

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF  
NOVEMBER 22, 2016**

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

Invocation was delivered by Bishop Nathan Jones of Spiritual Temple Church. President Trovato requested prayers for the firefighters and homeowners who were involved in the recent house fires on Mehorter Street.

**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 #16-05 adopted at the 2016 Reorganizational Meeting of Mayor and Council on January 5, 2016.

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Tierney, Swanson, Floyd, Johnson, Parker, Reddin, Carter, President Trovato and Mayor Volk

**Absent:** Councilman Fleming

**Minutes**

On motion of Councilwoman Parker, seconded by Councilman Reddin the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 7, 2016 were approved unanimously as submitted.

**Presentations and Discussions:**

**#16-156 - Resolution Authorizing the Promotion of Lieutenant Kelli A. Marro to Captain in the Woodbury Police Department**

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

**Mayor Administers Oath of Office**

Mayor Volk administered the Oath of Office to Captain Kelli Marro.

Captain Marro introduced her husband and daughter and thanked Mayor and Council for this opportunity and to everyone who supported her during her career in law enforcement. Chief Ryan also thanked Mayor and Council and stated Captain Marro is now the highest ranking female in the County and the first female Captain in the WPD.

**Presentation by Remington and Vernick re: upgrades to Water Treatment System**

Stephanie Cuthbert and Dennis Yoder of R&V gave a summary report of their study of our water treatment plant, our options for installing a new filtration system for removing PFC's, the proposed installation and maintenance costs for each method, the pro's & cons of each and their recommendations. There are three systems we could use: Reverse Osmosis, Ion Exchange, or Carbon Filtration. Reverse Osmosis would remove PFC's and Chromium, and would cost about \$3.7 million to install and \$400,000 per year to maintain & operate. Ion Exchange would remove most but not all of the PFC types; cost \$1.7 million to install and \$175,000 per year going forward. Granular Activated Carbon is effective for removing PFC's but does not remove Chromium. The cost for this type of system is \$1.3 million to install and annual operating & maintenance of about \$95,000. This is the method they are recommending. Council members asked several questions, which were answered by R&V, Mike Theokas, and Bob Law. In regards to Chromium, Mr. Yoder noted that it is not a major concern in NJ water.

**Public Hearing for Agenda Items**

On motion of Councilwoman Parker, seconded by Councilman Johnson and unanimously approved, the Regular Order of Business was suspended and the floor was open to the Public for Agenda Items Only.

Anthony Chiesa, 36 Rugby Place, asked if the water filtration system is intended to treat all of our water; the answer was that only Wells 7 & 8 are intended to be treated. Gloria Holmes, 19 Nelson Ave, asked for explanations of Resolutions #16-151 and 16-153; and the amount budgeted for Parks & Rec. Mr. Theokas answered her questions. Jessica Ferguson, 124 S American, asked if carbon filtration will remove Chromium from water; the answer was no. Hearing no one else, on motion of Councilman Swanson, seconded by Councilwoman Parker and unanimously approved, the Public Portion was closed and the Regular Order of Business was resumed.

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

### **Finance Committee:**

#### **#16-151 - Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Services Agreement with the Gloucester County Improvement Authority for Economic Development Assistance**

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

#### **#16-152 - Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract with TTI Environmental, Inc. for Professional Environmental Engineering Services Relating to the Woodbury Public Works Garage**

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

#### **#16-153 - Resolution Authorizing Budget Transfers**

Councilman Swanson presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Swanson, seconded by Councilwoman Parker, the resolution was adopted by a voice vote. Councilwoman Floyd abstained from the vote; all others voted in favor of the motion.

### **Vouchers**

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

### **Public Works Committee:**

#### **#16-154 - Resolution Establishing a 5 Year Moratorium on the Issuance of Road Opening Permits for West Barber Avenue, S. Broad Street to S. Jackson Street from September 9, 2016 through September 8, 2021**

Councilwoman Parker presented the above-titled resolution.

The City Clerk read the title of the resolution.

Mayor Volk inquired whether the moratorium would preclude PSE&G from making repairs to underground utilities, and whether they need road opening permits to do so. Mr. Theokas explained that in many cases PSE&G repairs are done in an emergency situation; but they will be required to do a road opening permit after the work is done.

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

#### **#16-155 - Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 1 for the 2016 Local Roads Resurfacing 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 adopted by voice vote.

## **Other Committee Reports**

**Parks & Rec Committee** Councilman Johnson reported on the Committee meeting of November 21. Unfortunately Tish Davis is no longer working for the City. We are advertising the position to seek her replacement. He will contact the Finance Committee to request increased funding for our parks for next year. In our on-going efforts to provide services to Senior Citizens and teenagers the NAACP will have a local office at the Child Development Center. He is impressed with the progress on the new concession building at Laverty Field.

