

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 April 11, 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 just have a moment of reflection for people that are suffering from national disasters and those people that are being mistreated around the world, if you will? Thank you.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Howie Bauer

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
Phil Bujalski, Director of Health
George Brew, Director of Public Works
Craig Coughlin, Esq.
Eric Lange, Esq.

The Municipal Clerk: Can I get a motion to approve the minutes from March 21, 2023?

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

Council Meeting:

March 21, 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. A BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ELECTRIC VEHICLES INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$8,340,000.00 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS. (2023-20)

B. BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF NEW AMBULANCES IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$2,250,000.00 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS. (2023-21)

C. A BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT IN, BY AND FOR THE SEWER UTILITY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$4,750,000.00 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCES OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCES OF BOND ANTICIPATIONNOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS. (2023-22)

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Mr. President, starting with the Second Reading of the Ordinances this evening, I'm going to take A, B, and C all together. They are three Bond Ordinances we'll read them by consent. Starting with Letter A, which is a Bond Ordinance in the amount of \$8,340,000.00 for various public improvements and the acquisition of new vehicles. Letter B is also a Bond Ordinance for \$2,250,000.00 with regards to the acquisition of new ambulances and services. Letter C is a Bond Ordinance to authorize the making of various improvements and the acquisition of new I.T. equipment for the Sewer Utility in the amount of \$4,750,000.00.

Can I get a motion to take these Ordinances 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 Mitch, Municipal Clerk: The public hearing is now open on Letters A, B and C.

Tom Maras, Fords: Asked what the rates are in the Bond market right now, when will we go to Bond, what the cost difference is between electric and gas vehicles? Asked about the money allocated for the ambulance service. Believes that all of the first aid squads and fire departments should be combined. Asked for elaboration on the improvements in technology for the Sewer Utility.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: We don't know until we actually issue the Bonds, Mr. Maras. Maybe not even Bonds, maybe Notes, the Annual Notes or ultimately permanent Bonds. But we won't know until we actually hit the markets. So we can't predict the rates until we know when we are going out. We are funding it but we are not financing until we decided that the market is right. We might never go to Bond. We have a habit lately of paying off all our notes aggressively. We never go to Bonds. The last probable ten years, the Bond Ordinances, we have not financed with Bonds. We've done notes. I can't really predict what the interest rate market might hold. I think these are matching grants matching our expense with what the grant is providing so when you account for the fact that a lot of the money for the vehicles is free, they're way more economical I can't explain the gas versus the electric. I can get you that if we've done it. I don't know if we've done it but I just know that when somebody's paying a big piece of it, it's clearly going to be efficient for us to buy the vehicles. That is four ambulances. We have two identified that are already built and available. And we have two that we're going to be ordering and they're not for any specific squad because we feel that we have a long range issue with the squads and we're afraid that at some point they will not be able to provide the equipment and or the man power that we need to protect people. So we are essentially putting ourselves into business with this and we will have these vehicles available to us. We're going to also hire eight individuals with EMT licenses and be prepared to fill in the blanks whenever the four squads cannot cover what we think they need to cover. And we were getting to the point where we're going to have to play a major role in first aid in the Township of Woodbridge to make sure people are safe. Regarding the Sewer Utility, we have not had a Bond Ordinance in computers in seven or eight years. So, this is a long backlog of replacing some of our hardware.

Vito Cimilluca, Business Administrator: There are three components Mr. Maras. One is internal I.T., the other one is for Police Department I.T. upgrades and communications. And the third is going to be for inter-local agreements between the Board of Education that we support and internal items inside.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: Spoke about electric cars and asked if we are getting any incentives to buy the vehicles.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: I just said we are getting grants to purchase the vehicles. That's what makes them so economically positive for us.

