

**City of Woodbury
City Council Meeting Agenda
Virtual Meeting**

Link:

June 9, 2021

Virtual Waiting Room Opens 6:00 p.m.

Meeting starts 6:30 p.m.

The meeting of June 9, 2021 was called to order by Council President Hagerty at 6:30pm. Council President Hagerty led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Reflection.

Open Public Meeting Statement

Ms. Swanson read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement. This is a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Woodbury. Due notice of this regular meeting provided to the press and public by posting and publication of Resolution #21-05 adopted at the 2021 Reorganization Meeting on January 6, 2021. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Orders No. 107 and 108, which took effect on March 21, 2020. Due to these Executive Orders the City of Woodbury has made it possible for public participation in City Business via an electronic format as defined in the Open Public Meetings. The agenda for tonight's meeting is being displayed on your screen. Or if you prefer, it can be found on the City of Woodbury's website at www.woodbury.nj.us. Ms. Swanson then gave instruction on how the public sessions would be run, to ensure everyone who wishes to speak has a chance to do so.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Fleming, Councilman Merinuk, Councilwoman Miller, Councilwoman O'Connor, Council President Hagerty, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman Moore, Mayor Sickel

Absent: Councilwoman Parker

Others Present: Acting City Clerk, Cassidy Swanson; Solicitor, Tim Scaffidi; Housing Official, John Leech; CFO, Robert Law; Police Chief, Thomas Ryan; Engineer, Erika Covely,

Proclamation

Mayor Sickel celebrates and honors Anthony DiSabatino on his 30th birthday.

Open to the Public for Agenda Items

Council President Hagerty stated the meeting will be opened to the public for agenda items only. Since the meeting is being held virtually and some individuals are calling in, Ms. Swanson will read the agenda items aloud. Ms. Swanson then read the titles of the Ordinances and Resolutions. Ms. Swanson went on to give instructions again on how the public can be heard at this time. Councilman Fleming made a motion to open to the public, seconded by Councilwoman O'Connor. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Jared Hunter – 23 N. Drexel St. – Mr. Hunter thanked council for Resolution No. 21-89 and hopes that it will get approved.

Kaylyn Roger – 224 Delaware St. – Mrs. Roger inquired about funding for the fireworks. She then asked about liquor licensing resolutions, which businesses have liquor licensing if they are all actively being used. Mayor Sickel stated that the fireworks were sponsored by a variety of businesses, and our commissioners. Ms. Swanson and Solicitor Scaffidi addressed the active liquor licenses.

Hearing no one, Councilman Fleming made a motion to close to the public, seconded by Councilwoman O'Connor. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. 21-88 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING A PERMIT FOR FIREWORKS DISPLAY AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY PUBLIC FIREWORKS DISPLAY

RESOLUTION NO. 21-89 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY TO APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION AND TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE FY2022 MUNICIPAL AID PROJECT HEREINAFTER KNOWN AS RESURFACING OF WEST CENTRE STREET

RESOLUTION NO. 21-90 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY TO APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION AND TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR YEAR 2 OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION PROGRAM

RESOLUTION NO. 21-91 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONSUMPTION LICENSE NO. 0822-32-004-011 HELD BY AS BOYAL LLC FOR THE LICENSING PERIOD COMMENCING JULY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022

RESOLUTION NO. 21-92 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING PERSON-TO-PERSON TRANSFER OF LIQUOR LICENSE FROM PB WOODBURY LIQUOR LICENSE, LLC TO SH WOODBURY LIQUOR LICENSE, LLC

RESOLUTION NO. 21-93 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ADDENDUM #1 TO LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WOODBURY AND WOODBURY OLD-CITY RESTORATION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 21-94 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONSUMPTION LICENSE NO. 0822-33-002-009 HELD BY BJL BLUE POINT, INC. FOR THE LICENSING PERIOD COMMENCING JULY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021

RESOLUTION NO. 21-95 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE DISTRIBUTION LICENSE NO. 0822-44-006-009 HELD BY BKK, LLC FOR THE LICENSING PERIOD COMMENCING JULY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022

END CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Fleming made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as read at the beginning of the meeting, seconded by, Councilwoman O'Connor.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 8 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Fleming, Councilman Merinuk, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman Moore, Councilwoman O'Connor, Council President Hagerty

Nays 0

Absent 1 Councilwoman Parker

Councilman Fleming made a motion to adopt the bills and vouchers list, seconded by, Councilwoman O'Connor. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Committee Reports

Donna Miller – On Wednesday June 23rd senior citizens can receive a free boxed lunch at the GATHER building between the hours of 11:30AM-1:30PM. The event is being sponsored by the Governor's Council of Alcohol and Drug Abuse. She then thanked CFO, Robert Law for coordinating the event. On the same day and time at GATHER the municipal alliance is giving away free Juneteenth-inspired produce. This is available to the public and both events are first come-first serve, with no registration required. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help bag or hand out lunches please email Councilwoman Miller for more information.

