

December 11, 2003

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Woodbury held on the above date was called to order by President Curtis 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 2, 2003.

Reverend Andrew Barton delivered the Invocation.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Riskie, Schrock, Schreyer, Brown, Sloane, Grebb, Louis, Graziani, Mayor Clark and President Curtis

**Absent:** No One

### **MINUTES**

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Grebb, the minutes of the meeting of November 13, 2003 were approved as submitted.

### **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

President Curtis advised that Ordinance #1968-03 will be removed from the agenda since it was adopted at the previous Council Meeting of November 13, 2003. President Curtis also added a presentation to be made by McKernan and Associates regarding the City Hall/Police Department-Municipal Court/Fire Department future development study.

### **MAYOR SWEARS IN OFFICERS**

Mayor Clark read a letter of recommendation from the Chief of Police to promote Detective Robert Atkisson to the position of Sergeant.

Mayor Clark administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Atkisson. Sergeant Atkisson introduced his family members who were present.

Mayor Clark then read background letters from the Chief Merinuk supporting the promotion of Patrolmen Albert Anderson and Daniel Steigerwald to the position of Patrolman 4<sup>th</sup> Class.

Both Officers introduced their family and friends who were present.

Mayor Clark then introduced each Officer to the City's Council Members.

### **PRESENTATION BY PARENTS ANONYMOUS**

President Curtis invited the representative from Parents Anonymous to address Council. Ms. Diana Davis from Parents Anonymous gave a brief history on how the organization first was formed and explained the basis and purpose of the organization. Ms. Davis then distributed materials she had brought with her and invited everyone to a holiday party at 1063 N. Broad St., Woodbury on Friday, December 12, 2003 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m..

### **PRESENTATION BY WOODBURY COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES**

President Curtis welcomed Reverend Barton who gave a presentation on the Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministries. Reverend Barton stated that the organization has been in existence for 6 years. He then introduced Kathy Stackhouse, the Co-Ordinator, who explained exactly how the organization functions in Woodbury.

Ms. Stackhouse also advised that during the first year of its existence, the organization serviced 20 families. That number has grown considerably since the first year.

Reverend Barton thanked Council for affording him the time for the presentation.

### **ORDINANCES**

#### **ORDINANCE - #1967-03 – ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 190 OF THE WOODBURY MUNICIPAL CODE; VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC**

Councilman Schrock presented the above-entitled ordinance for final adoption.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

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

On motion of Councilman Schrock, seconded by Councilman Sloane, the public hearing was ordered closed.

On motion of Councilman Schrock, seconded by Councilman Louis, the ordinance was placed on second and final reading.

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

Ayes 9

Nays 0

#### **ORDINANCE #1969-03 – ORDINANCE INCLUDING BLOCK 115, LOT 23 (COMMONLY KNOWN AS 30 EAST BARBER AVENUE) IN THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN (ZONE 2) AND ACQUISITION LIST**

Councilman Schrock presented the above-entitled ordinance for final adoption.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

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

On motion of Councilman Schrock, seconded by Councilman Sloane, the public hearing was ordered closed.

On motion of Councilman Schrock, seconded by Councilman Louis, the ordinance was placed on second and final reading.

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

Ayes 9  
Nays 0

## **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.

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

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **RESOLUTION #03-184 – RESOLUTION TO REIMBURSE TAX OVERPAYMENTS**

Councilman Sloane presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

### **RESOLUTION #03-185 – RESOLUTION TO CANCEL TAXES PER MUNICIPALITY**

Councilman Sloane presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

Mr. Law, Chief Financial Officer, interrupted to advise that Council may want to reconsider adopting Resolution #03-186 until all matters are resolved pertaining to the full ownership of the property. With that recommendation, Councilman Sloane requested the resolution be removed from the agenda this evening.

