

**WOODSTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 13, 2022**

**Sunshine Statement:**

“The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Woodstown, County of Salem was held at 7:00 PM in the Borough Hall in accordance by noticing the South Jersey Times and the Daily Journal and posting on the Borough Website in compliance with the Sunshine Law NJSA 10:4-5 to 10:4-21.”

- **Roll Call – Hackett, Hiles, Hyman, Merkle, Nixon, Mayor Dietrich**
- **Absent – Bobbitt**
- **Others Present – Cynthia Dalessio (Clerk), John Hitchner (Deputy Clerk), Joe DiNicola (Solicitor), Erik Biermann (Engineer), Jud Moore (CFO), Lois Yarrington (Assistant CFO), Frank Mitchell (CPWM), Harry Vanaman (Public Works), Wesley “Buster” Burden (Resident)**

**Flag Salute:**

*Mayor Dietrich opens the meeting at 7:00 pm and leads everyone in the flag salute.*

**Public Comments:**

*Mayor Dietrich opened the meeting for public comment. Being as no members of the public wished to speak, Mayor Dietrich closed the public portion.*

**Minutes:**

*Mr. Hiles makes a motion to approve the 11/22/2022 regular meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Merkle and the motion carries with a unanimous vote; 5-0*

**Finance:**

**ORDINANCE 2022-14**

*Mr. Hiles makes a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-14, amending the salary ordinance. Ms. Nixon seconds and it is approved with a 5-0 roll call vote.*

**RESOLUTION 2022-115**

*Mr. Hiles makes a motion to approve Resolution 2022-115 refunding an overpayment of taxes. Motion is seconded by Mr. Hackett and approved 5-0 with a roll call vote.*

**RESOLUTION 2022-116**

*Mr. Hiles makes a motion to approve Resolution 2022-116 approving a Totally Disabled Veteran tax exemption for Benjamin. Motion is seconded by Mr. Hackett and approved 5-0 with a roll call vote.*

**RESOLUTION 2022-117**

*Mr. Hiles makes a motion to approve Resolution 2022-117 approving a Totally Disabled Veteran tax exemption for Pazmino. Motion is seconded by Mr. Merkle and approved 5-0 with a roll call vote.*

**RESOLUTION 2022-118**

*Mr. Hiles makes a motion to approve Resolution 2022-118 transferring funds. Motion is seconded by Mr. Hackett and approved 5-0 with a roll call vote.*

*Council reviews the tax collector’s report.*

*Mr. Hiles makes a motion to approve the bills as provided by the CFO in an amount of \$107,251.35. Motion is seconded by Mr. Hackett and approved 5-0.*

*Council is given and reviews the Audit Report.*

*Mr. Moore addresses the Council. He thanks them for his time here and thanks various coworkers. He reviews a summary report of his accomplishments during his time with Woodstown.*

**Public Safety:**

**RESOLUTION 2022-119**

*Mr. Merkle makes a motion to approve Resolution 2022-119 giving the Fire Chief a stipend beginning in 2023. Motion is seconded by Mr. Hackett and approved 4-0 with Mr. Hiles abstaining.*

**RESOLUTION 2022-120**

*Mr. Hiles makes a motion to approve Resolution 2022-120 hiring Melody Reese as full-time police secretary. Motion is seconded by Ms. Nixon and approved 5-0 with a roll call vote.*

**Utilities:**

*Council discusses the retention basin in Woodstown Greens with Engineer Biermann. Mr. Biermann discusses with Solicitor DiNicola the maintenance plan between Woodstown and Pilesgrove concerning storm water and the retention basin.*

*South Jersey Gas is continuing the restoration on Green Street.*

**Streets and Roads:**

**RESOLUTION 2022-121**

*Mrs. Hyman makes a motion to approve Resolution 2022-121 hiring Robert Budd with a part-time position with Public Works. Motion is seconded by Mr. Hackett and approved 5-0 with a roll call vote.*

*Mrs. Hyman makes a motion to approve to hire a new, full-time public works employee. Motion is seconded by Mr. Merkle and approved 5-0.*

*Council discusses the work schedule for Safe Routes to School grant sidewalk construction. The work near Mary Shoemaker School is scheduled to take place during winter break.*

*Engineer Biermann discusses how Municipal Aid Grants for road construction are down significantly throughout the County.*

*Mr. Biermann also discusses his proposal for services with regards to vacating Cedar Way.*

*Mrs. Hyman makes a motion to have the Engineer do the work on vacating Cedar Way. Motion is seconded by Mr. Merkle and approved 5-0.*

**Health, Recreation, and Open Space:**

*Council discusses the proposed amendment to the Open Space ordinance. They decide to table the ordinance and revisit it next year.*

*Council discusses the Local Recreational Improvement Grant which is available for a smaller scale project in the parks.*

*Mrs. Hyman makes a motion to apply for the grant. Motion is seconded by Mr. Hiles and approved 4-1 with Mr. Hackett voting against.*

*Council discusses option for the rabies clinic and determines that it would better serve the residents to have it in March if possible.*

**General Discussion: None**

**Motion to Adjourn:**

*A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Hiles at 8:25 pm. Motion is seconded by Ms. Nixon and approved 5-0.*

**Respectfully submitted,**

**John H. Hitchner III, Borough Deputy Clerk**