

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2023, 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 Cerrito, Councilman Drumm, Councilman Hanson and Councilman Robenolt. Councilman Ludwig and Councilman Beach were absent with prior notice. Also present were Secretary Eileen Holcombe and Solicitor Tim Higgins. Engineer Greg Evans was not present.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Greg Evans reported on the following:

We have one change order for the freight charges for the playground equipment. We also have a meeting scheduled to review the project.

FY 2023 Local Aid Transportation funding—unfortunately we did not receive funding.

Round 2023 Open Space application—it is our understanding that you did receive \$25,000 for Lost World Park from Camden County.

Beaverbrook—you submitted an application to NJDEP but did not receive funding. It appears they awarded to large-scale infrastructure projects.

We have been having a problem with PSE&G and Verizon replacing poles and not notifying us or the residents. We recommended that Mike send a letter to the utilities and copy the Mayor and Councilman Beach. Verizon has been putting new poles next to old poles and not notifying PSE&G.

Clerk Shannon asked Greg if NJDEP likes to fund large infrastructure projects, can we submit for all of the improvements recommended in the Pennoni report along with Beaverbrook as one large project? Greg said they can take a look at that.

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 Cerrito, second by Councilman Drumm, the public portion was closed.

Administration—Clerk Shannon reported on the following

Public hearing on tree removal/replacement ordinance—this ordinance will be very controversial as it require a permit for removal of any tree, including on private property. This ordinance is required by NJDEP and failure to adopt could jeopardize our MS4 stormwater permit. Tim believes these ordinances will eventually be challenged and nullified but in the meantime, we need to adopt.

Resolution to allow Public Works to install playground equipment at Tot Lot—we purchased a new piece of equipment for the Tot Lot that only cost \$4300. General Recreation wants \$4500 to install but Mike said Public Works can install themselves. The JIF is recommending that we pass a resolution to accept the structure's design and installation to help preserve any design immunity. Tim is preparing the resolution.

Resolution to amend accounts payable payment policy—there have been a rash of checks being stolen that were mailed by municipalities to vendors. Thieves are targeting municipal mail and pulling out large checks, washing them and re-issuing in fictitious names. As part of cash management best practices, the JIF is recommending that municipalities change how they pay vendors so that large payments are sent via wires rather than paper checks. Denise and Megan have determined that our

cutoff will be \$20,000. Any vendor payments of \$20,000 or greater will be done by ACH wires. We will be adopting a resolution to memorialize this new process.

Appointment of the Municipal Court Judge—Oaklyn solicited proposals to replace the former judge and conducted interviews. They have selected William Stopper to replace Judge McCrink. Stopper was the former public defender and is very familiar with our court operations. Oaklyn has requested resolutions of approval from each of the towns to be effective for September 1.

Council agenda review

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption:

Ord. 1174 Tree-removal-replacement ordinance

Resolutions: (*preliminary—more may be added*)

- Resolution for property maintenance liens
- Resolution to refund street opening escrow
- Resolution to accept design of playground equipment for Tot Lot
- Change Order No. 1, for playground equipment freight charges
- Resolution appointing Dan Bowman as the school resource officer
- Resolution appointing William Stopper as municipal court judge
- August bill list

Proclamation for national overdose awareness day was requested by Councilman Hanson.

CFO's REPORT

CFO Moules was not present but her monthly reports were submitted. All budget accounts are trending well. If you have any questions, contact Denise directly.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Drumm—great job by all for National Night Out. Thanks to police, fire and EMS. Everyone had a great time..

Councilman Cerrito—great time last night. Bounce house was a big hit!

Councilman Hanson—thanks to Chief and Lt. Pawling, the entire department and vendors who were all at National Night Out. Officer Thomas is hosting flag football tonight—thank you for all he does for the students.

Mayor Harris—thanks to everyone for National Night Out. It was a really good event and we got a lot of positive comments. The frozen shirt game was fun and got everyone involved. We will do our best to educate the public about the tree ordinance. The stormwater study report talked a lot about stormwater infrastructure and green spaces are a big part of that. We can't keep putting in more drains—trees help to drink the water. Regarding to National Overdose Awareness Day, that is near and dear to me and to Councilman Hanson.

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

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Drumm, the meeting adjourned at 6:32pm with all in favor.

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