

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON
CAUCUS MINUTES, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

Mayor Klaus called the meeting to order at 6:30pm 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, and Councilman Robenolt. Councilman Ludwig and Councilwoman Nicholson were absent. Also present were CFO Denise Moules, Eileen Holcombe, Secretary to Mayor and Council, Greg Evans, Borough Engineer and Tim Higgins Solicitor.

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

Mayor Klaus asked if there is any public comment. Seeing none, on a motion by Councilman DelVecchio, second by Council President Popiolek, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

Engineer:

Mayor Klaus called for the engineer to give his report. Greg Evans reviewed the monthly report and specifically reported on the following items.

NJDOT Municipal Aid—governing body did select projects and applications will be submitted before the September 20 deadline.

Camden County Open Space—borough did not receive funding but Little League did.

Curb Ramp Improvement Project—LGP contract rescinded and new contract awarded to Curb Con who has already commenced with construction and should be done next week.

Beaver Drive ponding elimination—awarded a contract to Perna and they have also commenced with construction and should be done next week.

2013 Capital—meeting with Mike Ciocco to develop the program. Received a complaint from a resident in the 200 block of Austin relative to the condition of the roadway and we will investigate.

USDA Program—construction plans have been approved and we are finishing up a few administrative items.

Pedestrian Safety on Highland—County has awarded and we will notify you when construction will commence.

White Horse Pike Redevelopment—attended meeting with Commissioner Simpson on August 15 with Kirk and Bill and Tom from Delco. Interesting meeting. Approval date of December 20 was set.

Federal Express—they are working on the paving in the intersection and we anticipate Conrail completing their improvements and getting the signal activated this month.

Greg reported that storm events are increasing. Rainfall is expected to continue to increase. Mike Ciocco has been doing a very good job of documenting events. His staff has been inspecting waterways and inlets for blockages. He did find the pipe beneath Conrail had a large blockage which was cleared.

Mayor Klaus asked if there were any questions for Greg. He also asked Greg if he work that was done on Atlantic Avenue impacts our drainage problems. Greg said if you look at the Paul's Trophy side, there is enough difference in elevation that it could impact the drainage on Erie and they will look into it. They will check with the County as to the details of the project.

Administration: Terry reported on the following

Shared Service Agreement with BOE—the SSA with the Board of Education needs to be renewed. Sam Dutkin sent over the agreement language. Our share of her salary for the July 1-June 30 fiscal year is \$15,769.50 plus benefits and taxes. We split the cost of Linda Razzi right down the middle for janitorial services.

Animal licensing—as you already know, we had purchased a mailing list of residents who regularly purchase pet supplies. On August 19, the letters went out notifying residents that they had to come in for a pet license. This has been very successful. After the rabies clinic, we had issued a total of 249 dog licenses. After this last mailing, we are now up to 511 licenses so far and more are coming in this week. This is the most licenses we have ever issued. That is more than \$3000 in additional revenue and since the mailing list only cost \$150, it was a very good investment. I would like to go door-to-door with the remaining folks who were on the list but have not come in. We just need to figure out the best way to accomplish this.

ID card machine—as previously discussed, Barb purchased an ID card machine that will be used by Ambulance, Fire, Police and Administration. They wanted to purchase a laptop that would be dedicated just to the ID card machine but we have one in inventory that used to be on the Mayor's desk. I removed all the files from the laptop but it still needs to be cleaned to make sure all data is gone and users removed. Rick Rettinger from the Fire Department is going to go through it and make sure it is cleared before we turn it over to the Ambulance Squad. Representatives from each department are going to be trained in operation of the ID card machine.

JIF Renewal—the 2014 JIF renewal was completed and submitted. Now we wait to see what the 2014 rates look like. We are having a very good year so there should be no reason for a substantial increase.

League convention—the deadline for me to register attendees at the Convention is October 1. So far I have not heard back from anyone other than Kristy. I need to know who plans to attend the Convention. The dates are November 19-21. Mayor Klaus, Councilwoman Bergeron and Councilman DeVecchio all confirmed they will be attending.

LSRP for the White Horse Pike project—Scott Smith and I started the process to secure an LSRP for the environmental work that needs to be done for the White Horse Pike project back in March. We received the first round of proposals, then provided each firm with copies of all the work and reports that had been done by ENR so they could submit revised proposals. It is our opinion that Current Environmental has the best understanding of the work needed and we are recommending award of the contract to Curren.

Sage and Morpho maintenance agreement—Chief Roberts reports that some years ago, Sage and Morpho had given all police departments fingerprinting equipment with the understanding that eventually we would have to start paying for maintenance agreements. The agreement is \$2600 which had not been included in the original budget. Mayor Klaus asked if we are routinely using the equipment. Councilman DeVecchio said he will discuss this with Chief Roberts.

Chief Roberts has also requested a subscription to Spokeo.com which is a reverse directory that allows you to look up the owners of websites. Terry was concerned about the legality of such a website and

wanted Tim to take a look at it. It allows you to do a search by email address. The cost is about \$4 per month. Tim asked that we hold off until he gets a chance to discuss with Dave.

