

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
TUESSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 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 Beach, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Hanson, Councilman Ludwig and Councilman Robenolt. Councilman Drumm was 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:

Action items—Voucher No. 3 and Change Order No. 3 for the 2021 Road Improvements Program; award or rejection of a contract for Austin Avenue Phase 2 and 3—this has to be awarded by the 21st of this month so we are requesting a special meeting. After some discussion, it was determined the special meeting will be October 17 at 6pm. This will be a very quick meeting. We received four bids from contractors for the police department renovations and we will be reviewing with Kyle, Denise and the Chief.

Review of Engineer's report:

Safe Routes to Schools—we have selected various locations and are preparing the application. Submission deadline is November 17.

Runnemedede sanitary sewer project—they did award a contract and we expect them to commence with the work this month or November. Estimated completion date is October 2024. Notice was provided to Barrington residents.

First Public Portion

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

Administration—Clerk Shannon reported on the following

Letters were sent to all Barrington residents affected by the Davis Road project.

Pet licenses expired September 30. Letters going out to all pet owners and there is an article in Barrington on Track. Rabies clinic scheduled for November 18, same day as shredding event.

Success of Community Garden—the gardeners donated 436 pounds of fresh produce this year. The garden was a huge success and we expect even more gardeners next season.

Healthcare rates for 2024—we will have an increase in healthcare rates for 2024. Across the entire HIF, rates are increasing because of increased experience ratings and rising prescription costs. Our rates are increasing about 7.25% on average. We are still below the State Health Benefits Plan.

Change in date for November council meeting—the League Convention conflicts with the council meeting this year so the meeting will be moved to Monday, November 13. Proper notifications will be made. The caucus meeting for November is on Wednesday because of the election.

Town-wide yard sale is this weekend. So far, there are 17 homes registered but that number will go up between now and Friday. If we have to invoke the rain date, we will allow people to do both days.

2022 Audit report—another clean audit report thanks to Denise and Kristy. Resolution to accept the report will be on the council agenda and you will all need to sign the certification.

Council agenda review

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

- Resolution to change the November council meeting date
- Resolution for change order No. 3, 2021 Road Improvement Program
- Resolution to award/reject bids for Austin Ave project (will be at the special meeting)
- Resolution award/reject bids for Police Dept renovations
- Resolution setting hours for Trick or Treating, 3pm-8pm
- Resolution authorizing cash advances for Harvest Fest
- Resolution authorizing lease for police car thru Winner Ford under state contract
- Resolution accepting 2022 Report of Audit
- October bill list
- Resolution for E3 IT for the police department camera system
- Dedication by Rider for the TNR trust
- Chapter 159 for donations for playground

Mayor Harris spoke about the amount of vegetables and fruit that were donated by the Community Garden. We have an impressive Green Team.

CFO's REPORT

CFO Moules reported the financial reports were distributed. All budget accounts are still in the black and the department heads are doing a good job. Anticipated revenues are trending as expected..

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Harris—a company reached out to us for a letter of support for a solar project to be installed at the Barrington Business Center. The previous vendor never did the project so the new company is asking for the letter. Tim reviewed and said this is fine so we will be issuing the support letter. 51% has to be reserved for low-moderate income households. Don't forget the Harvest Fest—I will be working there.

Councilman Hanson—Harvest Fest is next Saturday from 10-4; Fall Fun with First Responders is the following weekend; the Civic is hosting a bus trip to Eastern State Penitentiary the week before Halloween on October 26 and all that info is on Facebook and the web page.

Councilman Beach—thank you to all our first responders and employees for doing a great job. Kids are back in school so be careful—especially at the crosswalks.

Councilman Robenolt—the fire company will be doing some fire prevention stuff at the Harvest Fest. Fall Fun with First Responders will be at the firehouse.

Councilman Ludwig—I have been getting compliments from residents on the police, fire department and DPW so hats off to them.

Councilman Cerrito—please be careful when driving through town as kids are out and about.

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

On a motion by Councilman Hanson, second by Councilman Cerrito, the meeting adjourned at 6:21pm with all in favor.

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