

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 25, 2023 at the Municipal Building, 1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095.

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

Gregg Ficarra, Council President: Can we have a moment of reflection for people that are suffering around the world, whether it's from natural disasters or other issues.

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: Howie Bauer, Lizbeth DeJesus, Sharon McAuliffe, Debbie Meehan, Viru Patel, Brian Small, Cory Spillar, Kyle Anderson, Gregg Ficarra

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: John E. McCormac, Mayor
John Mitch, Municipal Clerk
Vito Cimilluca, Business Administrator
Casey Wagner, Deputy Business Administrator
John Hagerty, Director of Communications
Marta Darden, Director of Planning and Development
Robert Hubner, Director of Police
George Brew, Director of Public Works
Craig Coughlin, Esq. – Arrived at 6:17 p.m.
James P. Nolan, Esq.

The Municipal Clerk: Can I get a motion to approve the minutes from April 11, 2023?

Council Vice President Anderson moved the adoption of the following minutes seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

Council Meeting:	April 11, 2023
Board of Health Meeting:	April 11, 2023

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

- A. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED “TRAFFIC” OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE – RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING. (2023-25)**

- B. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY PURCHASE OR EMINENT DOMAIN OF REAL PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 545, LOT 46.02 ALSO KNOWN AS 107 ROSS STREET IN THE WOODBRIDGE PROPER SECTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE. (2023-26)**

- C. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 150, LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE, SECTION 44, CONDITIONAL USES, TO REGULATE RETAIL ELECTRONIC DEVICE ESTABLISHMENTS. (2023-27)**

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Beginning with the Second Reading of the Ordinances this evening, will take Letter A, which is an Amendment of Chapter 7 with regards to the Residential Permit Parking. Just a note, this is a housekeeping change that reflects from the Municipal Clerk’s Office for the Police Records Bureau. Can I get a motion that the Ordinance be taken up on Second and Third Reading and the public hearing be opened?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: The public hearing is now open on Letter A.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Hearing no comment from the public, can I get a motion that the public hearing be closed, the Ordinance be adopted and submitted to the Mayor for approval as required by law?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: We’ll take Letter B which is an Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition of Property known at 107 Ross Street. Can I get a motion that the Ordinance be taken up on Second and Third Reading and the public hearing be opened?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: The public hearing is now open on Letter B.

Tom Maras, Fords: Asked if the property was the home right behind the beauty salon that is across from the school, what the intentions the Town has for that property. Believes the home was foreclosed upon.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: Yes. It was facing foreclosure but I don't think it was ever foreclosed on. The developer that was going to do the project there that we abandoned, bought that house because he would have needed it for parking for the development. And then when the development was abandoned, we became interested in it and we would do surface parking where there was going to be apartments. So, we are buying it for essentially what he paid for it plus some of his closing costs. And we will make that part of the parking lot. The only things left on that whole block will be Mosaic and on the far opposite corner, 99 or 100 North James, the house there is not being purchased. Everything else is being purchased if it's not already vacant.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: Asked if 107 Ross Street is being purchased by the Board of Education or the Town, who will be able to use it because the school parking lot is there also. Also asked what the purchase price is and asked if there will be a fence in between.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: This is a Council meeting, so it is being purchased by the Town. The school parking lot is right next to it. That is being combined with this house, the Town parking lot, two houses on North James and the corner auto use into a surface parking lot for upper Main Street, retail and restaurants. It's going to be one giant parking lot owned by the Town. The piece that the school owns, they will technically still own. But we are going to share everything and we are not going to delineate who owns what. It's going to be one giant parking lot. The school is from 7 a.m. until probably 4 p.m. with an occasional shopper or restaurant user and then the Town from 4 p.m. the whole night and all weekends. No, there won't be a fence in between. The purchase price is \$350,000.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Are there any other questions under Letter B? Hearing no other questions, can I get a motion that the public hearing be closed, the Ordinance be adopted and submitted to the Mayor for approval as required by law?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Second Reading Letter C, which is a Land Use Ordinance to Regulate Retail Electronic Device Establishments. Can I get a motion that the Ordinance be taken up on Second and Third Reading and the public hearing be opened?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: The public hearing is now open on Letter C.

Tom Maras, Fords: Asked what is being regulated and why.

