

Woodbridge, New Jersey – April 20, 2021

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 20, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Municipal Building, 1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095.

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

Council President Small: Please rise for our Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence for our men and women serving in our military, the families and victims of COVID-19.

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 December 18, 2020. A copy of the Schedule was posted on the Municipal bulletin board. It should be so noted in the minutes of this meeting.

The Deputy Municipal Clerk took the Municipal Council attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cory Spillar, Debbie Meehan, Kyle Anderson, Lizbeth DeJesus, Howie Bauer, Brian Small.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gregg Ficarra, Nancy Drumm, and Virbhadra N. Patel.

ALSO PRESENT: Jackie Broderick, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Vito Cimilluca, Business Administrator
Marta Lefsky-Darden, Director of Planning and Development
John Hagerty, Communications Director
Casey Wagner, Deputy Business Administrator
Fred Rubenstein, Esq.
Craig J. Coughlin, Esq.

Deputy Municipal Clerk Jackie Broderick: Can I get a motion to approve the minutes from April 6, 2021?

Council Vice President Bauer moved the adoption of the following minutes seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

Council Meeting:

April 6, 2021

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

- A. BOND ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL SUM OF \$290,000 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY AND CONSTRUCTION THEREON OF A PARKING LOT FOR THE BARRON ARTS CENTER IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS. (21-25)**

Council Vice President Bauer made a motion that this Ordinance be taken up on Second and Third Readings and for the public hearing to be opened which was seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

Council President Small moved the public hearing to be held on this Ordinance and carried unanimously.

Council Vice President Bauer moved the public hearing closed and this Ordinance be adopted and submitted to the mayor for approval, which was seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

- B. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 150 LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE OF THE WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP CODE. (STORMWATER CONTROL) (21-26)**

Council Vice President Bauer made a motion that this Ordinance be taken up on Second and Third Readings and for the public hearing to be opened which was seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

Council President Small moved the public hearing to be held on this Ordinance and carried unanimously.

Council Vice President Bauer moved the public hearing closed and this Ordinance be adopted and submitted to the mayor for approval, which was seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

C. ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING THE AMENDED “PQ CORPORATION (PADDOCK STREET WEST) REDEVELOPMENT PLAN.” PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq.

Deputy Municipal Clerk, Jackie Broderick: Can I have a motion that the Ordinance C has been abandoned.

Council Vice President Bauer made a motion that this Ordinance be abandoned, which was seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

D. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY PURCHASE OR EMINENT DOMAIN OF REAL PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 563.052 LOT 3, ALSO KNOWN AS 8 PORT READING AVENUE IN THE PORT READING SECTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE. (21-27)

Council Vice President Bauer made a motion that this Ordinance be taken up on Second and Third Readings and for the public hearing to be opened which was seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

Council President Small moved the public hearing to be held on this Ordinance and carried unanimously.

Council Vice President Bauer moved the public hearing closed and this Ordinance be adopted and submitted to the mayor for approval, which was seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

E. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR A LONG-TERM TAX EXEMPTION AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH MAZZA URBAN RENEWAL, LLC. (21-28)

F. ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR A LONG-TERM TAX EXEMPTION AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH 101 ROSS STREET URBAN RENEWAL ENTITY, LLC. (21-29)

Council Vice President Bauer made a motion that these Ordinances be taken up on Second and Third Readings and for the public hearing to be opened which was seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

Council President Small moved the public hearing to be held on these Ordinances and carried unanimously.

Ken Gardner, Woodbridge: Asked about Ordinance E and if the properties looking for a tax-exemption included the entire Vito Mazza's building and the parking lot. Expressed that as required by law, it is possible to ask questions for an Ordinance in public meetings and that he did not intend to put it all on Council President Small or Business Administrator Cimilluca, but that somebody has got to know what has been going on. Asked what was being proposed and how many stories would be built in the building where Vito Mazza's property is located. Also expressed that he did not intend to be rude to anyone, but that he did not want to allocate his whole 5 minutes by repeating questions on the same subject to the Council President first and then to the planner Ms. Lefsky-Darden. Finally Mr. Gardner said that Mr. Lefsky-Darden did not answer his question.

Council President Small: Responded that it was the Vito Mazza's property.

Business Administrator, Cimilluca: Responded that he wasn't completely sure of the building delineation or size since he did not have the plan in front of him. He wasn't sure if that included the entire building but it included portions of the parking lot area. Added that Ms. Lefsky-Darden would be able to answer him more clearly.

