARTICLE I, OF THE WOODBURY MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED: FIRE PREVENTION

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-entitled ordinance.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the ordinance was placed on first reading.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the ordinance was passed on first reading to be advertised according to law, come up for second reading, public hearing and final passage at the next Regular Meeting of Council on April 10, 2006.

ORDINANCE #2022-06 - ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF SPRING STREET IN THE CITY OF WOODBURY, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-entitled ordinance.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the ordinance was placed on first reading.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the ordinance was passed on first reading to be advertised according to law, come up for second reading, public hearing and final passage at the next Regular Meeting of Council on April 10, 2006.

ORDINANCE #2023-06 - ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 197 OF THE WOODBURY MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED: WATER

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-entitled ordinance.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the ordinance was placed on first reading.

Mr. Law, Chief Financial Officer, explained that the reason the increase was necessary was that the City is in a \$1,000,000.00 budget deficit in the water & sewer department. This new increase is a 50% rise in the rates; we will also decrease the number of days from 30 to 15 days prior to issuing late charges. Mr. Law also discussed the pros and cons of having the consumer pay their bills by credit card or on-line.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the ordinance was passed on first reading to be advertised according to law, come up for second reading, public hearing and final passage at the next Regular Meeting of Council on April 10, 2006.

ORDINANCE #2024-06 - ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 156 OF THE WOODBURY MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED: SEWERS

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-entitled ordinance.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the ordinance was placed on first reading.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the ordinance was passed on first reading to be advertised according to law, come up for second reading, public hearing and final passage at the next Regular Meeting of Council on April 10, 2006.

ORDINANCE #2025-06 - ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-entitled ordinance.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the ordinance was placed on first reading.

Councilwoman Tierney explained that this ordinance allows the City to go beyond the spending limit from 2.5 percent to 3.5 percent if necessary; however, this is not our intent.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the ordinance was passed on first reading to be advertised according to law, come up for second reading, public hearing and final passage at the next Regular Meeting of Council on April 10, 2006.

A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes	5	Louis, Tierney, Grimming, Belko, Riskie
Nays	3	Schreyer, Sloane, Curtis
Abstain	1	Brown

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #06-75 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS IN THE LOCAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2005

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

RESOLUTION #06-76 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION (Lease, Purchase or Acquisition of Real Property)

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

President Riskie indicated that it was not likely that any action would be taken tonight in regard to the Executive Session.

RESOLUTION #06-77 - RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PASSAGE OF SENATE BILL S-1219 WHICH PROVIDES FOR CHANGES IN THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Mayor Clark explained that she received a directive from the League of Municipalities whereby there were six provisions mentioned in this bill that would not be practical for a municipality.

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

RESOLUTION #06-78 - RESOLUTION TO INTRODUCE 2006 BUDGET

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Councilwoman Tierney thanked the Budget Committee as well as the Department Chairpersons, especially Bob Law, for all the time and hard work that went into putting the budget together.

Councilwoman Tierney then explained in some detail the areas that had to be looked into as well as certain pieces of equipment that have to be purchased which directly affected the budget figures. Equipment mentioned were the following: a leaf collector, a new dump truck, and two police cars. Councilwoman Tierney advised that this year's budget was going to be a very tight, due to many cuts; therefore, anyone anticipating going over their allowed budget figures, must now get approval from the Chief Financial Officer, Bob Law, and also from Council.

A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes	6	Brown, Louis, Tierney, Grimming, Belko, Riskie
Nays	3	Schreyer, Sloane, Curtis

VOUCHERS

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Louis, the vouchers as presented were authorized paid.

PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES

RESOLUTION #06-73 - RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REFUND OF WATER OVERPAYMENT (41 High Street)

Councilman Belko presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Belko, seconded by Councilman Curtis, the resolution was adopted by a voice vote.

RESOLUTION #06-74 - RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REFUND OF WATER OVERPAYMENT (170 Delaware Street)

Councilman Belko presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Belko, seconded by Councilman Curtis, the resolution was adopted by a voice vote. Councilwoman Tierney and Councilman Louis abstained from the vote.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Councilman Louis advised that the Economic Steering Committee continues to meet and at the last meeting a representative from DOT was present to discuss such topics as traffic control, parking and much more.

