

BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE

Regular Council Meeting

165 Broadway

August 5, 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, Jr., Deputy Clerk Kathleen Carroll, Administrator/Clerk Ryan J. Giles, Public Works Assistant Manager Martin Finger, Engineer Erika Vardaxis, Police Chief William Whinna and Solicitor Timothy Scaffidi

Absent: Councilmen Bruce Nordaby and Fritz H. Sims, Jr.

A motion to approve the Regular minutes of July 1, 2019 and Special meeting minutes from July 15, 2019 as well as the Executive minutes from June 3 and July 1, 2019 was made by Councilman Mailley and seconded by Councilwoman Moan. *Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: No comments from the Public

COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR JULY 1, 2019:

A motion to approve the reports, as submitted, was made by Councilman Murtaugh seconded by Councilman Mailley. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

OLD BUSINESS:

Emergency Management - Councilman Murtaugh advised that because of vacation schedules the Committee had not yet met.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 86-2019** - Promoting Detective Brian S. Ewe to Sergeant in the Borough of Westville Police Department

A motion to approve Resolution No. 86-2019 was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **Oath of Office** to the position of Sergeant was given to Officer Brian S. Ewe by Mayor Welsh

First Reading: (Introduction)

- ❖ **ORDINANCE No. 5-2019** – Authorizing the creation of a handicapped parking space in front of 305 Woodbine Avenue in the Borough of Westville

A motion to introduce Ordinance No. 5-2019 was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilwoman Moan. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

First Reading: (Introduction)

- ❖ **ORDINANCE No. 6-2019** – Bond Ordinance authorizing the acquisition of Capital Equipment and the completion of various capital projects in the Borough of Westville, County of Gloucester, New Jersey; appropriating the sum of \$375,000 therefor; authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds or bond anticipation notes of the Borough of Westville, County of Gloucester, New Jersey, in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$114,950 making certain determinations and covenants; and authorizing certain related actions in connection with the foregoing. *(Administrator Giles advised the purpose of the Ordinance is to purchase vehicles for the Police Department and that CFO Bruno advised it would be less expensive to bond out the vehicle rather than lease and that the remaining money was for the resurfacing of Hazel Avenue, not covered by the grant.)*

A motion to introduce Ordinance No. 6-2019 was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

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. 87-2019 – Requesting the Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, certain Police Department officials and others take immediate action to ameliorate and abate the illicit and noxious noise violations impacting the right to peaceful enjoyment of property and quality of life of the residents in the Borough of Westville

RESOLUTION No. 88-2019 – Endorsing the application and submission of a Grant application and execution of an agreement for Municipal Aid from the New Jersey Department of Transportation for local aid for the Resurfacing of Boundary Lane and Birch Avenue #00487

RESOLUTION No. 89-2019 – Endorsing the application and submission of a Grant application and execution of an agreement for Municipal Aid from the New Jersey Department of Transportation for local aid for the Resurfacing of High Street #00488

RESOLUTION No. 90-2019 – Placing Property Maintenance Liens (list attached to minutes)

RESOLUTION No. 91-2019 – Approving Renewal of a Plenary Retail Consumption License for a 2019-2020 Liquor License for Acquired Capital (formerly Cousins Pub)

A motion to approve Resolutions No. 87-91, 2019 was made by Councilman Mailley and seconded by Councilwoman Moan. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

END CONSENT AGENDA

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 92-2019** – To Amend the Capital Budget to include the purchase of new Police SUV's and monies not covered by a grant for the Reconstruction of Hazel Avenue

A motion to approve Resolution No. 92-2019 was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilwoman Moan. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 93-2019** – Extending the due date for Tax bills for 3rd quarter 2019

A motion to approve Resolution No. 93-2019 was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilwoman Moan. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 94-2019** – Appointing Robert Fowler and Rick Thomas, Fire District employees, to assist with Property Maintenance issues within the Borough of Westville (Councilman Murtaugh confirmed this also addressed the Housing issues within the Borough)

A motion to approve Resolution No. 94-2019 was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 95-2019** – Authorizing a Shared Services Interconnection Agreement between the City of Woodbury and the Borough of Westville (Administrator Giles advised this Agreement has always been in place but that an updated formal agreement was required and will be only used in the case of an emergency.)

