

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON
CAUCUS MINUTES, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2014

Mayor Klaus called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with the reading of the Sunshine Statement. He then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called roll with the following present: Council President Kirk Popiolek, Councilwoman Maureen Bergeron, Councilman Wayne Robenolt and Councilwoman Nicholson. Councilman Shawn Ludwig will be absent and Councilman DelVecchio has not yet arrived (arrived at 6:22). Also present were CFO Denise Moules, Eileen Holcombe, Secretary to Mayor and Council, Municipal Clerk Terry Shannon, Solicitor Paul Gilligan (sitting-in for Tim Higgins) and Engineer Greg Evans.

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

Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Councilwoman Bergeron, second by Council President Popiolek, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

Engineer: Greg Evans reported on the following

Action items—Greg reported they submitted Voucher and Change Order No. 2 for RTW Construction. Also submitted were Voucher and Change Order No. 1 for Road Safety Systems-the Shreve Avenue Guide Rail project and Voucher and Change Order No. 1 (Final) for Bud Concrete on the VFW sidewalk project.

We are recommending rejection of the bids for Kent Avenue and Commerce Drive. You had previously rejected the first round of bids and the second round of bids still exceeded available funding. Our recommendation is that we re-bid this in the spring in the hopes of getting better pricing.

Not on the agenda is our authorization to release the Hidden Ponds maintenance bond. Their attorney had sent Tim a request for release which we approved and will be on your agenda tonight. Terry asked why it has to be approved tonight and Greg explained that if not release, they will have to pay for a new bond.

Greg then reviewed the Engineer's report and highlighted the following:

Streetscape Project—Mayor just signed the letter requesting that the available earmark funding be transferred to the Streetscape project. This was the letter that DOT requested we submit.

Sanitary sewer project—we had notified everyone that project was starting next week on Thomas but it has been delayed as PSE&G is coming in to replace their main on Thomas Avenue. Terry asked when final surface course is being done on Kingston and Greg said in about two weeks, weather permitting.

Gloucester Pike roadway lighting—will be sending letter to PSE&G tomorrow to install two more lights. Mayor Klaus asked Greg to copy Mike Albano. Terry said that Mike Ciocco sent out a memo today stating that the new owner of the Roadhouse asked for street lights in front of his building. Mike confirmed that it is dark there. PSE&G will install the poles for free and it will add \$24.50 per month to our street lighting bill. Mayor Klaus said there are some issues with the new owner that need to be resolved. He is not allowing use of the parking lot by parents who are attending baseball and soccer games at Deerr Field. We will table this for now until we have a chance to discuss further.

Councilman DelVecchio arrived at 6:22pm.

White Horse Pike Redevelopment—awesome ground breaking. Pre-construction meeting will be this Thursday with Delco's contractor. They are looking to start on site improvements first then moving out to the White Horse Pike improvements. A&E is their general contractor and Winzinger is doing the construction.

Carpet One site improvements—there is a new contractor who was hired to complete the project. We should be meeting with them shortly. The contractor was hired by the bank. John Z will also attend. We will report an update next month.

Mayor Klaus asked if there are any questions for Greg. Council President asked about Carpet One—is Steve Izzi out of the picture? Greg said that since the bank has taken over, it appears he is. Seeing no further questions for Greg, this concluded the engineer's report and Greg left the meeting.

Administration: Clerk Terry Shannon reported on the following

Page Avenue parking restriction and Austin/Moore stop intersection—public hearing and adoption of these ordinances will be on the council agenda.

Camden County Hazard Mitigation Project—we held the Round 2 meeting and they prepared a draft plan which the group reviewed. They are making some changes based on our review and will resubmit a final draft to be reviewed at the Round 3 meeting which will hopefully be the last.

Property Maintenance Lien on A&B Restoration—back in 2012, Sam Ross completed a huge cleanup on this property which was quoted to Public Works at \$7000. The deal was he would get paid when we get paid. This property is in foreclosure so we need to approve the lien and pay SAR so we can include the lien in the foreclosure settlement action.

