

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF
JANUARY 24, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by President Trovato at 7:00 pm on January 24, 2017 in Council Chambers, 33 Delaware Street, Woodbury, New Jersey. President Trovato led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

The Invocation was delivered by former Mayor Donald P. Sanderson.

Open Public Meeting Statement

The City Clerk stated that due notice had been given to both the public and the press by posting and publication of Resolution #17-05 adopted at the 2017 Reorganizational Meeting of Mayor and Council on January 3, 2017.

Roll Call:

Present: Tierney, Swanson, McIlvaine, Johnson, Fleming, Parker, Reddin, Carter, President Trovato and Mayor Floyd

Absent: No One

Minutes

On motion of Parker, seconded by Carter and unanimously approved, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 27, 2016 and the Reorganizational Meeting of January 3, 2017 were approved as submitted. Councilwoman Tierney abstained from voting on the January 3, 2017 minutes; all others voted in favor of the motion.

Presentations and Discussions

Swearing-In of Councilwoman Heather Tierney

Former Mayor Donald Sanderson administered the Oath of Office to his daughter, Third Ward Councilwoman Heather Tierney, accompanied by her husband John Tierney and mother Judy Sanderson.

Councilwoman Tierney thanked the voters of the Third Ward for their support, along with her family and friends.

Discussion regarding waiving of a street opening moratorium for 34-36 S. Woodland Avenue

Administrator Mike Theokas introduced Dan Ballerini of DAB Properties, who purchased the duplex at 34-36 South Woodland Ave in October 2016. Mr. Ballerini stated that prior to purchasing the duplex PSE&G told him gas service was available. After purchasing the property he made extensive renovations, including two new gas furnaces. When he called to have the gas service activated PSE&G informed him that new gas lines were needed, which requires excavating the street. The City Clerk told him that because the street was recently repaved, Chapter 167 of our Code Book says no street opening permits can be issued without Council's consent, and Council can allow it 1) in an emergency; 2) if the owner or prior owner could not have discovered the need to open the street; or 3) it is in the best interests of the City to grant the permit. Mr. Ballerini testified that 1) although not an emergency, 2) he could not have foreseen this problem, because he asked PSE&G for gas service beforehand; and 3) it is in the City's best interest because without gas to heat the building it is not habitable and will remain vacant. Council Members questioned him further and debated his request.

Upon motion by Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Reddin, Council granted the street opening permit requested by Mr. Ballerini. Voting in favor were Tierney, McIlvaine, Johnson, Fleming, Reddin, Carter, Trovato. Voting Nay were Swanson and Parker.

Open to the Public for Agenda Items

On motion of Parker, seconded by Johnson and unanimously approved, 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 Johnson, seconded by Parker and unanimously approved, the Public Hearing was closed.

Resolutions, Ordinances and Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

#17-42A - Resolution Authorizing a Closed Session

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Swanson, seconded by Parker, the resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

#2257-17 - Ordinance of the City of Woodbury Amending Chapter 35, Section 27 "Land Use Procedures – Fees and Escrow" and Chapter 73, Section 2 "Construction Codes, Uniform - Fees" of the Code of the City of Woodbury (FIRST READING)

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled ordinance for first reading.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Swanson, seconded by Parker and unanimously approved, the ordinance was approved on first reading, ordered to be advertised according to law, and scheduled for Public Hearing and final adoption at the Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council scheduled for February 14, 2017.

#17-43 - Resolution Approving Reimbursement of Water/Sewer Payment Paid in Error Online at www.Woodbury.NJ.US Account # 36040-0, 344 Myrtle Avenue

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Swanson, seconded by Parker, the resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

#17-44 - Resolution Approving Towing Companies for a Period of Three Years

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Swanson, seconded by Parker, the resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Vouchers

On motion of Swanson, seconded by Parker and unanimously approved, the vouchers as presented and certified were authorized to be paid.

Public Works Committee:

#17-45 - Resolution Authorizing City Engineer to Issue Notice to Bidders Regarding the FY2016 NJDOT Municipal Aid Project for the Resurfacing and Safety Improvements for Tatum Street - West Red Bank Avenue to Hessian Avenue (Phase 2)

Councilwoman Parker presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Parker, seconded by Johnson the resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

#17-46 - Resolution to Approve the Submission of a Grant Application and to Execute a Grant Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the FY2017 Municipal Aid Project hereinafter known as South Columbia Street Milling & Overlay

Councilwoman Parker presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Parker, seconded by McIlvaine the resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

#17-47 - Resolution of the City of Woodbury Authorizing an Application for Green Acres Grant through the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Councilwoman Parker presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Parker, seconded by Reddin the resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Green Team Committee:

#17-48 - Resolution of the City of Woodbury Appointing Members to the Green Team Advisory Committee for 2017

Councilman Reddin presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Reddin, seconded by Johnson the resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Old Business:

Administrator's update on Granulated Carbon Filtration System Project

Mr. Theokas advised that NJDEP has finally arrived at a standard for PFNA in public water supplies; they recommend no more than 13 ppb, although our new treatment system will be designed to remove it completely. Our project engineer Remington & Vernick will be attending a meeting in Trenton regarding possible NJEIT grant funding for the project. The design of the project is approx. 30% complete; plans must be approved by NJDEP before we can go out for bids on the filtration system and alterations to our water treatment building to accommodate the system.

