

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2020, 6:00PM, VIRTUAL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM**

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order in council chambers at 6:02pm 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 Beach, Councilman Hanson, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Ludwig and Councilman Robenolt. Also participating via Zoom were Solicitor Tim Higgins, Engineer Greg Evans, Clerk Terry Shannon and CFO Denise Moules.

**First Public Portion**—on a motion by Councilman Ludwig, second by Councilman Hanson, the first public portion of the meeting was opened.

Participating were Fran Gomelson and her friend Jeanne Jordan who lives in Gloucester County. They became aware of a facility being built in Paulsboro that will have liquid natural gas transported to it from Scranton using trains and trucks. This is a really dangerous substance and it has unique properties making it very volatile. It has never been transported using trains before and we are trying to get the transport of this stopped or to find a safer way of transport. There is lack of oversight and the approval process was rushed. At this point Jeanne was having problems with her internet and was breaking up so she agreed to return to the meeting for the second public portion so she could speak about this in more detail.

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

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

The developer for the Chick-fil-A project has requested that their bond be released for the off-site improvements along with the remaining escrows. The new developer will then take over the property. We will submit a resolution for release of the performance bond and the posting of a maintenance bond.

The Borough of Runnemede is doing a sanitary sewer extension project which will include 15 homes on Davis that will be able to connect after construction. It is not mandatory to connect but those homes are currently on septic systems. CCMUA waived the connection fees for a certain period of time. Project is funded through the EIT and Runnemede is asking Barrington to enter into a shared service agreement with Runnemede as the host municipality. We would cover our portion of the project. You should also consider repaving your half of Davis Road. We provided estimates costs for all of this. If you want to move forward, we will work with Tim to draft the resolution. Project will not start until next year. We will also draft a letter that can go to the residents. Councilman Beach asked if they want an answer from us right away. Greg said they are moving forward and would like an answer. Beach asked how far up Davis the paving would go and Greg responded it would be from Hidden Ponds to Courtney Place. Beach asked if we can put the last two blocks in the project and Greg said we could do that within the capital improvement project. We would need to talk to Magnolia about their half of the road as well.

We discussed the TAP application as it relates to the bikeway with Jack Sworaski and we thought they were farther along with Conrail than they are. They anticipate next year being in a better position to speak to Conrail. We recommend waiting until next year to submit a TAP application.

DiMeglio will be starting the test pits this week on Fifth Avenue so the 2020 roads program will start moving ahead. Also the county is paving Clements Bridge Road from the overpass to Haines Avenue. Starts on Wednesday and will go to mid next week. One lane of traffic will get through at a time.

Councilman Robenolt asked if everyone signed off on the fact that connection to the sewer on Davis will be voluntary. Greg said it specifically states in the resolution that connection is optional. Also CCMUA and Runnemede waived the connection fees to their residents and we recommend that you do the same. They will have one year to connect or they will have to pay all connection fees. We will spell that all out in the letter that will go to the residents. Mayor Harris asked that we make that very clear.

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

Town wide yard sale—this weekend, October 10. Already have 30 homes registered.

Pet licensing—rabies clinic was held this past weekend. Only 25 animals were immunized. We will be sending out final reminders to register pets by October 31 or late fee will be added.

Election information—all information pertaining to the election is on the website. I am getting a lot of calls from voters who plan to bring their ballots to the polls on Election Day. It will be a very busy day.

Meeting format—some towns are going to a hybrid format for meetings that includes in-person and Zoom so participants can make their own decision as to how they want participate. Do you want to consider hybrid meetings or stay with an electronic format? The governing body chose to stay with Zoom for now.

New rules regarding electronic meetings—Local Finance Notice 2020-21 establishes new rules for remote meetings. We are already in compliance with most but do have to make some changes. Tim and I are working on protocols and will have a resolution ready for the November caucus meeting. A summary of the regulations was prepared by the MEL and is attached for your review.

Address situation on Clements Bridge Road—we have an issue with the two properties in Haddon Heights (Barrington Diner and the Antique Shop) and their address that we are trying to get resolved with Haddon Heights. The diner is 527 and the antique shop is 531. The properties across the street are 28, 30 and 32. The problem is we have a residents at 527 Clements Bridge Road so we have two properties with the same address. The property owner is not getting his mail and his Amazon packages are being delivered to the diner. Brian reached out to the HH assessor but has not heard back. We are asking them to drop the “5” and change the addresses to 27 and 31 respectively which would be in line with the properties across the street.

