

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON**  
**CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES, Tuesday, October 4, 2016**

Council President Popiolek 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: Council President Popiolek, Councilman Rink, Councilwoman Nicholson and Councilman Robenolt. Absent were Mayor Klaus and Councilwoman Bergeron. Councilman Ludwig arrived at 6:07pm. Also seated at the table were Solicitor Tim Higgins, Secretary Eileen Holcombe, CFO Denise Moules and Clerk Terry Shannon.

**First Public Portion**—on a motion by Councilman Rink, second by Councilman Robenolt, the public portion of the meeting was opened. Present was Patrick Farley from Cross County Connections. He spoke about the NJDOT Complete Streets Program. Their goal is to promote commute alternatives which improve transportation and reduce impact on the environment. It is a policy that the town adopts that states you will consider transportation alternatives wherever possible. If you are doing a road program, you would look at it to see if it can include sidewalks, bike lanes, etc. It is not a mandate—it is a policy that the town applies where possible both physically and financially. Barrington is already doing a lot of this—very visible walkways, well connected sidewalks, travel speeds are low, it is a very walkable community so what you want to do is formalize the program so you can get credit for it which helps you with your ranking when you apply for DOT grants. He distributed the policies adopted by Haddon Heights and Haddonfield for review as examples. He said he would send us more information about the program for our consideration.

Elizabeth Kennedy of the Barrington Business Association spoke representing the BBA. They would like to make an effort to improve communication between the BBA and the Borough. One of the items they would like to improve is ribbon cuttings for new businesses. They have two new businesses that would like to do ribbon cuttings and they would like to give them some exposure. Council President Popiolek said he will get in touch with Phil Rowan and have him coordinate the ribbon cuttings with the BBA. Also they are now a board of five people. They would like to coordinate some activities with the town to bring people into town thus giving the businesses more exposure. More to come.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Councilwoman Nicholson, second by Councilman Rink, the public portion was closed.

**Engineer Report**

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

Voucher No. 2 and Change Order No. 1 for the VFW ADA Restroom Improvements. We are getting the pricing to install the cameras. We don't have information on the change orders for the windows yet but are working on it. The next step for the VFW will be the entry doors.

Greg then reviewed the monthly Engineer's report. Highlights included the following:

- Wish Upon a Star Playground—we prepared a letter to submit to the Camden County Open Space committee that include information about the Kiwanis partnership. Letter will go out this week.
- Centennial Park—working with Terry and Verdin Clocks. We will get a quote for the electrical and foundation work. Mike will get quotes for the benches. Public Works can do site work.
- Copley Road—met with Kevin Becica regarding bump-outs and waiting for a response.
- DOT funding on hold to be voted on this Wednesday. Funds may be released soon.
- Streetscape Project nearing completion. Paving will be done in next couple of weeks.
- PSE&G gas main replacement project—we reviewed the locations for their work. Will be East and West Gloucester Pike and then Reading Avenue. Clerk Shannon complained that she has not been

receiving any information at all from PSE&G regarding traffic plans. Greg said he will follow-up with PSE&G.

### **Administration**

Clerk Shannon reported on the following items:

Camden County meeting on new programs—CCMUA has interest free loans available to municipalities for sewer infra-structure projects. NJEIT helps with the application process. If project includes roadway reconstruction, that cost is also covered. Something to consider for future sewer projects. Councilman Ludwig said we will discuss with Mike to identify areas in town that need to be done first. The second program is Community Champions—a service that maintains a database of all foreclosure properties in each municipality and collects your vacant property fees. They get \$100 from each fee and so does the County. Their database provides all the information you need regarding a property. Councilwoman Nicholson expressed concerns regarding the homes that are in foreclosure but are still inhabited by the owners. We don't want to penalize properties that are inhabited—just the vacants. Councilman Robenolt added that vacant properties are starting to turn over so it may not be necessary to move forward on anything like this at this time. It was determined that we are not interested in this program at this time.

Sponsoring of the Boy Scouts of America—follow-up from prior meeting. Solicitor Higgins and the JIF advised it is not a good idea for a municipality to be a sponsor. You would have to follow their protocols which you really should not be involved in. Governmental entities are not geared up to be this kind of a sponsor. Council President Popiolek said he was going to discuss with the Kiwanis to see if they would be interested in being a sponsor. Tim said he will prepare a letter as a formal response from the Mayor to the Boy Scouts.

Membership in Camden County Joint Insurance Fund needs to be renewed and resolution will be on the agenda.

Public Auction on October 22 in Bellmawr—we will be selling the Ford vehicle the Fire Alliance got from the County. Resolution authorizing sale will be on the agenda.

Centennial Park project—style of clock has been chosen. Sponsors names will appear on sides of clock-total of 100 sponsors. Considering selling sponsorships for \$350 each which should cover cost of clock after we get costs for electrical. Corporate sponsorships will be for benches. Will also be selling pavers. More details to come.

Resolution to save the Harrison-Hugg house in Bellmawr. Governing body agreed to pass this resolution to save this historical house.

Clerk Shannon then reviewed the items for the council agenda.

### **Finance**

CFO Moules reported on the following items:

Review of standard financial reports including budget status, cash balances and overtime. Two items in the red include tax collectors salaries which is due to payment expected from Runnemedede. Other is legal due to litigation matters handled by solicitor. Court revenue is anticipated by be \$25,000 less than anticipated. The Best Practices is due by October 21. The questionnaire was reviewed with emphasis on the "No" answers. We are fine on the total number of "No" answers and our aid will not be impacted.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilwoman Nicholson reported we need to dedicate the bench at the memorial to Harry Vincent. After some discussion it was decided we wait to unveil the new memorial out back until Memorial Day which will include the bench dedication to Harry Vincent. In the meantime, we would like the plaque

installed on the bench. The Harvest Fest will be this Saturday. The decision about the weather will be made by noon on Friday and again on Saturday for Sunday. Kids are back in school and we need to remind residents about speeding. We need to start ticketing motorists so they know we are serious. We also need to make sure PSE&G is out of here by 4pm on Halloween. Councilman Robenolt was asked to discuss traffic situation with Chief Uron.

Councilman Ludwig reported things are going well with DPW. Hopefully all will go well with the Harvest Fest.

Councilman Robenolt reported we are going to start meeting with the PBA next week to discuss contract negotiations.

Councilman Rink reported he participated in the Shop Rite Partners in Caring program and helped bag groceries. Also there were officials from Lawnside and the Woodland School principal. This program raises money and awareness about hunger in the area and also provides food to those in need. It was very nice to be part of this program.

Council President Popiolek reported we are going through the permitting process for Wild Wings Café. I have been meeting with the new owners of Union Grove. They took me on a tour of some of the apartments to see the improvements they are making. It is not luxury living but their goal is to provide a clean and safe environment. Clerk Shannon said she needs to meet with them to discuss the TNR program. Popiolek said he will reach out to the management company to set up a meeting. Also the lot at 1 East Gloucester Pike has been sold in addition to the former Para-Plus lot. New owner wants to clean-up the corner. They are in talks with Inspira about a possible urgent care facility for that property. Plan B would be a possible car dealership.

On a motion by Councilwoman Nicholson, second by Councilman Rink, the second public portion was opened. Elizabeth Kennedy from the BBA said the blue signs that were put up during construction can come down.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Councilman Robenolt, second by Councilman Ludwig, the public portion was closed.

On a motion by Councilwoman Nicholson, second by Councilwoman Bergeron, the meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 8:03pm..

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