

BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE
Regular Council Meeting
114 Crown Point Road
March 9, 2011 ~ 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 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, James A. Pennington, Jr., and William C. Rebel

Also Present: Administrator William J Bittner, Jr., Municipal Clerk/Tax Collector Christine A. Helder, Chief of Police Frederick A. Lederer, III, Solicitor Timothy D. Scaffidi, and Engineer Norman Rodgers

A motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 9, 2011 was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Councilman Packer. Before the voice vote, Mayor Welsh asked questions about the Water Lab and Housing Official reports that were addressed respectively by Councilman Packer and Administrator Bittner. Chief Fred Lederer responded to a question asked by Mayor Welsh concerning repair work that had been completed on a police vehicle. *Motion to approve the meeting minutes was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

- ❖ Joyce Lovell, 328 Summit Avenue, asked for an explanation of the New Jersey Infrastructure Trust Loan (what it would be used for) and asked if the Governor was replacing Judge North. Mayor Welsh stated it was a formality to nominate Judge North and Administrator Bittner explained that the NJ Infrastructure Trust Loan is a low interest loan, half of which is at zero percent and the other half, two (2%) percent. The loan is expected to pay for expenses associated with the painting of the water tower, replacement of the filter media in the water plant and the purchase of 800 water meters that will be compatible with the new meter reading system that will be implemented this year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY:

Celebration of Public Events *William C. Rebel, Chair*
Colleen T. Archer and Charles D. Murtaugh

Finance & Accounting – *Michael O. Ledrich, Chair*
Charles D. Murtaugh, William C. Packer, III and John A. Bruno, Ex-Officio

Ordinance & Code Enforcement – *Charles D. Murtaugh, Chair*
Colleen T. Archer and James A. Pennington, Jr.

Planning & Business Development – *James A. Pennington, Jr., Chair*
William C. Rebel, Michael O. Ledrich and William J. Bittner, Ex-Officio

Public Buildings, Grounds, Parks & Playgrounds ~ *Charles D. Murtaugh, Chair*
William C. Rebel and James A. Pennington, Jr.

Safety Committee, Public Safety & Municipal Court ~ *Michael O. Ledrich, Chair*
James A. Pennington, Jr., and Charles D. Murtaugh

Water, Sewer, Highway, Street Lighting & Recycling ~ *William C. Packer, III, Chair*
Michael O. Ledrich and William C. Rebel

Web Site ~ *Colleen T. Archer, Chair*
William C. Rebel, James A. Pennington, Jr. and William J. Bittner, Jr., Ex-Officio

Personnel ~ *Michael O. Ledrich, Chair*
Charles D. Murtaugh and William C. Packer, III

Monthly Reports for:

- **Environmental Commission Report**
- **Engineer's Report**
- **Library Report**

Councilman Packer commented on the Water and Sewer Report.

A motion to accept Reports of the Committees, as submitted, was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Packer. Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ❖ **Municipal Building:** Administrator Bittner reported he had just received, late today, an e-mail from the Architect with some of her findings that he will forward to Mayor and Council . He also stated the Architect will have preliminary plans next week for review. Further discussion took place on the building plans and the possibility of having a community center that could be used for voting, as well as other community events. Councilman Murtaugh asked, if possible, could the meetings with the Architect be held at night so that the Committee might attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing on:

1. **ORDINANCE NO. 1-2011 ~ CREATING THE WESTVILLE MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMISSION**

A motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilwoman Archer. No comment received from the Public. Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Packer and seconded by Councilwoman Archer.

ORDINANCE NO. 1-2011 ~ CREATING THE WESTVILLE MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMISSION

Motion to approve Ordinance No. 1-2011 was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Councilman Packer. Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.

2. **RESOLUTIONS NO. 38-2011, NO. 39-200, NO. 40-2011 ~ Authorizing Administrator Bittner to apply for and execute the application for the New Jersey Infrastructure Trust Loan Programs (Effective, March 1, 2011).**

A motion to approve Resolution No. 38-2011, No. 39-2011 and No. 40-2011, was made by Councilman Packer and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS: (Continued)

3. **RESOLUTION NO. 41-2011 ~ Opposing Regulation of Market Competition and Consumer Choice Act (A-2664 A-3766) Altering Regulation of Telephone and Cable Television Service (e.g. limit free internet and/or television service to only one municipal building).** Administrator Bittner stated Westville just received a letter from Comcast so he will schedule a meeting with them to discuss providing free television service to 1035 Broadway and 114 Crown Point Road as well as free internet service to the Library. Further discussion took place on the services provided by Verizon and Comcast.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 41-2011 was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Councilwoman Archer. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

