

CALLED TO ORDER:

Mayor Sarlo called the Borough of Wood-Ridge Council meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: was led by Council President Azzolini

ROLL CALL:

Mayor:	Paul Sarlo – present
Council:	Dominick Azzolini – present
	Ezio Altamura – present
	Edward Marino – excused
	Philip Romero – present by phone
	Michele A. Mabel – present
	Michael Donato – present
Borough Attorney:	Paul Barbire – present by phone
Borough Engineer:	Brian Intindola – excused
Borough Clerk:	Gina Affuso – present
Borough Administrator:	Chris Eilert – present

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT:

This meeting is being held in accordance with Public Law 1975 Chapter 231, the Open Public Meetings Act, also known as the “Sunshine Law”. The public meeting notice stating the date, time and place of this meeting was posted on the municipal bulletin board and the municipal website and was forwarded to The Record and the Star Ledger.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Amendment to 2023 Introduced Municipal Budget adopted via Resolution 073-2023 at the June 21, 2023 Meeting of the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Sarlo opened the hearing of Citizens on the Amendments to 2023 Introduced Budget. With no citizens wishing to speak on the Amendments, the Public Hearing on the Amendments to the 2023 Introduced Municipal Budget was closed.

FIRST HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Sarlo declared the Public Hearing on the 2023 Municipal Budget to be open. With no citizens wishing to speak, the Public Hearing on the 2023 Municipal Budget was closed.

Administrator Eilert welcomed Alister Walsh from the local Boy Scout Troop who was present tonight to observe a public meeting. Alister is obtaining his Merit Badge for Citizenship in order to advance to Eagle Scout. We wish him good luck.

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING:

BOND ORDINANCE 2023-8 (Multi-Purpose)

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY AND NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF WOOD-RIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,400,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE CAPITAL SURPLUS, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, 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.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge that Ordinance No. 2023-8 as above, be passed on first reading, to be published in the Record on July 10, 2023 and public hearing on the Ordinance to be held at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. or soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Municipal Building, 85 Humboldt Street, Wood-Ridge, New Jersey.

Motion: Councilperson Azzolini, seconded by Donato moved to the introduction of Ordinance No. 2023-8

Roll Call: Azzolini yes, Altamura yes, Marino excused, Romero yes, Mabel yes, Donato yes

RESOLUTIONS: Adoption of the following

RESOLUTION NO. 077-2023

Resolution Re: Self-Examination of 2023 Municipal Budget

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination, and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 thru 7.5 the Borough of Wood-Ridge has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the Borough meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2023 budget year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge that the 2023 municipal budget be examined in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification. The Borough Council has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, if applicable, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget.
 - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
 - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
 - c. Cash deficit of preceding year

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- d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
- e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
- f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.
- 2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at 40A:4-45.3 et seq. are fully met.
- 3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.
- 4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
 - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate, and correctly stated;
 - b. Items of appropriations are properly set forth
 - c. In itemization, form, arrangement, and content the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
- 5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced, publicly advertised, and adopted in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
- 6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

Resolution Re: Adoption of the 2023 Municipal Budget

SECTION 2 - UPON ADOPTION FOR YEAR 2023
RESOLUTION 078-2023

Be It Resolved by the COUNCIL MEMBERS of the BOROUGH
of WOOD-RIDGE, County of BERGEN that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of:

(a) \$ 15,682,302.00	(Item 2 below) for municipal purposes, and
(b) \$ -	(Item 3 below) for school purposes in Type I School Districts only (N.J.S.A. 18A:9-2) to be raised by taxation and,
(c) \$ -	(Item 4 below) to be added to the certificate of amount to be raised by taxation for local school purposes in Type II School Districts only (N.J.S.A. 18A:9-3) and certification to the County Board of Taxation of the following summary of general revenues and appropriations.
(d) \$ -	(Sheet 43) Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Levy
(e) \$ -	(Sheet 44) Arts and Culture Trust Fund Levy
(f) \$ 607,900.00	(Item 5 Below) Minimum Library Tax

RECORDED VOTE
(Insert last name)

