

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF
MARCH 28, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by President Pro-Tempore Swanson at 7:00 pm on March 28, 2017 in Council Chambers, 33 Delaware Street, Woodbury, New Jersey. Mr. Swanson led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

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, Carter, and Mayor Floyd

Absent: Reddin, President Trovato

Minutes

On motion of Councilwoman Parker, seconded by Councilwoman Tierney the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 14, 2017 were approved as submitted. Councilman Swanson abstained from voting; all others voted in favor of the motion.

Presentations and Discussions

#17-72 - Resolution Authorizing Promotion of Andrew DiGiambattista from Detective to Sergeant in the Woodbury Police Department

Councilman McIlvaine presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

President Pro-Tempore Swanson read a letter from Chief Ryan outlining Detective DiGiambattista's background and qualifications.

On motion of Councilman McIlvaine, seconded by Councilman Fleming, the resolution was unanimously adopted by voice vote.

Mayor Floyd administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant DiGiambattista.

Sergeant DiGiambattista thanked Mayor and Council for this opportunity, and acknowledged the support of his family and WPD co-workers.

Discussion regarding Road Opening Permit under Moratorium

City Administrator Mike Theokas explained that the dwelling at 228 Logan St was damaged by fire in 2015 and later demolished. PSE&G requested a street opening permit to provide gas service for the new dwelling under construction there; however Res. 15-207 placed a moratorium on street openings. In accordance with §167-9 Council can waive the moratorium in some circumstances. On motion of Tierney, seconded by McIlvaine and unanimously approved a waiver was granted.

Open to the Public for Agenda Items

On motion of Fleming, seconded by Parker, 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 and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

Resolutions, Ordinances and Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

#2259-17 - An Ordinance of the City of Woodbury Amending Chapter 190 Vehicles and Traffic; Article XII Schedules of the Code of the City of Woodbury (2nd reading)

Councilman Fleming presented the above-titled ordinance for final adoption.

The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.

On motion of Fleming, seconded by Parker and unanimously approved the public

hearing on this ordinance was ordered open. Hearing no one, on motion of Fleming, seconded by Parker, and unanimously approved, the Public Hearing was closed. On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilwoman Parker, the ordinance was adopted by a roll call vote:

Ayes 7 Tierney, Swanson, Johnson, McIlvaine, Fleming, Parker, Carter
Absent 2 Reddin, President Trovato
Nays, Abstentions: 0

#17-73 - Introduction of the 2017 Budget

Councilman Fleming presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Councilman Fleming stated that his committee has met on several occasions to put forth the best budget possible after much consideration.

CFO Robert Law advised that the Auditor will be available at the April 11th Council meeting to give his presentation, and the public hearing will be held April 25, 2017.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilwoman Parker the resolution was DEFEATED by a roll call vote:

Ayes 4 Swanson, Parker, Carter, Fleming
Nays 3 Tierney, McIlvaine, Johnson
Absent 2 Reddin, Trovato Abstentions: 0

Mr. Law stated that 5 affirmative votes are needed to approve the budget introduction.

#17-74 - Resolution to Adopt Emergency Temporary Appropriations for Year 2017

Councilman Fleming presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

#17-75 - Resolution of the City of Woodbury Imposing Lien(s) for Property Maintenance pursuant to Municipality Code §162-4

Councilman Fleming presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilwoman Parker the resolution was unanimously adopted by voice vote.

#17-76 - Resolution Adjusting 2016 Assessment for Fire Destroyed Improvements Regarding Block 36, Lot 2.09 - 228 Logan Street

Councilman Fleming presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilwoman Parker the resolution was unanimously adopted by voice vote.

Vouchers

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

Meeting of Committee of the Whole

On motion of Fleming, seconded by Parker and unanimously approved Council convened as a committee of the whole to discuss the 2017 Budget. Councilman Fleming stated that a lot of time and effort was put into getting it to this point. In order for the Finance Committee to address Tierney's, Johnson's and McIlvaine's objections to the Budget, he would ask them each to explain their concerns. Councilman McIlvaine stated that one of his campaign promises was that he would not vote for any property tax increase. Conversely, he thinks more money should be budgeted for tax appeals. Councilman Johnson stated he could accept a lesser increase in taxes but we should invest more in parks & rec and community forestry, and we should allocate funding for the Master Plan to be revised. He wants more transparency in the budget process and has requested that we hold workshops and retreats for that purpose. Councilwoman Tierney does not agree with transferring water & sewer funds to pay for operating

expenses; and if we had not cut the budget so drastically the past few years we could have avoided the situation we are in now.

Council discussed other budget matters, including school & county taxes, the potential for cuts to services, statutory deadlines for budget introduction, the use and replenishment of budget surplus, the cost of a tax increase on the average homeowner, and year-end budget transfers.

Following the discussion, on motion of Fleming, seconded by Johnson and unanimously approved the meeting of the committee of the whole was concluded.

