

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021, 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 state of emergency. She stated that members of the public will be muted until the public portion at which time they can raise their virtual hand. They will then be unmuted so they can speak. They will be limited to five minutes in the aggregate and anyone using abusive language will be removed from the meeting. Mayor Harris then 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 and Councilman Robenolt. Councilman Ludwig was not on the Zoom meeting. Also participating via Zoom were Solicitor Tim Higgins, Engineer Greg Evans, Clerk Terry Shannon and CFO Denise Moules.

Action item: Resolution for approval

Mayor Harris read Resolution 1-2021-17, Appointing Nicholas Wilson as a Patrolman to the Barrington Police Department, by title. On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Drumm, the resolution was approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes; Cerrito-yes; Drumm-yes; Hanson-yes; Robenolt-yes. Mayor Harris then administered the Oath of Office to Officer Wilson. She added that during the height of Covid, Nick was working daily and brought documents back and forth to my house. She knows he will do a great job.

First Public Portion

On a motion by Councilman Drumm, second by Councilman Cerrito, the first public portion of the meeting was opened. Present on Zoom was Diane Schreyer who wanted to say congratulations to Patrolman Wilson and welcome to Barrington. Also present was Deputy Chief Minardi who wanted to congratulate Nick. With the Covid situation he was a huge help and will be another great addition. Patrolman Wilson then thanked Mayor and Council, Chief Uron, Deputy Chief Minardi and the whole police department for this opportunity.

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

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

First he thanked the Governing Body for the reappointment and said they look forward to another year working with the Borough.

Action items—authorizing our office to proceed with plans and specs for the NJDOT 2020 project to reconstruct Austiin Avenue; introduce the NJDEP Stormwater Rules Ordinance Revisions; approve voucher no. 3-final and change order no. 2-final for MD Remodeling for the tax office security wall.

Review of monthly engineer's report—2020 capital improvement program, DiMeglio Construction has completed a portion of the work but now the weather is causing delays. As soon as the weather permits, they will continue with the work and everyone will be notified. Fifth Ave has temporary pavement in and there are no hazardous conditions. They can't reconstruct the roadway until the weather and water conditions permit. If anyone has any issues, tell them to contact our office.

Chick-fil-A site improvements have begun. We will perform random inspections. Tonewood has also started on their site improvements. Regarding the gateway landscape improvement projects, we did send a letter to Conrail and will hope for the best. He thanked Councilman Cerrito and Mayor Harris for their assistance.

Mayor Harris asked if we know when Chick-fil-A will open and Greg said he will get the schedule. They are moving pretty quickly now. Clerk Shannon told Greg that we have not received the maintenance bond from Chick-fil-A yet. Once received, we will return the performance bond to Delco. Shannon said

she also received an email from the engineer for Haddonfield requesting a meeting to discuss Oak Avenue. The governing body authorized Greg to work with him on this project.

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

Policy regarding Covid vaccine—do we want to make this mandatory? We would have to allow for disability exceptions. The labor attorney is drafting a policy for your review. Mayor Harris asked anyone who has questions to please let Terry know so she can pass them on to the attorney. This policy is just for consideration at this point.

Increase in fees for CO home resale inspections—Bob Harris has requested this ordinance be amended. All of the realtors are waiting until the last minute to schedule CO inspections then want them done immediately. He wants to structure the fees similar to what the Fire Alliance does. If less than 14 days before settlement, fee would be \$150 and if less than five days, fee would be \$200. The hope is this will encourage them to schedule the inspections timely. Mayor Harris asked if this is the realtor's fault or the homeowner. Bob was on the Zoom meeting and responded it can be both. The Governing Body agreed and authorized introduction of the ordinance.

Shredding event—we will be holding a shredding event for residents this Saturday, December 5 from 9am-12 noon in Borough Hall parking lot. We will be destroying a lot of borough records that qualify for destruction and have been approved by the auditor and the state. Thanks to Denise, Megan and Eileen for going through the records and preparing them for destruction.

