

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON
CAUCUS MINUTES, MARCH 5, 2013

The meeting was moved into the council room because of the number of residents in attendance and was called to order by Mayor Klaus at 6:45 with a reading of the Sunshine Notice. The Mayor led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk Shannon called roll with the following in attendance: Council President Popiolek, Councilwoman Bergeron, Councilman DelVecchio, Councilwoman Nicholson, Councilman Ludwig and Councilman Robenolt. Also on the dais were Solicitor Tim Higgins and Clerk Shannon. Eileen Holcombe, Secretary to Mayor and Council, Denise Moules, Finance Officer and Engineer Greg Evans were in the audience.

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

The following residents from Hidden Ponds were present to discuss the situation with their pump station: Carol and Rich Nasuti, 5 Ashley Court; Michael Ambrose, 3 Ashley Court; Rich King, 6 Alyse Court; Kevin Shell, 3 Lauren Lane; Harry Busher, 2 Alyse Court; Kathy MacDonald, 2 Ashley Court; Sue Michieli, 4 Ashley Court; Sheila Buckley, 3 Alyse Court; Mike Beebe, 1 Ashley Court; Greg and Melissa Martinac, 6 Ashley Court; Paul Lundholm, 1 Lauren Lane; Maria Crisostomo, 4 Alyse Court; Rita Busher, 2 Alyse Court; Jen Shell, 3 Lauren Lane; Dan Shuster, 5 Alyse Court.

- Carol Sasuti—is the governing body aware of the potential environmental problem we have in town.
- Michael Ambrose—also concerned about the potential environmental issue that will affect the entire town. What are the town representatives able to do to assist?
- Rich King—26 year resident and loves Barrington. We have a potential environmental situation and we have no expertise about pumping stations. Alarms and trucks pumping out the station. Decisions were made before we made settlement-maybe not good decisions. We are not experts—we are just homeowners.
- Kevin Shell—you were elected because we thought you were the best people to do the best things for the residents and we want to see you get reelected. We are all here because we need your help. The alarm at the pump station has been going off continuously. Even the kids are now worried.
- Harry Busher—we have 17 kids in the development. Could become a dangerous and unhealthy situation if the pump clogs and fills with water. Could spill out and go down the storm drain or into Beaver Creek.
- Kathy MacDonald—lived here all my life. Very emotional—I was contacted by Vince Cangelosi at the tail end of the development to work with the builder in getting the homes sold. She attended the planning board meeting the night they got the final approval. It was explained to here that the homeowners association would only be \$100 annually to maintain the grounds around the pump station. She was only given a declarations of covenants for the homeowners association and it was unsigned. Never did she think they were responsible for the pump station itself. Vince and John Kearney put together that document. How it was presented was that when this is turned over to the homeowners, the Borough of Barrington would take over the pump station. We were never told we would be responsible for the pump station. Now it is eight years and the builder is trying to turn it over to us. We were not given any records, plans or anything. We are all scared. We don't have any expertise on this. Mr. Licina said that the Borough said they would take it over when everything was done. We are looking for help.
- Sue Michieli—I was not born and raised here but I love the town and where I live. We are here to ask the governing body for help to resolve this problem.
- Sheila Buckley—I was not born and raised here either but we moved here because friends told us this was a great place to live. For the past six months, however, I have not felt that way.
- Mike Beebe—has been coaching soccer and softball for the past eight years and all the parents put their trust in me. Now we need to put our trust in you to help us out.

- Melissa Martinac—we just moved in two months ago. Her husband and his father both grew up in Barrington. We have two small children and we were so excited to move here. Now I am concerned. We are asking for help.
- Rich Nasuti—lived here since I was seven years old. Father has cancer and plans to move his parents in with them. We are trying to do the right thing and are asking you to do the right thing as well.
- Paul Lundholm—resident for 27 years and coach for 17 years. Proud resident of the town. We are very concerned and really need your help with this.
- Greg Martinac—grew up here and so did my grandparents and great grandparents. We need your help.
- Maria Crisostomo—has lived here for a long time. Taxes are high and I have a disabled husband. We are asking for your help. We cannot afford this.
- Rita Busher—we feel we were sold down the river by our developer with the assistance of members of the Borough at the time. We don't know of anyone else in Barrington who is responsible for maintaining their own sewer pumps. We all pay taxes and want to know why we are being treated differently. Developer has refused to give us any paperwork. We want the Borough to go back and look at the records. We want to know why we are being treated differently. We want the same services that are provided to everyone else.
- Jen Shell—this is so upsetting. All these people are involved in the town. We are just asking for you to re-think whatever you can do to help us. Otherwise people will move out.