4. **Request from Chase Bank to receive a refund for a Tax Overpayment, in the amount of \$1212.71, for a totally disabled veteran (Block 83, Lot 243) on the 1st quarter 2011 taxes.**

A motion to approve the refund was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

5. **RESOLUTION NO. 42-2011 Authorizing A Refund To Chase Bank for the tax overpayment in the amount of \$1212.71 for totally disabled veteran (Block 83, Lot 243) on the 1st quarter 2011 taxes.**

A motion to approve Resolution No. 42-2011 was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

6. **2011 Used Auto Sales Licenses**

Applications from Joe Patti Used Cars, Broadway Auto Sales, American Auto World, Pellegrino Chevrolet and Always Affordable Auto Sales were reviewed and approved by both the Police and Fire Departments.

A motion to approve the requests was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Councilman Packer. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS: (Continued)

7. 2011 Amusement Licenses

Applications from Cousins Irish Pub, Baby Luna, Tower Tavern and Hot Shots were reviewed and approved by both the Police and Fire Departments.

A motion to approve the requests was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Councilman Packer. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

8. Request from the Westville Women's Club to hold a Chinese Auction on Friday, March 11, 2011. (Proceeds to benefit the Gateway Scholarship Fund.)

A motion to approve the request was made by Councilwoman Archer and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

9. Request from Used Car Dealer, Benjamin Silverman of American Auto World, for a refund of \$50 for an overpayment he felt he made in error on his 2010 Used Auto Sales License application. (Administrator Bittner confirmed the square footage is over 10,000 so Mr. Silverman does owe the \$50.00 he withheld on his 2011 application fee.)

A motion to remove from agenda - no action taken.

10. Request from the Bible Church of Westville to use Thomas West Park on Sunday, April 24, 2011 for their Easter Sun Rise Service.

A motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Packer and seconded by Councilman Rebel. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

11. Request from Bruce and Mary Moore (28 New Street) to have a "No Trucks Permitted" sign at Broadway and New Streets. Chief Lederer confirmed trucks do cut thru when traffic backs-up (same problem they have on Snyder Avenue) because their GPS' directs them to turn onto those streets. General discussion then took place on the width of the street and posting of the "no trucks" sign.

A motion to approve the request was made by Councilwoman Archer and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

NEW BUSINESS: (Continued)

12. Request from Matt Ryan (Brooklawn Baseball) to use the Park Avenue baseball field.

A motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

13. Request from John Yurkow of Sports Central to use the Westville baseball fields. Councilman Murtaugh stated this is a for-profit business located in Bellmawr; therefore, Mr. Yurkow should request a field from them. Additionally, the field is already being used at that time so he stated the request should be declined.

A motion to decline the request was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Packer. (The Clerk will send a letter to Mr. Yurkow informing him of council's decision.) *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

14. Request from the Office of the Governor asking for resumes and recommendations for the Appointment of a Joint Municipal Court Judge. Mayor Welsh explained a letter will be sent to the Governor's Office recommending Judge Thomas North as the Westville-National Park Joint Municipal Judge.

A motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Packer and seconded by Councilman Pennington. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

COMMUNICATIONS:

- ❖ Letter from the State of New Jersey to Public Works Manager Domico regarding the Borough's Wastewater Collection System.
- ❖ Notice of Land Use Board Hearing for an application from Charles and Victoria Peters (517 Edgewater Avenue) for Subdivision and Variance of Block 61, Lot 5-7
- ❖ Letter of intent from Woodbury Heights regarding their purchase of the Sewer Jetter. *Solicitor Scaffidi advised a resolution needs to be on the next agenda authorizing the sale.*
- ❖ GCUA Meeting Minutes for December 8, 2010 and January 12, 2011
- ❖ GCIA Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2011

COMMUNICATIONS: (Continued)

- ❖ Letter from US Department of Commerce regarding the 2010 Census Data
- ❖ Letter from the Westville Board of Education regarding a presentation on the budget. (Mayor Welsh noted both Parkview and Gateway will attend an upcoming council meeting to present their school budgets.)
- ❖ Letter from Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholder regarding use of the "stage" for municipal sponsored events
- ❖ Letter from PSE&G regarding an increase in the charges for electric and gas service.
- ❖ Letter from the State of New Jersey regarding Renewal Application for Certification of Laboratories and Environmental Measurements

MONEY COLLECTED BY THE CLERK (January & February):

Police Reports	\$217.19
Rent	\$ 2000.00
Amusement Games	\$1140.00
Notary	\$5.00
Marriage License	\$84.00
Certified Marriage	\$20.00
Certified Death Certificates	\$670.00
OPRA	\$5.00
Used Car License Renewal	\$1200.00
Street Opening	\$40.00
Copies made by Tax Assessor	\$5.50
TOTAL	\$5386.69

BILLS

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 Pennington. *Motion unanimously passed by voice vote.*

A motion to pay all bills and vouchers that were in order was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Councilwoman Archer. *Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: (5 Minute Time Limit)

- ❖ Joyce Lovell, 328 Summit Avenue, complemented Tina's staff on obtaining documentation for the Gloucester County Earth Day event and commented that the Coast Guard Auxiliary will help clean up River Drive the last Saturday in June. Ms. Lovell also asked if Mayor Welsh and the Borough Officials looked into the Baptist Church for voting. Mayor Welsh commented "not yet".

COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- ❖ Engineer Norm Rodgers discussed the Olive Street, Phase I Project and suggested offering the bid to the lowest bidder. Administrator Bittner commented the estimates are just a little lower than anticipated, so he was alright with moving forward on the project. Councilman Murtaugh asked about re-bidding the project and Engineer Rodgers advised that you cannot combine Phase I and Phase II because they are two separate grants. He further stated Westville received such good prices it was not feasible to re-bid. Additionally, Engineer Rodgers commented that Westville could re-bid Phase I but since Phase II had not been designed yet, they should not re-bid Phase II. Engineer Rodgers confirmed there was a \$30,000 to \$35,000 difference between the first and second bidder so savings could carry them further. Solicitor Scaffidi recommended preparing a Resolution to memorialize the Change Order for Olive Street, Phase I Street Project.

A motion to prepare a Resolution was made by Councilman Packer and seconded by Councilman Pennington. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ Engineer Rodgers also stated he spoke with New Jersey Trust and confirmed they are interested in processing the application and that Westville has a good chance of receiving 75% forgiveness for the loan with 25% at prime rate and if lucky, they could receive forgiveness on the 25%.
- ❖ Administrator Bittner reported that the Borough applied for a \$50,000 energy loan and received paperwork that he would like Solicitor Scaffidi to review. Discussion took place regarding the lighting and heating of Municipal buildings.
- ❖ Chief Lederer confirmed he submitted names of 3 officers interested in being considered for the Sergeant's position. Chief Lederer also stated he spoke with Mike at Winner Ford who confirmed the price of the police vehicle went up \$1000; however, Mike verbally confirmed he will hold off on the price increase in regard to the black and white police vehicle. Chief Lederer asked about filling the open position with the retirement of Lt. Stevenson. Council President Ledrich suggested the issue be addressed in an Executive Session. Chief Lederer confirmed radios were turned over to Parkview School so that they can communicate with the Police Department. Discussion took place on the update of the County Radio System.

COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS: (Continued)

- ❖ Mayor Welsh thanked Public Works Manager Domico and her employees for the new four-way stop sign at Spruce & High Streets.
- ❖ Mayor Welsh complemented Councilwoman Archer on having received the honor of speaking at the "Women in Leadership Development" Conference.
- ❖ Councilman Packer asked how many police vehicles were in the fleet with over 80,000 miles. Chief Lederer stated the only cars that do not have over 80,000 miles are cars 9 and 10 and that the majority of the vehicles are in the 65,000 to 80,000 miles range. Police Chief Lederer confirmed in 2009, two (2) new vehicles were purchased. Councilman Packer commented that he was reviewing the November and December 2010 meeting minutes and read that the Police Department was authorized to purchase a new vehicle. Councilman Packer asked Chief Lederer if the vehicle had been purchased and Chief Lederer informed Councilman Packer that he had been informed that the Purchase Order had been put on hold by the Mayor. Mayor Welsh stated he wanted more details on the current vehicles before purchasing a new one.
- ❖ Municipal Clerk Helder read Resolution No. 43-2011 to go into an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters in the Police and Public Works Departments.

Motion to go into a Closed Executive Session was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Packer. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

Time In: 8:00 p.m. Time Out: 9:45 p.m.

Meeting Adjournment: 9:48 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Christine A. Helder
Municipal Clerk