

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 29, 2012

7:30:12 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was opened by President Tierney at 7:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance at City Hall, 33 Delaware Street, in Council Chambers.

Invocation

The Invocation was delivered by the Reverend Alvin Collins, Jr., Pastor, of Spoken Word Evangelical Church.

Open Public Meeting Statement

The City Clerk stated that due notice had been given to both the public and the press by publication of Resolution #12-05 adopted at the Reorganization Meeting of the Mayor and Council on January 3, 2012.

Roll Call

Present: 8 Connor, Lockman, Sloane, Brown, Fleming, Trout, Louis, President Tierney

Absent: 1 Carter

Minutes

On motion of Councilman Trout, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, the minutes of the Council Meeting of May 14, 2012, were approved as submitted.

Councilman Sloane abstained from the vote.

Presentation by Sean Gardner, SPG Entertainment

President Tierney introduced Mr. Sean Gardner from SPG Entertainment, who gave a brief background on how he became involved in the entertainment industry.

Mr. Gardner would like to host a Film Festival in Woodbury to educate people about film making and the arts. He has spoken with Mayor Riskie and Mrs. Abbruzzese and would like for Council to consider his request to host a 4-5 day event. An event of this nature could have economic benefits for the City and possibly bring back the fireworks if the event was held on July 4 week. Mr. Gardner suggested that the event could be held at the High School facility.

Councilman Sloane stated that he thought this was an excellent idea but we would have to talk to the Board of Education to get their views on the subject.

President Tierney stated that she would instruct the Economic Development Office, to look further into the request, obtain more information and we would be back in touch with Mr. Gardner. The time frame being discussed is for July 2013.

Open to the Public for Agenda Items

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

PUBLIC SESSION ON ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Ordinances

#2162-12 - Ordinance Amending the Personnel Policies and Procedures of the City of Woodbury (Second Reading)

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

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Louis, the ordinance was ordered open for Public Hearing.

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Connor, the Public Hearing was ordered closed.

Councilman Sloane advised that this ordinance is necessary for our employment liability insurance; and if we were not in compliance could expose us to a lawsuit and increase our deductible.

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

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

#2163-12 - Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Completion of Various Capital Improvements in and For the City of Woodbury, County of Gloucester, New Jersey, Appropriating the Sum of \$2,235,000 Therefore; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes of the City of Woodbury, County of Gloucester, New Jersey in the Aggregate Principal Amount of Up to \$2,123,250; Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection with the Foregoing (Second Reading)

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

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

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

Seeing no one, on motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Trout, the public hearing for ordered closed.

Councilman Sloane inquired about the ladder truck which will be purchased using part of this bond, and if there are any buildings other than the hospital or the County jail that would require the use of this vehicle. He also asked how many ladder trucks are already in service within a 10-mile radius and how often we have calls for service for them.

Councilman Louis advised that currently our municipality has mutual aid agreements with surrounding towns that would send a ladder truck if needed. Councilman Louis stated that he did not have the answers to the two questions asked.

Mr. Kinkler, City Administrator stated that he is aware of three in the area, one at Verga FD, which is very old, and one at Tacoma FD.

Councilman Sloane stated that half of this bond ordinance is going toward purchase of a ladder truck, when there are already several others in the area that can accommodate us. Also, Councilman Sloane stated that he is concerned that we are putting money out for a ladder truck to accommodate two buildings that do not contribute to our tax base and indicated that we should at least look to them for some financial assistance prior to making an investment of this sort. He also questioned the need for a ladder truck given the nature of the building designs of the structures in question.

Councilman Louis advised that although he can relate to Mr. Sloane's comments, he does not take that position in thinking. If that were the case we should cut off water service, and not repair streets to all our tax exempt properties. Councilman Louis stated that it would be nice if those non-taxed entities could contribute to the purchase; but surely nothing out weighs the safety of the fireman who risk their lives and also the occupants of those buildings, if ever the need arose for their rescue.