Gregg Ficarra, Council President: It's mostly for the e-cigarettes, Mr. Maras. Most people involved, particularly with children are very concerned about various things like flavors. This Ordinance puts it in place similar restrictions on where they can actually operate as far at relationships to schools, parks, nursing homes, senior complexes and things of that nature. We are trying to strike that blend between not stopping a business opportunity but making it in what we consider to be a safer area.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Are there any other comments under Letter C? Hearing no other comment, can I get a motion that the public hearing be closed, the Ordinance be adopted and submitted to the Mayor for approval as required by law?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

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

- D. A BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY IN CONNECTION WITH THE MORRIS COMPANY REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$910,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, 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.**

- E. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THAT TITLE AND POSSESSION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS BLOCK 867, LOTS 1.0121 & 1.0123 IN THE AVENEL SECTION OF WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP, LESS ANY RETENTION AS PER STATE HOUSE COMMISSION APPROVAL, BE ACQUIRED BY WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP.**

- F. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THAT WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH WOODBRIDGE ARTS ALLIANCE, INC. TO LEASE A PORTION OF 585 MAIN STREET TO THE WOODBRIDGE ARTS ALLIANCE, INC.**

- G. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THAT WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH WOODBRIDGE ARTS ALLIANCE, INC. TO LEASE A PORTION OF BLOCK 756, LOT 1.02 AND A PORTION OF BLOCK 753, LOT 7 LOCATED IN SEWAREN TO THE WOODBRIDGE ARTS ALLIANCE, INC.**

- H. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY DONATION OF REAL PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 551.05, LOT 159, CLINCH STREET IN THE WOODBRIDGE PROPER SECTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE.**

- I. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY PURCHASE OR CONDEMNATION THE REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS 75 NEW STREET, BLOCK 535, LOT 2.01, WOODBRIDGE, NEW JERSEY.**

- J. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED “TRAFFIC”, SECTION 7-17 OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE – TO ADD – HOMESTEAD AVENUE.**

- K. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED “TRAFFIC”, SECTION 7-23 “ONE-WAY STREETS” OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE – TO ADD – CHESTNUT STREET.**

- L. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED “TRAFFIC”, SECTION 7- 21 “MULTI-WAY STOP INTERSECTIONS” OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE.**

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, April 28, 2023 with Notice of Public Hearing to be held on May 9, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

The Municipal Clerk introduced the following Resolutions as Consent.

- (1) BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the request of the American Legion Post 87 to host the “Murphy Challenge – Runners” on May 28, 2023 closing Legion Place, Eleanor Street and Lillian from approximately 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- (2) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue a refund for overpaid taxes.
- (3) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue refunds for overpaid sewer user fees.
- (4) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Comptroller to issue a refund for Use & Bulk Variances Developers Review Fund Account in the amount of \$1,197.33.
- (5) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Clerk to release Maintenance Bond No. NJC48881MB from Merchants Bonding Company in the amount of \$9,454.97 to J.C. Contracting, Inc.
- (6) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Comptroller to issue checks to Amtrak on a monthly basis for the ongoing Iselin Train Bridge Mural Project.
- (7) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves additional engineers to provide engineering services to the Township when the need arises for the period March 31, 2023 through March 21, 2028.
- (8) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the execution of Change Order #1 on the contract with The G. Meyer Group for the Henry Inman Library Interior in the amount of \$44,631.48 increasing the contract amount of \$1,058,400.00 to a total of \$1,103,031.48.
- (9) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the execution of of Change Order #1 in the contract with McCloskey Mechanical Contractors, Inc. for Woodbridge Township Computer Room Air Conditioning (CRAC) Unit Replacement to replace an existing electrical panel.
- (10) **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 purpose of making or completing a contract between the successful bidder, Nela Carpentry in the amount of \$161,000.00, between the Township of Woodbridge and Nela Carpentry for the Basketball Court Insulation Project at the Club at Woodbridge.
- (11) **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 purpose of making or completing a contract between the successful bidder, Ciocca Ford Lincoln of Flemington and the Township of Woodbridge, in the amount of \$37,719.00, for the purchase of a 4x4 Pick Up Vehicle for the Department of Public Works.

