

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022, 6:00PM, MAYOR/COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order in council chambers at 6:00pm with the Sunshine Statement and led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk called roll and the following were present: Councilman Beach, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Drumm, Councilman Hanson and Councilman Robenolt. Also present were Mayor Harris, Clerk Shannon, Secretary Eileen Holcombe and Solicitor Tim Higgins. Councilman Ludwig was absent.

**First Public Portion**

On a motion by Councilman Hanson second by Councilman Cerrito, 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**

Action items: Award of the bids for reconstruction of Austin Avenue, Phase I—we received bids today and the low bid was Pioneer General Contractors. We will be recommending that the contract be awarded.

Review of monthly report:

NJDOT Municipal Aid applications—are due by July 1. We will review with Council President Beach and Mike Ciocco to select a street for submission.

Last month you awarded a contract to American Asphalt for the 2021 roads program and we will be scheduling the pre-construction meeting in the next week or two.

2021 CCOS grant—we met with Michael Wiley for Lost World Park and he submitted proposals which are under review by Councilman Hanson.

We met with the police department and Councilman Hanson to review their comments on the preliminary concepts and we will incorporate them into the final design for the renovations.

We met tonight with the Mayor on Barrington Avenue to discuss making the east side no parking in front of the houses and also no parking on the west side. We will have the ordinance ready for introduction.

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

Amnesty period for pet licensing—we want to do an amnesty period for pet licensing for June where we would waive the late fees as long as people come in for their licenses. We plan to send letters to all pet owners who have not renewed. To date, we have only issued 221 dog licenses. I spoke with the ACO and there is a formula for determining the number of dogs in our town and that number is 1547. That means that 1300 people have not licensed their dogs. 221 licenses generates \$2642 in revenue. The cost for the ACO is \$6000 and the cost for the animal shelter is \$7800. That is a total of \$13,800 in costs vs \$2642 in revenue. We will also let people know we are conducting a door-to-door animal census this summer and if they don't come in during the amnesty period, then they will have to pay the late charge or risk getting a summons. We will reach out to the crossing guards to see if they are interested in doing the census. Mayor Harris added it is only \$12.00 per license. Plus if a dog is running loose and it not licensed, we have no way to find out who the owner is. We also offer a free rabies clinic every year. Terry added a resolution waiving the late fee will be on the agenda.

Financial Disclosure filing—there are still several of you who need to do this filing and also several members of the Planning Board. I will work with Suzanne on getting the board members done but

those of you who have not filed, need to. The state is going to issue fines this year—no move Covid amnesty—you will bet a \$100 penalty.

JIF EPL training for elected officials—so far, I believe four of you have completed this training. Please be sure to complete in the next two weeks. They have given us a two-week extension.

Cyber security training—just a reminder that you need to complete the Cyber Security training. There are nine ten-minute modules for a total of 90 minutes but you can do a little at a time. This training is mandatory and must be completed by July 1.

ABC liquor license renewals—we are very low on our liquor license fees. Magnolia is at \$2000, Oaklyn is \$2000, Runnemede is \$2500, Somerdale is \$2148 and Stratford is \$2500. I only looked at towns that are similar to us in size. We are \$1505 for a consumption license (bar) and \$1228 for a distribution license (liquor store). We have not increased those fees since 2016. We are permitted to increase by 20% per annum to a maximum of \$2500. Recommendation is that we consider going to \$1800 for consumption and \$1470 for distribution.

Tree program—was a huge success. We have 28 people who signed-up to get a tree. The hope is that we can get all of them a tree. Mike Ciocco and I are visiting the sites this week to determine if the park strip or front yard are better options and then Mike will schedule the mark-outs. We are working with two nurseries as to species availability and hope to be able to give the homeowner options. Also, one of the Green Team members is checking with the Rutgers Master Gardener program to see if they can provide any of the trees. All of the trees will be planted this month.