John Vrtaric: Spoke about ambulances not being free and buying new ambulances will cost the tax payer. Believes that the hospital is capable of sending the ambulances for the money they charge they are very capable of buying their own ambulances and they are in business to make money.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: They are in business to make money but their long term prognosis is that they won't be able to serve the people of Woodbridge and we need to make sure people are safe. That's our number one responsibility as public officials is to make sure people are safe and if an ambulance is not there to answer a call, and if something happens to that person because we can't get an ambulance to them, that is a problem and we are going to make sure we don't have that problem. The hospitals are not located in Woodbridge Township. We don't have a single hospital here. I would like ambulances to be here ready to go in Woodbridge Township and not have to count on Rahway, Edison, or Perth Amboy to send a vehicle here which takes precious minutes when somebody's struggling from an accident or illness. I want those ambulances in Woodbridge Township ready to go. Not somewhere else.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Are there any other comments under the letters A, B, or C this evening? Any other comments? Hearing no comments from the public, can I get a motion that the public hearing be closed, these three Ordinances 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.

D. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF HE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING THE “MARTIN STREET REDEVELOPMENT PLAN” , PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq. (2023-23)

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: We will take Letter D, which is an Ordinance Adopting the Martin Street Redevelopment Plan. Can I get a motion to take this Ordinance 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 Mitch, Municipal Clerk: The public hearing is now open on Letter D.

John 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?

E. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING THE AMENDED “MAIN STREET REHABILITATION & TRANSIT VILLAGE PLAN” PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A 40A:12A-1 et seq. (2023-24)

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Letter E is an Ordinance, Township of Woodbridge Adopting the Amended Main Street Rehabilitation & Transit Village Plan. 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 Mitch, Municipal Clerk: The public hearing is now open on Letter E.

Tom Maras, Fords: Asked for specifics about the rehabilitation of Main Street and Transit Village.

Council President Ficarra: I believe this is the property that’s over by the old Hungarian church and we are looking to include that in the redevelopment plan. It is on Amboy Avenue across from the liquor store.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: It’s commonly known as the Purse Factory. And it’s being redeveloped into a self-storage unit and this is also adding in the micro grid that we’re building downtown that will provide the infrastructure in case of a major storm again, we’ll know that Town hall with the police communication system will be able to function regardless of what happens weather wise if that micro grid is built. This is adding that to the redevelopment plan.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: Commented that there is a growing number of homeless people in the town and how something should be done to house these people.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Are there any other comments on Letter E? 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.

Council President Ficarra: How many senior centers do we have in town?

John E. McCormac, Mayor: Seven.

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

- F. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED “TRAFFIC” OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE – RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING.**
- G. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY PURCHASE OR EMINENT DOMAIN OF REAL PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 545, LOT 46.02 ALSO KNOWN AS 107 ROSS STREET IN THE WOODBRIDGE PROPER SECTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE.**
- H. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 150, LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE, SECTION 44, CONDITIONAL USES, TO REGULATE RETAIL ELECTRONIC DEVICE ESTABLISHMENTS.**

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, April 14, 2023 with Notice of Public Hearing to be held on April 25, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

Councilwoman Meehan: I would like to ask for the Council’s support on **Ordinance H**, updating the regulations of the retail establishments that sell electronic smoking devices for vape stores. Our concern was the location of the stores in proximity to our school and our children. Via this Ordinance, we are able to regulate proposed new locations if they are within 1000 feet of a school. I would also note that our Health Department vigorously enforces the regulations regarding the sale of electronic smoking devices and products and I am committed to the Administration’s efforts to protect the health and safety of our children as I know the rest of my Council mates are. So thank you for your hard work on this.

The Municipal Clerk introduced the following Resolutions as Consent.

