

BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE
Regular Council Meeting
114 Crown Point Road
March 10, 2010 ~ 7:00 p.m.
MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Council President Michael Ledrich at 7:00 p.m. and the Salute and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag 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.

Present: Council President Ledrich, Council Members: George K. Baker, Charles D. Murtaugh, James A. Pennington, Jr. and William C. Rebel

Also Present: Administrator William J. Bittner, Jr., Police Chief Fred Lederer, Public Works Manager Donna Domico, Housing Officer Bruce Wasson, Solicitor John Alice and Municipal Clerk/Tax Collector Christine Helder

Absent: Mayor Russell W. Welsh, Jr. and Councilman Ronald S. Muhlbaier

The meeting minutes of February 24, 2010 were approved on a motion made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Councilman Murtaugh. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

PUBLIC COMMENT IN AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: No comment received from the public.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ❖ Discussion took place on 15 Minute Parking at 209 Broadway. At the request of Councilman Rebel, discussion took place on enforcement of fifteen (15) minute parking zones for two (2) parking places in front of 209 Broadway (Bob's News Shop). Councilman Rebel met with some business owners in the vicinity of 209 Broadway and based on his discussions felt changing the parking regulation would not affect business traffic and asked that a trial period be granted for the change. Council agreed to amend the parking ordinance in front of Bob's News Shop. Solicitor Alice advised that an Ordinance would have to be drafted to reflect the change in the parking regulations - from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (7 days a week). Public Works Manager Domico will order the signs and measure the parking spots. Solicitor Alice will draw up the amended Ordinance.

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OLD BUSINESS: (continued)

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 113-32 (VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC) SECTION IV: TIME LIMIT PARKING.

A motion to approve the Ordinance, as amended, was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Councilman Pennington. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

Municipal Building. Discussion took place on the Municipal Building. Councilman Baker discussed tapping into the water system (i.e. use water that Westville is currently pumping out of the ground) as a coolant for the inside of the building (114 Crown Point Road). He will talk further with Public Works Manager Domico.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion took place on a Used Car License/Application for Always Affordable Auto Sales. The application was approved by the Police Chief; however, Fire Chief Farley did not approve the license because of a discrepancy in the nature of the business. Specifically, on the application submitted to the Borough, the business was listed as Auto Sales and on the Fire application, the business was listed as Auto Repair. Chief Farley would also like the business owner to address the fire hazard conditions currently on the premises.

A motion to table approving/denying the Used Car License/Application was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Baker. Motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. A letter will be sent to the owner, Eric Michaels advising him of Council's decision and requesting he correct the Fire Department paperwork. He will also be advised that the application will be on the next agenda for March 24, 2010 for approval/denial.

A motion to table the application was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Baker. *Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Resignation letter from Laura C. Rivell (Municipal Court Administrator)
- Resignation letter from Kevin Galbraith (Land Use Board Member, Alternate #1)
Council President Ledrich advised Mr. Galbraith accepted a job in Minneapolis.
- Gloucester County Utilities Authority January 13, 2010 meeting minutes

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COMMUNICATIONS: (continued)

- Letter from the Lions Club regarding nominations for “Citizen of the Year” 2010 Award
- Letter from the Land Use Board Secretary regarding a New Business scheduled to open at 191 Broadway. The new business, Perks Coffee Shop, will be owned by Eileen Schillig.
- Resolution forwarded from Logan Township Urging the Legislature to amend the Open Public Records Act to Address Various Technical & Practical Issues.

BILLS & VOUCHERS:

Clerk advised that the list of bills was posted in the foyer. A motion to dispense with reading of the bills was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Pennington. Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.

Motion to pay the bills was made by Councilman Rebel and seconded by Councilman Pennington. *Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- ❖ Joyce Lovell, 328 Summit Avenue, reported the Environmental Commission has a blog at www.greenwestville.blogspot.com, as well as a Facebook page.

COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- ❖ Public Works Manager Domico stated on Saturday, April 10th, Westville will hold a mini town Earth Day cleanup. She also noted the County will hold their Earth Day celebration on Saturday, April 17th and the Environmental Commission will be attending that function. Public Works Manager Domico will email the information to the Town Watch Committee.
- ❖ Councilman Murtaugh asked if anyone received complaints about the unsightliness of the solar panels being installed on poles for PSE&G. Administrator Bittner commented he did some research and found PSE&G will not address complaints about the solar panels. Administrator Bittner agreed to send the PSE&G link about the solar panels to the Mayor and Council and Councilman Murtaugh asked Administrator Bittner to add the solar panel information to the web site. Councilman Rebel asked Administrator Bittner if PSE&G was exempt from “permitting” procedures. Administrator Bittner stated since there weren’t any structures in place, the “permitting” procedure would not be applicable.

