

Minutes of the Council Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Woodbridge, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey held on June 27, 2023 at the Municipal Building, 1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095.

Members of the Council and all those present gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Gregg Ficarra, Council President: Can we have a moment of reflection? We recently celebrated Juneteenth, Freedom Day and coming up is Independence Day. We all know that our freedom is not free per say, so let's keep all those folks that are overseas fighting for our freedom in our thoughts and those that made the ultimate sacrifice.

Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law have been satisfied concerning this meeting. The Home News Tribune and The Star Ledger published the Annual Notice Schedule on November 25, 2022. A copy of the Schedule was posted on the Municipal bulletin board. It should be so noted in the minutes of this meeting.

The Municipal Clerk took the Municipal Council attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Howie Bauer, Lizbeth DeJesus, Sharon McAuliffe, Debbie Meehan, Viru Patel, Brian Small, Cory Spillar, Kyle Anderson, Gregg Ficarra

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: John E. McCormac, Mayor
John Mitch, Municipal Clerk
Vito Cimilluca, Business Administrator
Casey Wagner, Deputy Business Administrator
John Hagerty, Director of Communications
Marta Darden, Director of Planning and Development
Robert Hubner, Director of Police
George Brew, Director of Public Works
Gary Clemente, Esq.

The Municipal Clerk: Can I get a motion to approve the minutes from June 13, 2023?

Council Vice President Anderson moved the adoption of the following minutes seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

Council Meeting:

June 13, 2023

The Municipal Clerk read the following Ordinances by Title on Second Reading as Consent stating that copies of these Ordinances were posted on the Municipal bulletin board.

- A. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7, TRAFFIC, TO REGULATE THE DIRECT DISBURSING OF FUEL INTO ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES AND DIRT BIKES AND THE DELIVERY TO AND REMOVAL FROM STORAGE FACILITIES. (2023-47)**

- B. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING THE AMENDED “SMITH STREET AND NEWTON STREET REDEVELOPMENT PLAN”, PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A et seq.* (2023-48)**

- C. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 150, LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, REGARDING PILOP PAYMENTS. (2023-49)**

- D. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CERTAIN PROPERTY OWNED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY BY PUBLIC ACTION (28 SOUTH CHURCH STREET). (2023-50)**

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Beginning with Second Reading of the Ordinances this evening, we are going to take Letter A first, which is an Amendment to Chapter 7, which regulates the disbursement of fuel into all-terrain vehicles and dirt bikes and the delivery to and or from the storage facility. Can I get a motion this Ordinance be taken up on Second and Third Reading and the public hearing be opened?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: The public hearing is now open on Letter A.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Hearing no comment from the public, can I get a motion that the public hearing be closed, the Ordinance be adopted and submitted to the Mayor for approval as required by law?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Letter B is an Ordinance of The Township Council adopting the Amended Smith Street and Newton Street Redevelopment Plan. Can I get a motion that the Ordinance be taken up on Second and Third Reading and the public hearing be opened?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: The public hearing is now open on Letter B.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: Asked if the Smith Street property was located behind the church.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: It's Keasbey Fire House.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Are there any other questions or comments on Letter B? Hearing no other comments, can I get a motion that the public hearing be closed, the Ordinance be adopted and submitted to the Mayor for approval as required by law?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: We'll take Letter C, which is an Amendment to our Land Use Ordinances with regards to PILOP payments, Payment in Lieu of Parking. Can I get a motion that this Ordinance be taken up on Second and Third Reading and the public hearing be opened?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: The public hearing is now open on Letter C.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: Asked if the redevelopment site was a property in Avenel. (Inaudible)

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: No. Chapter 150, sir, doesn't have anything to do with this. (Inaudible)

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Any other comments on Letter C? Hearing no other comments, can I get a motion that the public hearing be closed, the Ordinance be adopted and submitted to the Mayor for approval as required by law?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Letter D is an Ordinance authorizing the sale of certain property, 28 South Church Street. Can I get a motion that this Ordinance be taken up on Second and Third Reading and the public hearing be opened?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: The public hearing is now open on Letter D.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Hearing no comment from the public, can I get a motion that the public hearing be closed, the Ordinance be adopted and submitted to the Mayor for approval as required by law?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

The Municipal Clerk called for a First Reading of the following Ordinances as consent:

E. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 3, POLICE REGULATIONS, TO REGULATE NOISE.

F. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED "TRAFFIC", SECTION 7-12, PARKING TIMES, OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE – TO DELETE – OAK TREE ROAD; TO ADD – OAK TREE ROAD.

G. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THAT TITLE AND POSSESSION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 23.05, LOT 1 BE CONVEYED TO THE PERTH AMBOY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY.

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously that these Ordinances be passed on First Reading, to be published in the Home News Tribune on Friday, June 30, 2023 with Notice of Public Hearing to be held on July 11, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

The Municipal Clerk introduced the following Resolutions as Consent.