- (1) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby consents to the Mayor’s appointment of Julie Cohen to serve as a member of the Woodbridge Township Historic Preservation Commission fulfilling an unexpired term commencing April 11, 2023 and terminating December 31, 2023.
- (2) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby consents to the Mayor’s appointment of Sandip Patel to serve as a member of the Oak Tree Road Special Improvement District fulfilling and unexpired term commencing April 11, 2023 and terminating December 31, 2023.
- (3) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue refunds for overpaid taxes.
- (4) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue a refund for a cancelled parking permit in the amount of \$155.00.
- (5) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the refund of taxes for 100% Disabled Veteran, Juan Cardona, Lot 24, Block 1053.10, 244 Rosewood Lane, Port Reading, NJ.
- (6) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the refund of taxes for 100% Disabled Veteran, James Aleszczyk, Lot 3, Block 476.06, 42 Harrow Drive, Colonia, NJ.
- (7) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the refund of taxes for 100% Disabled Veteran, Lateef Banks, Lot 6, Block 789, 136 S. Inman Avenue, Avenel, NJ.
- (8) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the refund of taxes for 100% Disabled Veteran, Josue David, Lot 566, Block 1006, 1031 Mereline Avenue, Avenel, NJ.
- (9) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the waiver of requirements for the installation of Sidewalks for Block: 448.06, Lot: 317.01, Zone: R-6, 81 Hunt Street, Iselin, NJ, as requested by Tristate Dream Builders, LLC.
- (10) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the waiver of requirements for the installation of Sidewalks for Block: 448.06, Lot: 317.02, Zone: R-6, 87 Hunt Street, Iselin, NJ, as requested by Tristate Dream Builders, LLC.
- (11) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with T & M Associates, for professional engineering services for Woodbridge Community Center Annual Landfill Compliance – 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$70,250.00.

- (12) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Environmental Connection Inc. for professional environmental consulting services for Pre-Demolition Environmental Building Assessment in an amount not to exceed \$18,697.50
- (13) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Environmental Connection Inc., for the professional environmental consulting services for Pre-Demolition Environmental Building Assessment at 116 N. James Street in an amount not to exceed \$22,462.50.
- (14) **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, Inc. for professional engineering services for FEMA – Floodproofing Certificate and Post-Construction Elevation Certificate for the Henry Inman Library in an amount not to exceed \$4,950.00.
- (15) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and Municipal Clerk to execute any documents necessary for the purchase of (861) 95-Gallon Green Garbage Containers and (847) 95-Gallon Blue Recycling Containers from Schaefer Plastics North America, in an amount not to exceed \$114,435.24.
- (16) **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 repair of the structural concrete to the bar screen chamber at the Main Plant from Rapid Pump and Meter Services Co., in an amount not exceed \$70,855.86.
- (17) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the execution of a contract modification on the contract with H2M Architects + Engineers for professional services for alteration to Mount Carmel School Building in an amount not to exceed \$10,500.00.
- (18) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the execution of a contract modification on the contract with CME Associates for professional engineering services for Route 9 & Main Street Improvements in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.
- (19) **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 Flashback HD Cable Kits for the Police Department in-car camera equipment from Safe Fleet in an amount not to exceed \$77,944.30.
- (20) **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 equipment for Woodbridge Dog Park from BCI Burke Company, in an amount not to exceed \$51,285.32.

- (21) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk to execute any documents necessary for the purchase of Mondo Rubber Flooring for the track around the basketball courts at The Club at Woodbridge from Mathusek, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$65,269.00.
- (22) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the execution of a contract modification on the contract with Alaimo Engineering from professional engineering services for Township of Woodbridge/Borough of Carteret Correspondence Wastewater Agreement Tasks in an amount not to exceed \$70,000.00.
- (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 T & M Associates for professional environmental engineering services for 400 Amboy Avenue – Excavation, Oversight and Delineation in an amount not to exceed \$45,550.00.
- (24) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Clerk to renew the contract with The Land Conservancy of New Jersey to provide services to the Township in regards to advancing the Township’s flood mitigation and open space programs in an amount not to exceed \$4,000.00.
- (25) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee to sign any documents necessary in order to join the settlement agreement with Walmart, Walgreens, CVS, Teva and Allergan to resolve claims involving their participation in the country’s opioid crisis.
- (26) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby supports the Metropark Station Project which will house both corporate and medical office space for Hackensack Meridian Health.
- (27) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee to execute a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Carteret for Court Administrator services.
- (28) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Township of Woodbridge Police Department, New Brunswick Police Department, Highland Park Police Department, Edison Police Department and Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care.
- (29) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Township of Woodbridge and Laborers International Union of North America and General Construction Laborer’s Local 472 and 172, to supplement its current work force on a temporary, as needed basis.
- (30) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Clerk to change the generation number of the license formerly 1225-44-011-008 for Li 88 Liquor