### **RESOLUTION #03-187 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS REAL ESTATE MATTERS**

Councilman Sloane presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

**RESOLUTION #03-188 – RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TIME AND DATE FOR 2004 REORGANIZATION MEETING**

Councilman Sloane presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

**RESOLUTION #03-189 – RESOLUTION TO REIMBURSE TAX OVERPAYMENTS**

Councilman Sloane presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

**RESOLUTION #03-190 – RESOLUTION AWARDED BID FOR THE PROVISION OF UNIFORMS FOR CITY OF WOODBURY PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES**

Councilman Sloane presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

**VOUCHERS**

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

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**BINGO APPLICATION**

On motion of Councilman Schrock, seconded by Councilman Grebb, a bingo application from Beth Israel Congregation was approved as submitted.

Councilman Schrock referenced a letter received from the Southern New Jersey Technical School which operates out of the Bellia Building in North Woodbury requesting the use of four parking spots at the City's lot on Washington Avenue.

Mayor Clark stated that the original request went before the Planning Board and explained how and why the request originated.

Mr. Bowe indicated that he would write a letter to the Southern New Jersey Technical School advising them of Council's approval of their parking request.

Councilman Schrock reflected on the presentation given by the Co-Operative Ministries to see if the Woodbury Shuttle Bus would be of any benefit to help ease the burden of transportation for some of the needy people.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Councilman Grebb made special notice of how well the various Woodbury sports teams did including the girls field hockey team, boys soccer and football teams. All players should be proud since the Woodbury teams advanced so far this year while being such a small school. Councilman Grebb also mentioned that certain Woodbury student-athletes receive special, post-season recognition: they were: Nolan Grebb, Alex Schmid, and John Karwoski.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

Councilwoman Schreyer updated Council on the on-going, City-wide Tree Survey and the fund raising cruise that helped defray some of the cost of the tree survey project. Councilwoman Schreyer announced that \$1,771.00 was raised to further continue the survey.

On another matter, Councilwoman Schreyer submitted an end-of-the year forestry report advising that because the tree survey was not completed in time, other goals were not accomplished for this year. However, the tree survey will continue until completed, thus allowing the City to reach all their goals.

Councilwoman Schreyer stated that future goals include: obtaining a software program, a public education and awareness program, and a tree ordinance.

Councilwoman Schreyer inquired if Mr. Law was available to report on a meeting he attended along with Councilwoman Schreyer pertaining to a Aggregation and Conservation Program. Mr. Law stated that he had distributed a memo to each Councilperson highlighting some topics that were discussed at this Seminar. Mr. Law stated that the information shared this evening will be shared by way of a handbook which will be available for public perusal at the front desk in City Hall. Mr. Law advised that sometime in the near future he would suggest inviting a Department of Energy representative to come to a Council Meeting to better educate our residents on energy issues.

There was some conversation regarding energy saving devices only being available to homeowners, and not intended for commercial users.

The main concern expressed by Bob Law and Councilwoman Schreyer seemed to focus on the utility companies increasing their rates and how the average consumer can use different ways to decrease their utility bills.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Councilwoman Brown stated that she has been contacting all the appropriate representatives that could possibly help Woodbury obtain more funding for various programs.

Councilwoman Brown inquired if there could be some type of program to help our elderly when removing snow from their properties. Councilwoman Brown suggested working something out with our schools and churches to help our elderly.

Councilwoman Brown thanked Parents Anonymous for their very informative presentation stating that in years prior Councilwoman Brown had worked with this group and looks forward to working with the Co-operative Ministries Group as well.

Councilwoman Brown then introduced Bob Law to brief Council on a seminar he attended along with Councilwoman Brown regarding issues as they pertain to equal opportunity employment and other situations that could arise in the workplace.