- (1) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the request for a Block Party located at 217 Continental Avenue, Colonia, NJ, closing Continental Avenue on July 15, 2023 from 2 p.m. – 8 p.m.
- (2) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the request of the Avenel Fire Company #1 to host a Fire Prevention Open House, closing Route 1 North and Avenel Street on Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- (3) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes that Resolution #2 adopted on April 5, 2022 appointing Kyle Lawrence and Lisa Bergstrom to the Rent Leveling Board is hereby amended in pertinent part to delete Kyle Lawrence and there is no change to Lisa Bergstrom's appointment as a member of the Rent Leveling Board.
- (4) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes that Resolution #11 adopted on June 21, 2022 appointing Nishben Gajjar to the Oak Tree Road Special Improvement District is hereby rescinded.
- (5) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue a refund for 100% Disable Veteran, Randal Bisset.
- (6) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue refunds for overpaid sewer user fees.
- (7) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue checks for overpaid taxes.
- (8) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Comptroller to issue a refund from the Developer's Refund Account for Urban Renewal for Minor Site Plan and Bulk Variances in the amount of \$2,993.08.
- (9) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Comptroller to issue a permit refund to A PLUS ROOFING & HOME SERVICES in the amount of \$40.00.
- (10) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial officer to issue a refund for a Peddler's License to the Estate of Cindy Ciasco.
- (11) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the release of Maintenance Bond No. B10038107M, for Sanitary Sewer Improvements on East Park Avenue, Elmwood Avenue, Pershing Avenue, Rahway Avenue and Stephen Avenue, from Aegis Security Insurance Company in the amount of \$98,424.79.
- (12) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes that any quarterly property tax installment due for the third quarter of Calendar Year 2023 for which payment

has not been received by August 31, 2023, shall be charged interest from August 1, 2023 to the date of that payment.

- (13) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Certification of Preliminary Fiscal Year Tax Levies reflecting a Preliminary Tax Levy of \$101,432,719 for the calendar year 2023.
- (14) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby supports the application for the Lead Grant Assistance Program in the amount of \$68,000.
- (15) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and Municipal Clerk to execute a Shared Services Agreement for Animal Control Services between the Township of Woodbridge and the Borough of Milltown for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
- (16) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute a Shared Services Agreement for Animal Control Services between the Township of Woodbridge and the Borough of Spotswood for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
- (17) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute a Shared Services Agreement for Animal Control Services between the Township of Woodbridge and the City of South Amboy for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
- (18) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute a Shared Services Agreement for Animal Control Services between the Township of Woodbridge and the Borough of Roselle Park for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
- (19) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute a Shared Services Agreement for Animal Control Services between the Township of Woodbridge and the Township of East Brunswick for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
- (20) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to execute a Discharge of Mortgage to Pablo and Luz Ramos, 137 Ellen Avenue, Hopelawn.
- (21) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to execute a Discharge of Mortgage to Dennis and Donna Romano, 380 Lord Street, Avenel.
- (22) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute any documents necessary for the purchase of making or completing a contract between the successful bidder, Foggia Trinity Electric, LLC, and the Township of Woodbridge, for the Intersection Improvements at Inman Avenue and Jordan Road, in the amount of \$395,979.50.

(23) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Acrisure, LLC, d/b/a North American Insurance Management Corporations for professional health benefits consulting services for the Township in the amount of \$326,432 per year, billed monthly for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 and \$329,696.00 per year, billed monthly for the period July 1, 2024 through June 20, 2025.

(24) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute any documents necessary for the purchase of an SGEA Annual Subscription Renewal for GIS Software from ESRI, Inc. in the amount of \$56,700.00 per year for a three (3) year renewal period not to exceed a total of \$170,100.00.

(25) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute any documents necessary for the purchase and install of a roof for the Fords Library from Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$479,918.08.

(26) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with CME Associates for professional engineering services for Digital Tax Map Maintenance/MOD-IV Review and GIS Support and Mapping Assistance for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$73,960.00.

(27) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with CME Associates, for professional engineering services for the 2024 Milling and Resurfacing Program in an amount not to exceed \$428,020.00.

(28) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Colliers Engineering & Design for professional engineering services for Improvements to Paddock Street in an amount not to exceed \$174,000.00.

(29) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Messercola Excavating Co. for Demolition, Disposal, Backfill and Compaction Services for 116 N. James Street, Woodbridge, in an amount not to exceed \$45,500.00.

(30) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Messercola Excavating Co. for the Demolition, Disposal, Backfill and Compaction Services for 114 N. James Street, Woodbridge, in an amount not to exceed \$56,000.00.

