

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON
CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES, Tuesday, June 8, 2016

Mayor Klaus called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with the reading of the Sunshine Statement. He led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called roll with the following present:

Councilwoman Bergeron, Councilman Rink, Councilwoman Nicholson and Councilman Robenolt. Councilman Ludwig was absent and Council President Popiolek had not yet arrived. Also present were Solicitor Tim Higgins, Secretary Eileen Holcombe and Clerk Terry Shannon.

First Public Portion—on a motion by Councilwoman Nicholson, second by Councilwoman Bergeron, the public portion of the meeting was opened. Present was Jennifer Milligan of Lawrence Avenue was present to talk about the Local Ladies Social Network, Inc., her organization that promotes local businesses. They would like to have a spring festival similar to the Harvest Fest as an alternative to Barrington Day. She has suggested this to the BBA and they are interested. They would handle all advertising and permits so there is no cost to the town. They would also like to be involved in the Centennial celebration. It would be free to BBA members and outside vendors would pay a fee to help defray permit and advertising costs. Councilwoman Nicholson asked if they would consider something smaller rather than closing Clements Bridge Road. Milligan said they were hoping to make it a large scale event. Councilwoman Bergeron expressed concern about the cost for police and public works. Councilwoman Nicholson said we will discuss it and get back to her and thanked her for coming out.

Gary Glaser of Newton Avenue spoke about the safety issues on Newton Avenue. He sees constant speeding and added that he was assaulted a couple of weeks ago for yelling at a driver who came back around and confronted him. Drivers blow right through the stop sign. Action needs to be taken. Signage is not the answer. Even the school buses speed and so do the teachers. Councilman Robenolt said last time we did a survey regarding speed humps the majority of the residents did not want one. Glaser suggested we do another survey as he believes there are enough residents who are concerned about the speeding that it would be approved. Councilman Robenolt and Mayor Klaus added that we will talk to the Chief to see what can be done.

Frank Lafferty of 16 Moore Avenue asked about the intersection of Moore and Clements Bridge and Mayor Klaus responded we are going to request that it be striped as part of the Clements Bridge Road project. Councilman Robenolt added that we need to do a “don’t block the box” ordinance in conjunction with the striping and also down as Shreve. Lafferty’s second question was about the top block of Trenton Avenue being one-way now that the church is closed. Engineer Greg Evans explained it has to remain one way because of the alignment of the roadways at that intersection and the location of the Rite Aid driveway and juxtaposition to Willmont.

John Hennessey of Woodland Avenue added his comments to Gary Glaser’s concerns about the speeding on Newton and Woodland. We need to communicate with the whole community about this and what the penalties are. We also need to step up enforcement because there is no fear of getting a ticket. There also needs to be a communication campaign with all the employees at Woodland School. We need to create a handout that goes to all involved and explain that it is about the safety of our kids. Get the students involved as well. He said he was willing to devote time and effort to the project. We need to do this in a positive way to accomplish the goal. Mayor Klaus asked Mr. Hennessey to leave his contact information so we can reach him. Everyone thanked him for coming out.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Robenolt and Rink, the public portion was closed.

Engineer’s Report

Engineer Greg Evans reported the following action item for the council agenda:

Introduction of the revised flood damage prevention ordinance pursuant to the letter received from NJDEP. They prepared the amended ordinance and are expecting DEP approval in the next couple of days. They also expect to submit the voucher and change order for the video surveillance system. Also the voucher and change order for the sanitary sewer system lateral project.

Evans then reported there is a meeting scheduled for the 14th at Wish Upon a Star playground with the Open Space committee. He asked Councilwoman Nicholson to attend. They understand this is a multi-year project.

Evans then reviewed the monthly Engineer's report and the following are the highlights:

Copley Road traffic calming measures including the 25mph markings have been done. The residents are happy that the improvements are moving along. More striping will be done next week and we are looking at bump-outs at Chesterfield and Mercer.

Safe Routes to Schools—due the 27th of this month and we will be applying for Copley Road improvements as discussed.

Municipal Aid 2016—we anticipate receiving bids for consideration at the July meeting.

Preconstruction meeting for Streetscape project is tomorrow. Contractor will start work in time to piggyback onto the County project. Our contractor will be doing the concrete work for the County as well.

USDA projects—looking at slip-lining the main from Lott to Cleveland under the turnpike. Mike Ciocco has been working with a company to possibly purchase the equipment to do the work ourselves and it will allow us to do our own slip-lining in the future. Councilman Robenolt said Runnemedede has expressed interest in working together on this project. Evans said the company we are talking to is Perma-Liner.

Village of Haddonfield Chesterfield Road drainage—Mr. Correa has submitted another complaint to Mike Ciocco and the PZC committee will be discussing this further.

Carpet One—they have made some improvements and are hopefully on track to get the project finished.

