

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON
CAUCUS MINUTES, TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2014

Mayor Klaus called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with the reading of the Sunshine Statement. The Mayor then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called roll with the following present: Council President Popiolek, Councilwoman Bergeron, Councilman DelVecchio, Councilman Ludwig, Councilwoman Nicholson and Councilman Robenolt. Also present were CFO Denise Moules, Eileen Holcombe, Secretary to Mayor and Council. Solicitor Tim Higgins arrived at 6:40pm. Engineer Greg Evans was not present due to a family emergency.

Also in attendance was Ambulance Chief Barb Willson.

First Public Portion—on a motion by Councilwoman Bergeron, second by Council President Popiolek, the public portion of the meeting was opened.

Barb Willson stated that she had been speaking with Maureen regarding an ambulance that is being sold by Haddon Heights. The squad is interested in purchasing it. She got a phone call from Jack Merryfield and they obtained two appraisals on the vehicle and want to go right in the middle and are asking \$30,000. It is a 2007 Ford chassis and it is a PL custom. Our oldest one is a 2001 chassis and is starting to get close to the 15 year insurance window. In the past year, we had two ambulances down at one time. We are spending more and more on maintenance. This ambulance from Heights has the same engine as our 2004 which has had some problems. The guy at VCI said we have a 50/50 chance that the engine could be fine. We would be taking a chance but it is a lot less than purchasing a new ambulance. Our squad meeting is tonight and we are hoping to be able to give an answer to Heights. She needs to know if the borough will help them maintain the vehicle. She spoke to Mike to ask if he has space to park one ambulance and keep it charged and he said he thinks he could have Frank run a line to handle. It would still have to be equipped and she is hoping she can get some of the big ticket items from Heights. She mostly needs to know if we will insure and maintain it. Terry said the additional insurance will be minimal as we have fleet coverage. Bob Del asked if it would be purchased from Haddon Heights borough or the association and Barb said the borough. Bob said he was surprised they would not let us have it for one dollar and offset against the annual amount they pay us. Maureen said that is a good idea and maybe we should explore that. Maureen said if the association decides to go forward, perhaps they can arrange a meeting with Jack to discuss further. Barb agreed and said she will talk to Maureen after their meeting.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Councilwoman Bergeron, second by Councilwoman Nicholson, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

Engineer:

Mayor Klaus stated as is on Greg's report, they are expecting bids for the concrete and railing work at the VFW. The Year 36 funding will be competitive. If you have a project ready to go, you can pick from a bigger pot. If everyone agrees, I would like to submit for the VFW to get all the work done. Shawn said he would like to see a light switch installed. Mayor said they are not going to allow curb ramps anymore. Everyone agreed about submitting for all the work at the VFW so he will let Greg know.

Terry told the group that she reached out to Lawnside to see if they have adopted the ordinance yet for the Fed Ex traffic signal and requested that Jay send a copy of the ordinance. Dave Roberts asked if they will be continuing to provide a traffic control officer after the light is activated. If so, because Lawnside PD is shorthanded, he wanted to offer Barrington's officers to be part of the rotation. Patti said she hopes that once the light is turned on they will no longer need an officer and Terry said she thinks that is the intention.

Administration: Terry reported on the following

◆Auction—we have coordinated an auction with five towns that will be held at the Bellmawr Public Works Complex on Saturday, January 25 at 10am. We are using Lee Fox Auctioneers. They get 10% of the proceeds as payment. I placed the necessary ad today, a copy of which is attached. I will be working with the fire department to have their items taken to Bellmawr a couple of days prior to the auction. Joe Ciano from Bellmawr offered to help Mike get the larger items taken over. A resolution authorizing the sale will be on the agenda. Bob Del asked if the fire department will be requesting to have those funds and Terry said they did ask if the proceeds could be used to purchase new equipment. Wayne explained that is the way it has worked in the past. Denise said she would make it work so the revenue from the sale can offset an increase in their equipment purchases.

◆NJDOT kickoff meeting—DOT will hold a kickoff meeting here at borough hall on Wednesday, January 29 at 4pm for the Streetscape Project. They request that any elected officials who can attend please try to be there. Mayor Klaus said the CCIA has their open house that day. Terry said she will see if it can be moved.

◆LOSAP Contributions—John Sutch had been working on getting the LOSAP contributions caught up. We went quite a few years without receiving the necessary information in order to make contributions for members who had earned enough points to get a contribution. We just paid two years of contributions (2008 and 2009) and he was working on getting 2010 and forward. I have already reached out to Dave Ehrman and he will be coming over to meet with me to go over the details of what we need. Wayne said John Sutch said he is still working on getting 2010 and 2011 done.

