

Minutes of the Reorganization Meeting, Council Meeting and Board of Health Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Woodbridge, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey held on January 3, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. at the Municipal Building, 1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: I call the meeting to order please. Everyone please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. I ask that you remain standing after the Pledge of Allegiance for a moment of silence for the men and women who have served before us and during us in the Armed Forces. And also before we do the Pledge, I would like to yield to Councilwoman McAuliffe who has a special intention.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Good evening. If we could please all take a moment and bow our heads in a moment of silence in honor of the late Councilwoman, Nancy Bader Drumm as yesterday was the one year anniversary of her passing. Nancy will hold a special place in all of our hearts. She was an amazing woman who served this community. She was a loving mother, wife and a friend to all of us. Thank you.

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

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 November 25, 2022. A copy of the Schedule was posted on the Municipal bulletin board. It should be so noted in the minutes of this meeting.

The Municipal Clerk took the Municipal Council attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cory Spillar, Kyle Anderson Lizbeth DeJesus, Brian Small, Sharon McAuliffe, Gregg Ficarra, Howie Bauer,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Debbie Meehan, Virbhadra N. Patel

ALSO PRESENT: John E. McCormac, Mayor
John Mitch, Municipal Clerk
Vito Cimilluca, Business Administrator
Marta Darden, Director of Planning and Development
Robert Hubner, Director of Police
George Brew, Director of Public Works
Phil Bujalski, Health Director
Michael Gelin, Municipal Engineer
John Hagerty, Communications Director
Caroline Ehrlich, Chief of Staff
Casey Wagner, Deputy Assistant Business Administrator
Gary Clemente, Esq.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: At this time, Council, I would like to seek nominations for the Office of President for the year 2023.

Councilman Anderson: Mr. Mitch.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Mr. Anderson.

Councilman Anderson: I would like to nominate Councilman Ficarra for the position of Council President. For the past 15 years, Councilman Ficarra has served on the Council with great distinction and purpose. Councilman Ficarra brings a wealth of experience that ranges from educational administration, health and wellness, business, the arts and various government entities. Councilman Ficarra has a proven track record for leadership in government and he has always been a responsive representative with excellent communication skills. As an independent critical thinker, that is not hesitant to ask why, Gregg ensures that the checks and balances are always at work in our government. He is a passionate leader that truly loves the community in which he serves. He is a great family man and a loyal friend. It is for these and other reasons that I would like to nominate Councilman Ficarra to serve as Council President for 2023.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Thank you Councilman. Do I have a second?

Councilwoman DeJesus: Mr. Mitch.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Mrs. DeJesus.

Councilwoman DeJesus: It's an honor for me to second the nomination of Councilman Gregg Ficarra for Council President. Gregg is a devoted husband, father and grandfather. His dedication to his family and the work that he does to ensure that they have the best, shows the character of the man that he is. I have no doubt that he is as equally devoted to the residents of Woodbridge Township. During his time in Council and prior to being on the Council, Gregg served and continues to serve on a multitude of boards, committees and commissions. To say that any committee that he serves is fortunate is an understatement. Gregg serves with an open heart and truly wants to do the best for everyone he meets and for everyone that needs help. He serves Woodbridge by making sure that he advocates for those that can't and for what he believes will make this Township the best place for absolutely everyone. Gregg serves the people of Woodbridge without bias and with respect. All of his years as a Councilman can attest to this. I know that all of us sitting on this Dais see him as a friend and a mentor. He is the go to person if we have a question or if we need an ally. He listens and always offers the best and sound advice. And not necessarily always telling us what we want to hear, but offering what is the best solution for the problem. As Council President, Gregg will lead us with integrity, respect and equality and that is why I am proud to second his nomination for Council President.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Thank you. Are there any other nominations for President? Congratulations.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Gregg Ficarra as Council

President.

Councilman Ficarra: I would certainly like to congratulate Councilman Bauer for his year of service. He did a wonderful job and it's difficult to follow him. Certainly my wife Maritza and my family for their years of support. Maritza and I are big supporters of the effort to stop homelessness and we do that together. Thank you to Councilman Anderson and Councilwoman DeJesus for your lovely nominations and the Council for your friendship and support. Mr. Mitch, thank you for your guidance and advice and the Mayor and Administration for their vision and hard work to make our town the best town around.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Thank you Council President. At this time I am going to seek nominations for the Office of Vice President for 2023.