Director of Planning and Development, Marta Lefsky-Darden: Thanked and explained that tonight they were voting on a financial agreement and not on the Vito Mazza's property itself, or the portions of the parking lot mentioned in the document although it had that description in the document. Provided a feedback about the 10 years of consistent study, meetings, plans, active engagement with the neighbors, property owners and stakeholders, the downtown Transit Village plan, the multiple premises, retail and residential, and the intention to attract development to the downtown with a train station, the North East Corridor Line and the Coast Line in an effort to ensure the economic viability of our historic downtown for the next hundred years for the residents, for the property owners, for the business owners, and for everyone who actively works and lives in town.

Business Administrator, Cimilluca: Explained to Mr. Gardner that this Ordinance was about a financial agreement and not about the plan itself, and that the plan was available online for him to see.

Council President Small: Thank and reminded Mr. Gardner that his time was up.

John Vtaric, Woodbridge: Spoke about the units being built at Vito Mazza's, the 4,000 square feet of retail space, 4 to 5 employees, 40 parking spaces, the buildings, the multilevel parking and the news that he read on the newspaper. Mentioned that he grew up in a communist country and how we are getting closer. Talked about hardship, financing through the bank, and the risks involved in building the apartments. Asked what would be the revenue obtained. Continued talking about property tax, apartments, parking, and asked how much it paid per unit, and how many full-time employees did Vito Mazza have.

Business Administrator, Cimilluca: Responded that they were not financing anything, that PILOT programs were incentives for a builder and not hardships. Explained that its basic premise is to bring new businesses and new construction to redevelop a community. Told him that it was an excellent

question and responded that property on Ordinance E pays \$59,343.00 a year. By the end of the project, they'll be paying \$188,595.00, 30 year term, \$12,558,000.00. Mr. Cimilluca confirmed that it was not a service tax, that it is a PILOT program. Mr. Cimilluca responded that he did not know how much it pays per unit, but that this Ordinance is about finance.

Council President Small: Responded that he didn't know what Mr. Vtaric meant by asking how many employees Vito Mazza has. Asked Mr. Vtaric to speak on the subject.

Council President Small: Asked Mrs. Broderick to go back and read Ordinance D. Mrs. Broderick read Ordinance D; it was adopted and submitted to the mayor for approval as required by law.

Council Vice President Bauer moved the public hearing closed and these Ordinances be adopted and submitted to the mayor for approval, which was seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

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

- G. BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY IN, BY AND FOR 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 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.**

- H. BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF BODY CAMERAS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT FOR THE USE OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,250,000 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).**

- I. ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING THE "KEASBEY 6 REDEVELOPMENT PLAN," PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq.**

- J. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING THE "DOWNTOWN WOODBRIDGE AREA 7 REDEVELOPMENT PLAN," PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq.**

- K. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF WOOD AVENUE SOUTH AND 100 WOOD AVENUE/METRO CORPORATE PARK DRIVE, WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.**
- L. ORDINANCE AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF WOOD AVENUE SOUTH AND PRUDENTIAL/HILTON DRIVEWAY, WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.**
- M. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF WOOD AVENUE SOUTH AND SIEMENS/HILTON DRIVEWAY, WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.**
- N. AN ORDINANCE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED “TRAFFIC”, SECTION 7-38.1 OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE. (LORETTA STREET, BAMFORD AVENUE).**
- O. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED “TRAFFIC”, SECTION 7-38.5 OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE. (WALTER DRIVE).**

Mrs. Broderick indicated that due to a typing error, Ordinance J would be corrected tomorrow. (Please note that Ordinance J was entered correctly in the minutes).

Council Vice President Bauer made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously that these Ordinances be passed on First Reading to be published in the Home News Tribune on Friday, April 23, 2021 with Notice of Public Hearing to be held on May 4, 2021 at 6:00 P.M

The Deputy Municipal Clerk introduced the following Resolutions as Consent:

- (1) BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby consents to the Mayor’s Appointment of Father William Smith to serve as Alternate Member of the Woodbridge Township Library Board until the appointment of his successor.
- (2) BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby consents to the Mayor’s Appointment of Tammy Rapp DaRocha to serve as a Member of the Woodbridge Township Environmental Commission fulfilling an unexpired three (3) year term commencing immediately and terminating December 31, 2023.
- (3) BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Clerk for a change of Corporate Structure of Retail Consumption License #1225-33-105-006, Red Chutney t/a Talli Bar & Grill.
- (4) BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the Resolution for street closing requested by Brian Molnar on May 1, 2021.

