

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS  
500 ELM AVENUE, WOODBURY HEIGHTS, NJ 08097  
JULY 16, 2014 7:30 P.M.**

Mayor Harry W. Elton, Jr. called the meeting to order with the following note: Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by adopting a schedule of meetings for 2014 which was faxed to the South Jersey Times and Courier Post on January 6, 2014 and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building conforming to the directives of the "Open Public Meetings Act".

Mayor Elton led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The call of roll showed the following to be present: Councilman William Packer, Councilwoman Cara Witasick, Councilman Harold "Hap" Pye, Councilman Duane Pheasant, Councilwoman Debra Truhan and Councilman Eshia "Jake" Jacob. Also in attendance were Borough Solicitor Barry Lozuke, Borough Engineer Mark Brunermer and Borough Clerk/Administrator Janet Pizzi.

A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting June 18, 2014 was made by Councilman Pheasant and seconded by Councilman Pye. A roll call vote went as follows:

Packer	yes
Witasick	yes
Pye	yes
Pheasant	yes
Truhan	yes
Jacob	abstain

The minutes were approved.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** For the month of June 2014, the Borough Clerk reported total receipts in the amount of \$4,792.80. Of this amount, \$23.00 was deposited into the Dog Fund and \$4,743.60 was turned over to the Treasurer.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

Mayor Elton opened the public portion of the meeting for questions or comments:

**Rose Yerka, Stratford Avenue:** Mrs. Yerka advised that the Lake aerators are not under warranty and will cost \$1,624.49 to repair. Recommendation is to remove them in the winter. Mrs. Yerka asked for an Anniversary Committee update. Mayor Elton stated that the Anniversary Committee met twice and list of events will be out soon. The Chairperson is Sue Reim. Mrs. Yerka asked for clarification of the resolutions to refund overpayment of taxes. Solicitor Lozuke explained that they are different properties from last month and he noted that the refund process has changed.

Upon hearing no additional questions or comments, Mayor Elton closed the public portion of the meeting.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Mark Brunermer reported that Lake Avenue is complete. Punch list items for both Lake and the Public Safety Annex steps will begin soon. The County is to start the Elm Avenue repaving project within the next week or two.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

**ORDINANCES  
FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION**

**ORDINANCE 4-2014**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 1 – 2014 ENTITLED “ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES AND COMPENSATION OF VARIOUS BOROUGH OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2014”**

Solicitor Lozuke read Ordinance 4-2014 by title only. A motion to approve this Ordinance on first reading was made by Councilwoman Witasick and seconded by Councilwoman Truhan. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Ordinance 4-2014 was approved on introduction. Solicitor Lozuke stated that there may be some benefit in establishing salary ranges for next year's salary ordinance. Councilwoman Witasick asked what type of consideration is utilized to create salary ranges. Solicitor Lozuke stated that it could vary based on the size of the municipality.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Upon request of Council, Solicitor Lozuke read Resolution 67-2014, Resolution 68-2014 and Resolution 69-2014 by title only. A motion to approve each Resolution was made by Councilman Packer and seconded by Councilman Jacob. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. Resolutions 67-2014 through and inclusive of Resolution 69-2014 were approved.

**RESOLUTION 67-2014**

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES TO ESTABLISH TRUST BY RIDER FOR DONATIONS FOR BOROUGH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**RESOLUTION 68 – 2014**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES**

**RESOLUTION 69- 2014**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS EXTENDING THE TAX DUE DATE FOR THE THIRD QUARTER 2014 PROPERTY TAXES**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance and Administration:** Councilman Packer announced that the Borough's financial status is good. We will be refinancing our short term financing (BANs) in the amount of \$719,250.00 The Borough is in the process of interviewing for the Principal Utilities Clerk/Payroll Clerk/Deputy Tax Collector position recently vacated by Anne Deeck.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED)**

**Property & Insurance:** Councilwoman Witasick reported that both she and Rick Middleton will be attending the JIF mandatory roundtable meetings this month.