Councilman Small: Mr. Mitch.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Councilman Small.

Councilman Small: I would like to nominate Kyle Anderson for Vice President. Kyle has proudly served on the Council since 2011. In addition to being a devoted husband to Denise and the father of their 5 children, Kyle has been a servant to the Township of Woodbridge for over 20 years. He has donated his time as a parent and volunteered in our schools as a coach for baseball, basketball and football, where he currently serves as the President of the Woodbridge Broncos. Kyle has demonstrated the ability, character and leadership in all of these areas and I believe he will bring all of these qualities and more to the position of Vice President.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Thank you Councilman. Do I have a second?

Councilman Bauer: Mr. Mitch, I second the nomination for Councilman Kyle Anderson for the position of Council Vice President. Our paths originally crossed when we were both coaching and running youth sports programs here in town. Here we sit together on this Dais achieving great things for our community. And the work we do for our residents matter. Councilman Anderson brings years of dedication and leadership to this Council. He has spent many years of his life giving back to his community through the organizations that he has been part of professionally and as a volunteer. His actions as a leader inspires others to do more and learn more and to motivate people to achieve a common goal for the better of our community. Kyle is dedicated to the youth of this town, our residents and especially his family. It's an honor and a privilege to second the nomination of Councilman Kyle Anderson for the position of Council Vice President. Congratulations Kyle.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Thank you Councilman. Are there any other nominations? Congratulations sir.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Kyle Anderson as Council Vice President.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Mr. Anderson, any comments this evening?

Councilman Anderson: To my fellow Council members, especially those who nominated me, Councilman Small and Councilman Bauer, thank you very much for those words, they are very meaningful to me. It's wonderful to know that the work that we do here doesn't go unnoticed. To my other Council mates, thank you very much for your support. Council President, I will do my best to follow your lead and to support you the best I can. To the Mayor and the Administration, thank you. And to all the constituents of Woodbridge, I appreciate the faith that you have in me as a public leader. Thank you.

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

- A. AN ORDINANCE DEDICATING A PERMANENT EASMENT OVER A PORTION OF BLOCK 544, LOT 77 NOT NEEDED FOR A PUBLIC PURPOSE.**

- B. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THAT TITLE AND POSSESSION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS 535-537 NEW BRUNSWICK AVENUE, FORDS BE CONVEYED TO THE WOODBRIDGE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY.**

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously that these Ordinances be passed on First Reading, to be published in the Home News Tribune on Friday, January 6, 2023 with Notice of Public Hearing to be held on January 24, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

The Municipal Clerk introduced the following Resolutions as Consent.

- (1) BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Court hereby appoints Gregg Ficarra as President of the Municipal Council commencing January 1, 2023 and terminating December 31, 2023.

- (2) BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby appoints Kyle Anderson as Vice President of the Municipal Council commencing January 1, 2022 and terminating December 31, 2023.

- (3) BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby consents to the Mayor's appointment of Rahul Nayar to serve as a member of the Oak Tree Road Special Improvement District for a three (3) year term commencing January 1, 2023 and terminating December 31, 2025.

- (4) BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby consents to the Mayor's appointment of Dan Paulus to serve as a member of the Main Street Special Improvement District for a three (3) year term commencing January 1, 2023 and terminating December 31, 2025.

- (5) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue refunds for overpaid taxes.
- (6) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue a refund for over paid sewer utility fees.
- (7) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Comptroller to issue a refund for the Developer’s Review Fund Account.
- (8) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Comptroller to issue a refund to Dave & Buster’s for an overpayment of fees.
- (9) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the waiver of all Township fees for demolition, land use application and building permit fees associated with the proposed Green Oak Senior Project.
- (10) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves of the insertion of a Special Item of Revenue into the SFY 2023 Budget for the Township of Woodbridge for the Drunk Driving Enforcement Grant in the amount of \$37,205.03.
- (11) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an Agreement with Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, for the Ozanam Family Homeless Shelter in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.
- (12) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Raritan Bay YMCA for homeless prevention and supportive services to the residents of Woodbridge Township in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.
- (13) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, for the services of Family and Youth Counseling in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.
- (14) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with the John E. Toolan Kiddie Keep Well Camp for counselor training programs that benefit low and moderate income children from Woodbridge Township in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.
- (15) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with the Multi-Service Program on Aging for counseling, referral and case management services to the residents of Woodbridge Township in an amount not to exceed \$75,808.00.

