

September 22, 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.

The Invocation was delivered by Reverend Robert Moore, Sr., Assistant Pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church.

### **ROLL CALL**

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

**Absent:** Fleming, Villari

### **MINUTES**

On motion of Councilman Riskie, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the minutes of September 8, 2008 were approved as submitted.

### **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

President Sloane stated that Ordinance #2086-08 – “An Ordinance Establishing Connection Fees” will not be presented this evening and held over to the next meeting.

### **PRESENTATION**

President Sloane welcomed John Carter to brief everyone on what the “Talk the Walk” involved. Mr. Carter, 314 Brian Hill Lane, of the Road Runners Club of Woodbury stated that he would like to invite everyone to join his group and take a walking tour and discuss options for trail development in the City of Woodbury. The group will meet on Sunday, September 28, 2008 at 1:00 pm at the bottom of Wood Street.

Also due to the absences of Councilman Fleming and Councilman Villari, the Finance & Administration portion of the meeting will be conducted by Councilman Riskie with Economic Development being handled by Councilman Louis.

**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 Agenda Items Only.

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

**VOUCHERS**

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

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**ORDINANCE #2087-08 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AMENDING CHAPTER 136 PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY**

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled ordinance.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

Councilman Louis asked for an explanation on why this ordinance was being adopted.

Mr. Pierson, City Solicitor, explained that it has come to the City's attention that a State Statute currently exists that would override our local ordinance.

Mr. Bowe further explained that he has received a correspondence regarding a case that is going on in another municipality in another county where an individual is suing that municipality as well as every municipality in the State that still has language in their codes contradictory to the State Statute.

President Sloane stated that this is very similar to case that someone tried to sue the City because of wording in a loitering ordinance. Fortunately, the case was unsuccessful because the City had already addressed the change in wording; this would be the same principal.

Councilman Louis advised that he had discussed the lighting situation at Frances Avenue fields and unfortunately monies are not available to address that problem, but we hope to include it in the list of projects for 2009.

Also, regarding the lighting at City Hall/Library, Mr. Dukelow stated that in his opinion no additional lighting needs to be added.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Councilman Louis stated that he attended the last Steering Committee Meeting in conjunction with Main Street and they are still looking at ways to improve our economic development growth in the downtown area.

### **PERSONNEL**

Councilman Riskie advised that he met this evening with President Sloane and Mr. Bowe regarding the new employee evaluation forms recommended this year by the JIF. Mr. Bowe has begun to distribute them to the Department Heads.

Another issue discussed was the current use of the City's vehicle policy and the need to review it further.

President Sloane advised the public that the City is making changes to the City vehicle policy to tighten the use of city vehicles.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

Councilwoman Tierney advised that applications are on-line for anyone interested in being in the parade. She along with Mr. Law are the contact persons for the parade.

Councilwoman Tierney also advised that there is some concern about the W. Centre Street Project where the tree types and sizes as originally specified were not the ones eventually planted. Mr. Dukelow and Mr. Wilkinson are looking into this to correct the situation.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**RESOLUTION #08-164 – RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTIONS #08-106 AND #08-144 AUTHORIZING THE USE OF NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM FUNDS FOR BLOCK 68, LOT 7 A/K/A 332 LINCOLN STREET**

Councilwoman Brown presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

Councilwoman Brown announced that this Saturday, September 27, 2008 will be the Annual Minority Health Fair held at the Child Development Center on Carpenter Street.

**GREEN ACRES**

Councilwoman Schreyer stated because of the lack of funding from the State there was nothing to report.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Councilman Belko stated that Friday will be the last Woodfest held and for those people who haven't already been out to the Woodfest activities this is your last chance to attend.

Also this weekend will be the Home Opener for the Woodbury High School Football Team.

Councilman Belko advised that also this weekend will also be the Colonial Days Celebration which will be held along Broad Street.

Councilman Belko also advised of a private organization called the Greater Woodbury Art Council which will be composed of area residents getting together and making use of the resources we have in town. A meeting is scheduled for October 2<sup>nd</sup>; time and place to be announced.

**MAYOR CURTIS**

Mayor Curtis advised that this Saturday in the High School Cafeteria elected officials are invited to attend a small reception at 9:30 am followed by the rededication of the athletic field.

Also every few months the Prosecutors Office conducts a Crime Prevention Meeting. During the recent meeting officials displayed a crime map depicting areas of interest that are high crime areas.

Lieutenant Cope expanded on the topic advising that all the Police have to do is type in an address and they can obtain information on how many times the Police have been called out to that address and for what purpose.

Mayor Curtis stated that the County has provided each municipality with the flu shot schedule for 2009.

Also the Mayor advised that he attended a meeting with Lisa Morino, from the County Economic Development Office. The county has agreed to personally help the City of Woodbury with its economic growth starting with a survey being mailed out to businesses asking for their input.

