

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2021, 6:00PM, VIRTUAL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order in council chambers at 6:05pm 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.

First Public Portion

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Drumm, the first public portion of the meeting was opened. Present on Zoom was Chris Vennitti, Runnemede resident who lives on Callie Court, who spoke about the speeding on Davis Avenue. He believes cars do 40-50 miles per hour. He has had people yell at him and the other day his wife was driving and someone attempted to pass her on Shreve and then did pass her on Davis. He would like to see more police presence and “no thru traffic signs” installed. He claimed that he has done a lot for this town and expects the town to “come through” for him. Councilman Hanson responded that we will be doing a speed study and he forwarded his suggestions to our engineer and solicitor. Engineer Greg Evans explained how the speed study works and that they will take the information generated and make recommendations to the Governing Body on traffic calming measures that could be implemented. Deputy Chief Minardi added that the police are doing half hour radar posts out there on each shift. That is obviously not enough but we are increasing presence. He will fill Mr. Vennitti in on the steps they are taking.

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

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

Action items:

Approve a resolution for NJDOT Municipal Aid application for Austin Avenue, Phase 2, from 3rd to 4th Avenue as priority no. 1 and Haines Avenue as priority no. 2. The Governing Body agreed.

Approve Change Order No. 2 and Voucher No. 2 for DiMeglio Construction for the 2020 Capital Improvement Program. Also paving for Fifth Avenue is scheduled for next week, weather permitting.

Review of Engineer’s Report:

Year 2020 CDBG program—we are working on the ADA ramp for the senior center. We anticipate receiving bids in late June for the July meeting.

2021 Capital Improvement Program—Austin from 2nd – 3rd, Oak from Pomona to Faragut, intersection of Russell and Richards. These were covered in the bond ordinance you are adopting this month.

Oak Avenue—Haddonfield awarded contract to APS. Our contributing portion is \$82,499.66 for Farragut to Warwick Road. This is on the agenda for the shared service agreement. We attended the pre-construction meeting for this project and work is anticipated to begin the week of June 21. The contractor will update us as the date gets nearer.

That concluded the Engineer’s report. Mayor Harris added she received a letter about applications for Safe Routes to Schools. Greg responded that we will look at it and get back to her—it has to do a lot

with the school participating and completing their side of the requirements. He will follow-up with Tony Arcodia to see if they have done anything for this. Mayor Harris also said that unfortunately Mr. Harshaw, who had emailed her numerous times about Oak Avenue, passed away and won't get to see the project done. Greg added that the street will remain as the rural nature it has currently and concrete curbs are not being installed to keep the rural nature of the street intact.

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

♦ABC renewals—all liquor licenses expire June 30 and need to be renewed. I have received renewals for three of the four licenses. The license that belonged to Time Out has yet to be renewed but I spoke to Sam Ross last week and the new owners will be renewing. I expect to receive this week. Also the person to person transfer has been filed and the Police Department is performing the background investigation. As soon as they issue clearance, the resolution authorizing the transfer can be approved.

♦Marijuana legislation—Just a reminder that the ordinance will need to be introduced in June and adopted in July in order to make the August deadline. If no action is taken by August, then we cannot adopt any ordinances pertaining to this for five years. Tim has prepared an ordinance to allow for retail facilities and it is modeled after the ordinance we had previously adopted. The committee will review and if they are in agreement, the ordinance can be introduced next week and also a resolution will be approved authorizing the ordinance to be referred to the Planning Board for their review. Solicitor Tim Higgins explained that the ordinance has to be re-adopted and after introduction, it has to be referred to the Planning Board for their review. This ordinance opts-in for Class 5 which is for retail and opts-out of the other categories. If you want to change that to allow any of the other classes in the future, you can amend the ordinance. Councilman Ludwig added that he reviewed the ordinance and approved it. Councilman Drumm said he already read it and Councilman Cerrito said he will review this week. It will be on the agenda for introduction at next week's council meeting.

♦Primary Election—is next Tuesday, June 8. This is an in-person election and all polling locations will be open.

♦Financial Disclosure—just a final reminder that the deadline to file is June 30.

♦July 2 fireworks—all paperwork has been received from the vendor. Jim Arpino is currently reviewing for completeness so he can issue the permit. Also, he has asked that Ernie Busch, the fire official from Haddonfield, accompany him for the fireworks show and the first light inspection as this is the first time he has dealt with fireworks. Resolution authorizing fireworks will be on this agenda.

