

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS,
500 ELM AVENUE, WOODBURY HEIGHTS, NJ 08097
AUGUST 17TH, 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". (7:30 pm)

Mayor Packer led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Not in Attendance: Councilman Robert Morison

Also, in attendance were Borough Solicitor, Brian Lozuke, Borough Engineer Rep, Bill Mesogaines, CMFO, Victoria Holmstrom and Municipal Clerk, Shannon Elton.

MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting July 20th, 2022 was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilwoman Witasick. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. The minutes were approved.

JIF PRESENTATION: Paul Forlenza addressed Mayor and Council and presented an update on the Boroughs participation in the JIF.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Clerk announced the beginning of the "Paperless Agenda Project" to be integrated into Council Meetings in the near future.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Mayor Packer opened the public portion for questions or comments

Close Public Portion

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Bill Mesogaines presented the Engineer's report. He stated that the Candidus Avenue Pump Station Project would be going to bid in September. He also reviewed the resolutions on the agenda for the NJDOT & CDBG projects. Mayor Packer asked for communication to the residents regarding the Walnut Ave project, as it is a busy road specifically with school traffic.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

ORDINANCES

First Reading

ORDINANCE 17-2022

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 44 OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO BE ENTITLED, "VACANT AND ABANDONED PROPERTIES: NOTICE, REGISTRATION AND FEES," PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE, INTENT AND APPLICABILITY OF THE ORDINANCE REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY BY MORTGAGEES; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT, AS WELL AS THE REGULATION, LIMITATION AND REDUCTION OF REGISTRABLE REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE BOROUGH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEALER, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 17-2022 by title only. A motion to approve this ordinance on first reading/introduction was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilwoman

Witasick. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 17-2022 was approved on introduction.

Final Reading/Public Hearing

ORDINANCE 15-2022

BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT OF A SEWER MAIN IN THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$500,000 THEREFOR; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBRUY HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY, INT THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$500,000; MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANT; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 15-2022 by title only. Mayor Packer opened the public hearing for this ordinance.

Upon hearing no questions or comments, Mayor Packer closed the public hearing. A motion to adopt Ordinance 15-2022 was made by Councilwoman Witasick and seconded by Councilman Pye. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 15-2022 was approved.

ORDINANCE 16-2022

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS
AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 79 OF THE BOROUGH
CODE ENTITLED “PEACE AND GOOD ORDER; PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY”**

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 16-2022 by title only. Mayor Packer opened the public hearing for this ordinance.

Solicitor Lozuke explained that the ordinance was requested by Chief Ryan and recognized that the ordinance would fall under the authority granted to the Borough under police powers to make certain ordinances to maintain peace and order.

Chris Russomanno, South Jersey Libertarian Party: They read an excerpt proposed Ordinance expressed concerns regarding the lack of definition of the term “improper noise”, the lack of mens rea in the ordinance, the vague nature of the wording of the Ordinance in general. They cited case law addressing their concerns. They also expressed concern for the safety of the Officers, with this ordinance placing them in an unnecessary dangerous situation. They expressed concern that there is a specific person in mind regarding the ordinance, and asked that the ordinance be “tightened up”.

Isaiah Fletcher, South Jersey Libertarian Party: They cited Title 33, and inquired about the cause of expansion of the ordinance. They cited examples of potentially conflicting situations such as breast feeding, assembling at a School Board Meeting, etc. They expressed the importance of Free Speech.

Jason McHenry, 765 Chestnut Ave: They expressed further concerns that the ordinance sounds like a violation of freedoms

Mayor Packer addressed the concerns of the public stating the ordinance is intended as common sense to maintain peace and order. He stated they are not meant to stifle anyone’s rights.

Mayor Packer recognized Councilman Pitzo. Councilman Pitzo explained that an officer should never violate civil rights, and are trained to keep those rights in mind. The officer is required to witness the matter, as anyone can file a complaint but the burden of proof is on the accuser. He elaborated on process of signing a complaint.

Isaiah Fletcher, South Jersey Libertarian Party: They asked for clarification of the motive of adding the ordinance and stressed that laws are already in place. They asked what the necessity of adding the Ordinance is presently.