2019 Audit report—you all received a copy of the audit report and it is another clean report with no findings. Great job as always by Denise and Kristy. The resolution to accept the report will be on the agenda and I will need you to all sign the Group Affidavit. It will be on the desk in council chambers so please stop in between now and next Tuesday to sign.

### **Council Agenda Review:**

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption:

Ord. 1129, Approving the Financial Agreement with Long Term Tax Exemption and PILOT Agreement with 301 White Horse Pike Urban Renewal LLC (CFA)

Resolutions:

Resolution setting hours for trick or treating

Resolution accepting the 2019 Audit Report

Property maintenance lien for 500 Clements Bridge Road

October bill list

### **CFO's REPORT—CFO Moules reported on the following**

Monthly reports were sent to you for your review. There are no outstanding issues in any of those reports. Court is behind in revenue in comparison to last year so there may need to be some appropriation cancellations next month. We had a Zoom meeting to review the audit report. The auditor was able to work within the CDC guidelines and it worked well. We are also working on the Best Practice questionnaire. There are 90 questions and about 30 of them are scored pertaining to state aid. I expect we will be in compliance as in prior years. We will review at the November caucus meeting. Mayor Harris reminded the governing body to come in to sign the audit certification form. Your copy of the audit is in your bin.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilman Drumm—introduced Jim Arpino, the new Fire Marshal. Jim said he is settling in pretty good and is glad to be here. Drumm said he has been speaking with DPW about the tree planting at Wish Upon a Star as requested by Jen Mulligan in honor of those who have died from Covid and also in honor of the first responders. The nursery does not recommend digging up the trees right now because it is still so warm. It will probably be early November before we can do the tree planting ceremony.

Councilman Hanson—Harvest Fest is cancelled. Fall Fun with First Responders is next weekend. Families can pick-up materials for scarecrows. Councilman Cerrito has a friend who is donating cornstalks to town. We are having a Halloween house decorating contest. Trick or Treating is planned for 4pm-8pm if everyone agrees. Everyone did agree. We are asking that everyone follow CDC guidelines. I had an Eagle Scout, Ben Didio reach out and he wants to improve the playground next to the Little League field and a Girl Scout troop that wants to beautify Lost World Park. We got a lot of donations to the food pantry and we want to thank those who donated. If you know anyone who is food insecure, please email me.

Councilman Cerrito—we are pleased that Camden County is repaving Clements Bridge Road. They are doing from under the bridge to Haines Avenue. Project starts this Wednesday and should be done in about a week. There will be alternating lanes of traffic. I am happy to announce another new business, MZH Private Studio hair salon will open this weekend. This is our fifth or sixth new business on Clements Bridge Road this year. Copley Road signs were taken care of so hopefully this will help deter unwanted traffic. Mayor Harris added that DOT is doing a study because there are complaints that the 295 South sign is small and people miss it and then turn around on Copley. We are also asking about a sign for Wawa so motorists go in the right direction.

Councilman Robenolt—from an emergency management standpoint, everything is working well. We will be appointing a new member to the fire department who was one of the juniors. We are still working on the contract with the PBA and we are getting ready to put the flat roof out for bid for the fire and ambulance building. Jim came out and helped us with a dryer fire the other night so it was good to see him jump right in.

Mayor Harris thanked Property Maintenance and the Construction Office for following up on complaints and anytime work is being done without permits.

### **ACTION ITEM—Minutes for Approval**

The Clerk stated that the August 4, 2020, Zoom caucus minutes and the August 11, 2020, Zoom council minutes were submitted for review. On a motion by Councilman Cerrito, second by Councilman Beach, the minutes were submitted with all in favor. Councilman Hanson abstained on the caucus minutes.

On a motion by Councilman Cerrito, second by Councilman Robenolt, the second public portion was opened. Diane Schreyer thanked Councilman Cerrito for his help with something and said he is always responsive.

Jeanne Jordan was back on the Zoom meeting and thanked everyone for the opportunity to speak. Fran and she wanted to bring the resolution to prohibit the LNG be transported through all of our towns to the attention of the governing body. If you read about the characteristics of liquid natural gas, the risks are far too great. If there were an accident with a train, it could explode and cause other railroad cars to explode. It also affects air quality and it is anticipated that over 1600 trains per day will be going into the new facility. Runnemede has already approved this resolution. Local boroughs don't have any authority with Conrail but if you approve this resolution, it sends a message. Mayor Harris thanked them for attending and said they will discuss this issue and the resolution.

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

Seeing no further business to be discussed, on a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Cerrito, the Zoom meeting was adjourned at 6:59pm with all in favor.

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