

BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE
Regular Council Meeting
114 Crown Point Road
March 11, 2009

A regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Russell Welsh, Jr. at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was opened with the salute and pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The Clerk read the opening statement.

Roll Call – Present: Mayor Welsh, Council Members, Ledrich, Baker, Pennington, Muhlbaier, Rebel and Murtaugh.

Also Present were: Administrator Bittner, Solicitor Alice, Police Chief Lederer and Housing Official Wasson.

The meeting minutes of February 25, 2009 were approved on a motion by Councilman Rebel and a second by Councilman Baker. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

A Bond Ordinance entitled **ORDINANCE #3-2009 AUTHORIZING IMPROVEMENTS OF CERTAIN STREETS IN THE BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROPRIATING \$146,660.00 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$139,000.00 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH** was given final reading in title. On motion by Councilman Ledrich and a second by Councilman Pennington, the public hearing was opened. With no comment being heard or received, the public hearing was closed on motion by Councilman Rebel and a second by Councilman Muhlbaier. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

On motion by Councilman Pennington and a second by Councilman Murtaugh, said ordinance was adopted by unanimous roll call vote. (Ord. Bk. #4, Pg. #3-2009)

NEW BUSINESS:

An ordinance entitled **ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)** was given first reading in title. On motion by Councilman Ledrich and a second by Councilman Baker, the ordinance was approved by unanimous roll call vote, ordered advertised as required by law, and will be considered for final adoption after a public hearing to be held on April 8, 2009.

RESOLUTION #43-2009 Authorizing Renewal of Interlocal Agreement between Westville and Woodbury. (Res. Bk. 19)

The Administrator and Mayor discussed the Interlocal Agreement.

On motion by Councilman Ledrich and a second by Councilman Pennington, the resolution was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #44-2009 Awarding the Fireworks Contract to International Fireworks. (Res. Bk. 19)

On motion by Councilman Rebel and a second by Councilman Mublbaier, the resolution was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Police Chief Lederer discussed a safety meeting with Parkview School regarding parking problems.

Councilman Murtaugh stated that the Borough's tennis courts could be used for parking for teachers. He feels that sooner or later a child will be hit by departing parents in their vehicles after picking up their child/children. The Chief advised that this is really a temporary problem in the afternoons when parents are waiting to pick up their children. This matter was discussed at length. The Parks & Playgrounds Committee will continue to work with the Police Chief and Shannon Whalen, Superintendent of Parkview School, regarding this matter. The Administrator suggested blocking off Birch Street between Oak and High Streets for approximately one-half hour in the morning and one-half hour in the afternoon. Signs should be put up, and anyone disobeying the rules will be given a ticket.

The Administrator discussed the 2009 Budget in detail. He advised that there will be no increase in the municipal purpose tax for the Borough of Westville this year due to good financial planning over the past five to six years.

Mayor Welsh advised that the Borough underspent the budget last year by \$300,000 and by \$200,000 in 2007. He commended and thanked the department heads and administration for good fiscal planning.

Councilman Pennington advised that the Committee spent more time this year than any other year on the budget preparation.

A discussion was held on re-numbering Harvard Avenue. Councilman Murtaugh discussed this matter, advising that this is necessary for emergency fire and/or medical purposes.

The Administrator discussed designating a room for Emergency Operations Center for Emergency Management. The 3rd floor conference room at 114 Crown Point Road will be used for this purpose.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A copy of a letter to the NJ Department of Community regarding the Interlocal Agreement for construction purposes was received.

2. A letter from the Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders advising/offering the services of their Senior Landscape Architect free of charge was received. This matter will be forwarded to the Public Works Manager.
3. A thank you note was received from the Muhlbaier Family for flowers sent to a family member.

MONEY COLLECTED BY THE CLERK:

Notary Fees	\$ 1.50
Rent	900.00
Police Reports	202.50
Amusement Games	310.00
Cat Licenses	10.00
Peddler's Permits & Badges	105.00
Firearms permits	32.00
Xerox Copies	45.00
Street Opening Permits	220.00
Interest	<u>2.71</u>
 Total	 \$1,282.71

BILLS & VOUCHERS:

Councilman Baker made a motion to dispense with the reading of the bills and Councilman Pennington made a second. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Councilman Baker made a motion to pay the bills and Councilman Ledrich made a second. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Virginia Horn, 111 Twedell Avenue, discussed a meeting she attended in August regarding the flooding problem on Broadway. Councilman Baker advised of a recent meeting he had with NJDOT regarding this matter. The DOT is going ahead with a study to see what is causing this problem. This is a tidal problem, and not a stormwater problem.

Councilman Ledrich complimented the Administrator and CFO for doing a great job on the budget.

Tax Collector Helder advised that there are now 85 people on the tax sale, with several weeks to go before the sale on April 9, 2009.

Councilman Muhlbaier thanked everyone for the flowers recently sent to his mother on her recent illness.

Councilman Murtaugh discussed new funding for gas and electrical useage at the Little League field. He advised that April 4th is Opening Day for Little League, and a ceremony will be held on the passing of previous Mayor Galbraith. The Street Lighting Committee would like to add additional security lighting there.

Councilman Murtaugh then suggested that when something is put on the agenda, an official's name be put behind the item to clear up confusion. He then discussed missing gas and electic meters. He advised that one turtle ramp is done, and an additional turtle ramp will be constructed for the park area. He further advised that a building without a roof on Edgewater Ave. has been "red tagged" by the construction official.

The Administrator advised that the cost for the cameras and lights at the parking lot is \$35 per month. He reported that four cameras were put in at the pond, and one camera already blew up. He discussed the workings of the cameras and other locations for placement of additional cameras. Virginia Horn, 111 Twedell Ave., asked how to enforce what is seen on the camera screen. She stated that her biggest complaint was pet owners not picking up after their dogs and litter. She was advised to call the police if you see something that does not look right. The Police Chief advised that investigating possible drug sales in the park is a priority. The Chief is hoping that the cameras will be a deterrent. Councilman Baker advised that if the camera is opened up to enough eyes, we will have a virtual town watch. Possible placement of cameras in the police cars was also discussed.

The Police Chief advised that warranties are getting ready to run out for breathalyzer (alco) tests. Permission was given by the Prosecutor's Office to use drunk driver monies for this.

Solicitor Alice discussed Always Affordable Auto Sales, 800 Delsea Drive. He advised that in this zone, and in accordance with Title 35-10 of the Borough Code, repair in connection with car sales is permitted in an enclosed building, but not the repair of other vehicles. He further stated that this is not in the Land Use Ordinance, and recommended that this matter be given back to the Land Use Board. The Administrator advised that if the owner wants to work on other people's cars, he will have to get a variance and come before the Land Use Board to get this matter resolved. This matter was discussed at length.

RESOLUTION #45-2009 Authorizing an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing certain employment and contractual matters. (Res. Bk. 19)

Councilman Ledrich made a motion to approve the resolution and Councilman Pennington made a second. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was recessed at 8:57 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:57 p.m.

RESOLUTION #46-2009 Appointing Samantha Bellebuono, as Part-time Violations Clerk, effective March 25, 2009. (Res. Bk. 19)

Councilman Ledrich made a motion to approve the resolution and Councilman Muhlbaier made a second. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #47-2009 Appointing Kathleen Carroll, as Borough Secretary, effective March 12, 2009. (Res. Bk. 19)

Councilman Ledrich made a motion to approve the resolution and Councilman Pennington made a second. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

With no further business to come before the meeting, a motion to adjourn carried at 9:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**CHRISTINE A. HELDER
MUNICIPAL CLERK**