

**City of Woodbury
City Council Meeting Agenda
Virtual Meeting
February 23, 2022
Waiting room opens at 6:00 p.m.
Meeting starts 6:30 p.m.**

The meeting of February 23, 2022 was called to order by Council President Merinuk at 6:31pm. Council President Merinuk then led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Reflection.

Open Public Meeting Statement

Ms. Swanson read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement. This is a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Woodbury. Due notice of this regular meeting provided to the press and public by posting and publication of Resolution #22-04 adopted at the 2022 Reorganization Meeting on January 5, 2022. Also, notice of the public meeting was advertised in the newspaper and posted on the City web page for the public.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Councilman Pisarcik, Council President Merinuk, Mayor Sickel

Absent: Councilman Fleming, Councilwoman O'Connor

Others Present: Acting City Clerk, Cassidy Swanson; Solicitor, Tim Scaffidi; Police Chief, Thomas Ryan; Engineer, Paul Breier; Chief Financial Officer, Robert Law; Interim City Administrator, Len Sossamon.

Approval of Minutes

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the October 27, seconded by Councilwoman Carter. Motion approved via voice vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 6 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Council President Merinuk

Nays 0

Absent 2 Councilman Fleming, Councilwoman O'Connor

Abstain 1 Councilman Pisarcik

Councilman Hagerty made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the January 26, seconded by Councilwoman Harwell. Motion approved via voice vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 7 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Councilman Pisarcik, Council President Merinuk

Nays 0

Absent 2 Councilman Fleming, Councilwoman O'Connor

Abstain 0

Open to the Public for Agenda Items

Council President Merinuk stated the meeting will be opened to the public for agenda items only. Council President Merinuk reminds everyone that each agenda item does have to get read aloud. Councilwoman Miller made a motion to open to the public, seconded by Councilman Miller. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Ms. Swanson then read the titles of the Resolutions. Ms. Swanson went on to inform the public that at this time they can come up to the podium to be heard at this time.

Jared Hunter - 39 High Street – Mr. Hunter asked what changes are being made to the committee structure as well as the Human Rights Commission. He what Ordinance 2356-22 does and why do we need it. He then asked what part of the redevelopment plan Ordinance 2357-22 impact will and what is the nature and cost associated with Resolution 22-58. Council President Merinuk, Solicitor Scaffidi and Councilman Hagerty responded.

Brandon Volk – 435 Hemlock Ter. – Mr. Volk asked council to elaborate on Resolution No. 22-59, and as to why to this occurred. Solicitor Scaffidi and Council President Merinuk answered.

Hearing no one, Councilman Hagerty made a motion to close to the public, seconded by Councilman Miller. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Ordinances

ORDINANCE NO. 2353-22 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 3, ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT, ARTICLE IV, STANDING COMMITTEES, SECITON 18, ESTABLISHMENT. Ms. Swanson presented the above titled ordinance. Ms. Swanson read the title of the Ordinance. Councilman Hagerty moved to open to the public on Ordinance 2353-22, seconded by Councilwoman Harwell.

Hearing no one, Councilman Miller made a motion to close to the public on Ordinance 2353-22, seconded by Councilman Hagerty.

Councilman Hagerty made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2353-22, seconded by Councilman Miller.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

ORDINANCE NO. 2354-22 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER FOR THE LICENSING, REGISTRATION AND REGULATION OF CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENTS Councilman presented the above titled ordinance. Ms. Swanson read the title of the Ordinance. Councilman Hagerty moved to open to the public on Ordinance 2354-22, seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mike Lange – 1098 Jessup Rd, West Deptford – Mr. Lange referenced the print out he distributed to Council. He then introduced himself and expressed his desire to open up a microbusiness cultivator in Woodbury. He explained the security paragraph, and

detailed the equipment issue in relation to associated costs and fees. Mr. Lange provided context to the application process and explained the redundancies in the CRC requirements and our requirements. He expressed that he doesn't want licenses limited to a specific number. Mr. Lange then detailed the associated fees, rules and regulations for operating and owning this kind of business, and expressed them as being excessive and not necessary. He asked Council to not enforce a limit in the number of licenses able to be issued, as the land mass and zoning will naturally limit those businesses. Mr. Lange suggests by doing away with the limit, it will send a positive message to all capitalists welcoming them and promoting Woodbury for future green growth. Lastly, he asked that Council require these businesses to utilize solar or renewable green energy in support of the environment. Council President Merinuk thanked him.

Chad Everwine – 11 E Mill St. – Mr. Everwine introduced himself and expressed that he is an advocate for micro businesses. He explained that the State of New Jersey has granted microbusinesses the ability to operate cannabis commerce businesses because of the impact zone designation. He explained that the restrictions and fees that Council is implying will harm the ability for the City to acquire this class of cannabis businesses. He informed Council that the ordinance doesn't address microbusinesses at all and asked that they would consider it. He encouraged Council to review the CRC's definition of microbusinesses, and give that opportunity to B-model citizens and entrepreneurs. Council president Merinuk thanked Mr. Everwine for bringing these points to Council.

Hearing no one, Councilman Hagerty made a motion to close to the public on Ordinance 2354-22, seconded by Councilwoman Miller.