♦Sale of Jet-Vac to Merchantville—Mike Ciocco has been in talks with Chris Belmont from Merchantville about the Jet-Vac as they are interested in buying it from us. Mike spoke to Gran Turk Equipment and they recommended a selling price of \$3000.00 based on the age and condition of the vehicle. Councilman Beach said that Merchantville does want to buy it and we want to sell it to them for the recommended price. If all are in agreement, we will approve a resolution next week authorizing the sale of the Jet-Vac to Merchantville.

♦Shared service agreement with Haddonfield—we are entering into a SSA with Haddonfield for the repaving of Oak Avenue. The work is scheduled to begin the week of June 21 and will continue through July 25, weather permitting. Haddonfield is the lead agency on this and the resolution authorizing the shared service agreement will be on next week's agenda.

♦Reopening—as the mask mandate has been removed and social distancing is no longer required, all staff is now back to work in the office and we will re-open to the public as of July 6. The only reason we are not reopening in June is because the Pre-K is still here and won't be done until the third week of June. We will also be returning to in-person meetings starting in July.

♦As explained in the email sent out this morning, the council meeting next week will be Thursday at 6:00pm and will be our last Zoom meeting. I screwed-up and should have sent the public notices for the bond ordinance to the Courier Post yesterday. They are running on Thursday so moving the

meeting to Thursday allows us to hold the public hearings on those ordinances and adopt them accordingly.

♦Amendment to the Recycling ordinance—Mike Ciocco requested that the ordinance be amended so it agrees with our new policy regarding plastic bags. The changes he has requested removes any reference to or buckets. The ordinance will be ready for introduction next week. Councilman Beach added that we will be delivering the new buckets to residents next week. Included will be a letter explaining the new regulations.

Council Agenda Review: Clerk Shannon reviewed the following.

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption:

Ord. 1140 Amending Chapter 120, Vehicles and Traffic, to Restrict Chesterfield Road Parking

Ord. 1141 Amending Chapter 59, Fire Prevention (amends fee structure)

Ord. 1142 Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Completion of Various Capital Improvements and the Acquisition of Various Capital Equipment for the Borough of Barrington; Appropriating the Sum of \$2,921,350 Therefor

Ord. 1143 Refunding Bond Ordinance

Ordinances for introduction on first reading:

Ord. 1144 Amending Chapter 128, Zoning, Relative to Marijuana Facilities

Ord. 1145 Amending Chapter 64, Recycling

Resolutions:

Change Order No. 2 for DiMeglio

Resolution authorizing a fireworks show

Resolution authorizing sale of Jet-Vac to Merchantville

Resolution authorizing shared service agreement with Haddonfield

Resolution authorizing refund of escrow posted for 328 Kingston Avenue

Authorizing preparation of offering document for refunding bonds

Authorizing submission of a NJDOT application for Municipal Aid

Appointing a hearing officer for a personnel matter

June bill list

Mayor Harris has requested a proclamation for June as LGBTQ pride month.

CFO's REPORT—CFO Moules reported on the following

You all received the monthly report with the bank balance and the current budget status. All controls are within the black. Police overtime is also within what was budgeted and anticipated revenues are trending well. I am working with bond counsel and our financial advisor on the schedule for the refunding bonds and general obligations. Both will close in August. A resolution authorizing bond counsel to go out to bid will be on the agenda. I will have more information ready for the July meeting.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Hanson—Barrington Band asked if we will allow them access to a facility so they can resume practicing. If okay with everyone, we will let them use the Rec Center and will be required to sign Covid waivers. We would have to make them the exclusive user of that room so we don't have to do Covid cleaning in between users. We will be posting photos of the town graduates in the next couple of weeks. Thanks to the Fire Company for hosting the Memorial Day Service. Movie night is

Saturday, June 19 behind Woodland School on the field and will be showing the Sandlot and this is a free event. July 2 parade at 6pm with fireworks at dusk. There is no viewing area this year and we met with Lawnside police and Home Depot and PetSmart and they have no issues with cars parking in their lots to view the fireworks. We will again be having a house decorating contest and will be having floats in the parade. Parks are open and available. Civic Association is having Brews, Beats and Eats on July 10 behind St. Frances.