- (16) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Prevention Links Inc. for Greenway Family Services for educational, recreational and social/emotional supportive resources to Woodbridge Township children with special needs and their families in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.
- (17) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Accent Community Development Corporation, which assists eligible families by providing a day care facility in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.
- (18) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves of various banks be designated as Depositories for Township funds for the year 2023.
- (19) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute a renewal Lease Agreement between the Township of Woodbridge and Our House, Inc. for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2027.
- (20) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute a Shared Services Agreement for Solid Waste Collection between the Township of Woodbridge and the City of Perth Amboy for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026.
- (21) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute a renewal of the Shared Services Agreement for Animal Control Services between the Township of Woodbridge and the Borough of Helmetta for the period January 1, 2023 through June 20, 2024.
- (22) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby supports the Dimension Renewable Energy Community Solar Projects.
- (23) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves of the Township of Woodbridge to offer insurance coverage to Woodbridge Fire District #7.
- (24) **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 renewal of the annual Firewall License Support and Maintenance Agreement from ePlus Technology in an amount not to exceed \$98,977.28.
- (25) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves of the agreement with P & A Construction for Fire Line repairs at the Woodbridge Community Center on an emergency basis in an amount not to exceed \$13,155.51.

- (26) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves of the agreement with Precision Electric Motor works for Rooftop Blower Unit replacement at the Woodbridge Community Center on an emergency basis in an amount not to exceed \$9,000.00.
- (27) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Lerch, Vinci & Bliss, LLP for professional accounting services to determine the W-2 Health Benefits Reporting Requirement Calculation in an amount not to exceed \$6,000.00.
- (28) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute an agreement with CME Associates for professional engineering services for Construction Phase Services for improvements to Route 9 and Main Street in an amount not to exceed \$247,932.00.
- (29) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with The Nolan Center for Behavioral Health for Addition Services Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$65,000.00.
- (30) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the execution of an agreement modification on the contract with RSC Architects for professional architectural services for a Feasibility Assessment of Woodbridge Township DPW Facility increasing the previous contract amount of \$385,000.00 to a total not to exceed \$395,000.00.
- (31) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the execution of the Final Change Order on the contract with High Concrete Group LLC d/b/a StructureCare in the amount of \$450,000.00 for the Town hall Parking Deck Repairs increasing the adjusted contract amount of \$1,196,825.00 to a total of \$1,546,825.00.
- (32) **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 Springwood Spray Park equipment from Rain Drop Products through Sourcewell Cooperative Pricing System in an amount not to exceed \$423,809.47.
- (33) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk to execute any and all documents necessary for the purchase of Flooring for The Club from Mathusek, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$302,456.00.
- (34) **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 Software for Police Computer-Aided Dispatch for Township-wide tracking and monitoring involving all emergency services from Queues Enforth Development (QED) in the amount of \$141,588 for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023.
- (35) **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

a 245G FT4 Excavator from Jesco, Inc. through Sourcewell Cooperative Pricing System in an amount not to exceed \$218,965.00.

- (36) **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 two (2) new Western Star 47X chassis with Options from Hudson County Motors through ESCNJ Cooperative Pricing System in an amount not to exceed \$264,846.00.
- (37) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk to execute any and all documents necessary for the contract for Cleaning and Inspection of the Grit Chamber for the Wastewater Division from Rapid Pump and Meter Service Co., Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$45,623.11.
- (38) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee to execute a contract with New Jersey Mortgage Funding, LLC for home improvement repairs at the home located on Block 362.02, Lot 6 in an amount not to exceed \$13,500.00.
- (39) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee, Municipal Clerk and Municipal Purchaser to execute any and all documents necessary for the BID from Duke’s Root Control, Inc. for the Sanitary Sewer Root Control Project in the amount of \$76,176.50.
- (40) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee, the Municipal Clerk and Municipal Purchaser to execute any and all documents necessary for the BID from McCloskey Mechanical Contractors, Inc. for the Computer Room Air Conditioning (CRAC) Unit Replacement in the amount of \$565,200.00.
- (41) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Planning Board of the Township of Woodbridge to undertake a preliminary investigation to determine if certain real property, East Inman Avenue and Ralph Avenue in the Avenel section of Woodbridge Township is an Area In Need Of Redevelopment
- (42) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor of his designee, the Municipal Clerk and the Municipal Purchaser to execute any and all documents necessary for the BID from Two Brothers Contracting, Inc. for Demolition Services as needed for a twenty four (24) month period with an optional twelve (12) month renewal.
- (43) **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 January 3, 2023 and the Supplemental Bill List dated December 10, 2022 through December 30, 2022. List.