Councilman Hagerty commended Mr. Everwine and Mr. Lange for being advocates for microbusinesses and encouraged them to keep advocating. Council President Merinuk agreed.

Councilman Hagerty made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2354-22, seconded by Councilwoman Miller.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 7 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Councilman Pisarcik, Council President Merinuk
Nays 0
Absent 2 Councilman Fleming, Councilwoman O'Connor
Abstain 0

ORDINANCE NO. 2355-22 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 30, HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AND ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY OF THE CODE BOOK OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY. Councilman Hagerty presented the above titled ordinance. Ms. Swanson read the title of the Ordinance. Councilman Hagerty moved to open to have the first reading of Ordinance 2355-22 with the approval to adopt after the second reading, seconded by Councilman Miller.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 7 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Councilman Pisarcik, Council President Merinuk
Nays 0
Absent 2 Councilman Fleming, Councilwoman O'Connor
Abstain 0

ORDINANCE NO. 2356-22 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY ESTABLISHING THE DEFENSE AND INDEMNIFICATION OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY Councilman Hagerty presented the above titled ordinance. Ms. Swanson read the title of the Ordinance. Councilman Hagerty moved to open to have the first reading of Ordinance 2356-22 with the approval to adopt after the second reading, seconded by Councilman Miller.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 7 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Councilman Pisarcik, Council President Merinuk
Nays 0
Absent 2 Councilman Fleming, Councilwoman O'Connor
Abstain 0

ORDINANCE NO. 2357-22 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 00075, LOT 00032 A/K/A 35-37 W. CENTRE STREET ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY Councilman Hagerty presented the above titled ordinance. Ms. Swanson read the title of the Ordinance. Councilman Hagerty moved to open to have the first reading of Ordinance 2355-22 with the approval to adopt after the second reading, seconded by Councilwoman Harwell.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 7 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Councilman Pisarcik, Council President Merinuk
Nays 0
Absent 2 Councilman Fleming, Councilwoman O'Connor
Abstain 0

Resolutions

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. 22-58 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BY AND

BETWEEN THE CITY OF WOODBURY AND THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 FOR FIRE ADMINISTRATOR SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF WOODBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 22-59 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY APPOINTING A PART-TIME INTERIM FIRE MARSHAL/FIRE OFFICIAL FOR THE CITY OF WOODBURY

RESOLUTION NO. 22-60 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN EMERGENCY REPAIR CONTRACT WITH PIONEER PIPE FOR THE REPAIR OF A RUPTURED WATER MAIN AT 663 SOUTH BROAD STREET AND 209 EAST BARBER AVENUE

RESOLUTION NO. 22-61 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CDBG AMENDED SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER FOR #CD-19-MP9

RESOLUTION NO. 22-62 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER FOR THE FY2021 SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT WOOD STREET SEWER LINING

END CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Merinuk motioned to make an amendment to Resolution No. 22-59 by adding the name Steve Finn. Solicitor Scaffidi provided context to the amendment.

Councilman Miller made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as read at the beginning of the meeting, with amended Resolution 22-59, seconded by, Councilman Hagerty.

Motion approved via roll call vote resulting in the following;

Ayes 7 Councilwoman Carter, Councilman Hagerty, Councilwoman Harwell, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Miller, Councilman Pisarcik, Council President Merinuk

Nays 0

Absent 2 Councilman Fleming, Councilwoman O'Connor

Abstain 0

Councilman Hagerty made a motion to approve the list of bills and vouchers, seconded by Councilwoman Miller. Motion approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Committee Reports

Councilwoman Harwell – Councilwoman Harwell reported that she and Councilwoman Miller meet with the Diversity Equity and Inclusion committee on February 21st. She then shared her experience at a workshop she attended on the 19th hosted by a woman certified DEI from Cornell

University, and expressed interest in having her do a workshop for Woodbury's committee. Councilwoman Harwell encouraged more participation from non-African American women to join the committee.

Councilman Hagerty – Economic Development – Councilman Hagerty reported the conversations had surrounding the Inspira building in preparation for the larger conversation with planning and zoning on the 24th. Councilman Hagerty encouraged anyone to attend the monthly economic development meetings on the first Thursday of every month. He also encouraged people to send any comments or concerns to committee if you would like any economic development items addressed by emailing him or Councilwoman Harwell.

Councilwoman Miller– Councilwoman Miller announced that through the partnership with Philabundance and the Mid-Atlantic States employment and education, on Thursday's the City will be distributing free produce, weather permitting. She provided updates that the time has changed to 1:30PM for produce distribution with the exception of the 4th Thursday of each month, as there will be no distribution those weeks. Councilwoman Miller informed the public that no signups or ID's are required to receive free produce.

Councilman Miller – Park and Recreation Committee - Councilman Miller reported that he, Councilwoman Miller and Councilwoman Carter met last night with all the youth league presidents where they expressed their current relationships with the City and public works. This allowed us to see how we can best move forward into the new seasons and gauge how the city can best support them. He encouraged everyone to stay on the lookout for fundraisers, and support any way they can.