- (31) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Two Brothers Contracting, Inc. for Demolition Services for 107 Ross Street, Woodbridge, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00.
- (32) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute any documents necessary for the purchase of desktop computers for Dell USA LP, in the amount of \$60,896.60.
- (33) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes execution of the Final Change Order on the contract with Foggia Trinity Electric, LLC for the Inman Avenue Streetscape Program in the amount of \$47,282.00, increasing the contract amount of \$143,537.00 to a total of \$190,819.00.
- (34) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby (PULLED)
- (35) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves of the renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption licenses for the 2023-2024 license term.
- (36) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves of the renewal of Plenary Retail Distribution licenses for the 2023-2024 license term.
- (37) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the Person-To-Person transfer of Liquor License No. 1225-33-039-012 from Dragonfly Woodbridge, Inc. to all American Restaurant Corp. effective June 30, 2023.
- (38) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the Person-To-Person/Place-To-Place transfer of Liquor License No. 1225-33-044-003 from Liberty Tavern of Fords, Inc. to Jolly Rogers Bar & Grill LLC, 631-633 King Georges Road, Fords, effective June 27, 2023.
- (39) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby wishes to correct Resolution No. 7 adopted on June 13, 2023 to correctly reflect the licensee as BAY LEAVES, LLC for Liquor License # 1225-33-064-007.
- (40) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Planning Board to conduct a preliminary investigation to determine if certain real property in the Avenel section of Woodbridge Township is an area in need of redevelopment.
- (41) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the insertion of a Special Item of Revenue into the SFY 2023 budget for the NJDEP Stormwater Assistance grant in the amount of \$98,400.00.
- (42) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the insertion of a Special Item of Revenue into the SFY 2023 budget for the NJDEP/GSPT Green Acres Dog Park & Marina Improvements grant in the amount of \$1,285,113.00.

- (43) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the insertion of a Special Item of Revenue into the SFY 2023 budget for the HUD Community Project Fund Grant in the amount of \$1,000,000.00.
- (44) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the correction of Resolution No. 15 adopted on June 13, 2023 listed with an incorrect budget account. Whereas, the correct budget account to charge the purchase of a used garbage truck from American Hose & Hydraulics should have read as #3-01-160-1660-0000-5295 not as the listed budget account #3-01-160-1600-0000-5295.
- (45) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the State Fiscal Year 2023 Budget appropriations transfer.
- (46) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the cancellation of old outstanding checks from various funds in the amount of \$51,230.65.
- (47) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the cancellation of Grant balances.
- (48) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the cancellation of Sewer Utility Appropriations balances.
- (49) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Temporary Appropriations for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget.
- (50) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Temporary Appropriations Debt Service for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget.
- (51) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the Bill List dated June 27, 2023 and the Supplemental Bill List dated June 10, 2023 through June 23, 2023 and the Addendum to the June 27, 2023 Bill List.

Council Vice President Anderson moved the adoption of the foregoing Resolutions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

Public Meeting:

Council President Ficarra: We are now going to go in to the public portion of the meeting. When approaching the microphone which is in the back, please state your name and what section of the town or state that you live in. You will have five minutes which includes interacting with anyone from the Council or Administration. All videotaping, there is a section in the back of the room and that is the only area that you can videotape. When there is a one minute warning I will try to give a gesture so that you have the opportunity to close out and make your final point. So we're

open now for the public. If anyone has anything on their mind, now is the time. Please go to the back microphone. The microphone is predominately for the recording it's not necessarily to amplify your voice we can hear you loud and clear so don't worry about that.

Carrie Morales, Woodbridge: Spoke about someone urinating near her chain link fence and people parking on the side of her house that sometimes sit in their car for hours with clouds of smoke coming out of their windows, the scent of marijuana near her home, concerned about her child growing up and witnessing drug use of any kind. Spoke about reaching out to Council President Ficarra about these issues and thanked him for helping to keep her family and her neighborhood safe with the recent police presence in her neighborhood. Also mentioned that there is a lot of public negativity regarding those in public service and not enough gratitude.

Council President Ficarra: Most of the thanks, of course, goes to the Director. Can you please extend that to the Department? The guys that came out were fabulous because they also spoke to my wife. She had no idea what was going on. Keep up the good work. Councilwoman McAuliffe was active in that. That's her area and she's the first person that I called. Thank you.

Council Vice President Anderson: I just want to say thank you very much for coming in and speaking on this. Our police officers don't always hear that and our Council people don't always hear that, when something goes well. So thank you, we appreciate it.

Scott Gawrych, Woodbridge: Mention his background in finance. Spoke about the State Legislature giving an open invitation to continue with 30 year PILOTS and how it keeps moving through the Legislature. Spoke about the proposed tax cuts for the Senior Citizens and how it will negatively impact other tax payers by increasing taxes for resident that are not Senior Citizens. Spoke about residents fleeing from New Jersey because property taxes are out of control. Would like feedback from the Council regarding the financial report that he put together for the Woodmont property.

Council President Ficarra: Scott, I can only speak for myself on this. I appreciate your work in this area and your feelings and opinions on it. You mentioned twice today your background. And purely from my perspective, I'm not going to speak on behalf of the Council, but when you talk about backgrounds, Mayor McCormac is the former Treasurer of the State of New Jersey. He holds an MBA. I have been on the Council person for 16 years and we've had numerous financial things that we have to deal with whether it's through buildings and PILOTS and I have supported the Mayor. He has explained it to me and I have asked him your questions and I am totally satisfied with that. I respect your credentials and I certainly respect his credentials.

