

BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE
Regular Council Meeting
114 Crown Point Road
March 28, 2012 ~ 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Welsh at 7:00 p.m. and the Salute and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag then took place.

The Deputy Clerk read the notice that 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., Council President Michael O. Ledrich, Council Members: Colleen T. Archer, Charles D. Murtaugh, William C. Packer, III, William C. Rebel and Fritz H. Sims

Also Present: Administrator William J. Bittner, Jr., Public Works Manager Donna Domico, Captain William Whinna, Chief Financial Officer Jack Bruno and Solicitor Tim Scaffidi

Absent: Municipal Clerk/Tax Collector Christine A. Helder and Police Chief Fred Lederer

PUBLIC COMMENT:

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: (5 Minute Limit)

No comments

NEW BUSINESS:

A brief explanation of the budget process and results by Administrator Bittner, CFO Bruno and the Finance Committee took place.

❖ *Introduction of the 2012 Budget for the Borough of Westville*

A motion to approve and introduce the 2012 Budget was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Packer. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

❖ **RESOLUTION NO. 54 ~ OPPOSING SENATE BILLS 1451 & 1452** [Proposed Changes in S-1451 will not only be a cost driver for Local & State government but make government less effective/includes a number of proposed requirements which involve costly unfunded mandates, impractical requirements and impediments to the Open Public Meetings Act and Open Public Records Act]

A motion to approve Resolution No. 54-2012 was made by Councilman Packer and seconded by Councilman Rebel. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

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NEW BUSINESS: (Continued)

- ❖ **RESOLUTION NO. 55-2012 ~ AUTHORIZING MUNICIPAL CLERK HELDER OR ADMINISTRATOR BITTNER TO SIGN THE CONTRACT WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT (after review of price quotes from our current provider and Solicitor Scaffidi's review)**

A motion to approve Resolution No. 55-2012 was made by Councilwoman Archer and seconded by Councilman Murtaugh. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **Report from Public Safety Committee: (1) recommendation to hire a full time officer while an officer is out on extended leave and (2) hire three special officers. Committee Chair Murtaugh reported interviews were conducted and that an agreement was made with Officer Steven Flannery that he would move into a full time position to fill in for the Officer on leave and when the officer returns, Patrolman Flannery would go back to his previous position. Officer Flannery signed a Memorandum of Understanding prepared by Solicitor Scaffidi agreeing to these terms.**
- ❖ **Councilman Murtaugh motioned to pass a Resolution appointing Steven Flannery as a full time Police Officer effective upon his swearing in on Thursday March 29, 2012 or as soon as possible thereafter.**

RESOLUTION 56-2012 ~ PROMOTING STEVEN FLANNERY TO FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER

A motion to approve Resolution No. 56-2012 was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilwoman Archer. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **Councilman Murtaugh motioned to pass a Resolution appointing Jeremy Hackney, Anthony Greenwald and Thomas E. Warrington to the position of Special Law Enforcement Officer II.**

RESOLUTION 57-2012 ~ APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS II

A motion to approve Resolution No. 57-2012 was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilwoman Archer. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: (Time Limit 5 minutes)

- ❖ **Joyce Lovell, 328 Summit Avenue, suggested the Borough convert their vehicles to natural gas. After a brief discussion regarding cost of conversion and an added discussion of reselling gas to the public, it was decided that it was too expensive at this time but Council would be mindful of this option in the future.**
- ❖ **Mr. Michael Galante 223 Broadway asked why the basketball rims were removed from the Thomas West Park on Delsea Drive.**

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PUBLIC COMMENT: (Continued)

- ❖ Mayor Welsh detailed his belief that the activities at the basketball court at Thomas West Park was a public safety concern for him including Police reports, his personal observations of litter and drug paraphernalia and harassment of young girls walking in the area and the fact that there have been many discussions about this concern. The Mayor also explained that the Parks & Recreation Committee will have meetings to provide an alternate location for the courts, possibly at the Little League Complex.

The Mayor then heard support of the rims being reinstalled from the following persons:

- ❖ James Mohmod 185B Broadway - stated he would clean up or "police" the area every night.
- ❖ Jeremy Sloan and his brother 229 Maple Avenue, Samad Lee 709 Broadway, Dennis Domico Klinger Avenue and Tod Galaot 223 Broadway support putting rims back up.
- ❖ Ed Eimer from the Lions Club stated that there has been no damage to the Lions Building for about three years.

The Mayor stated that a resolution would be determined in the future and he would be available after the meeting for discussions.

Public Portion closed at 7:40 p.m.

BILLS & VOUCHERS:

The Deputy Clerk advised that the list of bills was posted in the foyer.

A motion to dispense with reading of the bills was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Rebel. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

A motion to pay all bills and vouchers that were in order was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Rebel. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ Discussion of the Independence Celebration took place with the following results and decisions made.
 - ❖ The Lions Club and Fire Department would be the exclusive food vendors at Thomas West Park (daytime) festivities. There may be vendors for ice cream and water ice. Funnel cakes may be provided by the Fire Department.
 - ❖ Rain Date is set for July 7 for daytime festivities only. Fireworks rain date will be sometime in the Fall.

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Independence Celebration Discussion (Continued)

- ❖ There will be a bike parade at Thomas West Park – Public Works Manger Domico volunteered to handle this event.
 - ❖ There will be a Horseshoe Tournament 9-2. Andrew Archer was volunteered by his wife, Councilwoman Archer.
 - ❖ There will be Pony Rides and One Blow Up Ride.
 - ❖ Requests for volunteers will be posted on the web site, on the Almonesson Road sign and at the Borough Hall. A list will be compiled at the Borough Hall.
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- ❖ At 8:10 p.m. Councilman Packer made a motion to reinstall the basketball rims at Thomas West Park temporarily, until the committee comes back to council with a recommendation. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Archer. After a brief discussion on the motion, a roll call vote was taken with the following result:

<u>Yes</u> (reinstall the basketball rims)	<u>No</u> (do not reinstall the rims)
Council President Ledrich	Councilman Murtaugh
Councilwoman Archer	Councilman Sims
Councilman Packer	
Councilman Rebel	

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Archer and seconded by Councilman Rebel.

After a unanimous voice vote the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

William J. Bittner, Jr.
Deputy Municipal Clerk

*Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 25, 2012
Borough of Westville website: www.westville-nj.com*