The Mayor stated he received of a letter from the County advising they are prepared to help out any municipalities with bonds due to the current slump in the banking industry.

Mayor Curtis also reminded everyone of the upcoming Fall Festival Parade on Saturday, October 4, 2008 and the Walk on Sunday, September 28, 2008.

### **CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Bowe, Clerk/Administrator, advised that he received notification that this year's Elected Officials Seminar will be on November 13<sup>th</sup> and December 2<sup>nd</sup>; for every official who attends, the City will receive a \$250.00 deduction from our JIF premium. Mr. Bowe then gave the locations and times of the meetings.

Mr. Bowe requested approval for a raffle application pending clearance received from the Deputy Clerk, Gail Scheffler, that all paperwork is in order (Ms. Scheffler was not available prior to the meeting).

On motion of Councilman Riskie, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the raffle for the Women's Auxiliary from Underwood Memorial Hospital was approved pending that all paperwork was in order.

Mr. Bowe welcomed the Engineer to the microphone to discuss a letter he received from the NJDEP Historic Preservation Office regarding the roof renovations to City Hall.

Mr. Ted Wilkinson, City Engineer advised that he has received approval to use a slate-like material for City Hall's roof. Mr. Wilkinson then discussed the cupola repairs that should be addressed at this time. Bids will be received for the roof renovations on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am and he is suggesting that Council approve the winning bidder ASAP so they can start the job before the cold weather comes in. In order to do this the Engineer is asking that we not wait for the next regularly-scheduled meeting of October 20, 2008, but instead have a Special Meeting sooner.

President Sloane commented that the Court House has the same type of roofing that Mr. Wilkinson is referring to and it looks very nice. There was also a brief discussion on what could possibly be done to address the cupola repairs. President Sloane stated that he is suggesting that a Special Meeting be scheduled for Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm to award the bid for the roof repairs.

The City Engineer stated that he has submitted another permit to install and maintain pedestrian warning signs along Broad and Hunter Streets and N. Broad Street at Walnut Street.

In conclusion, Mr. Wilkinson stated that the Reservoir is still an issue and advised that the State has a Trust Fund for 2009 for water projects, but that a Commitment Letter has to be sent to the State to qualify. Mr. Wilkinson is requesting that the City do this before the deadline just in case the City wants to use the State program for bonding purposes.

On motion of Councilwoman Schreyer, seconded by Councilwoman Brown the Engineer was authorized to proceed with the Commitment Letter to the State as requested.

**PUBLIC**

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Belko, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the Public Portion was opened for Non-Agenda Items.

Mr. Jerry Taylor, 72 W. Red Bank Avenue, came forward to ask Council's help in having a bus stop moved back to the hospital area. Currently the stop is in front of Mr. Taylor's property and he is experiencing problems with people littering and using his front step as a waiting area for the bus.

President Sloane advised Mr. Taylor that Mr. Bowe will look into his request.

Dave Jenkins, 345 Glover Street, came forward to ask if the overgrowth of weeds along Lupton Avenue could be cut again.

Mr. Luke Ivy, 25 Nelson Avenue approached Council to advise of a situation going on in the neighborhood near Railroad Avenue where cars are traveling at a high rate of speed coming from the Nissan Dealership. The dealership is using the end of Railroad Avenue as a parking lot and it is a very dangerous situation. Mr. Ivy also mentioned if a four way stop could be taken into consideration at Nelson and Railroad Avenues and Allens Lane.

Mayor Curtis advised that the Police Chief is also looking at several other locations for the stop signs and that is one of the areas.

President Sloane stated that Mr. Bowe would talk to the owner of the Woodbury Nissan Dealership.

Paul Bunn, 18 East Packard Avenue, referenced a remark made earlier in the evening stating that there was not sufficient funding to address lighting at Francis Avenue. Mr. Bunn stated he finds this situation "inexcusable" especially since it has been going on for some four years now. Lack of funds in the budget is one thing but these repairs are long overdue and when he brings certain situations up to the Department Head he is very disillusioned with the lack of response.

President Sloane inquired who and what exactly was Mr. Bunn referring to. Mr. Bunn replied that he would speak privately with President Sloane.

President Sloane then stated he should speak with Councilman Belko as the Public Works Committee Chairperson and advise him.

There being no one else interested in addressing Council, on motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the Public Portion was closed.

As there was no further business, on motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

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THOMAS B. BOWE  
Clerk/Administrator

**OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Assessor: Roy Duffield  
Chief Financial Officer: Robert Law  
Emergency Mgmt Officer: Lt. S. Cope  
Engineer: Ted Wilkinson, PE  
Police: Lt. Cope  
Solicitor: James Pierson, Esq.  
Recording Secretary: Fran A. Nigro