

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 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 as it relates to remote public meetings and pursuant to Executive Orders issued by Governor Murphy. She explained the process for making comments or asking questions during the public portions of the meeting. She then led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk called roll and the following were present on Zoom: Councilman Beach, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Drumm, Councilman Hanson, Councilman Ludwig and Councilman Robenolt. Also on the Zoom meeting were Mayor Harris, Clerk Shannon and Solicitor Tim Higgins.

First Public Portion

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, second by Councilman Drumm, the first public portion of the meeting was opened. Present was Chris Vennitti, Runnemede resident, who wanted to know what plans the engineer was putting together to address speeding on Davis Road. Mayor Harris said it will be reported on by the Borough Engineer and Councilman Hanson. Vennitti asked if we will have an opportunity to comment and Clerk Shannon responded that there will be a second public portion where he can comment.

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

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

Action items: Greg Evans reported on the following.

Davis Road—the road is half in Runnemede and half in Barrington. We are working with the police departments in both towns to come up with a plan where the cost can be shared by both towns. Some of the options include speed bumps but Runnemede has not expressed an interest in speed bumps. So, we are looking at some line striping like we have done on other streets, larger speed limit signs with “this is your last warning” language, a speed radar sign and enforcement. The Barrington police have stepped up their enforcement. All of this is still subject to review and discussion with the police and Runnemede.

At this point, on a motion by Councilman Ludwig, second by Councilman Hanson, a second public portion was opened. Mr. Vennitti said he does not think that will work. He has only seen one Barrington cop doing radar. On the weekends, there is no one out there and Davis Road is like a race track. We have to stop the through traffic and should put up “no through traffic” signs although he knows it cannot be enforced. We need police radar out here all the time. Maybe they can get special funding from the state to have more cops out there. We need more enforcement especially on the weekends and during rush hour. Greg responded that is one of their recommendations. Speeding is not just a problem on Davis Road, it is everywhere. Vennitti asked if we can get “do not enter, local traffic only” signs out there and Greg responded we have to talk about that. Mayor Harris said she knows the Runnemede mayor is absolutely against speed bumps. She asked Chief Uron to talk to the Runnemede chief to see if they can work together on a plan for enforcement. Vennitti said the Runnemede chief is behind this and called him personally and that Runnemede ran radar out there. He would be interested to know how many tickets Barrington has issued.

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, second by Councilman Beach, the second public portion was closed.

Greg continued with the Engineer's report and reported on the following:

We have approved voucher number 5 and change order number 5 for DiMeglio for the 2020 Road Improvement program and will get those over to the Borough.

Greg Fusco has submitted his recommendation for award of a contract to Seaside Waste for collection of solid waste and recyclables. Plus, he added a recommendation that we also award disposal for a five-year period in the amount of \$1,046,400. Councilman Beach asked if we have to stay with the County contract and Clerk Shannon responded we already opted out.

NJDOT has announced the FY2022 Municipal Aid applications period is open and we will review with Councilman Beach and Mike Ciocco so we can make a recommendation at the November meeting.

The ramp at the VFW senior center has been completed except for the sod. All is ready for the October 8 flu shot clinic.

Oak Avenue speeding complaint—15 residents responded to the survey and the results were submitted to Sharon McCullough in Haddonfield. The majority is in favor of speed humps. Clerk Shannon added that we requested of Haddonfield that we see the plans for the speed humps prior to construction. This is within the 200 block of Oak Avenue from Farragut to Warwick Road.

2020 Capital Improvement Program—contractor is substantially complete except for minor punchlist items.

Sgt. Hunt completed the speed study on Richards and Russell and we will review those findings and issue a report for the Governing Body. He is going to move the radar over to Haines and Barrington Avenues where we also have speed complaints.

That concluded the engineer's report. Mayor Harris said she sent an email to the Mayor of Haddonfield to remind them we want to see the speed hump plans for Oak Avenue.

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

Ballot dropbox—the County installed them ahead of schedule and we have one in the parking lot at the end of the island. This will be in use for Vote by Mail ballots for the November election.

Cyber security requirements—the JIF is revising the cyber security requirements for all members. There have been a couple of municipalities that had to pay ransom to get their server back. There is a comprehensive list of requirements that have to be met. E3 IT has developed a proposal to provide the required services. Denise and I are still reviewing so we can identify exactly what services we need. The JIF is also requiring updates to the personnel policies which are currently in process.

Employee Assistance Program—we don't currently have such a program for first responders and we should. Cooper has an EAP that towns can avail themselves of and they presented it to the Camden County Police Chiefs. It is a flat fee of \$3500 for up to 50 employees and if an employee needs mental health services, they can go to Cooper for six free sessions. If at the end of the six sessions it is determined they need more services, they will be referred to a provider in their network. This is definitely something we should include in our benefits package and if all are in agreement, we will include a resolution on next week's agenda.

Codification project—review of manuscript is complete. Thanks to Tim for spending eight hours with me doing the review. The police, the planning board engineer and Suzanne also assisted. I am working on entering all the changes and will forward to General Code. They will then send us one big ordinance to adopt the new code. It is close to being done.

Council Agenda Review:

Ordinance for introduction on first reading:

Ord. 1148, Approving an Easement at 1101 Clements Bridge Road for Barrington Mews sign

Resolutions:

Approving Change Order No. 5 for the 2020 Road Program

Awarding a Contract to Seaside Waste for Solid Waste Removal and Disposal

Authorizing Participation in the Cooper Employee Assistance Program

Resolution designating outdoor smoking areas for DPW and the Ambulance building
Cancelling outstanding/stale date checks drawn on the court accounts
October bill list

Mayor Harris added a proclamation for October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month

CFO's REPORT—Denise Moules reported on the following

Budget expenditures are within controls. There is one account that is overdrawn and that will be resolved in the budget transfer resolution next month. Revenues are down in court fees as we are not receiving the anticipated amounts. The deficit will be covered by other areas of revenue or through budget cancellations. Tim and I have been working on the contract with E3 IT for the services they are currently providing as well as the new requirements for the cyber security requirements. We hope to have that done for next month. I am adding a resolution for a Chapter 159 for three grants received--\$1500 recreation donation, CDBG funds for senior programs and the Drug Alliance grant. Next month we will have the review of the Best Practices Inventory as well as We got confirmation of funding for the senior program from CDBG the plans for spending the ARP funds on the 4th Avenue pump station.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Hanson—thanks to Adrianna, owner of Wildflower Florist, for organizing the small business fall festival this past weekend. It was to promote the small businesses in town and was a great event. Speed study on Davis I will be discussing with the Chief and Runnemedede. Halloween is coming up and trick or treating will be 3pm-8pm. There are two organizations hosting truck of treats—Allied Autism Group will host a sensory friendly trunk or treat on Friday the 29th in the lot across from Rite Aid and the WPTG will host one that same night behind Woodland School. We are having a house decorating contest and anyone interested can contact me to sign-up.

Councilman Cerrito—fall festival looked great and thanks to the owner of Wildflower for setting that up. I stopped by Tonewood and the inside is coming along nicely. In a month or two, they should be open. I will be talking with Greg Evans about the landscaping we want to do along the railroad and to see if we can collaborate with Tonewood improvements. I am glad to hear about the cyber security—this is becoming more prevalent, and we need to make sure our information is safe.

Councilman Drumm—state came down to have a second meeting with Jim Arpino on the Fire Alliance. Some things had been missed prior to Jim's arrival but he is getting everything in order. He is following the guidance from the state and he and the inspectors are doing a good job.

Councilman Robenolt—the roof project is slated to finish on Friday. The committee has been meeting with Haddon Heights about a potential shared service for fire personnel. Thanks to Kate for getting all the information Heights requested regarding ambulance services. They are still in need of EMT's so if you know anyone, please let us know. Fire Company is having the Flame and Fenders car show on Sunday starting at 12pm and will be distributing pumpkins provided by the PBA, crafts provided by the Ambulance and supplies for the scarecrow contest. We are having live entertainment provided by a local band.

Councilman Ludwig—the guys will be doing the apartment inspections starting this week.

Councilman Beach—NJAW will be on Tavistock Boulevard starting next week and notified all the local residents.

Mayor Harris—Deputy Chief Minardi and his wife Liz gave birth to a baby girl today, so we send them congratulations. Thanks to Adrianna—it was a really nice event on Saturday and the weather was beautiful. It was to encourage people to shop local and that was achieved. Anyone who wants to volunteer should contact us. The recreation committee can always use new members. There are a lot of critics out there but if they want to volunteer—reach out to me. We have a group of volunteers who always volunteer their time so please join us. Please be sure to get your mammograms—we are supporting Breast Cancer Awareness month and it has touched our borough family. Covid numbers are going up so please be mindful.

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

Mayor Harris announced that we have an action item and read the following resolution for approval:

Res. 10-2021-108 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 Ludwig, 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 Ludwig, second by Councilman Cerrito, the meeting adjourned to closed session at 6:53. Mayor Harris announced that no further action will be taken.

CLOSED SESSION

Councilman Hanson explained that Chief Uron plans to retire and wants to advance his vacation and personal time so that he can stop working November 15 and use his time through to his official retirement date of February 1, 2022. He will be using remaining time from this year plus the time he will be entitled to for next year. This will save us with the payout at his retirement date of February 1. Councilman Ludwig questioned if he will be getting more time than he has actually earned, but it was explained that all he is getting is exactly what he would have had coming to him as of February 1. We will also save money by not paying him out at the 2022 rate. After more discussion, it was decided we will have Tim draft the termination agreement and it will be approved by resolution at next week's meeting.

Seeing no further business to be discussed in closed session, on a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Ludwig, the meeting returned to open session at 7:03pm. On a motion by Councilman Drumm, second by Councilman Robenolt, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04pm with all in favor.

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