

# BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE

Regular Council Meeting

165 Broadway

November 19, 2020

*Meeting Minutes*

Mayor Fritz H. Sims, Jr. called the November 19, 2020 council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited

**The Deputy Clerk read the notice.** Adequate notice of this meeting has been given by notifying the South Jersey Times and the Courier Post and posting the meeting date on the official bulletin board of the Municipality and the municipal web site. Additional written Public Notice was given and printed in the South Jersey Times on October 9, 2020 and uploaded to the Municipal web site regarding the public meeting format change from an in-person public meeting to a video/teleconference public meeting due to COVID-19.

**Roll Call:** Mayor Fritz H. Sims, Jr., Council Members: Donna M. Domico, Travis R. Lawrence, Charles D. Murtaugh, Bruce Nordaby, Paul C. Mailley and Timothy P. Young. Administrator/Municipal Clerk Ryan J. Giles, Deputy Clerk Kathleen Carroll, Public Works Manager Martin Finger, Engineer Jon Bryson, Police Lt. Michael Packer and Solicitor Timothy Scaffidi.

**MEETING MINUTES:** Regular and Executive meeting minutes from October 15, 2020 and the November 5, 2020 Special Council Meeting were approved by Councilwoman Domico and Councilman Mailley. *Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** Motion to open the meeting to the public for agenda items only was made by Councilman Mailley, seconded by Council President Murtaugh. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

Hearing no comments from the Public, Councilman Mailley motioned to close the meeting to the public, Councilman Nordaby seconded and his motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR OCTOBER 2020**

Mayor Sims advised he received a copy of a letter from the State of New Jersey confirming that the Borough was approved to receive a grant in the amount of \$150,000 for the reconstruction of Pine Street.

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

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### OLD BUSINESS:

#### **Public Hearing:**

*(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Introduced October 15, 2020)*

- ❖ **Ordinance 10-2020** – Bond Ordinance authorizing supplemental funding for the Reconstruction of Hazel Avenue in and for the Borough of Westville, County of Gloucester, New Jersey; appropriating the sum of \$60,000 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 \$57,000 making certain determinations and covenants; and authorizing certain related actions in connection with the foregoing.

A motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Councilwoman Domico and seconded by Councilman Young. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

Hearing no comments from the public, a motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Nordaby and seconded by Council President Murtaugh. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

A motion to adopt Ordinance No. 10-2020 was made by Councilwoman Domico and seconded by Council President Murtaugh. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

#### **Public Hearing:**

*(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Introduced October 15, 2020)*

- ❖ **Ordinance 11-2020** – An Ordinance authorizing the sale of block 48, lot 7, also known as 18 Pine Street and the execution of all necessary documents

A motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Young and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

Hearing no comments from the public, a motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Mailley and seconded by Councilman Young. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

A motion to adopt Ordinance No. 11-2020 was made by Councilwoman Domico and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

### NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 111-2020** – Resolution Amending Resolution No. 95-2020 adopted on August 20, 2020 and hereby authorizing the Borough of Westville Land Use Board to conduct a preliminary investigation to establish a non-condemnation Redevelopment area as to Block 71, Lot 21, Block 71, Lot 22.01 and Block 71, Lot 23 within the Borough of Westville, Gloucester County

A motion to approve Resolution No. 111-2020 was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Lawrence. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

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### **NEW BUSINESS:** *(Continued)*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 112-2020** – Authorizing a Person-to-Person Liquor License Transfer from Acquired Capital, Inc. to Financial Freedom, LLC

A motion to approve Resolution No. 112-2020 was made by Councilwoman Domico and seconded by Council President Murtaugh. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 113-2020** – Approving participation with the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety in a Safe and Secure Communities Programs for 2020-2021

A motion to approve Resolution No. 113-2020 was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilwoman Domico. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 114-2020** – Authorizing the Mayor of Westville, or his designee, to sign an addendum to the contract with Pyrotecnico to conduct a Fireworks display as was approved in Resolution No. 51-2020

A motion to approve Resolution No. 114-2020, with the added language to allow reimbursement of the full deposit when a Pandemic has been declared, was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilwoman Domico. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 115-2020** – Appointing Darlene Powell to the position of Crossing Guard

A motion to approve Resolution No. 115-2020 was made by Councilwoman Domico and seconded by Councilman Young. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 116-2020** – Authorizing the appointment of Harry Blaschke to the Environmental Commission

A motion to approve Resolution No. 116-2020 was made by Councilman Nordaby and seconded by Council President Murtaugh. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 117-2020** – Authorizing the appointment of Edward Green to the Land Use Board

A motion to approve Resolution No. 117-2020 was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Lawrence. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 118-2020** – Authorizing the purchase of a 2009 Ford Crown Victoria from the Borough of Brooklawn for one dollar (\$1.00)

A motion to approve Resolution No. 118-2020 was made by Councilman Nordaby and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

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### **NEW BUSINESS:** *(Continued)*

- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 119-2020** – Authorizing the Mayor or his designee to sign a contract with the City of Gloucester to provide brine for inclement winter weather

A motion to approve Resolution No. 119-2020 was made by Councilwoman Domico and seconded by Councilman Mailley. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

#### **Discussion:**

- ❖ A motion to schedule the 2021 Reorganization meeting for Thursday, January 7, 2021 starting at 6 p.m. via Zoom was made by Councilman Young and seconded by Councilman Nordaby. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*
- ❖ A motion to accept the 2020 Council Committees revision of November 2020 was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Nordaby. *The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*
- ❖ Gibbstown LNG Port. Council discussed the letter received regarding the Gibbstown LNG Port and Council President Murtaugh and Councilman Young provided information on the operation and equipment and no action was taken on this issue.
- ❖ Councilman Lawrence confirmed the 2020 Tree Lighting Ceremony would be virtual and that the video of the event would be posted on Facebook and the Borough's web site. Discussion took place regarding Santa riding around town.
- ❖ Mayor Sims provided an update on a meeting he attended regarding a \$250,000 grant that has been approved to research flooding in Bellmawr, Brooklawn, Gloucester City and Westville. Public Works Superintendent Finger provided information on flooding around Willow and High streets. General discussion took place regarding the flooding issues in Westville.