Inc. t/a Outerbridge Liquors, to 1225-44-011-009, reflecting this Change of Corporate Structure and to so advise the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

(31) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Clerk to notify the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control of the Person-To-Person/Place-To-Place transfer of Liquor License No. 1225-33-052-005 from Maria De La Rosa t/a Little Spain to Angelina's Woodbridge Liquor License, LLC t/a Angelina's Kitchen, Inc., changing the generation number of the license to 1225-33-052-006.

(32) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the request from Pennsylvania Avenue School #27 PTO for their Field Day scheduled to begin at 9:00 A.M. and ending @ 3:00 P.M., closing East Willow Street between East Cedar Street and Cavour Street for the duration of the event.

(33) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the Bill List dated April 11, 2023 and the Supplemental Bill List dated March 18, 2023 through April 6, 2023.

Council President Ficarra: On **Resolution #28**, which is an MOU with Woodbridge Police Department, New Brunswick Police Department, Highland Park Police Department, Edison Police Department and Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care, this is the program where a mental health specialists will be riding along with our police officers. This is cutting edge stuff and I think that Director Hubner deserves a lot of credit on organizing this. If you remember back before the Pandemic, we formed a relationship with Rutgers that were there to assist our police officers when they got a call with mental health issues. This is the next level. They're actually going to be in the car. I think this is a big step. I think it's not only big in the State of New Jersey but big nationally and Director Hubner you and your staff and our Administration deserve a lot of credit. So thank you very much and I appreciate obviously your support on that Resolution.

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're going into the public session of our meeting now. Now is the opportunity for the public to speak. I am just going to read a few of the guidelines. When approaching the microphone, please state your name and what section of the town or state that you live in. You will have a one-time opportunity to speak for up to a five minutes. All videotaping must be done in the back. Please make sure that there are no signs in the aisles or walkways. The public session allows for five minutes but I'll try to give you a little warning when you're within a minute in case you want to close out your thoughts. If you do engage any

members of the Council or Administration that does go toward your five minutes. Just so everybody understands what's going on. The public portion is open.

Nancy Kearney, Colonia: Spoke about Pumpkin Patch Brook recently being polluted with dozens of gallons of motor oil by a Colonia resident and has yet to be cleaned up by the resident. She is concerned about the wildlife in the brook and residential well-water being affected by the oil pollution. Also asked if the resident that polluted the brook will have any consequences.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: It wasn't dozens of gallon, it was five gallons Ms. Kearney. Haz-Mat told us that it was five. The area is boomed now so it's contained. I sent you the whole email I had and I'm going to continue to send you everything I have since you live right there and anyone else that wants to be on the mailing list, I am happy to share whatever we know with you. It is out of our hands like you said. But we will stay on top of them to make sure they do everything they have to do. Our Health Department is very familiar with everything out there and they are keeping an eye on it.

Ron Wyatt, Avenel: Noted that overall he is very happy living in Woodbridge. Spoke about his vehicles being totaled by speeding cars in Avenel recently on Chestnut Street. Spoke about the speeding on Chestnut and that they would really like to have speed bumps on the street, a flashing stop sign in both directions, and that the residents on Chestnut Street are willing to take care of the speed bumps when necessary.

Sheldon Otley, Avenel: Also lives on Chestnut Street and spoke about how he enjoys living in Woodbridge. Reports that this has been happening for a number of years and that there has been some help but the problem still exists. One of his cars were totaled and his neighbor's car ended up on his front lawn. Spoke of several commercial vehicles also using this residential road. Asked that Council and Administration take a more serious look into keeping the street safe.

Richard Hanas, Avenel: Spoke about living on Chestnut Street for 50 years and in all of this time he has never seen anything like the recent accident that happened on his street and that cars do speed fiercely down that street. Appealed to the Mayor and Administration for assistance.

