

July 26, 2004

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 5, 2004.

President Riskie warmly welcomed Councilwoman Brown back from her extended leave due to illness.

The Reverend Robert Moore, Assistant Pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, delivered the Invocation.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Brown, Louis, Graziani, Sloane, Schreyer, Grimming, Tierney, President Riskie, Mayor Clark

**Absent:** Curtis

### **MINUTES**

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Graziani, the minutes of July 12, 2004 and July 19, 2004 were approved as submitted. Councilman Sloane abstained from the vote on each set of minutes.

### **MAYOR PRESENTED ACHIEVEMENT CERTIFICATES**

Mayor Leslie Clark introduced the Fire Explorers and explained what they had accomplished and what endeavors were involved in the weekend they spent conducting various maneuvers pertaining to fire safety. These Fire Explorers, who are members of Post 6005, won first place trophies in Water Ball and Hose Relay for the second year in a row. Mayor Clark then read each individual's name and presented them with a Certificate of Achievement. The recipients were: John Bolton, Mark Gartner, Thomas Rieger, Joshua Gartner, Michael Bain, William Schoenleber and Marcus Henry, Jr..

### **PUBLIC**

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Louis, 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 Councilwoman Schreyer, seconded by Councilman Grimming, the Public Portion for Agenda Items was closed and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

**RESOLUTION #04-107 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION (Contract Negotiations)**

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

President Riskie advised that action might be taken as a result of the Executive Session.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Graziani, all business was suspended and the courtesy of the floor was extended to the public for Resolution #04-108 which was a Resolution to Amend the 2004 Municipal Budget.

As no one desired to address Council, on motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Graziani, the regular order of business was resumed.

**RESOLUTION #04-109 - RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2004 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Grimming, the resolution was adopted by a roll call vote.

Ayes	6	Brown, Louis, Graziani, Grimming, Tierney, Riskie
Nays	2	Sloane, Schreyer
Absent	1	Curtis

**RESOLUTION #04-110 - RESOLUTION TO CANCEL WATER AND SEWER LIEN**

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

**RESOLUTION #04-111 - NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RESOLUTION, APPLICATION, AND AGREEMENT FOR STATE AID TO COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES (WEST CENTRE STREET RECONSTRUCTION FROM SOUTH JACKSON TO LUPTON AVENUE)**

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

**RESOLUTION #04-112 - NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RESOLUTION, APPLICATION, AND AGREEMENT FOR STATE AID TO COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES (PARK AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION FROM NORTH EVERGREEN AVENUE A/K/A COUNTY ROUTE 553 TO MARION AVENUE)**

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

**RESOLUTION #04-113 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING/ ZONING BOARD TO CONDUCT A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER BLOCK 93, LOT 3 A/K/A 610 MANTUA AVENUE, WOODBURY IS A REDEVELOPMENT AREA**

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

**VOUCHERS**

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

**FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

Councilman Louis also welcomed Councilwoman Brown back to her Council seat.

President Riskie complimented Councilman Louis and his Committee for all the work they put into reducing the original twenty cent increase to the Annual Budget to under ten cents. President Riskie also thanked the Mayor and Bob Law for their contributions as well.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Councilwoman Tierney advised that she will calling a meeting with the Public Works Committee in the next few weeks.

**PERSONNEL**

President Riskie inquired if Councilman Grimming had an opportunity to look into the "personnel" evaluation matter. Councilman Grimming advised he did not due to his work schedule but would address the matter in the near future.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Councilwoman Brown thanked everyone for all their prayers and cards while she was convalescing during her recent illness. She especially thanked Mr. Tom Bowe for making sure she was kept up to date by visiting her while she was in rehab. Councilwoman Brown also thanked the Mayor and Council for remembering to acknowledge Mrs. Wing for her 100th birthday by presenting her with a plaque. Councilwoman Brown stated that she received a call from the Wing Family and they were very appreciative of the recognition.

Councilwoman Brown also thanked Roy Duffield for his kindness and stated she was happy to be back to her seat on Council.

## **WATER & SEWER INCREASE**

President Riskie invited Mr. Robert Law, Chief Financial Officer, to address Council on the topic of possible increases to our water & sewer rates.