Council Vice President Anderson moved the adoption of the foregoing Resolutions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

Public Meeting:

Council President Ficarra: At this time we'll go to the public comment portion of this meeting. When approaching the microphone, please state your name and what section of the Township or State that you live in. You will have a one-time opportunity to speak for up to a five minute period.

All videotaping must be taken from the rear of the room in the designated area. There will be no shouting. Please be respectful of each other and please make sure that there are no signs or posters in the aisles or walkways. What I would like to introduce, what I think is fair is that between Mr. Mitch and I we can get to one minute left when the public speaking that we would give you some sign in case there is an emphasis that you want to make.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Anybody from the public have any comment this evening?

Tom Maras, Fords: Expressed his hopes that everyone had a good holiday season. Thanked Councilman Bauer for his dedication to the Town not only as Council President, but for all of his volunteerism in the Fords community and as a volunteer firefighter. Congratulated Council President Ficarra and Council Vice President Anderson. Spoke about the current state of the Country and during this time the Country needs healing. Spoke about influencing children in a positive away, turn negative energy into positive energy for the good of the community and that everyone has rights to come to Council and express their opinions. Looking forward to working together and accomplishing great things in this town.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: Congratulated everyone on their new roles and hopes everyone has a good New Year. Asked for details with regards to Ordinance Letter A.

Council President Ficarra: It is a very small easement that allows for handicapped access to a business on Main Street. It's needed for handicapped people to access that institution.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: It says not needed for public purpose.

Vito Cimilluca, Business Administrator: It refers to the property not being needed for public purpose and that is why we are dedicating the property to the use for a private company so they can use it for ADA compliance.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: It's not for public purpose. In this case it has a different textbook meaning. Public purpose means we don't need it for public purpose as a Government.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Are there any other comments this evening from the public? Hearing no other comments, can I get a motion to close the public portion of this meeting?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting which was seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

HOWID BAUER, 2ND WARD COUNCILMAN:

Council President Ficarra: Councilman Bauer.

Councilman Bauer: Thank you. Congratulations to you on your position.

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 TreatHOLD
7. Fords/Hopelawn/Keasbey Fire Companies.
HOLD
I would like to congratulate all of the Fire and Business Officers from Fords, Hopelawn and Keasbey Fire Companies that were sworn in on January 1, 2023. Thank you for all of your volunteer and community service. I wish them all a safe, happy and healthy New Year.
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
14. Highland Grove Swim Pool.
HOLD
15. Little Libraries.
HOLD
16. Human Rights Commission.
HOLD
17. Concerts.
HOLD
18. 988 LIFE LINE
HOLD

I would like to thank all nine fire districts, the Woodbridge Township Ambulance and Rescue Squad, Woodbridge Township Fire and Officers Association, Woodbridge Township Joint Board of Fire Commissioners, Red Knights Chapter 9, and the Woodbridge Township Ambulance and Rescue Squad. All of these organizations made a monetary donation toward the Woodbridge Township Senior Billiard Club's Annual Toys for Tots. We successfully raised over three thousand dollars in gift cards that benefited so many of the older children within our Township for the holiday season. And a special thanks to Pat Trombetta from the Senior Billiard Club and my Council mate Debbie Meehan who is behind this event every year. That is all I have. Thank you.

GREGG FICARRA, COUNCILMAN AT LARGE:

1. WCC (Woodbridge Community Center).
 - (A) Senior Recreation and programming.
 - (B) Youth Recreation and programming.HOLD

The Club at Woodbridge and Woodbridge Community Center have their winter schedule available digitally and on paper. The New Year is always a time where people are trying to turn over a new leaf as far as health is concerned so now's a good time to do that.

