

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 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 as pertains to virtual meetings and pursuant to the Executive Orders and guidance issued by the State of New Jersey due to the Covid-19 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 Cerrito, Councilman Robenolt, Councilman Hanson and Councilman Ludwig. Councilman Beach was absent. Also participating were Solicitor Tim Higgins, Engineer Greg Evans, Clerk Terry Shannon and CFO Denise Moules.

First Public Portion—on a motion by Councilman Drumm, second by Councilman Hanson, the first public portion of the meeting was opened. Participating was Jennifer Milligan and her daughter who stated that they want a bike rack at Wish Upon a Star Park. The Mayor responded that one is planned for the playground so they will get their wish. Jennifer then reported that the curbing at the corner of Trenton and Lawrence is deteriorated and needs to be repaired and the yellow paint is faded. Mayor Harris responded she will provide Councilman Beach's email address so she can email him directly.

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

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

No action items.

We held the preconstruction meeting today with DiMeglio to discuss the 2020 roads program. We will be working out the schedule for the five different roads and will forward that information. The detour information will be provided so it can be shared with the public.

Councilman Cerrito said he reached out to Greg regarding beautification improvements to the railroad crossing at Clements Bridge Road. Landscaping is overgrown and needs to be replaced. He also wanted to know if it would be possible to put a gazebo at the corner of Clements Bridge and Barrington Avenue. Greg responded that the Borough wanted to do something similar years ago on Conrail property and in the borough of Haddon Heights. Heights approved the project but Conrail wanted a yearly lease of \$6900 per year from the Borough. The governing body at the time declined to enter into a lease agreement. The proposal Councilman Cerrito has is not as extensive as the original plans. We will look into a possible TAP application for funding and we can contact Conrail to see if they would be more agreeable. The Borough is in a better potential now to make this request as this project would be part of the County's proposed bikeway project along Atlantic Avenue. Councilman Ludwig asked what the TAP funds would cover and Greg responded it would cover construction of the bikeway. Haddon Heights and Audubon had already received funding for their portion of the bikeway and they were looking for a commitment from the borough that was between 850 thousand and a million dollars. We will contact Jack Sworaski to see if this would qualify for funding and potentially how much we would receive. (see attached report that Councilman Cerrito requested be included with these minutes)

Mayor Harris stated she received a letter from the residents of Copley Place North. They have motorists coming into their neighbors dumping trash, diapers, urinating, etc. Chief Uron added these are transient motorists coming off Rt. 295. The residents submitted photos of some of the offenses and one man is being charged for urinating in public. They are requesting "Do Not Enter-Local Traffic Only" signs as a deterrent. Greg will look into that. Vince and I are meeting with the residents tomorrow night.

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

Town Wide Yard Sale—what does everyone think? After some discussion, the governing body agreed the town wide yard sale could proceed. We will suggest social distancing and masks be used. Proceeds will benefit TNR and it is planned for October 10.

Pet licensing—rabies clinic is set for October 3, 9am-11am. Letters will go out to all pet owners.

Resolution appoint Jim Arpino as Fire Marshal is on this agenda for approval.

Bamboo ordinance is on the council agenda for public hearing and adoption.

Donation of ADA swing by the Colwells will be memorialized at the council meeting. We will recognize them for the donation.

Municipal resolution regarding transport of LNG—the resident who requested this is not on this meeting and she needs to present it to the governing body so we will hold this for a future meeting.

Meeting format—do you intend to stay with Zoom meetings? Mayor Harris said she expects to stay with this format until the end of the year as the virus is expected to grow in the fall. The governing body agreed.

The Camden County clerks are meeting with the Camden County Board of Elections to finalize information about the election. As soon as we get final information, we will put it out to the public.