Councilman Drumm—added his thanks to the Fire Department for the Memorial Day service. The plaques are in for the dedication of the two trees at Wish Upon a Star Park and he will coordinate with DPW to have them installed. He was contacted by a couple of residents who are interested in the Green Team and he will follow-up with them. He will not be available for next Thursday's meeting as I will be in North Dakota. He will try to get on but doesn't know if it will be successful.

Councilman Beach—will be coordinating with Eileen and Patti regarding resuming some senior activities. In September, NJAW will be doing a major project in town replacing water mains on seven streets—mostly on the Haddonfield side. Residents will be informed and the work will continue until the end of the year. It will result in each road being repaved 100%.

Councilman Ludwig—we are happy with the marijuana ordinance and are glad it will be on for introduction next week. Mayor Harris added we received a letter from a new resident complimenting Brian, Greg and Mike and the whole department on how quickly they responded to her issues and she is very happy that she moved here. Shawn responded that Mr. Kelly knows what is expected and is very good at dealing with people. All of our guys are good at making residents feel good about working with the Borough.

Councilman Cerrito—thanked DPW and Mike Ciocco for his help on the 9/11 memorial. Grand opening for Trending on the Tracks is June 5. Chick-Fil-A is opening soon—waiting for details on the grand opening. No date yet for Tonewood—should be anytime soon. We are selling bricks for the 9/11 memorial and they are \$100. Thanks to our platinum sponsors Edmund Optics and Central Pro Services—they each donated \$2500 towards the memorial. Mayor Harris said some residents asked why the tree came down and Vince explained that it had to be removed for the memorial or the roots would have been compromised or infringed on the monument. We will be planting two trees in its place later on.

Councilman Robenolt—roof project at firehouse started today. Mike Ciocco reached out to Trains Towers and they removed one of the antennas for us. Thanks to Ken Baus, Felicia Robenolt and Kate Bowen for their work on the Memorial Day service—it was a very nice ceremony. He told Shawn he had a complaint regarding bamboo and Shawn told him to give it to Brian. He told Terry he will have another new member to be appointed to the fire company by resolution.

Mayor Harris—thanked Wayne, Felicia, Ken and Kate for yesterday's Memorial Day service—it was a beautiful job. We hope to see that continue and grow even more. This is the 51st year for Pride Month and I think it is important to relay the message that we are open to everyone and to encourage to be who they want to be. It will be a proclamation at the council meeting declaring June as Pride Month. July we will go back to in-person meetings in the council room. Continue to be safe to all and I appreciate everyone's hard work getting through all of this. The high school graduation is June 22 and 8th grade is June 17.

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Ludwig, the second public portion was opened.

Fire Chief Ken Baus thanked Terry Shannon for referring them to NJAW as they received a grant for \$2000.00 and the Treasurer already received the funds. Also we are in possession of smoke detectors

and if you know of any seniors or anyone who needs one, let us know. The Memorial Day service is up on our website.

Councilman Cerrito asked if we have anyone who helps residents with installation of car seats. Deputy Chief Minardi responded they have two officers trained for that so he can refer residents to the Police Department.

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

RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL:

Res. 6-2021-65 Authorizing a Closed Session for the Purpose of Discussing Contractual, Personnel and/or Attorney/Client Privileged Matters

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, Ludwig-yes; Robenolt-yes.

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Robenolt, the meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:08pm.

Councilman Hanson explained that we have a candidate to hire as a full-time patrolman. He is currently an officer in Haddonfield and wants to come to Barrington. His name is Conor Beckas. Councilman Ludwig asked if he was interviewed by the committee. Mayor Harris explained he came highly recommended and is known by the Chief and Deputy Chief. He graduated from Haddon Heights High School and he is a genuinely good kid. Councilman Robenolt asked if he comes in at Year 1 and Councilman Hanson responded that yes, he is. Mayor Harris said he is taking a cut-in-pay to come here but will make it up quickly because of our step program and he has accepted the salary. Everyone agreed and the resolution to appoint him will be on the council agenda.

Seeing no further business to be discussed, on a motion by Councilman Ludwig, second by Councilman Drumm, the meeting returned to open session on Zoom and was adjourned on a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Ludwig, at 7:18pm.

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