

MINUTES
April 11, 2011
7:30 p.m.

The Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Invocation was delivered by Reverend Samuel Willits - Bethlehem Baptist Church.

The Open Public Meeting Statement was read by the Acting Clerk, Gail R. Scheffler.

Roll Call

Present: Pottillo, Carter, Brown, Fleming, Louis, Tierney, Trout, President Sloane, Mayor Riskie

Absent: Connor

Changes to the Agenda

President Sloane stated that there would be two presentations this evening: one by the Board of Education already listed on the agenda, and the other by the Auditor concerning the Municipal Budget.

Also, President Sloane advised that Resolution #11-84 regarding a Change Order on Delaware Street will be presented and adopted; but with a stipulation that the Contractor must produce the required certification.

Minutes

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, the minutes of March 28, 2011 were approved as submitted.

Public

On motion of Councilman Trout, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the regular order of business was suspended and the floor was open to the Public for Agenda Items Only.

Anthony Chiesa, 36 Rugby Place inquired on Resolution #11-74 pertaining to the Risk Management Consultant and the 6% assessment fee.

President Sloane explained that there are several municipalities that belong to the JIF Insurance Fund and it does require that as a member of the pool we work with a Risk Management Consultant that the city designates.

As no one else came forward, on motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Trout, the floor was closed to the Public and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

School Board Education Presentation

Kara Huber, School Business Administrator and Joseph Jones, Superintendent, were the presenters for the Board of Education 2011-12 Budget.

Ms. Huber started with a power point presentation showing where the increases were and how they were applied to the budget.

Mr. Jones continued the presentation with his explanation of State Funding and the formula they apply to making a decision on granting State Aid to Municipalities. Mr. Jones also explained how the school has to pay back debt service relating to a Bond Referendum, plus the Green Acres Funds that will not be available for future use, and how these facts affected the school budget in the past and in the future.

Mr. Jones responded to questions from Council members.

Councilman Louis stated that he would like to remind everyone that the vote on the school board budget will be held on April 27th from 2:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Resolutions and Ordinances

Finance & Administration

#2138-11 - Ordinance of the City of Woodbury, County of Gloucester, New Jersey, Cancelling Certain Funded Appropriation Balances Heretofore Provided for Various Capital Projects and Re-appropriating Such Funded Appropriation Balances for Certain Water and Sewer Capital Projects (1st Reading)

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled ordinance.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Louis, the ordinance was passed on first reading, to be advertised according to law, come up for second and final reading at a regularly scheduled meeting of Mayor and Council on April 25, 2011.

#11-74 - Resolution Appointing Insurance Broker for the City of Woodbury and Risk Management Consultant for the Gloucester, Salem and Cumberland County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Councilman Louis inquired how Council came to the decision of Hardenbergh when they submitted the same bid as Cettei and Connell, a local business.

Councilman Fleming stated it was a tough decision; however based on review and experience, the Finance Committee agreed to go with the same firm as last year which was Hardenbergh Insurance.

Councilwoman Tierney stated that she was involved with the Finance Committee's review of proposals and would like the record to show that she was not in favor, and hoped the Committee would lean toward a business that was contributing to our tax base by being located in the City.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Pottillo, the resolution was adopted by a roll call vote.

Ayes	5	Pottillo, Carter, Brown, Fleming, President Sloane
Nays	3	Louis, Tierney, Trout
Absent	1	Connor

#11-75 - Resolution to Read Budget by Title Only

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Councilman Louis inquired what actually this resolution entailed.

Councilman Fleming explained.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Pottillo, the resolution was adopted by a roll call vote.

Ayes	8	Pottillo, Carter, Brown, Fleming, Louis, Tierney, Trout, President Sloane
Nays	0	
Absent	1	Connor

Municipal Budget Presentation

Mr. Michael Cesaro, City Auditor, from Bowman and Company, came forward to explain how the Budget is presented, adopted, and amended. By using a power point presentation, Mr. Cesaro further explained how state aid, appropriations, revenues and balancing the budget are all figured into the equation.

Mr. Cesaro then went through many line items to explain how they arrive at that figure and why some numbers increased and other decreased.

Public Hearing

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the floor was opened to the Public for a public hearing on the 2011 Municipal Budget as introduced.