Mark and Kenny, Fords: Introduced themselves as the new owners of the Liberty Tavern and wanted to let Council know that they will be opening up very soon. Thanked Council for the opportunity and they are looking forward to running the new restaurant.

Council President Ficarra: We wish you good luck and we certainly welcome new businesses in the community.

Lenuta Chituc, Fords: Stated that she came to a Council meeting last year regarding a particular issue that has yet to be resolved regarding the parking lot at Joy's Dance House, 747 King Georges Road in Fords. Spoke about the property being converted to a commercial building and there is no buffer, her fence has been broken. Asked the Township to check in to this.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: Spoke about who is paying for the clean-up at the property on James Street and 107 Ross Street and he believes that the Town is paying for the clean-up and not the previous owners and would like to know why. (Inaudible)

Council President Ficarra: I know the intention of 114 and 116 as it relates to today's meeting, is that we have a pool of people that qualify to do demolition work and that is all that Resolution pertains to. Mayor, do you have anything to add to that?

John E. McCormac, Mayor: I don't know of any issues with 114 or 116 North James Street that involve any kind of environmental clean-up. You always have to look at a property to make sure that there are no environmental issues. We do that for anything we buy. And it's not environmental cleanup, its environmental analysis to make sure there is nothing wrong before we purchase and demolish it. That's what we do with all properties. Of course we are paying for the demolition of it because we're making it into a parking lot that we are going to use.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: Questioned the repair shop on the corner of James Street.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: That was a complicated transaction because it was done with a purely cooperative sale. We had to purchase it and put money in escrow and clean it with the money that the owner would have gotten otherwise.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: Spoke about the concerts behind Woodbridge High School and a recent lightning storms. Commented that there should be a warning system to allow people to clear the field area safely. Mentioned another property in Iselin where someone was struck by lightning.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: Which property? There is lightning detection at Woodbridge High School and it covers all the outside facilities. It went off the night of the concert as the first song was being played and we cleared the field and we waited for the lights to stop flashing and that means it's safe. You can't not use the field for the whole rest of the day or night. You have to wait for the time to come up when it's safe and then we use it again. There was detection at J.F.K. High School and everybody heard it. I'm sorry, Iselin Middle School. The problem is that he was using a piece of machinery and the storm came incredibly quick from a drizzle to a little heavier to a down pour within 30 seconds. So there is detection there. I don't know what you keep hearing in your hair salon but there is a lighting detection system and I heard it. I heard it when I was standing out there on the field after the accident happened.

Council President Ficarra: The Mayor has responded. You are done with your five minutes.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: And if you have an issue, you should bring it to the school board but you're not telling the truth because I heard the lightning detection system for myself.

Lenuta Chituc, Fords: Spoke out asking for a response to her concerns about the commercial property next to her home located at 747 King Georges Road in Fords.

Council President Ficarra: Director Darden, do you have anything to share with us on this?

Marta Darden, Director of Planning and Development: Yes. I spoke with Miss Chituc last year when she came to the meeting. I sent her several emails. I know that Mike Logan in Housing speaks with her and emails back and forth with her on a regular basis and checks out every complaint that she makes. Unfortunately, the building in question was built in the 20's. It was a tavern and there is a whole history that we researched, so it is not subject to the 15 percent buffer regulation that Miss Chituc would like to see. I know that is not an answer that she wants to hear and it's not the answer that I want to give her because we're in the business of doing whatever we can to help our residents. But that answer isn't going to change. So, however many times we get the question that is going to be the answer. But, Mike will continue, as the Chief of Housing, to follow up on every concern she gives us about vehicles and the businesses that she is living around. We pledge to keep doing that as long as it takes to get her whatever help we can. Unfortunately this is not an issue where we can provide a different answer.

Lenuta Chituc, Fords: Excuse me, I would like to just talk.

Council President Ficarra: Excuse me ma'am, please sit down, if you want to address it, we'll follow up on it, but not to have you have you stand up. You had your five minutes. If you'd like to wait after the meeting, I would be happy to speak with you and hear what you have to say. Thank you. Anyone else?

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Hearing no other comment from the public, can I get a motion that the public comment portion be closed?

Vice President Anderson made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting which was seconded by Councilman Spillar Council and carried unanimously at 6:30 p.m.

GREGG FICARRA, COUNCIL PRESIDENT / COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE:

1. WCC (Woodbridge Community Center).
(A) Senior Recreation and programming.
(B) Youth Recreation and programming.
HOLD

The Community Center is busy with different types of events. We now have pickleball instruction and our miniature golf course. Our outdoor pools, Highland Grove in Fords and Springwood Swim Club in Colonia are open.