### **Council Agenda Review:**

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption:

- Ord. 1155 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits & Establish a CAP Bank
- Ord. 1156 2022 Salary Ordinance for Non-union Employees and Officials

Ordinances for introduction on first reading:

- No parking on Barrington Avenue

Resolutions:

- Award a contract for the Austin Avenue project
- Waiving late fees for pet licenses during amnesty period
- Authorizing the 2022 Budget to be read by title at public hearing
- Change Order for firehouse roof project
- May bill list

Public hearing on 2022 Municipal Budget

- Resolution to adopt the budget
- Resolution for Chapter 159's for 1<sup>st</sup> Colonial grant and JIF safety incentive award

Mayor Harris listed all the proclamations that will be on the agenda as well.

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

Standard monthly reports were distributed; budget will be on for adoption—it is still under three cents; revenues are trending without any issues; auditor was here and they finished today—just waiting on some state requirements; for the firehouse project, CCIA submitted all their project management costs and it requires a change order to pay them for the engineering. The Chapter 159 is \$2500 from First Colonial for the fireworks and \$1500 for the JIF safety award.

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilman Hanson—other towns are implementing fees for marijuana facilities including for application and an annual fee. We are recommending \$2500 for the application fee and an annual fee of \$2500 as well. Tim will have the ordinance ready for introduction. Barrington Day was last weekend and we had great weather. It was great behind Woodland School and we will continue to have it there. Little League is having their annual fundraiser next Saturday and the Town Wide Yard Sale is the same day. May 14 is also the 8<sup>th</sup> grade car wash at Popiolek's along with a hoagie sale and also a hoagie sale at the firehouse. Brews Beats and Eats is May 21 behind Rosebud; the Fire Department will be hosting Memorial Day again this year; there is a full events calendar in Barrington on Track; and the Independence Day parade and fireworks will be on July 3. Chief Minardi added that we will be honoring a bunch of our officers for the job they did talking with a potential jumper on the Turnpike bridge. Mayor Harris was driving on the bridge and saw the young man and called it in. They were able to talk him down without incident. We also had a hit and run on the White Horse Pike and the guy took off—it was during the snow squall. Our guys went up and down the White Horse Pike and identified and caught the guy. We will be honoring all the officers involved in these two incidents at the next council meeting. All of our guys are doing an amazing job. Mayor Harris added that they were on their way back from the shore when they saw the young man on the bridge—it was heart wrenching. The police did an awesome job. Chief Minardi added that Dan Hunt from Haddon Heights will also be honored as he was the one who ultimately got him off the bridge. Mayor Harris added that there was a lot of community support from area neighbors as well.

Councilman Beach—seniors are back in business and we hired a bus driver. We are having an ice cream social tomorrow at the VFW. Mayor Harris added that we will also be talking to them about smoke detectors, privacy protection, phone scams, etc. We also had the ham dinner for the seniors two weeks ago. Eileen said the seniors are happy to be back.

Councilman Drumm—I heard great things about Barrington Day. I wanted to thank Sgt. D'Ascenzo for coming to the dinner to talk to the seniors—he was a big hit with the senior ladies.

Councilman Cerrito—Barrington Day was a great event. It was great to see all the kids having fun and being fee was awesome. Thanks to everyone who helped with Earth Day.

Mayor Harris—thank you to Kyle and your committee for Barrington Day—sorry she couldn't be there. It was great to see the seniors at the dinner—they need the socialization and to be around other people. We will be introducing an ordinance for our 2% of gross sales from cannabis facilities. That money will be put back into the community to help with taxes and events. Bellmawr got \$1.4 million just in 2021. So far we have had one applicant who came to the planning board. Planning board met last week to approve 117 Clements Bridge Road for the apartment upstairs and her business downstairs—we did the ribbon cutting last week. We have two more businesses applying to town. We also have Sean Sheridan who is still coming in with his ideas. Please be sure to check smoke detectors and May is mental health month so please be aware of your family members and anyone who may be in distress.

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Beach, the second public portion was opened. Seeing no 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 Drumm, second by Councilman Cerrito, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm with all in favor.

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