Councilman Fleming noted that with the proposed G.G. Green Project, there will be additional need for the truck.

President Tierney reiterated that the bond ordinance is an expenditure that may be anticipated, and does not reflect the exact amount; and in her opinion, is certainly worth the money, if purchased, if it meant saving someone's life.

Councilman Trout stated it is extremely important for our firefighters who risk their lives to have the best and safest equipment available. He feels just as strongly when it comes to equipment for the Police Dept.

Councilman Sloane said the City should explore other options before making this expenditure.

Council President Tierney called for a roll call vote.

Ayes	7	Connor, Lockman, Brown, Fleming, Trout, Louis, Tierney
Nays	1	Sloane
Absent	1	Carter

#2164-12 - Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Completion of Water and Sewer Improvements in the City of Woodbury, County of Gloucester, New Jersey, Appropriating the Sum of \$600,000 Therefore; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes of the City of Woodbury, County of Gloucester, New Jersey in the Aggregate Principal Amount of Up to \$600,000; Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection with the Foregoing (Second Reading)

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

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

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

Seeing no one, on motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Trout, the public hearing for ordered closed.

Councilman Louis explained that the contents of this bond ordinance were for repairs that are very much needed and within reason.

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Sloane, the ordinance was adopted by a roll call vote.

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

Resolutions

Finance & Administration

#12-106 - Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Administrator to Execute a Lease Agreement with Nicholas Gabriele for the Purpose of Using a Garage for Storage

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Connor, the resolution was unanimously adopted by a voice motion.

Councilman Louis stated that the purpose of the resolution was to store equipment used for the Farmer's Market.

Vouchers

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Sloane, the vouchers as presented and certified were unanimously authorized to be paid.

Public Safety

#12-107 - Resolution Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement Between the City of Woodbury Police Department and the Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office and in Support of Their Application for a Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program Grant

Councilman Connor presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Councilman Connor advised that he along with President Tierney, Chief Merinuk, Lieutenant Cope and several other groups were in attendance at the Kick Off Meeting on May 25, 2012 to launch the Program. Another meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2012 and we look forward to working to help improve community safety. The grant application is due June 8.

On motion of Councilman Connor, seconded by Councilman Trout, the resolution was unanimously adopted by a voice motion.

Councilman Connor advised that he was proud to participate in this year's Memorial Day Parade along with his Boy Scout Troop #7. He is also happy to announce that two of his scouts were recognized by Mayor Riskie for their bugling abilities, which is not an easy task when performing in front of a large crowd.

Public Works/Utilities

Councilman Fleming stated that Broad Street Construction will be starting next week and signage has been posted.

Councilman Fleming also advised that he found out today that there will be some re-routing of traffic along Woodbury -Glassboro Road during our water main replacement.

Economic Development

Councilman Trout reminded everyone that this Sunday, June 3, 2012 will be the Annual Block Party held along Broad Street. Also, to be noted is the Farmers Market will be running from now until October down at the Train Station Parking Lot and Lunch Munch will continue to run every Wednesday. He welcomes everyone to come up and support all of the events.

Personnel

Councilman Sloane had nothing to report.

Property Maintenance

Councilman Lockman had nothing to report.

Community Development

Councilwoman Brown stated that last Saturday was "Sitting at the Feet of Elders". She very much appreciated the attendance of Mayor Riskie.

Also, our next regularly scheduled meeting scheduled for June 11, 2012, we will be hosting the "Students in Government" program. All involved should plan to be here by 5:15 pm to begin the program.

Parks and Recreation/Environmental

Councilwoman Brown had nothing to report for Parks and Recreation.

Reports

Mayor

Mayor Riskie thanked all the dignitaries who took the time to participate in the Annual Woodbury Memorial Day Parade.

The Mayor acknowledged the two young boy scouts, who acted as the Buglers for the Parade, Mr. Walker and Mr. Hughes did a great job.

