

November 22, 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 requested a Moment of Silence.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Brown, Curtis, and Graziani

MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the minutes of November 8, 2004 were approved as submitted. Councilwoman Schreyer abstained from the vote.

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.

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

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

RESOLUTION #04-154 - RESOLUTION TO REIMBURSE TAX OVERPAYMENT DUE TO TAX EXEMPTION ELIGIBILITY

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 #04-155 - RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER CREDITS YEAR TO YEAR

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 #04-156 - RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948)

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Councilman Sloane inquired as to the source for the funding of the cost of the request.

Mr. Law stated that the money was from a grant from the State Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program.

Councilman Sloane then inquired if the City was in compliance with Phase I of the project.

Mr. Schiavo, City Engineer stated the deadline was April 2006 and, yes, the City is in compliance.

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

RESOLUTION #04-157 - RESOLUTION TO REFUND OVERPAYMENT OF WATER CHARGES

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 voice motion.

VOUCHERS

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Sloane referenced a resolution he distributed this evening regarding “the awarding of certain contracts”. Councilman Sloane explained the background and purpose of the resolution referencing former Council Candidate, David Schmid, as the source for the content of the resolution.

President Riskie stated that he would let the City Solicitor look over the resolution. It would then be decided to place the resolution on the agenda for the next meeting, or not.

Councilman Sloane also advised that the City of Woodbury would be receiving a grant in the amount of \$350,000.00, for recreational programs, specifically the skateboard park. Councilman Sloane stated that he received notification from the Office of Senator Bryant and Assemblywoman Nilsa Cruz-Perez last Wednesday.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilwoman Tierney advised that she is currently awaiting for the old green banner poles to be removed and; with PSE&G’s permission, the gray street light poles will be used as the banner poles.

Councilwoman Tierney also stated that she had met with Mr. Walsh and Mr. Dukelow to discuss next year's trash schedule considering changes that would be made since we will no longer pick up Woodbury Heights' trash. The changes being discussed should be able to be effective January 1, 2005, and all residents will be notified by the distribution of fliers.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Councilwoman Schreyer brought in the low-energy light bulbs about which she had spoken. Councilwoman Schreyer advised that she obtained them from Walgreen's and there is a website that will give other locations where the bulbs are available.

MAYOR CLARK

Mayor Clark spoke on the following topics:

1. Mayor Clark stated that the Casino Redevelopment Authority approved funding for the Green Block Building Project in the amount of \$1.5 million dollars;
2. the Mayor advised that once again the NPP Program has been renewed; this is the third round for this worthwhile program. For those not familiar with the program, the Mayor explained that the monies are promised to homeowners in targeted areas whereby they can have much needed work done to improve their properties that they otherwise would not be able to do. Ms. Virginia Horn, the program director, again should be congratulated for a job very well done;
3. The Mayor announced the following events and encouraged everyone to try to attend as many as possible: (1) Mayors' Prayer Breakfast at Auletto's on Thursday, December 2, 7:00 a.m., tickets are \$15.00 and can be purchased at the YMCA; (2) the Annual Santa Parade, Friday, December 3rd followed by the tree lighting at the Gazebo at Aberdeen Place; Council persons are encouraged to participate in the parade; (3) Tuesday, December 7th, Congressman Rob Andrews will be hosting the Annual Pearl Harbor Day Observance at the Battleship NJ in Camden; no admission, no parking fees; Council members should contact Congressman Andrew's Office for special seating on the Battleship NJ. The ceremonies will begin at 10:00 a.m. and last about an hour;
4. Mayor Clark recognized forty-two years of service by Robert Gartside, who will be stepping down as Chairman of the Planning/Zoning Board when his term expires at the end of December; Mayor Clark gave a brief personal history of Bob's dedicated service to the City and thanked him and his family. Mr. Gartside will be honored at the next Planning/Zoning Board Meeting; and
5. In conclusion, the Mayor wished everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Bowe inquired as to the number of Council members who would be attending the JIF Workshop on Tuesday, December 7th, 2004. All Council members present responded that they would be attending.

Mr. Bowe requested that authorization be given to have the Public Works Department go out to bid on Uniforms for City Employees for the upcoming 2005 year. On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Sloane, the request was granted to go out to bid for uniforms.

The Clerk/Administration invited Mr. Joseph Schiavo to approach the podium so he could answer any questions Council had pertaining to the Engineer's Report.

Mr. Schiavo briefed Council on the progress of the parking lot on W. Barber Avenue indicating all is going well and on time. The Tennis Courts have been repaved and cannot be used for about three weeks. The contractor for the project will be overlaying the courts again sometime in spring at no additional charge to the City. The Pedestrian Lighting on Broad Street has been completed and is an improvement to that area. The four/five buildings on Hopkins Street and E. Barber Avenue have been demolished and the City is trying to relocate the tenants in the last building.

Councilman Louis inquired about the status of the lighting around Bell Lake. Mr. Schiavo stated that he has not looked into the situation because he was under the impression that Public Works was looking into it. However, Mr. Schiavo stated he would now look into it.

Mr. Schiavo advised that he is currently coordinating with PSE&G for a relocation point for the gas main on Tatum Street; this may have to wait until the spring to be accomplished.

Mr. Schiavo stated that he needs authorization to work on the stormwater regulation program release and prevention plan as well as permitting. This could take up to 12 to 18 months. Mr. Schiavo advised that he has applied for the permits and the money is available; however, Council now must adopt ordinances in order to be in compliance with the state standards. Mr. Schiavo then explained what would be necessary.

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, authorization was granted to Mr. Schiavo to implement plans for the stormwater regulation program.

PRESENTATION BY TARA COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Rick Alcantara introduced himself and thanked Council for allowing him to come out and show Council his newest designs for Woodbury's website. Mr. Alcantara first gave a brief background history of his first meeting with the Mayor and Mr. Law and reviewed the current website. Mr. Alcantara then advised that he spoke with several City personnel addressing their concerns and functions and then met with the Woodbury merchants and several organizations to hear their concerns. After gathering all the information and researching other municipal sites, Mr. Alcantara came to the decision to incorporate what he was about to present.

Mr. Alcantara then presented visual aids and explained each page and fielded questions from Council members.

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 Non-Agenda Items.

Anthony Chiesa, 36 Rugby Place, inquired if other information would be available on the City's website such as tax records.

Mr. Law responded stating for now tax records would not be available; however, in the future, that type of information would be considered.

Paul Bunn, 18 E. Packard Avenue, inquired if an ordinance regarding fire codes could be included on the website along with fees.

Mr. Law responded that there is an option we could subscribe to with the codification company who publishes our code book; however, there is a fee involved. At this time the City will wait to see how much activity our new website will generate, and if it is warranted, the City will spend the money and the time to include such an option for the internet user.

Dave Jenkins, 345 Glover Street, came forward to inquire if the NPP renewal program would be for another five-year period. The Mayor responded in the affirmative.

As no one else desired to address Council, on motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Louis, was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

THOMAS B. BOWE
Clerk/Administrator

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT

Assessor: Roy Duffield

Chief Financial Officer: Robert Law

City Engineer: Joseph Schiavo

Deputy Clerk: Gail R. Scheffler

Emergency Mgmt Co-Ordinator: Sgt. Stephen Cope

Librarian: Jean Wipf

NPP Director: Virginia Horn

Police Chief: Reed Merinuk

Public Works Director: Michael Walsh

Solicitor: Michael Aimino, Esq.