

September 8, 2008

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 2, 2008.

Mayor Curtis introduced Boy Scout Troop # 74 to open the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reverend Joseph Coles, Associate Minister of Bethlehem Baptist Church, delivered the Invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present: Riskie, Schreyer, Villari, Brown, Fleming, Louis, Tierney, Belko, President Sloane, and Mayor Curtis

Absent: No One

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

President Sloane stated that Ordinance #2086 entitled "Ordinance Establishing Connection Fees" will be removed from the agenda and held over until the next regularly-scheduled Council Meeting of September 22, 2008. The reason for this is that Council has been advised to have the Engineer and the Auditor present to answer any questions.

MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the minutes of August 11, 2008 and August 18, 2008 were approved as submitted.

Councilman Louis abstained from the vote on the minutes from both meetings.

PUBLIC

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

RESOLUTIONS

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

RESOLUTION #08-161 – RESOLUTION TO REIMBURSE TAX PAYMENT (Block 14.01, Lot 12 a/k/a 119 N. Childs Street)

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

RESOLUTION #08-163 – RESOLUTION AWARDING BID FOR TRAILER MOUNTED MAINLINE SEWER TELEVISION SYSTEM

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

Councilman Fleming requested that the Planner be authorized to do an ordinance to establish developer fees for non-residential properties for the purpose of being eligible to participate in the newly-established COAH program.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the Planner was authorized to follow with the above request.

VOUCHERS

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

RAFFLE APPLICATIONS

Councilman Louis presented two raffle applications, the first from the Woman’s Club of Woodbury and the other from SODAT. On motion of Councilman Louis,

seconded by Councilman Riskie, both applications were approved to be held on the dates indicated.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Belko had nothing to report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Councilman Villari reminded everyone that Colonial Days will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm. Anyone who would like to volunteer can contact Jill Gilfillan or Bob Leather.

Councilman Fleming inquired if something could be done to obtain a paddle regarding the crosswalks at Broad Street and Hunter Street.

PERSONNEL

Councilman Riskie requested that the Personnel Committee meet at 6:30 pm on the date of the next regularly-scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, September 22, 2008 at which time Mr. Bowe will update the Committee on the employee evaluation forms. Councilman Riskie invited President Sloane to attend if he so desired.

RESOLUTION #08-162 – RESOLUTION APPOINTING CONFLICT PUBLIC DEFENDERS FOR THE CITY OF WOODBURY (Carmen Malignaggi, Esq., Michael Silvanio, Esq. and John Iannelli, Esq.)

Councilman Riskie presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL

Councilwoman Tierney stated that Mr. Dukelow is out on West Centre Street this week with the landscaper discussing the replacing of the trees along that street due to the reconstruction.

Also volunteers are still needed for the parade this year. This year's theme is "Keepin It Green", and the Grand Marshall will be Mrs. Roxanne Long, who recently retired from our library.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

RESOLUTION #08-160 – RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PROPOSAL TO INSTALL EDGE LINES TO DELINEATE PARKING ALONG STATE HIGHWAY ROUTE 45

Councilwoman Brown presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Councilwoman Tierney asked for an explanation of the resolution.

President Sloane stated that this is the result of on-going meetings with the State DOT Department. The City is still in negotiations with the state regarding left hand turn lanes along Broad Street; until that decision is reached there are some things the City can do to make the streets more pedestrian friendly and edging is one of them.

The Mayor advised that the State is resurfacing Route 45 at both ends of town and are intentionally excluding downtown Woodbury for a reason.

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

Councilwoman Brown advised that the Woodbury Child Development Center will be holding their Annual Family Reunion Health Fair, rain or shine on Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Also on September 17th at Underwood Memorial Hospital there will be cancer screening between the hours of 4:30 to 7:00 pm.

GREEN ACRES

Councilwoman Schreyer advised that she was happy to see people making use of the football fields as well as the soccer fields that were recently constructed.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Belko advised that there are only three (3) more weeks of Friday nights of Woodfest and he is happy to advise that during the month of September all of the

entertainers are Woodbury residents; so please come out and support them from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm.

MAYOR CURTIS

Mayor Curtis asked the City Engineer, Ted Wilkinson, what the status of the lighting was for the football fields?

