

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON
MINUTES OF MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2017, at 6:00 PM
COUNCIL ROOM AT MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A regular monthly Council Meeting of the Borough of Barrington was held Council President Popiolek presiding. Mayor Klaus was absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Popiolek 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.

ROLL CALL

The Municipal Clerk called roll of Council and with the following in attendance:

Councilwoman Nicholson, Councilman Robenolt, Council President Popiolek, Councilman Beach and Councilman Rink. Councilman Ludwig arrived at 6:10pm.

Also on dais: Mayor Klaus, Deputy Municipal Clerk Denise Moules 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 December 6, 2016, Caucus and the December 13, 2016, Council meeting and asked if there were any corrections. Seeing none, on a Motion by Rink and Robenolt, the caucus and council minutes were approved by all members of Council present with Councilwomen Nicholson and Bergeron abstaining on the caucus minutes as they were not present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Deputy Municipal Clerk read a summary of the December, 2016, monthly reports as submitted by Chief David Uron for Police; Chief Jason Houck for the Fire Company, Chief Barbara Willson for the EMS/Ambulance; Code Official John Szczerbinski for Construction; Superintendent Michael J. Ciocco for Department of Public Works; Tax Collector Kristy Emmett for Tax and Sewer Collections, Court Administrator Catherine Lawson for Municipal Court.

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

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION ON FIRST READING

The Clerk announced the following ordinance for introduction on first reading:

- Ord. 1065 Amending Chapter 58, Fees, in the Borough Code (traffic control fees)
- Ord. 1066 Amending Chapter 101, Sewers, in the Borough Code (waiving sewer fees for members of the military on active duty)

On a motion by Councilwoman Nicholson, second by Councilman Beach, the first reading of Ordinances 1065 and 1066 was approved with the following poll vote: Nicholson-yes, Robenolt-yes, Popiolek-abstain, Beach-yes, Rink-yes.

Council President Popiolek announced these ordinance will be considered for adoption following proper notice and a public hearing to be held at the February council meeting.

Councilman Ludwig arrived at 6:10pm.

RESOLUTIONS CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL

The Clerk advised that she would read the following resolutions by title, one after another, and Council will have the opportunity to vote as Consent Agenda at the end of the reading.

- 1-2017-16 Regarding Enforcement of a Certain Portion of Chapter 99 in the Borough Code
- 1-2017-17 Change Order No. 1, Reconstruction of Commerce Drive, Phase 1
- 1-2017-18 Appointing Pastor Richard Archut as Police Chaplain for 2017
- 1-2017-19 Authorizing Submission of a Strategic Plan for Drug Alliance Funding
- 1-2017-20 Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement with Runnemedede for Payroll Clerk Services
- 1-2017-21 Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement with Runnemedede for Deputy Registrar Svcs
- 1-2017-22 Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement with Mount Ephraim for Clerk Services
- 1-2017-23 Appointing a Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator
- 1-2017-24 Authorizing Refund of Street Opening Escrows
- 1-2017-25 Approving the January Bill List in the Total Amount of: \$1,121,379.38

On a Motion by Ludwig and Nicholson, the resolutions Consent Agenda as read was approved with the following poll vote: Ludwig-yes, Nicholson-yes, Robenolt-yes, Popiolek-abstain, Beach-yes, Rink-yes.

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

COUNCILWOMAN NICHOLSON – reminder that our 100th anniversary is coming up. Lots of activities planned-be sure to check our website and Barrington100.com. March 25 is the first event. We have banners available too.

COUNCILMAN LUDWIG – apologized for being late. We are very happy that the Cowboys lost. That's all he has to report at this time.

COUNCILMAN ROBENOLT -- new committees have not had chance to meet yet. He hopes to have updates on department activities soon.

COUNCILMAN RINK -- welcomed Councilman Beach to his first official council meeting. He has nothing else to report at this time.

COUNCILMAN BEACH—thanked everyone for their support and looks forward to working with council to help make life better for everyone in Barrington.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT POPIOLEK—we are in budget season and the department heads are working on their budgets. He is always proud of our department heads because they understand the tax burden and don't ask for anything unreasonable. They keep the taxpayers in mind when preparing their budgets. We will examine the budget carefully so there are no surprises. Also the revaluation has been completed and the letters went out. He explained that estimated taxes were just an example of what the taxes would have been if the value was in place last year. Those new assessments will be used for the 2017 budget. If you feel your assessment is inaccurate, you can make an appointment with the Assessor. On economic redevelopment, the construction is going smoothly for Wild Wings Café. They hope to have a grand opening at the end of April.

PUBLIC PORTION

Council President Popiolek 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 Rink and Ludwig the public portion of the meeting was opened.

Michael Corman, 208 Russell Avenue, said there has been a rat infestation on his block and his father's block on South Moore. We keep our yards clean yet there have been rats. His concern is they are coming from abandoned properties and the construction on Gloucester Pike. They called an exterminator for their properties but wanted to know if there was anything the town could do.

Clerk Shannon said they did contact the property management company for the vacant property next to his father's house and they are going to address. Also we have had a problem with rats since the 295 project started. Bellmawr and Runnemede have had the same problems. Council President Popiolek said we will make sure we inform residents about the problem and to make sure they take precautions on their own properties.

Diane Schreier of Nassau Drive said she is confused about the tax assessment letter. She wanted clarification about the tax amount in the letter. Popiolek explained that when the total value of the town goes down, the tax rate goes up as we still need to collect the same amount for the budget. The total value of the town did go down because we were over-assessed. Now everyone will be paying their fair share as the properties are now assessed at current fair market value.

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

With no further business to be transacted, on a motion by Nicholson and Robenolt, the meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm.

APPROVED: *Terry Shannon*
Terry Shannon, Municipal Clerk