

BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE

**Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council
114 Crown Point Road
March 12, 2008**

A regular meeting was called to order by Council President Welsh 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

Councilman Welsh, Councilman Baker, Councilman Ledrich, Councilman Muhlbaier, Councilman Pennington and Councilwoman Rodgers.

Absent – Mayor Galbraith who is back in the hospital.

Also Present were:

Administrator Bittner, Clerk & Tax Collector Helder, Solicitor Chell, Police Chief Lederer, Public Works Manager Domico, CFO Bruno and Housing Official Wasson.

Council President Welsh gave the Oath of Office to Special Law Enforcement Officer II, Nickolas Melis and Grant Roberts.

Chief Lederer thanked the Governing Body for filling the positions of the two new law enforcement officers.

Meeting minutes of February 27, 2008:

A motion was made by Councilman Pennington to approve the meeting minutes of February 27, 2008 and a second by Councilwoman Rodgers. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Joyce Lovell, 328 Summit Avenue, discussed the recycling program by Magnum Industries.

Louanna Sills, 303 Edgewater Avenue, advised that car batteries are also included in the recycling program by Magnum Industries.

Fred Coleman, 120 West Avenue, inquired about the ordinance prohibiting parking along the frontage of 1001-1002 and 1010 Broadway. The Administrator advised that this is the old tow yard property, and will be the new senior citizen complex.

Melissa Shattuck, co-owner of the new business Liberty Tax Service, invited everyone to a March of Dimes Charity Fund Raiser on April 5, 2008 at Westbrook Lanes. She then advised that Liberty Tax Service will aid seniors in completing income tax forms so they will be eligible for the new tax stimulus program due to come out this summer. Tax forms must be filed in order to be eligible for this program. Her firm will do the filing for seniors at no charge.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

An ordinance entitled **CALENDAR YEAR 2008 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)** was discussed by CFO Bruno. He advised that this ordinance will allow an additional 1% increase, or an additional \$29,736.23, over the 2.5 cost of living in the budget. The 2008 Budget is to be published on March 19, 2008.

A motion to approve the ordinance on first reading was made by Councilman Ledrich and a second by Councilman Pennington. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 5 ayes and 1 abstention. The Ordinance was ordered advertised as required by law, and will be considered for final adoption after a public hearing to be held on April 9, 2008.

Roll Call Vote – In Favor:

Councilman Welsh, Councilman Baker, Councilman Ledrich, Councilman Pennington and Councilwoman Rodgers.

Abstain: Councilman Muhlbaier

An ordinance entitled **ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE PROHIBITING PARKING ALONG COUNTY ROUTE 551 ALONG THE FRONTAGE OF LOTS 6 AND 7, BLOCK 73, IN THE BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE (Property location being 1000-1002 and 1010 Broadway)** was given first reading in title.

A motion to approve the ordinance on first reading was made by Councilman Pennington and a second by Councilwoman Rodgers. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote – In Favor:

Councilman Welsh, Councilman Baker, Councilman Ledrich, Councilman Muhlbaier, Councilman Pennington and Councilwoman Rodgers.

The Administrator requested that the resolution opposing the failure of the Governor's Proposed State Budget for the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year to Treat Property Tax Relief as our Priority be tabled until further information is received. A motion by Councilman Pennington and a second by Councilwoman Rodgers was made to table the resolution. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION # 40-08 Authorizing the Administrator to Submit an Application to the County of Gloucester Community Development Block Grant Program for the storm sewer rehabilitation project and completion of the Burr Avenue resurfacing project was discussed by the Administrator. (Res. Bk. 18)

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Welsh and a second by Councilman Pennington. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote – In Favor:

Councilman Welsh, Councilman Baker, Councilman Ledrich, Councilman Muhlbaier, Councilman Pennington and Councilwoman Rodgers.

Councilwoman Rodgers discussed updating the Borough Code Books. CFO Bruno advised that the total cost of \$20,000 can be done over a period of five years. The Administrator advised that there is a maintenance fee of approximately \$800 to \$1000 per year to update the Code Book.