- (5) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby adopts the Resolution authorizing the request of Runit Patel, for waiver of requirements for the installation of sidewalks, for Block 413.362, Lot: 84, 185 South Hill Road, Colonia.
- (6) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby adopts the Resolution authorizing the request of Knock on Wood, LLC, for waiver of requirements for the installation of sidewalks and curbs, for Block 510.7, Lot:11.03, 33 E. Pine Street, Colonia.
- (7) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue a Refund check for taxes for 100% Disabled Veteran, Joann Ball.
- (8) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue a Refund check for taxes for 100% Disabled Veteran, Juan Morel.
- (9) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue Refund checks for Overpaid Taxes.
- (10) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Comptroller to issue a Refund check for Permit Fees.
- (11) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Local Freight Impact Fund Grant application for the Blair Road Improvement Milling & Resurfacing Project.
- (12) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Resolution referring the Keasbey 6 Redevelopment Plan to the Township Planning Board for its review and comment pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law.
- (13) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes Resolution referring the Downton Woodbridge, Area 7 Redevelopment Plan to the Township Planning Board for its review and comment pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law.
- (14) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the insertion of a Special Item of Revenue into the SFY 2021 Budget for the Township of Woodbridge – 2021 History Grant (\$3,500.00).
- (15) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk to execute an Agreement with Lorraine Nielsen, Esq. to serve as Substitute Prosecutor as needed at a rate of \$200.00 per session.
- (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 purchase of Playground Equipment from BCI Burke Company, for Howell Street Park in an amount not to exceed \$58,196.50
- (17) **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 playground

equipment from BCI Burke Company, for Capt. Carlsen Park in an amount not to exceed \$58,265.80.

- (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 between the Township of Woodbridge and the City of Linden for the provision of Local Public Health Services.
- (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 with Avenel Board of Fire Commissioners for the provision of Information Technology Services.
- (20) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Resolution confirming the hiring of Maryann Ralph of Metuchen as Assistant Library Director for the Library and waives the Township's residency Ordinance.
- (21) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the insertion of a Special Item of Revenue into the SFY 2021 Budget for the Township of Woodbridge for a Safety Incentive Award of \$12,500.00.
- (22) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby receives and approves the Corrective Action Plan for the Township of Woodbridge Audit for the year ending on June 30, 2020.
- (23) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves all claims and bills presented to it by the Chief Financial Officer of the Current Bill List dated April 20, 2021 and the Supplemental Bill List dated April 1, 2021 through April 16, 2021.

Councilman Spillar abstained from Resolution #19 and wants to thank the Mayor and the Administration for Resolution # 11. They just had their meeting with several residents of that section of Port Reading Avenue. It is pretty beat up; it's a County Rd. So, we have had a lot of luck going for the grant. Knock on wood to get it approved, but thank you for a proactive approach. That's it. Thank you.

Council Vice President Bauer moved the adoption of the foregoing Resolutions. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Broderick: This is all I have Mr. President.

Public Meeting:

Council President Small: Thank you Mrs. Broderick. We now go into open the public session of the meeting, please state your name and the part of town you live in. You have a five-minute time limit and if you are recording, please stand behind the blue line over there.

Ken Gardner, Woodbridge: Shared and explained why he had filed a Complaint against Mayor McCormac asking the Attorney General's office to review it for misconduct. First, he commented on coming to the planning board before Councilwoman Drumm, and Chief of Staff Carol Ehrlich in

response to neighbors' concerns to Woodbridge and Sewaren about over 1,000 apartment units that were being built in downtown, testifying, and receiving a text from the mayor threatening his state job because he opposed his program.

Second, Mr. Gardner commented that after receiving an award for his 30-years volunteering as a member in the Woodbridge Firehouse, he attended the firehouse at a later date for another event, and politely asked Mayor McCormac about the Hess property development, and commented being not in favor of building the 450 units. Asked who was pushing the project because everyone he spoke to were not in favor of the project. Said that the mayor gave him a couple of sentences on the project and again brought up his state job which according to Mr. Gardner, it was threatening and extremely inappropriate. The Mayor dismissed him, despite him being a member, and told him that everything belonged to him. Finally, Mr. Garner asked the Council to serve as the check and balance and investigate this subject.

