

# **BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE**

## **Regular Council Meeting**

165 Broadway

July 1, 2019

*Meeting Minutes*

Mayor Russell W. Welsh, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Deputy Clerk read the public notice and roll call was taken, with the following persons in attendance:

Mayor Russell W. Welsh, Jr., Council President Michael O. Ledrich, Council Members: Paul C. Mailley, Donna Moan, Charles D. Murtaugh, Bruce Nordaby and Fritz H. Sims, Jr., Deputy Clerk Kathleen Carroll, Administrator/Clerk Ryan J. Giles, Public Works Manager Donna Domico, Engineer Erika Vardaxis, Police Chief William Whinna and Solicitor Timothy Scaffidi

A motion to approve the Regular minutes of June 3, 2019 was made by Councilman Nordaby and seconded by Councilwoman Moan. *Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**

- ❖ Al Achilles, 19 Delsea Drive asked for clarification about the Borough's support of Resolution #80-2019, "Opposing New Jersey Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) special rule for regulations for limited breweries". Mayor Welsh commented that that Borough was supporting the Westville Brewery keeping the restrictions they had prior to the new statute and commented that the Borough likes to support businesses in town.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR MAY 2019:**

Councilman Sims added the monthly reports for the Shared Services Code Enforcement Officer and asked that they be added to the Committee Reports. Mayor Welsh asked the Deputy Clerk to scan in the documents and send to Council Members. A motion to approve the reports, as submitted, was made by Councilman Mailley seconded by Councilman Murtaugh. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

**OLD BUSINESS:** Chief Whinna provided a follow up regarding a handicap parking request from a resident at 305 Woodbine Avenue with a recommendation to approve. A brief discussion took place to confirm that if approved, any individual with handicap tags would be able to park in the spot and that future requests for handicap tags would be considered. Motion to approve the handicap request was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilwoman Moan. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

Mayor Welsh added that Solicitor Scaffidi recommended an Ordinance be listed on the next agenda to identify the handicap space at 305 Woodbine Avenue.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Mayor Welsh read a Proclamation Honoring Lillian McCullough, Adriana Miles, Hailey Rementer, Alyssa Scanlon and Audrena Smith for receiving the Girl Scout Bronze Award

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The items listed below are considered to be routine by the Borough of Westville and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

*(Motion to approve/deny all Resolutions listed under the Consent Agenda by Roll Call Vote)*

**RESOLUTION No. 78-2019** – Requesting approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, 2019 Clean Communities

**RESOLUTION No. 79-2019** – Authorizing the Placement of Property Maintenance Liens

**RESOLUTION No. 80-2019** – Opposing New Jersey Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) special rule for regulations for limited breweries

**RESOLUTION No. 81-2019** – Appointing Nicholas A. Ruiz as a Part-Time Summer employee

**RESOLUTION No. 82-2019** – Appointing Tristan Rettig as a Part-Time Summer employee

A motion to approve Resolutions No. 78-82, 2019 was made by Councilwoman Moan and seconded by Councilman Nordaby. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

**END CONSENT AGENDA**

**NEW BUSINESS: (Continued)**

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 83-2019** - Authorizing the Execution of a Contract renewing membership in the Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland Counties Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

A motion to approve Resolution No. 83-2019 was made by Councilman Mailley and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 84-2019** – Approving renewal of the Limited Brewery License for 2019-2020 for the Westville Brewery

A motion to approve Resolution No. 84-2019 was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Sims. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **REQUEST** from the Rolling Badges to hold a Coin Drop on August 17, 2019 at the location of Broadway and Olive. (Required paperwork submitted and approved by the Police Department and Gloucester County Highway Department.)

A motion to approve the Coin Drop was made by Councilman Nordaby and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

**NEW BUSINESS: (Continued)**

- ❖ **REQUEST** from the Rolling Badges to hold a Raffle for Phillies tickets (approximately July 15-26, 2019). (Proceeds will benefit the Christmas in July toys and diapers drive.)

A motion to approve the Raffle was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Nordaby. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

- ❖ **REQUEST** from the Rolling Badges to hold a 50/50 Raffle on July 20, 2019. (Proceeds will benefit the Christmas in July toys and diapers drive.)

A motion to approve the 50/50 Raffle was made by Councilman Nordaby and seconded by Councilwoman Moan. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

Mayor Welsh commented on how active the Rolling Badges are within the Borough and complimented their efforts on the updates to their building and thanked the organization for all they do for the Borough

-----**CONCLUSION OF NEW BUSINESS**-----

**BILLS & VOUCHERS:**

The Deputy Clerk advised that the list of bills was posted in hallway.

