

**City of Woodbury
City Council Meeting
February 6, 2023
33 Delaware Street, Woodbury, NJ 08096
6:30 p.m.**

The meeting of February 6, 2023 was called to order by Council President Fleming at 6:30 pm. Council President Fleming 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 public meeting of the City Council of the City of Woodbury. Due notice of this meeting was provided to the newspaper and public by posting and publication of Resolution No. 23-04 adopted at the 2023 Reorganization Meeting on January 3, 2023. Also, notice of the public meeting was provided to the newspaper and posted on the City web page for the public.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilman Merinuk, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Pisarcik, Council President Fleming, Mayor Miller

Absent: Councilwoman Garlic

Others Present: City Clerk, Cassidy Swanson; Solicitor, Tim Scaffidi; Police Chief, Tom Ryan; Engineer, Paul Breier; Administrator, John Leech; Deputy Administrator, Bradley Pennypacker; JIF Attorney, Mark Strasle

Council President Fleming went over the 2023 Council Committees and their Council Representatives

- **Cannabis Ad Hoc** – Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell and Councilman Ferraino
- **Community Center Ad Hoc** – Council Representatives to be named shortly. As a new Committee, the purpose of this committee would be to find a way to open a Woodbury community center especially for youth and senior activities. This would include identifying partners, locations, funding sources, operational needs, a schedule and preparing a feasibility report with a path forward in approximately 6 months.
- **Community Events & Development** – Councilwoman Carter, Councilwoman Garlic and Councilwoman Miller
- **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion** – Councilwoman Harwell, Councilwoman Carter and Councilwoman Miller
- **Economic Development, Finance & Grants** – Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell and Councilman Ferraino
- **Recreation & Youth Sports** – Mayor Miller, Councilwoman Carter and Councilman Pisarcik
- **Public Safety** – Councilman Merinuk, Councilwoman Harwell and Mayor Miller
- **Public Works, Parks, Green Acres and Green Team** – Councilman Pisarcik, Councilwoman Garlic and Councilwoman Miller

Council President Fleming asked Council to supply him with some Council Goals for 2023. One of Council President Fleming said one of his goals is to find a Community Center for Woodbury, and is why he created the Community Center Ad Hoc Committee. Councilwoman Miller offered Councilwoman Harwell to Chair the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion since she chaired it last year. Councilwoman Harwell agreed. Councilwoman Miller offered Chief Ryan to join the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion again, and Chief Ryan agreed.

Approval of the Minutes

Councilman Ferraino made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 23rd meeting seconded by Councilwoman Carter.

Motion approved by the following voice vote.

Ayes 6 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilman Merinuk, Councilwoman Miller,

Nays 0

Absent 1 Councilwoman Garlic

Abstain 2 Councilman Pisarcik, Council President Fleming

Open to the Public for Agenda Items and Non-Agenda Items

Council President Fleming stated the meeting will be opened to the public for agenda items and non-agenda items. Council President Fleming reminds everyone that each agenda item does have to get read aloud. Councilman Ferraino made a motion to open to the public, seconded by Councilwoman Harwell. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Ms. Swanson then read the titles of the 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.

Charles Hughes – 31 N. Childs St. – In regard to Resolution No. 23-66 he asked where is Well 8 and what is the schedule for the project. Council President Fleming responded. In regard to Resolution No. 23-67 he asked why does it reference the Fiscal Year 2019, when it is 2023, why was there a delay on the project and how much does the project cost. Mr. Breier responded. In regard to Resolution No. 23-68 he asked what are the locations of the ramps and the project schedule. Mr. Breier responded. In regard to Resolution No. 23-69 he asked what is the contribution the City makes and if matching funds are required. Council President Fleming responded. In regard to Resolution No. 23-70 he asked if there is cost to the employee to participate in deferred compensation. Mr. leech responded. In regard to Resolution No. 23-71 he asked what the conditions were for the Shared Service Agreement, what Woodbury Heights pays for and if our Police patrol Woodbury Heights. Councilman Merinuk and Chief Ryan responded. Mr. Hughes asked for the list of Committees and Committee Members Council President Fleming listed for earlier.