Ayes	Nays	Abstained
Absent		

1. General Revenues **SUMMARY OF REVENUES**

Surplus Anticipated	08-100	\$ 3,850,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated	13-099	\$ 16,488,795.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	16-499	\$ 300,000.00
2. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES (Item 6(a), Sheet 11)	07-190	\$ 15,682,302.00
3. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY:		
Item 6, Sheet 42	07-196	\$ -
Item 6(b), Sheet 11 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-14)	07-191	\$ -
TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY:		\$ -
4. To Be Added TO THE CERTIFICATE FOR THE AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE II SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY:		
Item 6(b), Sheet 11 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-14)	07-191	
5. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION MINIMUM LIBRARY TAX	07-192	\$ 607,900.00
Total Revenues	13-299	\$ 36,928,997.00

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SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS			
6. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS:		XXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Within "CAPS"		XXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX
(a & b) Operations Including Contingent		34-201	\$ 14,582,174.00
(e) Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures - Municipal		34-209	\$ 2,016,866.00
(g) Cash Deficit		46-885	\$ -
Excluded from "CAPS"		XXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX
(a) Operations - Total Operations Excluded from "CAPS"		34-305	\$ 2,001,344.00
(c) Capital Improvements		44-999	\$ 300,000.00
(d) Municipal Debt Service		45-999	\$ 17,277,613.00
(e) Deferred Charges - Municipal		46-999	\$ 1,000.00
(f) Judgments		37-480	\$ -
(n) Transferred to Board of Education for Use of Local Schools (N.J.S.A. 40:48-17.1 & 17.3)		29-405	\$ -
(g) Cash Deficit		46-885	\$ -
(k) For Local District School Purposes		29-410	\$ -
(m) Reserve for Uncollected Taxes		50-899	\$ 750,000.00
6. SCHOOL APPROPRIATIONS - TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICT ONLY (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-13)		07-195	
Total Appropriations		34-499	\$ 36,928,997.00
It is hereby certified that the within budget is a true copy of the budget finally adopted by resolution of the Governing Body on the 5th day of July, 2023. It is further certified that each item of revenue and appropriation is set forth in the same amount and by the same title as appeared in the 2023 approved budget and all amendments thereto, if any, which have been previously approved by the Director of Local Government Services.			
Certified by me this		5th	day of July, 2023,
		Signature	Clerk

RESOLUTION NO.: 079-2023

RESOLUTION APPROVING AWARD EXTENSION REQUEST FOR LA-2022 MA GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE HIGHLAND AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Whereas, the Borough of Wood-Ridge was awarded the above referenced local aid grant which has a 24-month deadline for awarding a contract for said project; and

Whereas, subsequent to being awarded the grant, the Borough was notified by Veolia Water of its intention to commence a program of replacing lead water services and transmission pipes throughout the Borough; and

Whereas, subsequent to being awarded the grant, the Borough was notified by PSE&G of its intention to commence a program of replacing cast iron gas pipes with plastic pipes throughout the Borough; and

Whereas, both utility programs commenced in 2023, are presently ongoing, and are expected to continue through 2024; and

Whereas, undertaking road resurfacing projects when the two above referenced utility programs will require road openings on streets planned to be resurfaced, which would be a waste of material and labor and a misuse of public resources; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge formally approves the request for a Six (6) month award extension for the above stated project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk, or those authorized on their behalf, are to submit a formal request for a Six (6) month award extension for the above referenced project to the New Jersey Department of Transportation; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the Six (6) month award extension request on behalf of the Borough of Wood-Ridge and that their signatures constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

Administrator Eilert explained that due to the Veolia Water and PSE&G work being done, the grant extension is being requested to the DOT in order to postpone paving on Highland Avenue.

Motion: Councilperson Azzolini, seconded by Donato moved to the adoption of the above resolutions.

Roll Call: Azzolini yes, Altamura yes, Marino excused, Romero yes, Mabel yes, Donato yes

SECOND HEARING OF CITIZENS:


Mayor Sarlo declared the Hearing of Citizens to be open. With no citizens wishing to speak, the hearing of citizens was closed.

Mayor Sarlo thanked Councilman Marino and the finance committee for another successful budget and the 3rd year with no tax increase and no reduction of services.

ADJOURNMENT:

Since there was no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Altamura, seconded by Councilperson Donato moved for adjournment. By unanimous vote of the members of the Council present, the Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge held on July 5, 2023 was duly adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Gina Affuso, RMC
Borough Clerk