

**THE BOROUGH OF WOODMONT
31 Clinton Street
Woodmont, CT 06460**

**ANNUAL MEETING
August 31, 2017**

**The Annual Meeting of the residents of the Borough of Woodmont
was held on Thursday, August 31, 2017.**

Meeting Opening

The meeting was called to order by Warden Edward W. Bonessi, Jr., at 8:13PM.

In attendance, thus meeting the requirements for a quorum with at least thirty Woodmont residents in attendance were a total of thirty-nine registered freeholders in attendance.

Pledge

Warden Bonessi of 83 Beach Ave led the group in saluting the American flag and in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction of Officials & Staff

Warden Bonessi reviewed ground rules for the meeting and then introduced Burgesses and Officers.

Approval of 2016

Warden Bonessi reminded everyone that the minutes are a summary of what happened. The minutes were reviewed by Borough residents. A Motion to approve the minutes was made by Pat Del Vecchio of 56 Mark St, seconded by Mike Krauss of 77 Hawley Ave and the Motion carried unanimously.

Comments of the Warden

A visual presentation of 2016-2017 projects and improvements was shown and an orated overview was given on the following subjects:

- Borough Taxes and City Grant (the rebate of taxes we pay to Milford to cover standard municipal public works. NOT WHAT WE ARE VOTING ON TONIGHT)

Borough Taxes

- Additional police coverage
- Maintaining Borough property
- Flood & Erosion Control
- Liability Insurance
- Woodmont Library
- Borough Staff
- Freeholder Directed Projects
- \$135,000+

City Rebate (GRANT)

Base public works contract:

- Snow Removal, etc.
- Street paving projects
- Sidewalk and seawall repairs
- Storm drain projects Drainage Groin Repair/Replacement
- Landscaping contract
- Street lighting expenses
- \$235,000 (requested)

Beaches

- Renourishment Re-Grading
- Category G Middle Beach
- 150 Tons of beach sand
- Street -End Beaches Cleaned

Public Works

- \$100,000 Sand Replenishment & Grading
- Catch Basin replaced
- \$12,000 Extra Snow Removal
- Sidewalk and Curb Repairs

Street Lighting

- More Light – Larger Footprint on ground
- Less Cost – High Efficiency LEDs
- Astronomically and Neighborly Friendly
 - No upward facing beams
 - Directional Adjustable Bulbs
- If you have too much light in your bedroom window call 800-722-5584 and give UI the pole number.

Borough of Woodmont

Street Lighting Survey and Action Plan

August 31, 2017 Annual Meeting

Street Lighting Committee Report

Prepared by B Kish 8/30/17

2017 Street Light Project Highlights and FAQ

- Woodmont Borough has 164 street lights. City of Milford has approximately 4000.
- All 164 borough street lights were surveyed in February 2017 to plan for UI's proposed Group Re-lamping Program. This program involves their upgrading every street light to LED type, at no cost to the Borough.

- An unexpected by-product of planning this work resulted in our detecting a UI billing error, which favored UI for seven years. UI made a retro-active payment to reimburse the Borough and corrected the billing error going forward.
- Four brightness levels (lamp wattages) are deployed in the Borough. Generally, higher wattage lights (brighter) are installed on major streets and lower wattage lights are installed on side streets. Intermediate wattage lights are installed to address/ optimize the brightness based on specific area activity.
- 41 street lights along the beach walking path, Anderson Ave to Mark St, were examined with a view to increase the brightness. Most of these were found to be at the lowest light level. We decided to raise their brightness by one level, as part of the UI upgrade. This is an example of intermediate wattage lights.
- The Borough signed a contract with UI on 4/17/17 to upgrade the Borough street lighting to LED type lights.
- UI began the work on 7/24/17 and completed it in about 2 weeks, at no cost to the Borough.
- So far, all feedback received has been in gratitude for the increased brightness in the Borough.
- The UI informed us we can expect a cost reduction of approximately 30% on the Borough's UI bill.
- Note the Borough also has (pays for) one floodlight that shines on the Signal Rock Flag. This single light was not upgraded to LED type.

Building Committee

Phase 2 -

- Completed post & beam barn
- Borough Hall Aesthetics
- Founders Patio
- Borough new field landscaping
- Borough Hall Dedication on June 3, 2017

Many Thanks to Chairman Chuck Rockwell and members Bob Kish, Donna & Jim Mallico, Pat Del Vecchio, Raquel Bonessi, Tim Phelan, Rich Lutz and Kit Schmeisser for hundreds of hours of planning!

Special Thanks to Katie Murphy Krauss and Tracy Crutchfield for their tremendous efforts. Nancy Holt for donation of her collection of historical Woodmont photos.

