

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 23, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Parker at 7:00 pm on May 23, 2017 in Council Chambers, 33 Delaware Street, Woodbury, New Jersey. President Parker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

The Invocation was delivered by Pastor Carla Romarate-Knipel of Central Baptist 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, McIlvaine, Johnson, Fleming, Carter, O'Connor, President Parker and Mayor Floyd

Absent: Swanson, Reddin

Minutes

On motion of Tierney, seconded by McIlvaine, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 9, 2017 were approved as submitted. Councilmembers Carter and Fleming abstained from voting; all others voted in favor of the motion.

Presentations and Discussions

Matt Zapson and Bob Melvin of Group Melvin Design conducted a Transit Hub study of the area around Inspira Hospital and the proposed train station. DVRPC funded the study. Mr. Melvin & Mr. Zapson presented their findings to Council, including short-term options (such as bus turn-outs, expanded sidewalks and bike lanes, and a 'roundabout' at the intersection of Broad & Red Bank) and long-term options (such as the light rail stations, a bus station at Packer Ave, and re-aligning the intersection). Mr. Zapson fielded questions from Council and the public, including who would pay for it, how it impacts traffic volume & flow, the possibility of replacing the Broad St. bridge, possible loss of ratables, and the effect of distancing the neighborhoods in the First Ward. Bob Melvin concluded by saying these are preliminary studies and more discussion will be had in the future. The study will also be presented to the Planning/Zoning Board.

Open to the Public for Agenda Items

On motion Councilman, seconded by Tierney and unanimously approved, the floor was opened to the Public for Agenda items only.

Seeing no one, on motion of Johnson, seconded by Fleming and unanimously approved, the floor was closed and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

Resolutions, Ordinances and Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

#17-91 - Resolution Establishing City Hall Summer Hours

Councilman Fleming presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

#17-92 - Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of an Asphalt Hot Box through National Joint Power Alliance (NJPA) Cooperative Purchasing System

Councilman Fleming presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.
On motion of Fleming, seconded by Tierney the resolution was unanimously adopted by a voice vote.

#17-93 - Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Public Property On-Line through a New Jersey State Contract Auction Service (GOVDEALS.COM)

Councilman Fleming presented the above-titled resolution.
The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.
On motion of Fleming, seconded by McIlvaine the resolution was unanimously adopted by a voice vote.

#17-94 - Resolution Confirming the City of Woodbury's Participation in the South Jersey Power Cooperative (SJPC) and Authorizing Submission of Participation Form

Councilman Fleming presented the above-titled resolution.
The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.
On motion of Fleming, seconded by Tierney the resolution was unanimously adopted by a voice vote.

#17-95 - Resolution of the City of Woodbury Approving a Shared Services Agreement with the County of Gloucester for the Provision of Family Entertainment

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 a voice vote.

Vouchers

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

Public Safety Committee:

#2260-17 - An Ordinance of the City of Woodbury Amending Chapter 20 Fire Department of the Code of the City of Woodbury (First Reading – By Title Only)

Councilman Fleming presented the above-titled ordinance for first reading.
The City Clerk read the title of the ordinance.
Councilman Fleming explained that our code book should be amended to clarify the criteria to approve/disapprove applications for members of our Fire Dept. Our current regulations only say that they must be 'of good moral character'. A more thorough background check, including fingerprinting, is recommended. Mayor Floyd urged Council to proceed, and wondered whether all City employees and volunteers should have the same scrutiny.
On motion of Fleming, seconded by Tierney the ordinance was unanimously approved on first reading, ordered to be advertised according to law and to come up for second reading and adoption at the regularly scheduled Council meeting on June 13, 2017.

Councilman Fleming advised that we currently have five firefighter's applications for membership: Brian D. Buri, Robert J. Pfeiffer, and Timothy M. Leahey, all from Westville; Oliver F. Frazier of Woodbury; and Richard W. Harris of West Deptford. Mr. Fleming made a motion that these 5 individuals be granted provisional approval, subject to the requirements imposed by Ord. 2260-17, when it is adopted. The motion was seconded by Johnson and unanimously approved by Council.

Other Committee Reports:

Councilman Johnson stated the Creative Team met last week and discussed the successful May 19th Lunch Munch; the June 3rd White Table Event sponsored by Main Street Woodbury; MSW is looking for new & interested committee members; the Library is hosting "pride story time" June 10 and other "Woodbury Community Pride" events in June; Garden Club Tour will be June 3. FAF and the Community Gardens have expressed their thanks to Council for waiving vendor fees for special events; it has brought out more vendors to participate at their upcoming events. FAF Lot 323 will be

opening next month, and they are seeking volunteers. The Community Gardens will be holding their June Fest Activities on June 10th. Councilman Johnson also announced that our June 13th Council Meeting will be the annual Students in Government night. He will meet with the students in advance of the meeting.

Councilwoman Tierney stated the Property Committee met May 22 and they are working hard on their action items. The Green Team will be sending out a “diversity survey” to Council and our Boards and Committees to gauge the level of diversity on those boards, compared to the makeup of our population as a whole.

Councilman Fleming reported that several applications have been received for the Tax Collector and City Clerk positions. The Ad-Hoc personnel Committee will meet to review the applications and conduct interviews. Applications are still being accepted for the City Administrator position.

Councilman McIlvaine invited Randi Woerner to report on her Economic Development and other community activities. Randi listed the Candlelight Vigil on May 28th for Memorial Day; the June 20 Grand Opening of the Kennedy Health Alliance medical offices; the drop box at Police Station for safely disposing of unused prescription medications; and she is working on various grant applications, among other things.