Patricia Somerville, Avenel: Also spoke about an increase of traffic and speeding on Chestnut Street over the last few years.

Ariana Silva, Colonia: Would like to establish a community garden across the street from her home on Maplewood Avenue where there is about 400 feet of land that is filled with grass near the South Branch Rahway River. Spoke about climate change and how this garden will benefit families and help deter some of the flooding after a big rain storm. Very concerned about the environment.

Councilwoman DeJesus: I can speak to you after.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Me too.

Councilwoman Meehan: I will talk to you also.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: That is probably County property. You can still speak with the Council. If you give me your name, number and email, I will contact the County and put you in touch with the right person who can give you permission and then we can work on it.

Angel Pichardo, Avenel: Spoke about the issue of speeding on Chestnut Street from Amazon workers coming from work and that there are many children on the block now. Spoke about the increase in his property taxes and that there is a lot of trash left behind on Rahway Avenue and suggested that the area in which the inmates from the prison pick up the trash on Rahway Avenue be extended.

Council President Ficarra: For everyone that has made a presentation regarding the traffic situation on Chestnut Street, please know that you have the attention of the entire Council. The Mayor is here, the Business Administrator and all of the Departments Heads so your voices will be heard. Thank you.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: Believes that the Mayor is right in that the land near Maplewood Avenue is owned by the County. In favor of community gardens everywhere in town. Spoke about the speeding on Chestnut Street and it will only get worse with being over populated. Asked about Ordinance G and what property do it refer to.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: Council President, there is only one property on Ross Street. It's a house right across from Ross Street School, # 107. It's a brick house right between the parking lot and Mosaic Salon.

Loretta Bradley, Woodbridge: Spoke about the darkness on Bunns Lane and how it looks very unsafe. Also made mention of speeding on Bunns Lane. Spoke about her son, whom is Autistic, being returned to her recently after being abducted and robbed from Bunns Lane. Made mention of drugs being sold on Bunns Lane.

Council President Ficarra: Loretta, I am assuming there are telephone poles out there and some have lights and some don't. Director can we have somebody take a look at that and see where the dark spots are? And if it makes sense, to add lights there. And so that issue and I do recognize that when the construction was going on and that road was bumpy, no one was speeding. Now that it is nice and smooth, people speed on it. I hear you because I live there. We'll look at the lighting and well get our folks out to take a look at it. As far as illegal interaction there, our Police Director is here and he hears you loud and clear. There is a private company that runs Jacob's Landing and we will reach out to them through our Housing Authority to let them know that there has been some concerns expressed at Council meetings. Thank you for coming Loretta.

Ruth Gonzales, Woodbridge: Also living on Bunns Lane for the last two years and spoke of someone being underneath her vehicle and her brother's vehicle on several occasions and how her family is afraid to speak up out of fear of retaliation.

Council President Ficarra: Okay. You made it public as I said you were well represented here and people hear you. If somebody is under your car, they're probably going after the catalytic converter which is a big problem all over the United States and unfortunately we're not immune

to that. We do deal with that but our police are very diligent and they hear you and we all hear you and we'll keep an eye on things and again I'll share that with the private company that runs Jacob's Landing. Thank you for coming.

Council Vice President Anderson: Council President, correct me if I am wrong, Director Hubner, about 6 months ago there was a big arrest with the catalytic converters.

Director Hubner: You are correct Council Vice President. Since then it has started to pick up again. It stopped for a while and we are seeing more of it again.

Surinder Sangu, Avenel: Spoke about drivers on Chestnut Street and spoke about the school bus stop at Morissey Avenue and that people do not stop for the school bus when children are being picked up.

Tom Maras, Fords: Thanked everyone for speaking up about their issues this evening. Spoke about crime being on the rise in our nation but believes that we have the best police department in the state, our officers are well trained and protect all of us. Also made mention of the traffic conditions and speed bumps and believes the speed bumps will slow things down. In favor of a community garden.

