

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS,
500 ELM AVENUE, WOODBURY HEIGHTS, NJ 08097
JULY 21, 2021 7:30 P.M.**

Mayor William C. Packer called the meeting to order with the following note: Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by adopting a schedule of meetings for 2021 which was faxed to the South Jersey Times and Courier Post on January 6, 2021 and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building conforming to the directives of the “Open Public Meetings Act”.

Mayor Packer led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: The call of roll showed the following to be present: Councilman Joseph Getsinger, Councilman Robert Morison, Councilwoman Cara Witasick, Councilman Richard Gambale, Councilman Jeffrey Pitzo and Mayor William Packer. Not Present: Councilman Harold “Hap” Pye Also in attendance were Borough Solicitor Brian Lozuke, Borough Engineer Bill Mesogianes, and Shannon Elton, Acting Clerk.

Mayor Packer welcomed everyone back to the Municipal Building, for the first in-person meeting since the beginning of the public health crisis.

A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting June 16, 2021 was made by Councilwoman Witasick and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. The minutes were approved.

APPLICATION NJ FIREMEN’S ASSOC: KURT M WAGNER JR.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Getsinger

Second: Councilman Morison

A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Application approved

JIF SAFETY ON THE AGENDA: Presentation on seatbelt safety was given by JIF representative Joe Henry.

CLERK’S REPORT: On file.

PUBLIC PORTION: Mayor Packer opened the public portion for questions or comments:

Brian Collins, 432 Central Ave: Mr. Collins inquired about an ordinance addressing invasive species of plants, specifically addressing bamboo. Mayor Packer acknowledged that he received correspondence regarding the matter from John Leech, in Code Enforcement. Mr. Collins expressed his concerns specifically about his neighbor’s Bamboo. Councilman Gambale added that he had been out to look. Councilman Pitzo referred to Woodbury’s Ordinance for invasive species. Mayor Packer, acknowledged that it would be addressed but must be properly researched before action is taken.

David Marconi, 804 Chestnut: Mr. Marconi expressed concern about speeding on Chestnut. Mayor Packer deferred to Councilman Getsinger and Public Safety. Councilman Getsinger stated that the committee met and they are inclined to put a stop sign in. He added that the matter would be discussed with Public Works as well as the Borough Engineer. Councilman Pitzo elaborated on the speeding data gathered by the radar. He relayed that a speeding issue was not observed but a volume issue was.

Mr. Cook, 1134 Glassboro Rd: Mr. Cook informed Mayor and Council that he is interested in purchasing the five feet of vacated alleyway behind his home. Mr. Lozuke stated that some title research would need to be done, and offered to exchange contact information

Amy Collins, 432 Central Ave: Mrs. Collins asked for clarification on the Cannabis ordinances on the agenda. Mr. Lozuke reviewed the legislative scheme of New Jersey for the legalization of Cannabis. Mr. Lozuke explained that the deadline for municipalities to act is August 2nd. He also cited that the action being taken is at the recommendation of the Borough Planner, Tiffany Morrissey. He also explained if action was not taken, the borough would be bound for five years unable to take action.

Upon hearing no comments, a motion to close the public portion of the meeting was made by Councilwoman Witasick and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. All of Council agreed. Motion carried.

ENGINEERS REPORT: Bill Mesogianes presented on behalf of Sickels & Assoc. He had nothing additional to add. No questions

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

**ORDINANCES
FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION**

ORDINANCE 14-2021

**AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$ 40,000 TO BE USED FOR THE
ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF
WOODBURY HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 14-2021 by title only. A motion to approve this ordinance on first reading/introduction was made by Councilman Getsinger and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 14-2021 was approved on introduction.

FINAL READING/PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE 10-2021

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS, GLOUCESTER COUNTY,
PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF ANY CLASS OF CANNABIS BUSINESSES WITHIN
ITS GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES
AND AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS
CHAPTER 70, LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT**

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 10-2021 by title only. Mayor Packer opened the public hearing for this ordinance, and upon hearing no questions or comments, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Gambale and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. All of Council agreed. Motion carried. A motion to adopt Ordinance 10-2021 was made by Councilman Morison and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 10-2021 was approved.

ORDINANCE 11-2021

**BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER AND
SEWER UTILITY SYSTEMS IN AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS,
COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$780,000
THEREFOR; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR
BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS, COUNTY
OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO
\$780,000; MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS; AND AUTHORIZING
CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING**

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 11-2021 by title only. Mayor Packer opened the public hearing for this ordinance.

Amy Collins, 432 Central: Mrs. Collins asked to clarify what projects were being paid for. Victoria Holmstrom, CFO was called on to clarify.

Dave Marconi, 804 Chestnut: Mr. Marconi asked if this project would improve water pressure. Mayor and Council acknowledged his concerns.

Hearing no additional questions or comments, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. All of Council agreed. Motion carried. A motion to adopt Ordinance 11-2021 was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Gambale. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 11-2021 was approved.

ORDINANCE 12-2021

BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF A HEAVY DUTY TRUCK AND RELATED EQUIPMENT FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IN THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$350,000 THEREFOR; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$332,000; MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 12-2021 by title only. Mayor Packer opened the public hearing for this ordinance.