- (12) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor, Municipal Clerk and Municipal Purchaser to execute any and all documents necessary for the purpose of making or completing a contract between the successful bidder, EACM Corp. and the Township of Woodbridge in the amount of \$945,000.00 for The Club at Woodbridge Café' and Entryway HVAC System Upgrades.
- (13) **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 purpose of making or completing a contract between the successful bidder, Teal Management and the Township of Woodbridge in the amount of \$71,000.00 for Phase 1 and \$7,000.00 for Phase 2 for the Mt. Carmel Abatement.
- (14) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the emergency contract awarded to Precision Electric Motor Works for the emergency replacement of rooftop blowers at the Woodbridge Community Center in an amount not to exceed \$18,950.00.
- (15) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Bearicuda Inc. for the purchase of (16) 6 – yard and (32) 8-yard Front Load Dumpsters in an amount not to exceed \$129,128.42.
- (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 two (2) ambulances from First Priority Emergency Vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$569,956.00.
- (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 Equipment for Lyman Avenue Playground Renovation from BCI Burke Company, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$86,655.33.
- (18) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the emergency contract awarded to The Vaughn Collaborative Inc. for the emergency replacement of ceiling and lighting in The Club at Woodbridge's Natatorium in and amount not to exceed \$16,190.00.
- (19) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the Resolution authorizing the Planning Board of the Township of Woodbridge to undertake a preliminary investigation to determine if certain real property in the Keasbey section of Woodbridge Township is an Area In Need Of Redevelopment.
- (20) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes and approves the Person-to-Person and Place-to-Place Transfer of Liquor License #1225-33-022-011 from Wick Wholesalers, Inc. to Strickland Steakhouse, Inc. t/a Strickland Steakhouse, 106 Main Street, Woodbridge and that the Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to notify the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control of this transfer and to change the generation number of the license to #1225-33-022-011 reflecting the said transfer.

(21) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the Bill List dated April 25, 2023 and the Supplemental Bill List dated April 7, 2023 through April 21, 2023.

Councilwoman Meehan abstained from **Resolution # 21**.

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: We're going into the public portion of the meeting. Everybody pretty much knows the ground rules. When approaching the microphone, please state your name and what section of the town or state that you live in. You will have a one-time opportunity to speak for up to five minutes on the topic that you would like. I'll try to be non-intrusive and give you a one minute warning so that if you need to close up, you will have that opportunity. All videotaping must take place in the rear of the room in the designated area. Please make sure that there are no signs in the aisles or walkways. The public session allows for five minutes. If you interact from anybody on the Council or from the Administration, that adds in to the five minutes. Thank you very much. The floor is now open.

Ariana Silva, Colonia: Referred to the last Council meeting where she spoke about creating a community garden and how the idea was loved and hated at the same time. Requested that cherry blossom trees be planted on the land and be turned into a bird sanctuary, anti-littering signs be erected, fines for littering put in place, vehicles banned from driving on the land and a eco-friendly fence should be placed by the river. Thanked Councilwoman Meehan, Councilwoman DeJesus and Councilwoman McAuliffe for talking with her. Also asked if there has been any progress regarding the traffic on Chestnut Street?

Gregg Ficarra, Council President: Yes. The First Reading Ordinances today, it's in there. Mayor McCormac and the team met with the community members on Chestnut Street. There were a lot of discussions, adjustments and additions and I think we came to an amicable agreement which will be up for Second Reading at the next meeting.

Councilman Anderson: I just want to thank Ariana for coming again and speaking passionately about the proposed project. It's unfortunate that there will always be someone that may not agree with it, but that shouldn't deter you. You have support from several Council members. And hopefully this is something that can work out for the best of the community.

Councilwoman Meehan: I applaud your passion for the community and wanting to make it better. We did talk about some other things we could do and put you in touch with Peter Barcelona and I hope that helps. Please stay in touch with me if there is anything we can do to help you.

John Vrtaric, Woodbridge: Agrees with having community gardens in Woodbridge and suggests that there are properties in this town that can be utilized and that our school children can even participate. Addressed the Mayor regarding the Keasbey Power Plant and Sayreville Pumping Station about using untreated water and that it isn't sanitary. Asked if the pumping station was private or public property.

John E. McCormac, Mayor: All pumping stations are on public property.

Tom Maras, Fords: Spoke about a recent comment by Governor Murphy about police officers having to provide their internet or social media history from the last three years and being registered, will have a negative effect on future recruitment of police officers. Also mentioned that he hopes that President Biden's actions will not adversely affect our new power plant, which he is in favor of.