At this time Councilman Ludwig said that he spoke to Public Works superintendent and they will be going out there to pump it out so it does not overflow.

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

Mayor Klaus said we will be discussing this issue further. We have reached out to Runnemedede to talk to them. Your sewage goes to Runnemedede—we don't have a system out there. He asked if they have a spokesperson and the group collectively responded they do not. There is no HOA.

Kevin Shell asked if we don't have a system out there, why weren't the homes built with septic systems? Mayor Klaus responded that is the way the developer decided to go. We have nothing to do with that decision. Kevin then asked why we couldn't tell them they had to go another way. Mayor Klaus responded that as this was private property, we could not dictate which way they decided to go. They had approval from Runnemedede to take the sewage and they also had DEP approval. Their thinking was that the homeowners association was going to take it over.

Council President Popiolek asked what they were told the \$100 per year was supposed to cover. The group responded it was for flowers and grass cutting around the pump station and the basin. Councilman Popiolek responded that he is familiar with HOA's and most pay upwards of \$ 150 per month. Rich King responded that these streets are dedicated. Mayor Klaus said that he does not think the streets are dedicated but the Clerk told him there was a resolution accepting the streets.

After more back and forth discussion of the same issue, Mayor Klaus asked the group to appoint a spokesperson and we will meet to discuss what our options are going forward. We do still need to hear back from Runnemedede and we will then schedule a meeting. Councilman Ludwig added that we want to help in any way that we can but we need to look at all of our options.

The meeting in the council room then paused and reconvened at 7:45 in council chambers and continued with regular caucus business.

► DISCUSSION ITEMS

Engineer Greg Evans reported on the following items:

- Camden County Open Space—they are accepting applications. We plan to apply for additional improvements to the amphitheater and Deerr Field. We will send over a resolution and we will keep it broad so it is pretty open.
- Year 35 CDBG funding is anticipated to be \$25,400. We need to submit a project. Mayor Klaus said we want to apply for handicapped improvements at the VFW Senior Center. We should also check to see if the Hidden Ponds area is eligible.
- Municipal Aid application—we anticipate announcement of award later this month.
- Terry then asked about LGP and the curb ramp project. Greg said they met with CDBG and got his wage rates straightened out. He was told he has one last shot. If he does not perform according to the specs, we are kicking him off the job and calling the bond.
- Earmark funding—we got a response from Conrail and are working with the Mayor to try and resolve the lease requirements.
- USDA Program—anticipate receiving a response from them soon. We are compiling the required paperwork from Terry, Denise and Tim for submission. Denise asked is USDA funding could be used for Hidden Ponds and Mayor Klaus and Tim responded they are already discussing that as a possibility and it will be discussed later.
- Pedestrian Improvements at Highland Mercer—wrapping up plans now and will go to County for them to bid.
- Barrington Hills Apartments—was approved by the planning board.
- White Horse Pike Redevelopment—Congressman Andrews is trying to set-up a meeting with DOT, us and the developer to discuss the agreement. The \$200,000 developer's fee has been set by the DOT.
- We are trying to get a breakdown of their costs as the DOT is saying they have incurred \$79,000 in costs already and we want an accounting of those costs.
- DEP Freshwater permit—next week we will submit modified application to permit filling into the wetlands buffer which will eliminate one retaining wall saving about \$350,000. We are hopeful we will get approval.
- Environmental Remediation—Terry said we are soliciting proposals now. One has already come in. Four firms have come in to review the documents. Proposals are due April 8.
- Preliminary and final site plan subdivision—we presented to the PZC in February and it went well so we are hopeful the planning board will approve.
- Wound Healing Solutions—they are now complete and will be sending in a letter requesting release of their performance bond.
- Federal Express—resolving issues with the County. Contacting Conrail weekly to get their schedule for their improvements. Letter will be coming for release of performance bond for site improvements only.

Terry asked if we are releasing the performance bond for Hidden Ponds. Greg said he thought the governing body already took action. Terry said we do not have a maintenance bond. Tim said there are still some issues to work out. There will not be anything for this Tuesday's agenda.

Administration: Terry reported on the following

- Health Benefits—meeting with State Health Benefits Plan on Thursday. Also, the HIF is exploring the possibility of getting out of the Express Scripts contract at the MRHIF level. More info to follow.
- Kessler resignation—Steve agreed to stay on through March. We have received numerous resumes and have narrowed it down to four potential candidates. We will be holding interviews in the next week.
- Rabies Clinic—the rabies clinic has been set for April 27 from 9am-11am. Although the County/State are no longer providing syringes, for this year only the veterinarian's office will provide syringes. Mt. Ephraim will rotate holding of clinics with Barrington so we each only have to do every other year. We will promote the clinics in both towns but the cost will be shared.