Reconsideration of Resolution #17-73 - Introduction of the 2017 Budget

Councilman Johnson made a motion to reconsider Resolution # 17-73;

That motion was seconded by Mcllvaine. Johnson stated he would vote to reconsider the resolution provided that Council holds a workshop for discussion of the budget.

Council members agreed to hold the workshop during the April 11 Council meeting when our Auditor will be present to answer questions. Tierney voted NAY on the motion; all others voted in favor of the motion to reconsider.

On motion of Johnson, seconded by Mcllvaine Res #17-73 was APPROVED by roll call:

Ayes	6	Swanson, Mcllvaine, Johnson, Fleming, Parker, Carter
Nays	1	Tierney
Absent	2	Reddin, Trovato
		Abstentions: 0

Public Works Committee:

#17-77 - Resolution of the City of Woodbury Authorizing Release of the Retainer and Accepting the Maintenance Bond of Gerald A. Barrett, LLC Regarding the Meadow Lane Storm Sewer Improvement Project

Councilwoman Parker presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

New Business

Councilman Swanson gave a report on Winter Storm Stella, which occurred on March 14, 2017. Our Emergency Operations Center received and responded to 43 calls pertaining to downed wires, fallen limbs, and medical transport.

Other Committee Reports:

Public Safety Committee: Councilman Fleming reported that this committee met on March 23 to discuss coordination of emergency service calls between our Police & Fire Departments. Also, they are exploring the need for security cameras in our downtown and possibly other locations.

Public Works Committee: Councilwoman Parker reiterated problems relating to trash being put out on the wrong day, creating problems with litter blowing around. They are looking at ways to enforce the schedule. Also spring maintenance & preparation of the parks and athletic fields is underway.

Economic Development Committee: Councilman Mcllvaine mentioned new businesses opening, including a hair salon at 613 N. Broad, Kennedy Health Center at Broad & Barber, an art gallery at 34 W Centre, a new medical practice at 730 N Broad, and more. Also, we are seeking a retailer for 16-20 S Broad St (formerly Dollar Sea).

Community Development Committee: Councilman Johnson reported that the Creative Team met to discuss the following: FAF Coalition fundraiser on March 30th at Tiki-Tiki; the Community Garden is holding a June Fest and are seeking sponsors and donations; the next Chamber of Commerce meeting will be April 13th at the Atrium; the Garden Club will be having tea at Bell Lake Park; FAF is holding their White Table Event again this year; and WORC is having a fundraiser cocktail on June 10th. Mr. Johnson attended the last School Board meeting and reports they are also experiencing

difficulties with their budget because of the decrease in state funding, and they were forced to drop some of their programs.

Municipal Maintenance Committee: Councilwoman Carter advised that color-coded signs have been placed in City Hall, to better direct the patrons who come into City Hall.

Property Maintenance Committee: Councilwoman Tierney reported the Committee met yesterday about abandoned properties, and will meet the last Monday of each month.

Report of the Mayor

Mayor Floyd named the following members to the Chicken Advisory Board; Ray Venable, Gwenne Bailes, Danielle Hogan, Julio Morales, Reid Hawkins; and Jessica Ferguson will serve as an advisor and Councilman Dan Reddin will represent Council.

Mayor Floyd then introduced Tony Doran of 46 Lake Drive, who is working to promote Woodbury as a City that is accepting of all people, regardless of sexual orientation. He has asked the Mayor to encourage this issue within our town, noting that the LGBTQ community generates \$1.7 trillion to our nation's economy. He suggested that we amend our non-discrimination ordinance to include sexual orientation, and he is seeking proposals for diversity training for municipal officials, and he is asking local clergy to preach 'acceptance and inclusion' to their congregations. He then listed some social and promotional events that are planned, including a Cut-a-Thon at Edwards Hair Salon and 'Drag Bingo'.

Councilman Johnson stated he applauds Mr. Doran's efforts and has always acknowledged Woodbury as a town of diversity.

Department Announcements

Michelle Yeager, Library Director reported they have adopted a flat budget in spite of reduced State Aid, and their roof leaked during the March 14 storm. She also announced their coming events including Board of Trustees meeting April 24; a Parents of LGBTQ Forum meets monthly at the Library; How to Avoid Investment Fraud seminar on April 29 and the YMCA will be having a book exchange event.

Open to the Public

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 any items. Gary and Christine Pierce, 323 Glover Street, announced the re-opening of the Holy Angels School this year, and they are holding a 5K race to promote and support it. Details can be seen on Holy Angels' website.

Hearing no one else, on motion of Johnson, seconded by Parker and unanimously approved, the Public hearing was closed and the regular meeting was resumed.

Adjournment

There being no further business before Council, on motion of Parker, seconded by Johnson, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

ROY A. DUFFIELD

City Clerk

Other Officials Present:

Administrator: Michael Theokas

Engineer: Paul Breier

CFO: Robert Law

Library Director: Michelle Yeager

Police: Chief Thomas Ryan and Capt. Kelli Marro

Solicitor: James Pierson, Esq.

Public Works Director: Richard Leidy

Fire Marshal: Joseph Buono