

**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 July 21, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. at the Municipal Building, 1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095.**

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

Council President DeJesus: Please remain standing for a moment of silence to not only remember our troops serving our Country overseas and for all those lost to Covid-19 and their families. Civil rights leader John Lewis and his family and we will also like prayers for our Councilwoman Debbie Meehan and her family, as she lost her dad this morning.

Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law have been satisfied concerning this meeting. The Home News Tribune and The Star Ledger published the Annual Notice Schedule on December 20, 2019, Amended Annual Notice Schedule was published in The Home News Tribune and The Star Ledger on June 5, 2020. A copy of the Schedule was posted on the Municipal bulletin board. It should be so noted in the minutes of this meeting.

The Municipal Clerk took the Municipal Council attendance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cory Spillar, Gregg Ficarra, Nancy Drumm, Kyle Anderson, Brian Small, Lizbeth DeJesus  
(Kyle Anderson participated electronically)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Howie Bauer, Debbie Meehan and Virbhadra N. Patel

**ALSO PRESENT:** John Mitch, Municipal Clerk  
Vito Cimilluca, Business Administrator  
John Hagerty, Communications Director  
Casey Wagner, Deputy Business Administrator  
Craig J. Coughlin, Esq.  
James P. Nolan, Esq.

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

Council Meeting:

July 6, 2020

John Mitch: We are going to go through the Ordinances and Resolutions first and I also would like to get a motion to approve the minutes for the July 6, meeting.

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

- A. AMENDING CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED "TRAFFIC", SECTION 7-38.1 - HANDICAPPED PARKING TO ADD RIDGEDALE AVENUE WEST AND DELETE DEMOREST AVENUE EAST. (20-50)**
- B. AMENDING CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED "TRAFFIC", SECTION 7-38.5 - HANDICAPPED PARKING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY TO ADD 2 SPACES - POWDERHORN COURT. (20-51)**

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

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

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

- C. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE ADOPTING THE "DOWNTOWN WOODBRIDGE AREA 5 REDEVELOPMENT PLAN," PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq. (20-52)**
- D. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE ADOPTING THE "51 NEW BRUNSWICK AVENUE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN" PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq. (20-53)**
- E. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE ADOPTING THE "AMENDED CUTTERS DOCK ROAD REDEVELOPMENT PLAN (dated July 2020). " (20-54)**

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

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

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

**F. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A LICENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE AND STATION VILLAGE AT UR BAN RENEWAL, LLC, AND APPROVING A SUB-LICENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE AND WOODBRIDGE ARTS ALLIANCE. (20-55)**

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

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

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

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

**G. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED "TRAFFIC", SECTION 7-33 - 25 MPH SPEED LIMIT ALONG HENRY WAY FROM SMITH STREET TO ACCESS ROAD B.**

**H. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THAT WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH WOODBRIDGE COLUMBIAN CLUB.**

**I. ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING THE "ROUTE 1 AREA 21 REDEVELOPMENT PLAN," PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq.**

**J. ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING THE "200 WOOD AVENUE SOUTH REDEVELOPMENT PLAN, " PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-A et seq.**

**K. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS TAX BLOCK 448.02, LOT 63.02, COMMONLY KNOWN AS 31 AUTH AVENUE, ISELIN TO ST. CECELIA 'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AND AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE LEASEHOLD AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE AND ST. CECELIA 'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.**

Council Vice President Small 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, July 24, 2020 with Notice of Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.

**The Municipal Clerk introduced the following Resolutions as Consent:**

- (1) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby grants permission to Julie Andrade to temporarily close Kimball Street and Vernon Way/Hagaman Street on August 29, 2020 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., no rain date, for a block party.
- (2) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue refund checks for overpaid taxes.
- (3) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Municipal Comptroller to issue refund checks for already paid taxes.
- (4) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to issue refund checks for cancelled parking permits.
- (5) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk to submit an electronic grant application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the SST-2021-Magnolia Road Phase 1, Design Project - 00045.
- (6) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby refers the “Route 1: Area 21 Redevelopment Plan” to the Township Planning Board for review and comment pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law. - Block 837, Lots 25 and 38.
- (7) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby refers the “200 Wood Avenue South Redevelopment Plan” to the Township Planning Board for review and comment pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law. - Block 356.02, Lot 13.01. (non-condemnation)
- (8) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes and directs the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute any documents necessary for the purchase of one (1) new Western Star 4700 SF Tandem Axle Cab and Chassis with Options in an amount not to exceed \$130,926.60.
- (9) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes and directs the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute any documents necessary for the purchase of one (1) new VAC-CON Model VPD4211HN/1300 combination Sewer Jet and Catch Basin Cleaner in an amount not to exceed \$342,787.44.

- (10) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes and directs the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to enter into an agreement with Settembrino Architects for professional architectural services for the Project (106 Main Street) in the amount not to exceed \$23,000.00.
- (11) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or his designee and the Municipal Clerk to execute a Shared Services Agreement with the Woodbridge Housing Authority for the procurement of goods and in the form substantially similar to that on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.
- (12) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the renewal of Club Licenses for the 2020-2021 license terms.
- (13) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the renewal of Plenary Retail Distribution Licenses for the 2020-2021 license terms.
- (14) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption Licenses for the 2020-2021 license terms.
- (15) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License with special conditions for Chris Maik Enterprises t/a Chris Michael's Steak House 2020 – 2021 license term.
- (16) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to make a transfer of the State Fiscal Year 2020 budget appropriations.
- (17) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves all claims and bills presented to it by the Chief Financial Officer on the Current Bill List dated July 21, 2020 and the Supplemental Bill List dated July 2, 2020 through July 17, 2020.

**Mr. John Mitch:** Can I get a motion to approve 1-17.

Council Vice President Small moved the adoption of the foregoing Resolutions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bauer and carried unanimously except for a comment of Councilman Ficarra on Resolution# 11.

**Councilman Ficarra:** I would like to abstain on #11.

**Council President Dejesus:** I would like to make an announcement concerning videotaping during our public session. Please all know that the Municipal Ordinance 2-4.9 outlines the guidelines for videotaping and or for photographing municipal council meeting. Anyone endeavoring to video or record via any device any or all segments of tonight's meeting is required to move to the video area in the rear of the council chambers. We will now go to the public session of tonight's meeting. I would ask any resident wishing to speak to go to the microphone. Please provide your name and the section of the township in which you reside. The public session allows for five minutes. The five minutes time frame includes remarks by the speaker and any response or interaction by the council or administration and there will be no extensions or allotment for additional time.

**Council President DeJesus:** At this time and before we open to the public session, I would like to call Council Vice President Small.