MAYOR CLARK

Mayor Clark discussed the following:

1. Mayor Clark acknowledged Councilwoman Brown for being named "Women of Achievement in Gloucester County" for Public Policy, an award she received at a luncheon last Saturday;
2. Also Valerie Harris, a part-time City employee, has received the distinction of being named to Phi Beta Kappa for her work at Gloucester County College and is being recognized as a outstanding student. She is the only student from that college to receive this honor;
3. The Mayor also announced that Saloff Jewelers will be closing their doors this week as Paula and John Beal are retiring; the Mayor wished them the best. The Mayor has heard that there has been some interest in the property largely due to a firm called JTGS, which is a firm who deals with business retention, an organization provided by Main Street New Jersey. Ironically, when JTGS first came to Woodbury, the Beale's advised they were retiring so this was their first tool to teach Main Street Woodbury how to help other businesses in the future;
4. Mayor Clark advised that the Yi's Karate Institute is celebrating their 30th Anniversary and in memory of Bob Grebb the Mayor is recognizing this occasion on Saturday with a proclamation;
5. Also the Mayor announced that Opening Day for Little League will be on Saturday, April 8, 2006;
6. Mayor Clark stated that a Bus Hub Steering Committee will be meeting on Thursday, April 13, 2006 to discuss the feasibility study recently conducted;
7. Mayor Clark advised that "The Bank" has offered to donate the traffic counter that our Police Department needs to conduct the traffic studies that have been requested by many of our residents. The Mayor has been advised that it has been ordered and when received the first study will be "Lupton Ave".

CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Bowe, Clerk/Administrator referenced a letter he has forwarded to Mr. Dukelow regarding lessons to be given for the use of kayaks. Mr. Bowe then gave the dates advising that Mr. Dukelow will respond to the letter as it pertains to insurance liability and make whatever arrangements are necessary to welcome this experience to our lake system.

Also the City Clerk asked for approval to go out to bid for cold water meters. On motion of Councilman Curtis, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney the request to go out to bid for cold water meters was approved as submitted by Rich Leidy, Water and Sewer Supervisor of Public Works.

Mr. Bowe invited questions for the City Engineer regarding his submitted report.

Councilman Curtis stated he understood the projects on hold as it appeared in the report, but wanted to know why each was on hold.

Mr. Schiavo, City Engineer, responded to the "on-hold" status of the following projects :

1) **the Red Bank Avenue Sewer and North End Sewer Phase III** - Mr. Schiavo stated it was due to money not being budgeted to complete the project.

2) **the Reservoir Project** - Mr. Schiavo stated a report has been put together and a meeting will be scheduled to review the report.

3) **the Soccer Complex** - Mr. Schiavo advised that additional information was needed to send up to the Green Acres Office in Trenton and an application has to be submitted to the Deptford Planning Board as well as submitting plans to the County Roads Department for the construction of axel diesel lanes.

Mr. Bowe proudly announced that the Woodbury Boys' Basketball Team concluded its season with a record of 19-9. Through Mr. Bowe's historical research, he has discovered that these numbers put this year's team in the top ten in the school's history. A banquet will be held this Thursday, March 30, 2006 at 6:30 pm in the multi-purpose room of the high school.

PRESIDENT RISKIE

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

President Riskie also advised that the Public Hearing for the budget will be held in Council Chambers on April 24, 2006 at 7:30 pm.

PUBLIC

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

Anthony Chiesa, 36 Rugby Place, came forward to inquire if the City has ever considered unincorporating the City and merging with surrounding municipalities.

Mr. Bowe advised Mr. Chiesa that first the City would have to have a referendum to petition the State; then Trenton would have to give their approval, remembering that Trenton is the reason we now have 566 municipalities.

Councilman Curtis advised that this would be an extremely difficult task to accomplish. We had similar thoughts three (3) years ago to no avail.

Councilman Louis reminded Mr. Chiesa that in order to do what he suggested, there would have to be other willing participants.

Lester Brown, 223 S. Barber Avenue, stated that he would not go as far as suggesting unincorporating the City of Woodbury but would like to see Council look into some of the ordinances that

already exist on the books, especially the ordinance that demands 1st floor retail use only in the business district. This type of restriction only hurts the City.

President Riskie advised Mr. Brown that he would request Councilman Louis, who heads the Economic Steering Committee, to consider his suggestion.

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

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, there was a five minute recess before Council went into Executive Session. (8:35 PM)

E X E C U T I V E S E S S I O N

On motion of Councilwoman Schreyer, seconded by Councilman Louis, the Regular Order of Business was resumed at 9:05 pm.

There being no further business, on motion of Councilman Curtis, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

THOMAS B. BOWE
Clerk/Administrator

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT

Chief Financial Officer: Robert Law
City Engineer: Joseph Schiavo, PE
Code Enforcement: Brian Bosworth, Housing Inspector
Deputy City Clerk: Gail R. Scheffler
Librarian: Jean Wipf
NPP Coordinator: Virginia Horn
Tax Assessor: Roy Duffield
Tax Collector: Lorraine Roberts
Police Chief: Reed Merinuk
Public Works: Mike Walsh, Tom Dukelow and Rich Leidy
Solicitor: Michael Aimino, Esquire