

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES, Tuesday, March 3, 2020, 6:00pm

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order in council chambers at 6:00pm with the Sunshine Statement announcement. She led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk called roll and the following were present: Councilman Drumm, Councilman Beach, Councilman Hanson, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Ludwig and Council President Robenolt. Also present were Solicitor Tim Higgins, Mayor & Council Secretary Eileen Holcombe, CFO Denise Moules and Clerk Terry Shannon.

First Public Portion—on a motion by Councilman Hanson second by Council President Robenolt, the first public portion of the meeting was opened. Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Council President Robenolt, the first public portion was closed.

ENGINEER'S REPORT—Greg Evans reported on the following items

Action items—authorize the engineer to prepare and receive bids for the trash collection/disposal contract; and approve a resolution to submit an application for Camden County Open Space funds. The Governing Body agreed to both and resolutions will be on the agenda. Mayor Harris added that we will also be supporting an Open Space application for Barrington Girls' Softball. That will be priority one and our application will be priority two. Greg added that Rich Hill requested that his performance bond be released. All outstanding items have been corrected and the engineer will be submitting a letter authorizing release of the performance bond and waiving the maintenance bond requirement as the two years has already elapsed. Also the topography and grading plan ordinance will be submitted to the governing body for consideration for introduction.

Councilman Ludwig asked why the speed bumps for Mercer went all the way to the end of the whole street—we had previously discussed just going to the 900 block. Greg responded that when they did their study, they determined it should include the entire length of the street. Councilman Beach and Mayor Harris added that we will be sending out a survey to get responses from the residents. Councilman Beach also asked if there could be any flexibility as to location—one of the bumps is really close to two driveways. Greg responded we will take a look at that. Greg added that he will send a letter to American Asphalt informing them that we are delaying the project until the survey results are returned.

Greg then reviewed the following items on the Engineer's report:

Tax assessment maps—they have been updated and provided to the assessor.

Beaverbrook drainage—Mike Ciocco, Terry and I met with the administrator and engineer from Lawnside. They now understand that their watershed does come to Beaverbrook. We asked them to ask their officials if they would consider entering into a shared service to do a study of this issue. We need a study to prove to the other agencies, the Turnpike Authority and NJDOT to prove to them that they are also contributing to the drainage problems and what percentage they are contributing. The plan is to apply for EIT funding to make the necessary improvements.

Greg also reported they are working on updating the 2020-21 capital improvement report. One of the big items is replacement of the 4th Avenue force main. We are recommending that you apply for funding for that project as well. This concluded Greg's report.

CLERK'S REPORT—Clerk Shannon reported on the following items

Update on codification—General Code and Coded Systems have merged which is why there has been such a delay in their getting us a proposal. They have offered to host our current code electronically while they do the analysis. They will be submitting a proposal for this shortly.

Barrington on Track—we previously did four issues per year. I am recommending that we do to three issues per year because of the increased productions costs. The Governing Body agreed.

Mayor Harris reported on the 2020 Census. Every person in Barrington needs to complete this report. They can do it online or by phone which makes it really easy. We think our seniors and apartment residents are going to be the most difficult to count. We are going to form a committee including Terry, Kyle, myself and Molly Harkins from Grace Bible. The hope is that Grace Bible is a great, safe place to set-up a booth for people to complete the Census. We are also considering setting up a booth in the recreation center where people can submit via computer. We have to make people understand this information is protected. It was also suggested that we explore setting up a booth at the Mews.

Review of items for the council agenda:

Ordinance for public hearing and adoption—Ord. 1120, the 2020 Salary ordinance

Ordinances for introduction on first reading—Ord. 1121, the COLA ordinance to accompany the budget; Ord. 1122, the grading plan and topography ordinance.

Resolutions—Authorizing KEI to prepare and receive bids for trash collection contract; Camden County Open Space grant applications for the Borough and Girl's Softball; release of the Rich Hill bond; and the March bill list.

CFO's REPORT—CFO Moules reported on the following

Denise reviewed the standard budget reports and account balances along with police overtime. There are a few with negative balances because we are still on a temporary budget. The budget as a whole is in the black. I am waiting on dates for the budget meetings. These will be the department meetings with the department director and members of the finance committee. I hope to be able to present the full picture to you at the April caucus meeting for introduction at the April council meeting.

Denise also reported that we have two notes renewing in March. We have a pay-down and we will be going to permanent financing. More information will be presented regarding the permanent financing next month.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Harris—reminded everyone that if you got a letter regarding dog licensing, be sure to get your license. You can get a rabies shot and your license at the rabies clinic. Regarding the Corona virus, we believe we are prepared. If we have to set people up to work from home, that is what we will do. We already ordered supplies for the staff. Public Safety will have to continue to work. Make sure you wash your hands and anyone who feels sick has to stay home. Dave Pawling is staying on top of things with Camden County OEM.

Councilman Hanson—Recreation is planning Barrington Day, July 4 and Student Government Day. We are following the League with ideas for student government week. We are planning something involving council after they do their department visits. April will be opening days for softball and little league—dates are on the website.

Councilman Drumm—Earth Day is the end of April. Eileen said she will send him stuff from prior years about this. He hope to get volunteers will follow-up with the jail regarding the SLAP personnel to clean-up along the railroad tracks.

Councilman Cerrito—ribbon cutting for Little Jalapenos will be this Saturday at 11am. Clerk Shannon added we bought fancy scissors to use for the ribbon cutting.

Council President Robenolt—contract negotiations with the PBA are moving along. We are just about done with the firefighter's contract and it may be ready for Tuesday. There was a bad fire in Audubon this week that our fire department assisted with. There were no injuries.

Councilman Beach—speed bump survey will be going out. Regarding Beaverbrook—I visited the area with Mike and Greg and it is really in bad shape. This is going to be his main priority going forward.

Councilman Ludwig—PZC committee met with a guy who wants to put a storage facility at the Carpet One building. This is just for residential storage for people who are moving. He wants to move his family from Brooklyn to Cherry Hill. We told him he first has to get DOT approval first. If he can't get that, it will stop the whole project. Clerk Shannon added that they came in again today to get a clear picture of what steps they need to take. They now have a clear picture of how to proceed. The present owner of the building has outstanding fines that they will have to pay that were issued by the Fire Marshal.

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, second by Councilman Hanson, the second open public portion was opened.

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

Seeing no further business to be discussed, on a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Cerrito, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm with all in favor.

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