John Vtaric, Woodbridge: Spoke about the people that would be moving into the town, the future of the town, Senator Joe Vitale, the buildings, the school, the policemen, the destruction of a beautiful town, Jim McGreevey, warehouses, not having the right plans but just developing, and building on brownfields. Talked about how the people in this community didn't feel safe and how they are fighting each other. Told the Council that they were supposed to be in charge as they were making the law and not the mayor.

James Dabrowski, Woodbridge: Commented on Councilwoman Meehan and reminded how she scolded at him and called him Mr. Distelcamp on the last meeting. Spoke how Kason Little felt offended for the incident, and how Council President Small banged his gavel and asked the officer to remove Mr. Dabrowski as he decided to remove himself from the room. Continued talking about Councilwoman Meehan, and how the Woodbridge PBA President Mr. Distelcamp dismissed his wife as she tried talking about diversity equity and inclusion. Also spoke, about Mr. Distelcamp's comments on his Facebook Page, the police biases, Woodbridge Board of Education Daniel Harris, Speaker Craig Coughlin, the Civil Rights lawsuit against Woodbridge, how Councilwoman Meehan was upset to be called racist, how she treated the NAACP President Reverend Donna Stewart, and assistant Treasurer Reverend Mary Giles after speaking about their experiences with racism in Woodbridge. Also spoke about Phil Hall, standing against racism, the mayor, the Woodbridge Youth for Liberation and Equity, the Police Department, the Police budget, black officers, anti-black culture, the racial movement, and how the mayor refuses to get on the right side of history, and commit to anti-racism, Finally talked about the young committee leaders, justice for Nijeer Parks, justice for Jeremiah Daniels-Porter, and Black Lives Matter.

Don Green, New Jersey: Spoke about the resolution, the mayor, and diversity in the police force. Said that he was not sure if this was the form to ask them, that he wanted to give the Council members perspective on the resolution on whether they support it or not, if they didn't have any leading thoughts about that and if they believe in the need for diversity in our police force.

Council President Small: The final resolution has been drafted and presented to the Council. It is up to each and every individual member. I am not going to ask the Council to reveal how they are thinking or how they are planning to vote on a resolution that was not even finalized and presented to us. There is always room for diversity; yes there is.

Victoria Bertsch, Colonia: Spoke not in favor of a massive influx or expansion of apartment buildings and the changing of the landscape of the town. Commented about the need for the Police Department to expand as the population size increases. Expressed that for multiple reasons she did not want more apartment buildings and that feeding more people into an unjust system, was not the way to correct it. Spoke about the resolution, the PBA, the Council's disposition to the resolution, and how she is in favor of diversity in the police force.

Mrs. Broderick: Asked for a motion to close the public portion of this meeting.

Council Vice President Bauer made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting which was seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously.

BRIAN SMALL, COUNCIL PRESIDENT / COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE

Council President Small: Thank you. I'll go under the agenda section.

1. Woodbridge News.
HOLD
2. Mayor's Advisory Council on Education (Mac-E).
HOLD
3. Port Reading Fire and Township First Aid Squads.
HOLD

Council President Small: Fire District #2 took delivery of a new engine. We'll be planning some kind of a wet down. Hopefully, we are looking at June. I'll have more by the next meeting. It's going to also go by where we are at with social distancing.

4. Website E-Government.
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.
HOLD
13. Marine Eight.
HOLD
14. Mayor Mac Café.
HOLD
15. Jazz Festival.
HOLD
16. Concerts.
HOLD

Council President Small: For our summer concerts #16, again, please look at our website. We have incredible shows. They run Sundays through Thursday. They kick off on June 21st, and it is a very nice time. It’s good to see our residents out enjoying themselves.

17. Light Parade.
HOLD
18. Human Rights Commission
HOLD

Council President Small: I have an announcement. Our Woodbridge PBA 38 Street Hockey League 2021 Spring League youth hockey ages 4 thru 17 has sign-ups at Boynton Park in Port Reading Wednesday, April 21st 6-8 pm, Friday, April 23rd 6-8 pm, Saturday, April 24th 10am-12pm, and Tuesday, April 27th 6-8 pm.

