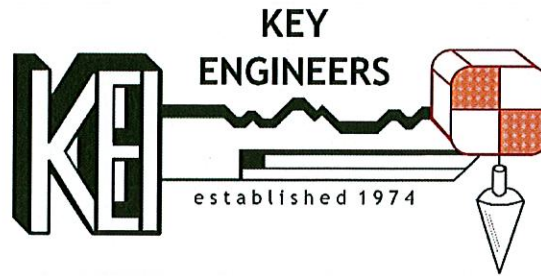


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ENGINEER'S REPORT

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON

CAUCUS MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2024

COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 12, 2024

February 29, 2024

A. ACTION ITEMS:

- There are no action items to report at this time.

B. REPORT ITEMS:

1. N.J.D.O.T. FY2024 SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL APPLICATION:

We have prepared and submitted the application by the November 17, 2023 submission deadline.

The project consists of pedestrian and safety improvements along Highland Avenue (C.R. 573) at the intersections of Kent Road, Chesterfield Road, 4th Avenue (Haddon Heights), Clements Bridge Road (C.R. 573) and Third Avenue (C.R. 653) and Mercer Drive, Whitman Drive and Peltoma Road (a.k.a. Barkers Circle).

2. N.J.D.O.T. FY2024 MUNICIPAL AID APPLICATION (KEI #11-479BR0523):

The Commissioner announced that the "Improvements to Austin Avenue – Phase 4, from Fourth Avenue to Fifth Avenue" project received an allotment in the amount of \$268,146.00.

Upon authorization we will proceed with the project.

3. D.C.A. FY2021, FY2023 AND FY2024 LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT (KEI #11-460BR0421) AND CAMDEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE APPLICATION, ROUNDS 2022 AND 2023 (KEI #11-468BR0222/ #11-476BR0323) LOST WORLD PARK IMPROVEMENTS

The D.C.A. announced that the Borough received a D.C.A. FY2021 Local Recreation Improvement Grant in the amount of \$75,000.00 and a D.C.A. FY2023 Local Recreation Improvement Grant in the amount of \$61,138.00.

The purchase of the landscape structures and playground equipment through a State Contract Co-op in the amount of \$150,000.00 has been authorized. The equipment was delivered in September 2023.

Ms. Moules submitted the required documents to the Program for the \$75,000.00, FY2021 reimbursement for the equipment purchase.

The Camden County Open Space funding - Round 2022 in the amount of \$25,000.00, and Round 2023 in the amount of \$25,000.00 have been allocated for the project.

We have been in discussions with Mayor Hanson regarding project funding and possible phasing.

The award deadline for the D.C.A., FY2023 Funding is December 31, 2024.

The D.C.A. announced acceptance of FY2024 grant applications.

As discussed with Mayor Hanson, we prepared and submitted an application via the D.C.A. Sage Portal by the February 27, 2024 submission deadline.

4. CAMDEN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM, YEAR 2020 (KEI #11-446BR0220):

On December 19, 2023 Mr. Ciocco obtained a quote in the amount of \$17,744.00 from Northeast Plumbing Services, LLC of Williamstown, New Jersey for the Installation of a New Heating System at the Senior Center.

The quote is through the Educational Data Service Agreement Bid #10881 Co-op.

There is \$18,863.84 in C.D.B.G. Year 2020 funds available for the project.

The contract documentation has been received and forwarded to Ms. Shannon for endorsement.

The Preconstruction Meeting was held on Thursday-February 8, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. and the meeting minutes were issued to all parties.

We anticipate the contractor commencing the construction in April/May 2024.

5. CAMDEN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM, YEAR 2023 (KEI #11-472BR0223):

The Governing Body approved a Resolution for the execution and submission of an application for the "Improvements to the VFW and the Continuation of the Senior Citizens Service Program."

We prepared and submitted the application to the Program by the March 3, 2023, 2:00 p.m. submission deadline.

Unfortunately, the improvement project did not receive funding. However, the Senior Citizens Service Program did receive funding.

6. CAMDEN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM, YEAR 2024 (KEI #11-485BR0224):

The program announced the acceptance of Year 2024 applications.

Mayor Hanson authorized our office to prepare and submit an application for the "Improvements at the VFW Senior Citizens Center and the Continuation of the Senior Citizens Service Program." Our office has prepared the application and will submit the application package by the March 4, 2024 submission deadline.