Chief Brian Hauss – Fire Administrator- Chief Hauss gave his bio and introduction and expressed looking forward to getting the fire department fully staffed. He explained his plans of increasing staffing to 24 hour coverage 365 days of year to provide the best possible service to the City of Woodbury.

Report of the Mayor

Mayor Sickel – Mayor Sickel welcomed Chief Hauss as the new Fire Administrator. She announced that the Gloucester County Historical Society will be doing a lot of different features in their newsletter of areas throughout the City and showcasing what used to be there 100's of years ago. She provided an update stating that she is still trying to work with the 21st century club for an event in May for the Hispanic community; she is just waiting on Senator Cruz- Perez for her availability.

Department Reports

Chief Ryan – Woodbury Police Department – Chief Ryan reported that they just had their Handle with Care program which came out a couple years ago, which is designed to help children who went through traumatic experiences. The program's purpose is for when they go back to school to make teachers and staff aware to create awareness and a support system for that child. Chief then announced that out of the 3 towns in the whole state that were selected, Woodbury was the one and only town in South Jersey selected for the Resilient Minds program. Tomorrow will be the first workshop at the high school and there will be press coverage of the event.

Mr. Breier – Engineer Report – Mr. Breier reported that the Progress Ave project is a DOT funded job and they are currently finalizing plans to get the DOT to review and approve of the project. Golf and Lyman Avenue projects are still ongoing. He reported that two weeks ago a large bump on Lyman was paved and smoothed out. They will be meeting tomorrow to paint specified areas and the following week they will be doing work. The Wood Street sewer lining project is almost complete. The Green Acres pathway project will finally go to construction. The contracts and insurance are in the process of being finalized and sent out and we'll work on a notice to proceed with the project.

Len – Mr. Sossamon requested Council to approve of a letter of support of the Water Quality Restoration 319h Grant – Watershed Management Area 18 to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection under new business. He provided context to the letter, and why Council should decide in favor of this proposal.

Bob Law – City Hall – Mr. Law announced that there are two full time positions currently advertised for rolls within City Hall, those being for Payroll and an Administrative Assistant. He explained that those job postings are now available on our City's website. He then explained that joint insurance fund has a cyber program and has hired a third party contractor to test all of our IP addresses and emails as well as our website.

Unfinished Business

No Unfinished Business.

New Business

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve a letter of support of the Water Quality Restoration 319h Grant – Watershed Management Area 18 to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, seconded by Councilwoman Miller. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Open to the Public

Councilman Hagerty made a motion to open to the public, seconded by Councilwoman Harwell. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Matt Santinello – 1856 Bellmawr Ave. – Mr. Santinello made a point emphasizing how well

corporate/medicinal cannabis has been performing for over the past decade. He expressed his belief that cooperate cannabis is already well established and is not in need of any assistance. However, micro and equitable businesses need assistance to get established throughout New Jersey. Council President Merinuk thanked and responded to Mr. Santinello.

John Belko – 53 N. Child St. – Mr. Belko inquired about the work currently being done on Broad Street and a projected timeline for the project's completion. Councilman Pisarcik, Councilman Miller and Council President Merinuk answered.

Romona Wilcox – 250 S. Barber Ave. – Ms. Wilcox expressed her displeasure with the lack of communication surrounding the NPP grant and renovations. She explained that this is now her forth council meeting addressing the manner and still has no answers. Thanked Mayor Sickel for her persistence in helping. Ms. Wilcox asked if anyone on Council has spoken with Jake from Triad. Councilman Hagerty answered. She explained that she was told projects will be scheduled weather permitting. She expressed a lack of communication and professionalism with the contractor, and that she does not agree with the proposed estimate the contractor provided her. when he finally did reach out he provided her with an estimate and deadline on if she was in agreeance with the proposed estimate. She has previously spoken with Councilwoman O'Connor and Councilwoman Harwell and would like to know what her next steps are. Councilman Hagerty answered.

Jared Hunter – 39 High St. – Mr. Hunter inquired about an update on the status of the Volunteer Firefighters and the report that was supposedly completed in August detailing their qualifications and requirements. Council President Merinuk and Solicitor Scaffidi answered. Mr. Hunter asked about the timeline of which the decision to bring in an Interim Fire Administrator and if this was discussed with the Volunteer Firefighters. Council President Merinuk responded. Mr. Hunter expressed his displeasure with inviting the Volunteer Firefighters back without a formal resolution to the original issue. Council President Merinuk responded and Chief Hauss provided additional details in what the volunteer opportunity means.

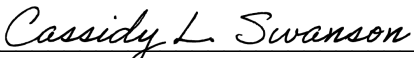
Hearing no one, Councilman Hagerty made a motion to close to the public, seconded by Councilwoman Harwell. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Councilman Miller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Hagerty. Motion approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned 7:28p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cassidy L. Swanson,
Acting City Clerk

NOTICE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A 10:4-8(d)

The items listed on this tentative agenda of the Mayor and Council President of the City of Woodbury constitutes the agenda to the extent known at the time of posting. Since this agenda is tentative, items may be added and/or deleted prior to the commencement of the meeting. Formal action may or may not be taken regarding each item listed on the final agenda.