Mayor Riskie advised that the Benjamin Ross Run will take place on Sunday, June 3rd, along with the Annual Broad Street Block Party. The Mayor intends to participate this year in the run with his two sons.

The Mayor thanked Councilwoman Brown for inviting him back for the second year to participate in the "Sitting at the Feet of Elders". It is a very intense group and we have much to learn from our elders.

Mayor Riskie stated the Clock Dedication will take place on June 8, 2012 and a third plaque will be added to the list of donors, donations are still being accepted.

Clerk

Mr. Duffield had nothing to report.

President of Council

President Tierney advised that over the past year our Tax Collector, Lorraine Reeves has been working diligently to put a program together to accommodate our property owners to pay their water/sewer and tax bills on line. Her efforts are truly acknowledged and appreciated, and the program has been implemented.

Public

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

Gloria Holmes, 19 Nelson Avenue, came forward to ask that a marker be placed at the old Carpenter Street School. It is on the Historic Registry as an underground railroad site and should be recognized as such.

Also, last year another marker commemorating the Dickerson family was erected on private property at the corner of Broad & Barber. Mrs. Holmes is asking for Council's assistance in getting that marker moved to another location.

Mrs. Holmes referenced the construction planned for Broad Street. She is concerned for the children that attend the day care on Carpenter Street and walk to West End school; she is requesting that a crosswalk be placed at Carpenter Street and Salem Avenue. Mrs. Holmes is also asking for Council to consider a crosswalk along Mantua Ave in the area the Manor and Acme store.

President Tierney concurred with Mrs. Holmes' request regarding the recognition of the Carpenter Street School, and to look into having the other marker moved. She advised that the crosswalk requests may be more involved since Mantua Ave is a State Highway and the City would have to coordinate with them; but certainly we could have the request further looked into at the appropriate time.

Paul Bunn, 18 E. Packer Ave. addressed Councilman Sloane regarding his comment about the ladder truck. Mr. Bunn inquired whether Councilman Sloane took into consideration the numerous churches in our City, the in-patients of the hospital, the county jail inmates, and the elderly who live at the Woodbury Mews. many of whom do not pay taxes, Mr. Bunn felt Councilman Sloane's reasoning was disturbing. All who live or work in Woodbury deserve the best service whether or not they pay taxes.

Councilman Sloane stated that he did not indicate that we do not need to purchase a truck, but was making the point that before we do so, we consider all the options available. In his opinion that was not done. Also, many of the places he referred to have their own backup plan for such emergencies.

Mr. Bunn inquired if Carpenter Street School was owned by the City.

Mayor Riskie responded that Bethel AME Church owns the building and is opposed to placing the sign on the building.

Mr. Bunn, a Public Works employee, advised that our older street signs had to be removed because of safety reasons at the recommendation of our insurance company. He was able to salvage several signs and repaint them and would like to present them to Council.

Mr. Bunn advised at the suggestion of Mrs. Abbruzzese, he would like to make a recommendation that the signs be repainted and then given to several of our non-profit organizations who then can auction them to raise money.

President Tierney stated that Mr. Bunn's suggestion was a valid one; however some individuals may prefer the sign as it is, that being in its original state.

George Gallenthin, 26 S. Bayard Ave. asked that Council look into the parcels of land that abut the railroad for when the rail line comes through and that the City be prepared for economic growth in the City.

President Tierney thanked Mr. Gallenthin for his comments.

There being no one else, on motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Fleming, the Public Portion was closed and the Regular Order of Business be resumed.

There being no further business, on motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Fleming, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 pm.

ROY A. DUFFIELD
City Clerk

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT

Administrator/Deputy City Clerk: Karl J. Kinkler
Chief Financial Officer: Robert Law
City Engineer: James Clancy, PE
Librarian: Jean Wipf
Public Works Director: Rich Leidy
Public Works Supervisor: William Lynch
Solicitor: Michael Aimino, Esq.