Anthony Chiesa, 36 Rugby Place came forward to inquire regarding why our ratables decreased by 3.2 million dollars.

Mr. Duffield, Tax Assessor responded that it was primarily due to people appealing their taxes along with adjustments he made to certain properties.

Mr. Chiesa also inquired if the increase of wages under Police and Fire Personnel was due to the hiring of more personnel. Mr. Law responded no it was not, there were other factors included in those figures.

Mr. Chiesa had additional questions which were answered by the appropriate official.

#11-76 - Resolution to Amend 2011 Budget

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution for adoption.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Pottillo, the resolution was adopted by a roll call vote.

Ayes	8	Pottillo, Carter, Brown, Fleming, Louis, Tierney, Trout, President Sloane
Nays	0	
Absent	1	Connor

#11-77 - Resolution to Adopt 2011 Budget

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The acting Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Councilman Trout asked if Department Heads were requested to cut their budgets even further.

Councilman Fleming responded advising that they did have to reduce them already when submitted and there is no more room for any additional cuts without impacting services and personnel.

Councilman Louis inquired if City employees are contributing to their medical deductions.

Councilman Fleming stated that all non-union members are contribution 1.5% toward their medical deductions, however, union members are not. When union contracts expire, they will have to as part of their new contracts.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Pottillo, the resolution was adopted by a roll call vote.

Ayes	5	Pottillo, Carter, Brown, Fleming, President Sloane
Nays	3	Louis, Tierney, Trout
Absent	1	Connor

#11-78 - Resolution to Reimburse Homestead Rebate Credit Payment

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Trout, the resolution was approved by a voice motion.

#11-79 - Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Funds from the Tax Sale Premium Account into the General Current Fund

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

#11-80 - Resolution to Adjust Water Charges for 4th Qtr Billing Due to Faulty Transmitter Unable to Send Actual Reading

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Louis, the resolution was approved by a voice motion.

#11-81 - Resolution Authorizing Cancelation of Balances on Water & Sewer Accounts in the City of Woodbury

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, the resolution was approved by a voice motion.

#11-82 - Resolution of the City of Woodbury Imposing Lien(s) for Property Maintenance Pursuant to Municipality Code §162-4

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Trout, the resolution was approved by a voice motion.

#11-83 - Resolution Authorizing Adjustment to 3rd Quarter 2010 Water Billing for Certain Accounts

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

#11-84 - Resolution Authorizing Final Change Order No. 1 to Delaware Street (So. Warner to Broad Street – Rt. 45) Sanitary Sewer Lateral Replacement Contract

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the resolution was approved by a voice motion, on the condition that the Contractor submits the Certificate as requested by the Solicitor.

Councilman Fleming advised that agreements are currently in place with the Police and Fire Department unions and cannot be changed until the contract is expired. However, for future negotiations, those city employees who belong to a union, will have to start making concessions just as the non-union employees do.

Councilman Louis added to Councilman's Flemings remarks agreeing that the City has to take a hard look at other ways to cut back in order to meet our needs. After listening to the Board of Education's presentation they are also in the same position as the City and also have to

take a stand on just how much we can continue to raise taxes as the only way to balance our budgets.

Vouchers

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

Public Safety

Councilman Louis presented a Raffle Application from the American Legion Post #133 for a raffle to be held on May 15, 2011. On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, said raffle was approved as submitted.

Public Works/Utilities

Councilwoman Tierney updated Council on the water meter/transmitter replacements stating that residents are being notified.

Councilman Pottillo had some questions regarding the time period involved in this process.

Councilwoman Tierney responded that Public Works is diligently working to have all transmitters replaced within the next several weeks. Until that is completed she is hopeful that residents will be more aware of their water usage, pay their bills on time, and be patient until such time all residential properties are on line with the new system.

Economic Development

Councilman Trout had nothing to report.

Personnel

Councilman Pottillo advised that he had reviewed several of the resumes submitted and feels confident that when the Committee does meet, a decision will be reached within a reasonable time frame. Councilman Pottillo stated he would like to meet with the Mayor, President Sloane and Personnel Committee on Saturday, April 16th at 10:00 am.

Environmental

Councilwoman Brown stated she had nothing to report in Councilman Connor's absence.