A motion to dispense with reading of the bills was made by Councilman Mailley and seconded by Councilman Nordaby. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

A motion to pay all bills and vouchers that were in order, was made by Councilman Mailley and seconded by Councilwoman Moan. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote with Councilwoman Moan abstaining from approving check #27646.*

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- ❖ Thank you letter from a Borough resident to Officer Hibbs

Before opening the meeting to the public, Mayor Welsh addressed the audience by commenting on issues regarding the storm that affected Gloucester County on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Welsh advised meeting attendees that the Borough is working with both State and County officials to make sure Borough residents receive the best possible service. Mayor Welsh also thanked the First Responders, Borough employees, residents and family members and the Red Cross. Mayor Welsh acknowledged that he received a call from Governor Murphy who asked what the Borough needs. Mayor Welsh also confirmed he received a call from Chris Summerhayes, Chief of Staff for the 5<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Assembly who was calling on behalf of Senator Patricia Egan Jones, Assemblywoman Patricia Egan Jones and Assemblyman William Spearman. Mayor Welsh also added that Senator Egan Jones and Assemblyman Spearman also visited the town when the flood waters started to recede to see what help was needed. Mayor Welsh also confirmed that he received a call from the Governor's Chief of Staff, George Helmy, who inquired

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about the flooding issues and Mayor Welsh provided details on what happened during the flood as well as the recurring flooding problems in the Borough. Mayor Welsh reported that Mr. Helmy made a commitment that State experts will visit the Borough the last week of July to assess the flooding dilemmas in town. Mayor Welsh stated he was overwhelmed by the amount of support the town received from local, state and county officials. In conclusion, Mayor Welsh told meeting attendees he would listen to their concerns but at this time the Borough was still waiting to hear from the County and State to finish their assessment of the damages and then report damages to the President from a FEMA standpoint. Mayor Welsh encouraged meeting attendees to voice their concerns.

**PUBLIC PORTION:** (Individuals must state their name and address for the record and respect the five minute time limit while addressing the Governing Body. In order to be heard, individuals must go to the podium and speak into the microphone.)

- ❖ Marie Goddard, 303 Summit Avenue, complimented the Fire District for the Cool Down event and the Borough for the Fireworks. Ms. Goddard expressed her concern about being approached by a Westville Police Officer regarding an ATV that was being driven in her neighborhood and the police received a report that the vehicle came from her house. Chief Whinna told Ms. Goddard that the police received a call from County Dispatch saying the vehicle came from her address so they were obligated to pay a visit to that location to confirm the information.
- ❖ Joyce Lovell, 328 Summit Avenue, complimented the First Responders and other personnel for their efforts during the flood. Ms. Lovell praised the Independence Day boat parade participants and offered her detailed critiques on how to make the boat parade and Fireworks event, organized by the Celebrations Committee, better. Councilman Nordaby (member of the Celebrations Committee) responded to all of Ms. Lovell’s critiques.
- ❖ Brian Waters, 226 Summit Avenue, asked for clarification on handicap parking issues and stated his pleasure that Mayor and Council supported local business by approving Resolution #80-2019, “Opposing New Jersey Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) special rule for regulations for limited breweries”.
- ❖ Linda Sims, 25 Parkview Drive and a member of the Celebrations Committee, also addressed Ms. Lovell’s critiques of the Independence Day activities along with an invitation for Ms. Lovell to join the Celebrations Committee who is in need of volunteers.
- ❖ Mayor Welsh thanked the Celebration Committee for all their hard work.

**COMMENTS FROM MAYOR/COUNCIL/DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

- ❖ Chief Whinna commended the entire Borough for all their good efforts during the flooding and the Celebrations Committee for the Fireworks show and offered his congratulations to Public Works Manager Donna Domico on her upcoming retirement.

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- ❖ Administrator Giles wished Public Works Manager Donna Domico well on her retirement and reminisced about working with Donna in Brooklawn and he stated now that he's working with Public Works Manager Donna Domico in both towns, "it's been nothing but greatness working with her and he appreciates all the help she has given him".
- ❖ Councilwoman Moan thanked everyone for their efforts on the flooding situation and commented on the resilience of the town and that it makes her proud to live in Westville. Councilwoman Moan mentioned that a woman who lost a lot in the flood also brought toy donations to the Cool Down event. Councilwoman Moan thanked the Girl Scouts and the Celebrations Committee for their hard work. Councilwoman Moan wished Public Works Manager Donna Domico well on her retirement and commented that she was taking a vast wealth of knowledge about the town with her and her dedication to the town is amazing.
- ❖ Councilman Nordaby thanked all those involved for their work with the flooding issue and that it was a fantastic job for something the Borough never did before. Councilman Nordaby also reinforced that volunteers are needed for the Celebrations Committee. Councilman Nordaby stated how long he has known Public Works Manager Donna Domico and wished her nothing but the best.
- ❖ Council President Ledrich said he echoed everyone's thanks about the First Responders and Celebrations Committee. Council President Ledrich thanked Public Works Manager Donna Domico for everything she did for the Borough and wished her well on her retirement.
- ❖ Deputy Clerk Carroll praised the First Responders and wished Public Works Manager Donna Domico well on her retirement.
- ❖ Mayor Welsh stated before moving on to Councilman Sims he wanted to set up a work session with Council, Department Heads, Fire Chief, Emergency Management on Monday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Mayor Welsh advised he wanted the work session to de-brief on what went well, what didn't go so well and what can be improved upon.
- ❖ Councilman Sims congratulated Public Works Manager Donna Domico on her retirement and commitment to the Borough and wished her well on her retirement. Councilman Sims thanked First Responders and stated he was proud to be a resident and congratulated the Girl Scouts on their award.
- ❖ Councilman Murtaugh voiced his concern about Joyce Lovell leaving the meeting and offered his congratulations on the success of the Independence Day Celebration Committee. Councilman Murtaugh reminded meeting attendees that about one year ago the Borough requested a grant from the Department of Environmental Protection for lanterns and a speaker system along River Drive. Councilman Murtaugh stated the Cool Down event at the Fire House went well but that they may have to move it to the street next year. Councilman Murtaugh also talked about a group called Team Rubicon, a national volunteer Veterans Group, which wanted to help with the destroyed homes from the flooding but were unable to provide a Certificate of Insurance so were unable to participate in the rebuilding. Councilman Murtaugh advised that the next Department of Transportation grant request will be for Boundary Lane down to Birch. Discussion took place about school parking and possibly converting the tennis courts to parking spaces and possibly widening the street. Councilman Murtaugh also congratulated Public Works Manager Donna Domico on her retirement and wished her luck.

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- ❖ Councilman Mailley congratulated the First Responders and remarked on all the positive comments that he saw on public media and thanked the Celebrations Committee for their hard work. Councilman Mailley congratulated Public Works Manager Donna Domico on her retirement.
- ❖ Engineer Vardaxis congratulated Public Works Manager Donna Domico on her retirement.
- ❖ Public Works Manager Donna Domico advised work on Walnut Street has begun as well as Hazel Avenue and that the crew would work at night. Public Works Manager Donna Domico thanked Marty Finger on his idea to have water mains redirected, while under construction, to eliminate all the old mains in the street. Public Works Manager Donna Domico thanked the Borough for 41 years of service.
- ❖ Mayor Welsh clarified to Public Works Manager Donna Domico that people wanted to offer their congratulations when she was at the meeting.
- ❖ Mayor Welsh commented on all the things the Borough of Westville accomplishes and that at one time, Public Works Manager Donna Domico was his boss when he was hired to cut lawns and wished her the best on her retirement and thanked her for all she has done for the town.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Deputy Clerk read **RESOLUTION No. 85-2019** - Authorizing an Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters in the Police Department.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 85-2019 was made by Councilman Nordaby and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

<i>Time In: 7:57 p.m.</i>
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<i>Time Out: 8:13 p.m.</i>
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A motion to promote Brian Ewe to Sergeant effective August 1, 2019 was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

Councilman Murtaugh asked Chief Whinna to follow up on the situation at the Church's Food Bank where the children at Day Care are in the same facility as individuals utilizing the Food Bank.

Councilman Sims asked Chief Whinna for an update on the purchase of Police cars and Chief Whinna advised they should have two new vehicles by August.

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A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Nordaby. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

*The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.*

*Respectively Submitted,*

*Kathleen Carroll*

*Kathleen Carroll  
Deputy Municipal Clerk*

*Next Council meeting scheduled for Monday, August 5, 2019*