Tony Alveario – 522 Delaware St. – Mr. Alveario wants more openness and clarity on the resolutions and believes listing an interpreted statement on each resolution and who sponsored the resolution would achieve that. He offered condolences to Council President Fleming and his family. Council President Fleming thanked Mr. Alveario.

Hearing no one, Councilman Hagerty made a motion to close to the public, seconded by Councilman Ferraino. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolutions

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. 23-66 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING CITY ENGINEER TO ISSUE NOTICE TO BIDDERS REGARDING THE REDEVELOPMENT OF WELL #8

RESOLUTION NO. 23-67 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE AND ACCEPTING THE MAINTENANCE BOND OF PAVING PLUS, LLC FOR THE FY2019 CDBG SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE RESURFACING PROJECT

RESOLUTION NO. 23-68 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY WOODBURY AWARDED A CONTRACT TO K CONCRETE, LLC FOR THE FY 2022 CDBG PROJECT – CONSTRUCTION OF 12 ADA-COMPLIANT RAMPS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS CITY-WIDE

RESOLUTION NO. 23-69 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 FY2023 SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM (P-23-0822)

RESOLUTION NO. 23-70 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH EMPOWER RETIREMENT LLC TO BE AN ADDITIONAL PROVIDER OF A NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENTAL §457 DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN TO THE CITY OF WOODBURY EMPLOYEES

RESOLUTION NO. 23-71 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF WOODBURY AND THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS REGARDING POLICE DEPARTMENT SERVICES

RESOLUTION NO. 23-72 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY RATIFYING AND CONFIRMING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2023

END CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Ferraino made a motion to approve the consent agenda as read at the beginning of the meeting, seconded by Councilman Hagerty.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 8 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilman Merinuk, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Pisarcik, Council President Fleming

Nays 0

Absent 1 Councilwoman Garlic
Abstain 0

Councilwoman Harwell made a motion to approve the list of bills and vouchers, seconded by Councilman Hagerty. Motion approved via a unanimous voice vote.

Report of the Mayor

Mayor Miller would like to add a Recreation and Youth Sports Subcommittee. He's spoken with the different youth sports league coaches and would like to have quarterly or bi-annual Subcommittee meetings to get all of the leagues on the same page. Mayor Miller is very passionate about the youth sports and believes they are on the right track in improving them. He congratulated Woodbury High School Basketball Senior Alexis Davis who on January 30th scored her 2,000 point. Alexis is the first basketball player in Woodbury history to record 2,000 points and 1,000 rebounds. January was a whirlwind with meetings, including a meeting with Mr. Leech and Mr. Belko about a new FAF Location, and he sat on his first Planning/Zoning Board Meeting. One complaint he has been receiving that one of the new traffic poles on Broad Street went right in front of the historic First Bank Clock, located on the corner of Broad Street and Copper Street. Mr. leech and Mayor Miller have been in contact with the NJ DOT and they are working on getting it moved. Go Birds.

Report of the Clerk

All City Buildings will be closed on Monday, February 20th in observance of President's Day. There will be no yard waste pickup on Monday February 20th, all trash routes stay the same. With All City Buildings being closed on Monday, February 20th, the next City Council meeting will be Tuesday, February 21st. The City of Woodbury will be holding a Public Hearing on the City's submission for the 2023 State of New Jersey Green Acres Program. Information on the park and conceptual plan with the proposed changes and preliminary cost estimate will be made available later this week. The Public Hearing will take place on February 21 at 6:30 pm, at the beginning of the City Council meeting.

Department Reports

John Leech – City Administrator – Our new website is moving along and our Cyber Security has been vamped up. Our new Administrative Assistant starts Wednesday and we are excited for her to start.