Amy Collins, 432 Central: Mrs. Collins asked about outsourcing the Public Works department. Mayor Packer expressed no plans to outsource Public Works, with a possibility of outside trash collection.

Upon hearing no further questions or comments, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Getsinger and seconded by Councilman Pitzo. All of Council agreed. Motion carried. A motion to adopt Ordinance 12-2021 was made by Councilman Morison and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 12-2021 was approved.

ORDINANCE 13-2021

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS, GLOUCESTER COUNTY, PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF ANY CLASS OF CANNABIS BUSINESSES WITHIN ITS GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES AND AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS BY ADDING CHAPTER 66

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 13-2021 by title only. Mayor Packer opened the public hearing for this ordinance, and upon hearing no questions or comments, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Gambale and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. All of Council agreed. Motion carried. A motion to adopt Ordinance 13-2021 was made by Councilman Getsinger and seconded by Councilwoman Witasick. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 13-2021 was approved.

ORDINANCE 2-2021A

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS REPEALING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION § 70-49.6 OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED "STORMWATER CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT"

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 2-2021A by title only. Mayor Packer opened the public hearing for this ordinance, and upon hearing no questions or comments, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Gambale and seconded by Councilman Morison. All of Council agreed. Motion carried. A motion to adopt Ordinance 10-2021 was made by Councilman Morison and seconded by Councilman Pitzo. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 10-2021 was approved.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 89-2021

RESOLUTION APPOINTING CORPORALS TO THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEMORIALIZING ACTION TAKEN AT THE JUNE 16TH, 2021 REGULAR MEETING

A motion to approve Resolution 89-2021 was made by Councilman Getsinger and seconded by Councilman Pitzo. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Councilman Gambale abstained. Resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 90- 2021

A RESOLUTION APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY SFY21 BODY-WORN CAMERA GRANT AWARD ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

A motion to approve Resolution 90-2021 was made by Councilman Getsinger and seconded by Councilman Gambale. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 91-2021

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS AWARDDING CONTRACT FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT-INTERSECTION OF THIRD STREET AND CENTRAL AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

A motion to approve Resolution 91-2021 was made by Councilman Getsinger and seconded by Councilman Gambale. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 92-2021

RESOLUTION APPOINTING COMMUNITY CENTER COORDINATOR

A motion to approve Resolution 92-2021 was made by Councilman Morison and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Resolution was approved.

Mr. Lozuke concluded his report.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Getsinger, Public Safety: Councilman Getsinger reviewed the Fire Department Report & the Police Department Report. Copies of these reports are on file in the Clerk's office.

Councilman Morison, Water & Sewer: Councilman Morison reviewed the DPW and the Utilities Clerk reports. A copy of these reports will be on file in the Clerk's office.

Councilwoman Witasick, Finance & Administration: Councilwoman Witasick reviewed the Finance Report. She announced a decrease in the 2021 Tax Rate and acknowledged Vikki Holmstrom as CFO. She addressed Mr. Lozuke, stating that the finalized AFSCME contract has not been received by the finance office. Mr. Lozuke confirmed that they would be distributed by Friday. A copy of this report will be on file in the Clerk's office.

Councilman Gambale, Property & Insurance: Councilman Gambale commended Mr. McCabe in his work with Property Maintenance & Ryan Wells regarding his duties with the Community Center. Councilman Gambale reviewed his construction report. He also reviewed the timeline for the 9/11 memorial and the Eagle Scout Pavilion.

Councilman Pitzo, Recreation & Civic: Councilman Pitzo discussed the success of Movies in the Park, in conjunction with Gloucester County.

PUBLIC PORTION: Mayor Packer opened the public portion for questions or comments.

***Amy Collins, 432 Central Ave:* Mrs. Collins expressed concerns about the new rail line and the site of the 9/11 Memorial. Mayor Packer responded by stating that nothing has been set in stone and if the Park is effective it would be moved. Discussion ensued. Mayor Packer asked council to be educated on the project and be prepared for the questions that may result.**

***Maureen McCabe, 454 Elm Ave:* Mrs. McCabe spoke on her campaign to get signatures for petition regarding the GCL Rail line. She asked if Mayor and Council were prepared. Mayor Packer encouraged the public to look at the Environmental Impact Study. Discussion ensued. Mrs.**

McCabe also expressed concern about the mobility of emergency vehicles. Councilman Morison stressed that the community needs to be diligent in staying as informed as possible.

Jason McHenry, 765 Chestnut: Mr. McHenry stressed the poor water pressure on Chestnut Ave. Mayor Packer acknowledged his concerns and declared that Public Works and the Borough Engineer's would look into it. Mayor Packer Deferred to Ryan Wells. Mr. Wells discussed the conditions of Chestnut that may impact water pressure.

Councilman Pitzo made a motion to engage the Borough Engineer to look into putting a Stop Sign on Chestnut Ave. Seconded by Councilman Getsinger. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous.

Upon hearing no additional questions or comments, a motion to close the public portion was made by Councilwoman Getsinger and seconded by Councilman Pitzo. All agreed. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business at hand, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Gambale and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. All of Council agreed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Elton, Acting Clerk