**Council Vice President Small:** Thanked Council President DeJesus and clarified the comments he made as a retired police officer several weeks ago. He wanted to express support and encouragement during these challenging times since the men and women of our police department and the vast majority of our police officers around the globe, perform a necessary and valuable service to their communities: A service that we cannot do without and with less funding! Despite some individuals continuing to question the professionalism of our police department, he encourages each and every officer to keep their chin up and to continue performing the job that they took under oath, to do so according to the best of their ability. As an elected Councilman, he respects the opinion of the public and will always support the right to speak.

**Council President, DeJesus:** Thank you. We will now move to the public portion of the meeting, please approach the microphone if you would like, state the area of the township you reside and your name, there is a one time, five-minute time period.

**Public Meeting:**

**Jimmy Dabrowski, Woodbridge:** An educator who is committed to anti-racism shared his experience and spoke about a motorcycle with a flag reading America for Trump - America First “a slogan popularized and commonly used by the KKK” and a woman wearing a white supremacy confederate flag hat “a hateful symbol of racial terror” sitting at a table with her male companion and also the Police Officers who arrived at Carvel shop in Colonia on July 17th. He also spoke about his conference meeting with the Board of Education and the Central Administration asking for help to get the Council and the Mayor on the right side of history and begin enacting anti-racism policies. He mentioned the article written by the Woodbridge Police Director Robert Hubner on the offensive blue line painted down in Main Street in the Woodbridge local newspaper, The Corner, and Mayor Betsy Driver’s decision of removing the blue lines before the First Black Lives Matter march on June 6 in Flemington. Mr. Dabrowski is in favor of removing the divisive blue line in spirit of creating a more inclusive, equitable community and thanked the Woodbridge Youth for Liberation for being an amazing, courageous and inspiring group of young community leaders helping Woodbridge make concrete commitments to antiracism. Lastly, he expected the Council and Mayor to honor and represent the late legendary civil rights icon representative John Lewis’s memory by standing with this racial movement, not against it.

**Charity Daramola, Sewaren:** Spoke on how Woodbridge Township is standing for white supremacy, power, money, racism and anti-blackness. She mentioned the lack of conscience in the Council, the Township and the Mayor by refusing to answer emails, not creating tangible plans and not listening to the news on how black and brown people are dying at the hands of the police. Addressed the Council on how they were commemorating John Lewis’ life. Exposed about The Woodbridge Youth for Liberation and Equity receiving racist comments on Instagram and Facebook after making clear demands: Blue Lives Matters, the police doesn’t harm anyone in Woodbridge, running protestors over if they don’t stop talking and shut up for demanding liberation, dignity, respect and for being anti-racist. Ms. Daramola spoke on how the Thirteenth Amendment was being created to allow the imprisonment of black and brown people and Council, how Councilman Anderson was attacked by the Woodbridge PBA President,

how Toni Morrison's talk on racism takes a toll not only on black people but also on white people as well and how Anthony James Williams' writing on white people impacts black and brown people. She said about her expectations for the town's undivided attention and engagement. Lastly, she talked how she feels to the Council: "You are Cowards, ruthless, race less and anti-black ones and how her conscience tells her about Black Lives Matters, free Palestine, Trans live matters, Colonialism must end, Indigenous people must get their land back."

**Mia Banks, Avenel:** Member of the Woodbridge Youth for Liberation ad Equity spoke about Human Rights issues, racism, her frustrations and disappointments on the elected officials for ignoring her emails and responding to their demands on policing reform, the lack of true equity in this town, housing policies in the US, private housing discrimination and hiring practices. Said how by reallocating 15% of the police department funds will transform and teach police officers new skills to proactively prevent crisis rather than simply react to them so people would not worry about negative interactions with the police and how she believes that Woodbridge can do better and supports the Council to hold a Town Hall on policing policies reform before the 2021 fiscal year budget vote in August.

**Mary Nasr, Port Reading:** Talked about the racism problem in Woodbridge and the counter protestors protesting for Blue Lives Matters. Asked the Council to understand that there is fear for people lives in this Township with the police officers here.

**Lisa Eason, Woodbridge:** Asked to be heard and helped; talked about how the Black Lives Matter movement intentions were to build up and strengthen up an undivided community by allocating some of our tax funds to other services for the well-being of black lives and people of color in this community: There is no intention to take over or abolish the police; defunding the police is to invest in schools, education, resources, recreation, social engagement and community activities that keep delinquency out of the behaviors of children.

**Councilwoman President, DeJesus:** Made a quick point on the fact that the Council are listening and hearing. They are working on activities for the youth and looking for places to have 2 youth centers in town for the kids in Woodbridge and Fords.

**Amber Jarret, Woodbridge:** Explained how she was not anti-police or anti-American but supports the reallocation of some of the police funds to other social and community services that have been proven to have positive impacts on communities and are proactive measures for crime reduction and prevention so police would focus on their actual duties. She also spoke about the public threats of violence, racial comments from people who are considered pillars in this community, the addiction problem, the school infrastructure project expenses, the need for affordable housing especially for black and brown people who live in poverty, the need for comprehensive statistics on domestic violence instances and homelessness maintained, the Domestic Violence Response Team, Tooling Around Town and We Feed Woodbridge and the police ride-along program for minority communities to better educate them with interactions with the police officers. Lastly, she stated the recently passed John Lewis' words "Freedom is not a state; it is an act..."

**Councilman Ficarra:** There are a couple of things. The PILOT program that we take advantage of to improve certain areas of our town, takes money out of the pot of federal government, state government and the county government. When we get that money, we can do whatever we want with that money, but we choose to reinforce the structure the physical plan of the school system so that they can spend

their money on educational aspects whether it is curriculum or computers. The Housing Authority is a separate entity of the Municipal government, it's actually federal. I actually served on that board, I did before I was a councilman. You obviously have seen the improvements on Bunns Lane which is formally Woodbridge Gardens which is now Jacob's Landing. The folks that lived there had to mandatorily be put someplace for themselves that they chose so that everything can be upgraded and new buildings can be built. So there's a lot of shuffling going on which causes our numbers to be skewed as far as housing and that type of thing but we are now in our third phase and in the end there is going to be 50 extra units. I'm only talking about that project; I'm not talking about overall. A couple of other issues, the mental health issue as it relates to police in my work with the Housing Authority, Council President, if I'm talking too much, cut me off like everybody else.