**Economic Development** Councilwoman Floyd reported on the Creative Team meeting of Nov. 16, the Christmas Tree Lighting on December 3 at City Hall, and the Christmas House Tour on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Also, she would like to recognize Megan Lucide and Sue Bowe who planted flowers at Bell Lake in front of the sign at their own effort and expense. She also congratulated Bob Law on completing the Philadelphia Marathon.

**Green Team** Councilwoman Tierney recently attended the Greater Woodbury Chamber of Commerce Dinner which honored John and Mary Carter with the Founder's Cup award. She said the next Green Team Meeting will be held December 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Report of the Mayor** – Mayor Volk spoke on the recent fire that occurred on Mehorter Blvd. and the severity of the fire due to extremely high winds. He expressed his deepest appreciation for the firefighters who responded. There were 3 homes involved, vehicles that caught on fire. Due to high winds, what began as a small fire spread to become one of the worst he has seen in his 20 years as a responder. He prays for the 4 occupants who were hospitalized. On a positive note, no lives were lost and we thank all the neighboring fire companies who assisted. He and Mike Theokas will be meeting with PSE&G to discuss proper responses to any future events.

**Report of the City Clerk** Roy Duffield announced the winners of the November 8 General Election: Mayor Elect Jessica Floyd, Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Trovato and Councilwoman Tierney. He also recognized Jean Wipf, Director of the Woodbury Public Library who will be retiring after 18 years.

## **Department Heads' Announcements**

Police Chief Ryan thanked Mayor and Council again for the promotion of Captain Kelli Mauro. He also congratulated Jean Wipf on her retirement, all the winners of the General election and Bob Law on running the Philadelphia Marathon.

Library Director Jean Wipf thanked Mayor and Council for their support during her eighteen years with the Library. She introduced Michelle Yeager, a Woodbury resident, who will be replacing her as Library Director.

City Administrator Mike Theokas advised that the NJ Department of Health will be conducting a Public Need hearing on December 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss the proposed Inspira Hospital in Harrison Township.

Public Works Supervisor Mike McCaughey discussed the holiday schedule for trash and leaf collection.

CFO Bob Law discussed the budget transfers approved by Res. 16-153, some of which were needed because of a large tax appeal recently approved by the County Tax Assessor for the former Rite Aid store.

Economic Development Director Randi Woerner announced two new businesses, BIT Solutions at the Silver Building on Broad St and Mid Atlantic Career & Education Center at 55 Delaware Street.

## **Open to the Public**

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

Ron Wilcox, 250 S. Barber Ave., announced his intention to run for a seat on City Council, and also asked to have the tennis courts at Wing-Dickerson Park repaired, rather than replaced by a Learning Path. He implores all of us to help those that have less than we do. Councilman Johnson and President Trovato said they and Mr. Theokas will look at the tennis courts to see what is needed.

Gloria Holmes, 19 Nelson Avenue recalled that in the 1990's the City sponsored summer tennis lessons at the Park. She thanked the Green Team for installing a bench at Stuart St playground, and requested upgrades at Suiter-Baptiste Park. She thanked Public Works for cleaning up those parks. Ms. Holmes also expressed concern over the Nissan car dealership parking on her street; it is an ongoing nuisance.

Yvette Rhodes, 221 S. Barber Ave lives near the tennis courts and grew up using those courts. She became the #1 tennis player at Woodbury High School, and went on to play varsity tennis at Trenton State College. She urged Council not to take the opportunity she was given, away from our young people. Councilman Johnson stated that the High School no longer has a tennis team nor tennis courts. Councilwoman Tierney stated as a young person she learned to play tennis at West End School, so she supports the need to have a tennis court. Mike Theokas said Lot 323 had a "Born Learning Trail" which educated the student at each stop; he thought something like that would be beneficial at Wing Dickerson Park.

Jessica Ferguson, 124 S. American St said she files a tax appeal each year and asked about the Rite Aid appeal previously mentioned. Also, she has recently noticed an increase in door to door solicitors, some of whom have been intimidating and aggressive, and asked the City to enforce guidelines for solicitor's permits. Ms. Ferguson inquired if there was low water pressure while fighting the fire on Mehorter Blvd. Mayor Volk responded to that concern, assuring Ms. Ferguson that there were challenges fighting this fire, but insufficient water was not one of them. Due to the high winds and quick spreading of the fire, all hydrants were being stressed, giving the impression that there was low pressure, but that was not the case.

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

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, on motion of Councilwoman Parker, seconded by Councilman Johnson and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy A. Duffield, City Clerk

### **Other Officials Present:**

Administrator: Mike Theokas

City Clerk: Roy A. Duffield

City Engineer: Paul Breier

Economic Development Director: Randi Woerner

Library: Jean Wipf and Michelle Yeager

Police Chief: Tom Ryan

Public Works: Michael McCaughey

Solicitor: James Pierson, Esq.