Mr. Wilkinson advised that they were waiting for some equipment to come in but did not anticipate any problems and indicated that everything should be ready by the end of September.

Councilwoman Brown stated that while the topic of lighting was being discussed, she has received some complaints regarding the lack of proper lighting at the parking lot between Aberdeen Place and Hopkins Street

Mr. Walsh, Public Works Director, stated that Mr. Dukelow is looking into it with PSE&G.

Mayor Curtis thanked everyone who worked on the Car Show held the last week of August. There were over 300 cars that participated. This year two awards were given: one for Mayor's Choice and another in honor of Jack Gebhart who recently passed away and was a Woodbury resident who was an avid participant in the Annual Car Show.

The Mayor also reminded everyone that the Farmers Market is still operating and will continue to do so until October.

Also, the Mayor announced that the Grand Opening Ceremonies for Soccer had to be postponed because of the anticipated bad weather involved with Hurricane Hannah; but the children were able to play their first game thanks to volunteers who prepared the fields.

Mayor Curtis stated that we had another problem with the sewer lines near the Criminal Justice Complex because of blockages caused by the Complex. The Mayor has talked to the County and they are aware that they will be responsible for the repairs to the lines at their end which possibly could amount to \$200,000.00.

The Mayor advised that the "Welcome to Woodbury" signs situated at the entrances to Woodbury are being converted back to their original style.

Mayor Curtis thanked the scouts for coming out to tonight's meeting and instructed them how the meetings actually work.

Finally, the Mayor wished a Happy Birthday to Councilwoman Brown and also to his sister who turned 48 years old today.

CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Bowe advised that he will be having a meeting with the County Economic Development Director, Lisa Morina, on Tuesday, September 16th at 1:30 pm in Council Chambers to discuss participating in a survey that the County would like to conduct.

President Sloane elaborated on the survey stating that Mr. Bowe has volunteered to work with the County to find ways on how the City of Woodbury can economically put our redevelopment plans to better use to further the growth of the City.

Mr. Bowe advised that he received a letter from a company that claims they can lower our lighting costs with the decorative lighting along Broad Street. Mr. Bowe will alert Council after speaking to the gentleman if it is in the City's best interest to make any changes to our existing costs.

PUBLIC

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

Paul Bunn, 18 E. Packer Street, came forward to elaborate on not only the lighting at Aberdeen Place and Hopkins Street, but also a problem down at Frances Avenue near the picnic table area. As a result of the poor lighting that area has also become victim to vandalism as well for at least the last seven (7) years that he is aware of. In addition, behind City Hall near the Library there is also a vandalism problem because of poor lighting.

Mr. Bunn was also concerned with the high costs of gas and the use of city vehicles for other than city business.

Councilman Riskie stated that same issue will be on agenda for the meeting scheduled for the 22th of September prior to the Council Meeting.

President Sloane reassured Mr. Bunn that changes will be forthcoming regarding city vehicle use for sure.

President Sloane stated as far as the insufficient lighting at several of the locations Mr. Bunn mentioned, he would instruct Councilman Louis to discuss this with the Police Department under Public Safety Committee. In addition, security camera's will also be taken into consideration.

Helen Lynam, 113 Crescent Avenue, a resident of that street for the last 37 years, came forward to advise that someone has moved a "Slow children at play" sign to another area, specifically Tatum Street; she would like it replaced, as the area has many children.

Also, Mrs. Lynam stated that there have been two (2) four-way stop signs erected; one on a dead-end street and the other on a one-way street. However, none were put on Crescent Avenue where there is a need for one because of the traffic.

President Riskie advised Mrs. Lynam that the locations of the four-way stop signs were at the suggestion of the Police Department; but they would look at the area again.

President Sloane advised Mrs. Lynam that the "Children at play" sign would be replaced.

Mayor Curtis stated that he has asked the Police Department to look at Round Two of the next four-way signs for 2009.

Mrs. Lynam also expressed concern over the overgrown trees at corners prohibiting drivers seeing the stop signs.

On another matter, Mrs. Lynam stated that there is a home on Crescent Avenue that is vacant with high grass.