I do have a report from Councilman Ficarra regarding a COVID update. As a 4/19, 33 clinics were held, doses administrated were 5,482 - first doses are 3,376, and second doses are 2,106. Total number of cases at St. Joe’s are 77, positive cases at state facilities are 837, positive cases in the community were 10,994 for a total of 11,908. Again, we can thank the Health Department enough for the job they have been doing during this COVID thing. To our Director Green and staff, Kudos to you. Please bless our First Responders, our Police, Fire, EMS, all our Essential Workers, and God Bless America. Council Vice President Bauer.

HOWIE BAUER, COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT / 2nd WARD COUNCILMAN

Council Vice President Bauer: Thank you Council President my agenda is in order, and I have no announcements. Thank you.

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
B. 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

Council President Small: Thank you. Councilwoman DeJesus.

LIZBETH DEJESUS, COUNCILWOMAN-AT-LARGE

Councilwoman DeJesus: Thank you Council President. I just have one announcement.

1. Housing Authority.
HOLD
2. Affordable Housing Corporation.
HOLD
3. Youth and Government Day.
HOLD
4. History Museum.
HOLD
5. Police Community Relations.
HOLD
6. Youth Employment/Job Fair.
HOLD
7. Township Parks and Playgrounds.
HOLD
8. Hispanic Heritage Month.
HOLD
9. Barron Arts Center.
HOLD
10. Free Public Library of Woodbridge.
HOLD

Councilwoman DeJesus: The Woodbridge Public Library is pleased to announce the launch of Brainfuse HelpNow on demand, anytime, anywhere eLearning for all ages and levels. Virtual tutors are available from 2:00 pm – 11:00 pm daily. Visit the Woodbridge library's website at <http://woodbridgelibrary.org/helpnow> for more information.

The Fords Henry Inman and Iselin Branch libraries are open for in-person visits. Check the library's website or call 732-634-4450 for hours and directions to the branches. That is all that I have. Thank you.

11. Veteran's Tax Deduction.
HOLD
12. Green Infrastructure.

HOLD

13. Girl Sports.
HOLD
14. Girl Scouts/Scouts Pavilion and Camp.
HOLD
15. Census 2020.
HOLD
16. Youth Leadership Council.
HOLD

Council President Small: Thank you. Councilman Spillar.

CORY S. SPILLAR, 3rd WARD COUNCILMAN

Councilman Spillar: Thank you Council President Small.

1. Avenel's Very Merry Holiday Lighting (**11/28/21**) / Port Reading Day (TBD).
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

President Small. I have #5. The Avenel Middle School Community Service Club is presently holding a food drive. There is a bin outside the main entrance so there is no physical interaction. The bins are placed outside at the start of the school and taken at the end of the day. School hours are 7:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please stop by and drop off some non-perishable items.

While on the subject of Avenel Middle School. I am very pleased that they have scheduled their Junior Honor Society assembly for May 4th with a ceremony to be held outdoors in front of the school. So thankfully some of the students will get some of their stuff.

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.

HOLD

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

HOLD

Councilman Spillar: Item#9 Avenel VWF 7164 Auxiliary is having a Fish Fry Fundraiser this Friday, April 23rd, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. You can take out or dine in. For more information, please call the post at 732-687-5369.

10. Woodbridge Developmental Center property.

HOLD

11. Cable Commission/Renewal.

HOLD

12. School 4 & 5.

HOLD

Councilman Spillar: Item #12 Avenel School 4&5 – I am pleased to announce that demolition started this week on the old Premier Die Casting building and will continue to move forward to build in the new school 4&5. That's all on my agenda this evening Council President.

13. Mileed Way Army Corps of Engineers project.

HOLD

Councilman Spillar: I have one announcement. Council Anderson, do you want to add this to your list of our township employment opportunities. Our friend Carmine and their boys will be opening a Jersey Pizza Boys located at 147 Avenel Street. That is the former Margeez restaurant; they are hiring all positions. For more information, please call 908-380-7722.

Councilman Anderson: Thank you Councilman.

Councilman Spillar: Thank you to all First Responders, EMS, OEM, Woodbridge Police Department, C.E.R.T., and all our public Works employees. Be safe. Be Smart. God Bless America. Thank you Council President Small.

Council President Small: Thank you. Councilwoman Meehan.

DEBBIE MEEHAN, 5TH WARD COUNCILWOMAN

Councilwoman Meehan: Thank you Council President.

