

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF  
MAY 9, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by President Parker at 7:00 pm on May 9, 2017 in Council Chambers, 33 Delaware Street, Woodbury, New Jersey. President Parker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Invocation**

The Invocation was delivered by Reverend Harriott of Kemble Methodist Church.

**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, O'Connor, McIlvaine, Johnson, Reddin, President Parker and Mayor Floyd

**Absent:** Fleming, Carter

**Minutes**

On motion of Tierney, seconded by Reddin the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 25, 2017 were unanimously approved as submitted.

**Discussion of proposed fee changes for special events**

John Belko of 605 Delaware Street and FAF member said he is also speaking for WORC, the Woodbury Community Garden and the Woodbury Garden Club on this matter. Mr. Belko stated that when non-profit groups attempt to run a special event, the City's fees make it difficult to attract vendors. He understands the reasons for the fees are to protect the local merchants who must compete with the out-of-town vendors, and to partially defray the costs of Police and Public Works personnel before, during and after the events. While he recognizes that much work and expense goes into running these events, they are worthwhile, they bring customers to our City, and the benefits outweigh any downside. He asked City Council to eliminate the vendor fees associated with special events.

Councilman Swanson noted that the ordinance in question (#2211-14) was devised several months ago with much input and collaboration from these same groups. They must realize the value of in-kind services made by City personnel, at the public's expense, is much more than any administrative fees we charge.

Councilman McIlvaine asked if they want all fees to be waived for special events; Mr. Belko clarified that he is asking Council to eliminate only the vendor fees. He also recognized the value of the City's services and acknowledged that these events would not be possible without the City's assistance.

Mayor Floyd recalled that when the ordinance was being crafted with the Creative Team, many factors were taken into consideration to justify the fees; however the ordinance has not worked as intended. The administrative fees collected do not substantially impact the City, but if the events are successful for the non-profit groups the City benefits exponentially. We need to bring more events into our city. Councilman Johnson asked our Solicitor to review the ordinance to see if it should be amended. Mr. Pierson recommended that we enforce the insurance requirements in the ordinance, to assure the City is properly protected.

Randi Woerner, Economic Development Officer, recommended that the hosting organization should provide umbrella insurance coverage for their events, and we should know who is vending in our City, but it may not be necessary to collect a fee from each one of them. CFO Bob Law suggested contacting our JIF for guidance as to insurance requirements.

A motion was made by Johnson to suspend the collection of vendor fees for special events. The motion was seconded by McIlvaine and unanimously approved.

### **Public Hearing for Agenda Items**

On motion of Tierney, seconded by Johnson and unanimously approved, the floor was opened to the Public for Agenda Items Only.

Gloria Holmes, 19 Nelson Avenue inquired about Resolution #17-88. Mr. Duffield explained that it is for the Maintenance Bond for the bike path. Ms. Holmes expressed her objection to Resolution #17-90 because it did not address the type of equipment that was originally requested for Suiter Baptiste Park.

Hearing no one else, on motion of Johnson, seconded by Reddin and unanimously approved, the Public Hearing was closed.

### **Resolutions, Ordinances and Committee Reports**

#### **Finance Committee**

##### **#17-84 - Resolution Authorizing a Permit for Fireworks Display and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract for the Fourth of July Public Fireworks Display**

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

##### **#17-85 - Resolution Providing for the Insertion of Special Items of Revenue in the Budget of the City of Woodbury pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87(Chapter 159, P.L.1948)**

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

##### **#17-86 - Resolution to Reaffirm the City of Woodbury's Commitment to a Policy of Anti-Discrimination Based on Sex, Gender Identity or Expression, Marital Status, Affectional or Sexual Orientation, Domestic Partnership Status, or Disability Including Aids or HIV Infection and any Other Characteristic Protected by Law**

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

##### **#17-87 - Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Woodbury, County Of Gloucester, New Jersey Authorizing The Issuance And Sale Of Up To \$14,800,000 Of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2017, Of The City Of Woodbury; Making Certain Covenants To Maintain The Exemption Of The Interest On Said Bonds From Federal Income Taxation; And Authorizing Such Further Actions And Making Such Determinations As May Be Necessary Or Appropriate To Effectuate The Issuance And Sale of the Bonds**

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

#### **Vouchers**

On motion of Swanson, seconded by Reddin, the vouchers as presented and certified were unanimously approved for payment.

