

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON**  
**CAUCUS MINUTES, JANUARY 8, 2013**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Klaus at 6:30 with a reading of the Sunshine Notice. The Mayor led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk Shannon called roll with the following in attendance: Council President Popiolek, Councilwoman Bergeron, Councilman DeVecchio, Councilwoman Nicholson, Councilman Ludwig and Councilman Robenolt. Also present were Eileen Holcombe, Secretary to Mayor and Council, Paul Gilligan, Solicitor, Denise Moules, Finance Officer and Engineer Greg Evans.

**► DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Engineer Greg Evans reported on the following items:**

New Business—curb ramp improvement program, concerned with contractor progress. We will continue to monitor and we reached out to Mr. Higgins to prepare to contact bonding company. The clerk said at 4<sup>th</sup> and Albany it has been torn up for weeks. Greg said there were some weather issues. They also had to re-do some of their work. We expect them to be out there shortly.

Municipal Aid Application—announcement will be made in February or March. Number one priority was Kent Avenue.

2012 Capital Program—anticipate scheduling bids at the end of the month for consideration in February.

Earmark Funding—still working with Conrail to finalize lease agreement.

USDA Program—we submitted plans and specs to the program for review and approval.

Pedestrian improvements at Mercer and Highland—will submit plans to County by end of month. If they approve, project will go out to bid by the County.

Harveys Redevelopment—plan to come to planning board in February. Next week they are holding a public meeting with area residents before council at 6:30.

Old Business—White Horse Pike project, Commissioner reviewed request to go with two controllers instead of one and they accepted that request. However, the developer fees of \$200,000 they are sticking to. They said they have already concurred \$79,000 in review costs. There were \$9000 in application fees that should come off the \$79,000.

Environmental Remediation—Terry is working with Scott Smith on LSRP proposal request.

We are working with Delco and Wawa to finalize the amendments to the ordinance. We hope that it will be finalized by council. We will direct planning board to review the amendment so we can introduce the amending ordinance in January and adopt in February. Have been having trouble getting in touch with someone from Wawa regarding their signage package. Kirk suggested that Paul Gilligan may be able to help. Paul said he would look into if we don't hear back from them.

Fed Ex traffic signal construction has commenced. Spoke to contractor over the holiday regarding Conrail control cabinet. It takes them a while to order and construct that cabinet. Reached out to Rob at Scannell to define that timeline and reminding them that the agreement and money transfer occurred in October.

Mayor Klaus asked if anyone has any questions for Greg. Greg Fusco was here earlier with Paul to discuss NJAWC suit and we are going to proceed. This pertains to Clements Bridge Road water main break that occurred in February, 2011.

Greg thanked everyone for the reappointment.

**Administration:** Terry reported on the following

Management training—will take place January 17, 24 and 31 in the senior center.

Health Benefits—now have a contact at Benecard. They need two years of experience, the detailed plan designs and two years of the census. All have been ordered from Conner Strong for both Barrington and Mt. Ephraim. Runnemede has also ordered from their carrier as has Oaklyn. Conner Strong said it will take about two weeks for information to be ready. If rates come in favorable and the other towns want to participate, we will need to do as a shared service with Barrington as lead agency. I will continue to keep you posted.

Purchase of bus from Runnemede—I am waiting to hear back from Joyce Pinto as to status of agreement. Mike submitted all the details including proposed value. This purchase will be a shared service agreement wherein we will provide vehicle mechanic services (labor only) up to the amount agreed upon for purchase of the bus. We need to agree to the price and terms, and since Runnemede is selling the bus to us, they should be the lead. I have asked her to have their solicitor draft the language.

Ordinances for introduction—Tim submitted two ordinances pertaining to the WHP project. These are the condemnation ordinances for the Shiv property (Victor's strip) and the Duckrey property. Both will be on the agenda for introduction on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Also on the agenda will be the ordinance amending the WHP Redevelopment Zone and the corresponding resolution.

Ordinance amending Chapter 53, Construction Code, and Chapter 99, Rental Properties—the inspection of rental properties is now going to be annual. Also, there were some inconsistencies between chapter 53 and 99 and Tim prepared the attached ordinances to address the inconsistencies. John Z has thoroughly reviewed and revised and both ordinances are now ready for introduction.

**Terry then reviewed the action items for Agenda:**

Ordinances for introduction—

- Ord. 993, Amending Chapter 99, Rental Properties
- Ord. 994, Amending Chapter 53, Construction Code Enforcing Agency
- Ord. 995, Approving Acquisition of Land Owned by Vernon Duckrey
- Ord. 996, Approving Acquisition of Land Owned by Shiv Estates, LLC
- Ord. 997, Amending the White Horse Pike Redevelopment Plan

Resolutions—

Rescinding Shawn Ludwig's appointment to the Planning Board as listed on the Reorg Agenda and Appointing Shawn as a Class III Member for a One-year Term, to be Approved by Council

Possible Shared Service Agreement with Runnemede for Purchase of Bus

Authorizing Planning Board to Review the Requested Amendment to Ord. 753, Redevelopment Phase I and II

Terry added that if anyone has anything to add to the agenda, please have it to me by noon on Thursday.