Patricia Moranta, Avenel: Spoke about vehicles speeding up and down Chestnut Street and that the recent car crash was very close to her home and family. Also spoke about drainage issues where she lives and if it rains and it is cold and rainy, the water freezes.

Council President Ficarra: Thank you for speaking out Patricia. Mr. Cimilluca, might that be something that you were explaining to me about the underground drainage? That might be good for that area.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: Edgerton and Chestnut are definitely in the plan. Mr. Otley emailed me about that along with the issues about the traffic and I explained to him that is in the plan and in design to get out to bid to solve the problem. It takes some time but it is in design.

Anna Sangu, Avenel: Spoke about being on the school bus as a middle school student and how cars try to pass the bus while kids are still trying to get on the bus.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Are there any other comments from the public? Hearing no other comments, can we close the public comment portion?

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

Councilman Spillar: Council President. I just want to comment in case some of the residents leave. I just want to thank all of the residents throughout the whole Township especially on Chestnut Street for coming out and voicing their legitimate concerns. I have sat and talked along with the Mayor with many of them over the last few years. I've known that one gentlemen since I was two years old. Obviously it's very serious and we do listen. I can have a conversation with Director Hubner about the intersection. I have seen it first-hand. Everyone knows me as

Fireman Cory as I drive around that area all of the time and I see it. We can talk to the Police Director to have the Traffic Enforcement Unit monitor that intersection with the school bus. I wanted to give a heartfelt response. We all listen and the Mayor and Administration listens. We are not just sitting here. We have conversations but as Mr. Maras says, I am very happy. I don't ever encourage anybody not to show up. Everyone knows you don't have to wait to meet for two or three weeks to talk to somebody. I wanted to say thank you very much.

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

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

I have a number of events going on, too many to mention but they are all in full gear. Things such as hockey. There are a lot of activities going on this week because the students are out of school. There is Pickleball for those of you that are interested in that kind of thing. There are seminars for our senior citizens. Tomorrow is Big Wheels Day at the Community Center starting at 11 a.m. The others events I have are Woodbridge Buddy Ball 23rd Golf Outing on June 5, 2023, you can check in with the Recreation Center or call 732-596-4165. We are looking for participants. May is Mental Health Month. Starting at Town hall on May 6, 2023, we will be raising a flag and having a walk down Main Street and they'll be mental health resources and a magic show.

2. Youth Month – April.
Senior Month – May.
HOLD
3. Mayor's Fitness / Wellness Initiatives.
HOLD
4. Fireworks.
HOLD
5. Heroes & Cool Kids / Strengthening Families.
HOLD
6. Pedestrian Safeway's / East Coast Greenway.
HOLD
7. Annual Pizza Run.
HOLD

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

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

Council President Ficarra: Council Vice President Anderson.

Council Vice President Anderson: My Agenda is in order.

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

Registration for our Pop Warner football, The Port Reading Saints and The Woodbridge Broncos, are under way. If you are looking to sign up your child for football or cheer, there are great programs.

2. Job Bank.
HOLD

3. Mayor's Trophy.
HOLD

4. Woodbridge Hall of Fame.
HOLD
5. Taste of Woodbridge.
HOLD
6. Charity Raffle.
HOLD
7. Drive-In Movies.
HOLD
8. N.A.A.C.P. (*NAACP.org*)
HOLD
9. Dr. Martin Luther King Annual Program.
HOLD
10. Independent Club of Colonia.
HOLD
11. Tooling Around Program.
HOLD
I want to mention Tooling Around. All of our homes that have applied have been responded to. I would like to thank you Mr. Eddie McSherry and his team for reaching out to the teams and coordinating all of our volunteers for that day. We had several companies and local restaurants that donated.
12. Boy Scouts/Camping.
HOLD
13. League Consolidation.
HOLD
14. Middlesex College.
HOLD
15. Woodbridge Organization of Neighbors Advocating Change.
HOLD
16. Geo Baker Clinics.
HOLD

HOWIE BAUER, 2nd WARD COUNCILMAN:

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
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

BRIAN SMALL, COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilman Bauer is out. Councilman Small.