**Council President, DeJesus:** No, go ahead.

**Councilman Ficarra:** What we've noticed in the Housing Authority and I only have knowledge of that because of my intimate involvement. There seems to be a cycle where there is a mental health emergency the police department will get called, they don't just know, somebody calls them, they go to the situation they calm the situation down. They take the people to be looked at by the medical profession. They are looked at, released and the cycle continues so through the housing authority there has been some questions about who could there be follow-up. We have a very active substance abuse counseling program. You are a model. It is truly a model you looked up at a lot of things. Look that up it is led by neurologist Bonnie Nolan. It is a model we provide that service for other towns. My point of that is we are trying to look at that to assist the police with mental health. I think if you ask any police officer, once they do their job of calming the situation down, taking to the hospital and then they got to go back again. If we had follow-ups like we do with substance abuse counselors that might be able to assist so that's another area that you spoke about. One other area in regards to and I know Councilman Anderson is listening that we have talked about and had good dialogues is that I use the analogy when I was growing up I was exposed to good gym teachers and good coaches so I was a gym teacher and a coach in my professional career and an athletic director. I believe that if children in general of all cultures are exposed to good police officers at a very young age, maybe they will grow up to have a desire to be a police officer not when they are 10, not when they are in middle school or high school but I'm talking about third and fourth grade.

**Council President, DeJesus:** I'm sorry, it's not a debate. You had five minutes. Councilman Anderson wants to address some of the issues. The program with the police department the ride-along is not only for minorities. It's open to all of our residents just like our junior police academy, our senior police academy; they are open to all of our residents. I think Council Anderson will address that because he participated anyway.

**Councilman Ficarra:** Madame I didn't want to take all that time but I am a big proponent of DARE. The program DARE was in place for a long time and it was removed because statistics showed that it was geared towards substance abuse and wasn't really attaining that goal the organization, which I had nothing to do with, went back and rewrote the curriculum. I know my son is a DARE officer in Somerville and there is a good relationship with the young people and I think they want to grow up to potentially be a police officer so that is a grassroots way of possibly inspiring young people of all colors of all cultures to hopefully aspire to be a police officer. Council President, I am sorry.

**Council President, DeJesus:** It's okay, thank you.

**Mr. John Mitch:** Are there any other comments this evening and also reminding the public if I can and if you don't plan on speaking there is a line of people waiting to come in to speak. Thank you.

**Council President, DeJesus:** I'm sorry you only get a one-time five minutes but if you want to reach out for me you can. You have my phone number Lisa. You can reach to anyone of us and then we can. If you haven't yet, whatever else just come to mind just send it to us.

**Mr. John Mitch:** Are there any other comments from anybody here this evening?

**Donald Green, Woodbridge:** Spoke on his pretty decent interactions with the police and on the people feeling that they are not being heard, proposing the Council to create a forum with a two-way communication flow, where synergies, remedies and solutions spoken by the folks can be put into effect.

**Daniel Jimenez, Avenel:** Said how Implicit Bias Training is not working for the police as it's an institution designed to use violence to fix problems in society: "black Americans are three times more likely to be killed by a police than white people, 77% of black and brown residents are more likely to have excessive force used on them and they are disproportionately arrested, surveilled and jailed." He is in favor of preventive interventions and alternatives to policing, not to punish the police, but to avoid murders, rapes and violence. Commented about how it is racist not to believe that addiction, poverty and inequality are societal factors that lead people to commit major crimes.

**Council President, DeJesus:** Thank you

**Mr. John Mitch:** Are there any other comments from anybody here this evening?

**Meshal Bannerman, Avenel:** Remembered about his great memories and successes with the Mayor at school, seeing him as a leader, who can be there for others and lift the town above. He also talked about his present feelings after the unanswered emails and phone calls and how the Mayor is missing two council meetings putting his interest in electoral prospects rather than serving and representing the growing minority community in this town. Mr. Bannerman, commented about how the group doesn't only demand transparency on what the Council are working on, they ask to be taken seriously because of their experiences. Lastly, he said how they are also open for public dialogues on the existing racism, police brutality, inequities and under representation of minorities and therefore improve safety.

**Mr. Mitch:** Is there anybody else with comments here tonight?

**Council President, DeJesus:** Give me a second. If anyone that is sitting here and is not speaking and would like to give your chair to somebody else because we do have a line of people trying to get in.

**Xavier Pazmino, Woodbridge:** Proud member and Co- Social Media Coordination of Woodbridge Youth for Liberation and Equity spoke about how he demands actual representation on diversity from the Council people and the Mayor and that white students should be held accountable for their racist actions and schools should provide safety to his fellow youth.

**Mr. John Mitch:** Are there any other comments from the public this evening?

**Patricia Osborne, Iselin:** Spoke on how Meshal's group is reaching out to the Community to correct

concerns on discrimination, cultural clash and racism and how the group also meets with the Board of Education to implement curriculum that will correct some of the issues, discuss on ethnics, feelings and conflicts with cultures. Commented about how she is member of the Human Relations Commission, instituted by the Council and the Mayor, which mainly serves as a forum for the members of the community, church, leaders to come and members of the council to discuss and examine legitimate concerns in the community by focusing everyone's attention on what can be achieved together and coming up with a positive solution or recommendation to the Council and to the Mayor.

**Council President, DeJesus:** I am Sorry, do you mind letting him? because he's been trying to get up for the longest time?

**Gebron Abdulhai, Fords:** Spoke about how there is a need for reform and mend community relations due to racial injustice: people are victims of racial profile and dealing with the police. Commented on how rethinking public safety by defunding the police, 15% can be redistributed in crime prevention rather than crime response. Said that Law enforcement is a reactive institution and it is being asked too much - institution mental health crisis, intervention and by investing the money in crime prevention, specialized and professional people dealing with these specific niches can be relied on. Lastly, he asked for the removing policing from the schools as crime is not being prevented in the schools, mass shootings occurs and money is wasted.

**Council President, DeJesus:** Your time is up, thank you.

**Mr. John Mitch:** Are they any other comments from the public and again, please keep in mind that there is people waiting to speak outside so if you are not gonna speak could you free up the seat? Thank you.

**Leigh Darden, Avenel:** Spoke on how protests and tensions are getting bigger in Woodbridge Township Council meetings and how he is in favor of a Council forum for open conversation meetings with the residents who are only looking for peace.