A motion to approve Resolution No. 95-2019 was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 96-2019** – Authorizing execution of an Agreement between the Borough of Westville and Donna A. Domico

A motion to approve Resolution No. 96-2019 was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS: (continued)

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 97-2019** – Authorizing a property tax exemption for a totally disabled veteran, Christian Ruff at 135 Poplar Avenue, block 31, lot 11, crediting the 3rd and 4th quarter 2019 taxes in the amount of \$2,916.16

A motion to approve Resolution No. 97-2019 was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 98-2019** - Authorizing the Mayor and Borough Administrator to sign the Southern New Jersey Regional Employee Benefits Fund Indemnity and Trust Agreement (Administrator Giles advised this is part of the Health Insurance Fund and required to maintain the Borough's membership)

A motion to approve Resolution No. 98-2019 was made by Council President Ledrich and seconded by Councilwoman Moan. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **REQUEST** from a resident at 133 Crown Point Road for a handicap parking space. (Request sent to the Public Safety Committee and Chief Whinna for review prior to the meeting.)

Councilman Murtaugh asked Chief Whinna to investigate the request before Council makes a decision. (The issue was tabled to the September 3, 2019 meeting to allow the Chief to research the request.)

- ❖ **REQUEST** from the Westville Home and School Association to use the baseball fields at Klinger and Almonesson on October 25, 2019 for Trunk or Treat. (The certificate of insurance has been requested by the organization and will be forwarded to the Borough.)

A motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Mailley and seconded by Councilman Murtaugh. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

- ❖ **REQUEST** from the Lions Club to hold a Coin Drop on October 11, 2019. (Sent to the Public Safety Committee for review. Received Police approval and if approved by Council, will be sent to Gloucester County for approval.)

A motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilwoman Moan. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

Items for Discussion

1. Gloucester County's Residential Energy Cooperative *(Item tabled until the September 3, 2019 meeting)*
2. Shared Services Agreement between the Borough of Westville and the Borough of Brooklawn for Public Works Equipment and Emergency Manpower *(Item tabled until after the Executive session)*

-----**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 Councilwoman Moan and seconded by Council President Ledrich. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

A motion to pay all bills and vouchers that were in order, was made by Councilwoman Moan and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote with Councilman Mailley abstaining from approving check #27754.*

COMMUNICATIONS:

- ❖ Letter from Mayor Peter Scirrotto and Deputy Mayor Robert Zimmerman of the Township of Mantua thanking the Borough of Westville for use of the Borough's trash trucks and drivers after the fire in their Public Works garage.
- ❖ Public Notices from PSEG

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.)

- ❖ Donna Murphy, 204 W. Olive Street, addressed her concerns about the Borough placing liens on her home for property maintenance. Ms. Murphy advised she did not receive letters from the Borough regarding property maintenance or she would have taken care of lawn maintenance. Council agreed to review the issues of lawn maintenance and get back to her. Discussion of the communication process regarding law maintenance notices took place.
- ❖ Harry Blaschke, 44 Walnut Street, advised road work done by Bogey's damaged his driveway apron during construction of Walnut Street. The information was taken by Engineer Ericka Vardaxis who will discuss his concerns with the contractor. Mr. Blaschke also mentioned the Landscaper at 12 Walnut who puts out his business trash for Westville to pick up. Mayor Welsh advised Mr. Blaschke that the Borough will follow up on this issue.
- ❖ William Murray, 309 Broadway, stated his house was one that was affected by the flooding in June of this year and that when the Firemen came to his house they stated there was an issue with drainage in an area that was supposed to be maintained by the State. Mayor Welsh advised Mr. Murray he received a call from a representative from the Governor's office who advised they will meet with Borough Officials to discuss the flooding that occurred in the Borough. Mayor Welsh confirmed Borough Officials will take the Governor's representatives on a tour of Broadway including Lake Martha so that they can see the outlet/inlet and the Pond on Delsea Drive.

PUBLIC PORTION: (continued)

- ❖ Dave Archer, 307 Broadway advised he has the same flooding issues as Mr. Murray. Mr. Archer stated he received notification from the Borough about lawn maintenance and that he has been living in a hotel for 46 days and would like more time to take care of his property. Assistant Superintendent Finger confirmed to Mr. Archer that Housing Code Official Morina has extended Mr. Archer's time to take care of his property.