Chief Ryan – Woodbury City Police Department – January was a very busy month for the Police Department. The two officers that were injured during the Glover Street incident are doing well. All of the training that the officers do came in handy. It made the incident go well, as it could have easily gone the other way and we are very fortunate. This past week Holy Angels held a First Responders Appreciation Breakfast. Our Police Department, Gloucester County Prosecutors Office, Gloucester County Sheriff's Office, Gloucester County EMS and our Fire Department were there, and it was a very nice event. Council President Fleming thanked Chief Ryan for the Officers and entire Police Department's preparedness and having the situation go well as it did. When they are well, Council President Fleming would love to have Officers at a Council meeting so Council can thank them.

Brad Pennypacker – Deputy Administrator – Our new IT company came in last week and did a huge undertaking and got City Hall and most of the Firehouse done in one day. They will finish up with the Public Works Department this week. They will upgrade the firewall and they will provide us some cost saving. Mr. Pennypacker is excited to work with them.

Unfinished Business

No Unfinished Business

New Business

No New Business

Open to the Public

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

Tony Alveario – 522 Delaware St. – Mr. Alveario would like to see more openness and clarity within City Council. He had trouble finding general information on Woodbury, including the Planning/Zoning Board which he would like to be on. Mr. Alveario asked about Council Committee meeting dates and Council President Fleming clarified who can attend Council Committee meetings. Mr. Alveario also expressed his displeasure with the Shared Service Agreement with the Borough of Woodbury Heights.

Kurt Kersey Jr. – 401 S. Evergreen Ave. – Mr. Kersey explained he was attending the meeting on behalf of himself and other Crossing Guards. He went into the different jobs and positions he has held with the City and County since the 1960's. Within the past year Crossing Guards have had their hours and pay cut. He spoke with Chief Ryan and had his hours restore but there are still plenty of Crossing Guards whose hours have not. He has been a Crossing Guard for 11 years and they haven't had this issue before. Their position is very important for the children and parents, and he would like the Crossing Guards to have a meeting to discuss what's going on. Council President Fleming thanked him and agreed on the importance of Crossing Guards and appreciate what they do. He will take the issue up and will get back to the group as a whole.

Charles Hughes – 31 N. Child St. – Mr. Hughes reviewed the Council's Reorganization meeting packet and asked why several line items increased, including the Administrative and Fire Department line items. Mr. Law, Councilman Merinuk and Chief Hauss responded, explaining the additional hires at City Hall and the Fire Department, and the importance of the City now having 24/7 Fire coverage. Mr. Hughes asked for the Bill Lists to be published online like Washington Township and Gloucester County. Council President Fleming responded. Mr. Hughes looked up the City's Unions and believes Councilman Ferraino has a conflict of interest as the Labor Union President. Councilman Ferraino and Council President Fleming responded, explaining that if any Councilperson had a conflict of interest they would recuse themselves. Mr. Hughes would like Council to consider putting a question on the General Election Ballot asking if residents support the Glassboro-Camden Line. Council President Fleming responded.

Hearing no one, Councilman Hagerty made a motion to close to the public, seconded by Councilman Ferraino. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-73 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS MATTERS REALTING TO LITIGATION, NEGOTIATIONS AND ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE; BERGER, DAVID V. THE CITY OF WOODBURY Councilman Merinuk made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-73, seconded by Councilman Ferraino.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 8 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilman Merinuk, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Pisarcik, Council President Fleming

Nays 0

Absent 1 Councilwoman Garlic

Abstain 0

Council President Fleming asked members of the public to exit Council Chambers as City Council would be entering Closed Session.

Closed Session began at 7:32 pm

Closed Session ended at 8:01 pm

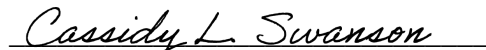
Councilman Ferraino made a motion to re-enter the public portion of the business meeting, seconded by Councilman Hagerty.

Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cassidy L Swanson, RMC, CMR
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.