John McCormac: I don't know what the President did but it's not covered by the recently enacted Environmental Justice Laws by the State of New Jersey because the application was submitted many years ago, so it predates any subsequent law change. When you apply you go by the laws at the time that you applied so that I'm confident with. I do not know if the Federal Government superseded that, but I'll take a look or pass it to some people that are familiar with it. And now I will turn over the other issue over to Police Director Hubner.

Robert Hubner, Police Director: I haven't seen the regulation yet in full. We haven't received it from the Attorney General. Until such time, I would like to reserve comment so I can speak knowledgeably on it.

Frank Trombattore, Woodbridge: Believes that our children are in danger by educators, children are impressionable and parents are angry about what's going on in the schools. Commented about hearing that body parts and bio wastes are being burned in Keasbey. Spoke about the electronic vehicle push and that citizens are concerned with wires on sidewalks. Also mentioned that illegals here are stealing from us daily by way of getting free rent, food, and phones.

John M. Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Are there any other comments this evening from the public? Hearing no other comment, can I get a motion that the public comment portion be closed?

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

GREGG FICARRA, COUNCIL PRESIDENT / COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE:

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

Spring and summer brochures are out now. There are a number of activities and things going on. I suggest you go online or check the mailers for more information. On May 10, 2023 from 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. at the Community Center, there will be the Mayor's Senior Summit. Starting at Town hall on May 6, 2023, we will be raising a flag and having a walk down Main Street and there will be mental health resources and a magic show.

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
15. Human Rights Commission.
HOLD
16. Concerts.
HOLD

KYLE ANDERSON, COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT / COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE

Council President Ficarra: 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

I want to thank Ed McSherry who was a big advocate in our town and with the American Irish. He'll be leading a number of teams that will be doing the repairs this weekend. This weekend, Saturday, April 29, 2023, we'll restart the home repair and fix it programs for senior and handicapped residents. We will start the new list for next year after this week and you can always email us early at tooling@twp.woodbridge.nj.us and I would like to also thank Mr. Casey Wagner for managing that program through our Administration.

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

We have some outstanding news. Woodbridge Township is pleased to be recognized by the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, within the United States Department of Health and Human Services, as a National Youth Sports Strategy Champion. We are the first municipality in the Country to be recognized by this. As a National Youth Sports Strategy Champion, we have demonstrated that our organization's commitment to support safe, fun, inclusive developmental, appropriate and accessible youth sports opportunities. We're recognized along with other National Youth Sports Strategy Champions on (www.health.gov) as part of our growing number of organizations partnering with HHS to improve youth sports landscape in America. Here is a quote from Rear Admiral, Paul Reed, who is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health at HHS. "We know children who obtain regular physical activity gain important physical and mental health benefits which are more important than ever, considering the impact of COVID-19 Pandemic". The National Youth Sports Strategy is a Federal road map with actionable strategies for youth and adults who interact with youth organizations, communities, and public policy makers to increase participation in youth sports and improve the youth sports experience. The National Youth Sports Strategy vision is that one day, all youth will have the opportunity, motivation and access to play sports. National Youth Sports Strategy Champions are recognized for working toward achieving this vision. Along with this will come a lot of branding from National Youth Sports Strategy. There will be a number of marketing opportunities through their website on (www.health.gov) and through the NYSS website. If you recall, a few months ago, we recognized Mr. Rob Wilkins who is an Ambassador of the Sports and Fitness and Nutrition Council for the White House. He began working with Mayor McCormac. Mayor McCormac began working with myself and

Council President Ficarra, along with our recreation leaders, Mr. Molnar and Mr. Timinski. We gave as much information as we could to apply for this coveted position. We know that there are large cities out there, so I just want to say Woodbridge is number one and San Antonio is number two. So I mean we hear about San Antonio but to hear Woodbridge is in the front leading the way when it comes to National Youth Sports, I think it's something to be proud of. I know that everyone on this Council has been involved in youth sports. Whether they were involved in them as a child or involved with them as an adult or coaching their kids and many of us have run youth sports in Woodbridge Township. It just goes without saying that this was a collective effort from our volunteers and our Township and Administration in getting this recognition. I want to congratulate everyone on this and it's a great achievement and we are going to publicize it as much as we can. Look for the National Youth Sports Strategy logo because throughout the year we will make sure we get that out there as often as possible. Council President Ficarra has also been inquiring about a logo that could be used as a flag. We would like to hoist a flag because May is Youth Sports Month. And, we would like to have some type of a flag or logo to recognize that there's no National Logo out there but we are looking for one and hopefully we will have one at the start of May.

