

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF  
FEBRUARY 25, 2014**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Meeting was opened by President Fleming at 7:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance in Council Chambers at Woodbury City Hall, 33 Delaware Street, Woodbury, NJ.

**Invocation**

Rev. Joseph Coles of Bethlehem Baptist Church delivered the Invocation.

**Open Public Meeting Statement**

The City Clerk stated that due notice had been given to both the public and the press by posting and publication of Resolution #14-05 adopted at the Reorganizational Meeting of Mayor and Council on January 6, 2014.

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Tierney, Hock, Swanson, Trovato, Lockman, Parker, Carter, Johnson, President Fleming and Mayor Volk

**Absent:** No One

**Approval of Minutes**

On motion of Councilman Trovato, seconded by Councilwoman Carter, the minutes of both the regular meeting of February 11, 2014 and the Executive Session of February 11, 2014 were approved as submitted.

**Presentations and Discussions**

President Fleming invited Stephen Thayer from the Jersey Energy Group to make a presentation on the Gloucester County Energy Aggregation Program. The program allows for bulk purchasing of electricity and anticipates lower rates for participating City residents. If the City Council adopts an ordinance to participate, all residents will be enrolled unless they specifically opt out or unless they are already enrolled with another third party supplier.

**Open to the Public for Agenda Items**

On motion of Councilwoman Parker, seconded by Councilwoman Carter, 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 Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilwoman Parker, the Public Hearing was ordered closed and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

**Resolutions, Ordinances and Committee Reports**

**Finance & Administration**

**#2199-14 - An Ordinance of the City of Woodbury Joining the Gloucester County Energy Aggregation Program Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1, et seq. (FIRST READING)**

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled ordinance.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilman Swanson, seconded by Councilman Trovato, and unanimously approved the ordinance was ordered to be published according to law, to come up for second reading, public hearing and final adoption at our regularly scheduled meeting of March 11, 2014.

## **Vouchers**

On motion of Councilman Swanson, seconded by Councilman Trovato, and unanimously approved the vouchers as presented and certified were authorized paid.

## **Public Safety**

### **Membership to Friendship Fire Company**

Councilwoman Carter presented an application for membership into the Friendship Fire Company from Justin Gartner, 138 Lupton Avenue, Woodbury, New Jersey. The application has been recommended for acceptance by Fire Marshal Buono. On motion of Councilwoman Carter, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the application was unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Carter advised she along with Council Members Tierney and Swanson attended the recent West End Neighborhood Association meeting. WENA's next meeting is March 18<sup>th</sup>. She also stated that she and Councilwoman Parker are looking into starting a Neighborhood Association in North Woodbury.

## **Public Works/Parks and Recreation**

### **#14-56 - Resolution Authorizing City Engineer to Issue Notice to Bidders Regarding 2013-2017 Local Road Resurfacing Program – Phase 2 - FY2014 Road Projects Driscoll Avenue, Hendrickson Avenue, Hemlock Terrace, Aberdeen Place And Glover Street (Penn Street to W. Barber Avenue)**

Councilwoman Parker presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilwoman Parker, seconded by Councilman Swanson, the resolution was unanimously adopted by a voice vote.

Councilwoman Parker stated that our Public Works Dept. has been busy cold patching the weather damaged streets and clearing storm drains. The baseball fields are being readied for Little League opening day on April 12. A Shredding Event to dispose of residents' confidential documents will be held April 5. Sign-up for the Community Garden will be on March 6<sup>th</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup>, with their opening scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup>. Also, the arrival of our new senior citizen bus is expected in late March.

## **Economic Development**

Councilman Trovato stated that Inspira Hospital wishes to improve their partnership with the City by hosting free health screenings for City residents. Talks will continue to explore other ways the City and hospital can work together.

Economic Development Director, Randi Woerner, expanded on some of the activities Inspira will be offering, including health care speakers and possibly cleaning up the RR bridge over Red Bank Ave. She also mentioned recent ribbon cuttings for new businesses Monica Scott, Tiana's, and Tire Corral. New businesses coming soon are Fat Louie's, Levisi Bakery, and a Dance Studio. The next Property Committee meeting is March 20. She has an intern from Rowan Univ. working to compile a comprehensive list of available commercial space. She & Bob Law attended a seminar on the Constant Contact email program. Lastly, she has a newsletter ready for printing & distribution.

