

**City of Woodbury**  
**City Council Meeting Agenda**  
**October 13, 2021**  
**Council Chambers Open at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Meeting starts 6:30 p.m.**

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The meeting of October 13, 2021 was called to order by Council President Hagerty at 6:33pm. Council President Hagerty then 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 No. 21-05 adopted at the 2021 Reorganization Meeting on January 6, 2021. Also, notice of the public meeting was advertised in the newspaper and posted on the City web page for the public.

**Roll Call:**

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

Absent:

Others Present: Acting City Clerk, Cassidy Swanson; Solicitor, Tim Scaffidi; Police Chief, Thomas Ryan; Engineer, Erika Covely, Chief Financial Officer, Robert Law; Planning/Zoning Official, John Leech.

**Approval of Minutes**

Councilwoman Parker made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the April 27, seconded by Councilwoman Carter. Motion approved via voice vote resulting in the following;

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

Nays 0

Absent 0

Abstain 1 Councilwoman Harwell

Council President Hagerty requested a motion to table and remove Resolution No. 21-141 from the consent agenda. The motion was so moved by Councilman Fleming and seconded by Councilwoman Parker. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Open to the Public for Agenda Items**

Council President Hagerty announced that the meeting will now be opened to the public for agenda items only. Council President Hagerty reminds everyone that each agenda item does have

to get read aloud for the record. Councilwoman Miller made a motion to open to the public, seconded by Councilwoman O'Connor. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Ms. Swanson then read the titles of the Ordinances and Resolutions. Ms. Swanson went on to inform the public that at this time they can come up to the podium to be heard at this time.

Susan Anderson – 222 South Jackson Street – Ms. Anderson referenced Ordinance No. 2348-21, asking about the \$300,000 grant to rehab various water sewer mains. She inquired if there was list of areas that will be serviced by the grant because of issues in and around her residence that should be tended to. Council President Hagerty and Engineer Paul Breir answered.

Jared Hunter 23 N. Drexel St. – In regard to Ordinance No. 2349-21, Mr. Hunter asked what changes were made to the personnel policy and which of those polices were not up to date or meeting administrative, legal or insurance requirements. CFO, Mr. Law responded.

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

### **Ordinances**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2348-21** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$300,000 IN FUNDING FOR THE REHABILITATION OF VARIOUS WATER AND SEWER MAINS AND VALVES

Councilman Fleming introduced Ordinance No. 2348-21. Ms. Swanson read the title of the Ordinance. Councilman Fleming made a motion to move the first reading of Ordinance No. 2348-21 with a motion to adopt after the second reading. Motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 9 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Fleming, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilman Merinuk, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman O'Connor, Councilwoman Parker, Council President Hagerty

Nays 0

Absent 0

Abstain 0

**ORDINANCE NO. 2349 -21** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY ADOPTING PERSONNEL POLICIES FOR THE CITY OF WOODBURY Councilman Fleming introduced Ordinance No. 2349-21. Ms. Swanson read the title of the Ordinance. Councilman Fleming made a motion to move the first reading of Ordinance No. 2349-21 with a motion to adopt after the second reading. Motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 9 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Fleming, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilman Merinuk, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman O'Connor, Councilwoman

Parker, Council President Hagerty  
Nays 0  
Absent 0  
Abstain 0

**Resolutions**

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CONSENT AGENDA

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**RESOLUTION NO. 21-138** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE SFY21 BODY-WORN CAMERA GRANT PROGRAM (21-BWC-480)

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-139** RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY WOODBURY AWARDDING A CONTRACT TO THINK PAVERS, LLC FOR THE FY 2020 NJDOT HUNTER STREET RESURFACING AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-140** RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A DUPLICATE TAX SALE CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 54:5-52.1

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-141** RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WOODBURY AND THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023

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END CONSENT AGENDA

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Councilman Fleming made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as read at the beginning of the meeting, with the exception of Resolution No. 21-141, seconded by, Councilman Merinuk.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 9 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Fleming, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilman Merinuk, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman O’Connor, Councilwoman Parker, Council President Hagerty  
Nays 0  
Absent 0  
Abstain 0

Council President gave an update on the interim administrator search. He announced that a few members of council have volunteered to be on a committee to help fill this position. They had been a meeting today and will proceed with zoom interviews for potential candidates starting as early as Friday. If all goes well, the City could have an interim administrator as early as next week.

**Committee Reports**

Councilwoman Miller – Councilwoman Miller thanked the NJ Clean Communities program for funding the NJ reusable bag program that Woodbury is taking part of. The initiative was well received at the pre-parade festival and she has hopes of everyone bringing their own reusable bags into stores.

