

**WOODSTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 27, 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 – Bobbitt, Hackett, Hiles, Hyman, Merkle, Nixon, Mayor Dietrich**
- **Absent – NONE**
- **Others Present – Joe DiNicola Jr (Solicitor), Cynthia Dalessio (Clerk), John Hitchner (Deputy Clerk), Erik Biermann (Engineer), Harry Vanaman (P/W Foreman)**

Flag Salute:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm and Mayor Dietrich led 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 9/13/2022 regular meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Ms. Nixon and the motion carries with a unanimous vote; 5-0 with Mr. Merkle abstaining.

Solicitor’s Report:

Solicitor DiNicola informs Council that he has reviewed the current Inter-local agreement with Pilesgrove regarding Friend’s Village and feels that some of the language is dated and deficient. While he does make some suggestions, he also thinks that it has served both towns very well since 2003 and it is not something to make an issue of if there isn’t one.

Mayor Dietrich brings up that we have been having some issues with the construction department and we may wish to see if Pilesgrove would be willing to take over the inspections

Finance:

Council discusses a line item on the bill list for “Chris Wolfe”. It is determined that this was for the assessing in the new Woodstown Greens development. There are questions about who authorized this purchase as employees would not have been authorized to.

Mr. Hiles makes a motion to approve the bills as provided by the CFO in an amount of \$444,399.96. Motion is seconded by Mr. Merkle and approved 6-0.

Public Safety:

Mr. Merkle had nothing to report regarding public safety, but wanted to thank Mr. Vanaman and the Moose Lodge for cleaning up the monument at the park.

Utilities:

Council reviews the water report. Usage is up.

Council reviews the inter-local agreement with the Sewerage Authority. The agreement is tabled until next meeting.

Engineer Biermann reviews the water study report which was completed. He also reviews the Howard Ave drainage study which was completed.

Council directs Solicitor DiNicola to discuss the removal of line item #12 in the inter-local agreement with the Sewerage Authority.

Streets and Roads:

Mrs. Hyman thanks Mr. Vanaman for all of his work in making the Fall Festival a success.

General Government:

There are no items for open session in General Government.

Health, Recreation, and Open Space:

There are no items for open session in Health, Recreation, & Open Space.

General Discussion:

RESOLUTION 2022-98

Mr. Merkle makes a motion to approve Resolution 2022-98 entering into executive session regarding contract negotiations and personnel. Ms. Nixon seconds and it is approved 6-0.

[Council enters executive session at 7:45 pm]

[Council exits executive session at 8:40 pm]

RESOLUTION 2022-99

Ms. Nixon makes a motion to approve Resolution 2022-99 approving the contract with the Statewide JIF. Mr. Merkle seconds and it is approved 6-0.

Mr. Hiles makes a motion to advertise for a new CFO if required. Motion is seconded by Ms. Bobbitt and approved 6-0.

Motion to Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Merkle at 8:45 pm. Motion is seconded by Mrs. Hyman and approved 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Hitchner III, Borough Deputy Clerk