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

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption:

Ord. 1128, Bamboo ordinance

Ordinances for introduction:

Ord. 1129, Financial Agreement with long term tax exemption (Chick-Fil-A project)

Resolutions:

Authorizing redeveloper agreement with White Horse Pike Urban Renewal, LLC

Approving application of White Horse Pike Urban Renewal, LLC, for tax exemption

Chapter 159 for playground donation

Resolution to sell wreaths to Bellmawr

Release of escrow for street opening

September bill list

CFO's REPORT—CFO Moules reported on the following

Monthly reports were sent to you for your review. All budget expenditures are sound and there are no concerns at this time. Police overtime analysis is provided. First Colonial bank balances are high but we will be paying the school taxes this week. Revenues are trending okay except for court and we will continue to monitor. Auditors are trying to set up a Zoom meeting for the audit review. Yesterday we had a closing on notes for the capital and the White Horse Pike note and the rates we received were 1.05 and 1.39 respectively. They will renew next August and we will then discuss the possibility of permanent financing. Rates have been volatile because of the Covid situation. Councilman Ludwig asked if it makes sense to take advantage of how low interest rates are now and Denise responded that it would make more sense to wait until we do next year's capital ordinance as that will be the three-year capital program. Mayor Harris asked if it would be possible to have the capital program ready by the end of the year and Denise said that would be possible. She will ask the department heads to get their requests ready so the capital ordinance can be introduced in November and adopted in December.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Robenolt—everyone is doing well in Public Safety. County is reopening the academies. We are continuing to deal with the day-to-day stuff. There have been potential exposures but no issues. The fire department has been working on their ISO rating and our rating should be doing up which will result in a slight decrease for homeowners insurance. We have been dealing with truck complaints on Hutchinson Avenue. Chief Uron looked into this and found that only two trucks used the road during the period of time they were monitoring and one was a public works vehicle. There are “No Trucks” signs posted but they are unenforceable. Councilman Ludwig asked how many signs we have in town that are unenforceable and Chief Uron said he had no idea. Solicitor Higgins said you need to do a sign inventory and compare to the ordinances to make sure they are enforceable. Ludwig asked that we have DPW do the sign inventory. The Clerk said she will send an email to Councilman Beach and Mike Ciocco.

Councilman Drumm—fire official Jim Arpino started last week. Stevie came in and showed him around and went over things with him. We took the investigations back over from the County. He wished everyone a safe Labor Day weekend.

Councilman Hanson—Harvest Festival is cancelled. We are working out the logistics for the pumpkin painting and scarecrow event. Food pantry is still open—anyone who is food insecure can email me or call the borough. Office Nick Wilson dropped off food to someone who had requested food so I want to thank him.

Councilman Ludwig—we got emails from residents who are happy with the services from the Construction Office. Royal Fitness has opened back up and they have a pretty safe process. Only 115 people at a time are allowed in. They have done a good job during this Covid 19 situation.

Councilman Cerrito was having technical difficulties and we could not hear him so he was not able to speak.

Mayor Harris reported that on Friday restaurants can open to 25% capacity—please support them.

Action item—resolution for approval. The Clerk read the following resolution by title:

Res. 9-2020-8 -4 Appointing James Arpino as Fire Marshal for the Regional Fire Alliance

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

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Ludwig, the second public portion was opened. Diane Schreyer expressed appreciation for how hard the governing body is working during this situation. She added that Royal Fitness has also been very accommodating to their customers during all of this.

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

Seeing no further business to be discussed, on a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Ludwig, the Zoom meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm with all in favor.

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

Because he was having technical difficulties, Councilman Cerrito requested that the following information be included with the September 1, 2020 caucus minutes to further clarify the planned project for the railroad crossing and potential funding.

The following proposed phases of work to be considered by Council could be pursued as individual projects or as one large project or broken out into 2 phases (as defined below) this would be determined once Greg advises on a conceptual budget, application process and available funding from applicable Grants.

Phase 1:

Includes: Greg to proceed with defining scope of work, budget and Grant opportunities for the following Improvements made to down town CBR and Atlantic ave, and CBR and Barrington ave.

- Removing and replacing blighted landscaping on the portion of land adjacent to the railroad tracks on corners of CBR and Atlantic Ave. this includes contacting Haddon heights and contrail for permission to make these improvements as the land falls on the borders on Barrington and Haddon heights and is owned by Conrail.
- Installing a public use Gazebo and landscaping on the portion of land adjacent to the railroad tracks on the corner of CBR and Barrington ave. This also includes contacting Haddon heights and contrail for permission to make these improvements as the land falls on the borders on Barrington and Haddon heights and is owned by Conrail

Phase 2:

Includes: Greg to proceed with defining scope of work, budget, Grant opportunities and application process for the installation of a continuous walk/bike path (Rails with Trails) adjacent to the railroad tracks on Barrington Ave. This also includes coordination with Haddon heights and Conrail.