HOWIE BAUER, 2nd WARD COUNCILMAN:

Council President Ficarra: Councilman Bauer.

Councilman Bauer: Thank you Council President. My Agenda is in order. I have a few announcements.

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/Trunk or Treat
HOLD

Fords Business Community Cruise Nights for 2023 will be held on June 5th, Aug 7th and Aug 16th at Siperstein's Paint located at 372 New Brunswick Avenue in Fords.

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
14. Highland Grove Swim Pool.
HOLD
15. Little Libraries.
HOLD
16. 988 LIFE LINE.
HOLD

There will be two Middlesex County Milling and Resurfacing projects beginning in the Second Ward very soon. Starting on April 28, 2023 – May 3, 2023 at Ford Avenue from Main Street to Amboy Avenue and from May 3, 2023 – May 10, 2023 from New Brunswick Avenue to the Garden State Parkway Bridge. We regret any inconveniences. Please drive safely.

BRIAN SMALL, COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilman Small.

Councilman Small: Thank you Council President. My Agenda is in order.

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
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 (9/24/22).
HOLD
13. 2-3-8 Marine Fire Rescue.
HOLD

14. Mayor Mac Café.
HOLD
15. Light Parade (11/25/23).
HOLD
16. American Irish Association of Woodbridge.
HOLD
17. Woodbridge B.P.O.E. Elks 2116.
HOLD
18. Autograph Signings.
HOLD

Last week the Township suffered from two significant loses. First, with the passing of Detective Eric Ransom last Wednesday after one year of a courageous battle with cancer. Eric joined the department 1999. He was involved in the Junior Police Program as a drill instructor for over 10 years. He also served in the Juvenile Bureau where he made a tremendous impact on so many young men and women in the Township. He was truly a very caring individual and Eric is going to be missed tremendously.

The second was last Friday. Our good friend, former Third Ward Councilman and former Freeholder, Vinnie Martino, passed away. I really thought I knew Vinnie really well until I read his obituary today and had no idea of all the other stuff he was involved in. One thing that really comes to mind, and I urge everyone to read this if they have a minute, it says that he loved to feed stray dogs and cats. I think before we opened up the animal shelter, he was the animal shelter. I used to see him at 4:30 a.m. all around town in his pickup truck with his dog feeding all kinds of dogs and cats. The guy was so caring. I ask everyone to keep the Ransom and Martino families in your thoughts and prayers. That's all I have.

LIZBETH DEJESUS, COUNCILWOMAN-AT-LARGE:

Council President Ficarra: Councilwoman DeJesus.

Councilwoman DeJesus: Thank you Council President.

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

Barron Arts Center is still accepting art for the Woodbridge Township Annual Senior Citizen Art Show. A project to enhance the life of Woodbridge Township seniors that are 60 and over, is open to Woodbridge residents only. All art must be received by May 11, 2023 at the Barron Arts Center or one of the senior centers in Woodbridge. For more information, please call 732-634-0413. Also on May 12, 2023, All That Jazz New Jersey, Forbidden Tropics, Afro-Peruvian Jazz will perform at 7:30 p.m. at The Barron Arts Center.

10. Free Public Library of Woodbridge.
HOLD
Rutgers Master Gardner, Kelly Jane, will offer a program to provide practical tips on how to care for plants on Tuesday May 2, 2023 at 7 p.m. at the Main Library. Also Iselin Branch Library will hold a workshop for children ages 9-13 with Cartoonist, Mike Dawson on April 27, 2023 at 7 p.m. For more information, you can call the Main Library at 732-634-4450.
11. Veteran's Tax Deduction
HOLD
12. Girls 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

I would personally like to express my condolences to the Woodbridge Police Department. I had the honor of working with Eric for the last eight years that I sat on Council. I have Police Community on my Agenda, so I always go to the Junior Police Academies. He will be missed. I don’t think that there is anyone that could replace his care and love that he had for the Youth and his willingness and his heart to help those kids that just needed that parent figure. It is a huge loss. My condolences go out to our Police Department and his family. We will miss him. We’re happy that he’s not suffering anymore but we are heartbroken because he will not be replaced.

CORY S. SPILLAR, 3rd WARD COUNCILMAN

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilman Spillar.

Councilman Spillar: Thank you Council President Ficarra.