Lastly, Councilman Swanson reported the Tax & Utility Collector's revenues received for the month of April were Taxes: \$1,909,120.26; and Water & Sewer: \$302,968.77.

#### **Public Works Committee**

##### **#17-88 - Resolution of the City of Woodbury Authorizing Release of the Performance Guarantee and Accepting the Maintenance Bond of J. Daunoras, Inc. regarding the FY2009 Municipal Aid Project - Bike Path Phase 3**

Councilman McIlvaine presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

**#17-89 - Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 1 for the FY2016 Sanitary Sewer Improvements Lining of Sanitary Mains in Tatum Street and South Evergreen Avenue**

Councilman Mcllvaine presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

**Municipal Maintenance Committee**

**#17-90 - Resolution Endorsing And Approving Community Development Block Grant Project Application Of The City Of Woodbury Regarding Purchase Of Playset Equipment For Suiter Baptiste Park/Formerly Lafayette Park**

Councilwoman Tierney presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Councilwoman Tierney advised that this resolution was a late addition to the agenda and invited Randi Woerner to explain. Ms. Woerner stated that this is a \$50,000 grant for the purchase of playground equipment. In response to comments from the public, she explained that the equipment shown in the application is only an example; and that 'educational opportunities' are not eligible for funding under this grant.

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Reddin, the resolution was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

The next meeting of this Committee is May 22. She reminded everyone to notify WPD, or their Council member, or City Hall if they observe high grass & weeds at a property. The Police must notify the owner and allow them 10 days to take care of it before issuing a citation. For that reason it is best to notify us right away.

**Old Business**

Councilman Swanson inquired if City Hall staff will have 'summer hours' this year as in past years. President Parker stated no decision has been made due to several changes in personnel and the offices being understaffed. She expects to bring it up at next Council meeting.

**New Business**

On motion of Councilwoman Tierney, seconded by Councilman Mcllvaine the FAF Special Event Permit for Lot 323-Liquor Permit was unanimously approved.

**Other Committee Reports**

Councilman Johnson, Community Development Committee, reported he has met with Bob Melvin, City Planner to discuss ways we can improve aesthetics in our Broad Street corridor. He spoke to a group at Bethel AME Church about our Redevelopment efforts and Master Plan. He attended the last School Board meeting where their budget was approved, which will result in a tax increase to our residents. This is mainly due to the under-funding of state aid to the schools; we must all work together to change that. He gave kudos to the Library for offering programs such as Pride Story time and Entrepreneurship 101. Lastly, he reported that he, along with Councilman Mcllvaine and Mayor Floyd met with the County's Workforce Development Board. He is impressed and wants to make residents aware of the many services available.

Councilwoman Mcllvaine, Economic Development Committee thanked Randi Woerner for her tireless efforts. Ms. Woerner reported that she is currently working on two grant applications; ribbon cuttings at All About the Crust pizza shop and Born Learning Trail; Candlelight Vigil Memorial Day Event, among many other things.

Councilman Reddin, Green Team advised that during the recent Shred Event they shredded 7346 pounds of paper, 391 lbs of clothing, 286 lbs of food and pet food and

75 lbs of plastic pages. Also Arbor Day Celebrations were a huge success with the planting of three new dogwoods at Stewart Park and a dedication at Bell Lake Park.

### **Department Heads' Announcements**

Chief Tom Ryan reported several of our officers were recognized at the Gloucester County Law Enforcement Awards Dinner. Among them were: Patrolman Duffy who received a Lifesaving Award; Sgt. Donnell Davis for talking down a suicidal individual; and our Junior Police Academy Staff. Also, six of our officers will be participating on the 300-mile Unity Tour bike ride to Washington D.C. in support of "We Ride for Those Who Died".

Library Director Michelle Yeager thanked Councilman Johnson and Mayor Floyd for attending the last Library Board Meeting. Their next meeting is May 22. She listed several of their upcoming events including the Entrepreneur 101 Workshop on June 1 and invited all interested people to attend. Ms. Yeager welcomed everyone to visit the library; it is an excellent resource for all our residents.

