

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 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: Council President Beach, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Drumm, Councilman Hanson, Councilman Ludwig and Councilman Robenolt. Also participating via Zoom were Solicitor Tim Higgins, Engineer Greg Evans, Clerk Terry Shannon and CFO Denise Moules along with others.

RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL Clerk Shannon read the following resolutions for approval.

Res. 3-2021-36 Promoting Krystal Jankowski to the Position of Corporal of the Police Dept.
Res. 3-2021-37 Promoting Patrick D'Ascenzo to the Position of Sergeant of the Police Dept.

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, second by Councilman Drumm, the resolutions were approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes; Cerrito-yes; Drumm-yes; Hanson-yes; LLudwig-yes; Robenolt-yes. Mayor Harris administered the Oath of Office to Corporal Jankowski and Sergeant D'Ascenzo. There was applause for both from everyone on Zoom.

First Public Portion

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Drumm, the first public portion of the meeting was opened. Deputy Chief Minardi congratulated Corporal Jankowski and Sergeant D'Ascenzo on their promotions and also congratulated Sergeant Bob Uron on his retirement which was yesterday. Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Councilman Robenolt, second by Councilman Drumm, the public portion was closed.

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

Action items:

Approve a resolution for submission and execution of an Application for CDBG funds, Year 2021.
Greg recommended that we continue with the senior program and improvements at the VFW Senior Community Center.

Greg then spoke about the grant received from the last round of funding for Open Space funds. The notice of award was delayed and we just found it that we were awarded funding. Those funds were for LED lighting, installation of a water fountain, park benches and trash receptacles and painting the gazebo. We will work with the borough to determine which projects will be completed and will submit cost estimates. Regarding this year's application for Open Space funds, the governing body determined rather than submit an application from the borough, we will support the resubmission of an application for Barrington Girl's Softball. We will do a resolution of support.

Review of monthly engineer's report—CCIA regional stormwater management study, we attended kickoff meeting with CCIA, CCMUA, Assemblyman Spearman and representatives from the other towns. They will be getting RFP's for engineering services and will be meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers and the DEP. For now, there is no financial commitment needed from the participating towns. They will be looking for information on the areas in town that experience flooding.

Bids for collection and disposal of solid waste are due on May 6 and a pre-bid meeting is April 15 on Zoom.

Haines Avenue flooding—letter was sent to the two residents who filed a complaint along with Mr. Vesper at Camden County requesting approval to connect to the County system. They conceptually agreed to the connection and we will work with the Mayor to do the field work and get approval to access the residents' property.

Mayor Harris asked if there were any questions. Seeing none, this concluded the engineer's report.

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

- ♦Camden County Hazard Mitigation Plan—the County has received a grant to have the HMP plan updated. Dave Pawling and I attended the kickoff meeting today. There will be a training for the Annexes on March 9 and again on March 11. We need to assemble our team and will include any members of the public who may be interested.
- ♦Governor signs law legalizing marijuana—we will need to update our policies. This has no impact on CDL drivers—they still fall under the federal regulations so this legalization will have no bearing on them. The JIF is in the process of developing a policy that we can all review and revise as needed.
- ♦Camden County Open Space funding—We will include a resolution on next week's agenda to support an application to be submitted for this year by Girl's Softball.
- ♦Primary petitions—the deadline for submission of petitions is April 5 by 4:00pm. The County released the information on required signatures today and it is 20 for Democrats and 7 for Republicans. As far as we know, the primary will be an in-person election.
- ♦Revisions to snow emergency route ordinance—Councilman Hanson, in concert with Deputy Chief Minardi, has requested revisions to this ordinance. Our current ordinance requires a court appearance and amendment will allow people to just pay the fine without having to go to court. Fine will be \$29. I will prepare amending ordinance for introduction at council.
- ♦Resolution for PBA contract—contract has been finalized and contract can be signed. Resolution authorizing execution of the contract will be on the council agenda. We will also be introducing the ordinance for PBA salaries on first reading.
- ♦Purchasing updates—we are currently out to bid for trash and recycling collection. Bids are due in on May 6 so hopefully award can be made at either the May or June council meeting. The current contract was for one year and expires June 30. Also, the state has increased the bid threshold for entities with a QPA. It is going from \$40,000 to \$44,000 as of July 1.