- Renewal of SSA with Mt. Ephraim—the SSA with Mt. Ephraim for Clerk services is renewed in March. Mt. Ephraim is approving this Thursday. Resolution to approve will be on our March 12 agenda.
- LSRP to complete Environmental Work on WHP—four firms came in to review all the environmental documentation on the White Horse Pike properties. I received the first official proposal to complete the work today from TTI and their proposal is \$9600. This confirms that the cost for the work will be well below the bid threshold so requesting proposals was appropriate. The deadline for submissions is March 8. Scott Smith and I will review and hopefully we will make award at council.
- Change in Sprint network—Sprint has been replacing the original Nextel network and upgrading the Sprint network to accommodate the formal Nextel network. They originally expected to have the work done by June but got it done ahead of schedule. They have shipped new cell phones for the police department and I will be switching them over in the next week. The direct connect feature which they found so valuable has changed and when we tried their new phones before, they did not like the Sprint direct connect feature as it dropped calls. Sprint now believes they have the problems resolved but we won't know for sure until they begin using the new phones. I stressed this was a very important feature with our Sprint rep and to calm our concerns, they have agreed to let us out of the contract with no penalty if the new phones are not satisfactory, which I have in writing.
- Resolution Opposing A-1196—the JIF has issued a Legislative Alert regarding Assembly bill 1196 (see attached) and asked for support in opposing this legislation. This bill will significantly raise workers compensation costs. It makes it very easy for any emergency responder to claim any illness is work related. The JIF believes it will raise workers comp costs to the tune of four hundred million dollars per year. It puts the burden on the municipality to prove it was not work related which will resort in exorbitant legal costs. If approved, resolution will be on agenda.

Review of action items for the agenda:

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption—

Ord. 998, Amending Chapter 101 Sewers (raises sewer rates)

Resolutions—

Approving a Shared Services Agreement with Mount Ephraim for Clerk Services

Authorizing Submission of the Year 35 CDBG Grant Application

Accepting Proposal from Shropshire for DOT Revisions

Resolution Opposing Assembly Bill A-1196

Mayor Klaus read a notice from the League asking for opposition to Senate bill S-2114 and Assembly bill A-3317 which pre-empts local ordinances requiring the registration of rental units which takes away our CO program. He will email it to everyone and asked that they contact our legislators as soon as possible.

Finance: Denise reported on the following items

Review of bank reports showing current balances; review of appropriations report and negative amounts. We have not over-expended the temporary budget in total so there is no reason for concern. Denise then reviewed the police overtime report and the court revenue. Regarding the budget--she said she has received most of the budget information and is only waiting for a few. She then reviewed the budget meeting schedule with each Director. After some back and forth discussion it was determined that when the meeting schedule is finalized, Denise will email everyone.

The auditors are here to do the full audit and they are set-up upstairs. We expect the audit report will be as glowing as in prior years.

One resolution being added to the agenda—back in May of 2012, we approved an appropriation to pay Bach for the study of the St. Frances property. A balance is left that she would like to cancel off to surplus.

► COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President Popiolek reported on the following:

Department of Community Development--

▪WHP Redevelopment Status/DOT Update--PZC Committee reviewed the project and project is ready to move to the Planning Board for March meeting. He asked everyone to attend if possible.

▪Rich Hill Apartment Project Update/Review--Planning Board unanimously approved the site plan and granted the necessary variance. Thanks to everyone for their hard work and support. Now they have to go to the County Planning Board.

▪1 E. Gloucester Pike--A redeveloper reached out and has some interest in developing a small apartment unit similar to those approved for Harvey's.

▪Roadhouse--Bach Associates will be presenting their findings to the Planning Board and will make a recommendation to consider the property an area of Rehabilitation.

▪Barrington Business Association--Attempting to resurrect and bring into focus the efforts of the BBA Chief Eisenhardt is assisting them with developing a strategic plan.

▪Department of Administration & Finance—as Denise already reported, the budget process has begun. Department Heads will be meeting with their respective directors as well as the budget committee

▪Action Items--Resolution accepting the bid from Shropshire & Associates for the DOT revisions.

Councilwoman Bergeron reported on the following:

▪Health & Seniors—April 19, senior bingo at the Boathouse. April 24 there is a dance at the Bellmawr Ballroom.