**Mr. John Mitch:** Your name and address, please.

**Anjoli Holt, Woodbridge:** Commented about asking the Council to take a step towards anti-racism and learn its meaning. Ms. Holt continued and said how the leaders job is to represent everyone in the community creating a plan of action and commitment to diversity, safety and protection of the black and brown residents whose lack of representation is reflected in our public positions: "93% of school teachers are listed as whites, despite of 65% of students being non-white, 5 out of 210 Police Officers are listed as black, and 1 out 9 Council members is black." Asked for the creation of anti-racist policies as racism is confronted daily by the brown and black people in Woodbridge and also for the collective knowledge and resources to solve social problems

**Mr. John Mitch:** Any other comments, this evening?

**Tom Maras, Fords:** Spoke on him being glad to see the young people representing their views and opinions in the town they grew up in and hopefully will continue to become good citizens. Open-up dialogs for budget transparency and find out if the police department has enough money considering the

important infrastructures that come along with the addition of several thousand apartments includes policing, stores, and traffic. Is it defunding, an option, because they don't want those police officers in the job? Monthly bills, OPRA, the information through John Mitch, get the Actual Verified Expenses report, which is a certified document by independent auditors outside of the community, provide information on the budget and on the actual amount of monies that are being spent and where they are going. Demands bring hostility rather than reception: "the budgets are coming up for review and the Council should have answers ready to explain why something can or can't be done"; there is curiosity on the Community Center funds. Small changes are needed in the Community- identify the bad cops, bad people in schools, get them out. Most important listen!

**Mr. John Mitch:** Is there anybody else this evening with comments? Just to remind that there I people still waiting and if you are here to speak, please consider to give up your seat to someone who is waiting to get in?

**Tony Gallo, Port Reading:** Agreed with Tom Maras and disagreed on the demands made on police defunding by 15% to give it to another social thing as this will leave us with no defense for ourselves and our families; Police needs more money.

**Mr. John Mitch:** Mr. Trombattore, if you would like to take a seat closer, you'll be next up.

**Sy Mayerson, Colonia:** Spoke on the gift of further education - putting more money in funding the police to reeducate them on how to deal with people, human relations, psychiatry and communications. An educated police force not only get a raise but also get more pride on what they do and will do a job that is more humanized.

**Rhonda Norwood, Fords:** Said police is needed to serve the public and not all police are corrupted or are here to hurt people. Students are not fighting to defund the police for social things; it is to better and strengthen the community and have people more supportive with each other. People have to stop twisting the information and lying on the news it is very hurtful. Racism can't be eliminated we can try to minimize it as much as possible. In the past my parents had a good relationship with the police, the city Council members and the Mayor.

**Mr. John Mitch:** Are there any comments from the public this evening?

**Frank Trombattore, Woodbridge:** Spoke on how he is coming to defend his government and how he is not in favor of defunding the police in a diverse community like Woodbridge where senior citizens feel threatened to their lives and property after seeing an open-ended Tweet from these young folks "Do this or else". Mr. Trombattore also mentioned how he tasted racism in this building and how he waited on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 for 22 minutes for help to arrive when he almost drove himself to JFK with a heart attack.

**Council President, DeJesus:** Thank you.

**Mr. John Mitch:** Thank you, are there any comments?

**Elijah Dickenson, Woodbridge:** Asked a couple of questions to the Council regarding police funding allocation, why the cameras are not pointed towards him during the meeting recording? What you would say having somebody on camera, having a face to put towards a voice changes

the impact of what is being said? He also commented on the lack of black representation issue: “There are twelve seats up here, there are eight people in the council, who are currently present and there is not a single person of color. Eight out twelve seats are not enough representation and asks if seven of the white councils are willing to step down and give their position up to a person of color?” Did Trump win the popular vote? Asked the Council you guys would consider yourself a diverse community, correct?

**Councilman Ficarra:** Answered - since the budget is not out there yet, the Council have not made a decision yet as the directors have not presented their request to either increase or decrease what is in their budgets. Once the budget is presented, the Council will have to weigh the value of it and make a decision.

**Council President, De Jesus:** Answered - Okay, those two cameras are recording our meeting. You can check the You Tube and TV Channel 35. Everybody can hear you. If you go to YouTube, you can hear our Council meetings, everything that you are saying is being recorded and everyone that watches YouTube or our TV35 can hear your comments. That’s your opinion. I’m sorry, I’m gonna say that I consider myself person of color. I am Latina. My name is Lizbeth DeJesus. Yes, Okay. In United States of America, anybody has an opportunity to choose whether they want to run for an office or not. No, he did not.

**Council President, DeJesus:** Your time is up. We are not listening and being respectful of our differences of opinions.

**Chris \_\_\_\_\_, Edison:** Mentioned about the American with Disabilities Act. He spoke about supporting the police and the BLM groups and coming to the Council meeting with the Lincoln Annex School, where Councilman Kyle Anderson is the superintendent and continued talking after Councilman President, De Jesus told him to go to the Freeholder’s meeting if it had anything to do with county superintendent. He spoke about Lincoln Annex School contamination and how Reverend Al Sharpton is supporting Back Lives Matter. He talked about how Anderson attacks disabled military veterans and how he sold out the Hispanic minority communities to get in good with Middlesex County Democratic Organization. He is in favor of defunding the fire department and calling the FBI, if Woodbridge residents are threatened.

**Anastasia Goldberg, Fords:** Spoke about supporting the police and the Blue Line and also how people should be able to listen to one another by finding a way to speak without attacks or threats. She expressed her appreciation for having actual Council meetings in town.

**John Vrtaric, Woodbridge:** Spoke about how he was told at school in Europe to destroy capitalism and how he is not in favor of defunding the police in Woodbridge: “discipline the bad guy and educate the sick police.” He also commented on how the kids protesting are not leaders; they are being used by someone. Lastly, Mr. Vrtaric spoke about being ready for November 3.

**Meghan Brown, Colonia:** Spoke how she is not in favor of in-person meetings, how she supports video conference meetings and the Woodbridge Youth group and how the Council have not responded her emails.

**Sarah Leary, Edison:** Spoke how she supports defunding the police and allocating some of their resources to public health services, housing, mental and health services to see a crime decrease. She also commented her support to the Woodbridge Youth group and zoom meetings.

**Gloria Burgess (Sp.?)** Spoke about the need to listen to each other and supports the Woodbridge Youth group. She is in favor of defunding the police by 15% and to reallocate the amount of resources in mental health, housing, and medicine. She explained how police activity can be reduced and how Zoom chat moderators can be hired to block curses in video conference meetings.

**Hadia Minahill, Avenel:** Spoke about being a member of the Woodbridge Youth Liberation and Equity and how she is in favor of police defunding to use the money in better schooling and opportunities for our youth. She commented on the importance of transparency, communication and working together in the list of demands and also asked why there is not response from the Office of the Mayor.