Fair and Open Appointments—the resolution authorizing selection of professionals under a Fair and Open Criteria will be on the council agenda. Timing will be that proposals will be due prior to the December caucus meeting.

Release of Hidden Ponds Maintenance bond—KEI has authorized release of the maintenance bond posted by Hidden Ponds in 2012 and as requested that it be approved at this meeting. Resolution is on this agenda as action item.

Rabinowitz Settlement—as you already know, the Rabinowitz' brought suit against us claiming that the foreclosure we did on their properties ten years ago was done incorrectly in that it did not include all three lots. Tim has been handling this and all parties have agreed to a settlement of \$30,000. A resolution authorizing the settlement is on this agenda as an action item and Paul will discuss further in closed session.

Chicken coops—we have become aware that the resident at 719 Newton Avenue (Gilosa) have chicken coops and are raising chickens. This is a violation of our ordinance. I will be sending them a letter accordingly. We can expect to hear about this more as it is becoming popular to have backyard chickens--we may have people at council about this.

Animal ordinance—I attended a summit conducted by Sustainable Jersey on Animals in the Community that was very informative and will talk about possible amendments to our animal ordinance. Their focus was on licensing and that municipalities are not even capturing 20% of the animals in our community. They said that ordinances should not be punitive—you want to encourage people to come in for their licenses. If you limit the number of pets, that stops people from coming in for any licenses at all. I obtained sample ordinances that they recommend be considered and I would like to review and present

you a comprehensive ordinance for your consideration. This would also get us points with Sustainable Jersey. Mayor Klaus said there is no reason why we can't try another way and we would be interested in considering alternatives.

MedExpress and urgent care facilities—MedExpress and the Cooper Urgent Care facilities have been approved as an urgent care alternative for workers comp and for healthcare services. Employees can use these facilities for only their \$5.00 co-pay and we can also use them for worker's comp injuries. We are in the process of negotiating with them for employment physical screening.

HGACBuy purchasing cooperative—the fire company wants to enter into an agreement to use the HGACBuy Purchasing Cooperative to buy a ladder truck. This is a co-op out of Houston-Galveston, TX, that has been approved for use by the State of New Jersey and offers the best pricing for fire trucks. This resolution just allows us to use the co-op. It does not commit us to a purchase. The fire company is getting all their numbers together and will make a presentation at the next meeting about the truck they want to purchase and the money that can be saved by buying from this co-op.

Council Agenda Review: Terry reviewed the following items that will be on the agenda

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption—

- Ord. 1026 Amending Chapter 120, Vehicles & Traffic (stop signs at Austin & Moore)
- Ord. 1028 Amending Chapter 120, Vehicles & Traffic (Page Ave parking)

Resolutions—

- Change Order No. 2—Sanitary Sewer Project
- Change Order No. 1—Road Safety Systems
- Change Order No. 1-Final—Bud Concrete
- Authorizing Release of Hidden Ponds Performance Bond (will be done tonight)
- Property Maintenance Lien—A&B Restoration
- Chapter 159 for grant received
- Authorizing Advertisement for RFQ's under Fair and Open Criteria
- Appointing a Financial Consultant for Continuing Disclosure Compliance
- Rejecting the bids for the 2014 Road Program
- November bill list

Denise added that she will have a resolution for budget transfers.

Finance: CFO Denise Moules reported on the following items

Denise reviewed the standard monthly reports including budget status and bank balances. All of the control accounts are in the black. There are a couple of budgets that are over-expended but will be handled with budget transfers. There may be more transfers in December but overall everything looks good. The police overtime dropped in October even with the Harvest Festival. The revenue from the shared court is included. It was over what was estimated and we still have two more months to collect.