1. Avenel’s Very Merry Holiday Lighting (**11/26/23**) / Port Reading Day.

HOLD

2. Avenel Arts Village/Train Station/Eric LeGrand Believe Park.

HOLD

Curtains at APAC, brunch is back on Saturdays and Sundays from 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at 150 Avenel Street.

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/Fire Prevention Week Open House **(10/14/23)**.
HOLD

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

15. Greenway Family Success Center.
HOLD

The rest of my Agenda is in order Council President. I just want to express my condolences to the family of Detective Ransom and former Councilman Vinnie Martino. I want to thank Housing for a couple of Port Reading housekeeping issues at the vacant lots over by Daniel Street. Also, Port Reading Avenue is scheduled to be paved by the County from West Avenue to Milos Way starting April 28, 2023 with completing by May 3, 2023, with weather permitting. Thank you to all of our Emergency Responders, Fire, EMS, Woodbridge Police Department, CERT, all of our Public

Works and Township Employees. God Bless America. Thank you Council President Ficarra.

DEBBIE MEEHAN, 5TH WARD COUNCILWOMAN

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Councilwoman Meehan.

Councilwoman Meehan: Thank you Council President. My Agenda is in order.

1. Inman Avenue Business District Improvements.
HOLD
2. Green Houses – Colonia Middle and Colonia High Schools.
HOLD
3. Evergreen Senior and Youth Center / Senior Services.
HOLD
4. Events:
 - A. Taste of Colonia.
 - B. Have a Heart Food Drive.
 - C. Colonia Easter Bonnet Parade & Egg Hunt.
 - D. Colonia 5K/Chris Jantas Run.
 - E. Colonia Annual Wiffle Ball Tournament.
 - F. Support the Troops Rally.
 - G. Colonia Pride Day.
 - H. Colonia Clean Up.
 - I. Colonia Christmas Tree Lighting.
 - J. Cookies and Can for the Troops and Food Bank.
 - K. Toys for Tots Run.
 - L. Breast Cancer Walk.

HOLD

The Support the Troops Rally will be Wednesday, May 24, 2023 at 6 p.m. It will be at George Frederick Plaza, which is between the Main Library and Woodbridge High School. If you know someone that is serving, please reach out to me. We would love to include them in our roll call. You can reach me at 732-382-0273.

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

Also my condolences to Woodbridge Police Department. I met Eric during the first year that they did the Junior Police Academy. And I was covering the story for my newspaper. Over the past week I have had parents and families reach out wanting to know when his wake is so that they can pay their respects. He truly was a mentor to so many children in this Township and he will missed. That is all I have.

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: Thank you. Councilwoman McAuliffe.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Thank you Council President.

1. Events:
 - A. Relay for Life.
 - B. Fishing Derby.
 - C. Parker Press Concerts.
 - D. Woodbridge Wednesdays and Local Band Thursdays.
 - E. Saint James Street Fair.

HOLD

On May 11, 2023, Relay for Life will be holding a flower pot paint and sip event in honor of the late Councilwoman of Nancy Drumm. It will be at the Acacia Center on Port Reading Avenue from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and the cost is \$30 per person. Please contact Tami at 732-841-4805 to register.

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

3. Chamber of Commerce.
HOLD

The Chamber of Commerce has many events coming up in May. We have a Women's Leadership Connection meeting on May 18, 2023 that will be honoring Dolores Gioffre, with a Woman of Inspiration Award at the Sapphire Grand located on Rahway Ave at 5:30 p.m. Also, on May 20, 2023, the Annual Chamber of Commerce Street fair will be held from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Finally, there is still time to get the early bird special for the annual golf outing which will be held at the Colonia Country Club on June 12, 2023. The early bird special ends May 1, 2023. For more information, please call 732-636-4040 or visit the website is www.woodbridgechamber.com.

4. Buy Local Program.
HOLD
5. Transit Village.
HOLD
6. Blue Acres/F.E.M.A.
HOLD
7. Main Street and Route 9.
HOLD
The widening of the road is on schedule. The Smart Lights have been prepared for installation which will improve the traffic flow once the implementation is completed.
8. Animal Shelter.
HOLD
9. Dog Park. - Sewaren
HOLD
10. Arts.
(A) Woodbridge Murals.
(B) Gallery on Main.
HOLD
The Gallery on Main will be holding a Mother's Day flower making workshop on May 14, 2023 from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. The cost per person is \$25. Pre-registration is required by way of logging on to www.cultureexpressions.com.
11. Coast Guard – John Eberhardt 732-213-6457.
HOLD
12. Sewaren Library.
HOLD
13. Acacia Center.
(A) Town Events
(B) Youth Programs
HOLD
14. Sewaren Marina.
HOLD
15. Environmental Commission.