2. Youth Month – April.
Senior Month – May.
HOLD
3. Mayor’s Fitness / Wellness Initiatives.
HOLD
4. Fireworks.
HOLD
5. Heroes & Cool Kids / Strengthening Families.
HOLD
6. Pedestrian Safeway’s / East Coast Greenway.
HOLD
7. Annual Pizza Run.
HOLD
8. Jacob’s Landing.
HOLD
9. The Club at Woodbridge Upgrades.
HOLD
10. Crossroad’s Race.
HOLD
11. Mental Health / Wellness.
HOLD
12. COVID-19 Efforts.
HOLD
13. Mobile Health Unit.
HOLD
14. Senior Services Directory.
HOLD

Congratulations to all the officers, especially Councilman Bauer, for our fire departments that we got to visit. That is all have this evening.

BRIAN SMALL, COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE:

Council President Ficarra: Councilman Small.

Councilman Small: Thank you Council President and congratulations.

1. Woodbridge News.
HOLD
2. Woodbridge Fire Fighters Local #290.
HOLD
3. Port Reading Fire and Township First Aid Squads.
HOLD
4. Woodbridge P.B.A/S.O.A. #38.
HOLD
On Saturday, February 25th at Seaside Heights, the Woodbridge P.B.A. /S.O.A. #38 will continue its tradition of participating in a Polar Plunge event. Each year the Polar Plunge challenges thousands of the bravest jumpers from around the State to enter freezing cold water as a sign of unity to help raise money for the Special Olympics. It's a great way for individuals, teams, organizations and businesses to get involved and help support the athletes. All funds raised go towards programs and events for thousands of athletes to be able to participate statewide and completely free of charge. This year's Polar goal is raising two million dollars. If you would like to donate individually, you can go to www.plungeseaside.org or you can check out the Woodbridge PBA Local #38 Facebook page and follow the link that is posted to help the PBA raise money toward their goal.
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. 2-3-8 Marine/Fire Rescue.
HOLD
14. Mayor Mac Café.
HOLD
Just a reminder that the Café is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and is located at 881 West Avenue, Port Reading.
15. Light Parade.
HOLD
16. American Irish Association of Woodbridge.
HOLD
17. Woodbridge B.P.O.E. Elks 2116
HOLD
This Friday, January 6th, the Woodbridge Elks is hosting another stop on our Eating Across America Tour. This Friday there will be Miami themed foods along with the regular menu from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. and Karaoke with DJ Bill from 8 p.m. – 12 a.m.
18. Human Rights Commission
HOLD

God Bless all of our Township employees and God Bless America. Thank you Mr. President.

LIZBETH DEJESUS, COUNCILWOMAN-AT-LARGE:

Council President Ficarra: Councilwoman DeJesus. Again thank you for your Second.

Councilwoman DeJesus: Thank you Council President. I would like to congratulate you and Kyle on being sworn in. My Agenda is in order.

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
11. Veteran's Tax Deduction.
HOLD
12. Girl Sports.
HOLD
13. Girl Scouts/Scouts Pavilion and Camp; E. William St. Park.
HOLD
14. Youth Leadership Council.
HOLD
15. Community Backpacks.
HOLD
16. Donation of Winter Coats for School Students.
HOLD

17. Safe Place
HOLD
18. Women's Month
HOLD
19. Mentoring Programs.
HOLD

The Woodbridge Library will host a Parent's Guide on How to Pay for College. It's a virtual program for families of college bound students on Thursday, January 12th at 7 p.m. Beginning January 23rd, the library will start a new series of ESL digital skills classes and conversation groups with certified tutors.

I want to wish everyone a happy, healthy and blessed New Year. That is all that I have. Thank you.

CORY S. SPILLAR, 3rd WARD COUNCILMAN:

Council President Ficarra: Councilman Spillar.

Councilman Spillar: Thank you Council President Ficarra. Congratulations to you and Council Vice President Anderson. I look forward to working under your experience and tutelage on the Council.

