

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES, Wednesday, August 7, 2019, 6:00pm

Council President Robenolt called the meeting to order in the council room on the dais at 6:00pm with the Sunshine Statement announcement. He led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk called roll and the following were present: Councilwoman Harris, Council President Robenolt, Councilman Popiolek, Councilwoman Fawley and Councilman Beach. Councilman PLudwig and Mayor Klaus were absent. Also on the dais were Solicitor Tim Higgins and Clerk Terry Shannon.

First Public Portion—on a motion by Councilwoman Fawley, second by Councilman Popiolek, the first public portion of the meeting was opened. There were a number of residents in attendance. Council President Robenolt asked that anyone who wants to speak, please come to the podium, give your name and address, and comments are limited to five minutes. The following individuals spoke:

Frank Legault, Erie Avenue—wanted to know what kind of progress has been made with the drainage at the end of their street. Council President Robenolt said a contract was awarded to Root 24 but he does not have an update at this time as Councilman Ludwig is absent. Legault said there is a five foot pipe that is half-filled with sand and dirt. Engineer Greg Evans said both sides of the railroad have been cleaned out and Root 24 will be out to clean out the rest of the system. Clerk Shannon added that they can call Mike Ciocco at anytime for an update and gave Mr. LeGault the phone number.

George Gallen, 103 Eric Avenue—added that Public Works has been clearing out the ditch areas to improve the drainage and provide access to the piping system.

Sally French, 330 Tavistock Blvd—wanted to know if the Tavistock area is being looked at as much as the Erie Avenue. Council President Robenolt responded that the drainage is being looked at in both areas. The contract for Root 24, who will be televising the system, will commence in about a week and they are going to look at both areas. French asked how she could see a copy of the contract and was told to contact the Borough Clerk.

John Bayan, 334 Tavistock Blvd—he understands we will be televising the system but when will we be cleaning it out? He believes that all of this could have been avoidable if the system was cleaned out. He just wants to know when that will occur.

Pat Ianelli, 107 Erie Avenue—do we have any information about assistance? Councilwoman Harris responded that FEMA is still working with the county to gather information. It is a long process. As soon as we know anything, we will get the information to the residents. Ianelli said she had to re-mortgage her home. What will we need to provide to request assistance? Solicitor Higgins responded that she should keep all of her receipts. Ianelli then asked about her assessment. When she re-mortgaged, they assessed her home and assessed it less than her borough assessment. Councilman Popiolek responded to show that appraisal to our assessor, Brian Schneider, and perhaps her assessment could be lowered for next year. Solicitor Higgins explained the assessment process. All values are established as of October 1. We are locked-in for 2019 but she may be able to get an adjustment for 2020. Ianelli added that it was helpful to have the borough waive permit fees and wanted to know if that was being extended and Councilman Robenolt added that it is.

John Rink, 954 Chesterfield Road—we are having problems with people parking illegally, particularly extending into the curve. He sees it is on the agenda for discussion but wanted everyone to know it is happening repeatedly.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Councilman Popiolek, second by Councilman Beach, the first public portion was closed. The meeting then paused at 6:18pm so the public could leave and the governing body could go back to council chambers to finish the caucus agenda.

ENGINEER'S REPORT—Greg Evans reported on the following

Action item: Voucher No. 2-Final and Change Order No. 2-Final for Diamond Construction (Copley Road curb ramps) will be on the agenda.

Pre-con meeting was held for tax office security wall. Work will commence October 1