Administration

Clerk Shannon reported on the following items:

VFW Building—we will be getting an estimate from MD Remodeling who is doing the restroom project to do drywall and eliminate the window spaces. Also the bar area needs a thorough cleaning and Mike Ciocco is getting pricing from companies that specialize in bar maintenance.

A recent statute was adopted that requires us to accept background checks for solicitors if they were done within the next six months. We need to amend our ordinance to match the statute.

The field work for the reassessment program will be starting soon. They will be wearing ID badges.

We will be approving the shared service agreement with Camden County relative to the Streetscape project. Higgins and Evans will be reviewing the language.

The liquor licenses will be on the agenda for renewal. Also approval of the contracts for the July 4th vendors. Councilwoman Nicholson said use the list from last year and if there are any changes, she will advise.

Shannon then reviewed the items for the ordinances and resolutions that will be on the council agenda.

Council President Popiolek arrived at the meeting at 6:55pm.

Finance:

CFO Moules reported on the following items:

Review of standard financial reports including budget status, cash balances and overtime.

The user friendly budget was submitted and the audit interview is scheduled for next week.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilwoman Nicholson reported July 1 is parade and fireworks. Rain date is July 2. Runnemedede has agreed to contribute and waiting to hear from Bellmawr. Same vendors as last year. Barrington Day was moved to Sunday due to rain. We need suggestions for parade marshal.

Councilman Robenolt reported that we have pending promotions once Chief Roberts is off-the-books. Other discussion is for closed session.

Councilwoman Bergeron reported the County has fans for seniors but there are income guidelines. The County is doing a caregivers group once a month and there is a doctor who will come and talk to attendees. It will be the 22nd at 6:30pm.

Council President Popiolek reported that he met with a local realtor who told him she has a hard time getting buyers to look at Barrington and they tend to want to look in the "Haddon" towns. He things that in conjunction with the Centennial celebration we need to develop a good public relations campaign to improve awareness about our community. We need to get our name shined-up a little more. I will be discussing with the EDC team.

Mayor Klaus read a letter from Uncle Mike that he will no longer be the Emergency Management Coordinator. We have been talking to a couple of people and it looks like it will be Barb Willson. Everyone thought she would be a great choice. Andy Willson is actually certified to do the paperwork and he will assist and they will share the job. We will have to go back to paying a salary for this position but Andy will get the salary as he will be doing all the paperwork. The Mayor then reported we have an Eagle Scout who will be doing a project around the memorial out back. He then added that we will be meeting with the school board on the 13th about the Centennial and the fire department and we also reached out to Marissa Edmunds about the property on Gloucester Pike. Mayor Klaus then said he would like to come up with a committee to look at the abandoned property ordinance. He asked for volunteers and Councilman Robenolt, Councilman Rink and Councilwoman Nicholson all said they would like to participate. Mayor Klaus said John Szczerbinski will also be on the committee. Councilman Robenolt offered to chair the committee.

Second Public Portion—on a motion by Councilwoman Bergeron, second by Councilwoman Nicholson, the second public portion of the meeting was opened. Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Councilwoman Bergeron second by Councilman Rink, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

Action item—resolution for approval: Resolution 6-2016-70, Authorizing a Closed Session to Discuss Contract and/or Litigation Matters. On a motion by Councilman Robenolt, second by Councilman Rink, the resolution was approved with the following poll vote: Popiolek-yes; Bergeron-yes; Rink-yes; Nicholson-yes; Robenolt-yes.

The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:15pm.

CLOSED SESSION

The closed session convened at 7:20pm. Clerk Shannon introduced Brandon Lodics from Conner Strong as the representative for the Health Insurance Fund and the individual who developed the plan the police have requested.

Brandon distributed a Powerpoint presentation report to the all council members. He explained this plan is what was requested by the police department. It is called an EPO which is like an HMO without referrals. It has a high deductible that will be absorbed by the borough. The plan will be ready for August 1 and will hold employee meetings starting next week. The deductible is \$2250 for single and \$4500 for family and couple. He reviewed the details of how the plan works and the services that have deductibles. The co-pay for emergency room visits is \$100 plus they pay 30% of remaining charges. If they are admitted, that goes away. The idea is to get employees to use urgent care facilities rather than the emergency room when possible. After the deductible is reached, there is an out-of-pocket of \$1950 per member that the employee will pay. Their projections shows a potential savings of \$100,000 on an annual basis for the borough and there is also substantial savings for the employees. The employee will still contribute their Chapter 78 deduction on every penny we spend on the deductibles. The employees will get a debit card that will be used for their deductibles. They will be required to submit an EOB (explanation of benefits) for everything that is spent on the debit card.

After more discussion about the details of how this plan will work, the governing body agreed to offer this plan to the police department. Brandon confirmed that Aetna and Express Scripts already have this plan built and ready to go. Clerk Shannon said she would like to schedule the employee meetings for next week.

Seeing no further business to be discussed in closed session, on a motion by Councilwoman Bergeron second by Councilwoman Nicholson, the meeting went back into open session and adjourned at 7:50pm.

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