

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF September 24, 2012

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Invocation

Councilman Lester Lockman delivered the Invocation.

Reading of the 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 Reorganizational Meeting of Mayor and Council on January 3, 2012.

Roll Call

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

Absent: No One

Minutes

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Connor, the minutes of the Council Meeting of September 10, 2012 were approved as submitted. Councilman Fleming abstained from the vote.

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF POLICE OFFICERS

Mayor Riskie read a Letter of Recommendation for the promotion of three Patrolmen who are filling positions due to recent retirements in the Police Department. They are as follow: Sgt. Kevin Outten promoted to Lieutenant; Ptl. William Palese promoted to Sergeant; and Ptl. Jeff Pitzo promoted to Sergeant.

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Trout, the promotion of Sergeant Outten to Lieutenant was approved.

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Trout, the promotion of Patrolman Palese to Sergeant was approved.

On motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, the promotion of Patrolman Pitzo to Sergeant was approved.

***Councilman Connor left the meeting at 7:45 pm to attend his son's Eagle Scout Ceremony**

SWEARING IN OF NEW OFFICERS

Mayor Riskie Administered the Oath of Office to each of the newly appointed Officers: Lieutenant Kevin Outten, Sergeant William Palese and Sergeant Jeffrey Pitzo.

Mayor Riskie thanked all of the officers for their dedication and hard work in the department and for providing for the safety of Woodbury Residents. Their efforts do not go unnoticed and we are all grateful.

Public for Agenda Items

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 Agenda Items Only.

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

Resolutions

Finance & Administration

#12-151 - Resolution of the City Council of the City of Woodbury, County of Gloucester, New Jersey Authorizing the Submission of an Application to the New Jersey Local Finance Board Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 58:11B-9(a) and N.J.S.A. 40A:2-26(e)

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Trout, the resolution was unanimously adopted by a roll call vote.

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

#12-152 - Resolution of the City of Woodbury Imposing Lien(s) for Property Maintenance Pursuant to Municipal Code §162-4

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

#12-153 - Resolution Setting Policies and Procedures Regarding Post-Issuance Compliance of Federal Tax Requirements Regarding Tax-Exempt Debt Issues

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Trout, the resolution was unanimously adopted by a roll call vote.

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

#12-154 - Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Asplundh Tree Expert Co. for the Trimming and/or Removal of Trees Within the City of Woodbury

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution. This is an extension of the County's contract with Asplundh.

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

#12-155 - Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Riggins, Inc. for the Supply and Delivery of Gasoline and Diesel Fuel for City Vehicles

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution. This is an extension of the County's contract with Riggins.

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

#12-156 - Resolution Authorizing Cancellations of Balances on Water Sewer Accounts in the City of Woodbury

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

#12-157 - Resolution Amending Resolution #12-05 to Add An Additional Regular Meeting to the Established Schedule of Regular Meetings of the City Council of the City of Woodbury for the Legislative Year 2012

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution. This adds October 9 as a regular meeting.

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

#12-159 - Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Contract with Phillip Ruggieri of Ruggieri & Partners, P.C. to Provide Architect Services Regarding the Woodbury Police Administration Building for an Amount Not to Exceed \$30,000.00

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

Councilman Fleming inquired what services this would involve, i.e. immediate repairs to the existing building, or design of a new one. President Tierney stated that this contract would be for the design of a new building. However, in the meantime the Chief of Police has compiled a list of repairs that must be completed before the winter; President Tierney advising that money has been set aside to do those repairs. Councilman Louis inquired if we were obligated to stay at the existing location or if the City would consider relocating the Police building. Mr. Aimino, City Solicitor, stated that the land under the existing police building was donated to the City with the stipulation that it be used for municipal purposes.

Review of Best Practices Inventory

CFO Robert Law presented a review of our Best Practices checklist and explained its contents and purpose.

A motion was made by Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Sloane, and unanimously approved by voice vote to accept the Review of the Best Practices Inventory as presented, and to authorize Chief Financial Officer Robert Law to certify its contents as accurate and submit it to the State for filing purposes as required.

Vouchers

On motion of Councilman Louis, seconded by Councilman Trout, the vouchers as presented and certified were authorized paid by unanimous voice vote.

Public Safety

#12-160 - Resolution Appointing a Temporary Emergency Management Coordinator (Joseph Buono)

Councilman Louis presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

Public Works/Utilities

#12-158 - Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Personal Property No Longer Needed for Public Use on an Online Auction Website

Councilman Fleming presented the above-entitled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution. This is for the sale of a backhoe/loader that is no longer need by the Public Works Department and will be sold on www.govdeals.com.

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

Economic Development

Councilman Trout reminded everyone that the Arts Festival will be held on Saturday, September 29, 2012 and invited everyone to come out.

Also, Councilman Trout announced that applicants for the Economic Development Director have been interviewed and a recommendation should be forthcoming in the near future.

Personnel

Councilman Sloane had nothing to report.

Property Maintenance

Councilman Lockman had nothing to report.

Community Development

Councilwoman Brown thanked the Woodbury Police Department for continuing their patrols in the area of the Laundromat at the Evergreen Shopping Center.

Councilwoman Brown requested that Council look into the matter of children riding bicycles without helmets. This is a very serious matter and she would like to continue the conversation with our Police Department to ensure this law is enforced.

Parks and Recreation/Environmental

Councilwoman Carter had nothing to report.