## **Community Relations**

Councilwoman Tierney stated that her committee is currently planning the Memorial Day observation. She has met with Bonsal Blues Band and American Legion Post #133 to explore different ways to honor this occasion.

Also, there will be a Pasta Dinner Fund Raiser this Friday at the High School for Project Graduation.

## **Environmental and Green Acres**

### **#2200-14 - Ordinance Amending the Code of the City of Woodbury to Promote Trees through the Regulation of Tree Removal, Planting, Replacement and Protection – (First Reading)**

Councilwoman Hock presented the above-titled ordinance.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilman Hock, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, and unanimously approved the ordinance was ordered to be published according to law, to come up for second reading, public hearing and final adoption at our regularly scheduled meeting of March 11, 2014.

### **#14-57 - Resolution Authorization Execution of Agreement with MJS Forestry Consultants for the Development of a “Community Forestry Management Plan”**

Councilman Hock presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

Councilman Hock advised that the next Green Team Meeting will be held on Monday, March 10, 2014 at 8:45 am in City Hall, where they will discuss ways to meet this year’s goals.

## **Community Development**

Councilman Johnson had nothing to report for this committee.

## **Property**

Councilman Lockman advised that this committee continues to work on the tedious but necessary process of dealing with vacant and abandoned properties in our City.

Councilman Lockman discussed the on-going I-95 Direct Connect highway project.

## **Old Business**

Councilman Swanson asked about the Woodbury Court Apartment situation.

Mr. Theokas stated the residents who were displaced because of the lack of heat are back in their apartments and we are still working with our officials to ensure the continued safety of the residents. Many people worked hard in attempting to resolve this situation, more than people are aware of, and a special thank-you should be extended to the State Multiple Dwelling inspector, County Board of Health, our Code Enforcement Office and our Police and Public Works Departments who all contributed to resolve this unfortunate event.

## **Reports:**

### **Mayor**

Mayor Volk referenced Councilman Trovato’s report on recent meetings with Inspira wherein he gave credit to everyone but himself. Mayor Volk would like to state that Mr. Trovato was the driving force behind this entire renewed working relationship with Inspira.

Also, the Mayor reiterated Councilman Lockman’s statement of the tedious job of enforcing the property maintenance regulations; but because of the hard work everyone has put into this project, progress is being made.

## **Clerk**

Mr. Duffield reported that there will be mandatory JIF training session on March 25<sup>th</sup> prior to our Council meeting for all Councilmembers to attend.

On March 9<sup>th</sup> there will be a service at Central Baptist Church for the installation of their new Pastor Dr. Carla Romarate-Knipel. All are invited to attend.

Also, he is working with Councilwoman Parker to update our Recycling Ordinance to comply with state guidelines. Bids will be received tomorrow for the Recycling contract.

The shutters have been repaired and reinstalled on City Hall.

Mr. Duffield advised he is considering other locations for our Polling Places for future elections.

Mr. Law, Chief Financial Officer stated that for those who cannot make the March 25<sup>th</sup> JIF Training the course can be taken on-line.

Mr. Law advised the Budget will be introduced at the next council meeting. Also, he and Mike Theokas are currently working on a revision to the current Personnel Policy Manual.

### **Police**

Chief Merinuk advised that he working with WENA to hear their concerns in that neighborhood. There has been interest from other neighborhoods to form their own watch groups, and he intends to work with them as well.

### **Main Street Woodbury**

Mary Carter, Interim Director for Main Street, said they are hoping to announce their selection of a new executive director in the near future.

### **Open to the Public**

On motion of Councilman Trovato, seconded by Councilwoman Parker, and unanimously approved the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the floor was opened to the Public for any items.

Susan Anderson, 220 S. Jackson Street said she has received some donations for the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks she would like to pass along to the Fireworks committee. Mayor Volk advised that a new committee is handling that this year and more information will be available later.

Ms. Anderson also asked if the City would consider providing lids for the recycling containers to prevent animals, wind and rain from getting into them.

Seeing no one else, on motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Swanson and unanimously approved the Public Hearing was ordered closed.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, on motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Swanson, and unanimously approved the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

ROY A. DUFFIELD  
City Clerk

### **OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE**

Administrator: Michael Theokas

Chief Financial Officer: Robert Law

City Clerk: Roy Duffield

City Engineer: Paul Brier

Economic Development Director: Randi Woerner

Main Street: Mary Carter

Police: Chief Reed Merinuk

Public Works Director: Rich Leidy

Solicitor: James Pierson, Esquire