**Streets & Roads:** Councilman Pye reported that the aerators were removed from the Lake and returned to the manufacturer for repair. He will be meeting with Rick Middleton to address problems with accessing certain areas for tree work.

**Public Safety:** Councilman Pheasant stated that work at the firehouse is on track. The police report was presented. A copy of this report will be on file in the Clerk's office.

Councilwoman Truhan asked if the firehouse will be ready for the upcoming block party and tree lighting ceremony. Fire Chief Robbie Conley responded that the building will not be complete in time for the block party but the outside will be cleaned up and ready. The firehouse building should be complete by the end of September.

**Water & Sewer:** Councilwoman Truhan thanked former employees Anne Deeck and Parker Smith for their years of service.

**Recreation & Civic:** Councilman Jacob reported that the Senior Citizens Association will hold their luncheon on September 8. Baseball season is over. Movie night featuring "Despicable 2" will be held at the Community Center on August 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**BILL LIST:** A motion to approve the bill list as presented this evening was made by Councilman Packer and seconded by Councilwoman Witasick. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. The bill list was approved.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

Mayor Elton opened the public portion of the meeting for questions or comments.

**Anthony Ilisco, Alliance:** Mr. Ilisco referenced a question he asked previously regarding the cost of the new fire house to the residents and asked why taxes in Woodbury Heights are increasing. Mayor Elton responded that there have been major tax appeals in addition to the continuous increase in the cost to run the town. The Municipal cost to the taxpayer is 27.5%. Discussion ensued regarding costs associated with running Woodbury Heights. Mr. Ilisco also advised Council that the LA Fitness fence is still a problem. Mayor Elton stated that their property maintenance person will be taking out sections of the fence. Councilman Packer added pertaining to the fire house, the Borough does not own the fire house and the annual budget for the fire department, EMS and ambulance is \$60,000. Fire Chief Robbie Conley advised that the Woodbury Heights Improvement, Protective and Fire Association owns the building and the Borough has nothing to do with the replacement of the fire house building. The Borough owns the equipment housed in the building and the total cost of lost equipment was \$189,000 which was insured by the Borough's JIF. Discussion ensued.

Fire Chief Robbie Conley advised Mayor and Council of an incident where Assistant Fire Chief Steve Mower assisted his neighbor who was having a massive heart attack. The resident is doing well.

**Robert Stibich, Linden Avenue:** Mr. Stibich stated that the vacant property next to his property is not being maintained. Mayor Elton advised him that he is aware of

**PUBLIC PORTION (CONTINUED)**

**this, and along with Deptford Township, the Borough is working on notifying owners to clean up their properties.**

**Rose Yerka, Stratford Avenue: Mrs. Yerka asked when the sign on Lake Ave can come down. Mr. Brunermer replied that he will check with the County. Mrs. Yerka asked about the refinancing of the short term financing. Councilman Packer told her that we do not have a rate yet. Mayor Elton added that it is a bidding process. Mrs. Yerka asked for an update on the train. Mayor Elton stated that he has no new information.**

**Beth Lukas, Glassboro Road: Mrs. Lukas asked for pothole repair on Glassboro Road at Brooklawn Avenue. Mrs. Lukas stated that nothing is being done about the vacant property next to her that is not being maintained and also complained that Deptford is not calling her back when she reports a complaint. Mrs. Lukas stated that she felt that the Mayor disrespected Councilwoman Truhan at the last meeting. Mayor Elton publicly apologized to Councilwoman Truhan. Discussion ensued regarding the problem of unmaintained vacant properties in the Borough.**

**Robert Stibich, Linden Avenue: Mr. Stibich stated that the Fire Department is an amazing group.**

**Rose Yerka, Stratford Avenue: Mrs. Yerka thanked Mayor and Council for allowing the public to be heard.**

**Councilwoman Truhan stated that she owes Mayor Elton an apology as well and she further explained that she misunderstood their conversation at the last meeting.**

**Upon hearing no further questions or comments from the public, Mayor Elton closed the public portion of the meeting.**

**ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Packer and seconded by Councilwoman Witasick. A roll call vote in favor was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Janet Pizzi, Clerk/Administrator**