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COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS: (continued)

- ❖ Councilman Baker stated because of the nature of their business, PSE&G does not need permits and asked if PSE&G was working in a historical area, they may have to obtain permission for some of the work being completed. Councilman Murtaugh suggested the Borough hold payment for the April Street Lighting invoice if PSE&G does not respond to his requests addressing Street Light issues in town. Councilman Murtaugh asked Municipal Clerk Helder to add residential snow removal to their project list. He would like to put together a snow shoveling program for Seniors that would provide them with snow removal assistance, but would require them to pay for the service. Councilman Murtaugh asked Public Works Manager Domico about the supply of silhouette dogs and she confirmed more are needed and she would take care of ordering additional silhouettes.
- ❖ Councilman Rebel stated he worked with Councilman Baker regarding the Delsea Drive flooding issues and stated Councilman Baker's idea to resolve the issue is a good one. The physical work could be accomplished but funds are needed for the project which will cost approximately \$20,000. Councilman Rebel feels the idea could work and agreed to build a scale model to prove it. Councilman Baker questioned whether or not Westville has the authority to fix the problem even though the responsibility lies with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT). Councilman Baker further stated NJDOT had been notified over a year ago about the problem and they have yet been out to investigate the situation. Administrator Bittner confirmed the Borough Engineering has been following up with NJDOT on this issue and is also waiting for a response. Councilman Rebel asked if Westville could take it on as an in-house project. Administrator Bittner stated perhaps the funds could be requested through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) money. Administrator Bittner stated the CDBG money is usually around \$100,000 so perhaps they could add the Duncan Avenue project to this grant. If they want to move forward with this project, the information must be submitted before March 31st so a Resolution needs be completed and submitted at the March 24th Council Meeting. Administrator Bittner commented that at times, it takes NJDOT a long time to respond to requests and to take action on certain projects. Administrator Bittner stated he recently received a response to an email he sent over a year ago regarding road work scheduled for Routes 45 and 130.
- ❖ Councilman Rebel confirmed he passed along a letter addressed to the County Architect asking for work to be done on the parking lot on Broadway and the Island to Administrator Bittner.

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COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS: (continued)

- ❖ Councilman Rebel suggested the Borough purchase seasonal banners. Public Works Manger Domico stated banners could be purchased at a cost of “two for one” from the Public Celebrations account. Councilman Baker suggested we ask businesses to purchase them and have their names placed on the banner. Public Works Manager Domico stated she’ll reach out to the company and see what can be done about purchasing spring banners.
- ❖ Councilman Rebel asked if there was any progress on the tree grates and Administrator Bittner stated the insurance company has not yet considered the request.
- ❖ Administrator Bittner commented he would not take money from the Celebrations account for the spring banners because the money was donated for a specific purpose. Administrator Bittner further commented there may be funds available in Community Development so he asked for the costs to purchase the banners. Public Works Manager Domico stated she would have the figures to him the next day.
- ❖ Administrator Bittner asked if Council would like him to move forward with the CDBG request for flooding at Delsea Drive or another project. Administrator Bittner suggested they could request playground equipment but informed Council Almonesson Road (e.g. Little League field) does not qualify for CDBG money but that every other area in town qualifies. Administrator Bittner suggested Council Members think about the needs in the eligible areas and submit project information to him.
- ❖ Administrator Bittner provided additional information on the Rts. 45 & 130 project to confirm the State will take the far left lane of Route 130 and make it a through lane and the right lane of Route 45 will be a right lane turn only.
- ❖ Administrator Bittner reported he has been meeting with the Chief Financial Officer to discuss the budget and they are confident they can go forward with what was requested last year by Departments. Administrator Bittner stated if additional money is needed for projects, Department Heads need to get that information to him as soon as possible because he plans to introduce the budget at the March 24th council meeting. Administrator Bittner invited Council to stop in the office if they were interested in working on the budget.
- ❖ Public Works Manager Domico asked if the parking area on River Drive would qualify for the CDBG Grant. Administrator Bittner said it might qualify and asked Public Works Manager Domico to submit the figures to him.

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- ❖ Administrator Bittner advised he has applied for Discretionary Funds through Senator Menendez's office.

COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BODY & DEPARTMENT HEADS: (continued)

- ❖ Chief Lederer confirmed Officer A.J. Garbarino was returning to active duty after recuperating from his work related injury and Officer Massing was returning to work after recuperating from a medical procedure.
- ❖ Chief Lederer also stated he, as well as Administrator Bittner, attended a presentation regarding a camera system that would cost approximately \$6600. Chief Lederer confirmed he would apply to the County for drug seizure money to pay for the Q-Star wireless system. Administrator Bittner stated even if the County Prosecutor's office declined to pay for the system, it would be worthwhile for Westville to purchase the system and that he would obtain three (3) quotes.
- ❖ Chief Lederer confirmed several officers signed up for bike courses and he will apply to the Prosecutor's office for seizure monies to purchase more bicycles.
- ❖ Chief Lederer announced there will be construction at Route 45 at the railroad crossing that will take place at the end of the month and will be completed in 3 to 4 days.

Introduction in Title Only:

CHAPTER 35, AUTOMOBILE USED SALES, SECTION 12, ENTITLED "OTHER BUSINESSES PROHIBITED ON LICENSED PREMISES".

Motion to approve the Introduction in Title Only of Chapter 35, Automobile Used Sales, Section 12, Entitled "Other Businesses Prohibited on Licensed Premises" was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Baker. *Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Pennington and seconded by Councilman Murtaugh.

Meeting adjourned 8:03 pm

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010

Respectively submitted,

Christine A. Helder
Municipal Clerk