

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON
MINUTES OF MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
February 12, 2019 at 6:00 PM
COUNCIL ROOM AT MUNICIPAL BUILDING

A regular monthly Council Meeting of the Borough of Barrington was held 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.

ROLL CALL: The Municipal Clerk called roll of Council and with the following in attendance: Council President Robenolt, Councilman Popiolek, Councilman Beach and Councilwoman Fawley. Also on dais: Mayor Klaus, Municipal Clerk Terry Shannon and Timothy Higgins, Esq. Councilman Ludwig and Councilwoman Harris are absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Klaus reported that council was provided with the minutes of the January 6, 2019 Reorganization, January 8, 2019 Caucus and the January 15, 2019 Council meetings and asked if there were any corrections or abstentions. Seeing none, on a motion by Fawley, second by Robenolt, the minutes were approved by all members of Council present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: The Municipal Clerk read a summary of the January 2019, monthly reports from the following departments: Police, Fire, EMS, Regional Fire Alliance, Construction, Tax & Sewer Collector, DPW Recycling and December for Court. On a motion by Popiolek, second by Beach, the monthly reports were approved as submitted by all members of Council present.

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION:

The Clerk read the following ordinance by title.

Ord. 1101 Amending Chapter 102, Site Plan Review, and Chapter 105, Streets and Sidewalks, in the Borough Code (requirement that all driveway aprons be concrete)

On a motion by Fawley, second by Robenolt, the second reading of the ordinance was approved with the following poll vote: Robenolt-yes, Popiolek-yes, Beach-yes, Fawley-yes

On a motion by Beach, second by Popiolek, the public hearing was opened.

Adam Moore, 137 Woodland Ave – is opposed to the ordinance. It is for aesthetics and not for public safety or health. In his opinion it is not for the government to impose aesthetic ordinances on the public. Residents should be free to do concrete or asphalt. He said he doesn't expect to sway council's opinion but wanted them to know how he felt.

Seeing no further comments from the public, on a motion by Popiolek, second by Robenolt, the public hearing was closed.

On a motion by Robenolt, second by Popiolek, the ordinance was adopted with the following poll vote: Robenolt-yes, Popiolek-yes, Beach-yes, Fawley-yes

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION ON FIRST READING:

The Clerk read the following ordinances by title.

Ord. 1102 Amending Article II of Chapter 105, Streets and Sidewalks, in the Borough Code

Ord. 1103 Approving the Purchase of Certain Lands by the Borough of Barrington from Robert Scott Steele and Authorizing the Execution of all Documents Necessary to Implement Said Purchase

On a motion by Popiolek, second by Robenolt, the first reading of the ordinances was approved with the following poll vote: Robenolt-yes, Popiolek-yes, Beach-yes, Fawley-yes.

These ordinances will be considered for adoption after posting and a public hearing to be held during the March 12 council meeting

RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA: The Clerk read the following resolutions to be approved by consent agenda:

- 2-2019-21 Awarding a Contract to M.D. Remodeling for Removal of Architectural Barriers at the VFW Senior Community Center (Handicapped Doors)
- 2-2019-22 Authorizing an Application for Program Year 2019 Community Development Block Grant Funds
- 2-2019-23 Authorizing Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with Camden County for Use of Radio Communications Equipment
- 2-2019-24 Requesting Approval from the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to Establish a Dedicated by Rider Trust for Recreation
- 2-2019-25 Authorizing a Property Maintenance Lien
- 2-2019-26 Approving the February Bill List in the Amount of \$4,684,414.09

The Municipal Clerk advised RES 2-2019-26, the Bill List amount, includes County and School taxes.

On a motion by Robenolt, second by Popiolek, the resolution consent agenda as read was approved with the following poll vote: Robenolt-yes, Popiolek-yes, Beach-yes, Fawley-yes

PLANNING BOARD APPOINTMENT: (appointment by the Mayor—no confirmation necessary)

John Rink as Class IV Alt., two year term expiring 12-31-2020. (removed as the Mayor's Designee)

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ROBENOLT – good evening, thanks for coming out. With this bout of bad weather please drive accordingly and make sure if you are on a snow emergency route you do not park on the street.

