

October 20, 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 the Reverend Joseph Coles of the Bethlehem Baptist Church.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent Brown

MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the minutes of September 22, 2008 and the Special Meeting of October 14, 2008 were approved as submitted.

PUBLIC

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

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

RESOLUTION #08-169 – RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE WATER REFUND

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 #08-170 – RESOLUTION TO REIMBURSE TAX PAYMENT – BLOCK 177.01, LOT 11

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 #08-178 – RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY REJECTING BIDS FOR THE FIREHOUSE ROOF REPLACEMENT

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Mr. Pierson, City Solicitor, stated that all the bids came in over the Engineer's estimate.

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

VOUCHERS

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

RAFFLE APPLICATION

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Fleming, the raffle application for the Woodbury Child Development Center was approved as submitted.

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 for final reading and adoption.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Riskie, the ordinance was ordered open for public hearing.

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

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Riskie, the ordinance was passed on second and final reading by a roll call vote.

Ayes	8	Riskie, Schreyer, Villari, Fleming, Louis, Tierney, Belko, Sloane
Nays	0	
Absent	1	Brown

ORDINANCE #2088-08 – ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 190-34 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY TO PERMIT FIFTEEN MINUTE PARKING ON THE EAST SIDE OF GREEN STREET BETWEEN DARE STREET TO EAST RED BANK AVENUE

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled ordinance.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, 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 November 10, 2008.

Councilman Louis stated this ordinance came about because of a pre-school existing in the area with children were being dropped off and picked up.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Belko stated he had nothing to report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ORDINANCE #2089-08 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY REPEALING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS DESIGNATING BLOCK 113, LOT 1 AND BLOCK 119, LOT 8 (CONSOLIDATED WITH LOT 8.01) AS AREAS IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT AND REPEALING REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Councilman Villari presented the above-entitled ordinance.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilman Villari, 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 November 10, 2008.

President Sloane explained why this ordinance was being introduced. Previously this lot was included in the Redevelopment Zone as part of the Green Block Building Project when the City thought that the building was going to be renovated and needed the lot for parking purposes; this is now in serious doubt. A new developer has shown interest in the lot and in order to for the City to be able to take action and sell the old Verizon Lot it now has to be taken out of the redevelopment zone.

RESOLUTION #08-177 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CLOSED SESSION REGARDING CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

Councilman Villari presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

President Sloane addressed the public and stated that no action would be taken when Council returned from the Executive Session.

PERSONNEL

Councilman Riskie advised that after reviewing the current insurance policy there is a provision in one of the paragraphs where it states that when City Vehicles are issued to individuals they may use the vehicle for private use based on Council's approval.

Councilman Riskie stated that he will be getting together with Councilman Fleming to further review the City policy and consider possible changes that could be made for financial reasons.

President Sloane stated that the JIF has advised us to review our current insurance policy which has not been done recently. We did the same thing with the personnel policy and updated some of the topics in there; now we are addressing our vehicle policy.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Councilwoman Tierney stated that she had met with Mr. Dukelow and they have reviewed the plans for tree planting with monies from the Old City Restoration Plan. Planting is being considered for late November, early December.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

RESOLUTION #08-171 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM FUNDS FOR BLOCK 64, LOT 26 A/K/A 14 WEST STREET

Councilman Belko presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

RESOLUTION #08-172 – RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION #08-145 AUTHORIZING THE USE OF NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION PROGRAM AND NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM FUNDS FOR BLOCK 110, LOT 2 A/K/A 166 FRANKLIN STREET

Councilman Belko presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

RESOLUTION #08-173 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM FUNDS FOR BLOCK 141.02, LOT 14 A/K/A 223 SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE

Councilman Belko presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

RESOLUTION #08-174 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION PROGRAM AND NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM FUNDS FOR BLOCK 64, LOT 6 A/K/A 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 Councilwoman Tierney, the resolution was adopted by a voice motion.

RESOLUTION #08-175 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION PROGRAM FUNDS FOR BLOCK 141.01, LOT 8 A/K/A 214 SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE

Councilman Belko presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

RESOLUTION #08-176 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF REGIONAL CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT FUNDS FOR BLOCK 114, LOT 12 A/K/A 53 ABERDEEN PLACE

Councilman Belko presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

Councilman Belko stated that as of last Tuesday the lights are on and the score board operating at the Football Field. The first official game on the field with the new lights will be held on November 1st.

GREEN ACRES PROGRAM

Councilwoman Schreyer advised that she is still working on acquiring funding for the program and as of this date no funding is available.