## **► COUNCIL REPORTS**

### **Council President Popiolek reported on the following:**

Department of Community Development

WHP Redevelopment Status/DOT Update—as Greg reported, we did hear back from the DOT that the \$200,000 review fees would remain. We do have some leverage because we are sharing in some of these costs so it is not just developer funds but is also taxpayer funds.

Discussion of DEP correspondence—they responded to our request to encroach on the buffer zones and it was very favorable. We believe this will go through as scheduled.

Condemnation complaints to be filed this month against Duckery and Shiv Estates. We want to place a camera to see how many people are actually parking on the White Horse Pike side of Victors. He rejected our bona fide offer.

Delco will meet with PZC Committee in February and Planning Board in March. Given the magnitude of the project I will be requesting that the Planning Board professionals (Albano/Bach) attend the PZC meeting for review and comments.

Rich Hill Apartment Project Update/Review--met with Mr. Hill and his team regarding the progress. A public information meeting has been scheduled for Jan 15, 2013, at 6PM hosted by the redeveloper. Planning to go before the Feb '13 Planning Board.

1 E. Gloucester Pike--Phil has reached out to Freeholder Nash regarding Open Space grant money to purchase property and construct a 9/11 memorial park.

Roadhouse--Paul Cooper from Cooper Vault Co. is interested in purchasing the property to relocate from his current location in Haddon Heights. He needs to see the sketch from the tax map to see size of property. The clerk said the debt to be sold at sheriff sale is 1.1 million. We only have it assessed at \$500,000. Kirk said Cooper won't pay that.

Department of Administration & Finance

Tax appeals are still in progress--Rite Aid appeal started in State Tax Court last week (\$5 million assessment). Tim feels a settlement could have been reached. They are looking for \$3 million. We need to discuss a retirement date with Assessor to see what his plans are.

### **Councilwoman Bergeron reported on the following:**

Meeting with Barb and Steve next week to go over some issues. Camden County Health and Senior Services will be moving to Lakeland complex. Seniors will be upset about the distance so we will be utilizing municipalities to take services on the road. Senior issues have increased significantly in the past few years.

### **Councilman DeVecchio reported on the following:**

We are in the middle of police contract negotiations and progress is being made. Next meeting is the 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm.

Regarding ambulance, during 2012 Barb had expressed the difficulty caused by losing Lawnside and the drop in billing. We are reaching out to surrounding towns to possibly provide a shared service. Mt. Ephraim runs with Audubon and we are talking to Haddon Heights. There are problems with their existing organization's insurance coverage. Their mayor and council have given them a date to get insurance or they would be getting coverage elsewhere. Tim is working with their solicitor on the language. We are hopeful that this works out. Everyone worked hard on this. Bob thanked the Mayor for his help on this. Mayor Klaus responded that all of this has happened pretty quickly and we hope this works out. It will be great for Barb. We will know for sure after their January council meeting.

**Councilman Robenolt reported on the following:**

I really don't have anything to report at this time. I want to sit down with the former Director of Judicial to get background. Mayor Klaus asked if there has been anything new regarding the possible storage building at 4<sup>th</sup> and Austin. Wayne responded that Dave Ehrman is setting up a meeting with Pennsauken.

**Councilman Ludwig reported on the following:**

I will be meeting with Mike Ciocco to discuss upcoming projects. I am also going to continue to meet with the employees to see how things are going. The AFSCME contract is up and ready to be discussed. Terry said there is a new rep from AFSCME, Joseph Pierce, and Shawn said he will set up a meeting. Kirk said we need to appoint a negotiating committee. Shawn asked the Mayor who will be on that committee and the Mayor said he will get back to him.

Regarding discipline, I told Mike that before someone is disciplined, I want to discuss it with them first. We don't want to have a repeat of some of the issues that led to the management training. I hope to get issues resolved before it gets to that point so I will be in communication with Mike and Kenny and the employees.

Planning and Zoning—I will officially be appointed by Council Tuesday night. Regarding the Green Team, hopefully Wayne and I can run that together. I don't have a lot of knowledge in this area but I know that Wayne does. Mayor Klaus said they should start meetings soon. Shawn said he will set up and get information to Terry so she can notify everyone.

**Councilwoman Nicholson:**

Civic & Community Affairs--

Government Day-Maureen will schedule meeting with Mr. Zucker to determine date. We need to order tee shirts.

Earth Day-tentative date April 20—is that okay? Everyone agreed.

