

BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE
Regular Council Meeting
December 30, 2009
Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Welsh at 7:35 pm and the Salute and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag then took place.

The Clerk advised that notice of this meeting had been duly advertised in accordance with the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act" by sending notice to the Gloucester County Times of Woodbury, NJ and the Courier Post of Camden, NJ.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Russell W. Welsh, Jr., Councilman James A. Pennington, Jr., Councilman Ronald S. Muhlbaier, Councilman William C. Rebel and Councilman Charles D. Murtaugh.

Absent: Council President Michael O. Ledrich and Councilman George K. Baker.

Also Present: Administrator William J. Bittner, Jr., Housing Inspector Bruce Wasson, and Clerk/Tax Collector Christine Helder and Police Chief Fred Lederer.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

No public attended the meeting, therefore no comments were received.

Councilman Murtaugh made a motion that was seconded by Councilman Pennington to table reading of the November 10, 23 and December 9, 2009 meeting minutes until the next meeting in order to have time to review the minutes.

Mayor Welsh stated the minutes on the web site had not been updated since September and asked who was responsible for updates. Administrator Bittner confirmed he would update the site to include the approved minutes.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES for the month of November:

Celebration of Public Events – William C. Rebel, Chair,
James A. Pennington, Jr. and Russell W. Welsh, Jr., Mayor

Finance & Accounting – Michael Ledrich, Chair
Charles D. Murtaugh and Russell W. Welsh, Jr., Mayor

Ordinance & Code Enforcement – James A. Pennington, Jr., Chair
& Charles D. Murtaugh and Russell W. Welsh, Jr., Mayor

Planning & Business Development – James A. Pennington, Jr., Chair
George K. Baker and Russell W. Welsh, Jr., Mayor

Public Buildings, Grounds, Parks & Playgrounds – Charles D. Murtaugh, Chair
William C. Rebel and Russell W. Welsh, Jr., Mayor

MEETING MINUTES

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES for the month of November: (continued)

Public Safety Municipal Court & Personnel – Michael O. Ledrich, Chair
James A. Pennington, Jr., and Russell W. Welsh, Jr., Mayor

Water, Sewer, Highway, Street Lighting & Recycling - George K. Baker, Chair
Ronald S. Muhlbaier and Russell W. Welsh, Jr., Mayor

Web Site ~ Ronald S. Muhlbaier, Chair
Charles D. Murtaugh and Russell W. Welsh, Jr., Mayor

Engineer's Report
Library Report
Environmental Commission Report

Councilman Murtaugh commented the Fire Department pumped out flooded basements and the water was pumped into the sanitary sewer. He suggested next year they go door to door to be sure water from sump pumps was not being pumped into the sanitary sewer lines. Discussion took place on this issue and it was decided that an alternative should be offered to residents. The Water, Sewer, Highway, Street Lighting & Recycling Committee will review the situation.

A motion to accept the reports of the Committees was made by Councilman Pennington with a second by Councilman Muhlbaier. *Reports unanimously approved by voice vote.*

OLD BUSINESS:

No Old Business to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Introduction of:

1. ORDINANCE NO. 17-2009 ~ AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE REPLACING CHAPTER 57 OF THE BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE CODE AND ADOPTING A NEW FLOOD DAMAGE PROTECTION ORDINANCE.

A motion to approve introduction of the Ordinance was made by Councilman Pennington with a second by Councilman Rebel.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

MEETING MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS: (continued)

2. RESOLUTION APPOINTING WILLIAM J. BITTNER, JR. TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF WILLIAM E. WHINNA, IV, AS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR.

A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Rebel with a second by Councilman Pennington.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

3. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO MAKE APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS.

A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Pennington with a second by Councilman Muhlbaier.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

4. RESOLUTION ~ REFUNDING "END OF YEAR" TAX OVERPAYMENTS, IN EXCESS OF \$10.00, REQUESTED BY PROPERTY OWNERS.

A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Rebel with a second by Councilman Murtaugh.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

5. RESOLUTION ~ ALLOWING CANCELLATION OF TAX "END OF YEAR" OVERPAYMENTS AND/OR DELINQUENCIES OF LESS THAN TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00) BY THE TAX COLLECTOR.

A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Muhlbaier with a second by Councilman Pennington.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

MEETING MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS: (continued)

6. RESOLUTION ~ CLEARING DISALLOWANCES FOR SENIOR CITIZEN, WIDOW AND DISABILITY DEDUCTIONS FOR 2008-2009.

A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Rebel with a second by Councilman Pennington.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

7. RESOLUTION ~ CREDITING EXEMPTIONS FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS IN 2009.

A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Muhlbaier with a second by Councilman Murtaugh.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

8. RESOLUTION GRANTING PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTIONS IN 2009 TO ELIGIBLE SENIOR CITIZENS, SURVIVING SPOUSES, DISABLED RESIDENTS, VETERANS AND WIDOWS OF VETERANS.