PRESIDENT SLOANE

President Sloane referenced brochures that were distributed earlier and thanked Jean Wipf and her library staff for the outstanding work they do and for putting together an exceptional and worthwhile program for the public to enjoy.

MAYOR CURTIS

Mayor Curtis advised that this Saturday at the Woodbury Library there would be an exhibit from the Smithsonian Institute on display at 1:00 pm; all are invited.

The Mayor also announced that at the next Council Meeting on November 10th at 6:30 pm prior to the meeting, awards will be given out to the winners in the Fall Festival Parade.

Mayor Curtis advised that last evening he had the pleasure of attending a Prayer Service at Christ Church. A book was compiled by Joan Mitchell containing the history of the Church's existence as well as the Church building and other pertinent information regarding Woodbury.

The Mayor stated that the roof on City Hall will be worked on and some of the trees surrounding the building will have to be removed because of erosion and overcrowding. Also, we have been having a problem with the kids writing graffiti in that area and we think we have come up with a solution for that.

Also the Mayor wanted to remind everyone regarding the posting of election signs that before placing them on private property, you need the property owners permission; they also cannot be posted on the City's right of way. If they are not in the proper place, they will be removed.

President Sloane reminded everyone that a Special Meeting will be held on Monday, October 27th, at 6:30 to adopt the ordinance pertaining to Water and Sewer Connection Fees.

CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Bowe advised of two upcoming JIF meetings: one on November 13th in Vineland, and the other on December 2nd at Nicolosi's. Both are for the Elected Officials Training.

Also Mr. Bowe had a Letter of Authorization from DOT to install two Pedestrian Signs: one at Broad and Walnut Streets; and the other at Broad and Hunter Streets. However, a permit is now needed from DOT's Cherry Hill Office before we can proceed.

- **COUNCILWOMAN BROWN ARRIVED AT 8:00 PM**

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.

Debbie Fish, 53 Watkins Avenue approached Council to advise them that she was recently robbed on September 15th while she and her husband were at work. Her concern was that after this happened her neighbor told her she also was robbed as well as another neighbor. Mrs. Fish wanted to know why neighbors were not notified of the first burglary so the other neighbors could be aware.

Chief Merinuk stated that he does not notify the newspaper of every incident to which Police respond; it would involve too much time. As far as his police officers notifying neighbors, there is just not enough manpower to do that.

Chief Merinuk continued by advising Mrs. Fish that if the newspaper called and asked his office for information, he would advise them.

President Sloane stated that although he sympathizes with Mrs. Fish for her unfortunate incident, which is very stressful, he can also understand the Police Department's position as well.

Chief Merinuk stated that he would think that neighbors that talk to each other would get the word around.

Chief Merinuk also suggested that the neighbors get together and form a Community Watch in their neighborhood; the Police Department works with these types of community groups.

Mayor Curtis stated that if she would like to get something started, the Police Department would be glad to come out and help them.

Ms. Fish continued by saying that she has personally gone to each neighbor and advised them of the burglaries. Since that time her neighbors leave their outside light on, and if someone is in their neighborhood that they do not recognize, they keep an eye out for each other. Her point being that talking to and informing other potential victims does help.

President Sloane acknowledged Mrs. Fish's comments and stated he himself was a victim and knows all too well how she feels. However, now her neighbors are aware and that is a good thing and hopefully other people will be more aware now that this has happened in her neighborhood.

Dave Jenkins, 345 Glover Street, came forward to inquire about the gentleman who came before Council regarding moving a bus stop away from the front of his house on West Red Bank Avenue.

Mr. Bowe responded that he has spoken with someone at NJ Transit and is waiting for a call back to set up a meeting at the site.

Mr. Jenkins also volunteered to help Mrs. Fish if she was interested in starting up a "Neighborhood Watch" group. Mr. Jenkins stated that he has been involved in a watch group in his area for the last seventeen years.

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

On motion of Councilman Riskie, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, there was a five-minute recess, before going into Executive Session.

President Sloane also advised that no action would be taken upon returning to Regular Business after the Executive Session. (approximately 8:17 pm)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Riskie, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, Council came back into Regular Session at 9:28 pm.

There being no further business, on motion of Councilman Riskie, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

THOMAS B. BOWE
Clerk/Administrator

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT

Assessor: Roy Duffield
Chief Financial Officer: Robert Law
Deputy Clerk: Gail R. Scheffler
Engineer: Ted Wilkinson, PE
Emergency Mgmt Officer: Lieutenant Cope
Librarian: Jean Wipf
NPP Coordinator: Virginia Horn
Police: Chief Merinuk
Public Works Director: Michael Walsh
Solicitor: James Pierson, Esq.