

At a regular council meeting held on October 21, 2021 Westville Council approved and discussed the following. (note: four Council Members and the Mayor attended the meeting with two Council Members being absent.)

2021 MEETING MINUTES: The September 7th Work Session and Executive Session, September 20th Council Meeting and October 5th Work Session were all **approved** as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – There were no comments made by the general public.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – All reports were **approved** as submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

Public Hearing: There were no comments made by the general public.

(2nd Reading – Introduced September 7, 2021)

ORDINANCE No. 14-2021 – Amending Chapter 373, Vehicles and Traffic Article XI, Section 373.2, Schedule IXB: Four-Way Stop Intersections (Locust, Cedar & Oak) of the Code Book of the Borough of Westville was **approved**.

NEW BUSINESS

-----CONSENT AGENDA-----

The items listed below were considered to be routine by the Borough of Westville and was enacted by one motion. There was no formal discussion of these items.

RESOLUTION No. 112-2021 – Requesting approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation, NJSA, 40A:4-87 for Drive Sober Grant - \$2400.00 **Approved**.

RESOLUTION No. 113-2021 – Approving participation with the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety in a Safe and Secure Communities Program for 2021-2022 in the amount of \$16,200 **Approved**.

RESOLUTION No. 114-2021 – Approving the 2020 Audit and Group Affidavit **Approved**.

RESOLUTION No. 115-2021 – Authorizing the Mayor or his Designee to sign an Agreement with the New Jersey Transit Corporation to install one bus shelter on the Southbound side of Almonesson Road **Approved**.

RESOLUTION No. 116-2021 – Authorizing the Tax Collector to waive interest charges in the amount of \$12.36 on Account #462, 120 Delsea Drive **Approved**.

RESOLUTION No. 117-2021 – Authorizing the Borough of Westville to issue a refund totaling \$60.00 for a canceled Certificate of Occupancy inspection fee for a property at 21 Spruce Street **Approved**.

RESOLUTION No. 118-2021 – Authorizing the placement of Property Maintenance liens – October 21, 2021. **Approved**.

RESOLUTION No. 119-2021 – Appointing Kelly Scheffler to the position of part-time Library Director effective October 25, 2021 **Approved**.

RESOLUTION No. 120-2021 – Accepting the resignation of Patrolman Justin Muhlbaier from the Police Department effective October 25, 2021 **Approved**.

-----**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**-----

NEW BUSINESS *(continued)*

RESOLUTION No. 121-2021 – Authorizing approval of the Bill List for October 21, 2021
Approved.

RESOLUTION No. 122-2021 – Authorizing the Governing Body of the Borough of Westville to award the bid for roadway improvements to Birch Avenue, Boundary Lane, Boundary Lane Tennis Court Parking, Duncan Avenue parking and Duncan Avenue Storm Sewer to *Paving Plus LLC* who submitted the lowest bid of \$380,105.94 that included the base bid plus Alt A, B, and C. (Letter from Solicitor Scaffidi also included.) **Approved.**

RESOLUTION No. 123-2021 – Confirming sale of land to Steven T. Smalfus and Ann C. Smalfus, for Borough owned vacant land known as block 29, lots 6, 7 and 8 for the total sum of \$11,000.00 **Approved.**

REQUEST from the Rolling Badges to hold a 50/50 on Saturday, November 13, 2021 from noon to 5 p.m. *(required documents received)* **Approved.**

REQUEST from Gator Youth Football to hold a Coin Toss on November 7, 2021 *(required documents received. Request approved by the Police Department and County of Gloucester).*
Approved

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- **Best Practice Review** – Administrator Giles provided Council with Westville’s positive score on the Best Practices scale. **Westville did very well and scored a 21.8% rating** on a scale of 5% to 23% in which towns across NJ are expected to be rated.
- **Repairs to 128 Crown Point Road** – a discussion took place on how this borough owned property is in need of major repairs. The borough currently has two tenants who live at the property. After a detailed discussion it was decided that the repairs needed may be too costly for the borough and it may be more cost effective to have the house demolished. This issue will continue to be discussed.
- **Halloween / Trick or Treat hours** – Council approved the hours of 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. along with approving an 8:00 p.m. curfew from October 25th to October 31st.
- **2022 Fireworks** (continuation of discussion from September 7, 2021 meeting) – Gloucester City approached the borough and asked if they could be part of Westville and Brooklawn’s annual fireworks show. The Borough is continuing to look at the request and will investigate safe areas along Big Timber Creek to move the current location of the fireworks to a spot where all three towns can view and enjoy the fireworks. More investigation is needed before a decision can be made.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Audit letter from Petroni and Associates
- Letter from Steve Conover thanking Council for what they do, specifically the 9/11 Memorial

PUBLIC PORTION

- Several residents from Broadway, Pine, Center and New Streets expressing their concerns to Council about the two suspicious item incidents reported to be found on Broadway and again on Pine Street on October 18th, along with their concerns about the person charged. Residents stated that they fear for their lives and the safety of their kids and thanked the Police Department, Fire Department and all other agencies involved who responded to both incidents for a job well done. After listening to the residents' concerns, the governing body and acting Police Chief Packer stated they understood the residents' frustrations and are doing everything within their power to keep the person incarcerated. Unfortunately, "the system" continues to release the individual. Residents were told to call the Gloucester County Prosecutors Office Victim/Witness phone number at 856-384-5500 to express their concerns regarding this individual. Further, anyone else who has the same concerns should also contact the County Prosecutors Office.
- On the same issue above, council agreed to contact PSE&G to install other street lighting in the area to relieve some of the resident's safety concerns.
- A resident asked if a tree in front of her business could be removed since it is dying. The resident was told that the borough recently hired an outside tree service to trim and shape all trees within the downtown area between Duncan Ave and Delsea Drive and that some trees are insect infested and are dying. The tree the resident is referring to is on the list to be removed and replaced.
- A non-resident addressed Council and presented information on the proposed transport of LNG from Wyalusing, PA through Westville to Gibbstown using local roadways and rail lines. The individual asked council to pass a resolution opposing the proposed project.
- Another resident spoke and stated she strongly opposes the transportation of LNG through Westville.
- Another resident asked Council to do their own research on the proposed LNG transportation project before passing a resolution opposing the project.
- A resident spoke about parking issues in specific areas of downtown along Broadway. She was advised to call the police as needed. The Public Works Department will be looking into painting the area mentioned yellow at the driveway curbing. The resident was also advised that Broadway, in the downtown area, will soon be painted to mark parking spaces which should also help with her issue.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR/COUNCIL/DEPARTMENT HEADS

- Administrator Giles asked Mayor and Council to consider approving a capital project to continue monitoring wells on borough property for leakage from a non-borough property
- Councilman Nordaby spoke about the successful 9/11 memorial dedication and services and thanked everyone involved for their assistance.
- Council President Murtaugh spoke about the possibly of saving \$40,000 on the Boundary Lane/Birch Avenue school project by removing an existing service pole within the area.
- Mayor Sims spoke further on the incident on Broadway and Pine Streets and thanked the residents for attending the council meeting and bringing their concerns to council. Mayor Sims reminded everyone if they "See Something, Say Something" as someone did this past week regarding the suspicious item incidents. Mayor Sims closed his comments by stating "Get Involved & Make a Difference".

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION No. 124-2021 - Authorizing an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters in the Public Works Department was approved. The executive session was held from 8:41 p.m. to 9:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT - was in order at 9:07 p.m.

Next meeting
November 2 Work Session canceled
Council Meeting - November 18