

The regular council meeting of November 18, 2021 was attended by: Mayor Fritz Sims, Council Members: Donna Domico, Travis Lawrence, Paul Mailley, Chuck Murtaugh, Bruce Nordaby and Tim Young. The following Borough business was addressed at the meeting:

2021 MEETING MINUTES: October 21 Council and Executive sessions approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: There were no comments from the public.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Accepted as submitted.

Mayor Sims asked the Borough Engineer for an update regarding two different In-line Check Valves that may help with the Borough's flooding issues. The Engineer reported that he is still researching this project and will report back. The Mayor asked the Engineer to make this research project a priority.

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 on these items.

RESOLUTION No. 125-2021 - Accepting the resignation of Jonathan Coffin from the Public Works Department effective November 5, 2021 - **Approved.**

RESOLUTION No. 126-2021 - Appointing Cristian Javier Nunez-Soto to the position of Laborer I within the Public Works Department effective October 19, 2021 - **Approved.**

RESOLUTION No. 127-2021 - Appointing Kyle C. Petersen to the position of Laborer within the Public Works Department effective November 9, 2021 - **Approved.**

RESOLUTION No. 128-2021 - Authorizing the placement of property maintenance liens on various properties - **Approved.**

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

NEW BUSINESS (continued)

RESOLUTION No. 129-2021 - Authorizing the Mayor or his designee to sign a five-year contract with OMNI Recycling LLC for the Borough's recyclable materials. Councilwoman Domico raised questions regarding this contract so it was decided to table this Resolution until the December 18th meeting to gather more information - **Tabled**

RESOLUTION No. 130-2021 - Authorizing approval of the Bill List for November 18, 2021- **Approved.**

RESOLUTION No. 131-2021 - Authorizing the refund of Land Use Escrow account balances totaling \$221.10 for RPM Development, Westville Commons - **Approved.**

RESOLUTION No. 132-2021 – Authorizing water service at 225 Maple Avenue be turned off at the owner’s request and charges be removed from the account (*Request was sent to the Water committee for review prior to the meeting.*) - **Approved.**

RESOLUTION No. 133-2021 – Authorizing the Mayor or his designee to sign an Agreement with the New Jersey Transit Corporation to install one bus shelter on the Northbound side of Delsea Drive at Almonesson Road - **Approved.**

REQUEST from the Falcons baseball team to use the Park Avenue field starting March 1, 2022 through August 9, 2022 five days a week from 4 pm to 9 pm. (*Request was sent to the Parks committee for review prior to the meeting.*) - **Approved.**

REQUEST from the resident at 445 Woodbine Avenue for assistance to remove trees from his property that were planted by the Shade Tree Committee and are causing the sidewalk to rise – **Request was denied.**

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

2022 Fireworks (continuation of discussion from the September 7th and October 21st meetings)

Action Taken: Council will continue to have discussions regarding Gloucester City joining the Fireworks show. Council decided (1) further research is needed to identify a location where fireworks can be launched so that Westville, Brooklawn and Gloucester City will have the best possible view of the show and (2) test launches should be conducted before a final decision is made.

The Rail House Lease Agreement (formerly Tower Tavern)

Action Taken: The parking situation was discussed and will be added to the lease agreement for review and approval by both The Rail House and the Borough

Date for Reorganization meeting – *to be determined*

2022 Council and Work Session meeting dates – *to be determined*

COMMUNICATIONS

- Letter from State of New Jersey, Department of Transportation confirming the Borough received funding for the Reconstruction of the Lehigh Avenue and State Road project totaling \$240,000.00
- Mayor Sims announced he received a letter from the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection that the Borough will be receiving a Green Acres matching grant of \$65,540 for improvements to be made to the pond at Thomas West Park. The letter advised that funding for this project is contingent upon the passage of legislative appropriations. The Deputy Clerk read the letter of notification in full and Mayor and Council were pleased to hear the news. Mayor Sims thanked Councilman Lawrence, Allison Lucci of the Borough’s Environmental Committee, Borough Administrator Giles and Borough Engineer Bryson for finding this grant and putting it all together and congratulated them on a job well done.

PUBLIC PORTION

- A non-resident addressed Mayor and Council with a follow-up presentation from last month's council meeting with further information on the proposed transport of LNG from Wyalusing, Pennsylvania through Westville to Gibbstown using local roadways and rail lines. The individual who made the presentation is requesting council pass a resolution opposing the proposed project.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR/COUNCIL/DEPARTMENT HEADS

- All council members and the mayor congratulated Councilman Nordaby and Councilman Young on being reelected to council for another three-year term during the recent elections.
- Councilman Lawrence discussed changing the location and placement of the Borough Christmas Tree from the gazebo at Thomas West Park to the front of the Borough Hall due to vandalism that has taken place over the last few years. Councilman Lawrence suggested placing artificial trees in the gazebos at both Thomas West and Galbraith Parks, strung with lights only, to avoid costly repairs to the Borough Tree.
- Council President Murtaugh discussed the new street light, installed by PSE&G, that was placed on Center Street due to recent complaints by residents and safety concerns. Council President Murtaugh also advised that any organization planning to hold a special event on borough property must complete an Incident Action Plan (IAP) when submitting their request for approval.
- Mayor Sims advised that at the last Town Watch meeting it was reported that the gazebo at Galbraith Park is in need of repair due to vandalism. Mayor Sims visited the park and found that in addition to the gazebo, the dock was also in need of repair. As a result of the damage to Borough property, Mayor Sims asked the Public Works department to make the needed repairs as soon as possible.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION No. 134-2021 - Authorizing an Executive Session to discuss sale of borough owned property - **Approved.**

After coming out of executive session, council approved several resolutions regarding the recent auction and sale of borough owned lots located on Timber Avenue

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Next meeting
Council Meeting - December 7