2. Youth Month – April.
Senior Month – May.
HOLD

3. Mayor's Fitness / Wellness Initiatives.
HOLD
4. Fireworks.
HOLD
July 3rd is our Fireworks Celebration of Independence Day at Alvin B. Williams Park. The park will be closed during the day. The gates will open up at 4 p.m. We have music by Blame it on Richie and A.M. Gold and the fireworks go off at dusk.
5. Heroes & Cool Kids / Strengthening Families.
HOLD
6. Pedestrian Safeway's / East Coast Greenway.
HOLD
7. Annual Pizza Run.
HOLD
On July 12th we will have our Annual Pizza Run. That is run by our Recreation Department. If you have any questions, you can call 732-596-4048 or go to www.compuscore.com/WB for Woodbridge and you can register online.
8. Jacob's Landing.
HOLD
9. The Club at Woodbridge Upgrades.
HOLD
10. Crossroad's Race.
HOLD
11. Mental Health / Wellness.
HOLD
12. COVID-19 Efforts.
HOLD
13. Mobile Health Unit.
HOLD
14. Senior Services Directory.
HOLD
15. Human Rights Commission.
HOLD
16. Concerts.
HOLD

Our concert series started off well but Mother Nature hasn't cooperated so we'll jump ahead to this Thursday. We have the Kickback Band over by our waterfront and on Sunday, July 2nd, we have Dead Grass, which is a tribute to Grateful Dead.

The Acacia Youth Center is opened up as a drop-in center from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and that's open to the students for the summer. Entry is sixth grade through eighth grade. That is the intent of the Acacia Youth Center in Port Reading.

KYLE ANDERSON, COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT / COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE

Council President Ficarra: Council Vice President Anderson.

Council Vice President Anderson: Thank you Council President.

1. W.T.Y.R.C.
HOLD

2. Job Bank.
HOLD

If you go on to our Employment Opportunity Center, please see that there are positions open for substitute teachers, Robert Wood Johnson, St. Barnabas, New Jersey Division of Civil Rights and New Jersey Defense Manufacturing, FEMA, and New Jersey Transit.

3. Mayor's Trophy.
HOLD

4. Woodbridge Hall of Fame.
HOLD

All of our ballots are in for the Woodbridge Hall of Fame. WTAAA which is our athletes that graduated from one of the three high schools, Woodbridge, J.F.K. or Colonia, that are 20 years graduated and they did great things on the athletic fields in high school or in college. We will be releasing the name hopefully by the next meeting. Then we will have our banquet in September and we ask that everyone try to attend. It's usually held at the Community Center. It's a great event and a nice way to honor our past athletes.

5. Taste of Woodbridge.
HOLD

6. Charity Raffle.
HOLD

7. Drive-In Movies.
HOLD

8. N.A.A.C.P. (*NAACP.org*)
HOLD

Last night I was able to attend and swear in the Executive Board of the NAACP. I would like to congratulate Reverend Donna Stewart and her Executive Board on the establishment of the Executive Board and having their first in person meeting since the Pandemic. I was honored to swear those individuals in.

9. Dr. Martin Luther King Annual Program.
HOLD

10. Independent Club of Colonia.
HOLD

I want to thank the Independent Club of Colonia for their participation during Juneteenth.

11. Tooling Around Program.
HOLD

The final ramps were installed. These are repairs for those who are unable to or cannot afford repairs. Thanks to Eddie McSherry and the crews that go out to these homes for repairs or even yard clean ups.

12. Boy Scouts/Camping.
HOLD

13. League Consolidation.
HOLD

14. Middlesex College
HOLD

15. Woodbridge Organization of Neighbors Advocating Change.
HOLD

I would like to thank this organization for holding what was probably our best attended Juneteenth event. Thank you to the Police and Fire Department for helping and being there. I also want to thank the Mayor for helping out with the band Epic One. They were fantastic as well as the DJ. I encourage everyone to come next year.

16. Geo Baker Clinics.
HOLD

I did go to the dedication at the Library, Councilwoman DeJesus, I know you weren't able to attend, for Ed Beckerman. He was basically the father of our library system. There was a beautiful plaque dedicated in his honor. The library was built in 1974 but he was the first one to tie all of our libraries around town into one system. Unfortunately he passed in October but there were a lot of people there that reminisced on his leadership and his vision for our library system, including his son, Lee Beckerman who was our Director of TV-35, who recently retired. I want to thank everyone that attended. That is all I have.

HOWIE BAUER, 2nd WARD COUNCILMAN:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilman Bauer.

Councilman Bauer: Thank you Council President. My Agenda is in order. I have a few announcements.

