

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS,
500 ELM AVENUE, WOODBURY HEIGHTS, NJ 08097
MAY 18, 2022 7:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES
(DRAFT)**

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 2022 which was sent to the South Jersey Times and Courier Post on January 3, 2022 and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building conforming to the directives of the "Open Public Meetings Act". (7:30pm)

Mayor Packer led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Present: Councilman Joseph Getsinger, Councilman Robert Morison, Councilman Harold "Hap" Pye, Councilman Richard Gambale, Councilman Jeffrey Pitzo and Mayor William Packer.

Absent: Councilwoman Cara Witasick

Also, in attendance were Borough Solicitor, Brian Lozuke, Borough Engineer, Mark Brunermer, and Municipal Clerk, Shannon Elton.

MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting April 20, 2022 was made by Councilman Getsinger and seconded by Councilman Gambale. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Councilman Pye & Councilman Morison Abstained. The minutes were approved.

MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENT:

Mayor Packer made the following announcement:

"Certain measures are in place providing relief to ratepayers experiencing economic hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please contact the Borough Hall for more information including bill assistance and arrearage forgiveness programs through the New Jersey DCA and repayment arrangements through installments via payment plans. An official notice of these programs is also available on the Borough's website and in the lobby of the Municipal Building."

CLERK'S REPORT: The Clerk reminded Mayor and Council of the upcoming filing deadline for Financial Disclosure Statements on April 30th.

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

Jason McHenry, 765 Chestnut: They inquired about the availability of a dumpster after hours at the Public Works yard. They expressed disdain for the Shared Service for trash, citing parking issues, overflow and asked if he overslept and missed trash pick-up if he would simply have to wait a week for pick up again. Mayor Packer noted these comments.

Charlie Crompton, 21 Academy: They acknowledged Councilman Gambale for his communication regarding veteran's events. They also spoke to the effectiveness of the new trash pick up. They stated that they are "quite happy" with the new system.

Bob Yerka, 601 Stratford: They inquired if there was truth to rumors of a shared service for Police Services. Mayor Packer responded that there is truth, and spoke to a man-power shortage within the department. He cited a lack of personnel due to retirements, injury and administrative leave. He discussed concern for public safety. They asked about hiring new officers. Mayor Packer explained that seniority cannot be replaced and the Borough is becoming a transient department for new hires to be trained and then leave. Councilman Getsinger explained that while interviewing new hires, they saw no applicants with more than 2 years' experience. Mayor Packer explained that Woodbury is stepping up in the department's time of need, and reiterated that it is a Public Safety Concern. Councilman Pitzo expressed concern for the safety of the public and the officers. Mayor Packer clarified the agreement on the agenda is a 90 day merger. Councilman Morison spoke to the benefit for the town.

Donna Searles, 369 Ivy Dr: They spoke on a sewer back up issue on her property. They inquired about the property from the sidewalk to the street and asked for clarification in writing as to who owns the property. Mayor Packer clarified that anything from the home to the main is the resident's responsibility. Mr. Brunermer spoke to the email he received regarding the matter. Discussion ensued.

Deb Truhan, 113 Alliance: They expressed their support for the shared service with Woodbury Police.

Close Public Portion

ENGINEERS REPORT: Mark Brunermer presented the Engineers report. Mr. Brunermer notified Council that the Walnut Phase II project is being reviewed by the DOT. He spoke to a project for next year potentially to replace a main between Alliance and Auburn. Mr. Brunermer reviewed several potential projects. Mayor Packer asked about the bike path project. Mr. Brunermer stated he would follow up. He also stated that PW had done some flow tests and hydrant flushing as a part of the water pressure study.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

ORDINANCES

First Reading

ORDINANCE 12-2022

**AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$ 86,000.00
TO BE USED FOR VANDERBILT AVENUE/MOORE STREET AND
MOORE STREET/TEMPLE AVENUE BARRIER FREE SIDEWALKS AND RAMPS
IN THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 12-2022 by title only. A motion to approve this ordinance on first reading/introduction was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 12-2022 was approved on introduction

Final Reading/Public Hearing

ORDINANCE 10 – 2022

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS ESTABLISHING AND
REQUIRING PAYMENT OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FEES AND AMENDING
CHAPTER 70-48 ENTITLED "MANDATORY DEVELOPMENT FEES"**

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 10-2022 by title only. Mayor Packer opened the public hearing for this ordinance.

Rose Yerka, 601 Stratford: asked for an explanation of the development fees. Solicitor Lozuke reviewed.

Upon hearing no further questions or comments, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Morison and seconded by Councilman Pye. All of Council agreed. Motion carried. A motion to adopt Ordinance 10-2022 was made by Councilman Morison and seconded by Councilman Pye. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 10-2022 was approved.