**Council President, De Jesus:** I think you have to call the Mayor's Office and ask them that question. I keep stressing the fact that we are listening and we are hearing and just because we are not giving you the answers that you want doesn't mean that we don't have a conscience or that we don't care. We are actively working and trying. And I just want to say this that there is not one person that sits on this dais that doesn't have the best interest for all of the residents in our township in mind. What I find a little disturbing is the fact that we are having instances where people have, yes we have a chain email, most of us did, that was what was put out and on these days some people have responded to the emails that have conversations with people and those people that they had conversations with had denied having such a conversation. So is that really dialogue and is that really honest? If we are supposed to be working together, then, let's do so in an honest way. We can have differences of opinions but that doesn't mean that we aren't working towards the best for the residents of our township. I don't think that there is a person on this dais and in this room that condones anything that happen in this room as far as people threatening people or calling name, but I got be honest with you and hey, people might Tweet about me tomorrow, I may be in social media, but the fact is that there are instigators on both sides and not in a positive way and that is not constructive. That makes people shut down and not wanna enter into dialogue. There is nothing wrong we live in the United States of America and we have our First Amendment that give us freedom to express ourselves as we wish. I am proud of the fact that our youth in Woodbridge Township have the courage to do what they are doing. Does that mean that I agree with everything that you are doing? No, but it gives me hope for a better future because you are actively working and I am sorry that I took your time.

**Bob Wisteir, Fords:** Spoke on a quality of life issue that is going on for about two years and how he contacted the Mayor, Sergeant Chessere and the Code Enforcements to talk about a neighbor on Evergreen Avenue who used to work in the car industry and now brings cars with temporary plates to work on them.

**Viti Cimilluca:** If I could either after this session or now get his address?

**Bob Weiter, Fords:** I live at 12, my neighbor is at 16 Evergreen Avenue.

**Mr. John Mitch:** Are there any comments from the public this evening? Hearing no comment from the

public can I get a motion that the public portion of this meeting be closed?

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

**LIZBETH DEJESUS, COUNCILWOMAN AT LARGE (PRESIDENT):**

Council President, DeJesus: Before I move into our agenda portions of our meeting I would like just say that Mayor John McCormac made a statement today regarding the role and the responsibilities of the Woodbridge Township Police Department and the Woodbridge Township Community and again you can see that on Facebook or on YouTube. This is what government is. You listen to anybody else, what our constituents have to say and we listen, we take into consideration and sometimes we may answer and sometimes we may not. Sometimes we may answer the way that they wish and sometimes we may not. That does not mean that we are not working for our community, that doesn't mean that we don't have a conscience, that doesn't mean that we are on one side or another. It just means that we took an oath to represent every single resident in Woodbridge Township. That is our oath and that is what we are supposed to do to represent all of our constituents in Woodbridge Township whether we agree with their views or whether we don't agree but we are actively, and I am proud to say, my Councilmen, myself, the administration, we actively work proactively to make sure we that we do the best for everyone in Woodbridge Township. It's all that I can say. We continue to work and try to do our best. Again, we are all human and we are imperfect. We don't live in a utopia but we try our best and you all took a stand by saying that we all support our police department, we do. As a woman, as a Latina, I have positive interactions with our police department. I try to meet every police officer that I see and introduce myself. It is part of forming and having relationships and I am sure that if anybody goes to our police officers and says "hello", "How are you?" They respond in a positive manner. Again we aren't saying that we are perfect, we are saying that we are listening and we are hearing you and we are proactively working to make sure that Woodbridge Township is fair and continues to move in a positive and safe. The way that it is been; it's all that I can say. I am going to move on to my agenda.

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 **(9/19/20)**  
HOLD  
Hispanic Heritage Festival (9/19/20) from 12-5 P.M. at Peltzman Park.
9. Barron Arts Center  
HOLD
10. Free Public Library of Woodbridge  
HOLD

Woodbridge libraries are now open. We have new summer hours, new CDC guidelines for in-person visits and their summer reading programs for all ages. The theme is “Imagine Your Story” and are available at the [woodbridgelibrary.org](http://woodbridgelibrary.org) or by calling 732-634-4450 x 7100.

Free upcoming library programs that will be offered with zoom are: “Story Telling 101” with professional storyteller Judy England McCarthy on Wednesday, July 29th at 7 P.M. and “Enter to New Jersey Genealogy” on Wednesday, August 5th at 7 P.M. with Regina Fitzpatrick from the New Jersey State library. You can register through the library homepage by calling 732-634-4450 option 5 or again visiting [www. Woodbridgelibrary.org](http://www.Woodbridgelibrary.org).

The library continues to partner with Jewish Vocational Services to offer a virtual class to prepare for the citizenship examination. Participate from home with a smartphone, tablet or laptop in a 10-week class that begins August 1st and covers the N400 American History and Civics, a green card is required call 862-704-2291 for more information.

The library also offers Virtual Ears - ESL classes at this time, please call Literacy New Jersey at 732-906-5456 for more information or register for future ESL opportunity at the library.

11. Veteran’s Tax Deduction  
HOLD
12. Green Infrastructure  
HOLD
13. Girls’ Sports  
HOLD
14. Girl Scouts/Scouts Pavilion and Camp **(9/18/20 – 9/20/20)**  
HOLD
15. Summer Fest 2020 **(9/5/20)**  
HOLD
16. Census 2020  
HOLD

17. Human Rights Commission  
HOLD

It will be on the Council President's agenda so every year as we switch whoever is Council President that year will have the Human Rights Commission on their agenda. Thank you.

**BRIAN SMALL, COUNCILMAN AT LARGE (VICE-PRESIDENT):**

1. Woodbridge News  
HOLD
2. Mayor's Advisory Council on Education (Mac-E)  
HOLD
3. Port Reading Fire and Township First Aid Squads  
HOLD
4. Website E-Government  
HOLD
5. Bicycle Lanes/ Bicycle Share/ Bicycle Paths  
HOLD
6. Electric Vehicle Car Share/ Car Charging Stations  
HOLD
7. School Projects  
HOLD
8. S.T.O.W. (Register @ 732-726-2394 for Client Transport ID#)  
HOLD
9. Level Playing Field @ Cypress Recreation Center/Our House  
HOLD
10. Property Fraud ([www.middlesexcounty.nj.gov](http://www.middlesexcounty.nj.gov) search for "Property Alert" to Register)  
HOLD
11. Inspections at Hotels/Motels  
HOLD
12. National Public Lands Day (9/26/20)  
HOLD
13. Marine Eight  
HOLD
14. Mayor Mac Café

HOLD

15. Jazz Festival (9/12/20)

HOLD

16. Concerts

HOLD

On Sunday there is a change in time. It's now 7 P.M. at Woodbridge High School Sunday through Thursday. They have been very successful so far.