Councilwoman Parker – Public Works – Councilwoman Parker announced that due to staffing issues at public works, the City will not be doing its usual leaf collection. Leafs can be bagged or placed in cans to get collected every Monday except on holidays. Councilwoman Parker asked Acting City Clerk, Ms. Swanson to distribute the information on our online platforms and encouraged the residents in attendance to spread the word. Council President Hagerty clarified that all leaf collection will take place on Monday's when yard debris is collected, and all leaves must be contained. Councilman Merinuk asked if were looking at temp agency. Councilwoman Parker explained that would cost about \$20,000 to use.

Human Rights Commission (HRC) – Fall Festival Parade – Chuck Rose – Mr. Rose reported that this is the first year they decided to have a pre-parade festival which had a phenomenal turn out. There where there were a total of 58 vendors, including a variety of food trucks and 70 participants in the parade. One of the new additions to the Fall Festival Parade, the Jeep club was well received and a good highlight. Mr. Rose thanked Jen Blair and Nicole Nocito for co-chairing, the rest of the HRC and all of the volunteers for their contribution towards the success of the event. Great community collaboration was displayed. The committee will be having their “hot wash” meeting reviewing and critiquing parade logistics tomorrow night. Council President Hagerty added the positive feedback he'd gathered surrounding the parade and the Jeep Club's participation.

**Report of the Mayor**

Mayor Sickel – Mayor Sickel thanked Mr. Rose as head of the Human Rights Commission (HRC). She announced that the festival and parade utilized no tax dollars as the event was sponsored by two platinum sponsors and several other contributors. The winners of the Fall Festival Parade will be announced at a future council meeting. She also announced that the Woodbury Old City Restoration Committee (WORC) has their annual Ghost Tour at the end of October and the Woodbury Soccer Club will be hosting a Trunk or Treat.

**Report of the Clerk**

Ms. Swanson – Ms. Swanson asked Council to pass a motion under new business to have the City of Woodbury's Trick or Treat hours from 3PM – 8PM on Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup> and an 8PM curfew on both Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Swanson then reported details on the upcoming November election. The Polls will be open on November 2 from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM. The Polling Location for Ward 1 - Districts 1, 2, 3 (all) is the American Legion Post 113, located at 1018 Washington Avenue. The Polling Location for Ward 2 – Districts 1 and 3 is the Woodbury Mews, located at 122 Green Street Ms. Swanson stated that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the back entrance of the building will be where voters will enter. There will be Board Worker’s outside and directional signs available to assist voters. The Polling Location for Ward 2 - Districts 2 and 4 is Bethel AME Church, located at 32 Courtland Street. The Polling Location for Ward 3 - Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 (all) is Hope Fellowship Church, located at 246 King Street (at end of S. Warner). Ms. Swanson explained that Early In Person Voting is from October 23 through October 31st, 2021, Monday-Saturday 10AM-8PM, and Sunday 10AM-6PM. Gloucester County voters may go to any of the 5 designated early voter centers. The two closest to Woodbury is Riverwinds Community Center located at 1000 Riverwinds Dr, Thorofare, NJ, 08086 and RCSJ Behavioral Science Center located at 400 Tanyard Rd, Sewell, New Jersey, 08080. The two closest Secure Ballot Drop Box Locations are the Gloucester County Administrative Building, located at 2 S. Broad Street, Woodbury, NJ, 08096 and the Gloucester County Office of Elections, located at 550 Grove Rd, Paulsboro, NJ, 09096 (GPS Address). Voters can deliver your ballot in person to the Gloucester County Office of Elections until 8:00 pm on November 2

### **Department Announcements**

Paul Brier – Engineer – Mr. Brier reported all 2020 projects being the Well 7, Water Mains, Local Roads, and Railroad Avenue, are all in the process of being closed out. Hunter Street has been working with Think Pavers, and we are excited to work with them. The sewer lining on Wood Street was rejected due to high bid and we will be rebidding shortly. We have the 2021 road projects listed out which will mainly be roads where new water mains need to be paved next year. The demolition for the houses on W. Barber Ave was awarded to Ricco Demolition. Progress Avenue was the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) award last year, NJDOT is working on getting the plans together. The Pedestrian Path Green Acres for Stewart Lake on Cooper Street Project bid opening is on Tuesday and hopefully be awarded by the 27<sup>th</sup> and begin in November. The Green Acres Playground Project is being finalized for plans and specs, then submit for approval to then go out to bid. West Centre Street has applied for this year’s NJDOT grant; we are currently waiting for the results. The Dam project is complete, and we are waiting for contractor to finish punch list items. Council President Hagerty asked Mr. Brier if he could connect with the NJDOT requesting a timeline for completing the Dam in relation to the bridge, and plans so council can understand what we could expect to see there. Mr. Brier stated that the engineer from the NJDOT representative wants to arrange a meeting in the next couple of weeks with City officials to discuss final plans to submit and go out to bid next year.

