

BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE
Regular Council Meeting
114 Crown Point Road
April 14, 2010 ~ 7:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Welsh at 7:03 pm and the Salute and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag took place.

The Clerk advised notice of 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.

Present: Mayor Russell W. Welsh, Jr., Council President Michael O. Ledrich Councilman, Council Members: George K. Baker; James A. Pennington, Jr., and William C. Rebel.

Absent: Ronald S. Muhlbaier

Late: Charles D. Murtaugh (attending a Fire)
Public Works Manager Domico (attending a water main break)

Also Present: Administrator William J. Bittner, Jr., Housing Inspector Bruce Wasson, Clerk/Tax Collector Christine Helder, Solicitor John Alice and Captain William Whinna.

A motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of March 24, 2010 was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

Public Comment on Agenda items Only:
No comments received from the Public.

OLD BUSINESS:

Municipal Building. Councilman Baker commented 15 sq. feet were added; therefore, making the size of the building 10,000 sq. foot. Additionally, he suggested the next step is to take the design to the Engineer for review.

MEETING MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing on:

1. **ORDINANCE NO. 3-2010. CALENDAR YEAR 2010 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)**

Motion to open the public hearing on the above Ordinance was made by Councilman Baker and seconded by Councilman Pennington. *Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

Joyce Lovell, 328 Summit Avenue, commented it appears something changed with this Ordinance compared to previous years. Mr. Bittner confirmed it had not changed and that Westville was banking their permission to exceed the tax cap for another year.

Motion to close the public hearing on the above Ordinance was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Pennington. *Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

ORDINANCE NO. 3-2010 ~ CALENDAR YEAR 2010 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Motion made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Pennington to Adopt Ordinance 3-2010.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington and Rebel.

NOTE: Mayor Welsh commented Councilman Murtaugh was at a fire and would be late arriving at the meeting so the Introduction to the 2010 Budget was moved to the end of the meeting.

MEETING MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS: (continued)

Introduction of

2. ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4-2007, CHAPTER 118 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE, ENTITLED "WATER"

A WATER RATE INCREASE FROM A BASE RATE OF \$60. TO A NEW BASE RATE OF \$70.

Administrator Bittner commented the present water rates will not support the current budget and confirmed the current base rate will increase from \$60 to \$70. Additionally, excesses will increase by 20% and the Senior Citizen base rate discount will remain in place. Administrator Bittner also suggested the Water Ordinance be revised to current times. Discussion took place on using an electronic gun to take water meter readings which will eliminate human errors in writing and transferring numbers into the system. The Borough plans to purchase the software and equipment in 2010. Councilman Baker commented on the feasibility of the electronic equipment. Mayor Welsh suggested the Water, Sewer, Highway, Street Lighting & Recycling Committee review the Water Ordinance.

Motion to Introduce Ordinance No. 4-2010 made by Councilman Baker and seconded by Councilman Rebel.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington and Rebel.

MEETING MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS: (continued)

3. RESOLUTION No. 50-2010 ~Awarding Bid of Municipal Owned Vehicles

Vehicle	Bidder	Amount of Bid
1997 Oldsmobile 98 (min. bid \$1300.)		
	Marks Motors	\$375.
	Alan Rusk	\$500.
	Police Car Store	\$1379.*
	Jersey One	\$333.
1999 Ford Windstar (min. bid \$500.)		
	Marks Motors	\$375.
	Alan Rusk	\$300.
	Police Car Store	\$601.
	Jersey One	\$570.
	Beth Pfaff	\$701.77*
2003 Ford Crown Victoria (min. bid \$3000.)		
	Chicago Motors	\$1107.
	Marks Motors	\$1125.
	Alan Rusk	\$500.
	Police Car Store	\$1779.*
	Jersey One	\$1280.
2005 Ford Crown Victoria (min. bid \$1000.)		
	Chicago Motors	\$407.
	Marks Motors	\$1415.
	Alan Rusk	\$1200.
	Franks/AccuCare Transport	\$1300.
	Police Car Store	\$1779.*
	Jersey One	\$1133.

Council President Ledrich asked Captain Whinna why the 2003 Crown Victoria was priced higher than the 2005 Crown Victoria. Captain Whinna commented the 2003 was a better running vehicle than the 2005.

Motion to approve made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Rebel.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington and Rebel.

Note: Public Works Manager Domico arrived at 7:15 p.m. from repairing a water main break on Woodbine Avenue.

MEETING MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS: (continued)

4. RESOLUTION No. 51-2010 ~Approving a contract with International Fireworks Manufacturing Company to conduct a Fireworks display.

Councilman Rebel commented he looked into other firework companies but was not impressed with either one of the organizations. Mayor Welsh stated he felt International Fireworks went above and beyond with their clean up the next day. Council President Ledrich asked if anyone had talked with International Fireworks regarding the height of the fireworks.

Motion to approve the contract was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Councilman Pennington.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington and Rebel.

