

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON
MINUTES OF MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
February 9, 2016 at 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL ROOM AT MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A regular monthly Council Meeting of the Borough of Barrington was held on February 9, 2016, at 6:00 pm in the Council Room at the Barrington Municipal Building, with Mayor Klaus presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Klaus called the meeting to order with the following statement: "This meeting is held in compliance with Chapter 231 of the open public meetings act of 1975 and appropriate notice has been given. Notice of the meeting was filed with the Retrospect and Courier Post and is also posted in the main office of the Borough Clerk where notices are primarily kept. He then led the salute to the flag of our country and thanked all for coming out tonight.

ROLL CALL: The Municipal Clerk called roll of Council with the following present:

Ludwig	- absent	Popiolek	- yes
Nicholson	- yes	Bergeron	- yes
Robenolt	- yes	Rink	- yes

Also on dais: Municipal Clerk Terry Shannon and Borough Solicitor, Timothy Higgins, Esq.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Klaus noted that Council was provided with a copy of the printed minutes of the January 5, 2016, Caucus meeting; January 3, 2016 Reorganization meeting and the January 12, 2016, Council meeting and asked if there were any corrections. Seeing none, on a Motion by Robenolt and Bergeron, the minutes were approved as submitted by all members of Council present.

MOTION WAS CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS: The Municipal Clerk read a summary of the January, 2016, monthly reports as submitted by Chief Dave Roberts for Police; Chief Barbara Willson for Ambulance/EMS; Fire Official Steve DePierri for Regional Fire Alliance; Superintendent Michael J. Ciocco for Department of Public Works; John Szczerbinski for Construction; Tax Collector Kristy Emmett for Tax and Sewer Collections; and Court Administrator Catherine Lawson for Municipal Court.

On a Motion by Popiolek and Rink, the monthly reports were approved as submitted by all members of Council present.

MOTION IS CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS-ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION:

The Municipal Clerk stated that the following ordinances are for public hearing and adoption:

ORDINANCE NO. 1045: ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACCEPTING A CERTAIN THOROUGHFARE AS A DEDICATED STREET IN THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 1046: ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 120, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON

On a Motion by Popiolek and Bergeron the second reading of the ordinances was approved with the following poll vote:

Ludwig	- absent	Popiolek	- yes
Nicholson	- yes	Bergeron	- yes
Robenolt	- yes	Rink	- yes

On a Motion by Popiolek and Nicholson the public hearing on the above Ordinances was opened.

Seeing no comments from the public, on a Motion by Rink and Robenolt the public hearing on the above Ordinances was closed.

On a Motion by Popiolek and Bergeron the ordinances were adopted with the following poll vote:

Ludwig	- absent	Popiolek	- yes
Nicholson	- yes	Bergeron	- yes
Robenolt	- yes	Rink	- yes

ORDINANCES ADOPTED

NEW BUSINESS--ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION ON FIRST READING: The Municipal Clerk stated that the following ordinances are for introduction on first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 1047: AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1040 OF THE BOROUGH BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A REVISED FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH A LONG TERM TAX EXEMPTION AND PILOT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON AND BARRINGTON REDEVELOPMENT URBAN RENEWAL LLC, PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:20-9 ET SEQ., AND ITS INCLUSION AS EXHIBIT C OF ORDINANCE NO. 1040

ORDINANCE 1048: AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION FOR PROPERTY REVALUATION AND REASSESSMENT

ORDINANCE NO. 1049: ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 120, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON

On a Motion by Rink and Bergeron the Ordinances as read were approved with the following poll vote:

Ludwig	- absent	Popiolek	- yes
Nicholson	- yes	Bergeron	- yes
Robenolt	- yes	Rink	- yes

Mayor Klaus announced that the public hearing on above ordinances will be held during the March 8th council meeting following proper advertising and a public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS--RESOLUTIONS: The Municipal Clerk advised that she would read the following Resolutions by title, one after another, and Council will have the opportunity to vote as a Consent Agenda at the end of the reading:

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2016-27: AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOLUTIONS, INC., FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE STREETScape PROJECT FEDERAL AID PROJECT

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2016-28: REJECTING QUOTES RECEIVED FOR A VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2016-29: AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS OF 2015 BUDGET RESERVES

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2016-30: REQUESTING APPROVAL FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A DEDICATED TRUST BY RIDER

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2016-31: AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH ASSESSOR TO PERFORM THE 2016 PROPERTY REASSESSMENT IN BARRINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2016-32: PROVIDING APPROVAL OF SANITARY SEWER CONNECTION FOR 3630 DAVIS ROAD IN RUNNEMEDE

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2016-33: PROVIDING APPROVAL OF SANITARY SEWER CONNECTION FOR 68 E. GLOUCESTER PIKE

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2016-34: APPROVING THE NOVEMBER BILL LIST – TOTAL \$ 4,550,408.00

On a Motion by Popiolek and Nicholson, the Resolutions as read were approved with the following poll vote:

Ludwig	- absent	Popiolek	- yes
Nicholson	- yes	Bergeron	- yes
Robenolt	- yes	Rink	- yes

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY:

COUNCILMAN RINK – nothing to report this evening

COUNCILWOMAN BERGERON – Good evening. The Councilwoman met with the Mews property management and property maintenance person to discuss issues and complaints we are having from the Borough and the Camden County Health Department. They are willing to cooperate and they are working hard to clean up the Mews; they gave her a tour showing that carpets were replaced and they are painting to make it look nice. They gave her their contact information should she need to reach them for any reason. If there are any additional issues the Councilwoman has a direct link to try to resolve the issues and make it a place where our seniors will want to live. Mayor Klaus asked the Police Chief to be sure he got the information from the Councilwoman.