CLERK'S REPORT—Clerk Shannon reported on the following

- ♦Tax office security wall—construction will commence October 1. We will be using Eileen's and the Mayor's office during construction. Carol and Jen/Meg will be located in mayor's office and that is where we will handle customers. Eileen will work from the mayor's desk. Will be done by October 30.
- ♦Pavilion at Wish Upon a Star Playground has been installed. Mike and I will be meeting out there to measure and order picnic tables. Dedication of the Little Free Library and the pavilion will be scheduled for Summer Nights. Need to order plaques for Logan's pavilion and Noah's ark. Also need to install signs informing that equipment gets hot in the sun.
- ♦Fire Company applications—ten were submitted. Council President Robenolt said they are actually up to twelve. Frank is reviewing and will schedule interviews with the panel of fire chiefs. Final three candidates will be submitted to Public Safety committee for interviews.
- ♦Fire Alliance new building—phone lines are to be installed in the next couple of days. Internet is already hooked up and workstations are installed. Should be moving into the building in the next week.
- ♦Change to Monmouth Telecomm for phone service—we are having issues with Spectrotel and met with Monmouth who provides service to many municipalities. They are a carrier—not a re-seller and moving to them we will save nearly \$4,000 annually. Resolution for contract will be on the agenda.
- ♦Parking situation on Chesterfield—having a problem with people parking on the curve. Lt. Minardi is suggesting that we have it looked at as we may need to have a section changed to no parking and the curb painted yellow. Governing Body authorized engineer to go out and look at the situation and identify what areas should be designated as "No Parking".

Council agenda review

Resolutions:

- Authorizing contract with Monmouth Telecomm
- Cancellation of outstanding court and bail checks
- Authorizing cancellation of capital contract balance
- August bill list
- Resolution appointing Barb Willson as OEM Director (Council President Robenolt requested)
- Change order for Diamond Construction
- Resolution to amend personnel policy pertaining to toll violations (Councilman Popiolek requested as a result of audit report)

CFO's REPORT—CFO Moules reported on the following

- ♦Review of standard monthly reports—everything is in the black.
- ♦Police overtime is provided and we are on track with what was budgeted.
- ♦Capital information is the same as last month—once a decision is made on how to proceed and what projects will be funded, this will be finalized.
- ♦Exit interview for audit was non-eventful. There were again no findings.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Popiolek—audit was excellent as usual. Couple of housekeeping items including amending personnel policy to state that we will not pay for any traffic fines including toll violations. Denise will look into getting Easy-Pass for some borough vehicles. Developer is getting ready to apply for demo permit to start Chick-Fil-A. Hoping to do groundbreaking in October. Regarding Wawa PILOT, Wawa has no fiduciary responsibility to the borough. PILOT agreement is between developer and the borough. That includes the special assessment agreement with the developer that covered the infrastructure improvements and the traffic signal and Delco is responsible for paying. The lawsuit between Delco and Wawa has nothing to do with the borough. If Delco does not pay, then they will go to tax sale.

Councilwoman Harris—we will recognize Karen Eckert at the council meeting on her retirement. National Night Out was very well attended. Signs for the playground warning about the equipment getting hot were requested by Pastor Archut. Next recreation meeting is August 13—tying up loose ends for the Harvest Fest and planning events for November-December. Softball did not get any Open Space money this year. Would like to discuss what we can help them with and will be meeting with Sean Broderick. We also need to discuss fundraising opportunities with them as they have a new board. There are some housekeeping issues at the VFW and I will be discussing with Terry, Mike and Jen.

Councilman Beach—there is water run-off on the properties at the corner of Chesterfield and Tavistock and it looks like there should be a retention pond. Engineer Evans responded that is wetlands.

Councilwoman Fawley—everything is okay with the shared service for court services. Thanks to Tim for getting that resolved. Still need to amend the termination time in the agreement as 60 days is not enough. Tim suggested it should be 120 days.

Council President Robenolt—police department has completed search for SLEO officer. New hire will start right after Labor Day. That should help with some of the traffic issues. Firehouse roof project is just about ready to go out to bid.

On a motion by Councilwoman Harris second by Councilwoman Fawley, the second open public portion was opened.

Councilwoman Harris introduced Sean Broderick from Softball. Sean reported they are looking to improve the dugouts and we are having a problem with dirt runoff in heavy rain. We would like to put in a retaining wall and sod. Councilwoman Harris said she will talk to Mike Ciocco about how we can help.

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

On a motion by Councilman Beach, second by Councilwoman Fawley, the meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:12pm.

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