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

#### **BILLS & VOUCHERS:**

A motion to dispense with reading of the bills was made by Councilwoman Domico and seconded by Councilman Young. *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 Councilman Nordaby. *Motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

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### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- ❖ Letter from the State of New Jersey regarding River Drive (a.k.a. Little River Road)
- ❖ Notification from PSE&G regarding Upcoming Vegetation Management Work

(A brief discussion led by Administrator Giles addressed the State acquiring Borough property for the River Drive project that includes a bridge from Verchio's Produce to Westville. Administrator Giles also talked about costs associated with installing a water pipe from Brooklawn to Westville. Council President Murtaugh also discussed closing off the cutoff that cuts across 130 to get to the Newbold section of town. A general discussion took place regarding traffic patterns in the River Drive area.)

### **PUBLIC PORTION:**

Councilman Mailley motioned to open the meeting to the public, Councilman Young seconded his motion that was approved by the entire Council.

- ❖ Tak Chan, 442 River Drive, inquired about the sale of the Deadline Drive property and Administrator Giles advised that the issue was schedule for discussion in the Executive session.

Hearing no further comments from the Public, Councilman Nordaby motioned to close the meeting to the public, Councilman Mailley seconded and his motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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

- ❖ Administrator Giles advised that due to the rise in COVID cases, the Borough was reducing the number of workers in the office at one time and when not in the office on a regular work day, full time employees would be working remotely with Borough laptops. Mayor Sims reminded council that anyone entering Borough Hall must wear a mask.
- ❖ Engineer Bryson provided an update on the Hazel Avenue project and advised he also reached out to the Department of Transportation regarding repairs to Delsea Drive. Repairs to Delsea Drive was also discussed.
- ❖ Lt. Michael Packer advised SLEO Jacob Bennett resigned to accept a full time position with the City of Collingswood. Lt. Packer provided an update on the Safe and Secure Grant and the new body cameras being worn by officers and that the DMV check point motor vehicle stops were put on hold due to COVID. Lt. Packer reported that their Chevy Tahoe is having repair issues and that the Emergency Management Plan was approved in October so it is good until August 2024. Lt. Packer also thanked everyone who assisted with the update to the Emergency Management Plan and provided general information on the DOT plan for River Drive. Mayor Sims asked if a replacement had been found for SLEO Bennett and Council President Murtaugh provided input regarding the replacement.

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### COMMENTS FROM MAYOR/COUNCIL/DEPARTMENT HEADS: (Continued)

- ❖ Council President Murtaugh wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving
- ❖ Councilman Nordaby provided an update on the 911 Memorial and wished everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving
- ❖ Councilman Lawrence talked about residents' concerns about branches down and the renaming of a part of Deadline Drive to 4 Heroes Way and wished everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.
- ❖ Councilwoman Domico talked about her participation on the Planning & Business Development Committee and asked about the height of the 911 beams. Councilwoman Domico and Council President Murtaugh talked about the Toys for Tots program.
- ❖ Councilman Young wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving
- ❖ Mayor Sims provided information on a Light Rail Line from a meeting he attended and that additional information was at Borough Hall.
- ❖ Council President Murtaugh asked if the Library was open and Deputy Clerk Carroll advised that Gwen Carotenuto called the Borough office to let us know that she will be closing the Library to the public, same as the Borough Hall.
- ❖ Councilwoman Domico asked who owns Lake Martha because at Third and Pine there was a large beaver dam and was wondering who was responsible for the property and it was suggested that Wheelabrator might be the responsible party.

### *Introduction by Title:*

**Ordinance 12-2020** - An Ordinance authorizing the Execution of an Agreement of Sale between the Borough of Westville and the State of New Jersey by the Commissioner of Transportation for the conveyance of a portion of Block 11, Lot 1 owned by the Borough for the Route 130 Bridge over Big Timber Creek Project (Project #NHP-0130(325))

A motion to approve Ordinance No. 12-2020 was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Young. *The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

Council President Murtaugh asked Public Works Superintendent Finger to contact the County to see if anyone can help with the beaver dam.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Deputy Clerk read **RESOLUTION No. 120-2020** - Authorizing an Executive Session to discuss Shared Services and Property Acquisition.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 120-2020 was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Young. *Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.*

*Time In: 8:42 p.m.*

*Time Out: 9:06 p.m.*

Motion to return to the public portion was made by Councilman Nordaby, Council President Murtaugh seconded and his motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.

- ❖ A motion to return the deposit submitted by Phillip Chan for the Mars Graphics Property and to revisit the sale of the property in 2021 by RFP was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Young. *Motion unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Nordaby and seconded by Councilman Young and his motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

*Kathleen Carroll*

Kathleen Carroll  
Deputy Municipal Clerk

*Next Council Meeting Scheduled for  
Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.*