- ❖ Tom Kasper of Kasper's Performance Edge Corporation, located at 326 Broadway expressed his concern about drivers going through high water in front of his business that causes waves to come onto his property. General discussion took place about placing barrels in the area to prevent drivers from going through the water or parking an unattended police vehicle on the street to slow down vehicles. Mayor and Council asked Solicitor Scaffidi to look into the possibility of creating an ordinance that was recently adopted by North Wildwood that holds drivers accountable when they drive through high water and create waves that cause water damage to properties. General discussion took place regarding notifying elected officials about flooding in Westville.

Councilman Murtaugh provided information on FEMA aid to residents and asked Chief Whinna regarding stopping traffic when the road is flooded in the area of 326 Broadway and possibly storing barricade behind Mr. Kasper's business.

- ❖ Linda Conover, 16 New Street, stated she was also a victim of the flooding and lost everything in her basement and advised she paid her house off in March 2019 and didn't have insurance because the mortgage company use to pay the insurance. Councilman Murtaugh informed Mrs. Conover there will be low interest loans available through FEMA. Ms. Conover stated if the floodgates were cleaned out the flooding would not have happened. General discussion took place regarding other flooding instances in Westville.
- ❖ Mayor Welsh spoke on behalf of Robert Ackley, 49 Parkview Drive regarding the neighbor at 325 E. Olive Street and the spotlight that shines in his front window. Mayor Welsh asked that Code Enforcement Official Morina investigate the complaint.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR/COUNCIL/DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- ❖ Chief Whinna thanked Mayor and Council for approving Officer Brian Ewe's promotion to Sergeant.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR/COUNCIL/DEPARTMENT HEADS: (continued)

- ❖ Councilwoman Moan thanked the residents for attending the meeting and for providing important information about the town. Councilwoman Moan asked for a status on National Night Out and Chief Whinna replied the Police Department will work with the Home and School Association to sponsor their Trunk or Treat event on October 25th. Chief Whinna added that he will be meeting with Principal Egan regarding a Jr. Police Academy for 6th graders. Councilwoman Moan also thanked Public Works Assistant Manager Martin Finger for responding to her concerns considering his short term as Acting Public Works Manager. Councilman Moan stated she will be sending information to the appropriate committee regarding a suggestion she received to change the name of Deadline Drive to honor the Rolling Badges.
- ❖ Council President Ledrich stated he had a personal emergency at his house and thanked Officer Eric Hibbs for his quick response and by following up later that evening.
- ❖ Councilman Murtaugh thanked residents for attending the meeting and provided a brief personal statement regarding renaming Deadline Drive.
- ❖ Public Works Assistant Manager Martin Finger advised Pioneer Pipe started the Delsea Drive portion of the Water Main project and will be working at night for a few days.
- ❖ Engineer Vardaxis commented the paving was completed on Walnut Street and there will be a follow up regarding 44 Walnut Street.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Deputy Clerk read **RESOLUTION No. 99-2019** - Authorizing an Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters in the Public Works Department.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 99-2019 was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

<i>Time In: 7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Time Out: 8:52 p.m.</i>
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- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 100-2019** – Authorizing the appointment of Martin Finger to Acting Superintendent of the Public Works Department effective August 1, 2019.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 100-2019 was made by Councilman Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilwoman Moan and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Kathleen Carroll
Deputy Municipal Clerk

Next Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 3, 2019

Property Maintenance Liens

<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Owner of Record</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
22/22	Hogar Community Reinvest.	337 Woodbine Avenue	\$184.89	7/9/19
34/39	Alessandro Blair	185 Broadway	\$184.89	7/9/19
45/1	Frances Silenzio	714 Gateway Blvd.	\$184.89	7/9/19
48/6	Papineni, Ravikrishna	20-22 Pine Street	\$181.02	7/9/19
54/18	Williams, Russell	13 Oak Avenue	\$263.95	7/9/19
72/8	Murphy, Kevin & Donna <i>(omitted)</i>	204 W. Olive Street	\$181.02	7/9/19