John Martarano of Magnum Industries presented his proposal to handle all electronic recycling items, specifically computers. There is a rebate program of five (5) cents per pound for all personal computer scrapes at fifty (50) cents for each monitor. There is no charge for this recycling service. A recycling certificate will be issued each month, along with an invoice and a credit back to the Borough. He discussed this program at length. He advised that his company is not accepting televisions at this time.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rodgers and a second by Councilman Pennington to approve this program. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

A discussion was held on changing the date of the next Council meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Baker and a second by Councilman Welsh to change the next meeting date from Wednesday, March 26, 2008 to Tuesday, March 25, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A request from Liberty Tax Service to participate in a benefit for the March of Dimes Bowling Event on April 5, 2008 was previously discussed.
2. A letter of resignation from William C. Packer, III, Alternate #2 from the Land Use Board was discussed. A motion was made by Councilman Pennington and a second by Councilman Ledrich to accept his letter of resignation. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
3. A motion to appoint Eric Farley, as Alternate #2 on the Land Use Board, to replace r. Packer, was made by Councilman Baker and a second by Councilman Pennington. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
4. A letter of resignation from Katherine Hurlock from the Environmental Commission was discussed. A motion was made by Councilman Muhlbaier and a second by Councilman Pennington to accept her resignation. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

MONIES COLLECTED:

Rent	\$ 780.00
Police Reports	52.75
Amusement Games	1,030.00
Xerox Copies	2.25
Notary Fee	.50
Street Opening Permits	100.00
Gun Permits	9.00
Interest	<u>4.93</u>
 Total	 \$ 1,979.33

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

BILLS & VOUCHERS:

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

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

Roll Call – In Favor:

Councilman Welsh, Councilman Baker, Councilman Ledrich, Councilman Muhlbaier, Councilman Pennington and Councilwoman Rodgers.

Public Comment:

Paul Demier, of 105 Poplar Avenue, questioned the extra 1% increase in the budget.

Joyce Lovell, 328 Summit Avenue, requested that the monies sent by Magnum Industries to the Borough be put towards the Environmental Commission budget for a newsletter. This matter was discussed.

Fred Coleman, of 120 West Avenue, discussed the “no parking on Broadway” for the proposed new development. He then questioned the re-codification of ordinances.

Virginia Horn, of 111 Twedell Avenue, inquired about the Environmental Commission’s request for monies. The Administrator discussed this matter advising that \$200 was cut from their request. She then questioned the pharmaceuticals in the drinking water that was in the newspaper. Public Works Manager advised that she talked to the DEP today, and they advised that the levels are so minuet that a test is not necessary at this time.

COMMENTS FROM GOVERNNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Clerk Helder requested that all information for the Mayor’s Newsletter be in by next week.

RESOLUTION #41-08 for an Executive Session to Discuss Contract Negotiations in the Police Department. (Res. Bk. 18)

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

Roll Call Vote – In Favor:

Councilman Welsh, Councilman Baker, Councilman Ledrich, Councilman Muhlbaier, Councilman Pennington and Councilwoman Rodgers.

The meeting was recessed at 8:41 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:57 p.m.

The Administrator and CFO gave a presentation on the proposed 2008 Budget. The CFO advised that there is now a spending cap, as permitted by law. There is also a \$253,000 cut from State aid as per the Governor’s proposal. The CFO advised that the average increase is 28 cents per \$100 of assessed value, or approximately \$250 per household per year. The 2008 Budget was discussed at length.

RESOLUTION #42-08 Introducing the 2008 Budget. (Res. Bk. 18)

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Pennington and a second by Councilman Ledrich. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote – In Favor:

Councilman Welsh, Councilman Baker, Councilman Ledrich, Councilman Muhlbaier, Councilman Pennington and Councilwoman Rodgers.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Baker and a second by Councilman Ledrich, having no further business to discuss. Motion to adjourn carried by unanimous roll call vote at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Helder
Municipal Clerk