1. 2nd Ward Road Projects.
HOLD
2. County Greenway.
HOLD
3. Downtown Parking on New Brunswick Avenue.
HOLD
4. Woodbridge Waterfront Park/Keasbey.
HOLD
5. Hometown Hero Banners.
HOLD
6. Fords Business Community.
A. Cruise Night/Trunk or Treat
HOLD
The flea market that was rained out last Sunday was rescheduled to Sunday, July 16th from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at our public parking lot on New Brunswick Avenue next to the V.F.W.
7. Fords/Hopelawn/Keasbey Fire Companies.
HOLD
8. Fords V.F.W.
HOLD
9. Troop 53 Boy Scouts of America.
HOLD
10. Pathmark Property.
HOLD
11. Brownfields.
HOLD
12. Hickory Senior Center.
HOLD

13. Greenway Family Success Center.
HOLD
14. Highland Grove Swim Pool.
HOLD
15. Little Libraries.
HOLD
16. 988 LIFE LINE.
HOLD

Just a reminder that school is out. Please be cautious while driving down our streets, please be mindful of our children and have a safe and enjoyable summer. Thank you Council President. That is all that I have.

BRIAN SMALL, COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilman Small.

Councilman Small: Thank you Council President. My Agenda is in order.

1. Woodbridge News.
HOLD
2. Woodbridge Fire Fighters Local #290.
HOLD
3. Port Reading Fire and Township First Aid Squads.
HOLD
4. Woodbridge P.B.A. / S.O.A. #38.
HOLD
5. Bicycle Lanes/ Bicycle Share/ Bicycle Paths.
HOLD
6. Electric Vehicle Car Share/ Car Charging Stations.
HOLD
7. School Projects.
HOLD
8. S.T.O.W. (Register @ 732-726-2394 for Client Transport ID#).
HOLD

9. Level Playing Field @ Cypress Recreation Center/Our House.
HOLD
10. Property Fraud (www.middlesexcounty.nj.gov search for “Property Alert” to Register).
HOLD
11. Inspections at Hotels/Motels.
HOLD
12. National Public Lands Day (9/24/22).
HOLD
13. 2-3-8 Marine Fire Rescue.
HOLD
14. Mayor Mac Café.
HOLD
15. Light Parade (11/25/23).
HOLD
16. American Irish Association of Woodbridge.
HOLD
The American Irish Association is hosting an event called An Irish Night Out at Parker Press, featuring The Willie Lynch Band on Friday, July 7th at 6 p.m.
17. Woodbridge B.P.O.E. Elks 2116.
HOLD
Saturday, July 22nd, the Woodbridge Elks will have Boardwalk Night from 4 p.m.-10 p.m. Fun and games for all and admission is free.
18. Autograph Signings.
HOLD
On Saturday, July 15th, Woodbridge Brewery is hosting at meet and greet with Jets, Wide Receiver, Allen Lazard from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. To purchase tickets, call the brewery at 732-654-2929.

The Mayor’s Free Summer Children’s Series, suitable for ages 2-10, will be Rumpelstiltskin on Saturday, July 22nd, from 10 a.m.-11 a.m., Snow White, Saturday, August 12th, from 10 a.m.-11 a.m. Suitable for children ages 6-10, there are Outdoor concerts; Ball in the House Presents “Totally Vocally” on Saturday, July 8th from 10 a.m.-11 a.m., The ALS presents “Outside Rock” on Saturday, August 5th at 10 a.m. And, suitable for ages 10-14, there are Outdoor DJ Dance Parties on Fridays, from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. on June 30th, July 14th, July 28th, and August 18th. All events will be held at Parker Press, which is at 400 Rahway Avenue. All children must be accompanied by an adult. There will be police presence to allow for safe crossing from the parking lot.

Last Friday, somehow, someway, the dolphin came into the Sewaren section of town. Apparently it was ill. The Police Department and the Fire Department spent most of the day out there trying to rescue the dolphin and finally it beached itself in the weeds. I know a lot of firemen out there had to get the dolphin in to a van and a Conservation officer took the dolphin away. Unfortunately, I read today that the dolphin did pass away. I want to thank everyone that helped that day.

Happy Fourth of July to everyone. God Bless our Police Officers, Firefighters, EMTs and all of our Township employees and God Bless America. That is all I have.

LIZBETH DEJESUS, COUNCILWOMAN-AT-LARGE:

Council President Ficarra: Councilwoman DeJesus.

Councilwoman DeJesus: Thank you Council President.

1. Housing Authority.
HOLD
2. Affordable Housing Corporation.
HOLD
3. Youth and Government Day.
HOLD
4. History Museum.
HOLD
5. Police Community Relations.
HOLD
I want to wish all of the children that will be attending the Dream Police Academy good luck.
6. Youth Employment/Job Fair.
HOLD
7. Township Parks and Playgrounds.
HOLD
8. Hispanic Heritage Month.
HOLD
9. Barron Arts Center.
HOLD
Barron Arts Center will host "To Bee or Not To Bee", Visual Artists Interpret the Struggle of the Global Bee Population, on display this summer. For more information please call 732-634-0413. The outdoor flea market will be held at the Acacia Youth Center on July 8th from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

10. Free Public Library of Woodbridge.
HOLD
11. Veteran's Tax Deduction
HOLD
12. Girls Sports.
HOLD
13. Girl Scouts/Scouts Pavilion and Camp; E. William St. Park.
HOLD
14. Youth Leadership Council.
HOLD
15. Community Backpacks.
HOLD
16. Donation of Winter Coats for School Students.
HOLD
17. Safe Place.
HOLD
18. Women's Month
HOLD
19. Mentoring Programs.
HOLD

CORY S. SPILLAR, 3rd WARD COUNCILMAN

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilman Spillar.