Chief Ryan – Woodbury City Police Department – Chief Ryan reported that Woodbury has great representation as we currently have four officers in Washington D.C for the Police Unity Tour to honor fallen police officers that passed away in the line of duty. He encouraged the public and Council to check out their photos on Facebook. At their last meeting they had their onsite accreditation assessment for the State Chiefs, which takes place once every three years. The process is extensive as they go over roughly 400 standards that each police department needs to meet to ensure that your city's department is following the best practices. Chief Ryan proudly announced that the Woodbury Police Department was in full compliance at is meeting all 400 required best practices. We currently have the longest streak in county with 4 in a row, 5 in total. The Woodbury Police Department (WPD) is looking to hire full time officer's visit their website for more information. The deadline to apply is October 31<sup>st</sup>. Lastly; Chief thanked everyone involved with the Fall Festival parade.

### **Unfinished Business**

No Unfinished Business.

### **New Business**

Councilman Fleming made a motion to have Trick or Treating from 3 pm – 8 pm on Sunday, October 31, seconded by Councilwoman Miller. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Councilman Fleming made a motion to have an 8PM curfew on Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **Open to the Public**

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

Susan Anderson – 220 S. Jackson St. – Ms. Anderson thanked Mayor Sickel and Council President Hagerty about addressing the mosquito problem as well as the stagnant water on Spring Street and Jackson Avenue. Ms. Anderson addressed an issue discussed amongst other residents on the Woodbury Talks Facebook where a disabled girl was threatened. She expressed that she would like the community to come together, stop fighting, learn to be more tolerate and help anyway we can. Ms. Anderson encouraged everyone to attend one of the ghost tours on Main Street, as she is one of the tour guides for the event.

Mr. Sutter – Hopkins St. – Mr. Sutter reported concerns of the amount of traffic, and cars obeying the speed limit with children being at play on Hopkins Street. He asked if it was possible to have police monitoring certain areas or have additional signage. Council President Hagerty assured Mr. Sutter that this concern will be turned over to public safety and will have someone on the committee follow up on this issue. Chief Ryan agreed to address his concerns following the Council meeting. He then mentioned that the WPD did do a speed analysis on the streets in

2020, and it is located on website if anyone would like to review it.

Anthony Alevorio – 522 Delaware St. – Mr. Alevorio thanked Council for the resolution in regards to Columbus Day that was presented at the last Council meeting. He stated that after some research he conducted, he hasn't seen a similar resolution passed in that regard and thanked Council for the initiative. Mr. Alevorio announced that the "Say No to GCL" (Glassboro Camden Line) group is gathering petition signatures in Woodbury. They currently have 78 signatures against the GCL, 4 in favor of the GCL and 30 requesting more information. Mr. Alevorio asked council for an update in regard to the Ordinance 2342-21 on cannabis zoning and the error made in regards to Kemble Church. Solicitor Scaffidi and Ms. Swanson answered, explaining that Ordinance 2342-21 did pass.

Jared Hunter – 23 N. Drexel St. – Mr. Hunter congratulated those involved on the success of the Fall Festival parade. He expressed that he had a good experience being the MC along with John Campbell who did a great job. Mr. Hunter then reported that he and Mr. Alevorio had productive conversation on indigenous peoples and Christopher Columbus. Mr. Hunter then asked if there was a way to create interpretive statements on City Council agendas to go along with resolution and ordinance so the public could better understand topics being discussed at City Council meetings Solicitor Scaffidi answered and said it varies.

James Monroe – 108 S. Broad St. – Mr. Monroe expressed that he has been a resident of Woodbury for 7 years. He stated every year with the exception of this year has been enjoyable. He then inquired about the diversity of the Woodbury Fire department, and asked if there was an initiative designed for recruitment of people of color and women for the City and Gloucester County. Council President Hagerty answered and said yes. Monroe thanked Council President Hagerty and emphasized the importance of representation within both the City's Fire and Police Department. Council President Hagerty agreed to follow up.

Hearing no one, Councilwoman Parker made a motion to close to the public, seconded by Councilwoman Miller. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Councilwoman Parker made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Miller. Motion approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cassidy L. Swanson*

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**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.**