Report of the Mayor

Mayor Sickel – FAF is starting off this Friday kicking off our Friday night concerts. Sunday is our next Green Team Initiative cleaning Broad Street Lake from 11AM-2PM. Free Yoga is at Stewart Park on Friday at 6:45PM. Please note that in the event it rains, the yoga event will be cancelled for any of the scheduled dates throughout the summer.

Report of the City Clerk

Ms. Swanson – Thanked all the poll workers, public works and police department for assisting with the election.

Department Announcements

Mr. Leech – Code Enforcement – Thanked the city clerk Cassidy Swanson, deputy clerk, Kay Crawford, and other people of City Hall for their efforts in coordinating the election and assisting at the different polling locations.

Mr. Law – The City’s budget was in the South Jersey Times on Monday, available online, and at the library. The State budget is also available online and hard copies are available at City Hall and the library. The budget hearing and presentation will be on June 23rd and there will be a public hearing. He is not expecting the State to adopt the city’s budget on the June 23rd hearing due to the state being backed up. Mr. Law announced the Art in the Street program that will start on June 28th funded by the Gloucester County Cultural and Heritage Commission, and partly by our Municipal Alliance Grant. The program will run for 7 weeks more information on the program will be located on the city’s website.

Ms. Yeager – Library – The summer reading challenge will officially begin on July 1st and run through August 31st and the library’s summer events will begin on July 6th and run through August 12th. More information will be posted on the website and social media platforms.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business at this time.

New Business

No new business at this time.

Public Discussion – Opt-In or Opt-Out of Cannabis

Council President Hagerty announced that this discussion will contribute to a series of discussion in the city’s decision to opt in or out of cannabis commerce. He then went on to explain the guidelines of the discussion and provided context toward this public section topic. Ms. Swanson then gave instruction on how the public sessions would be run, to ensure everyone who wishes to speak has a chance to do so. Councilwoman O’Connor made a motion to open to the public,

seconded by Councilwoman Carter. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Jamilah Daminai – 324 S. Columbia St. – Ms. Daminai inquired in regards to the opt-in/opt-out has council had any continuous conversations outside of public meetings. Council President Hagerty, Councilwoman O'Connor answered. Ms. Daminai clarified her question. Solicitor Scaffidi answered. Ms. Daminai then asked if we could expect a decision to be made based off of the three forums and the feedback given from residents and businesses. Council President Hagerty answered.

Hugh Giordano – 57 Argyle Ave. Blackwood – Mr. Giordano introduced himself as a representative on behalf of the UFCW Local 152 which is a labor union that represents cannabis workers from seed to sale for recreational and medical use. He went on to educate the public about NJ's labor laws in reference to cannabis and the benefits of career paths in the industry. He thanked Council for hosting these discussions, considering the benefits and weighing the opinions of the public rather than rushing to opt-out given the pressure that was put on the municipalities to make a decision throughout the State of New Jersey. He then introduced the structure of City of Bayonne's ordinance for cannabis commerce and how it is well constructed, with application fees, renewal fees and a merit-based system. He suggested that Council refer to Bayonne's ordinance and view it as a model. He then offered to show anyone interested the seed to sale operation model. Council President Hagerty answered.

Amanda Terpstra – 442 Poplar Ave. Woodbury Heights – Ms. Terpstra introduced her business Bestbuds, is currently applying for a retail dispensary permit for the State of New Jersey with a focus on operating in the City of Woodbury. She then highlighted the potential revenue gain of a dispensary for the city by comparing existing data from the City of Patterson. Ms. Terpstra offered Bestbuds to be utilized as a resource for the town to assist anyone interested in the operation of cannabis commerce. She then thanked Council president Hagerty for addressing her response along with Mayor Sickel and she looks forward to coordinating a meeting with all necessary town representatives to move this conversation forward. He also thanked Mr. Giordano for attending the meeting and his contribution to the conversation. Council President Hagerty and Councilwoman Miller responded.