COUNCILWOMAN FAWLEY – thanks for coming out, tough weather so appreciate your time. Nothing to report at this time.

COUNCILMAN BEACH – thanks for coming out. He advise Mr. Moore that he had the same question when the ordinance was originally brought up. He was advised that asphalt has a tendency to dip a lot more and doesn't match up to the concrete walkways as well as concrete would; there were a few things that swayed his opinion. Thanked officers Minardi, Pawling, Bowman and Kelly for stopping at the seniors luncheon on Monday, the seniors appreciated their time and comments. Senior casino bus beginning first Wednesday of April, call Eileen Holcombe at the Mayor's Office to sign up.

COUNCILMAN POPIOLEK – thanks for coming out on this miserable day. Thanks to DPW for keeping the roads brined and salted and staying on top of things. Time of year again to get ready for budget season and all department heads are in the process of getting their budgets together and submitted. Mr. Moore it's difficult when we need to make a decision that affects a few, I am not a proponent of big government but we do have a responsibility to the aesthetics of the town. We want to keep everybody's property values above par. And it is not the driveway but the apron. Wish more residents would come to our meetings. Happy Valentine's Day, see you all next month.

Mayor Klaus – thanked all for coming out. Told Adam Moore we appreciate him coming out to speak his mind. We have joined a group “Mayors against Illegal I Guns”. Take care in the inclement weather. Thanks for coming out and have a great Valentine’s Day.

PUBLIC PORTION: On a motion by Fawley, second by Beach, the public portion of the meeting was opened. 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.

Paul Gross, 346 Tavistock Blvd – with Resolution 2-2019-24, please explain what it means. Clerk Shannon advised that a Dedication by Rider is part of our budget but we don’t budget for it. When someone give us money specifically for recreation purposes, it gets put into that trust fund and it is only used for recreation purposes.

Jay Houck, 126 Lawrence Ave – would like to see if Mike Ciocco or the Engineer can look at the drainage issue at the corner of 4th & Lawrence Aves. Water lies in the gutter almost year round. Mike Ciocco advised there is a sump pump in the area and he will look into it.

Adam Moore, 137 Woodland Ave – property taxes in New Jersey have gone up dramatically. Property taxes go up, property values go down. He encourages council to look for innovative ways to reduce the budget and property taxes and encourage the School Board and others to use innovative ways to reduce their budget. We need to make an effort to tackle this problem; it’s not getting any better. . Councilman Popiolek said not just a Barrington problem it’s a New Jersey problem; and how the Councilman sees it it’s the way we fund our government, by relying only on property taxes. Unfortunately, the only thing we can do on a municipal level is to encourage our representatives on a state level, which we do. Resolutions in Trenton for a Constitutional Convention to reform and revamp our tax structure have constantly been voted down. I can tell you that the borough pinches every single penny for our budget and we share services with other towns; this helps our budget. Mr. Gross added that he has gone to several town hall meetings run by the county and state and he is the only one that has asked about the cost of living here in New Jersey. He believes the state doesn’t have a clue what to do about it, they are stuck. Our town problem is that the school taxes cost so much. Mayor Klaus said we have a large amount of people in our state. Councilman Beach added that Senate President Steve Sweeny has and audit done with state books to find out what they could cut and what they would need to do to cut budgets and combine different school districts. In the last few months he has been going to different town hall meetings trying to explain what they would have to cut, what they would have to do to combine school districts and other things. Maybe you could try to go to the meetings and hear what he has to say. The state know they are spiraling out of control.

Ken Willson, 19 W Gloucester Pk – it’s important to let people know where all the tax collections go, advising it does not all go to the town. Mayor said that Mr. Moore is aware of that as are others.

Seeing no further comments from the public, on a motion by Popiolek, second by Beach, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

With no further business to be transacted, on a motion by Popiolek, second by Robenolt, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 pm.

APPROVED:

Terry Shannon

Terry Shannon, Borough Clerk