1. Avenel's Very Merry Holiday Lighting (TBD) / 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
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

I would just like to congratulate all of the incoming Avenel firematic and Executive Board Officers as well as throughout the entire Township. I would like to thank the Avenel Board of Fire Commissioners. My fellow brothers and sisters at the Avenel Fire Company, the Woodbridge PBA, the Community Policing Grant and the Administration. On Thursday, December 22, 2022 they put together a luncheon for some of our less fortunate seniors who are also home alone during the holidays. The Mayor and Councilwoman DeJesus were there and it was a fantastic event with a great turn out.

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

HOLD

10. Woodbridge Developmental Center Property.

HOLD

11. Cable Commission/Renewal.

HOLD

12. School 4 & 5.

HOLD

13. Mileed Way Army Corps of Engineers Project.

HOLD

14. Maple Tree Senior Center.

HOLD

Thank you to all of our Emergency Responders, Fire, EMS, Police Department, CERT, Public Works and all of our Township employees. God Bless America. Thank you Council President Ficarra.

DEBBIE MEEHAN, 5TH WARD COUNCILWOMAN:

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. Volunteer Directory.
HOLD
13. Domestic Violence Response Team.
HOLD
14. AED Program.
HOLD
15. Springwood.
HOLD

KYLE ANDERSON, COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE:

Council President Ficarra: Councilwoman Meehan is excused. Council Vice President Anderson.

Council Vice President Anderson: Thank you Council President.

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
16. Geo Baker Clinics.
HOLD

I have one announcement for tonight. This year we will have our Martin Luther King event in person. And I want to thank the Administration for making this possible. It's been online and was magnificently done over the last few years. The images that flowed behind the speakers made it very nice. I think TV-35, our Public Relations Department, have done a great job but it is time to come back in person. Woodbridge Township will present The Dream Continues. It is an interfaith memorial and a remembrance honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. which will be held on Monday, January 16, 2023 at 6 p.m. and fittingly at the new Acacia Youth Center. Hence the word youth, let's get our kids out there and let them hear some words from our speakers. It is a free event and will be held at 95 Port Reading Avenue. Our speakers will be featuring members of the Interfaith Clergy Council, the Human Rights Commission, and the President of the Independent Club, who sits in the rear of the meeting today, Mr. Phil Hall. The Woodbridge Community Choir will be there as well. I usually like to offer some words as well but our key note speaker will be Reverend Neva Lawson from the First Baptist Church of Woodbridge. It would be wonderful to see a good turnout for this event. I hope to see you all there. That is all I have and Happy New Year to all.

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

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

SHARON MCAULIFFE, 1st WARD COUNCILWOMAN:

Council President Ficarra: Councilman Patel is excused. Councilwoman McAuliffe.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Thank you Council President. Congratulations to you and Kyle on your new positions and Happy New Year to everyone. My Agenda is in order.

1. Events: Relay for Life.
Fishing Derby.
Parker Press Concerts.
Woodbridge Wednesdays and Local Band Thursdays.
Saint James Street Fair.

HOLD

2. Main Street SID (Special Improvement District).
HOLD

3. Chamber of Commerce.
HOLD

The Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the Mayor’s 16th Annual State of The Township on February 10th at the Delta Hotel where the Mayor will be unveiling interesting and exciting information for all the residents of Woodbridge. You can visit the Chamber website (woodbridgechamber.com) to gain further information and to register for this event. Also the Chamber will be hosting a business owner’s resource center lunch on how to choose the right payroll and HR company for your business.

4. Buy Local Program.
HOLD
5. Transit Village.
HOLD
6. Blue Acres/F.E.M.A.
HOLD
7. Main Street and Route 9.
HOLD
8. Animal Shelter.
HOLD
9. Dog Park.
HOLD
10. Arts.
(A) Woodbridge Train Station Mural Project.
(B) Gallery on Main.
HOLD
11. PACE.
HOLD
12. Woodbridge Fire Department
HOLD
13. Coast Guard.
HOLD
14. Sewaren Library Programs.
HOLD
The Sewaren Library has many exciting events going on throughout the year. The Sewaren Library Loves Teachers program, where teachers can stop in during the week of January 9, 2023 to pick up free supplies for their classrooms. Also, on January 18, 2023, there will be an event held that will show you how to use Google from 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. On Saturday, January 21st, 2022 they will have story time from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. You can contact the library for further information at 732-634-7571. Finally we would like to congratulate the winner of the gingerbread house contest.
15. Acacia Center.
HOLD

16. RISE Program.
HOLD
17. Sewaren Marina.
HOLD
18. First Presbyterian Church of Woodbridge.
HOLD
19. Earth Day Event.
HOLD
20. Green Infrastructure.
HOLD

JOHN M. MITCH, MUNICIPAL CLERK:

Council President Ficarra: Mr. Mitch.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Thank you Mr. President.