17. Light Parade

HOLD

I want to thank Director Green and his staff of Health Department. Covid has slowed but it is certainly not over and we have to remember that. Do the right things because the last thing we want is numbers spiking up in Woodbridge. I want to thank all our Township employees for all the great jobs they do, our essential employees. Thank you officers for tonight. It wasn't an easy task but it seemed like everybody behaved and cooperated and had everything under control and thank you to all our police officers, all our EMS and Fire Departments for a great job you do and God bless America. Thank you Madame President.

**CORY SPILLAR/ 3<sup>RD</sup> WARD COUNCILMAN:**

1. Avenel's Very Merry Holiday Lighting/Port Reading Day (10/10/20)

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) Route 1 at So. Inman Avenue
  - (D) Bud's Hut
  - (E) Big Top property
  - (F) Holiday Inn Express expansion
  - (G) Pier I Imports property
- HOLD

- 8. Avenel Fire Department  
HOLD
- 9. Shuttles – Warehouses/Train Station  
HOLD
- 10. Woodbridge Developmental Center property  
HOLD
- 11. Mileed Way – Army Corps of Engineers Project??  
HOLD

The Greens at Avenel – Rahway Ave. Please remove this and replace it with number 11 Mileed Way Army Corps of Engineering project. I'll touch on that on the next Council meeting.

- 12. Cable Commission/Renewal  
HOLD
- 13. School 4 & 5  
HOLD

The rest of my agenda is in order. I just have an announcement. The Avenel Knights of Columbus will be having a Blood Drive this Sunday July 26th from 9 to 3P.M. at the Council Home located at 109 Morrissey Avenue appointments are preferred and you can call Genevieve at 732-672-5281 to schedule. Please continue to pray for all the residents that have fallen or passed away and continue to pray for our Police, Fire, EMS, Emergency Management and all our First Responders as well as our residents and township employees that have continued to go to work as essential employees. Be safe, be smart, God bless America

**DEBBIE MEEHAN, 5<sup>TH</sup> WARD COUNCILWOMAN (ABSENT):**

- 1. Inman Avenue Business Improvements  
HOLD
- 2. CBC – Colonia Business Community  
HOLD
- 3. Green Houses – Colonia Middle and Colonia High Schools  
HOLD

4. Evergreen Senior/Youth Center  
HOLD
  
5. Events: Taste of Colonia  
Have a Heart Food Drive  
Colonia Easter Bonnet Parade & Egg Hunt  
Colonia 5K/Chris Jantas Run  
Colonia Annual Whiffle Ball Tournament  
Support the Troops Rally  
Colonia Pride Day Parade  
Colonia Clean Up  
Colonia Christmas Tree Lighting  
Cookies and Can for the Troops and Food Bank  
Toys for Tots Run  
Breast Cancer Walk  
HOLD
  
6. Food Pantry  
HOLD
  
7. Reinhard Manor  
HOLD
  
8. Colonia Fire Department/First Aid Squad  
HOLD
  
9. Colonia American Legion/V.F.W./Elks  
HOLD
  
10. Veteran's Issues  
HOLD
  
11. Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority  
HOLD
  
12. Cpl. Kevin Reinhard Marine Corps League  
HOLD
  
13. Municipal Alliance + Addiction Task Force  
HOLD
  
14. Volunteer Directory  
HOLD
  
15. Domestic Violence Response Team  
HOLD

- 16. AED Program  
HOLD
- 17. Engineering Exploring Project  
HOLD

**NANCY DRUMM, 1<sup>ST</sup> WARD COUNCILWOMAN:**

- 1. Events: Relay for Life  
Fishing Derby (10/3/20)  
Parker Press Concerts  
Woodbridge Wednesdays and Local Band Thursdays  
St. James Street Fair  
  
HOLD
- 2. (DMA) Downtown Merchant Association  
HOLD

They have completed the third business owner interview this past Thursday with the owners of “Want Smoothie” Phil and Michaela Claremont located at 76 Main Street. If you would like to hear them and get to know their passion for their business, you can locate the interview on the Woodbridge Downtown Facebook page and soon will hopefully be featured in the Township Woodbridge Township app Woodbridge Now. They truly walk the talk and are true to the word shop small and buy local. I’d like to thank them and other business owners in our downtown Woodbridge for their loyalty, strength to keep going and their endurance during these challenging Covid times.

The next interview scheduled is Thursday July 30<sup>th</sup> with Jennifer, the owner of Pole to Pole Fitness, located at 80 Main Street, registration for the Zoom Live Interview is necessary through Event Bright by simply clicking on it at the Downtown Merchants Association Facebook page called Woodbridge Downtown.

- 3. Main Street SID (Special Improvement District)  
HOLD

Main Street SID Special Improvement District. The SID had their meeting last week and approved the plantings along the downtown and a big thank you goes out to all that did it was 100 degrees the other day and we had the landscaper out there and our DPW and I appreciate all their hard work it looks really beautiful. We are in the process of voting a muralist to get some nice paintings in the downtown area and we are all looking forward to the marketing firm Social Side Kick to begin promoting our downtown businesses as well. This is all in preparation for the downtown business enhancements that would be coming in the near future.

- 4. Chamber of Commerce  
HOLD

Chamber had a successful Outside Networking event this past Wednesday and welcomed Ice Cream Emergency to the Chamber and to our community. Thank you to our Mayor McCormac and Chief of

staff and our TV 35 and Director Hagerty for presenting them with a ribbon cutting and best wishes for success for everyone that came out in the heat to support this event and get a glimpse of normalcy as the way it used to be, thank you.

The next Outside Chamber Networking event will take place on Wednesday, August 19th, at Curtain's Restaurant at the Avenue Performing Arts Center from 4-6 P.M. register to attend on this Chamber's website and enjoy a fun end of the day venue with your business associates. This event is being sponsored by Northfield Bank.

5. Buy Local Program  
HOLD
6. Transit Village  
HOLD
7. Blue Acres/F.E.M.A.  
HOLD
8. Main Street and Route 9  
HOLD
9. Animal Shelter  
HOLD
10. Dog Park  
HOLD
11. Arts  
(A) Woodbridge Train Station Mural Project  
(B) Woodbridge Artisan Guild  
HOLD
12. PACE  
HOLD
13. Woodbridge Elks Lodge 2116  
HOLD
14. Woodbridge Fire Department  
HOLD
15. Coast Guard  
HOLD
16. Sewaren Library Programs  
HOLD
17. Acacia Center  
HOLD

I have an announcement the Woodbridge Knights of Columbus has an agreement with us to rent space for freezers and refrigerators to the We Feed Woodbridge Food Pantry so they could accept more food donations. This rent and utilities are being paid by Community Development Block Grant funds. This is a wonderful collaboration all in an effort to feed our community in need, thank you. And as we all continue to work and manage during this pandemic and these uncertain times, we all know that have been negatively affected and struggling because of it. I would encourage everyone to intentionally be kind to each other. Let's continue to keep our families, friends and our community at large our businesses, our leaders, our schools, sport leagues, and everyone else by showing support and mutual respect for each other, thank you.