HOLD
(A) Green Infrastructure
(B) Community Garden
(C) Trail
HOLD

Finally I would like to thank my fellow Council mates for approving the replacement of the vandalized playground equipment at Lyman Avenue Park and DPW for their immediate attention in addressing this issue. I know that the families that frequent the park will be pleased. Thank you and have a good evening.

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Mr. Mitch, before we go to your Agenda, I just wanted to take a minute. There has been a lot of discussion about greywater at the Woodbridge Energy Center. A while back I had inquired about it. I read it once and I'm going to read it again. Unlike most power plants, which often rely on potable water for operations, using it for cooling as well, Woodbridge Energy Center reuses greywater from Middlesex County Utility Authority water treatment facility. Greywater is basically all the water after it has been used in residences and businesses, except for water from toilets. CPV built a special pump house with the Middlesex County Utility Authority to use this water that would otherwise be waste product. Additionally, we pay the MCUS approximately \$900,000 annually for this greywater which results in a direct savings to the customer. Woodbridge Energy Center, which is an urban water system, has substantial benefits by reducing the demand for fresh water and reducing the amount of water that has been processed by the water treatment facility. It's a little lengthy but I just wanted to get that on the record because it's been accused a number of times that the water is dirty and comes from the toilet. These are the facts coming from the Woodbridge Energy Center, Director of State Government and Regulatory Affairs.

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 Applications under review.
List below does not represent approval of application(s) being considered.

- A. Place-To-Place Transfer (Expansion of Premises) of Liquor License #1225-33-057-004
Sewaren Associates LLC t/a Moby Dick's 351 West Ave., Sewaren, NJ 07077.
- B. Change of Corporate Structure for MSK Holdings, LLC t/a Woodbridge Brewing Co.,
33 Main St., Woodbridge, NJ 07095 (1225-33-069).

- C. Person-to-Person Transfer of Liquor License #1225-33-022-010 Wick Wholesalers, Inc. to Strickland Steakhouse, Inc., t/a Strickland Steakhouse, 106 Main St., Woodbridge, NJ 07095.
 - D. Person-to-Person Transfer of Liquor License #1225-33-064-006 from Vishwasha Foods LLC, t/a Yellow Chili to Bay Leaves, LLC, 1477 Oak Tree Rd., Iselin, NJ 08830.
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: Election: June 6, 2023
Early Voting: June 2 – June 4
 - B. 2023 General Election: November 7, 2023
Early Voting: October 28-November 5
 6. Best Practices Inventory.

I will be noting 1. C this evening from my Agenda, which is the transfer of the liquor license for Strickland Steakhouse. We just moved another big step forward. I want to take a comment with regards to the upcoming Primary which is June 6, 2023. I opened up the drop boxes yesterday at the Main Library and here at Town hall. So, for voters who want to participate, ballots went out for mail in voters yesterday and they could start using the drop boxes at their convenience.

I had the pleasure of serving with Vinny Martino back in the 1990's. And for those of you who were here back then, he was one of a kind and a true gentleman. He cared so much for Woodbridge and Middlesex County. Sometimes he held us here until 11 p.m., 12 a.m., or 1 a.m. But it was great serving with him and he served for both parties which also made him well liked by everybody here in Woodbridge. He is going to be missed. Our condolences and my condolences to Rose, his wife, who put up with him for all those years. Great guy. He's going to be missed. That is all that I have.

MAYOR:

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Mr. Cimilluca.

Business Administrator Cimilluca: Thank you Council President. I have a few items on my Agenda. I have a tax and sewer over payment, a 100% disabled Veteran and I have a proposal from T & M for project oversight for the parking deck at Town hall. Thank you.

POLICE:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Director Hubner.

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

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

Council Vice President Anderson: Thank you. Director Darden.

Director Darden: Thank you Council President, nothing this evening.

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Director Brew.

Director Brew: Thank you. My Agenda is in order.

LEGAL:

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Legal.

James Nolan, Esq.: Thank you Council Vice President. Nothing this evening.

HEALTH:

RECREATION:

On a motion made by Council Vice President Anderson and seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously, Council President Ficarra adjourned the meeting at 6:48 P.M.