1. Liquor License Transfer(s) / Change of Corporate Structure.
 - A. Change of Corporate Structure for WB489 Beverages LLC t/a Joe Canal's Discount Liquors, 489 Route 1 South, Woodbridge, NJ 07095 (1225-32-007).
 - B. Person-to-Person / Place-to-Place Transfer of Liquor License # 1225-33-052-005 from Maria De La Rosa to Angelina's Woodbridge Liquor License, LLC t/a Angelina's Kitchen, Inc., 6000 Vermella Way, Building G, Woodbridge, NJ 07095.
 - C. Place-to-Place Transfer (Expansion of Premises) of Liquor License #1225-33-057-004 Sewaren Associates LLC t/a Moby Dick's 351 West Avenue, Sewaren, NJ 07077.
 - D. Person-To-Person Transfer of Liquor License # 1225-33-44-003 Liberty Tavern of Fords, Inc. to Jolly Rogers Bar & Grill, LLC 631-633 King Georges Road, Fords, NJ, 08863.
 - E. Change of Corporate Structure for MSK Holdings, LLC t/a Woodbridge Brewing Company, 33 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095 (1225-33-069).
 - F. Change of Corporate Structure for McLoone Holding LLC t/a Favorites at Woodbridge, 3 Lafayette Road, Fords, NJ 08863 (1225-33-014).
2. Liquor License Incident(s) / Hearing(s).

3. Liquor License Renewals.
4. Street Closings / Special Events (Block parties, street fairs, carnivals, etc.).
5. Elections.
 - A. 2023 Primary: June 6, 2023
 - B. 2023 General Election: November 7, 2023
6. Best Practices Inventory.
7. Taxi License Auction (January 2023).

Under Number 1, Letters A – F, I continue to work with the Police Department on the various changes of Corporate Structure and Person to Person/Place to Place Transfers. Two, three, four, five and six remain untouched. Number seven, by the time we come back for our next meeting, I will report to you on our Taxi Auction which will be held mid-month. Mr. Lange and I will be conducting that.

Finally, just a reminder, after Legal, we will be going into the Board of Health Agenda. Thank you.

MAYOR:

Council President Ficarra: Mayor McCormac.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: Thank you Council President.

First of all, Happy New Year to everybody. I want to congratulate Howie Bauer who had a terrific year as Council President his first time around. I want to congratulate Gregg for getting to the Council President seat for the second time around and also Kyle for second time around as Vice President. I want to echo what Sharon said, it's hard to believe a year ago yesterday that we were in Nancy Drumm's house and she was laying on a bed in the living room and we all knew what was going to happen. It's just shocking that it was a year ago. We are all saddened by the thought of that but thank you for mentioning that.

There are two items on the Agenda they are both standard tax and sewer overpayments and a 100% Veterans Exemption.

Councilman Anderson, I want to mention Mr. Hagerty. We reached out to all of the schools in the district to remind them of the Martin Luther King, Jr. event so they could get that out to the parents. That's what you have to do. We're hoping to have a terrific turn out and show off the Acacia Youth Center while we are there.

Sharon mentioned the State of the Township address and I am working on it now. It is a couple of weeks away, but I can't tell you what it's like thinking about everything we accomplished last year and more so looking forward to what we are hoping to accomplish this year. There are so many great things happening in Town and I will elaborate on that on February 10th. I want to thank everybody that is a part of that. It is really exciting to see what going to be happening in 2023 and I want to thank everybody for your cooperation and I want to thank the Administration for everything they do, as Councilman Ficarra said, to make this the best town around.

Finally, as Mr. Maras said, totally looking forward to working together. We had a good conversation last week. And the fact that you have your five minutes here but we are available aside from that and we are happy to talk to you about what is going on. We are proud of everything we do. You're not going to agree with a lot of it and that is ok. But I believe you know that we have the best interest of the Town as heart as I believe you do. I'm looking forward to our Administration working better with your team in the future. Thank you.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:

POLICE:

Council President Ficarra: Director Hubner.