Community Development

#2137-11 - Ordinance Amending Chapter 167 Section 25.1 A "Variances" of the Code of

the City of Woodbury to Provide that an Application for a Variance in Connection with the Installation, Repair or Replacement of a Sidewalk to be Treated as a “C” Variance (2nd Reading)

Councilwoman Brown presented the above-entitled ordinance for final adoption.

The Acting Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilman Pottillo, the ordinance was passed on second reading.

On motion of Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilman Louis, the Public Portion was ordered open.

Brendon Chiesa, 36 Rugby Place, inquired if the ordinance addressed the seller or the buyer of the property?

Mr. James Pierson, City Solicitor, advised that the Planning Board Solicitor would make that decision based on each application. .

On motion of Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilman Louis, the Public Portion was ordered closed.

On motion of Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the ordinance was adopted by a roll call vote.

Ayes	8	Pottillo, Carter, Brown, Fleming, Louis, Tierney, Trout, President Sloane
Nays	0	
Absent	1	Connor

Councilwoman Brown invited Mr. Dukelow to come forward to explain a project the Library is working on along with his help.

Mr. Dukelow stated that some of our local artists have come up with a project called the "Family Totem Pole" and they would like to erect it outside the area between the Library and Construction Office.

President Sloane stated that this was not on the agenda and that he would like to give ample time to anyone who had questions regarding this project, which he himself had no knowledge of. Therefore, he would like to invite Mr. Dukelow back for the next meeting so as to give everyone an opportunity to ask questions.

Green Acres Program

Councilwoman Carter had nothing to report.

Reports:

Mayor

Mayor Riskie advised he spoke with Firefighter Bob Warfield and they have to contact some of the fire companies officers to get together and talk about the old Goodwill Fire Company building and then put together a proposal for Council to review.

The Mayor stated that he had the honor of throwing out the first pitch this Saturday for "Opening Day of Little League" which brought back many fond memories.

Mayor Riskie advised that this upcoming week would be the Woodbury Relays which brings out many good runners in the area, one special mention would be a former Olympian, Mr. Carl Lewis. All are welcomed to come out to participate.

Clerk

The Acting Clerk, Gail Scheffler, reminded everyone who has not returned their Financial Disclosure Statements to her to kindly do so as soon as possible.

Public

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Trout, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the floor was opened to the Public for Non-Agenda Items.

Mr. Chuck Rose, 306 W. Centre Street, came forward stating that he recently resigned from the Planning Board because of the change in administration. Mr. Rose stated that as a former member of the Planning Board, who worked closely with the Planner, he did not understand why a new Planner had to be appointed, which will mean, more surveys and more delays in Woodbury moving forward with their redevelopment project.

Also, Mr. Rose questioned the actions of the Mayor and Council Members Tierney, Louis and Trout on their choice of voting in an Insurance Agent who submitted a bid which was \$9,000.00 higher than Hardenberg Insurance, who was the agent in 2010, just on the basis of the business being located in Woodbury.

Councilman Louis and Councilwoman Tierney explained why they were in favor of Cetei and Connell as the Insurance Agent.

Councilwoman Tierney added that she does not have any control over the decisions and appointments the Planning/Zoning Board makes. Councilman Trout stated he abstained from the vote in approval of Cettei and Connell.

Jessica Ferguson, who works at the Woodbury Public Library, came forward to advise of the Family Totem Pole project unveiling be held on Monday, April 18, 2011 at 4:00 pm behind the City Hall Complex between the Library and Code Enforcement Offices.

Councilman Louis inquired what the Family Totem Pole represented.

Ms. Ferguson stated that she along with Doris Rogers and Donna Miller, along with several young adults from the high school worked on this project for ten weeks. Each participant was to bring in pictures or items of interest that represented their heritage. The students then created a collage consisting of ceramic tiles, and embossed copper which were nailed onto the Totem Poles in a very creative format. It was the intent for the Family Totem Pole to remain a permanent fixture at the site of the dedication for the public to view.

Adjournment

There being no further business, on motion of Councilman Trout, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

GAIL R. SCHEFFLER
Acting City Clerk

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Assessor: Roy Duffield
CFO/Acting Administrator: Robert Law
Tax/Utility Collector: Lorraine Roberts
Librarian: Jean Wipf, Director
Police: Captain Timothy Sheehan
Solicitor: James Pierson, Esq.
Public Works: Thomas Dukelow, Supervisor