

BOROUGH OF WESTVILLE

165 Broadway

June 1, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes - Work Session

Mayor Fritz H. Sims, Jr. called the April 15, 2021 council meeting to order at 7:05 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.

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

Solicitor Krachun stated the Borough is going to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity on the below request from the Fire Department so that the Borough does not run into the same issue as the previous meeting where two of the four council members present, abstained from the vote which caused a no vote. Solicitor Krachun advised that all members are being asked to vote despite their previous stated reasons for abstention. Solicitor Krachun advised because of the timing issue (event scheduled for June 18th and the next Council Meeting is June 17th) members are being asked to vote tonight.

REQUEST from the Westville Fire Department to close Broadway to CR#551 and Duncan Avenue to Delsea Drive on June 18, 2021 for the 100th Anniversary of the Union Fire Company

A motion to approve the event was made by Councilman Mailley and seconded by Councilman Lawrence and the vote was as follows:

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

Tabled from the May 20, 2021 Council Meeting:

REQUEST from resident at 9 Locust Avenue for temporary handicap parking. *(Prior to the meeting, the request was sent to Public Safety Committee for review)*

A motion to approve the request for temporary handicap parking until November 30, 2021 was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Nordaby and the vote was as follows:

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

June 1, 2021 Work Session Meeting Minutes

Tabled from the May 20, 2021 Council Meeting: *(continued)*

REQUEST from a Deptford resident to use an area of Thomas West Park to give back to the community by singing, praise dancing and positive rap music. *(Prior to the meeting, the request was sent to the Public Buildings, Grounds and Parks Committee for review)*

Based on previous requests from non-residents, a motion to decline the request was made by Council President Murtaugh and seconded by Councilman Nordaby and the vote was as follows:

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

Discussion: Cannabis Law

Mayor Sims confirmed that the Solicitor is working on the Cannabis “opt out” Ordinance

PUBLIC PORTION:

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

- ❖ Michael Herrmann, 105 E. Olive Street, asked for clarification on the request from the Deptford resident who wanted to use the Park and Council President Murtaugh advised the request was declined for insurance reasons because the individual may be bringing in a group of people rather than just an individual singing in the Park.

Hearing no other comments, Councilman Nordaby motioned to close the meeting to the public, Councilman Lawrence seconded his motion that was approved by the entire Council.

HAZARD MITIGATION PROJECT. Administrator Giles led council members in completing the forms.

A general discussion took place specific to the Borough requesting Grants for various projects.

- ❖ Councilman Lawrence advised he was going to attend the Gloucester County Economic Development meeting on Friday and wanted to know if anyone wanted to join him. Administrator Giles stated he would attend as well.
- ❖ A discussion took place regarding the disrepair of the Soccer building at Chestnut Street.
- ❖ Mayor Sims advised he was sent a packet of information from the State regarding the Rt. 47 bridge project and asked Engineer Bryson to review the information. A discussion on the project took place including making a request to the State to install a traffic light at Little River Drive. Engineer Bryson confirmed he will submit a narrative of his findings upon completion of the report. Administrator Giles asked that Engineer Bryson also include information about the interconnect of the water between Brooklawn and Westville.

June 1, 2021 Work Session Meeting Minutes

- ❖ Mayor Sims suggested that with COVID restrictions being lifted the Borough go back to the regular seating chart for council meetings.
- ❖ Mayor Sims advised he and Councilmen Lawrence and Mailley attended the Mayor's Association meeting where Judge North and Judge Telsey made a presentation regarding the current state and future of New Jersey Courts, that included merging courts. The Judges also provided information on the decline of revenue in the Municipal Courts. A general discussion took place specific to costs and revenue related to Municipal Courts.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Kathleen Carroll

Kathleen Carroll
Deputy Municipal Clerk