Mr. Law referred to a package he distributed as well as e-mailed to everyone for their reference. Mr. Law stated that basically there is a need to increase our rates by 18% and explained how he reached that figure. Mr. Law continued by explaining what that increase would mean to the average bill and also advised that there has not been an increase for the last five years.

Mr. Law then answered questions from Council members, specifically those dealing with the Woodbury Heights Reservoir Project and the funding for that project. He also discussed possible other projects that may have to be considered in the next few years. There was also some discussion with the differences in possible rate increases and rates that are now charged by NJ/American Water Company. Mr. Law then explained the position of the City if we did a bond ordinance to cover this deficit.

Councilwoman Schreyer stated that she strongly suggests that the City take action with the Reservoir Project since we have not moved forward with this project. It appears that time and money is being wasted and we must proceed with an alternate plan.

Mr. Aimino, the City Solicitor, advised of where we were regarding our past application to the Woodbury Heights Planning Board.

Mr. Walsh addressed the necessity of the reservoir relative to pressure in Woodbury's water system.

Councilwoman Schreyer asked about how the Borough of Woodbury Heights could hold up our reconstruction of the reservoir.

Councilman Graziani stated that this issue has been going on for three years now and will not be solved tonight; the City has to look into another plan of action.

Councilman Sloane inquired if DEP could force the public safety issue with Woodbury Heights.

President Riskie stated that the City Engineer should look more closely into the reservoir project along with the City Solicitor; however, in the interim the City has to adopt a ordinance to increase the water and sewer rates to the 18% as recommended by Mr. Law.

## **MAYOR CLARK**

Mayor Clark reminded everyone of National Night Out which will be held on August 3rd at the Frances Avenue Field between the hours of 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.. This year there will be professional wrestling for everyone's entertainment, along with refreshments and other activities for the children.

## **CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Bowe welcomed questions pertaining to the Engineer's Report.

Councilwoman Schreyer restated the importance of the Engineer looking into the Reservoir Project.

Mr. Bowe requested authorization for the City Engineer to draw up plans and specifications and advertise for the Replacement of Water Mains on Wick Boulevard between Driscoll and Edith Avenues. On motion of Councilman Graziani, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the request was granted.

Councilman Sloane inquired if the tennis courts referenced in the engineer's report was school property or city property at West End School. The Engineer responded that the courts were on school property.

Mr. Bowe also advised of a Public Hearing before the Deptford Zoning Board as stated in the letter distributed this evening.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Graziani, the Treasurer's Report was received as filed.

## **PUBLIC**

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

Mr. Paul Bunn, 18 E. Packard Avenue, stated that he has received quotes for the repair of the shutters as he previously discussed. The quote was from Mr. Allan Conway in the amount of \$426.00 per each pair of shutters (there are 20 pairs). Mr. Bunn inquired if a fund could be started at one of the Banks for donations and if Council would agree with this request. Another option would be to request the help of the high school wood shop, or to seek the services of the County Vocational students. Mr. Bunn then displayed a sample of what the existing shutters looked like and how badly they have deteriorated over the years.

Dave Jenkins, 345 Glover Street, inquired about the Tennis Court Bid results. Mr. Bowe advised that bids were received on Friday and all were in excess of the amount anticipated.

Alvin Garlic, 75 Aberdeen Place, inquired as to the status of the football field.

Mr. Bowe advised that the current field is scheduled for renovation; however, the City Engineer has yet to go out to bid. Mr. Schiavo advised that in all probability there could be a Plan B for use of the existing field.

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

On motion of Councilman Graziani, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, there was a five minute recess before Council went into Executive Session. (8:50 p.m.)

## E X E C U T I V E   S E S S I O N

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Graziani, Council resumed the Regular Order of Business at 9:48 p.m..

There being no further business, on motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Graziani, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m..

---

THOMAS B. BOWE  
Clerk/Administrator

### **OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Assessor: Roy Duffield  
Chief Financial Officer: Robert Law  
Deputy City Clerk: Gail R. Scheffler  
Librarian: Jean Wipf  
Police: Lieutenant Sheehan  
Public Work Director: Michael Walsh  
Solicitor: Michael Aimino, Esquire