Director Hubner: Thank you Council President. I have five traffic ordinances. Thank you.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

Council President Ficarra: Director Darden.

Director Darden: Thank you Council President. Just our standard bi-weekly refund resolutions.

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING:

Council President Ficarra: Director Brew.

Director Brew: Thank you Council President. I have one Resolution approving a grant application for Route 9 & Main Street/Signal Improvement Design and a release of a Surety Bond for 55 Brook Street.

LEGAL:

Council President Ficarra: Legal.

Gary Clements, Esq.: Nothing this evening Council President.

RECREATION:

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Thank you, Mr. President, if we can go right into the Board of Health Agenda.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING:

Council President Ficarra: Director Bujalski.

Director Bujalski: Thank you. Congratulations on your appointment. I've known you for a number of years and it's duly deserved.

We have a Resolution seeking to continue an existing Shared Services Agreement with the town of Helmetta for Animal Control Services.

Our dates for the rabies clinic are February 28th, May 23rd and October 3rd from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. It will be advertised as we approach these dates. Otherwise our Agenda is in order. I do have a brief update on our flu vaccine and our Pandemic Response programs. With the increase in the incidents of flu illnesses throughout the State and Country this year, our flu vaccine clinics, which we merged into our COVID clinics this past year, were particularly successful. We administered all but a few of the hundreds of flu vaccines out of hundreds that we ordered. If anyone is interested in getting a flu vaccine, you can contact our Nursing Division at 732-855-0600 x5011.

With respect to our Pandemic Response program, as you all know, we have been providing COVID vaccination clinics since December of 2020. At the Mayor's direction, we intend to continue providing them through 2023. The dates and times for those clinics are announced on the Friday Code Red calls or otherwise can be found on the Woodbridge Township Health Department's Facebook page.

Some noteworthy data to speak of as we came to a close in 2022, we had a total of 62 COVID Clinics and administered 3,956 vaccinations. We had 18,000 at a previous date but remember the original vaccinations you need to get fully vaccinated and two or three boosters as the age groups commenced. And in 2022 it was almost exclusively boosters, which are really one of our two. So the same amount of people were successfully protected. To that end, the total number of boosters we administered in 2022 was 3,514 and that was for ages 5 and up, which were either already eligible or became eligible for such boosters during 2022. You might have heard recently that the age group of 6 months to under 5 have been approved for boosters and will be available at our next kids COVID vaccination clinic which is actually tomorrow, January 4, 2022 from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. at our Health Center. Another piece of data that I thought was noteworthy and as the Mayor had noted on his last Code Red Call was that we had a 48% reduction in COVID fatalities in 2022 from the previous year. I think it's noteworthy in itself but particularly that it was significantly better than the 36% reduction reported for the State at Large in 2022. And the takeaway for me and as noted by the Mayor, is having our own Health Department and our own easily accessible vaccination and booster clinics that has helped our Woodbridge Township population. So, we will continue to apply for and utilize the available State Grants that are funding the cost of running these clinics. I think that's important to know. Finally, I would like to thank the Council for your support of these clinics, our Health Department, our School District and nursing staff that continues to conduct the work that makes it possible. That is all I have. Thank you.

Gregg Ficarra, Council President: Thank you Director and congratulations to you and your staff. I know that prior to the holiday you had an open house over at the Health Center. It's always amazing to see the services that your group provides. So please extend our appreciation to them.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: Council President, if I could also say that they have done an amazing job these last two years with vaccinations and with clinics on top of everything else they already work on. On top of that, you throw almost three years worth of COVID on them and the Health Department was unbelievable. Dennis Green left it in great hands with Phil Bujalski who has been terrific. I just can't say enough about the doctors, nurses, staff, administrators and the leaders of the Health Department. We're The Best Town Around and without a doubt we have the best Health Department around. No other town in the County did vaccines for their residents at all.

Just Woodbridge. We maintain our own Health Department. Everybody else wanted to go to the County and we said no years ago and it has paid off and we could control it now and give our residents what they deserve. These people have been amazing for the last three years.

On a motion made by Council Vice President Anderson and seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously, Council President Ficarra adjourned the meeting at 6:38 P.M.