◆Labor contracts—the PBA members have the final contract and I am waiting for them to sign so I can have the GB members sign and we can process their increases. Apparently there is one language change the PBA requested and Shawn and Bob said it is not a big deal. It is just a language change and they will run it by Tim when he gets here. Terry then said they had a final meeting with AFSCME today and a summary of the contract changes is attached. They are supposed to ratify today or tomorrow. Shawn will go into more detail on this.

◆Drug Alliance grant program to be managed by schools—Barb and Meg have been running the Drug Alliance programs for quite a few years and are retiring. We reached out to the school district to see if anyone there would be interested in running the program as many of it is school based. Tony Arcodia responded that the guidance counselor is interested in running the program. We are waiting for Tony to set-up an initial meeting so we can explain what is involved and go over the reporting requirements. Between the school district and the police department (DARE program) this should work very well.

◆Appointment of temporary construction official—John Z will be going out for knee surgery and expects to be out for four-five weeks. He has suggested that his brother be appointed as interim CO as he has all the necessary certifications. John will be collecting disability during his outage so the funds to pay his brother will be available in the Construction Trust so the financial impact will be zero. A resolution to appoint will be on the agenda. Mayor Klaus said he supports the temporary appointment and the group agreed.

Council Agenda Review—Terry reported the following will be on the agenda

Ordinances for introduction—

Ord. 1016, Amending Chapter 120, Vehicles and Traffic (four way stop at Second and Haines)

Resolutions—

Appointing Interim Construction Official

Authorizing Sale of Surplus Equipment at Public Auction

Authorizing Billing of Sewer Discharge to Calmar Associates (Sessa remediation)
January 2014 Bill List

Bob Del asked if the banner for Lorena Weber was ready and Terry responded it is done and Public Works is picking it up from Bantle's and will get hit hung before her birthday.

Finance: Denise reported on the following items

◆Denise reviewed the standard monthly reports including budget status and bank balances. The bank balance for capital is high but don't get excited—we got the proceeds for the White Horse Pike BAN and the payment goes out tomorrow. First Colonial provided the best rate. This is a callable BAN so when we are ready for permanent financing, we can call the note.

◆The 2013 control accounts are looking good. The 2014 budget with the temporary budget posted is also attached. So far, so good.

◆The police overtime report shows there was an \$8200 over-expenditure and the court revenue was \$6400 short in comparison to what was anticipated. We will have to reduce the anticipated revenue for 2014 accordingly. Bob Del said that for 2014 it should look better because of the monthly MIT's the chief has scheduled.

◆The last page of the report shows the tentative schedule for the 2014 budget. We need to determine if we want department heads to three-year capital planning or just the one year. We are looking at the end of February to hold individual meetings. Do you want to committee meetings with the relevant department heads? Kirk said he will discuss with Maureen Shawn and will get back to Denise. Denise said because the state changed the introduction date, we don't have to introduce until April.

◆Denise then reported she has made a few phone calls regarding online payments. Edmunds does have a program that can appear on our website. Residents could pay by electronic check or credit card for taxes or sewer and pay a small fee for the service. They could also see their tax history. The drawback is the fee to Edmunds is \$2400 per year. If you want us to pursue this, we will see if we can get a lower price from Edmunds. The group asked Denise to see if we can get a better deal from Edmunds.

◆Denise then said we received a notification from First Colonial that the interest rate is going down to .25%. Also, they will no longer be paying for checks. We have a local vendor we use for checks and Kristy is getting a price from him. Maureen asked if he will still support the fireworks and Denise confirmed that they will.

► COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilwoman Patti Nicholson reported on the following:

◆I went to the school board meeting last night and they swore in the new members. There was not much else on their agenda.

◆Light Maureen and I spoke with Mike Drumm and Beth Powell about Barrington Cares, their new organization. They want to provide assistance to residents in need. We asked that they coordinate

with the groups that are already established, such as ALBE, the Women's League, etc. They are going to the senior meeting on March 5 and on March 9, they are holding a senior dinner at possibly the VFW. It will have a St. Patty's Day theme. They plan to meet with the different groups to get some ideas on services they can offer.

◆Maureen and I are meeting with soccer next Tuesday. Baseball and softball are having open registration. Basketball is under new management with Mike Drumm as the president.

◆I will be reaching out to Bellmawr and Runnemede regarding contributing to the fireworks. Bellmawr does not just want to send a check—they want to offer police services as well. Magnolia is also interested in talking to us.

◆Regarding the Harvest Fest—the committee is now Beth Beiderbeck and Mindy Berwick. I need clarity on whether or not there will still be a Civic Association. Denise said yes, the Civic Association will still exist to support public events but the Harvest Fest committee will be separate.

◆VFW rentals were pretty good this past year and I will continue to work on that. Someone gave me his card and he offers a service to help promote that we have a hall available for rental. Mayor Klaus said we have to be careful because of the funding we are getting.