1. Inman Avenue Business District Improvements.
HOLD
2. Green Houses – Colonia Middle and Colonia High Schools.
HOLD
3. Evergreen Senior/Youth Center / Senior Services.
HOLD
4. Events: Taste of Colonia.
Have a Heart Food Drive.
Colonia Easter Bonnet Parade & Egg Hunt.
Colonia 5K/Chris Jantas Run.
Colonia Annual Wiffle Ball Tournament.
Support the Troops Rally.
Colonia Pride Day.
Colonia Clean Up.
Colonia Christmas Tree Lighting.
Cookies and Can for the Troops and Food Bank.
Toys for Tots Run.
Breast Cancer Walk.
HOLD
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. Municipal Alliance + Addiction Task Force.
HOLD

Councilwoman Meehan: I am going to move down to #12 on my agenda- Addiction Services. According to Middlesex County Specialized Case Management and Outreach Services, they've reached out to every person whom a referral from mental health was made. Police are sending Dr. Nolan, our Woodbridge Township Specialist, contact information for all behavioral health calls and we in turn are sending them contact information to Outreach Services. They report though that not everyone accepts help, some have, and every time they speak with a resident, Outreach Services gives them a list of resources and a contact in a case so that they can seek help. The assistance includes behavioral health treatment at various levels, housing assisting with social programs such as food stamps, referral to medical care, etc. So even though not everyone accepts the help, the connection is made, and people have a resource about what they did not know before. Blue Care continues to serve the County via outreach calls to overdose victims. Some of these occur at hospitals. Some of these are victims' homes and multiple people referred to treatment each week. Woodbridge has resumed municipal drug court with marijuana cases out of the picture. Our coaches are seeing people charged with possession of paraphernalia. These tend to be people suffering from opioid disorders and most are receptive for help, especially when a judge expresses concern and the willingness to delay or downgrade penalties for people who seek help and treatment. This is a program that truly saves lives by allowing us to see people who have not overdosed but have a serious illness. Addiction Services is currently organizing a fundraiser which will be held on May 22nd. They don't have anything in place yet, but it will be on the township website when it is all finalized. This will raise money for much needed funds for our sober living programs, which covers the first month rent, in sober living for people just discharged from inpatient treatment substances. If you would like any more information about any of these program's township, you can reach out to Dr. Bonnie Nolan at 732-855-2800 ext. 5008. There is always help available if you or your love one is going through addiction. That's all I have this evening. Thank you.

13. Volunteer Directory.
HOLD

14. Domestic Violence Response Team.
HOLD

15. AED Program.
HOLD

Council President Small: Thank you Councilwoman Meehan. Councilman Anderson.

NANCY J. DRUMM, 1st WARD COUNCILWOMAN (ABSENT)

1. Events: Relay for Life.
Fishing Derby.

Parker Press Concerts.
Woodbridge Wednesdays and Local Band Thursdays.
Saint James Street Fair.

HOLD

2. (DMA) Downtown Merchants Association.
HOLD
3. Main Street SID (Special Improvement District).
HOLD
4. Chamber of Commerce.
HOLD
5. Buy Local Program.
HOLD
6. Transit Village.
HOLD
7. Blue Acres/F.E.M.A.
HOLD
8. Main Street and Route 9.
HOLD
9. Animal Shelter.
HOLD
10. Dog Park.
HOLD
11. Arts.
(A) Woodbridge Train Station Mural Project.
(B) Woodbridge Artisan Guild.
HOLD
12. PACE.
HOLD
13. Woodbridge Elks Lodge 2116.
HOLD
14. Woodbridge Fire Department.
HOLD
15. Coast Guard.

HOLD

16. Sewaren Library Programs.
HOLD

17. Acacia Center.
HOLD

18. RISE Program
HOLD

19. Sewaren Marina
HOLD

KYLE ANDERSON, COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE

Councilman Anderson: Thank you Council President. My agenda is pretty much in order. I do have an announcement.

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

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

12. Boy Scouts/Camping.

HOLD

13. League Consolidation.

HOLD

14. Middlesex College.

HOLD

15. Woodbridge Organization of Neighbors Advocating Change.

HOLD

Councilman Anderson: I would like to mention that Woodbridge High School would be presenting their annual musical called their 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee and that will be between April 22nd and April 24th Thursday thru Saturday at 7:00 p.m. and on Sunday April 25th at 2:00 p.m. at Woodbridge High School and there is a suggested donation of \$10.00. You can call 732-602-8600 for more information on that event. It is always entertaining.