A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Muhlbaier with a second by Councilman Pennington.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

9. RESOLUTION ALLOWING PROPERTY TAX ADJUSTMENT TO BLOCK 34, LOT 1, 145 BROADWAY TO MATTY ENTERPRISES, LLC, DUE TO ELIMINATION OF TAX ABATEMENT.

A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Murtaugh with a second by Councilman Pennington.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

10. Request from Claudio Gioiosa, requesting permission for South Jersey Master Soccer League to utilize the soccer field on Sunday's from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 in the Spring & Fall of 2010.

MEETING MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS: (continued)

Councilman Murtaugh stated the soccer fields were refurbished so he suggested the request not be approved. He noted they also received field use requests from Gloucester Catholic and Gateway that were declined.

A motion to deny the request was made by Councilman Murtaugh with a second by Councilman Pennington.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Letter from Consulting Engineer Services advising NJ Department of Transportation's approval of the award of the contract to Krisanna Construction Inc., regarding Roadway Improvements for Woodbine Avenue.
2. Letter from the Gloucester County Utilities Authority detailing the Adopted Rate Schedule starting December 10, 2009 and in force until amended by formal Resolution.
3. Letter from Gloucester County Department of Economic Development regarding commercial solar farms.
4. Letter from the Board of Chosen Freeholders advising of execution of a contract for the provision of resource recovery services in accordance with the June 2008 Gloucester County Solid Waste Management Plan adopted.
5. Public Notice from the Bellmawr Planning Board.
6. Copy of letter sent to NJ Department of Transportation from Borough Engineer regarding Roadway Improvements for Woodbine Avenue.
7. Correspondence from Superior Court regarding the 2010 Calendar Year Budget Proposal Approval.
8. Copy of letter sent to NJ Department of Transportation regarding Tidal/Stormwater Flooding from CES Engineers.

Mayor Welsh advised Council that a check for \$2,000.00 was received today from the Borough of Brooklawn acknowledging the fireworks display on Independence Day.

MEETING MINUTES

MONIES COLLECTED BY CLERK

Amusement Game License	\$1560.00
Police Accident Report	\$95.25
Rental of Municipal Building	\$975.00
Street Opening Permit	\$50.00
Polling Places Pay	\$100.00
Election Workers Pay	\$3825.00
Notary Services	\$2.50
Gun Permit	\$4.00
Marriage License	\$3.00
Death Certificate	\$65.00
Marriage Certificate	\$40.00
Burial Permit	\$5.00
Interest on Investments	\$3.26
TOTAL	\$6,728.01

BILLS & VOUCHERS:

List of bills were posted in the foyer. A motion to dispense with reading of the bills was made by Councilman Pennington and seconded by Councilman Muhlbaier. Mayor Welsh commented on the list of bills and one vendor in particular. Administrator Bittner believed the particular vendor was the only one in the immediate area to perform that service.

Motion to pay all bills and vouchers was made by Councilman Pennington and seconded by Councilman Rebel.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one present from the public.

COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Housing Inspector Wasson wished everyone a happy and prosperous New Year and thanked everyone for their support given to him during the past year.

Councilman Pennington wished everyone a safe and happy New Year.

MEETING MINUTES

COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS: (continued)

Councilman Muhlbaier wished everyone a happy New Year.

Councilman Rebel wished everyone a happy New Year and was looking forward to 2010.

Councilman Murtaugh confirmed that as of January 1, 2010 he was retiring as Fire Chief after 22 years of service. After serving as Deputy Fire Chief for 12 years, Eric Farley will become the new Fire Chief. Councilman Murtaugh wished everyone a happy New Year.

Administrator Bittner wished everyone a happy New Year.

Chief Lederer wished everyone a happy New Year.

Discussion took place on the full time police officer position. Councilman Pennington stated the Public Safety, Municipal Court & Personnel Committee conducted extensive interviews and was able narrow the number of applicants down to nine for final review. After further discussion, it was determined that a local resident, Daniel J. Rice, scored very high and the Committee recommended him for hire.

A motion to hire Daniel J. Rice as a full time Police Officer, effective January 14, 2010, was made by Councilman Pennington with a second by Councilman Muhlbaier.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Councilman Muhlbaier, Murtaugh, Pennington and Rebel
Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Mayor Welsh wished everyone a safe and healthy New Year and reminded everyone the Re-Organization meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 6th at 7:00 p.m.

The Mayor requested an Executive Session and dismissed the Clerk, Administrator and Chief of Police. (Prior to leaving, the Clerk read the Resolution for an Executive Session.) A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Pennington and seconded by Councilman Murtaugh. *Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.*

Time In Executive Session was 8:15 p.m. and Time Out was 10:21 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Pennington and seconded by Councilman Rebel. *Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.*

REMINDER: Next meeting will be the Re-Organization Meeting on Wednesday, January 6th at 7:00 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Christine A. Helder
Municipal Clerk