◆Summer Rec will no longer be provided by the Borough of Barrington—it is being taken over by the school district. We will have nothing to do with it. Bob Haas is aware. Barrington Cares can now offer their free lunch to the kids who qualify.

◆We have to start looking into what we are planning for upgrades to Wish Upon a Star. Terry said we should target the Camden County Open Space grant program for funding and Patti agreed. She will have Mike Ciocco start working on cost estimates for all the work that needs to be done and we can then apply over multiple years.

◆Lastly, I have a meeting with Mandi Hawkins and Dave Ehrman regarding some ideas the Women's League has concerning parades.

Councilman Ludwig reported on the following:

◆Hopefully everyone has reviewed the AFSCME contract. We budgeted for 2% for all three years. Mike Broome and Fran Gentile are in a step program as shown on the sheet. When they reach top rate, they will then just get the contract percentage increases. Cindy White will get a 2% increase for 2013, next year \$2.00 per hour, then 2% for 2015. Her hourly rate was lower than some of the newer people and this rectifies the problem. We are increasing beeper pay but it won't be retroactive. It will start in 2014. We had the ability to add some money inside the contract but it is optional to the employees. If they want the beeper pay, they have to be part of the rotation. Their shoe allowance was increased starting in 2014. The buy-back sick was previously five days at half-rate and we agreed to five days at full-rate. We also added Columbus Day as an additional paid holiday so they are even with the police. There was extensive discussion about the buy-back sick at full rate. Bob Del was opposed to this. Maureen was as well until she realized that we do not accumulate sick days that can be banked. Patti said if don't do this then they will just take the time off. Shawn said it is not fair in comparison to the police department who have unlimited sick time. These are not material changes to get this contract done. After much discussion, the proposed changes as submitted were agreed upon with an informal vote of 4-2.

Councilman Robenolt reported on the following:

◆The Green Team will be meeting on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm. Denise said the website has already been changed.

Councilman DelVecchio reported on the following:

◆He apologized for not being at Reorg but I was really under the weather.

◆Maureen—anything you need regarding public safety I would be more than glad to share with you. He told Tim that there is a language change for the PBA contract that he needs to review.

◆Residents from Woodland are complaining about the icing on the street because of sump pump discharge. Mayor Klaus concurred that it is a problem. Shawn said he will discuss with Mike Ciocco.

Councilwoman Bergeron reported on the following:

◆I spoke to Dave Ehrman about providing the documentation we requested regarding his credentials and he is supposed to fax to us. We had discussed a full-time firefighter at the last meeting but the committee has not met to discuss any further yet. Wayne said we had proposed as a possibility to John Sutch and we need to get back to him. Patti suggested that the committee should discuss this further before a decision is made. She has concerns about just offering the position to one person without opening it up to other applicants. Shawn said he is okay with waiting until the committee has an opportunity to discuss further. Maureen said she will set up a committee meeting after the fire department meeting on the 13th and then we can present at the next caucus meeting.

Council President Popiolek reported on the following:

◆The Harvey's property has finally been demolished which is great news. I saw Rich Hill over the weekend and he is looking forward to getting started.

◆Regarding White Horse Pike, I spoke to redeveloper who asked me to backoff DOT as they think they have a pretty good rapport with them. Ken Spiegel told Mr. Juliano a couple of weeks ago that he is waiting for information from one engineer. Tom called Ken yesterday and he told him that have some employees who took off for the end of the year to go overseas to visit family which created a hole-up. He said to give him another week and he will get the permit—there will be one more revision. The redeveloper is going to take care of hiring the LSRP to handle the environmental work. We will have to do an amendment to the redeveloper agreement for the credit for that cost. Regarding the Southard property, what is the current status? Tim said the hearing is on the 31st. The developer is concerned it could be dragged out in court. They need to know what the final amount is going to be. Other than that, we are anxiously waiting and we have never been this far along on this project.

◆We will be working on the 9/11 memorial with the recreation department. We will be doing a fundraiser in the spring on the Battleship with Phil's help.

Mayor Klaus reported on the following:

◆January 29 at 5:00pm the CCIA will hold an open house to discuss ways of helping elected officials get grants and fund projects.

◆Would anybody be willing to share attendance at the school board meetings with Patti? Patti said the meetings are Monday nights--the first Monday of the month. Bob DelVecchio said he would be willing to do it. Patti added the meetings are at 7:30pm at Avon School.

The Camden County Mayor's Association reorganization dinner will be February 21. If you are interested, let us know. The dinner will be at Lucien's and is around \$60 per person.

Seeing no further business to be transacted, on a motion by Councilman DeVecchio, second by Councilwoman Bergeron, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Approved: *Terry Shannon*
Terry Shannon, Clerk/RMC