

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS
500 ELM AVENUE, WOODBURY HEIGHTS, NJ 08097
MAY 17, 2017 7:30 P.M.**

Mayor Robbie J. Conley called the meeting to order with the following note: Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by adopting a schedule of meetings for 2017 which was faxed to the South Jersey Times and Courier Post on January 9, 2017 and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building conforming to the directives of the "Open Public Meetings Act".

Mayor Conley led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The call of roll showed the following to be present: Councilman Robert Yerka, Councilman Harold Pye, Councilman Richard Gambale and Councilman Eshia Jacob. Absent were Councilwoman Cara Witasick and Councilman William Packer. Also in attendance were Borough Solicitor Brian Lozuke, Borough Engineer Mark Brunermer and Janet Pizzi, Clerk/Administrator.

A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting April 19, 2017 was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Gambale. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. The minutes were approved.

PUBLIC PORTION: Mayor Conley opened the public portion of the minutes for question or comment.

Kurt Lukasiak, Holly Avenue: Mr. Lukasiak advised Mayor and Council that he is here again to address the traffic problems on Holly Avenue. Mr. Lukasiak reminded Council of the down street sign that he brought to a previous council meeting and advised them of another street sign hit and brought down. Mr. Lukasiak read a police report of the various hit and run activity on Holly and noted that the issue is not speed; it's the large number of vehicles traveling on that road. He also relayed the concerns of another resident citing large trucks and tractor trailers, WaWa trash, noise and speeding. Chief Lindsay stated he is aware of the residents' concerns. He also noted that if the street is closed, the problems will just move to Ivy or Lincoln. Mayor Conley advised that according to the DOT, Holly Avenue cannot be closed. Councilman Yerka suggested possibly making Holly Avenue a one-way street. Mayor Conley asked the County Liaison, Orist Wells, if he can look into putting a county traffic counter on Holly Avenue. Discussion continued pertaining to making Holly Avenue a one way street. Mayor Conley asked Chief Lindsay to review the reported accidents and ascertain which way the traffic was traveling during those accidents.

Jeff Pitzo, Holly Avenue: Mr. Pitzo agreed that volume of cars is the problem on Holly and stated his concern about making the road one way from Second to Rt. 45 will create a hazardous situation with cars backing up waiting to get onto Rt. 45. Discussion continued regarding the flow of traffic and asking NJDOT again if Holly Avenue may be closed.

Scott Gruff, Holly Avenue: Mr. Gruff asked everyone to take an hour of their time when school lets out and watch what happens on Holly Avenue. He said it's appalling and really tough living on Holly Avenue.

Robert Seibert, Poplar Avenue: Mr. Seibert said that he was the highway safety director for Elk Township and he is an accident reconstructionist. Dismounted posts were placed on problem roads to slow traffic down and stop them. If traffic backs up, they would let cars through, but when they stopped them, they looked for everything they could write. People will get tired of it and will take other routes. It is the easiest way to stop this problem. Chief Lindsay will look into grant opportunities to do this.

Jeff Pitzo, Holly Avenue: Mr. Pitzo stated that he is a retired Captain with the Woodbury Police Department and the suggestion that Mr. Seibert provided sounds good in theory but the Police Department has limited resources and this is using a band aid to correct the problem. Police need probable cause to stop a car.

PUBLIC PORTION (CONTINUED)

Robert Seibert, Poplar Avenue responded that if you are stopping every car, you do not need probable cause.

Mr. Pitzo, Holly Avenue explained that obviously you don't need probable cause for check points, but otherwise, you will need probable cause when you stop a car and pull it over.

Upon hearing no additional comments, a motion to close the public portion was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Gambale. All of Council agreed. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Mark Brunermer reported that the construction work on West Jersey Avenue is scheduled to begin after Memorial Day and the Rt. 45 Pump Station project is nearly complete and Lincoln Avenue was paved today.