Barrington Day - tentative date May 18, 2013, Rain Date May 19 (11am-4pm). Is that okay with everyone? Council agreed to the dates.

Memorial Day- set for May 27<sup>th</sup>.

Independence Day Celebration-we are sticking with July 3<sup>rd</sup> for parade and fireworks. Maureen is looking into fireworks contract. Maureen knows Steve DePierri has a lot of problem with Garden State. She will meet with Steve to discuss. He would like to move the fireworks location. Wayne said we are at the dead minimum in terms of distance from the crowd. Patti said Runnemedede did say they would like to contribute again.

Parks & Recreation--

Little League Opening Day- March 23, 11am. It is a little earlier this year than in prior years.

BGSL Opening Day -April 6, waiting for confirmation on the time.

Egg Hunt -March 30<sup>th</sup>, 10am tentative

Tot lot Bench Plaque (friends of Mark Baus). His friends from town would like to donate a bench in honor of Mark's son who died. We already have a lot of benches so she suggests that they donate paint so we can repaint existing benches and then they can put a plaque on one of the benches. If everyone agrees, I will get back to them. Everyone agreed and thought this was a great idea.

VFW rentals are picking up. It is rented on February 22 and 23. The band concert on December 21 went very well. They had no more than eighty people at one time. Mr. Stamato would like to hold it again. John said there were no issues. To comply with the JIF, we have to provide a certified bartender. We will be alternating John Sutch and John Crawford. We will be renewing the soda contract by resolution at council.

Summer Recreation Forms-will be sending forms home by March 8. There will be no refunds this year at all.

#### **Mayor Klaus reported on the following**

MEL/JIF training—if anyone has not attended, please do so. Terry added there are two who have not attended.

CDBG sent the notice regarding changes to the funding cycle. Please review and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.

Little VIP's want to use Room 1 and 2 for meeting on President's Day and for graduation/practice in June. They want to know what we will charge them. We did not charge them in the past because of Barb. Although the business is in Bellmawr, the owners do live in Barrington. After some discussion, it was determined that as long as the Buntings continue to be the owners, they can use the facility for no charge.

Mayor Klaus said we received a sample resolution to require that the State forward the Energy Receipts Tax directly to the municipalities. He asked that the resolution be included on the agenda.

We received a note of appreciation from Jim Tieman, our local radio guy, for supporting them and for providing a location for them to conduct radio operations. They would like to hold another exercise in the future and we are buying tents that can be used for these purposes so they can set up on the field behind Woodland to conduct an exercise.

#### **CFO Denise Moules reported on the following**

Monthly financial reports were provided. Bank balances are included and a final summary of the 2012 budget is also in the package along with full year of police overtime. Court revenue for January was \$8,174.16. Regarding the 2013 budget, the state has not yet reported the dates for introduction and adoption. I will put a schedule together and send out to everyone. Budget info will be to department heads by the end of the month. They will have a few weeks to get their requests back to me and I will set-up the review meetings. We are asking that they meet with their director in advance to review their requests.

In January the White Horse Pike note was due. We received four proposals and the winner was 1<sup>st</sup> Colonial Bank and the interest rate was .849%. Last year was 1.4%. Transaction will close this week. We now have to make a principal payment in addition to the interest and that amount is \$50,000.

The auditor is already here working on the financial statements. We will need to talk about sewer rates. We have not had an increase since 2009 but with the USDA loan, we will need to increase rates. I will have an analysis prepared for the next caucus meeting.

The public portion of the meeting was opened on a motion by Councilwoman Nicholson, second by Councilman DeVecchio.

Mark Correa, 939 Chesterfield Road, had three comments. First, he is the school district liaison for council meetings. He would like more information on the Benecard program to see if they have any interest and have them contact Terry.

Regarding the Summer Rec Program, his program is always that they end two weeks prior to the start of school. Patti responded that yes, it usually ends mid-July. Mark asked if that can be expanded. Maureen said she thinks it is a problem for the district as they are preparing the schools to open.

Mark then added that if there is ever anyway he can help get information out through his Barrington Bulletin, please just let him know. He would be happy to post the information.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Councilwoman Nicholson, second by Councilman DeVecchio, the public portion was closed.

Councilman Ludwig added that we had discussed having our council meetings at 6pm. This works for Tim as he needs to be in Oaklyn by 7pm.

Terry said she was concerned it may be a problem for the public. She asked Mark Correa what he thought and he said he thought 6pm was better because he could come to the meeting prior to going home for the evening. After some discussion, it was decided that caucus meetings will be at 6:30 and council meetings will be at 6:00pm. She will prepare the necessary resolution.

Seeing no further business, on a motion by Councilwoman Bergeron, second by Councilman DeVecchio, the caucus meeting was adjourned at 10:07pm.

Terry Shannon  
Municipal Clerk

Approved: *Terry Shannon*  
Terry Shannon, Municipal Clerk