Council Agenda Review: Terry reviewed the following

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption—

- Ord. 1009 Authorizing purchase of Duckrey property
- Ord. 1010 Authorizing purchase of property from 111 LLC

Resolutions—

- Approving the September Bill List
- Purchase of the Bus from Runnemede
- Approving the Shared Service Agreement with Board of Ed
- Awarding a Contract to Curren for LSRP services

Finance: Denise reported on the following items

The standard reports are attached for your review. Bank balances are high because we have not yet paid the school. Sewer capital reflects the funding for the USDA project.

Police overtime for August was almost \$12,000. That is attributed to Andy and Dave being out. There were 207 hours of overtime. 16 hours of that was from the MIT's. Revenue submitted by court shows we need to collect \$36,000 for the remainder of the year to hit what was budgeted. That is unlikely as it is \$9000 per month so we will be looking at budget cancellations. We did get more revenue from FEMA because they went from 75% to 90% reimbursement which meant an additional \$3000 for us which helps. All of the controls are within limits and she listed on the front page the accounts that are close to being over-expended.

We received information from Standard and Poors that they were reviewing our bond rating and we stayed A+ stable which is good for a municipality of this size. They did so under the premise that our fund balance will be stable next year.

We talked about starting budget meetings earlier that last year so we still need to develop that schedule. Council President Popiolek asked how much court revenue we anticipate not generating compared to last year. Denise said if they continue on trend, we will be down about \$16,000. Wayne asked about doing some other things to try to improve collections. Tim said there are limited things you can do. He knows Karen was working on some ideas but does not know the status. Wayne said he would follow-up with Karen.

► COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President Popiolek:

We did meet with DOT and after much discussion, they have agreed to have approvals to us by December 20. We asked for an accounting of the money spent from the developer fees and they said we don't have a right to know that. Tim said he believes Delco filed an OPRA request to get the information. There was a lot of back and forth regarding the delays but the bottom line is if they stick to the December 20 approval date, we will be ready to move forward. The redeveloper has spent a lot of money so far and any more delays really causes a problem.

Tim said they had the commissioner's meeting regarding the Shiv property and it went very well. We anticipate a ruling very shortly. We don't think it will be much higher than our \$71,000 projection. Apparently he believes he is going to have a substantial loss of business but there is no evidence to support that. The only other property still to be resolved in the car wash property and the owner is being very difficult. We offered her \$368,000 for a worthless piece of land and she wants \$585,000. It is our intention to shrink the amount of land that we need. The appraiser is working on the appraisal.

Kirk reported that Rich Hill applied for his demolition permit. John Z needs the asbestos certification before he issues the permit. Tim said he also has not signed the redeveloper's agreement. Tim told him that if he does not sign the agreement, the approvals he got are void.

9/11 Memorial—we put an ad in Barrington on Track but received no responses. We will discuss with the economic development team and maybe we can get it moving. Wayne asked if we have any designs on paper and Kirk said not yet but we want a water element.

He asked everyone to start thinking about the Roadhouse property. It was sold at sheriff sale. He thinks town homes would work there.

Budget—start talking to your department heads. We would like to start budget talks by next month.

Councilwoman Bergeron:

We met with the folks interested in T-N-R and discussed how we can make the program work and what the benefits are. First we needed enough volunteers and we have about eight. The next thing we needed to decide was where to put the colony. However, when we had experts come in to speak, they said we should put the cats back where we found them. One of the things they brought to our attention is that our ordinance is outdated. In order to make the program work, the people who are feeding cats need to not be afraid to come forward and help. They suggest we amend our ordinance so it does not limit cats to three. She would like to amend the ordinance to eliminate the pet limit. Wayne asked how removing the limit helps with stray cats. Mayor Klaus said he understands what she is saying—you want the people who have multiple cats to help with the program but they are afraid we will charge them for exceeding the ordinance. Maureen added that we need to hold a public hearing to educate the public about this program. Mayor Klaus said he thought a public hearing was a great idea. Maureen said we will have a booth at the Harvest Fest to advertise the public meeting and we will schedule it for later in October.

Councilman DeVecchio reported on the following:

MIT's were this month and total tickets for this month should be around 195. The MIT overtime was 16 hours but some of that comes back from the state. This Friday they are having a DWI checkpoint by the Roadhouse. They will be out there from 10pm-3am.

Councilman Robenolt reported on the following:

He will follow-up with Karen regarding programs to improve collections. Mayor Klaus asked if any decision have been made regarding the metal detectors. Wayne said he did speak with the Chief and right now there is no budget allowance for the expense but he is looking into options.

Mayor Klaus reported on the following:

Received a traffic impact notice from DOT regarding the White Horse Pike project which will begin August 30 and will extend from Grove Street in Haddon Heights all the way through to Lindenwold.

Shop Rite will host a "Help Bag Hunger" event on Wednesday, September 18, from 10am-11am at the store to raise awareness about local hunger and Food Banks.

The next Historical Society meeting will be September 15 at 2:30 and they will have a program on treasure hunting. Rich Faunce and others will talk about their adventures in metal detecting.

Terry asked the Mayor if he wants to appoint Steve DePierri to the planning board and he said yes. She will include on the agenda.

On a motion by Councilwoman Bergeron, second by Council President Popiolek, the public portion was opened. Seeing no public in attendance, on a motion by Councilman DelVecchio, second by Councilman Robenolt, the public portion was closed.

Seeing no further business, on a motion by Council President Popiolek, second by Councilwoman Bergeron, the caucus meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

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