Chris Russomanno, South Jersey Libertarian Party: They reiterated their opinion that the reference to “improper noise” is not clear.

Mayor Packer stated he would take it under advisement.

Mayor Packer reviewed the status of the Police Department and the Temporary Shared Service with Woodbury. He elaborated on the Chief's request to pass the ordinance for consistency between both parties. Discussion ensued.

Upon hearing no further questions or comments, Mayor Packer closed the public hearing. A motion to adopt Ordinance 16-2022 was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilwoman Witasick. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 16-2022 was approved.

RESOLUTIONS

CONSENT AGENDA: A motion to approve Resolution 76-2022-Resolution-84-2022 as a consent agenda was made by Councilman Pye and seconded by Councilman Pitzo. The consent agenda was approved.

RESOLUTION 76 – 2022

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A FUND COMMISSIONER FOR THE GLOUCESTER, SALEM, CUMBERLAND COUNTIES MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND IN THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS

RESOLUTION 77-2022

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS OF THE WOODBURY HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION 78-2022

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR ARPPFG

RESOLUTION NO. 79-2022

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS PURSUANT TO N.J.S. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948)

RESOLUTION 80-2022

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS AWARDED CONTRACT FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT-INTERSECTION OF MOORE ST & VANDERBILT AVE AND MOORE ST & TEMPLE AVE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

RESOLUTION 81-2022

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

RESOLUTION 82-2022

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS AWARDED CONTRACT FOR THE 2021 NJDOT WALNUT AVENUE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (PHASE I)

RESOLUTION 83-2022

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE WOODBURY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 84-2022

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS AUTHORIZING

**EXTENSION OF THE TEMPORARY SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
CITY OF WOODBURY AND THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS REGARDING
TEMPORARY POLICE DEPARTMENT SERVICES**

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 Gambale. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. The bill list was approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Getsinger, Public Safety: Councilman Getsinger reviewed the WHFD Report. Report is on file. Lt. Boucher of the Woodbury Police Department reviewed the Police report. He discussed the participation in National Night Out, the schools and department training.

Councilman Morison, Water & Sewer: Councilman Morison reviewed the Public Works and Utility reports. Reports are on file. He commended the Public Works Department and the Utilities Clerk in their efforts during the scheduled water shut-off.

Councilman Pye, Streets & Roads: Councilman Pye reviewed the Streets & Roads report. He highlighted the upcoming leaf pickup and stressed that the public needs more instruction on Bulk Trash pick-up protocols. Reports are on File.

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

Councilman Gambale, Property: Councilman Gambale reviewed the property/zoning report from John Leech in Woodbury

Councilman Pitzo, Recreation: Councilman Pitzo discussed the success of National Night Out Event, the upcoming Woodbury Heights Book Club, Cornhole Tournament and the re-establishment of the Community Center Committee. He deferred to Debbie Truhan as chairperson of the Woodbury Heights Event Committee.

Debbie Truhan thank the police and fire department for their help with the success of the events recently held in the Borough. She spoke to the success of the yoga class and anticipates the success of the Book Club. She reviewed upcoming events. Thanked the Public works Department, Mayor and Council and the Ladies in the Office.

Mayor Packer stated for the record his admiration of Councilman Pitzo's flowery attire.

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

David Marconi, 804 Chestnut: They inquired about the status of the water pressure testing on Chestnut. Mayor Packer stated that he has the initial report and it is being reviewed. He will follow up with the public.

Jason McHenry, 765 Chestnut: They thanked Mayor and Council for the Stop Sign placed on Chestnut Ave. They then requested a police presence as people are not stopping at the stop sign. They noted that there was severe low pressure recently, and PPWM stated that the emergency number needed to be called. They expressed concern about monitoring the pump stations. Mayor Packer assured the public of the systems in place to notice the license operator when issues arise. He also clarified that water pressure is generally detected first by notification of changes from the public.

With nothing else from the public, the meeting was closed to the public.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned. (8:35 pm)

Respectfully Submitted,

Shannon Elton, Municipal Clerk