### **MAYOR CLARK**

Mayor Leslie Clark reflected on the following topics:

1. Mayor Clark stated that she had attended her first League of Municipality Convention in Atlantic City this year; she then gave an overview of several seminars she attended and how they could affect the City of Woodbury;
2. The Mayor announced the arrival of Santa Claus on Friday, December 5, 2003, even though the Candlelight Shopping and related activities were cancelled due to the inclement weather. A special "thank you" was given to the Woodbury High School Band for participating in the welcoming of Santa even though the weather conditions made it extremely difficult for the handling of the instruments;
3. Mayor Clark acknowledged the great job the Woodbury Football Team did this past season;
4. The Mayor advised that now the Woodbury Basketball Team will be starting next week and all are looking forward to a successful season;
5. Mayor Clark reminded everyone that the Candlelight Shopping Event and other activities will be held this Friday, December 12, 2003;
6. The Mayor reference recent publicity concerning the opening of a new Walmart on Cooper Street in Deptford and the effect this opening could have on Woodbury businesses;
7. Mayor Clark advised that on Wednesday, January 21, 2003 the Annual Meeting of the NJ League of Municipalities will be held and if anyone is interested to contact her; and
8. The Mayor mentioned that she along with Councilwoman Brown and Stanley El attended the NJ Battleship Ceremonies last Thursday which were sponsored by Congressman Rob Andrews; all had a very nice time; and
9. Finally, Mayor Clark stated that she attended the Anti-Crime Night which was held on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Bowe, Clerk/Administrator, requested authorized to have the City Engineer draw up specifications and advertise for bids to be received for the Wick Blvd. Project. On motion of Councilman Riskie, seconded by Councilman Schrock, authorization was granted for said project.

The Clerk/Administrator inquired from the City Engineer, William Fleming, as to the status of the unpaid portion of the bills that are under consideration relating to the Bell Lake Dam Project. Mr. Fleming responded that at some point Council would have to make a decision on the payment of these bills.

Mr. Bowe submitted documentation by the City Tax Collector, Theresa Hamilton, that the Annual Tax Sale was held as required by law.

### **PRESENTATION BY MCKERNAN & ASSOCIATES**

McKernan and Associates spokesman, Joseph F. McKernan, presented Mayor and Council with a detailed study for possible future renovations involving municipal buildings within the City of Woodbury.

This study is available for inspection and review in the City Clerk's Office.

### **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.

Bill Fleming, 61 N. Bayard Ave., came forward to express his opinion regarding the proposed Walmart in Deptford and how he thought that objections to the project should be expressed by the City Planner and City Engineer as well as the public.

Mr. Fleming stated that the School Board met last evening to discuss the proposed bonding and the costs involved in current issues facing the Woodbury School System.. Mr. Fleming quoted an estimate of around \$11,000,000.00 for use by all four schools highlighted by needs at the football stadium, school boilers, and the high school auditorium. Mr. Fleming also briefed Council on the legal status of the Woodbury Board of Education's lawsuit against the State of New Jersey.

Paul Bunn, 18 E. Packer Street, came forward to suggest that Council consider the recently vacated bank property as a site for the relocation of the City Fire Department and Police Department.

Mr. Bunn also volunteered his services for the painting of the shutters of the City Hall Building.

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

Councilman Sloane stated that due to a conflict the Finance Committee meeting originally scheduled for next Wednesday will have to be cancelled.

On motion of Councilman Graziani, seconded by Councilwoman Schreyer, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and Council went into Executive Session (9:55 p.m).

**E X E C U T I V E   S E S S I O N**

On motion of Councilman Graziani, seconded by Councilman Sloane, the Regular Order of Business was resumed at 10:20 p.m..

Mr. Bowe advised Council that the situation on S. Davis Street involving an extraordinarily high water bill and a possible malfunctioning water meter which will be rectified by way of a resolution at a future meeting.

Mr. Bowe stated that it appears to be the general feeling of Council that the banquet bill outstanding for this year's Firemen's Banquet be paid; however, bar bills will not be paid for future banquets.

There being no further business, on motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Louis, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

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THOMAS B. BOWE  
Clerk/Administrator

**OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Assessor: Roy Duffield

Chief Financial Officer: Robert Law

City Engineer: William Fleming

Construction Code Official: William Wakemen

Deputy City Clerk: Gail R. Scheffler

Emergency Management Officer: Sergeant Steven Cope

Neighborhood Preservation Program Director: Virginia Horn

Police: Chief Reed Merinuk, Lieutenant Sheehan

Solicitor: Bruce Hasbrouck, Esq.