Councilman Spillar: Thank you Council President Ficarra.

1. Avenel's Very Merry Holiday Lighting (**11/26/23**) / Port Reading Day.
HOLD
2. Avenel Arts Village/Train Station/Eric LeGrand Believe Park.
HOLD
3. Woodbridge River Watch/ Oros Nature Preserve.
HOLD

4. Port Reading Saints/ Saints Complex Improvements.
HOLD
5. Avenel Middle School Community Service Club and School Improvements.
HOLD
6. Port Reading Knights/Sycamore Senior Center/Red Oak.
HOLD
7. Route 1 Redevelopment.
 - a. Star / City Motels.
 - b. Americana / Avenel Motels.
 - c. Rt. 1 @ So. Inman Ave.
 - d. Bud's Hut.
 - e. Big Top property.
 - f. Holiday Inn Express expansion.
 - g. Pier I Imports property.HOLD
I just want to thank the Administration and Planning & Development for putting (inaudible) together Resolution #40 tonight which will move the process along for several areas on the Route 1 corridor.
8. Cloverleaf Redevelopment
HOLD
9. Avenel Fire Department/Fire Prevention Week Open House **(10/14/23)**.
HOLD
10. Social Clubs – Avenel Knights of Columbus/Columbian Club, Avenel V.F.W.
HOLD
11. Woodbridge Developmental Center Property.
HOLD
I would like to give an update on the former Developmental Center at 1289 Rahway Avenue. Construction has been completed and they received their c/o. (Inaudible)
12. Cable Commission/Renewal.
HOLD
13. School 4 & 5.
HOLD
14. Mileed Way Army Corps of Engineers Project.
HOLD

15. Maple Tree Senior Center.
HOLD
16. Greenway Family Success Center.
HOLD

Fourth of July is coming up. We have an excellent Fourth of July show. Several of my Council mates being in the fire service and I am not a fan of non-professional fireworks. Leave it to the professionals please. Police will be reinforcing. I want to thank Police Director and the Police Department for that. Please understand what it does to our pets and our disabled veterans with PTSD. Thank you to all of our Emergency Responders, Fire, EMS, Police Department, CERT and all of our Public Works and Township employees. God Bless America. Thank you Council President Ficarra.

DEBBIE MEEHAN, 5TH WARD COUNCILWOMAN

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilwoman Meehan.

Councilwoman Meehan: Thank you Council President. My Agenda is in order. I just have one announcement tonight.

1. Inman Avenue Business District Improvements.
HOLD
2. Green Houses – Colonia Middle and Colonia High Schools.
HOLD
3. Evergreen Senior and Youth Center / Senior Services.
HOLD
4. Events:
 - A. Taste of Colonia.
 - B. Have a Heart Food Drive.
 - C. Colonia Easter Bonnet Parade & Egg Hunt.
 - D. Colonia 5K/Chris Jantas Run.
 - E. Colonia Annual Wiffle Ball Tournament.
 - F. Support the Troops Rally.
 - G. Colonia Pride Day.
 - H. Colonia Clean Up.
 - I. Colonia Christmas Tree Lighting.
 - J. Cookies and Can for the Troops and Food Bank.
 - K. Toys for Tots Run.
 - L. Breast Cancer Walk.

HOLD

Please save the date for the Colonia Annual Wiffle Ball Tournament BBQ on August 19th. Registration is at 10:15 a.m. and starts at 11 a.m. It's a very well attended event so we ask that you register by August 12th. It is a charity event so everything we raise will be donated to Eric Baumgartner from Public Works (inaudible). If anyone wants to donate a basket or has any questions, you can reach out to me at 732-382-0273.

5. Food Pantry.
HOLD
6. Reinhard Manor.
HOLD
7. Colonia Fire Department/First Aid Squad.
HOLD
8. Colonia American Legion/V.F.W./Elks.
HOLD
9. Veteran's Issues.
HOLD
10. Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority.
HOLD
11. Cpl. Kevin Reinhard Marine Corps League.
HOLD
12. Volunteer Directory.
HOLD
13. Domestic Violence Response Team.
HOLD
14. AED Program.
HOLD
15. Springwood
HOLD

VIRBHADRA N. PATEL, 4th WARD COUNCILMAN

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilman Patel.

Councilman Patel: Thank you Council President. My Agenda is in order. I just have a few announcements tonight.