Council Agenda Review: Clerk Shannon reviewed the following.

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption:

Ord. 1133, Authorizing Extension of Interim Zoning for Outdoor Restaurant Seating

Ordinances for introduction on first reading:

Ord. to amend snow emergency parking

Ord. for COLA ordinance to accompany budget

Ord. for PBA salaries

Ord. for 2021 non-union salaries

Resolutions:

Resolution authorizing execution of PBA contract

Resolution to submit a CCOS grant application

Resolution to submit a CDBG grant application

Resolution for a dedication by rider for 9-11 Memorial donations

Resolution authorizing SSA with Tavistock for office support services
March bill list

CFO's REPORT—CFO Moules reported on the following

Monthly reports were submitted to you for your review along with bank statements. A couple of control accounts are over-expended as there are several payments that are higher in the beginning of the year and exceed the temporary budget but that will be resolved when the budget is adopted. Police overtime information has also been provided. Budgets are due by Monday and we will schedule meetings for the third week of March. I will send out an email setting the department schedule. Budgeted revenues will be based on last year's collections. Terry already reviewed the ordinances and resolutions for the council agenda. Regarding the salary ordinance, if there are any questions, please reach out to me.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President Beach—Public Works is back to full strength. Councilman Ludwig had questioned about the storm inlets. Mike worked with the engineer and reviewed all the inlets and they will be providing a report as to the conditions of all the inlets. They repaired 14 inlets last year. He apologized that he has to leave the meeting. Mayor Harris explained that his grandmother passed away so he has to go. Everyone expressed condolences.

Councilman Drumm—congratulations to Sgt. D'Ascenzo and Cpl. Jankowski. Glad we were able to get that done. Congratulations to Bob Uron and we wish you well in the future. Regarding the Fire Alliance, we are looking to bring on Stratford. Jim thinks he may be able to do it with existing staffing. He projected conservative revenue numbers and he thinks we can do it and possibly start on July 1.

Councilman Ludwig—the Governor's budget will impact local governments and schools. Pension payments were at the highest level ever. School districts will get extra funding this year to try to get them back on track and improve technology and next year will be back to the normal level. The Governor passed a state law creating "Juneteenth" which is an additional holiday celebrated on June 19 to recognize the abolition of slavery. He would like to pass this in Barrington and add this holiday. He asked that this be added to the agenda. He added that the most recent stimulus money package includes a lot of money for higher education which should help our state.

Councilman Robenolt—congratulates to Pat and Krystal and we know you will both do a fabulous job. Congratulates to Bobby—you have had a great career and will be missed. Condolences to the DiMatteo family. The Fire Company has a new member and he will send over the application tomorrow to the Clerk so it can be added to the agenda. The roof bids were postponed and are due in on Thursday. The Fire Company has been working on numbers for a new truck.

Councilman Cerrito—congratulations to Bob Uron and I wish you well in your retirement. Congratulates to Sgt. D'Ascenzo and Cpl. Jankowski.

Councilman Hanson—congratulations to Pat and Krystal on their promotions and to Bob on his retirement. Det. Sgt. Pawling is going back to school to obtain his bachelor's degree and requested tuition reimbursement. It will be \$4000 a year for the next five years and he would like to have this approved. Tim will draft an agreement and a resolution to approve can be added to the agenda. The Zone 5 TAC Team is in need of a new vehicle. There is a total of ten towns involved and our share of the cost for a new vehicle would be \$4948. I spoke to Denise and we can make a one-time payment from capital. Parks are still open and spring sports are starting-up. There are no public events scheduled. Food pantry is still open and we are organizing Easter dinner baskets for seniors.

Mayor Harris—Congratulations to Bobby. He is the only officer who ever pulled her over almost 20 years ago. Congratulations also to Pat and Krystal. Our police department is in good hands. We had

another Covid death today—a 90 year old resident. Please keep the DiMatteo family in your thoughts and prayers.

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

Seeing no further business to be discussed, on a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Robenolt, the Zoom meeting was adjourned at 6:42pm.

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