Report of the Mayor

Mayor Floyd announced the resignation of Susan Fletcher and Donna Cohen from the Library Board; they are replaced by Christine Meagher and Mary Moody, respectively. On the Planning/Zoning Board Karlene O’Connor and Chris Lacroix will be replaced by Pat McAdams (1st Alternate) and Susan Anderson (full member) respectively. Shelly Laurence (4th Alternate) has also resigned. The Mayor reminded everyone of the Road Runners Benjamin-Ross 5K Race and Youth Runs on June 4th.

Report of the City Clerk

Roy Duffield reminded Council to complete their Financial Disclosure Forms; and reminded everyone that Primary Election Day is June 6th, please get out and vote.

Department Heads’ Announcements

Randi Woerner announced the Ribbon Cutting of the Born Learning Trail on May 24.

Library Director Michele Yeager stated the next Library Board Meeting has been rescheduled to June 19. Also on June 1st they will host the Entrepreneur Workshop and on August 21st there will be a Solar Eclipse which should be visible in our area.

Public Works Manager Rich Leidy said hydrant flushing will be completed May 24th.

Police Chief Ryan stated that residents may drop off unused prescription medications in the lobby of the Police Building for proper disposal. He also spoke of the Jr. Police Academy lead by Patrolman Carl Villone which is bringing accolades to our Police Department. Chief Ryan announced that Performance Dodge has graciously offered to donate a 2017 Charger police car for use by our K-9 Unit. Officer William Sheehan is currently in training with our K-9 “Hiro” and we are extremely appreciative of their generous offer. On motion of Fleming, seconded by Carter, Council unanimously agreed to accept the donated vehicle from Performance Dodge, with our thanks.

CFO Bob Law advised that today we sold \$14.8 million of municipal bonds and because of our AA bond rating we obtained a favorable interest rate of 2.84% on the bonds.

Open to the Public

On motion of McIlvaine, seconded by Johnson and unanimously approved, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the floor was open to the Public.

Ron Wilcox, 250 S. Barber Ave said he is organizing events for Wing Dickerson Park, including an event to honor the Woodbury HS Basketball Team on June 17, the Basketball Tournament on July 15, tennis lessons and other events throughout the summer to create a safe haven for our youth. He is seeking donations to support it.

John Belko, 605 Delaware Street, asked for clarification of Council's motion from the May 9 meeting to suspend vendor fees for special events on City-owned property, as required by Ord. 2211-14. In addition, Mr. Belko is now asking Council to suspend the requirement for each vendor to fill out an individual application. A motion was made by Councilman McIlvaine to suspend the requirement for an application provided that prior to the event the event sponsor will provide a list of all vendors to the City. The motion was seconded by Tierney and unanimously approved. Mr. Belko thanked the Public Works, Police, and Fire Departments for all their help for Lot 323.

Jerry Campbell, 529 Cooper St, addressed Council regarding the Burriss redevelopment project, and several concerns of the residents nearby. Their concerns include the weeds and overall view of the property, reports of vagrants living at the site, the pace of the construction, and rumors about the number of homes to be built there. Mr. Law informed Council that City officials and several concerned residents met with Mr. Burriss on May 22 to discuss these issues. Mr. Law and Councilman Fleming assured him that any changes to the approved site plan will require approval of the Planning/Zoning Board and City Council. As yet Burriss has not made any application to revise the plan.

Jim Gradwell, 611 Cooper St, also attended the Burriss meeting and is most concerned about vagrants living at Burriss property, and at Stewart Park. He has observed them at both places and has reported it to our Police Dept. Chief Ryan responded that WPD has investigated this and on at least on occasion have escorted them from the park. They have offered assistance to the homeless people by making them aware of public programs that may be available to them. They will continue to monitor the area.

George Gallenthin, 26 S. Bayard Ave, also attended the Burriss meeting. In addition to the already mentioned problems, he said there are environmental issues as well. He also expressed his concern that 62 townhouses may be built on that site. On an unrelated matter, he asked Council to investigate redeveloping the site of the former boat basin on Woodbury Creek at N. Davis St.

Lisa Yacoub, 32 S. Bayard urged Council to keep the public informed of any changes to the project. Councilman McIlvaine and Randi Woerner reiterated that any changes to the approved site plan will require approval of the Planning/Zoning Board and Council.

James Pierson said that some of these complaints are code enforcement issues, and that our Engineer is creating a punch list of items to be addressed and rectified.

Lynn Stock, 155 High St. once again approached Council about her ongoing contention that her neighbor is operating an industrial landscaping business in a residential zone. She is losing patience with City's lack of action. She said Zoning Officer John Leech investigated it and determined there is not a violation. Chief Ryan stated that a Police Officer also investigated and did not observe a violation, only a riding mower and small trailer in the neighbor's back yard. City Solicitor James Pierson advised her it is up to our Zoning Officer to investigate and make a determination, and he has done so. He suggested Ms. Stock contact her landlord about the matter. On motion of Johnson, seconded by Tierney the Public hearing was closed and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

Adjournment

There being no further business before Council, on motion of Tierney, seconded by Johnson and unanimously approved the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
ROY A. DUFFIELD
City Clerk

Other Officials Present:

Deputy Administrator/CFO: Robert Law

City Clerk: Roy Duffield

Engineer: Paul Breier

Economic Development Dir: Randi Woerner

Library Director: Michelle Yeager

Police: Chief Thomas Ryan

Solicitor: James Pierson, Esq.

Public Works Manager: Richard Leidy