5. RESOLUTION No. 52-2010 ~Credit Water Accounts Due To Water Meter Reading Error.

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Property Owners</u>	<u>Amount</u>
891	136 West Avenue	Keron, James & Christine	\$ 16.50
1664	516A Broadway	Soubasis, John & Nancy	\$119.36

Motion to approve was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Baker.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington and Rebel.

6. RESOLUTION No. 57-2010 ~ APPROVING REQUEST BY FIBER TECHNOLOGIES NETWORKS, L.L.C. ("FIBERTECH") FOR THE CONSENT OF THE BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE TO USE AND OCCUPY THE PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY WITHIN THE BOROUGH FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A FIBER OPTIC NETWORK EXTENSION.

Solicitor Alice commented he read the contract and recommended Westville deny the request. Administrator Bittner commented Fibertech is a private company that runs fiber optics for private companies. Councilman Pennington asked if there was a chance Fibertech could sue the Borough and Solicitor Alice commented "they could try".

MEETING MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS: (continued)

Motion to table was made by Councilman Baker and seconded by Council President Ledrich.

Vote: 4-0

Table: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington and Rebel.

7. APPLICATION for a Special Permit - Westville Power Boat Association request for a Special Permit for two (2) Social Affairs scheduled for May 8 and September 18, 2010. Chief Lederer approved the permit.

Motion to approve was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Councilman Baker.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington and Rebel.

8. RESOLUTION 53-2010 ~ Transferring Tax Payment to Block 1, Lot 8.01 due to an error made by Wells Fargo Home Mortgage.

Motion to approve was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Pennington.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington and Rebel.

9. REQUEST from St. Luke's Episcopal Church to hold a Memorial Service and Picnic Dinner at the Michael Galbraith Memorial Park on River Drive on Sunday, June 27 starting at 6 pm.

Motion to approve, pending the completion and submission of required insurance and hold harmless forms, was made by Councilman Pennington and seconded by Councilman Baker.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington and Rebel.

MEETING MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS: (continued)

10. RESOLUTION 54-2010 ~ Transferring Tax Overpayment to Delinquent Sewer Account (No. 79) on Block 5, Lot 5.01

Motion to approve was made by Councilman Baker and seconded by Council President Ledrich.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington and Rebel.

11. Request from Gloucester County Division of Senior Services to supply transportation to Seniors who wish to attend the "Golden Follies Entertainment Show" scheduled for May 12, 2010 at Auletto Caterers. (Public Work Manger Domico commented May 12 is a regular bus route day so the driver can work in the trip to and from Auletto's and she will also post a letter about the event.) *General consensus was to approve the request.*

COMMUNICATIONS:

- ❖ GCUA Meeting Minutes from February 17, 2010
- ❖ Budget - Gateway Regional High School 2010-2011
- ❖ Budget and School Election - Parkview Elementary School. (Mayor Welsh commented he spoke with the Superintendent of Gateway, Shannon Whalen, who apologized for not having a representative at the meeting but provided Mayor Welsh with her cell phone number and encouraged people to call her with questions.)

BILLS & VOUCHERS:

Mayor Welsh announced a list of the current bills was posted in the foyer for review by any interested parties.

A motion was made to dispense with reading the bills by Councilman Pennington and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.*

MEETING MINUTES

BILLS & VOUCHERS: (continued)

A Motion to pay all Bills and Vouchers that are in order, was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Pennington.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington and Rebel.

NEW BUSINESS: (resumed)

(Mayor Welsh explained to Public Works Manager Domico they were waiting for Councilman Murtaugh who was at a fire down the street.)

Introduction of

12. INTRODUCTION OF 2010 BUDGET No. 56-2010.

Administrator Bittner commented there was a small increase in the budget but the rate did not go up, which means no increase to Borough residents. Increases were absorbed by a healthy surplus accumulated over the past years. Mayor Welsh acknowledged the good work Department Heads did to reduce their budgets.

Note: Mayor Welsh acknowledged Councilman Murtaugh's arrival at 7:35 pm

Motion to Introduce the budget made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Rebel.

Vote: 5-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington, Murtaugh and Rebel.

The Public Hearing on the Budget will be heard at the May 12, 2010 Council Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- ❖ Joyce Lovell, 328 Summit Avenue invited everyone to attend a water conservation presentation by Rutgers University on Thursday, April 22 at 7 pm. Ms. Lovell also thanked all the people who came out for the Earth Day clean-up.

MEETING MINUTES

PUBLIC COMMENT: (continued)

- ❖ Scott Woodside, liaison from County, stated he was available to take back any questions from the Borough.

COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS

- ❖ Councilman Pennington expressed his appreciation to Public Works Manager Domico, Municipal Clerk Helder and Administrator Bittner for the work they've been doing the past years.
- ❖ Councilman Baker stated he started an infrared scan on the new building and hopes to have it completed within the next couple of weeks. When finished, he will contact Tina to schedule a presentation.
- ❖ Council President Ledrich commented the Department Heads did a good job keeping the budget flat because introducing a budget with no tax increase is quite an accomplishment.
- ❖ Councilman Murtaugh asked Captain Whinna to remind the police officers that tractor trailers over 8,000 lbs are not permitted on Olive Street. Captain Whinna advised he already spoke to the resident and to his officers regarding the situation. Councilman Murtaugh also thanked Public Works Manager Domico, Chief Lederer and everyone else for making Council Members look good by keeping the tax rate stable.
- ❖ Councilman Rebel commented several residents approached him about officers "walking the beat" and thought it was great. Captain Whinna mentioned they have officers ready for bike patrol, as well as foot patrol. Council President Ledrich commented when he came home from work he saw that Patrolman Piscopo had detained an individual on the sidewalk and the patrol car was pulling up to assist. Captain Whinna confirmed Westville will have a total of 4 bikes for patrol.
- ❖ Administrator Bittner updated the web site and asked if anyone had anything they wanted him to add to the site, to please let him know.
- ❖ Mayor Welsh echoed Council President Ledrich's and Councilman Rebel's comments about the good work being done by the Police Department. He further stated several residents complemented him regarding the foot patrol officers on Broadway. He stated he had a resident call him concerning vandalism being done at the Park and when he returned the call she commented about the two police officers patrolling on foot and was "blown away" by their presence. He wanted to reaffirm the efforts do not go unnoticed and that it's good to see, good to hear and he appreciates it and asked Captain Whinna to pass the positive comments along to his team.

MEETING MINUTES

COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS: (continued)

- ❖ Mayor Welsh announced for the 2nd time, Westville was awarded the Best Spirited Town Award by the Courier Post.
- ❖ Mayor Welsh confirmed there will be a Miss Westville pageant on June 11, 12, and 13 at the Parkview School and asked Council's permission to request a Certificate of Insurance. *Consensus was to approve the request.*
- ❖ Councilman Murtaugh wanted to add that Administrator Bittner received a call from Senator Menendez's office regarding a \$150,000 grant be given to Fire Departments that can be applied to radios, pagers and about 50 sets of turn-out gear. Councilman Murtaugh commented the grant is needed and very much appreciated.
- ❖ Mayor Welsh added he received an electronic package from Engineer Rodgers regarding the flooding on Delsea Drive. The package included correspondence back to the early part of 2008 as well as pictures and Councilman Baker's presentation. Mayor Welsh confirmed the information was forwarded to Senator Sweeney's office with a request for a meeting to spark interest in getting this project looked at again. Councilman Rebel stated he sent Engineer Rodgers about 15 pictures electronically but wasn't sure if they went through.
- ❖ Public Works Manager Domico confirmed Timber Avenue was raised probably 6 inches. Councilman Baker asked if the storm grates at the entrance to Timber Avenue were raised and Public Works Manager Domico confirmed "no" since this was a non-budged project. Councilman Baker confirmed the two grates have to be capped off in order to raise that section of the street. Public Works Manager Domico also acknowledged the Borough of Bellmawr sent a big roller and operator for no charge to help.
- ❖ Mayor Welsh asked Public Works Manager Domico about Hillside Avenue. Public Works Manager Domico stated she anticipated the paving on Woodbine Avenue was scheduled for Friday and Hillside on Monday.

Municipal Clerk Helder read the RESOLUTION to go into EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss Employment Matters was read at 7:44 p.m. and approved by unanimous voice vote.

- ❖ Councilman Murtaugh noted two (2) residents just arrived at the meeting and stated they should be given an opportunity to be heard.

MEETING MINUTES

COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS (Continued)

- ❖ Nicholas Horiates, 521 Broadway stated he has a store he leases out and sometimes kids gather at that location (both sides of the street and both bus benches). He commented he hears the kids on the phone and they state they are at “new town” not “Westville” and he sees them selling stuff on the corners. He observed some of the people are not locals, are not kids and he doesn’t walk his dog at night because of these people; he therefore was wondering if cameras could be placed in the area. Councilman Murtaugh assured Mr. Horiates Council had discussed the situation with Police Chief Lederer and felt there would be more of a police presence at that location. Mr. Horiates confirmed Police Chief Lederer and Housing Inspector Wasson talked with him earlier in the day about the situation. Mayor Welsh encouraged Mr. Horiates to call 911 the next time he observed the activity at that location. Administrator Bittner also confirmed 911 should be called.

RESOLUTION EXECUTIVE SESSION To Discuss Employment Matters

Motion to approve made by Councilman Baker and seconded by Councilman Pennington.

Vote: 5-0

Yes: Council President Ledrich, Councilman Baker, Pennington, Murtaugh and Rebel.

In Executive Session at 7:51 pm. Out of Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: 8:40 pm

Respectively Submitted,

Christine A. Helder
Municipal Clerk