Councilman Small: Thank you Council President.

1. Woodbridge News.

HOLD

2. Woodbridge Fire Fighters Local #290.

HOLD

Woodbridge Fire Department is proud to announce its 5th Annual Junior Fire Academy. It will be held at the Woodbridge Fire Department at 418 School Street. It is a one week camp starting July 17th – July 21st from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Camp is designed for students from sixth through eighth grade. The fee is \$100 and each student will receive a t-shirt, baseball cap and a water bottle. Space is limited so admittance will be on a first come, first served basis. Each student must bring their own lunch. Please call 732- 602-6040 for more information.

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

17. Woodbridge B.P.O.E. Elks 2116.
HOLD

There will be two breakfasts to benefit the Woodbridge High School Girls Softball on April 16, 2023 from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. and on April 23, 2023 from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. to benefit the Woodbridge High School Boys Baseball team.

Also the Woodbridge Elks will host at St. Patrick’s Day party on April 29, 2023 starting at 3 p.m. It will feature a tricky tray, corned beef and cabbage and music. There is a \$25 donation. Please contact Vicky at 908-930-8808 if you are interested.

18. Autograph Signings.
HOLD

That’s all I have this evening. Thank you Council President.

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

The month of May is the beginning of the Senior Police Academy. It will run every Tuesday in May from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Community Center. Trips will include Newark Airport, Middlesex County Training Facilities, Town hall and the Police Station. It is a great way for our senior residents to get a taste of what our Police Department does and to get to know some of our officers in our Police Department. You can call Community Affairs for the application.

6. Youth Employment/Job Fair.

HOLD

7. Township Parks and Playgrounds.

HOLD

8. Hispanic Heritage Month.

HOLD

9. Barron Arts Center.

HOLD

The Barron Arts Center will host a lecture on the Titanic on April 19, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. They will also be hosting, through May 4, 2023, a Garden Florals Art Exhibit. You can call 732-634-0413 for reservations and hours of operation.

10. Free Public Library of Woodbridge.

HOLD

The library will have a book sale April 28, 2023 – April 30, 2023 at the Main Library. There will be a special preview for members on April 27, 2023 from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. There will also be a six week workshop on how to manage chronic health condition on April 21, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. In honor of Youth month the library will sponsor a workshop for tweens ages 9-13 with cartoonist Mike Dawson in all library locations. You can register at www.woodbridgelifelibrary.org or call 732-634-4450 ext. 7140.

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

With everything that happened today, the highlight for me was the two young ladies advocating and speaking about their concerns. Girl power.

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

8. Avenel Fire Department/Fire Prevention Week Open House **(10/14/23)**.
HOLD

9. Social Clubs – Avenel Knights of Columbus/Columbian Club, Avenel V.F.W.
HOLD

10. Woodbridge Developmental Center Property.
HOLD

11. Cable Commission/Renewal.
HOLD

12. School 4 & 5.
HOLD

13. Mileed Way Army Corps of Engineers Project.
HOLD

14. Maple Tree Senior Center.
HOLD

15. Greenway Family Success Center.
HOLD

I would like to thank the Avenel Fire Department and Fire Prevention Bureau for conducting a fire safety demonstration for the employees and families at the center last week. Families gather at Greenway Family Success Center for free and fun activities and educational workshops and a chance to get to know their neighbors. They also connect people with local resources that are helpful from food pantries to tutoring help. The work they do is inspired and driven by our community so they would love to hear from you. They are located on 1005 Rahway Avenue and they have social media.

The rest of my Agenda is in order Council President. Thank you to all of our Emergency Responders, Fire, EMS, Woodbridge Police Department, CERT, all of our Public Works and Township Employees. God Bless America.

DEBBIE MEEHAN, 5TH WARD COUNCILWOMAN

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilwoman Meehan.

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

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

I have one announcement. The Support the Troops Rally will be held on May 24, 2023 at 6 p.m. at the George Frederick Plaza which is located between the Woodbridge Library and Woodbridge High School. The Rally honors and recognizes active members of the U.S. Military whom reside in Woodbridge Township. If you know someone that is currently serving and would like them to be recognized during our roll call, please 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: Councilman Patel.

