

PRESS RELEASE

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT DAY CELEBRATED BY WES EIGHTH GRADERS WITH INTERACTIVE BUSINESS PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS

Woodbine—Mayor William Pikolycky is pleased to announce that Woodbine's annual "Student Government Day" was held on May 15 at the Woodbine Municipal Complex, with a new twist on the day's events/activities.

Members of the eighth grade class from Woodbine Elementary School, accompanied by teachers Steven Schleckser and Margaret Benson, spent the morning at Borough Hall in an interactive session on the process of locating a business within the Borough.

Each group of students proposed a business and researched costs and location, complete with a drawing of the planned footprint.

The proposals were then presented to members of the Borough staff who took the students through the process that would be needed to actually build such a business in the locations chosen throughout the Borough.

Monserrate Gallardo, who serves as Woodbine's Planning and Zoning Board Secretary (as well as Secretary/Treasurer of the Woodbine Municipal Utilities Authority) along with Lewis Conley, her Planning & Zoning professional, a certified planner and certified surveyor (and a Fire Commissioner in his home town) explained procedures including Pinelands, County, and local requirements. They discussed these and related topics as applicable to each of the projects proposed by the teams. Topics ranged from variances, stormwater management & retention basins, contingency contracts, and much in between.

Lisa Garrison, Municipal Tax Collector/ Municipal Clerk (and Municipal Registrar) spoke about purchasing Borough owned land (as at least one group mentioned) and how the price is determined, tax sales, the difference between resolutions and ordinances, ...

Assessor (and CFO) Jack Miller explained how assessments are done and how taxes are calculated based on them.

Mayor Pikolycky then spoke with the students and presented each student with a certificate of attendance.

Mrs. Garrison also presented them with a "Registration Certificate"

"Proposed" businesses and the teams presenting these proposals were:

Miscellany's (general store): Alyssa Bozarth, Victoria London, Arcolia Holton, and Jaelyn Murphy.

Baron Center (a recreational facility): Zhyana Young, Jaylin Garcia, and Orlando Ramos.

TFC's Movie Theater: Tim Price and Carlos Camacho III.

Nitro (dirt bike shop): NaSean Murray, Justin Viera, and Luis Mercado.

"I was highly impressed by the research done by these students and the questions asked of our Borough staff, as well as the detailed information extended to the presenters concerning what must be done to bring their projects to fruition," noted Mayor Pikolycky. "As always, I also extend an invitation to our home-schooled and private school eighth graders to call my office to set up their own visits to Borough Hall,"