

**BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Borough Hall, 114 Crown Point Road**

**Wednesday, September 12, 2007**

Mayor Michael K. Galbraith called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

The Mayor requested a moment of silence for the victims of September 11, 2001.

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

The roll was called with all member being recorded present with the exception of Council President Russell Welsh who was absent due to work.

The meeting minutes of August 8, 2007 and August 22, 2007 were approved, as written.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

Chuck Robbins, 241 Maple Ave., asked why the payroll account was not included in the list of bills. The Clerk advised that she will contact the CFO regarding this matter.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A RESOLUTION "Crediting Sewer Account #398 for \$125.00 due to a Sump Pump Removal" was on motion by Councilman Ledrich , seconded by Councilman Baker, approved by unanimous roll call vote. *(Res. Bk. 18, Pg. 80-07).*

A RESOLUTION "Crediting Sewer Account #208 for \$100.00 due to Conversion from a Duplex to a Single Family Dwelling" was on motion by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilwoman Rodgers, approved by unanimous roll call vote.  
*(Res. Bk. 18, Pg. 81-07).*

A request from Gloucester Catholic High School for the use of tennis courts in the Fall of 2007 and Spring of 2008 was on motion by Councilman Ledrich, seconded by

Councilman Pennington, approved by unanimous roll call vote. A letter will be written requesting a copy of a Certificate of Insurance and a Hold Harmless Agreement.

A RESOLUTION "Approving the 2006 Annual Audit" was on motion by Councilman Pennington, seconded by Councilman Baker, approved by unanimous roll call vote. (Res. Bk. 18, Pg. 82-07).

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

A letter from NJDEP regarding Clean Water N.J. Awards was received.

A letter from the Burlington County Bridge Commission regarding South Jersey Shared Services Conference on 9/18/07 at the Enterprise Center in Mt. Laurel was received.

An invitation to the 2007 Economic Recovery Summit II for South Jersey on 10/25/07 at Cumberland County College was received.

A construction permit for a 64 unit age restricted apartment complex at 1000-1002 Broadway was received. The Public Works Manager advised that this is DEP approval for the project.

A letter from the N.J. Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Encouraging enactment of a beer key registration ordinance was received.

A resolution from the N.J. Audubon Society supporting Green Acres, Farmland, Blue Acres, Historic Preservation Bond Act of 2007 was received.

A letter from the Gloucester County EMS regarding participation in a mutual aid assistance and coordination agreement was received.

A notice from the N.J. State League of Municipalities regarding a Community Building through Economic Development seminar on 10/12/07 at 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at RiverWinds Community Center in West Deptford was received.

**MONIES COLLECTED BY THE CLERK:**

Rent	\$	780.00	
Police Reports		158.00	
Xerox Copies		2.75	
Gun Permits		9.00	
Street Opening Permits		70.00	
Interest			<u>5.46</u>
Total	\$	1,025.21	

The foregoing monies were ordered turned over to the Chief Finance Officer.

**LIST OF BILLS: Were posted**

On motion by Councilman Pennington, seconded by Councilwoman Rodgers, the foregoing bills were ordered paid by unanimous roll call vote.

The Mayor requested a change in the date of the regular Council meeting from November 14, 2007 to November 7, 2007 due to a conflict with the N.J. State League of Municipalities Conference. On motion by Mr. Ledrich, seconded by Mr. Pennington, the meeting date was changed by unanimous roll call vote to November 7, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Geraldine Gsell, 21 Birch Ave., advised that there is a water problem on Duncan and High Street which turns into ice in the winter. She feels that this is a major problem. The Public Works Manager advised to alleviate this problem, it would be necessary to mill and repave the road. A channel could be cut to re-route the water. That area is salted continuously during the winter. The Mayor advised that they will try to make cuts there.

Louanna Sills, 303 Edgewater Ave., thanked everyone for their great response and assistance to an incident on the creek.

Chuck Robbins, 241 Maple Ave., questioned the increase in water rates. The Public Works Manager advised that this rate structure passed last year. He asked if we are buying credits from Brooklawn. The Administrator advised we are getting an allocation for water rights. The Public Works Manager advised that the State cut back on our allowance for water rights by 22%. This matter was discussed at length.

Frank Ferrara, 9 Locust Ave., questioned if anything was done pertaining to the sex offenders ordinance. Mr. Pennington advised that this matter is being worked on.

Louanna Sills, 303 Edgewater Ave., asked how the water situation will be affected by the proposed new development. The Public Works Manager advised that the water usage will go up. The State would decide what is viable or not in regards to new construction. However, the Berkowitz property which was recently sold had used a lot of water.

Patricia Cerrato, 109-111 Broadway, asked if a contract has been signed with Fieldstone yet. The Mayor advised that it has not been signed.

Bill Brody, 1028 Broadway, asked if we have a noise ordinance for 1:00 a.m. in the morning as trucks were unloading at that time. He advised that he had contacted the Police Dept. and the trucks were allowed to finish unloading. The Police Chief will look into this matter.

**COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS & DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Public Works Manager Domico advised that River Drive work has been completed.

She advised that a letter was received from N.J. American Water stating that the Borough is not connected to them, and there are no plans to connect at this time as the DEP required this letter.

She discussed the possibility of various businesses in town funding Christmas banners with their advertisement on the banners.

Councilman Baker discussed the possible re-formation of a Westville Business Association. Louanna Sills advised that feedback for a Westville Business Association organization has been very promising. This matter was discussed at length.

The meeting was recessed at 8:15 p.m. for a break.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:24 p.m.

Administrator Bittner discussed the proposed senior citizen complex on Broadway and a pilot program which would allow certain concessions to the developer. A second meeting was requested with this developer. He then discussed concessions requested by Fieldstone for the redevelopment area in Timber Park, advising that this matter is still being looked into. Fieldstone also advised that the diner is on board with the grading issues there. Their lawyers are working with our Bond Counsel regarding the proforma and what it should say if we need to borrow more money than authorized.

He then discussed the new Application for Employment which will go through the Clerk's Office and Administrator who will then give the completed application to the department head. Mr. Ledrich advised that the turnover in Public Works is bad due to the salary. Councilman Ledrich feels that the applications should be reviewed more carefully.

Administrator Bittner then advised that the transition to Horizon Blue Cross and Blue Shield has been a nightmare. This matter was discussed at length.

The Mayor requested having a contest to name the new River Drive Park which would be open to school age children from kindergarten to age 21. The Parks Committee would pick three names, and Council would have the final decision on

the name with prizes to be awarded. The Mayor will get sponsors for the prizes. He then stated that plates/plaques are needed for the new picnic tables.

The Administrator advised that bids will be taken soon for the new Library addition.

The Mayor asked that a report be done concerning problems at a tavern on Gateway Blvd. due to a complaint registered by a next-door property owner. The Police Chief discussed this matter.

The Clerk and Mayor discussed the Halloween parade on October 26, 2007.

Administrator Bittner advised that he would like to see a graffiti removal program for the parks.

With no further business to come before the meeting, a motion to adjourn carried at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Helder  
Municipal Clerk