Councilman Patel: My Agenda is in order. Thank you. I have two announcements.

1. American Legion (T. Nulty Post).
HOLD
2. Oak Tree Road Special Improvement District (SID).
HOLD

I would like to thank our Mayor, Township Administration and the Oak Tree Road Special Improvement District for taking the initiative and contracting an independent professional power washing company to power wash the sidewalks facing businesses and store fronts along the Oak Tree Road shopping district. The representatives from the True Clean power washing company will begin work on April 17, 2023 at 7 a.m. The Woodbridge Police Department will post no parking signs on April 16, 2023 advising that there will be no

parking on both sides of Oak Tree Road from 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. on April 17, 2023.

Additionally it would be of great assistance if business owners advise their employees of the temporary no parking restriction to allow the contractor better access to complete the power washing project. Also there will be an installation of security cameras in the Special

Improvement District parking lot located at 1295 Oak Tree Road. There is a new customer parking lot located at Marconi Avenue behind Malabar Gold and Diamond Jewelry store. We also have an additional 20 parking spaces at the First Presbyterian Church parking lot for employees and shoppers.

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

Starting this month until October, Five Branches Senior Center and the Oak Tree Senior Center, located in Iselin, will offer at least one bus trip Atlantic City Resorts every month. This month it will be on April 27, 2023. The bus will depart each center at 8:45 a.m. and tickets are on sale now. Also the Oak Tree Senior Center will be hosting a luncheon on April 28, 2023 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Please call 732-252-2008 for further information.

SHARON McAULIFFE, 1st WARD COUNCILWOMAN

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilwoman McAuliffe.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Thank you Council President.

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.
HOLD
- 10. Arts.
(A) Woodbridge Train Station Mural Project.
(B) Gallery on Main.
HOLD
- 11. PACE.
HOLD
- 12. Woodbridge Fire Department.
HOLD
- 13. Coast Guard.
HOLD
- 14. Sewaren Library Programs.
HOLD
- 15. Acacia Center.

HOLD

16. RISE Program.
HOLD

17. Sewaren Marina.
HOLD

18. First Presbyterian Church of Woodbridge.
HOLD

19. Earth Day Event.
HOLD

Earth Day is on April 22, 2023. If you go on to the Township website, you can get all of the details for Earth Day.

20. Green Infrastructure
HOLD

JOHN M. MITCH, MUNICIPAL CLERK

Council President Ficarra: Mr. Mitch.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Thank you. My Agenda is in order.

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

A. Place-To-Place Transfer (Expansion of Premises) of Liquor License #1225-33-057-004 Sewaren Associates LLC t/a Moby Dick's 351 West Ave., Sewaren, NJ 07077.

B. Change of Corporate Structure for MSK Holdings, LLC t/a Woodbridge Brewing Co., 33 Main St., Woodbridge, NJ 07095 (1225-33-069).

C. Person-to-Person Transfer of Liquor License #1225-33-022-010 Wick Wholesalers, Inc. to Strickland Steakhouse, Inc., t/a Strickland Steakhouse, 106 Main St., Woodbridge, NJ 07095.

D. Person-to-Person Transfer of Liquor License #1225-33-064-006 from Vishwasha Foods LLC, t/a Yellow Chili to Bay Leaves, LLC, 1477 Oak Tree Rd., Iselin, NJ 08830.

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

3. Liquor License Renewals.

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

MAYOR:

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Mr. Cimilluca.

Business Administrator Cimilluca: Thank you Council President. I have a tax and sewer over payment and a parking fee refund.

POLICE:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Director Hubner.

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

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

Council Vice President Anderson: Thank you. Director Darden.

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

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Director Brew.

Director Brew: Thank you. My Agenda is in order.

I have a release for a maintenance bond for contract 2021-011

LEGAL:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Legal.

Craig Coughlin, Esq.: Thank you Council Vice President. Nothing this evening.

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 7:25 P.M.