▪Fire Department—I attended last month's meeting. They want a new building. They have been having a problem with spiders. She said they need the exhaust system installed. Mayor Klaus said they have a fire suppression system designer coming in to look at the building. Maureen added that they discussed the Haddon Heights fire and the outstanding job that all of public safety did. John said it was a very emotional and long day.

▪Barbara is looking to buy an ID card maker in partner with other towns. The County used to provide them but no longer does. She could sell the service to other towns as needed. We will look into this further.

Mayor Klaus added that Maureen's office is moving from Collingswood to Blackwood.

Councilman DeVecchio reported on the following:

Update on PBA contract negotiations—meeting on Friday at 4pm.

The police sign board was totaled in a hit and run accident on Copley Road. This has been reported to the JIF but the cost is around \$12,000 to replace and we have a \$5,000 deductible. More information to come.

Councilwoman Nicholson

Civic & Community Affairs—

- VFW on March 17 being used for senior breakfast given by the 4th grade at Avon School. Be sure to stop in if you can.
- Women's League - Easter Egg Hunt March 30, 11am
- Earth Day- April 20
- Barrington Day/Independence Day –Recreation Committee meeting March 12, 7pm

Parks & Recreation--

- Little League-Benefit March 9th- Opening Day March 23
- BGSL -Opening Day April 6

Summer Recreation –

- Bob Haas is now summer rec director. He will be great to work with. Registration forms will be out this week at Avon--again NO REFUNDS will be issued

VFW--

- New armed forces decals on windows look great
- Rentals have been slow so if you know of anybody, let them know it is available.

Councilman Ludwig reported on the following:

- I spoke to the AFSCME rep and we will be setting up a meeting to start contract negotiations.
- Had a Green Team meeting last night. Working on bronze certification with the State. Also will be working with the schools on green projects.

Councilwoman Nicholson said Officer Kelly would like to have two dumpsters that would be for used clothing and the proceeds go to the DARE Program. Councilman DeVecchio said the locations are pending and we will get revenue for having the dumpsters in place and may get credit for the recycling tonnage. More information to come.

Councilman Robenolt reported on the following:

- Public Safety – Fire company department has a ladder that failed during annual testing and needs to be replaced. The truck is below the minimum required about of ground ladders and this needs to be resolved. We are the primary ladder company for the Beaverbrook Alliance. It cannot be repaired and needs to be replaced. We are waiting for the price but it needs to be done right away. Denise said it may be able to be capitalized. Wayne will get the pricing information from John so we can discuss further.
- Storage building for Fire Company - trying to get Keith and Tim together on this. Tim said he did get a message from Keith but has not talked to him yet.
- Judicial - Still working on funding issue for public defender, may need to increase fees. Need to meet with the Judge to discuss. Tim said the maximum was set by statute. Wayne said Karen said she thought we had something locally that caps it at \$100. Tim said he does not think so.
- Able - Food distribution on 3/23; sorting and bagging will be on Friday the 22nd.

I would like to get together with Mr. DeVecchio and the Chief regarding anti-idling. Wayne presented a resolution he would like to have passed in support.

•Civic & Community Services Constituents - Boy Scouts, I would like to see if we can assist them with promotion. The troop is dwindling and it looks like they may need some new adult leadership in the near future. I think the Scoutmaster may be stepping down in August. All of the older kids have topped-out. He is trying to help out. They will also be looking for an Eagle Scout project this year.

Mayor Klaus reported that we have some proclamations for the agenda. Autism month, poison control, national donate life, sexual assault awareness and alcohol awareness. After some discussion, it was determined who would read each proclamation.

On a motion by Councilwoman Nicholson, second by Councilman DeVecchio, the public portion of the meeting was opened. Seeing no public in attendance, on a motion by Councilwoman Nicholson, second by Councilman DeVecchio, the public portion was closed.

On a motion by Councilman Popiolek, second by Councilman Ludwig, Resolution 3-2013-30 Authorizing a Closed Session, was approved with the following poll vote: Popiolek-yes; Bergeron-yes; DeVecchio-yes; Nicholson-yes; Ludwig-yes; Robenolt-yes.

On a motion by Councilman Popiolek, second by Councilman Ludwig, the meeting was adjourned to closed session at 9:08pm.

On a motion by Councilman DeVecchio, second by Councilwoman Nicholson, the open meeting was reconvened at 10:07pm.

On a motion by Councilwoman Bergeron, second by Councilman DeVecchio, the meeting was adjourned by 10:07pm.

Terry Shannon
Municipal Clerk