I do want to mention that right now my committee WONAC, which stands for Woodbridge Organization of Neighbors Advocating Change, is in the planning for Juneteenth event which would be on Saturday June 19th, of this year. We are excited about it. We are hoping to get as many people as we can from our community to come out and understand what Juneteenth is all about, and have the entire community celebrate it together.

In public service announcement, I know it was mentioned earlier, I plan on going and buying my boys some new bicycles in a few weeks. They are hot commodities and I went to the Main Street; right now, you can't get a bicycle anywhere. But parents are out there with their bicycles, with their young teenagers' bicycles. Some of the kids are very skilled with the wheelies and so forth. I have seen and experienced personally some serious events initiated by teenagers. I've been over by Woodbridge High School where they are literally riding their Wheelies at oncoming cars, and then at the very last second, they move out of the way, and I've experienced that. I've experienced it on Inman Avenue, a young man riding alongside me, in a wheelie the entire time. As a parent, my heart is in my stomach that this kid doesn't lose his balance and get hurt. It is a great talent that these young people have, but I am asking parents to encourage their young people to be more responsible in their community, and not antagonize motorists. I went to the Auto Parts Place on Main Street, he told me: "I will have 100 in, and yes they will be gone". Extreme bikes will be gone within a few days. So, that tells me that there is going to be more and more bicycles out on the road. I was on the phone with a good friend of mine, a Lieutenant from the Perth Amboy Police Department. Unfortunately, there was an incident that happened and that only part of the public saw. They only saw a six-minute segment of a seventeen-minute video of these teenagers that were antagonizing people with their vehicles in traffic. When the police reacted to it, of course, the only six-minute video was shown. He is a very good friend of mine. He endures a very hard time today on

the news media and so forth in social media. When I saw the entire video, police did the right thing. I know they are neighbors; I want to give a shout out to those guys, and just tell them to keep their heads up.

I would like to make a statement about this diversity issue that Mr. Green had brought up. So much has been said about the proposed resolution form, the Senate Bill 3220 that allows Civil Service Municipalities to allow but not require an appointed authority to hire candidate based on the completion of a course that teaches and tests in the right of qualities and skills necessary to become a successful law enforcement officer. This can serve as a particularly useful tool for localities seeking to expand the diversity of their police force in instances where test may have made limited that option. Recently the PBA President urged residents to contact Council people to ask to vote against the monumental bill that takes effect in August of 2021. I was one of those who received several emails and phone calls from residents, and therefore I am responding to this. The reason for the plea from the PBA President was to preserve the list for Veterans that the Woodbridge Township has always remained committed to. Last week Mayor McCormac released the video stating that the intended use for this resolution, if passed, will not impact one Veteran ever. There are many features of Civil Service that I do appreciate, and that many of my minority friends that are in law enforcement, pointed out to me, and one was a guarantee that they would receive an interview once your number on the list was called. However, a multiplicity of factors including the inability of some candidate to afford the privately run preparatory courses that give certain candidates an edge, that these tests can sometimes yield eligibility lists that disproportionately reflect non-minority candidates at the top pf the list. Unfortunately, that is the case here in Woodbridge. While our numbers with Hispanics on the Police Department accurately reflects the township's population, the representation of African or Asian-Americans are dismal with Asians representing 22% of the population, but only 3% in our police force, and African Americans 10% of the population and only 2% on the Police Department. We have to do better.

As many of you know I was a neighbor to my childhood hero Alvin Williams who happened to be an African American, who died in the line of duty on September 6th, 1979. It was not until 29 years later, in 1999, that Woodbridge Township hired another African American police officer. Why does Woodbridge Police Department struggle in this area? Some have suggested that it is cultural. I don't believe that to be true. As I know at least a dozen Woodbridge Township homegrown young men and women are minorities that are police officers in other towns. Some say that the announcement of the test is not publicized well enough. I believe that it needs to be looked into more closely. My sons were part of the last Junior Police Academy in 2019, and I saw many minorities in that academy. Perhaps we can look closely at the relationship with those students who graduate from the Junior Police Academy. While much opinion has been offered by the alternate route, I have seen it firsthand, what an alternate route is capable of. I attended Trenton State College and when I first attended there, I learned what EOF stood for. The educational Opportunity Fund was a program designed for students with lower economic standards that did not fit the mold of the general admissions student. Usually, they did not meet the average S.A.T. score or class rank to be admitted but showed promise in other areas. The students were required to attend the summer program and were given free on-campus tutoring, I was jealous of that, but I had many friends in the program, and I learned their backgrounds but more importantly, I saw their desire. These students are often known as chance students that the college viewed as their social responsibility. I can recall one student a few years behind me that I befriended because he was a local boyfriend from chrome section of Carteret. He was majoring in communications and getting into school through the summer program