**KYLE ANDERSON, COUNCILMAN AT LARGE:**

First of all, I want to thank you for directing that Edison resident to another meeting but I would probably recommend that he goes to the New Brunswick Board of Education meeting and a point of clarity I just want to add the County office does not have the Authority to close a school. They are part of the process but the decision is made by the Board of Education for the City of New Brunswick, so thank you very much for that. I was pleased to see or hear that Mrs. Osborne, former Councilwoman Osborne that I actually sit in her seat, was there tonight and that she has been appointed to the Human Rights Commission. Former Councilwoman and I actually had a two hour conversation and it was the first time in a long time that we have spoken since I've replaced her and it was very refreshing and I'm just pleased that she is in a role right now where she can make a difference. She was my former psychology teacher in high school. She offers a lot to our community and I think she'll do a great job as well as some of the other members of the Human Rights Commission. If it has not been assigned to anyone else, I would be delighted to have that added to my agenda and I do want to mention I am sorry I can't be there tonight. Unfortunately, I am undergoing a medical situation, but otherwise, I would be there and that is really about leadership. It's being there and bringing sides together. I don't know if many of you know this and I'd like to share an e-mail that I wrote with the Woodbridge Police Department last week and I just want to read a few lines of it but one was I am saddened that many of our police officers feel hurt and unsupported at times during the state affairs in our country. National attention toward the police brutality issues have impacted the 18,000 police departments and many have called for the defunding of the police department. Even in Woodbridge Township student-led protests have listed defunding the police departments as one of their demands. I'd like you and your colleagues to understand that what I feel important is that every resident is heard and respected and that the First Amendment Rights are never denied. I'm not in agreement with or call for the defunding of our police department. This does not mean that I will ignore their concerns. Instead, I will listen to them more intently because it is my job as an elected official to give every resident of the township an opportunity to be heard and I will attempt to understand. We, the Administration, Council, Mayor and department are missing an opportunity to have an open and healthy dialogue with residents that have viable concerns that are statistically supported. We must make an effort to ease the tension in our community through effective and willing communication. I'm determined to bring to light to the fact that demographically our police department needs to change how they seek out candidates, if they ever wish to reflect the community in which they serve. The significant under-representation of African-Americans especially African-Americans women and Asian Americans in the Woodbridge Police Department is unacceptable. In 50 years there have been fewer than 10 African Americans police officers never more than five in the department at the same time. I'm willing to work with the police

department leaders to find a way to improve on this. Lastly I've learned that there is, I won't actually read my closing but I will say it was a very positive night. I actually saw a number of things that night. I was in a narcotic stop a domestic, a traffic stop accident trying to. There were so many different things that I felt that our police officers do encounter but one was an excellent demonstration of de-escalating the situation and during the time I saw a friend of mine, Detective Rich Yanak came over and he was always a friend of mine and one of the things that I have noticed, he came over and we shook hands and the other police officers saw that because many know that I have had a strained relationship with the police department. Rich Yanak is very meaningful to me because our daughters not only cheered together but we have celebrated our kids on different occasions but he came to my home one day and rang my door bell and told me that my home was almost broken into and I didn't know that. I had no idea there was apparently a drug addict in our neighborhood and he tried to break in our sliding door and Rich brought me around the back and showed me where he had broken the molding and he was to pry the door open. What was more alarming was during that time it was a time where my daughters were home by themselves because they were old enough to walk home from school and they were doing their homework. Had he gotten in our home, my daughters could have hurt or even worse so I do appreciate our police officers. However, there are things that we need to have a dialogue about in our community and one in particular is the blue line down middle of Main Street. I want to ask the police officers in our town to consider sharing that space, I know we used it for St. Patrick's Day and we use it for Relay for Life but there are other causes out there and Police appreciation is in May and if it is on that line from May because this line right now seems to be dividing we have two rivaling petitions in our community and I would like to see the Police Department if they see and recognize what this doing to our community that there people that are coming to our meetings and that I'm asking for things and in particular that line. Why is it that we can't share it? I'm not saying to remove it, I'm saying to get it to the police department so we can celebrate them all month long for the month of May and that we can celebrate other causes. I for one would be more celebratory of something that is on the line for now. For example, on Inman Avenue, we still have the pink line so it's a faded pink line for the October, we celebrate the Breast Cancer Awareness month and I'd like to see that where we celebrate more than one thing in that area for whatever reason we like to paint lines down the middle of our Main Street to show the we are recognizing something and all I'm asking I am not saying, removing, and I am not saying that we don't support. I am telling the police department that they know they have supporters out there. We support them and I have said to them countless times and it's been reported that I support them but I want them to know that you know perhaps they can recognize that this symbol right now is really tearing the community apart and they are supportive and I don't think they need the line all year long to show that we support them and I think that the people that are opposing them right now would also support them if they actually saw that this is something that is tearing our community apart and that they would be willing to say hey let's share the line okay and that is all I have today. I thank everyone on this Council. I thank every one of the people that have come to our meeting tonight on both sides. I am willing to sit and talk with anyone and it was a huge step for me to ride with the police that night and it was so appreciative that I did it and we do have good men and women out there in our police department and I support them wholeheartedly. It doesn't mean that I am not going to ask for some changes at times, but I am not asking to defund the police department. I am asking for them to make some changes and how they recruit and to make sure that we are represented and that we represent or community. Thank you; that is all I have.

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.  
HOLD
9. Dr. Martin Luther King Annual Program  
HOLD
10. Independent Club of Colonia  
HOLD
11. Tooling Around Program  
HOLD
12. Boy Scouts/Camping (**Camporee 9/18/20 – 9/20/20**)  
HOLD
13. League Consolidation  
HOLD
14. Middlesex County College  
HOLD
15. Minority Community Relations Panel  
HOLD

**GREGG FICARRA, COUNCILMAN AT LARGE:**

I tried to bring up issues that have been looked into with the administration on mental health, homelessness, the Domestic Violence Team our Substance Abuse Council coaching program and the

Housing Initiatives that we had and I'd like to put forth that we cannot defund the police and still address these critical issues that seem to be brought up. So I'd be very willing to discuss that further I did throw in my two cents and I stand by it about reinitiating the DARE program because I think kids can go up to have police as role models and we might be missing that by not using that program. Thank you for that time and I'm sorry for some of my interruptions today but I felt compelled to speak.