### **Report of the Mayor**

Mayor Floyd thanked John Belko for reaching out to Council with his suggestions regarding the special permit fees. She thanked Inspira for sponsoring our Fireworks Display. She thanked the Green Team and everyone involved with Arbor Day Events. She thanked Council for their support of Res. #17-86 reinforcing our Anti-Discrimination policies; stating "This is an amazing thing!" The Mayor asked everyone to sign a petition supporting fair funding for our schools, which is being circulated. She invited everyone to a Meet and Greet to welcome our new School Superintendent on May 17. Mayor Floyd thanked Bob Law for taking on the Administrator's responsibilities while we search for the right fit to fill the spot left by Mike Theokas.

### **Open to the Public**

On motion of Tierney, seconded by Johnson and unanimously approved, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the floor was opened to the Public for any items.

Gloria Holmes, 19 Nelson Ave thanked the Green Team for the hosting the Shred Event. She urged everyone to sign the school funding petition. Ms. Holmes advised the African American History group is planning a trip to Washington, D.C. along with students from Clearview HS. Also, the African American History group will hold an Open House at the Child Development Center at Carpenter Street School on June 24.

Pastor Norwood Cuff of Campbell AME Church thanked Mayor Floyd and Councilmembers Johnson, O'Connor, and McIlvaine for attending the meeting at Bethel AME Church to explain the Redevelopment and Master Plan to this group.

Mary Carter of Main Street Woodbury invited everyone to Lunch Munch on May 17; the White Table Gala on June 3 and the Benjamin-Ross Run on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Jennifer McNally, 136 Spring Street again approached Council regarding a portable basketball goal on the street in front of her home. On her earlier visit to Council she presented a sample ordinance to Mr. Theokas and the City Solicitor. At that time it was more of a nuisance problem; but has now escalated to harassment from the kids and damage to her property. She has not heard anything since that time and would like Council to follow up.

George Kemery, 29 S Davis, invited everyone to attend FAF Coalition's Lot 323 events scheduled for the first and third Fridays of June, July and August. FAF has invited other City groups to utilize the Lot 323 area for their events when FAF is not using it.

Tony Doran, 46 Lake Dr., advised of upcoming events promoting LGBTQ "prosperity through equality" including: Drag Quizzo Night, June 4 at Eight & Sand Brewery; Story Time at the Library on June 10; All Day/All Night OUT in Woodbury on June 16; Cut-a-Thon fundraiser at Edwards Hair Salon on June 25; and Celebration & Proclamation of Pride June 30<sup>th</sup> at City Hall.

Lynn Stock of 155 High Street approached Council for the third time to request someone look into a landscaping business that is operating at the multi-family dwelling where she lives. She does not think the noise, heavy equipment and traffic of an industrial business should be permitted in a residential neighborhood. She was told that Zoning Officer John Leech would look into her complaint; however as of this date it has not been resolved. Mayor Floyd and Councilwoman Tierney asked Mr. Law and Mr. Leech to follow up on this matter.

Yvette Roots, 225 S. Barber Avenue, stated that when Councilman Johnson spoke at Bethel Church he stated that the City is considering purchasing the liquor store (at 117 S. Broad) and putting a park there. Councilman McIlvaine informed her that the City is currently negotiating with the owner of Sta-Fit (115 S Broad) and would like to demolish that property, not the liquor store. At this point it is just a conceptual plan as part of the redevelopment plan. All of these plans are in the preliminary stages. Councilman Johnson stated he would like the record to show that he did not state "the City purchased the liquor store"; he said the City was in the process of looking at those properties for future redevelopment. Mayor Floyd stressed these are only renderings. Councilman McIlvaine advised that the right developer will have to spend \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000 so this project is far from finished. The City is also waiting to hear how the proposed light rail plays into the master plan as well.

Taquikah Carmichael of 51 S. Broad Street stated she lives on Broad Street and many of those properties are in disrepair and her roof leaks when it rains. She urged the City to rebuild existing properties. Councilwoman Tierney advised Ms. Carmichael to notify the Housing Officer to make sure her living conditions are up to standards.

Seeing no one else, on motion of Tierney, seconded by Johnson and unanimously approved the Public Hearing was closed.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before Council, on motion of Tierney, seconded by Reddin and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy A. Duffield  
City Clerk

**Other Officials Present:**

Engineer: Paul Breier  
CFO/Acting Administrator: Robert Law  
Economic Development Director: Randi Woerner  
Library Director: Michelle Yeager  
Police: Chief Thomas Ryan  
Solicitor: James Pierson, Esq.