Other Committee Reports:

Community Development Committee

Councilman Johnson congratulated Councilwoman Tierney on her re-election and swearing-in. He also advised he attended the NAACP Re-Org Meeting; they will soon be opening a local office in the Woodbury Child Development Center.

Combined Planning/Zoning Board

Councilman Fleming attended the Planning/Zoning Board Re-Org meeting and everything is in order there. He also congratulated Councilwoman Tierney.

Property Maintenance Committee

Councilwoman Tierney stated this committee met January 23; present were Mike McCaughey (DPW), Joe Buono (Fire Marshal), John Leech & Stephanie Petersen (Housing Officers), and Randi Woerner (Economic Development). They discussed the process to identify and deal with vacant properties, and the ultimate goal to see them occupied by good citizens.

Economic Development Committee

Councilman McIlvaine and Randi Woerner announced two new businesses in town, T-Mobile and On Target Staffing, and Kennedy Hospital will open doctors' offices in the former Rite Aid building. Also noteworthy is the 60th year in business for Edward's Hair Salon, and 30th year for both Monogram Shoppe and Kimco Graphics. Randi thanked our Code Enforcement and Public Works Departments for assisting new businesses when needed, and announced a County job fair on January 31. The Transit Hub feasibility study will be presented to the Planning Board next month. The GCIA will soon have information on the highest & best use study for the Inspira Redevelopment area. Mike Theokas interjected that the NJ Dept. of Health held a public hearing to seek input on the need for Inspira Hospital to relocate to Harrison Township; he stressed to them there is still a need for healthcare providers and facilities in our community.

Lastly, Councilman McIlvaine related that a family member from Baltimore visited him recently and commented on the positive changes he saw in our City since his last visit.

Annual Report of Woodbury Police Department

Chief Tom Ryan enthusiastically reported WPD's statistics and accomplishments during the past year, and stressed the he is fortunate to have officers who care about this City. At the conclusion of his presentation he took questions and comments from Council.

Report of the Mayor

Mayor Floyd reported she has met with Department Heads to discuss their needs and intends to be more proactive with the Council Committees as well. She also thanked all the citizens that agreed to serve on our various Boards and Commissions; was pleased to swear in a new officer for the first time, SLEO-II Austin Healey; attended the Library open house on January 21; met with the Creative Team, and would like to amend some of our ordinances to make it simpler for local groups to host events in Woodbury; announced WORC is accepting applications for 'Downtown WORC's' grants; and thanked Public Works for doing such a good job of snow removal. Mayor Floyd and all of Council have been invited to the Fire Company's annual banquet, where Councilman Swanson will be sworn in as an honorary firefighter.

Report of the City Clerk

Mr. Duffield thanked Council for appointing the Green Team for 2017 and listed their goals for the coming year. He announced receipt of our annual recycling tonnage grant of \$12,828, some of which will be used to purchase 500 additional recycling cans. The next Green Team Meeting will be February 13th.

Department Heads' Announcements

Mr. Theokas advised that the road work has been completed at the intersection of Cooper and Evergreen Ave. PSE&G is planning some work at their Sub-Station on E. Red Bank Ave. He thanked our City Hall staff and Friendship Fire Co. for conducting the annual Rabies Clinic on Jan. 21; we broke a record by vaccinating 120 animals, an increase from our usual 90.

Chief Financial Officer Bob Law advised Council he is working on the City's Annual Financial Statement and debt statement in preparation for preparing the 2017 Budget. He invited Council Members to attend the annual JIF training January 31, and Bowman's annual budget seminar on January 26. He also noted that four years from now will be the 150th Anniversary of our Incorporation as a City; just a thought to get a head-start on any planned celebrations.

Library Director Michelle Yeager, thanked Mayor Floyd, Councilman Reddin, and everyone else who attended their Open House on January 21. She also mentioned upcoming events for February, which can be found on our website.

Open to the Public

On motion of Parker, seconded by Fleming and unanimously approved, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the floor was opened to the Public for any Items.

Heidi Louis, 102 N. Girard Street commended Council for allowing the property owner to continue with his renovations by allowing for the street opening at 34-36 Woodland. She thanked the City for preserving and relocating the crossing guard's shelter at Hendrickson Park. Lastly, she commended the recent actions of a Police Officer while locating and assisting a runaway youth in her neighborhood.

Seeing no one else, on motion of Johnson, seconded by Parker, and unanimously approved, the Public Portion was closed and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

President Trovato invited Reverend Norwood Cuff to give a brief prayer.

Closed Session

On motion of Tierney, seconded by Parker and unanimously approved the regular order of business was suspended and Council went into Executive Session at 8:25 pm. Pres. Trovato announced the official action will be taken when the regular meeting resumes

CLOSED SESSION (8:25 until 8:50 pm)

On motion of Tierney, seconded by Fleming and unanimously approved, the Regular Order of Business was resumed after the Executive Session ended at approximately 8:50 pm.

#17-49 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Tierney, seconded by Fleming, the resolution was unanimously adopted by a voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, on motion of Parker, seconded by Tierney and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

ROY A. DUFFIELD

City Clerk

Other Officials Present:

Administrator: Michael Theokas

Engineer: Paul Breier

CFO: Robert Law

Economic Development Director: Randi Woerner

Library Director: Michelle Yeager

Police: Chief Thomas Ryan

Solicitor: James Pierson, Esq.

Public Works Director: Richard Leidy