Mr. Brunermer requested approval for his office to go out to bid for the 2017 Road Program. A motion to approve Sickels & Associates to go out to bid on the 2017 Road Program was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Yerka. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

Mr. Brunermer next requested approval to prepare a Request for Proposals for a Control Systems Consultant. A motion to approve Sickels & Associates to go out for proposals (RFP) for a Control Systems Consultant was made by Councilman Yerka and seconded by Councilman Pye. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

**ORDINANCES
FINAL READING/PUBLIC HEARING**

ORDINANCE 2-2017

(Tabled from April 19, 2017)

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS
RELEASING, EXTINGUISHING AND VACATING THE RIGHTS OF THE
PUBLIC IN A PORTION OF CERTAIN STREETS IN THE BOROUGH OF
WOODBURY HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER AND STATE OF NEW
JERSEY**

Solicitor Lozuke stated that revised documents have not yet been received. A motion to table Ordinance 2-2017 to the June Regular Meeting scheduled June 21, 2017 was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Yerka. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried. **Ordinance 2-2017 is tabled to June 21, 2017.**

FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION

ORDINANCE 5-2017

**ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$30,000 TO BE USED FOR
PURCHASE OF TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT FOR THE BOROUGH OF
WOODBURY HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY**

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 5-2017 by title only. A motion to approve this Ordinance on first reading was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Gambale. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 5-2017 was approved on introduction.

RESOLUTIONS

Upon request of Mayor Conley, for consideration by consent agenda, a motion to approve Resolutions 47-2017 through and inclusive of Resolution 53-2017 was made by Councilman Yerka and seconded by Councilman Gambale. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Resolutions 43-2017 through and inclusive of Resolution 53-2017 were approved.

RESOLUTION 47-2017
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF ESCROW ACCOUNT BALANCE

RESOLUTION 48-2017
RESOLUTION RELEASING PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE AT BLOCK 41, LOT 1.01

RESOLUTION 49-2017
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF STREET OPENING ADMINISTRATIVE FEE

RESOLUTION 50-2017
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER AND THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS

RESOLUTION 51 -2017
A RESOLUTION REFUNDING TAXES FOR DISABLED VETERAN

RESOLUTION 52 -2017
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF HOMESTEAD BENEFIT CREDITS

RESOLUTION 53-2017
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF SOLICITATION PERMIT FEE

Solicitor Lozuke reported that pertaining to COAH, a telephone conference is scheduled for June 2 and he will provide a report at the June regular meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety: Councilman Yerka presented the Police Department and Fire Department reports, both of which will be on file in the Clerk's Office. Congratulations to Officer Michael McCabe for receiving awards from the Gloucester County Police Chief's Association for Officer of the Year and for Meritorious Service. Also congratulated were Officer Jason Neely and Officer Richard Gambale for receiving Life Saving Awards. Councilman Yerka also announced the resignation of Officer Nicholas DiBiasio and wished him best of luck in his future endeavors.

Water & Sewer: In the absence of Councilwoman Witasick, no report was presented.

Streets & Roads: Councilman Pye presented his report, a copy of which will be on file in the Clerk's office.

Finance & Administration: In the absence of Councilman Packer, no report was presented.

Property and Environmental: Councilman Gambale presented a property maintenance status report. Councilman Gambale suggested topping the Borough's Bradford Pear trees just below the wires instead of trimming around the wires by cutting through the middle of the tree. The Clerk was asked to contact PSE&G with this request. The Clerk was also asked to contact the Deptford Construction Official to request a monthly report of Borough violations.

Recreation & Civic: Councilman Jacob reported that there were 182 children in attendance at the Borough's National Day of Prayer Ceremony. The Fishing Derby will be held on June 17 and the Memorial Day Ceremony is scheduled for May 27. The Public Works Director was asked to install the tent for this ceremony.

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Mayor Conley stated that the ice cream parlor application received approval by the Planning Board and will open in September. Starbucks is coming before Planning Board in June.

BILL LIST: A motion to approve the bill list as presented this evening was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Gambale. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. The bill list was approved.

PUBLIC PORTION: Mayor Conley opened the public portion for questions or comments and upon hearing none, a motion to close the public portion was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Yerka. All of Council agreed. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Gambale and seconded by Councilman Yerka. All of Council agreed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Pizzi, Clerk/Administrator