

BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE
Regular Council Meeting
114 Crown Point Road
February 25, 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: Administrator Bittner, Police Chief Lederer, Superintendent of Public Works Leahy, Engineer Rodgers and Housing Official Wasson.

Absent: Clerk Helder, Public Works Manager Domico

The minutes of the February 11, 2009 meeting were on motion by Councilman Murtaugh, seconded by Councilman Pennington and approved by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES:

Councilman Murtaugh questioned the 2,000,000 gallonage difference in water treated vs. sewer. The Engineer discussed this matter and will set up a meeting with GCUA regarding meter concerns. He will inform Council when this meeting is scheduled.

Councilman Baker made a motion to approve the Reports of the Committees, and a second was made by Councilman Muhlbaier. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

Alan Hirschfeld, P.G. Project Geologist/Hydrogeologist of L & A Environmental Specialties, Inc. gave a report regarding the status of the underground storage tanks. The system is set up, and should be in operation by next week. He will request a letter regarding contamination at Girouard's Plumbing & Air Conditioning, 108 Broadway. He then discussed the deficiency notice received from the NJDEP.

NEW BUSINESS:

An AGREEMENT with the Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders for \$9,249.00 for Municipal Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism & Drug Abuse was discussed. Councilman Ledrich made a motion to approve the Agreement, and Councilman Murtaugh made a second. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

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An Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING A BOND ORDINANCE 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 \$139,300.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH was given first reading in title.

(Ord. Bk. 4, #3-2009)

The Administrator advised that this ordinance uses monies left over from previous bond ordinances for change orders needed to finish certain street reconstructions.

Councilman Pennington made a motion to approve the ordinance and a second was made by Councilman Baker. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #41-2009 Approving a Change Order for the Reconstruction of Certain Intersections on High Street. (Res. Bk. 19)

Councilman Murtaugh made a motion to approve the resolution and a second was made by Councilman Baker. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

An AGREEMENT with Norman K. Rodgers, Borough Engineer, for a Proposal for the Preparation of the Categorical Exclusion Documentation (CED) for Delsea Drive Streetscape was discussed. The Administrator advised that this will allow the Engineer to proceed with the CED proposal. Councilman Baker made a motion and Councilman Muhlbaier made a second to approve the Agreement. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A letter from the United States Census 2010 was received.
2. A letter from The Bible Church of Westville requesting permission to use the Thomas West Park for Easter Sunrise Services on April 12, 2009 at 6:30 a.m. was on motion by Councilman Baker and a second was made by Councilman Rebel. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. On motion by Councilman Baker and a second by Councilman Ledrich, a letter from Margaret Pinto, Secretary, advising of her retirement on June 1st, 2009 was accepted by unanimous voice vote.
4. A letter from Borough Land Use Board Solicitor requesting an increase in fees was received. Councilman Murtaugh made a motion, and Councilman Muhlbaier made a second to approve the increase. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

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5. A letter from the Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders offering “Movies in the Park” was discussed and will be looked into further by the Parks & Playgrounds Committee.
6. A letter from the Gloucester County Board of Elections approving the consolidation of all polling locations in Westville was received. All voting districts will now vote at St. John Lutheran Church located on Willow and High Streets for Primary and General elections.
7. A letter from the Gloucester County Agriculture Development Board was received regarding “Right to Farm” cases.
8. A notice of a Tax Appeal for Block 97, Lot 2, 209 Harvard Ave., was received.

LIST OF BILLS:

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

Councilman Muhlbaier made a motion to pay the bills and a second was made by Councilman Pennington. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mark Stein, 32 Edgewater Avenue, commented about the possibility of Council supporting the extended light rail project.

Donna Carrelli, 139 Edgewater Ave., inquired about “Town Watch” signs. Councilman Muhlbaier made a motion to order 12 signs for the “Town Watch” Program. Councilman Baker made a second which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Councilman Baker reported on the meeting with the NJ Department of Transportation in regards to the flooding issue on Broadway.

Councilman Rebel reported that the Parks & Playgrounds Committee recommended that International Fireworks be awarded the contract for the 4th of July Celebration to be held on June 27, 2009. The festivities will be kept on River Drive. Councilman Ledrich made a motion to approve the recommendation and Councilman Baker made a second. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

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Councilman Murtaugh advised that the Environmental Commission in conjunction with the Boy Scout's would like to build a floating turtle bridge for the Thomas West pond, and he saw no problem with this. He advised that he received a letter requesting that adult baseball be allowed to use the Park Ave. field on Sunday mornings, and he will look into this matter. He advised that PSE&G is starting to fix the street lights. Forms will be completed by the "Town Watch" residents and dropped off at 114 Crown Point Rd. or 1035 Broadway, so the street light information can be faxed to PSE&G by the Borough. He also advised that a light at the train crossing on River Drive is out. There are also problems with the gates there.

Chief Lederer advised that PSE&G suggested that a white light be used at the Broadway parking lot if security cameras are used as they tend to light up the area better.

Mayor Welsh inquired about the problem at 800 Delsea Dr. The Administrator advised that Mr. Michaels needs to apply for a variance to work on cars and sell cars at that location. Mr. Michaels has agreed to make application to the Zoning Board. This matter was discussed by the Housing Official and Administrator.

Mayor Welsh advised that an Open House for the Library will be held this Sunday, March 1, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

Councilman Murtaugh requested that cars at Pellegrino be kept on their property. This matter will be looked into.

RESOLUTION #42-2009 Approving an Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Certain Police Personnel Matters. (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.

The meeting was recessed at 8:10 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:20 p.m.

With no further business to come before the meeting, a motion to adjourn carried at 9:21 p.m.

William J. Bittner, Jr.
Deputy Clerk