I am working on getting the 2015 budget spreadsheets out to the department heads this month and have them due back by the end of December. I will set-up meetings to discuss by the end of January and hopefully have a budget review at the February caucus meeting with introduction targeted for March which would be in compliance with the Best Practices.

We got two proposals from prospective financial consultants for the continuing disclosure requirements. The two are Phoenix and Acacia. They are both similar. They will review our filings and look back five years to be sure we are in compliance. Because we just went through permanent financing, we do not

expect them to find anything significant. The pricing seems more stable with Phoenix as they give a maximum. We are recommending we approve a resolution appoint Phoenix Advisors to handle this for this year and include this position in the Fair and Open process for next year.

Regarding the Chapter 159 resolution, the Chief applied for the Drive Sober grant program for December. This is where the state reimburses us \$50 per hour for police overtime. Any officer who works the program and has a higher rate than \$50 will hit overtime in the budget. The Chief has not received approval yet but if he does, the Chapter 159 resolution will be on the agenda.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilwoman Nicholson reported that the fire parade is November 28 at 7pm and the tree lighting is at 6:30. Santa will be there too. The Wish tree will be at Angelica's and letters are going through the schools next week. Mayor Klaus asked if there will be a Lunch with Santa and Patti said she did not know at this time but will find out. Terry said Bill Patton was asking so he can include in Barrington on Track which is just about done. Patti said she will find out for sure and let us know tomorrow.

There was some discussion about purchasing new decorations. Councilwoman Nicholson said she needs to see how much it would cost and what is available. Eileen said she really likes the decorations in Haddon Township and Patti said she can take the lead and look into purchasing new decorations. Denise said because we did not have a July 4 parade, there are funds available. It was suggested we look at a Seasons Greetings sign for in front of borough hall and something for across Clements Bridge Road. Denise said she will let Eileen know how much is available to spend. Terry said we will also let Public Works know to really load the tree out front with lights.

Councilman Robenolt reported the Green Team met with representatives from Woodland School. We are working a Green Fair in conjunction with a science fair in April. It will potentially draw the parents out to see our vendors.

Councilman DeVecchio reported he is sorry he has not been around due to his new job. He congratulated Kirk on the Wawa ground breaking. Next month will be his last month and he will make his farewell speech.

Councilwoman Bergeron reported she has nothing to report at this time.

Council President Popiolek reported he was very happy with the ground breaking. The redeveloper said it was one of the best he has been at. He was glad to see our employees, our vendors and professionals in attendance. This project took a lot of hard work and time but it is an exciting beginning for our town. Wawa is just as excited to be there as we are to have them. Councilman DeVecchio asked how many jobs it will bring and Kirk said it is anticipated to generate between 50 and 60 jobs.

Mayor Klaus reported we got a letter from Delco Development and read the letter in its entirety. The letter talked about how difficult this project was and how important it was to stay the course. This project had many obstacles to be overcome and without Kirk, Tim Higgins and Mayor and Council, this project would not have come to fruition. We have developed many parcels throughout South Jersey and no other town has been as cooperative as Barrington. Kudos to Kirk and everybody.

Mayor Klaus then said he and Kirk met with a representative from CUC, the new company on Clements Bridge Road, regarding energy aggregation for the entire town. They want to come in December to caucus to introduce themselves. He also said they own the corner at 1 E. Gloucester Pike and will need some of the property for parking but would like to donate the portion they don't need to the town. Mayor Klaus has the idea that we duplicate the opposite corner in front of Rite Aid. There was some discussion about a digital sign that lists town information. This will be discussed more in the future.

There was an ABLE meeting on October 28. We need help getting ready for the next distribution and gave the dates and times for the next get-togethers to get the bags ready.

Eileen asked everyone to let her know if the regular monthly meetings will be held in December. Also, the giving tree is at the end of the hallway.

Seeing no further public business to be discussed, on a motion by Councilwoman Nicholson, second by Councilman Robenolt, the meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:33pm.

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