COUNCILMAN LUDWIG – absent

COUNCILWOMAN NICHOLSON – Good evening. Nothing much to report at this time. Good job DPW on snow removal during the last storm. Have a good night.

COUNCILMAN ROBENOLT – Good evening and thanks for coming out. It's been quiet in our town, be safe and have a good evening.

COUNCILMAN POPIOLEK – welcome to our February meeting. Good job DPW on snow removal. The Council President asked how the brining went and DPW Superintendent Mike Ciocco said it went very well; they also brined sidewalks due to the storm expected tonight. The Council President spoke about the reassessment on the agenda tonight. Reassessment was completed a few years ago as required to by the County and State. Before we were under assessed, now we have the opposite, our properties are over assessed. Last year our tax office got bombarded with tax appeals. It takes time and energy to defend it and stress on the tax payer; the end result always cost the municipality more because we have to adjust our tax rate and refund part of the school and county as well; that is not reimbursable by those agencies. It's in everyone's best interest that we try to keep our valuation at a respectable level. Over this year, for the 2017 tax bill, our assessor and his team will do a very thorough reevaluation. They must enter at least 50% of the dwellings and businesses in the municipality; it won't just be a postcard. It's in everyone's best interest as a community to cooperate with the field inspectors. They are not out to fine you for anything, but if you finished a basement without a permit, they will need to adjust that. Also take into consideration that when someone doesn't let the inspector in they may, as an example, have a very nice exterior but the inside may be very dated. If you don't let them in they won't know that and could use the best case scenario that if the outside looks great the inside is to die for and you could be over assessed. Please cooperate, we will provide more information as the time gets closer. We are close to naming a restaurant on the White Horse Pike. Our redeveloper is working

with one particular restaurateur; they are ironing out their lease agreement. Hopefully by summer we will all be dining in fine cuisine.

MAYOR KLAUS – regarding permits there has been a lot of work done in homes in town that has not been permitted. When you go to sell or rent your home those items will be taken into consideration. We are also working on all the abandoned homes in town to see what we can do as far as the worst of the worst to be taken care of through a new state law, we will see what happens with that. The next Centennial meeting is Wednesday, February 17, at 6 pm in the Senior Center. The reassessment is very important in order to bring the tax rate where it needs to be. We had an enormous amount of appeals the last three years and it hurt us quite a bit. Mayor Klaus thanked Dr. Kennedy of the BBA for being in attendance tonight; please see her if you have any questions. With the White Horse Pike we had a bit of a dilemma with some resistance from the CCMUA as far as what they would charge the new restaurant. It has been a big deal financially; this is part of the holdup. Thank you all for coming out tonight.

PUBLIC PORTION: Mayor Klaus advised that if you have comments or questions to come forward and state your name and address for the record. Public comment is limited to five minutes per person. On a motion by Nicholson and Bergeron the public portion of the meeting was opened.

Melissa Murphy of 311 Copley, requested a follow up on speeding on Copley Road. The Chief advised that he has 1/3 of the required data; information from the 300 block has been forwarded; will move speed counter closer to Mercer. When all the information is gathered the Governing Body will arrange a meeting. Mayor advised that Freeholder Susan Shin Angulo and Sam Martello, Superintendent of the County DPW, would also attend and the residents on Copley will be invited to attend. He advised that the process moves slowly because we need all the information to send to the county. There have been several recommendations as to what they can do to slow the traffic down some; all of that will be discussed at the meeting.

Paul Gross, 346 Tavistock Blvd, said the tax appeals were caused by the company that did the appraisals the last time and he thinks they should give the money back; Mr. Gross doesn't know of any houses in his neighborhood that have sold for more than the appraisal received in 2009. The Mayor advised we cannot do that but since then we have made several changes in our tax structure not only with the percentage rate but with personnel. Mr. Gross also spoke about the speeding on Copley and said speed bumps would help. Mayor advised that the Borough cannot put in speed humps because it is a county road.

Diane Schreyer, 212 Nassau Dr. S, said property is over assessed, how will assessor handle that? Council President Popiolek advised that the assessor will bring the value down to present market value. Municipal Clerk Terry Shannon said it is important to understand that the entire town is not 107% over assessed. The houses that have sold within the past year, when they look at what they are selling for compared to what they are assessed at, they are assessed at 107% of what they are selling for on average. That is where that figure comes from; it doesn't mean that every house in town is 107% over. The Council President advised that on the last assessment the commercial properties got hit harder than a lot of the residential properties. Ms. Schreyer asked who the assessor is and was advised it is Brian Schneider; he is a resident and taxpayer himself. Council President said the process starts this year for the 2017 taxes. He asked that if anyone feels the need to appeal their taxes please hold off until after the reevaluation.

With no further comments from the public, on a motion by Rink and Popiolek, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

With no further business to be transacted, on a motion by Bergeron and Popiolek the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm.

APPROVED: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Municipal Clerk