Old Business

President Tierney stated that the matter for the Holy Angels Parish, for their Appeal of the Planning/Zoning Board Denial of Certificate of Appropriateness, will be heard by Council at the October 22, 2012 Council Meeting.

Report of Mayor

Mayor Riskie spoke on the following subjects:

1. Fall Festival Parade will be Saturday, October 6th;
2. Fall Arts Fest will be held this weekend, September 29th along Railroad Avenue, Centre Street, and Broad Street. He is looking forward to a huge success and thanked all of the volunteers who are helping to put this event together;
3. He received a letter from an attorney representing Underwood Memorial Hospital regarding their merger of the hospital. There will be another public hearing at the County Court House on October 9th, at 10:00 am for anyone to express their opinion before the matter is considered for final approval by the Superior Court;
4. The Mayor stated that the Solicitor has received the proposed Complete Streets Resolution and is reviewing it;
5. The Mayor received a letter from Lisa Morina, CDBG Grant Program, advising that the City was not approved for the grant to correct drainage issues along Progress and Dickerson Streets.

President of Council

President Tierney referenced item # 4 in the Mayor's comments, stating that our Solicitor, Michael Aimino, has looked at sample resolutions adopted from other towns and none of them addresses safe streets for potential developers. Our City Solicitor is advising us to thoroughly research the matter before the City endorses it. Mr. Aimino is recommending that the Public Safety Committee review the subject and refer it to the Planning/Zoning Board for their recommendation. Councilman Fleming advised that there are already State standards in place addressing those issues. In conclusion, the Mayor stated he appreciates all the comments and he would like the subject addressed in a reasonable time frame.

Report of Clerk

Mr. Duffield, City Clerk announced the following slate of candidates for the upcoming General Election:

Ronald H. Riskie	Republican	Mayor
William Volk	Democrat	Mayor
Francis Connor	Republican	1st Ward Council Position
Tracy Parker	Democrat	1st Ward Council Position
Ted Johnson	Republican	2nd Ward Council Position
William Fleming	Democrat	2nd Ward Council Position
Thomas Louis	Republican	3rd Ward Council Position
David Swanson	Democrat	3rd Ward Council Position

Public

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

Nora Leary, 219 Holroyd Place, Chairperson of the Historic Preservation Commission, referenced a letter she sent to Council regarding the proposed electronic library sign and City owned properties in the historic district. Mrs. Leary stated that the Historic Preservation Commission disapproves of the sign. The sign would be surrounded by historic buildings and would set a precedent for other businesses to do the same.

The second issue is the city owned properties in the historic district which are exempt from planning/zoning regulations; this is not in the best interest of historic preservation.

Mrs. Leary asked, how does Council expect to preserve the historic district, and why do we have a Historic Preservation Commission if the City does not observe its own guidelines?

President Tierney directed that the subject be reviewed by the Property Committee who will advise Council of their findings. Councilman Sloane inquired if there was a facsimile of the sign for Council to review; none was presented at the time. Councilman Lockman stated that he has seen electronic signs in other historic districts he has visited; much would depend on the style and lettering used in the sign. Mr. Aimino recommended that no further discussion ensue until Council members had an opportunity to review the matter in detail. Mr. Aimino stated that having been a Planning Board Solicitor himself he knows all too well how these boards have wrestled with state guidelines with for years. Councilman Louis thanked Mrs. Leary for her concerns and for taking the initiative to explain her views to Council.

Patty Woodworth, owner of Action Wheels bicycle shop is elated to see that Council is undertaking the bicycle paths.

John Carter, Executive Director of the Road Runners running club commented on how significant these bike paths are for safety not only to bikers but to runners as well. He fully endorses the City's efforts.

Jean Wipf, Director of the Woodbury Public Library, came forward to discuss the electronic sign. The intent of the sign is to improve communications with the public, promote library programs, and to more easily change the sign's content. She respects the HPC recommendations but when she submitted the application she was advised that it does not come under their jurisdiction. She will gladly provide any information about the sign to the Property Committee or members of the public. Mayor Riskie noted that the HPC was established to preserve the City's historic flavor and he appreciates their input; however, it is also important to communicate all programs occurring in our Library.

Paul Bunn, 18 E. Packard Avenue, asked that Council consider the Library's request in order to keep up with the times while maintaining the historic nature of the City. In addition to library information, the sign could announce weather alerts, amber alerts and other events.

HPC member Tom Hasse, 54 Lake Drive, asked if a compromise could be reached; none was offered at the time it was presented to the Planning/Zoning Board.

Planning/Zoning Board member John Pafumi stated he has the highest respect for the Library; however, feels that ordinances are put into place for a reason and everyone should follow the same guidelines regardless of their intent.

President Tierney closed the discussion by stating that everyone who has spoken has valid concerns. However, Council has to make a decision one way or the other, and some may not agree with it. Regardless of the outcome, City Council appreciates all who devote their time, knowledge and genuine interest for the betterment of the City.

There being no further business, on motion of Councilman Sloane, seconded by Councilman Trout, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Respectfully

Submitted,

ROY A. DUFFIELD
City Clerk

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT

Karl Kinkler, City Administrator
Robert Law, CFO
Roy A Duffield, City Clerk
Jean Wipf, Librarian
Reed Merinuk, Police Chief
Richard Leidy, Public Works Manager
Michael Aimino, Esq., Solicitor
William Lynch, Water & Sewer Supervisor
James Clancy, PE, Engineer
Timothy Sheehan, Police Captain