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

It is temporarily closed but there are outdoor group programs going on: Body Combat, Zumba, Yoga and various types; complimentary fee is \$5 per member, \$8 for non-members and it is weather sensitive. Our beautiful Skyline Mini Golf and Batting Cages are open in the back weather permitting. For those of you to take advantage of the Batting Cages, you need to bring your own helmet, bat; that's a kind of Covid regulation. Our Highland Grove Pool and Spray Park in Fords are now open and still accepting memberships and our Summer Camp at our Community Center continues to go on and membership is open. All of these programs you can check out at 732-596-4170 for the general number or go on line for the very robust website at njwcc.com New Jersey WoodbridgeCommunityCenter.com.

2. Youth Month – April  
HOLD
3. Senior Citizen Month – May  
HOLD
4. Mentoring Program  
HOLD
5. Mayor's Fitness/Wellness Initiative  
HOLD
6. Fireworks (**9/6/20 Rain Date: 9/7/20**)  
HOLD
7. Heroes & Cool Kids/Strengthening Families  
HOLD
8. Pedestrian Safeway's/East Coast Greenway  
HOLD
9. Annual Pizza Run (**Date: 6/15/20**)  
HOLD

Last Wednesday we run our Annual Pizza Run. We had over 150 runners probably with the first of its kind in New Jersey during Covid times and it was not done lightly. A special thanks to the Recreation department under the leadership of Brian Molnar and assisted by Eileen Caggiano, Brianne Ludlow, Giara Coluba, Norma Grasso was just a tremendous help. She was just a volunteer who came with her

son and assisted me guiding the racists as they were going through the course the Race Director Rob from Runner's High, even though he is from Metuchen, we have adopted him here in Woodbridge. Tracy at Moby's had an outstanding job of running the awards program and all the activities afterwards.

10. Jacob's Landing  
HOLD
11. The Club at Woodbridge Upgrades  
HOLD
12. Crossroad's Race (9/6/20)  
HOLD

Woodbridge Police Department under DARE, Patrick Kenny did an outstanding job of keeping everyone safe. Our CERT Team did an amazing job at Port Reading First Aid and the copy score people we worked with Stacey. We were able to stagger the start so everybody started in the gang race Covid regulations would not allow that. So we ran two people in 20 second intervals. If you are a runner or into fitness that is nothing less spectacular. So congratulations to everyone to pull that off in a safe manner, thank you.

**VIRBHADRA N. PATEL, 4<sup>TH</sup> WARD COUNCILMAN (ABSENT):**

1. American Legion (T. Nulty Post)  
HOLD
2. Oak Tree Road Special Improvement District (SID)  
HOLD
3. JFK High School Field and Building Improvements  
HOLD
4. Sucker's Brook Bank Stabilization  
HOLD
5. 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Road Projects  
HOLD
6. Magnolia/Willow/Walnut Area Commuter Parking  
HOLD
7. Sign Ordinance  
HOLD
8. Cooper Field  
HOLD

**HOWIE BAUER, 2<sup>ND</sup> WARD COUNCILMAN:**

1. Second 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
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

**JOHN M. MITCH, MUNICIPAL CLERK:**

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

- A. Change of Corporate Structure for Red Chutney, LLC t/a Talli Bar & Grill, 1538 Oak Tree Road, Iselin, New Jersey 08830.
- B. Person –To-Person Transfer of Liquor License #1225-32-059-003 from Urban Tadka Restaurant, Inc., to Dimple Liquor, LLC, t/a Dimple’s Bombay Talk Rest Bar, 42 Marconi Ave., Iselin, NJ 08830.
- C. Change of Corporate Structure for Sri Balaji Enterprise, LLC t/a Balaji Wines & Liquor, 768 Rt. 1 No., Iselin, NJ 08830.

Mr. Mitch: Thank you Madame President. I just have a couple of comments under number one. I’ll go to letter B; that’s fairly new to your agenda. That is a transfer of a liquor license to Talk Restobar on Marconi Avenue. Letter C is a Corporate Structure that has just been added for Balaji Wines & Liquor; the applicant is looking to add a new partner and the police department will vet that applicant and we’ll have a recommendation in the next month or so.

- 2. Liquor License Incident(s)/Hearing(s).
- 3. Liquor License Renewals.
  - A. 2021 Annual Retail Licensee Meeting.

Mr. Mitch: Tonight we start with renewing Liquor Licenses for the 2021 cycle. We renewed about 40 of them and there is about 54 more left to do so. It is not on the municipality, it is on the licensees whether there is a fee due or there isn’t tax payer clearance so we’ll continue to treat them as they come in over the next several months.

- 4. Street Closings/Special Events (Block parties, street fairs, carnivals, etc.).
- 5. Elections.
  - A. 2020 Primary Election – July 7, 2020 (6 A.M. – 8 P.M.).
  - B. 2020 General Election – November 3, 2020 (6 A.M. – 8 P.M.).
- 6. Best Practices.
- 7. Census 2020.

Mr. Mitch: Woodbridge has done fairly well in its response rate but we are still short from where we probably should be with some other Municipalities so again to the public it is important that they support the Census. everything has been extended several months due to Covid-19 so we continue to ask the public if you have not responded, please do so, and most importantly for the fact that year after year billions of dollars are given out by the United States Government to the States and that money trickles down to the counties and municipalities and unless we are really up there, we are competitive with our

response rate it is going to affect us and some of the programs that people speak about in a meeting like tonight are important that our numbers are significantly improved upon, Thank you.

Councilwoman President: Thank you

**MAYOR:**

Mayor John E. McCormac:

**ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:**

Business Administrator Cimilluca: I have an updated Purchasing Manual.

**POLICE:**

Business Administrator Cimilluca: I have a Traffic Ordinance Amendment.

**HEALTH:**

**RECREATION:**

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:**

Business Administrator Cimilluca: I have a Refund from Current Account

**PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING:**

Business Administrator Cimilluca: I have Intersection Improvements on New Brunswick Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue. I have a Digital Tax Map Support and Mapping Assistance and the Release of a Performance Bond for 1400 Randolph Avenue.

Also on an additional add-on, I have the final change order for the Club Interior Rehab.

Business Administrator Cimilluca: Thank you Council President

**LEGAL:**

Mr. Nolan: Nothing this evening.

On a motion made by Councilman Small, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously, Council President DeJesus adjourned the meeting at 8:35 P.M.

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Lizbeth DeJesus,  
Council President

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

