

BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE

165 Broadway

July 6, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Work Session Meeting Minutes

Mayor Fritz H. Sims, Jr. called the July 6, 2021 Work Session 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 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 some council members being away from the Borough of Westville due to vacation.

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

Mayor Sims thanked Council Members for taking time from their vacation to attend the meeting so that action can be taken on time-sensitive matters.

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC: Motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Young and seconded by Councilman Murtaugh and his motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

As no one chose to address Council, Council President Murtaugh motioned to close the meeting to the public, Councilman Nordaby seconded and his motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

PUBLIC INTRODUCTION: *Stewardship/Green Acres Grant*

Administrator Giles discussed the Green Acres Grant the Borough will seek to remediate/dredge the pond at Thomas West Park that will cost approximately \$131,080. Administrator Giles advised, if awarded, 50% of the project costs (\$65,540) will be funded by the grant and the Borough would be responsible for the remaining 50%

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the pond project and submitting the request for the Grant.

Motion to open the meeting to the public to discuss the Green Acres Grant and remediation of the pond at Thomas West Park was made by Councilman Young and seconded by Councilwoman Domico and her motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- Allison Lucci, 161 Cedar Avenue, voiced her support of the project and that of the Environmental Commission as well.

Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Mailley and his motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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- ❖ **RESOLUTION No. 84-2021** – Authorizing an application for Green Acres funding to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$65,540 for the dredging of the Thomas West Park pond

A motion to approve Resolution No. 84-2021 was made by Councilwoman Domico and seconded by Councilman Lawrence and the vote was as follows:

*Roll Call: Ayes – Council Members: Domico, Lawrence, Mailley, Murtaugh, Nordaby, Young
Nays – None
Motion Carried*

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Giles provided an update on the purchase of 235 Edgewater by explaining that Ms. Diaz requested an extension until the end of December 2021.

Solicitor Scaffidi advised council could approve an extension until December 2021 but stated that he would not encourage council to permit the extension beyond 2021.

A general discussion took place regarding the sale of the property.

A motion to extend the payment for the purchase of 235 Edgewater to December 31, 2021 was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Mailley and the vote was as follows:

*Roll Call: Ayes – Council Members: Domico, Lawrence, Mailley, Murtaugh, Nordaby, Young
Nays – None
Motion Carried*

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR/COUNCIL DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- ❖ Mayor Sims asked the Ordinance committee to consider making Little River Drive a “no parking” area now that patrons to the Rail House Bar and Grill can use the municipal lot.
- ❖ Councilwoman Domico asked Solicitor Scaffidi the status of the declared Abandoned Properties project. Solicitor Scaffidi and Administrator Giles provided information which confirmed that the list of properties has been identified and the notice is ready for publication but the Borough is waiting for the Letter of Notification to the property owners so that they can move forward. Councilwoman Domico explained she is inquiring about the status of the project because two of the abandoned houses on the list are next to her home and that they have been vacant for quite some time. Administrator Giles provided an update on the Abandoned Properties project.
- ❖ Administrator Giles delivered an update on the deadline date for completing the Financial Disclosure Statements and stated he is in the process of reallocating the \$50,000 CDBG funds originally scheduled to be used for the pole barn project to use for repairs at the Community Center. Administrator Giles briefly discussed his plans for having a handicap bathroom installed at the Community Center.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Kathleen Carroll

Kathleen Carroll
Deputy Municipal Clerk

Next meeting:

July 15, 2021 – Regular Council Meeting (in person)