ORDINANCE 11-2022

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

**AND CREATING NEW CHAPTER XXX ENTITLED, "ESTABLISHMENT OF CANNABIS
TRANSFER TAX AND USER TAX IN BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS."**

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 11-2022 by title only. Mayor Packer reviewed the Ordinance and the circumstances associated for the public.

Mayor Packer opened the public hearing for this ordinance.

Upon hearing no further questions or comments, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Getsinger and seconded by Councilman Gambale. All of Council agreed. Motion carried. A motion to adopt Ordinance 11-2022 was made by Councilman Morison and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 11-2022 was approved.

RESOLUTIONS

CONSENT AGENDA: A motion to approve Resolution 59-2022-Resolution-63-2022 as a consent agenda was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Getsinger. The consent agenda was approved.

RESOLUTION 59-2022

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS ESTABLISHING AND
APPOINTING MEMBERS
TO THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMITTEE**

RESOLUTION 60 -2022

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT FOR CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
FOR THE 2023 NJDOT MUNICIPAL ROADWAY STATE AID APPLICATION**

RESOLUTION 61 - 2022

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE GLOUCESTER
COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE
PROGRAM YEAR 2022**

RESOLUTION 62-2022

**RESOLUTION AUTHRIZING PAYMENTS IN INSTALLMENTS FOR WATER AND/OR
SEWER ACCOUNTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NEW JERSEY LOCAL
FINANCE NOTICE 2022-9**

RESOLUTION 63 - 2022

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE GLOUCESTER
COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE
PROGRAM YEAR 2022**

RESOLUTION 64-2022

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS AUTHORIZING
EXECUTION OF A TEMPORARY SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN
THE CITY OF WOODBURY AND THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS REGARDING
TEMPORARY POLICE DEPARTMENT SERVICES**

Mayor Packer expressed his appreciation for the City of Woodbury, especially given the crisis in the Police Department.

A motion to approve Resolution 64-2022 was made by Councilman Getsinger and seconded by Councilman Gambale. Councilman Pitzo abstained. The resolution was approved.

Chief Ryan and Lt. Boucher were introduced. Chief Ryan spoke on the role Woodbury would be playing with said arrangement.

Mr. Lozuke concluded his report.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Getsinger, Public Safety: Mayor Packer began by giving accolades to the OEM and first responders for their preparedness for the Storm the previous week; despite its lack of fruition. Councilman Getsinger continued with the WHFD Report and The Police Department Report, which were presented. Reports are on file.

Councilman Morison, Water & Sewer: Councilman Morison reviewed the Public Works and Utility reports. He also touched on the Eagles Scout project to paint the 80 fire hydrants in town. Reports are on file.

Councilman Pye, Streets & Roads: Councilman Pye reviewed the Streets & Roads report. He highlighted the Gov Deals auction executed by the Public Works Department.

Councilwoman Witasick, Finance & Administration: Report is on file.

Councilman Gambale, Property: Councilman Gambale reviewed the property report from John Leech in Woodbury. Mr. Gambale explained that a resident who experienced damage to their pool during the tornado and is replacing it. He explained they have been experiencing delays with their permit and could possibly lose their deposit due to the delays. He expressed his concerns. He also announced again the time and location of the Memorial Day ceremony.

Councilman Pitzo, Recreation: Councilman Pitzo deferred his report to Deb Truhan, the Chairperson of the Community Events Committee. Mrs. Truhan reviewed some town events such as the yoga, the upcoming Memorial Day ceremony, fishing derby, and movies in the park.

Councilman Gambale, on behalf of his son, Officer Gambale, stated it was a pleasure to serve the community, on the cusp of his retirement. Councilman Morison stated that his children grew up knowing what a police officer looked like and what they did because of Officer Gambale. He also acknowledged his contributions to the Fishing Derby.

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

Bob Yerka, 601 Stratford: They wanted to clarify that they were not for or against the shared service for Police. They were only looking for clarification.

John Witasick: They stated that the permit aforementioned was resolved.

Maureen McCabe, 434 Elm: They spoke on the GCL line and expressed concerns about the cost to the Borough, despite conflicting information regarding the "Quiet Zone" and insurance. Mayor Packer agreed that clarification was needed.

Jason McHenry, 765 Chestnut: They advised that "Quiet Zones" for the incoming GCL is not always advised. They explained that without warnings, accidents can happen. They also discussed the environmental impact.

A motion to close the public portion was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Gambale.

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. (8:40)

Respectfully Submitted,

Shannon Elton, Municipal Clerk