

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON
CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2020, 6:00pm
VIRTUAL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM**

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order in council chambers at 6:00pm with the Sunshine Statement announcement and pursuant to the Executive Orders and guidance issued by the State of New Jersey due to the Corona virus state of emergency. She led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk called roll and the following were present on Zoom: Councilman Drumm, Councilman Beach, Councilman Hanson, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Ludwig and Council President Robenolt. Also participating were Solicitor Tim Higgins, CFO Denise Moules, Chief Dave Uron and Clerk Terry Shannon. Councilman Ludwig was absent.

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

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

We have two action items—voucher No. 1 for American Asphalt and possible award or rejection of a contract for solid waste collection. The DOT Municipal Aid applications were submitted; the 2020 Capital Improvement project will be out to bid this month. Clerk Shannon asked Greg to forward the list of plan holders for the trash bids so she can notify them about the Zoom bid opening. Greg said he would take care of it.

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

Staff schedule—staff has returned to the office as of June 1. They are working staggered schedules; we remain closed to the public. Plexiglas windows were installed between partitions. We will revisit opening to the public at a later date. Information about the primary election is still in flux and we are waiting for more guidance.

Financial Disclosure Statements—reminder deadline to file was extended to July 31

Estimated tax bills—resolution authorizing will be on the agenda. We will need to do estimated bills as the tax rate will not be struck.

Resolutions authorizing ratification of the contracts for Dave Uron and Mike Minardi will be on the agenda. Also we will be approving a resolution promoting Mike Minardi to Deputy Chief.

CDBG 3-year cooperation agreement—resolution authorizing renewal of the 3-year cooperation agreement with the CDBG program will be on the agenda.

ABC licenses have been extended to September 30. We are sending out renewal notices to all licensees.

Action item—we will be approving a resolution to impose a lien on 304 Haines Avenue. We had to remove a tree as it was a hazard and the property is going to settlement so we need to get them the lien resolution so it can be paid at settlement.

The public hearing on the 2020 municipal budget will be on the agenda. If Denise gets confirmation that our budget has been approved by the state, we will also be adopting the budget.

Shared service agreement for the truck wash—Magnolia wants to join the SSA for use of the truck wash. Mike negotiated the terms with them and a resolution authorizing the agreement will be on the agenda.

Clerk Shannon reviewed the items for the council agenda as follows:

Resolutions for consent agenda:

Authorizing Estimated Tax Bills

Approving an Employment Contract for Police Chief

Promoting Mike Minardi to Deputy Chief

Approving an Employment Contract for Deputy Chief

Authorizing Renewal of the CDBG 3-year Cooperation Agreement

Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement with Magnolia for Use of the Truck Wash

Authorizing the 2020 Budget to be Read by Title at Public Hearing

June bill list

Renewing the shared service agreements with Merchantville

We will also be introducing ordinance No. 1124 to allow a temporary permit for outdoor seating for restaurants. We are going to hold the public hearing during a special Zoom meeting as it is time sensitive. After discussion, it was determined the special meeting will be next Friday at 5pm.

CFO's REPORT—CFO Moules reported on the following

Finance report was sent to you—any questions let me know. A few budget lines are over-expended due to payments being due the first half of the year but the overall budget is fine. For court, there is a reduction in revenue of about 7% due to the impact of the virus. Other sources of revenue are doing well. The closing for USDA financing is scheduled for June 25. We were looking at introducing a capital ordinance at this meeting but it is not yet final so it will be postponed. I will be working closely with the auditors about permanent financing possibly in the fall. For the Merchantville shared service agreements, there is no change in the amount and they can be renewed.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Robenolt—we were able to come to terms on both the Chief and Deputy Chief contracts. We are looking forward to promoting the lieutenant to deputy chief. We received revised design plans for the firehouse roof and we need to review. I am not happy with the plans so hopefully we can get this resolved. The rest of public safety is doing well. We had one exposure in the fire department but he tested negative. Everyone is doing well and staying safe.

Councilman Hanson—thanks to all for their help with the Memorial Day service. Parks and playgrounds remain closed. Sports fields are allowed to be used by groups of 25 or less. This Thursday we invite everyone to step out onto their front lawn and light a candle for racial justice. July 4 fireworks and parade are cancelled. We are exploring other options for celebrating. Megan and I are planning a drive-in movie night for June 27. More information to come. The food pantry is still operational and we have gotten food to those in town who were in need. Thanks to Denise for all her work on the budget. Congratulations to Kristy on her new baby.

Councilman Ludwig—George Jones is retiring at the end of this month. He would like the money that George was getting to be given to Gregg Conti for the additional work. We need to give George a plaque for all of his years of service. He has served for 50 some years. We should also do one for Pat Farinella. Mayor Harris asked Shawn to discuss the salaries with his committee. Shawn also asked that we do a resolution of support for the Smart Bill being considered in Washington. We need federal funding to come back to the states and the resolution should be sent to Congressman Norcross.

At this point in the meeting, we were “Zoom-bombed” and the meeting had to be closed and a new meeting started immediately after the first meeting was closed.

Councilman Drumm—Steve needs a new camera for the Fire Alliance. Also the agreement is up at the end of May or June. Do we just extend for six months or should we renew? We need to discuss further. Thanks to Kyle and the Oppermann’s for the great job with the Memorial Day video.

Councilman Cerrito—met today with Fade Salon to see the arrangements they made to prepare to re-open. They have barriers between each station. The owner is having clients wait in their car until they are ready for them. A couple of businesses spoke with Patti about opening in Barrington. He spoke with a resident who expressed appreciation for the fire department doing drive-bys for celebrations for birthdays and celebrations. It really touches a lot of people—especially children.

Mayor Harris added we are going to have a flower shop in town and another salon. Also check out Past and Present vintage—he sells items from the past and is doing curbside pickup. Soon he will be able to fully open.

Councilman Beach—senior events are still suspended including the bus. Public Works is going back to full staff on Monday, June 8. There will be two staggered shifts so they are not all-together. We will notify the union accordingly. Thanks to everyone for keeping everything running smooth and stay safe.

Mayor Harris—thanks for everyone staying in touch and communicating with your department heads. There was a rumor about Lost World Park being a drug haven but no calls to the police have ever been made so the rumor was false. The police have been patrolling back there and there have been no issues. We will always have a problem with kids hanging out in the woods but the police are doing a great job patrolling. Congratulations to Mike and I am looking forward to swearing you in as deputy chief. Dave Pawling—thank you for staying on top of OEM especially with a new baby.

Action item: Resolution for approval and ordinance for introduction

6-2020-60 Authorizing a Property Maintenance Lien for 304 Haines Avenue

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, second by Councilman Drumm, the resolution was approved with the following poll vote: Hanson-yes, Beach-yes, Ludwig-yes, Cerrito-yes, Robenolt-yes; Drumm-yes.

Ord. 1124, Allowing a Temporary Permit for Outdoor Seating

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Ludwig, the ordinance was approved on first reading with the following poll vote: Hanson-yes, Beach-yes, Ludwig-yes, Cerrito-yes, Robenolt-yes; Drumm-yes.

The clerk announced the special meeting to consider this ordinance for adoption will be next Friday at 5:00pm.

Seeing no public in attendance, there was no need for a second open public portion.

Seeing no further business to be discussed, on a motion by Councilman Cerrito, second by Councilman Hanson, the Zoom meeting was adjourned at 7:18pm with all in favor.

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