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

Ordinance for introduction:

- Stormwater revisions—ordinance language was sent to all today
- Revision of the CO inspection fees

Resolutions:

- January bill list

CFO's REPORT—CFO Moules reported on the following

Monthly reports were sent to you for your review along with bank statements, the final budget expenditures the police overtime for 2020 and the breakdown of revenues. I will be distributing the budget schedule for 2021 later this month.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Beach—congratulations to Nick. Have heard great things about you. Congratulations to Bob Uron—he has put in 25 years and will be retiring. Public Works is starting split shifts starting tomorrow. They will work three ten-hour days. We can't afford to take a chance to lose the whole department because of a Covid exposure so splitting the crews up will reduce the risk. One crew will work Saturday, Monday and Tuesday and the other crew will work Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Saturday will be a straight time day and the Union agreed to this. They will be working 30 hours but will be paid for 40.

Councilman Hanson—congratulations to Patrolman Wilson. Thanks to everyone who participated in the Zoom Rerorg. No events scheduled but I am hoping we can have some outdoor events in May or June.

Councilman Drumm—congratulations to Nick and welcome aboard. Congratulations to Bob Uron. I worked with Bob and we thank him for his service. Today the state gave Jim Arpino a hard time about Magnolia leaving the Alliance. They claim it is a violation of an executive order. We will be doing a Zoom meeting with representatives from the state this Thursday.

Councilman Robenolt—have we gotten any direction on if we can get our employees signed-up for the vaccine? Mayor Harris said no, the County will have three sites. Once it is open to the specific groups, you will need ID. Daycare providers are in the next group. There is a state website where you can go on and register. Group 1B starts on January 20 and includes first responders, daycare providers and government employees. We will put the state website on Facebook so people can register. They will then email you when you are eligible. Solicitor Higgins added the website is covidvaccine.nj.gov. Councilman Robenolt thanked the guys at the firehouse who responded to the fire on New Year's Day. We are moving forward with getting the roof out to re-bid.

Councilman Cerrito—congratulations to Nick. It is a great honor to serve and we look forward to working with you.

Mayor Harris—congratulations to Nick and we look forward to working with you. We will post the vaccine information on the website and Facebook. Congratulations to Bob Uron—when you are officially retiring, we will recognize you. She also wished a happy 92 birthday to Dot Pawling.

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Beach, the second public portion was opened. Diane Schreyer said when you sign up for the vaccine, you are asked to give your medical information. She thinks this is dangerous. Mayor Harris said Eileen will be putting out information to all seniors.

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

Action item: Resolution for approval

Mayor Harris read the following resolution by title: Res. 1-2020-18, Authorizing a Closed Session to Discuss Contractual, Personnel and/or Attorney-Client Privileged Matters. On a motion by Councilman Drumm, second by Councilman Beach, the resolution was approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes; Cerrito-yes; Drumm-yes; Hanson-yes; Robenolt-yes.

On a motion by Councilman Drumm, second by Councilman Beach, the meeting was adjourned to closed session at 6:45pm.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Harris explained that we got the settlement on the PBA contract. The summary was distributed to all of you. It is less than what they were asking for and less than what the mediator recommended but they have agreed. Denise confirmed that because of the retirement, we have funds in the budget to cover the proposed increases. Everyone concurred and the resolution will be approved back in open session.

Clerk Shannon then expanded on the situation with the Fire Alliance. Jim Arpino contacted the DCA about returning the check they received for Life Hazard Inspections and DCA gave him a hard time because they were not informed about Magnolia leaving and it violates Executive Order 103. They sent him a large document with all the rules they promulgated for the public health emergency and one of the rules is you cannot make changes to any LEA's. Jim had not received this information previously and has only been with us for a month. Solicitor Higgins added he thinks there is confusion on the part of DCA and they are directing their ire at the wrong entity. We did not ask Magnolia to leave—they left us. And it is them who failed to notify DCA about their new LEA. Hopefully we can get this resolved in the Zoom meeting this Thursday. He really thinks there is a misunderstanding and he will try to clear it up prior to the meeting. Clerk Shannon will send the email from Magnolia wherein they informed us they were leaving the Alliance to Tim.

Seeing no further business to be discussed in closed session, on a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Drumm, the Zoom meeting returned to open session at 6:54pm.

BACK IN OPEN SESSION

Action item: Resolution for approval

Mayor Harris read Resolution 1-2021-19, Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with Policeman's Benevolent Association Local 328 by title. On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Drumm, the resolution was approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes; Cerrito-yes; Councilman Drumm asked Tim if he should abstain and Tim said as long as there is any question it would be better to abstain so Drumm abstained; Hanson-yes; Robenolt-yes. Resolution was approved.

Seeing no further business to be conducted, on a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Beach, the caucus meeting was adjourned with all in favor at 6:58pm.

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