President Sloane then explained why sometimes it takes time to address a problem because of legal procedures that must be followed. Now that the proper people are aware, we can officially take the proper steps to get the ball rolling.

Councilman Riskie requested that Lieutenant Cope also look into having the stop line distance from the corner also addressed.

Mike Ellis, 216 Holryod Place, stated that for several years many calls were made to the Police Department because of certain residents that always seemed to have an issue. However, since the departure of said residents the street has become a much friendlier place and the residents would like to have a block party. Mr. Ellis was advised that he should present his request before Council and that is why he is here tonight to submit that

request. The block party is being planned for October 4th, 2008 the same day as the parade.

Vince Franchi, Chairman of the City's Historic Preservation Commission, came forward to discuss work scheduled to be done on City Hall, specifically the roof and window replacements. To brief Council, Mr. Franchi stated he was contacted by Mr. Ted Wilkinson, City Engineer of the firm of Federici & Akin, regarding what was being planned for the renovations, namely the replacement of the slate roof. This was the first time Mr. Franchi was made aware of any renovations which was quite a surprise as City Hall is located in the Historical District and the Commission should have been contacted earlier.

President Sloane asked Mr. Franchi if the Local Historical Review Board has standing in this matter.[answer- No].

President Sloane asked Mr. Franchi if he has standing with the State Historical Preservation Office? [answer- No]

President Sloane asked Mr. Franchi if he is familiar with two other buildings that had slate roofs such as City Hall does: one at the corner of Cooper and South Woodland Avenue, and the other St. Patrick's Church that were granted exceptions to having their slate roofs replaced.

President Sloane asked if as a non resident with no standing in the matter, he could "cut to the chase".

Mr. Franchi advised that this was because those buildings were not part of the State Historic Registry, whereas City Hall is. When the Engineer found out that it was, it was then that he contacted Mr. Franchi for the Commissions input.

Mr. Franchi then referenced the name of Margaret Westfield in Haddonfield who was knowledgeable regarding what the State Historic Registry would and would not allow. In her opinion, she stated that if the roof was replaced with anything other than slate, the State could have ordered it removed with slate put back.

President Sloane then inquired if Ms. Westfield sat on the State Registry Board; Mr. Franchi stated she does not.

Mayor Curtis advised that because of the condition of the roof, it would not be feasible to replace the existing roof with slate.

Councilman Louis inquired if a homeowner wanted to do repairs to their residence, would they need to go before the Historic Commission.

President Sloane responded they would have to go before the Commission; however, the City is exempt. In 1977 an attempt was made to have City Hall and the front of the Fire House exempted; however, it was denied. This information just became available, so now we do have to get approval from the State.

Councilman Louis stated that Council makes their decisions based on information that is supplied to them; now hearing this is quite disturbing because no one was made aware of this new information.

Councilman Fleming stated it is his opinion that even before City Hall was put on the State Registry it was still a historical landmark and as such any alterations to its structure would have needed State approval.

President Sloane stated that now that the City is aware of the need to get approval from the State we will address it properly.

Mr. Franchi stated that the purpose of the Historic Commission to ensure that residents keep the historical look for a reason and the City should do the same.

Mayor Curtis advised that he can recall where one of the residents who had a historical home that had a slate roof could not afford to replace the roof with the same material because of the cost factor. All of these factors should be considered.

President Sloane advised that it is not as though the City blatantly proceeded with the project knowing it was in violation; and Mr. Franchi was advised of the city's plans including materials and that Mr. Franchi provided a letter to the Engineer accepting the materials and work proposal. Council President Sloane explained that this is why he is somewhat displeased.

Mr. Franchi suggested that Council possibly get the opinion of an engineer or architect who is experienced in repairs to historical buildings.

There being no further discussion, on motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the Public Portion was closed and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

There being no further business, on motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm

THOMAS B. BOWE
Clerk/Administrator

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT

Assessor: Roy Duffield
Chief Financial Officer: Robert Law
Deputy Clerk: Gail R. Scheffler
Emergency Mgmt Officer: Lt. Cope
NPP Coordinator: Virginia Horn
Police: Lieutenant S. Cope
Solicitor: James Pierson, Esq.