Jared Hunter – 23 N. Drexel St. – Mr. Hunter inquired about who created the map. Council President Hagerty answered. He then asked who was responsible for writing the cannabis ordinance in the event the City of Woodbury decided to opt-in. Solicitor Scaffidi answered. Mr. Hunter lastly asked how conversations on the subject are currently being recorded. Solicitor Scaffidi answered.

Kaylyn Roger – 224 Delaware St. – Ms. Roger voiced her opinion that the city should consider all childcare centers in the zoning restrictions for cannabis commerce. She then asked Solicitor Scaffidi if he will be meeting with the council prior to drafting the legislation. Solicitor Scaffidi answered. She then asked Solicitor Scaffidi about the process of selecting the legislation choice and what council's influence will be based on the conversations held with the public. She then inquired about how the zoning for cannabis commerce will get decided upon, if there will be a

committee dedicated to making this decision and if so, who are the participating members of that committee. Solicitor Scaffidi answered. Ms. Roger expressed her stance being the importance of public opinion in the final stages of the decision making process when drafting the ordinance.

Ken McIlvaine – 456 Delaware St. – Mr. McIlvaine asked if Council had any record of what towns in Gloucester County have decided to opt-out. Solicitor Scaffidi answered. He then went on to reference the City of Patterson NJ in terms of population and revenue. He went on to state that Woodbury, being having less than 10% of the population of Patterson, Woodbury would be looking at an annual revenue stream of less than \$30,000 from cannabis commerce. Mr. McIlvaine asked how many union jobs will be created by deciding to opt-in. He then asked for the thoughts and feelings of the Woodbury Police Department in terms of the safety of the residents on the recreation sales. Chief Ryan answered. He lastly asked if there is any relative data showing any negative impacts on areas where recreational cannabis has been approved. Chief Ryan answered. Mr. McIlvaine then thanked Mayor Sickel, Council President Hagerty and all of council for having these public sessions.

Hearing no one, Councilman Fleming made a motion to close to the public, seconded by Councilwoman O'Connor. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Open to the Public

Councilman Fleming made a motion to open to the public, seconded by Councilwoman O'Connor. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Aaron Weber – 48 Hess Ave. – Mr. Weber thanked to Mayor Sickel, Councilwoman Miller and Acting Clerk, Cassidy Swanson for organizing the Arbor Day contest. He expressed his excitement looking forward to more collaboration in the future.

Jamilah Daminai – 234 S. Columbia St. – Ms. Daminai asked if council will be posting the recordings of the council meetings online. Council President Hagerty and Cassidy Swanson answered.

Bill Gotthardt – 26 N Horace – Mr. Gotthardt requested an update on the firehouse investigation. Solicitor Scaffidi answered. He then expressed his displeasure with the process. Solicitor Scaffidi responded.

John Belko – 53 N. Childs Street – Mr. Belko announced that Lot 323 will begin their series of events starting this Friday and encouraged everyone to attend a Friday night of fun. He then thanked everyone in the city for their help in the success of these events.

Jared Hunter – 23 N. Drexel St. – Mr. Hunter announced that the Woodbury Heart and Soul

Community training as they enter phase two of their 2 year program. He explained that phase two will consist of a stretch of 6-8 months of direct community engagement work to gauge what is important to the people of Woodbury, getting those needs documented and drafting a plan of action. There are positions open for volunteers who are interested. Trainings will be held virtually on June 14th and 21st at 6PM. He encouraged the community to participate.

Kaylyn Roger – 224 Delaware St. – Mrs. Rogers asked Solicitor Scaffidi about his role and involvement with the firehouse investigation. She then went on to voice her displeasure about how the situation was being handled.

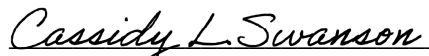
Lester Theodore – 1337 Raphael Pl. – Mr. Theodore requested access to the firehouse to be able to conduct business. Solicitor Scaffidi responded.

Hearing no one, Councilman Merinuk made a motion to close to the public, seconded by Councilwoman O'Connor. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Councilman Merinuk made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman O'Connor. Motion approved by a unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:49p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cassidy L. Swanson,
Acting City Clerk

NOTICE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A 10:4-8(d)

The items listed on this tentative agenda of the Mayor and Council President of the City of Woodbury constitutes the agenda to the extent known at the time of posting. Since this agenda is tentative, items may be added and/or deleted prior to the commencement of the meeting. Formal action may or may not be taken regarding each item listed on the final agenda.