Borough Hall Rentals

- 7 private rentals
- \$1,825 rental revenue
- 3 charitable rentals

Office of Tax Collector

- Continued Updating data base
- 100 Freeholders pay online!
- Further Improvements to QDS

- Webster Bank Commercial Lockbox - *Working Well*
- 2017 Tax Lien Sale – *Not so Good!*
- Tax Warrant Sale

Police and Safety

- 100% shift fulfillment
- Sufficient Parking & Speeding Tickets Issued

Borough of Woodmont Police Activity Totals for 2016 – 2017 Summer Season May, June, July, August

	May	June	July	August	Totals
Criminal Arrest -	0	0	0	0	0
MV Arrest -	0	0	0	0	0
Parking Tickets -	3	12	56	2	73
Verbal Warnings-	0	0	9	5	14
Written Warnings -	0	1	0	0	1
Fire Dept. Assist -	0	2	0	3	5
First Aid Assist -	0	0	0	0	0
Police Assist -	0	3	4	1	8
In Borough					
Police Assist -	2	2	4	1	9
Out of Borough					

Woodmont Library

- 1,991 Books Lent
- 10.5% Increased Circulation over 2016
- 49 New Library Cards Issued
- 35% Increase over 2016

Beautification Committee

- **Total Donations received 2017:** **\$13,700**
- Phase I: Memorial Patio: 241 total bricks (166 pd./75 Borough): 7,800
- Phase II: Memorial Patio: 44 total bricks (43 pd./1 Borough): 2,300
- Last 6 Memorial Benches along Beach Ave. sold: 3,600
- **Total Expenses:** **\$ 3,000**
- Memorial bricks, plaques, supplies.
- **Net Balance:** **\$10,700**

Also completed the following:

- Managed Founders Memorial Patio project.
- 24 benches repaired and repainted.
- 4 trashcans purchased completing line of cans along Beach Ave.
- 1 ashtray purchased for Borough Hall.
- Oversaw maintenance of Borough gardens.
- Ordered damaged or missing signage throughout Borough.

Thanks to Pat Del Vecchio, Tom Toigo, Ken Sabol, Jim & Donna Mallico and E&D Landscaping

Anticipated 2017-2018 Projects

- Limited Street Paving
- Northern Street Ends Dumping Issue ☒
- Dixon Street catch basin rebuild
- Shoreline hardening plantings
- Reviewing all public area foliage
- Explore Chaucer Court drainage

New Business / 39 Freeholders in Attendance

Approval of Proposed 2017-2018 Borough Budget

John Barrett of 32 Hawley Ave Motioned for purposes of discussion and to approve the Borough Budget for next year, seconded by Tim Phelan of 95 Kings Highway, and the Motion passed.

A discussion followed concerning the budget.

Christopher Schmeisser, Finance Burgess of 5 Belmont St gave an overview of the proposed budget and how it was determined.

Tim Phelan of 95 Kings Highway requested an explanation of the projected grand list. Christopher Schmeisser explained historical collection rates and property assessments.

Mike Graetz of 32 Beach Ave asked about the reduction in the cost of police patrols. Ed Bonessi explained how we have increased coverage at less expense. Donna Mallico has helped as constable due to her efforts and relationship with the police department. A discussion followed.

Mike Graetz of 32 Beach Ave Motioned to increase the police line item by \$2,000, seconded by Jim Oravetz of 26 Chapel St, and the Motion failed.

Jim Oravetz of 26 Chapel St. questioned the \$4,000 increase in Office Expenses. John Barrett of 32 Hawley Ave Motioned to reduce Office Expenses by \$4,000 and increase Tax Collection Expenses to reflect lock box expense, seconded by Bob Kisch of 227 Merwin Ave, and the Motion passed unanimously.

Tim Phelan of 95 Kings Highway would like the Burgesses to consider a study for improving our sidewalks collectively throughout the Borough as a special assessment. Warden Bonessi said that this has been looked into and that it is the responsibility of the home owner. Tim Phelan asked that a committee be formed.

John Barrett of 32 Hawley Ave Motioned to create a committee, making Tim Phelan chair, to look into the repair of sidewalks throughout the Borough and report back at next years meeting, seconded by Ed Bonessi and the Motion was withdrawn.

Warden Bonessi explained past experiences and efforts.

Dan German of 114 Beach Ave would like to have someone sweep the sand off the sidewalks in the Anchor Beach area. Warden Bonessi said that Jim Mallico sweeps the public sidewalks, and Dan German said that not all private owners are always sweeping the sand.

Adjourn

Warden Bonessi of 83 Beach Ave entertained a Motion to adjourn the meeting. Christopher Schmeisser of 5 Belmont St Motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Pat Del Vecchio of 56 Mark St and the Motion passed unanimously by voice vote at 9:16PM

Minutes taken by William Guelakis

Attached Freeholder Signatures: