

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2022, 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 Robenolt. Councilman Ludwig joined the meeting shortly after it started. Also on the Zoom meeting were Mayor Harris, Clerk Shannon and Solicitor Tim Higgins along with various department heads.

**First Public Portion**

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Drumm, the first public portion of the meeting was opened. Seeing no 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**

Greg thanked the Governing Body for the opportunity to serve the residents and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Action items: Discussion on traffic movements at the intersection of Moore and Albertson. Councilmen Robenolt and Ludwig received a complaint about a dangerous intersection. It is a complex intersection because of the streets that all converge there. The police recorded two accidents there in the past two years. Our suggestion is to make it a stop intersection. We would put a stop sign on Moore where cars come into the street. Mayor Harris and Councilman Hanson asked if putting a stop sign there creates a traffic problem. Cars will plow right into cars that are at the stop sign as they come off Gloucester Pike. After more discussion, it was determined that putting a stop sign on Moore is a better option. Everyone agreed that changing the yield sign on Moore to a stop sign would be a much better solution. Then there would be a stop sign at Moore, Austin and Albertson and the traffic coming off Gloucester Pike would have the right of way. Councilman Ludwig and Robenolt also added that signage needs to be added so traffic coming off Gloucester Pike slows down. They would like to see signage painted in the street warning motorists of the intersection and to slow down. Chief Minardi said he did not think it would make an impact. Ludwig reiterated he would like to see the signage. Greg Evans said they will look at the situation to see if these suggestions would work and will report at the next meeting. Clerk Shannon added that the island at night is very dark. When it is raining and you are turning off Gloucester Pike, it is really hard to see the island. Even solar lights around the edges would help. Mayor Harris added that reflectives around the edges would help. Greg said they will look at that as well.

FY2022 Municipal Aid—the Borough received \$203,000 from NJDOT for Austin Ave phase 2. We are recommending that you authorize our office to proceed with the plans for that project. The Governing Body authorized them to proceed.

We are processing Change Order No.. 2-final, for Marandino for the work at the VFW senior center

Greg then reviewed the following items from the Engineer's Report:

We attended a breakfast meeting with Congressman Norcross and representatives from Camden County and the NJ I-Bank regarding the trillion-dollar infrastructure bill. They requested that municipalities reach out to the I-Bank regarding construction ready projects to request funding.

Beaverbrook drainage study with soil erosion, we are recommending that the Governing Body research either the water bank or use funds from the infrastructure bill to complete that project. We discussed with Denise, and she can run the finances through a simulation program to see how the funding comes

out so you can weight the benefits as to which would be a better option. We will be attending another I-Bank webinar later this month and will provide any additional information received.

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

Adoption of the Camden County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Dave Pawling informed us that the County has adopted the revised HMP and that now each town also has to adopt. Dave spearheaded this project for Barrington and with input from the engineer and Mike Ciocco, we updated everything on the plan. The Camden County OEM provided the sample resolution which was emailed to you. This resolution will be on the January council agenda.

Public hearing for drainage project—Pennoni, the engineer for the drainage study being done for Audubon, Heights, Haddonfield and Barrington, has advised us that we need to hold a public hearing to inform the public about the project, what is being done, and to get public input. They recommend this be at a separate meeting rather than at a council meeting. They anticipate it being no more than 30 minutes depending on the amount of public feedback. We need to do this ASAP so we need to determine a date and time. It was decided that the meeting will be scheduled for January 19 at 6:00pm and the proper notifications will be make.

MOU with Civic Association—the Civic Association wants to place a shed for storage at Lost World Park. Tim confirms this can be done by a Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough and the Civic Association. The resolution to authorize this will be on the council agenda. Councilman Hanson added that with the growing size of events, they need more space for storage.

Zoom meetings—we will be continuing on Zoom through January and possibly February. We have had a tremendous outbreak of Covid amount borough personnel and bringing people together right now is not a good idea. The Mayor wants to stay on Zoom for at least January and we can revisit if numbers are declining for February or March. It seems the winter months are going to remain a challenge as Covid variants continue to emerge. Everyone agreed to stay on Zoom for January and February and we will revisit for March.

Ordinance for a revised property registration program—as you are aware, we suspended the property registration program because of the recent Atlantic County court decisions. We discussed introducing a new ordinance revising the program for 2022. We need to discuss how the program will work and authorize Tim to prepare the ordinance for introduction. Tim suggested that we sit down and review the current ordinance to see what we can and can't do and come up with a new ordinance for the program. Councilman Ludwig asked if we know what ProChamps was doing that is no longer permitted. The system with ProChamps was working well. Ludwig said he would like to sit down with the inspectors, Bob Harris and Tim to see what new program we can come up with so it works as well as the ProChamps program worked.

#### **Council Agenda Review:**

Resolutions:

- Adopting the Camden County Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Authorizing a MOU with the Civic Association for installation of a shed
- Authorizing renewal of the Shared Service agreement for Clerk services
- January bill list

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

We have one additional resolution for a transfer of a sewer utility appropriation.

Budget expenditures for 2021 are within controls and are in the black. The shortfall in revenues were covered with cancellations. There has been a change to the reporting requirements for the 2022 Budget. We expect to have our budget meetings mid-March. The department heads will get their budget information by the end of this month for submission in early March. We should be able to introduce the budget in April and adopt in May.

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilman Hanson—we will be appointing Acting Chief Minardi as chief in February. We did promotional interviews and new hire interviews in December and will be promoting Sgt. Pawling to lieutenant; Officers Hovern and Mulhern will be promoted to sergeant; and hiring two new officers who will be replacing Uron and Bowman. The new officers are Zachary Ferguson and Matthew Charlton. The Civic Association will be holding an ice-skating event for Barrington residents at Cooper River on January 26.

Councilman Drumm—I will have more next week. I did want to thank all the employees of the Borough for all their hard work during the pandemic. I also want to thank Jim Arpino and his group—they are going into buildings and doing inspections through the whole pandemic. Jim is doing a great job and I want to thank him personally.

Councilman Robenolt—we will have to look in the coming months about what we are doing with some of the older apparatus. We are currently looking at some ideas and will report more next month.

Councilman Cerrito and Beach both said they had nothing to add more than what they stated at Reorg. Councilman Ludwig wished everyone a Happy New Year.

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Ludwig, the second public portion was opened. Diane Schreyer asked about the webpage we could look-up regarding the traffic study on 295. Clerk Shannon responded it is the DVRPC webpage. Greg added that they have a tab where you can look at traffic studies.

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

Seeing no further business to be discussed, on a motion by Councilman Beach, second by Councilman Ludwig, the meeting was adjourned at 6:48pm with all in favor.

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