1. American Legion (T. Nulty Post).
HOLD
2. Oak Tree Road Special Improvement District (SID).
HOLD
3. JFK High School Field and Building Improvements.
HOLD
4. Sucker's Brook Bank Stabilization.
HOLD
5. 4th Ward Road Projects.
HOLD
6. Magnolia/Willow/Walnut Area Commuter Parking.
HOLD
7. Sign Ordinance.
HOLD
8. Cooper Field.
HOLD

The Barron Arts Center is hosting an exhibit, Darshana, from June 26th – July 30th from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. (Inaudible)

I would also like to wish everyone a Happy Fourth of July celebration.

SHARON McAULIFFE, 1st WARD COUNCILWOMAN

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilwoman McAuliffe.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Thank you Council President. My Agenda is in order.

1. Events:
 - A. Relay for Life.
 - B. Fishing Derby.
 - C. Parker Press Concerts.
 - D. Woodbridge Wednesdays and Local Band Thursdays.
 - E. Saint James Street Fair.HOLD

2. Main Street SID (Special Improvement District).
HOLD
3. Chamber of Commerce.
HOLD
4. Buy Local Program.
HOLD
5. Transit Village.
HOLD
6. Blue Acres/F.E.M.A.
HOLD
7. Main Street and Route 9.
HOLD
8. Animal Shelter.
HOLD
9. Dog Park. - Sewaren
HOLD
10. Arts.
(A) Woodbridge Murals.
(B) Gallery on Main.
HOLD
The Gallery on Main will be hosting a summer art reception on July 12th from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. Come out and meet our local artists and enjoy some light refreshments.
11. Coast Guard – John Eberhardt 732-213-6457.
HOLD
12. Sewaren Library.
HOLD
Our Summer Reading Program has started at the library. You can log on to www.sewarenlibrary.org to get details on the Summer Reading Program.
13. Acacia Center.
(A) Town Events
(B) Youth Programs
HOLD

14. Sewaren Marina.
HOLD
15. Environmental Commission.
HOLD
(A) Green Infrastructure
(B) Community Garden
(C) Trail
HOLD

The most recent Green Infrastructure project was completed in Boynton Park on June 14th by students in Colonia High School Ecology Club with the support of the Township Department of Public Works. Approximately 200 feet of previous turf grass has been converted into a native pollinator garden with 900 native flowers. Native flowers are very colorful and attract pollinating insects, butterflies and honeybees which are critical aspects of a health environment. This project is extremely timely as the week of June 19th through June 25th has been named National Pollinator Week by The United States Department of Agriculture Society. Thank you to the Colonia High School students for helping our environment.

Our weekly Saturday Farmer's Market opened up this past weekend at Parker Press Park. We had a great turnout despite the rain. The market had the best variety of fresh grown vegetables, soap, honey, tea and afghan vendors all have items that will make fantastic gifts. It is never too early to start shopping for the holidays.

I would just like to wish everybody a happy and safe Fourth of July. God Bless America.

JOHN M. MITCH, MUNICIPAL CLERK

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Mr. Mitch.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Thank you Mr. President.

1. Liquor License Transfer(s) / Change of Corporate Structure Applications under review.
List below does not represent approval of application(s) being considered.

- A. Person-To-Person Transfer of Liquor License #1225-33-047-003 from Main Tavern, Inc. to Lenihans Irish Pub LLC, 78 Main Street., Woodbridge, NJ 07095.

- B. Person-to-Person Transfer of Liquor License #1225-33-039-012 from Dragonfly Woodbridge, Inc. to All American Restaurant Corp. (not sited).

2. Liquor License Incident(s) / Hearing(s).

- A. Township of Woodbridge vs. Big Shots Bar & Grill, LLC.
Hearing Date: August 8, 2023

3. Liquor License Renewals.
4. Street Closings / Special Events (Block parties, street fairs, carnivals, etc.).
5. Elections.
 - A. 2023 General Election: November 7, 2023
Early Voting: October 28 – November 5
 - B. 2024 Primary Election: June 4, 2024
Early Voting: May 31 – June 2
6. Best Practices Inventory.

I am going to be noting 1. B. from my Agenda and everything else is in order.

MAYOR:

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Mr. Cimilluca.
Business Administrator Cimilluca: Thank you Council President.
I have one Resolution for tax and sewer overpayment. Thank you.

POLICE:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Director Hubner.
Director Hubner: Thank you Council President. Nothing this evening. Thank you.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Director Darden.

Director Darden: Thank you Council President. Just our standard bi-weekly refunds. Thank you.

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Director Brew.

Director Brew: Thank you. I have one item for Resolution Council President. A Change Order #1 for contract #2023-009 and that's for Streambank Stabilization & Stream Cleaning for South Branch Rahway River, Heards Brook & Camel Creek. Second is a release of a Surety Bond #SUR0046466.

LEGAL:

Council President Ficarra: Anything from Legal?

Gary Clemente, Esq: Nothing this evening Council President.

HEALTH:

RECREATION:

On a motion made by Council Vice President Anderson and seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously, Council President Ficarra adjourned the meeting at 6:50 P.M.