was a major hurdle. But having money and fitting in was also a major struggle because his family was very poor. My friend eventually graduated with a degree in communications, but some career decisions ultimately led him to make a decision to go into teaching through what is known as the alternate route. He taught in East Orange for a few years and pursued his master's degree in Education before taking a position as a teacher in his hometown of Carteret. Eventually, he interviewed to become the principal of Carteret. After several successful years as the principal, he interviewed and became the superintendent of Asbury Park School system. After increasing the graduation rate, school attendance and lowering the dropout rate and bringing in a school breakfast program, he was noticed by Governor Phil Murphy and became the first confirmed African American Commissioner for the Department of Education. Then in two short years, New Jersey schools were ranked #1 in the nation by Education Weekly magazine. Now my friend Dr. Lamont Repollet is the President of Kean University. This is just one example that the alternate route in any line of work can be successful, if it is successfully launched and owned by the institution from which it came. Thank you.

Council President Small: Thank you. Mrs. Broderick.

GREGG FICARRA, COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE (ABSENT)

1. WCC (Woodbridge Community Center).
 - (A) Senior Recreation and programming.
 - (B) Youth Recreation and programming.HOLD
2. Youth Month – April.
Senior Month – May.
HOLD
3. Mentoring Programs.
HOLD
4. Mayor's Fitness / Wellness Initiatives.
HOLD
5. Fireworks.
HOLD
6. Heroes & Cool Kids / Strengthening Families.
HOLD
7. Pedestrian Safeway's / East Coast Greenway.
HOLD
8. Annual Pizza Run.
HOLD

9. Jacob's Landing.
HOLD
10. The Club at Woodbridge upgrades.
HOLD
11. Crossroad's Race.
HOLD
12. Mental Health / Wellness.
HOLD
13. COVID-19 efforts.
HOLD

(VIRU) VIRBHADRA N. PATEL, 4th WARD COUNCILMAN (ABSENT)

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

JOHN M. MITCH, MUNICIPAL CLERK (ABSENT)

Mrs. Broderick, Deputy Municipal Clerk: My agenda is in order. Thank you.

1. Liquor License Transfer(s) / Change of Corporate Structure:

- A. Person-To-Person / Place-To-Place Transfer of Liquor License # 1225-33-002-010 from HOP Woodbridge LLC t/a Houlihan's to DARYL, LLC for 55 Brook St., Woodbridge, NJ 07095.
2. Liquor License Incident(s) / Hearing(s).
 - A. Pre-Hearing Conference: April 28, 2021
 - B. Hearing: May 18, 2021
3. Liquor License Renewals.
 - A. 2021 Annual Retail Licensee Meeting. (4/21/21 Virtual)
4. Street Closings / Special Events (Block parties, street fairs, carnivals, etc.).
5. Elections.
 - A. 2021 Primary Election: June 8, 2021
 - B. 2021 General Election: November 2, 2021

Council President Small: Thank you. Business Administrator Cimilluca.

MAYOR:

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:

Business Administrator Cimilluca: I have a Refund for Overpayment of Sewer Taxes.

POLICE:

HEALTH:

RECREATION:

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

Business Administrator Cimilluca: Thank you Council President. Under Planning and Development, I have a Refund from Current Account.

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING:

Business Administrator Cimilluca: For Public Works I have a Co-Op Purchase of Toro GroundsMaster 7210. Thank you, Council President.

Council President Small: Thank you. Law.

LEGAL:

Fred Rubenstein, Esq.: There is nothing this evening. Thank you.

Council President Small: Thank you.

On a motion made by Councilman Bauer seconded by Councilwoman Meehan and carried unanimously, Council President Small adjourned the meeting at 6:42 P.M.

Brian Small,
Council President

John M. Mitch, RMC, CMC, CMR,
Municipal Clerk