7. N.J.D.O.T. FY2022 MUNICIPAL AID APPLICATION – AUSTIN AVENUE, PHASE 2 (KEI #11-461BR0521) AND N.J.D.O.T. FY2023 MUNICIPAL AID APPLICATION – AUSTIN AVENUE, PHASE 3 (KEI #11-471BR0522):

The Borough has received \$203,303.00 from the N.J.D.O.T. for the Roadway Improvements to Austin Avenue – Phase 2, from Third Avenue to mid-block and an allotment of \$213,490.00 for Austin Avenue – Roadway and Storm Drainage Improvements – Phase 3, from mid-block to Fourth Avenue.

At the special meeting held on October 17, 2023 the Governing Body awarded a contract to Pioneer General Contracting Company, Inc. of Bradley Beach, New Jersey for Base Bid 'A' in the total combined amount of \$294,415.00 (\$144,355.00 for Base Bid 'A' and \$150,060.00 Base Bid 'B').

The Preconstruction Meeting was held on December 12, 2023. We have prepared and issued the meeting minutes to all parties.

We anticipate the contractor commencing with construction in the spring 2024.

8. N.J.D.O.T. FY2021 MUNICIPAL AID APPLICATIONS – RECONSTRUCTION OF AUSTIN AVENUE – PHASE 1, FROM SECOND AVENUE TO THIRD AVENUE (KEI #11-448BR0520):

The Governing Body received a funding allotment of \$225,000.00 for the Reconstruction of Austin Avenue – Phase 1, from Second Avenue to Third Avenue.

The Governing Body awarded a Contract in the amount of \$273,951.50 to Pioneer General Contracting Company, Inc. of Bradley Beach, New Jersey.

The contractor has satisfactorily completed the project.

The Governing Body accepted the project at the Council Meeting of June 13, 2023.

We have commenced with the final paperwork for submission to the N.J.D.O.T. Office of Local Aid requesting final reimbursement. *Our office is in need of cancelled checks for engineering and construction.*

9. \$1 TRILLION INFRASTRUCTURE BILL:

New Jersey will be receiving \$13.5 Billion for transportation, broadband, water and sewer infrastructure. We have been informed that the funds will be administered through the NJ I-Bank Program. Depending on the type of application submitted to the I-Bank, anywhere from a 25% to 100% loan will be available. The principal is forgiven, the 5% down payment is covered, the I-Bank will handle the Local Finance Board process, and the actual loan rate will be reduced. Interest rates are only on what is drawn from the loan (not on the whole loan like a typical BAN). The loan term for a roadway project is twenty (20) years (not like the typical 10 years) and 30 years for water and sewer projects.

One (1) attractive feature is that it appears that if you have a drinking water system that involves lead removal, 100% Loan Forgiveness will be provided.

Applications can be submitted at any time and once the project is ranked it goes into the priority system. Project rankings are adjusted every quarter.

At the Caucus Meeting of March 1, 2022, we discussed submitting an application for the Beaver Brook Soil Erosion Control Improvements.

**10. PUBLIC PARKING LOT SIGNAGE AND WELCOME TO BARRINGTON WALL
(KEI #11-451BR1020):**

- a. Public Parking Lot Signage: We have been working with Councilman Cerrito for the public parking lot improvements signage.

We have developed a public parking map that has been provided to Tonewood and Old Rail Tavern which they can provide to patrons and post on their website.

Mr. Ciocco's Department has installed four (4) public parking signs and four (4) public parking directional signs for the parking lot(s) on Barrington Avenue that were supplied by the County.

- b. Welcome the Barrington Wall: We have been working with Councilman Cerrito and Mr. Harris for the construction of the wall.

We prepared the Construction Plans and Specifications and submitted quote requests to three (3) contractors. We received one (1) quote in the amount of \$43,523.70 from Lester Bailey & Associates Inc. which significantly exceeds the Engineer's Estimate of \$25,000.00. Therefore, a contract was not awarded.

We will re-evaluate the project with Councilman Cerrito and advise the Governing Body accordingly.

**11. BOROUGH OF RUNNEMEDE 2021 SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT
(KEI #11-450BR0920):**

The Governing Body approved the Resolution for a Shared Services Agreement at the Council Meeting of December 8, 2020.

As requested, we have performed an evaluation to determine if the Hidden Ponds Development Sanitary Sewer System (Pump Station) could flow gravity to the proposed Runnemedede Sanitary Sewer System. Unfortunately, we found that it is not possible due to the negative elevation difference of approximately 7 feet. However, we are exploring another option to redirect the Hidden Ponds Development force main to a proposed manhole in front of the development. If approved, it would greatly reduce the length of the existing force main and working pressure of the pump station pumps. Both situations would be beneficial to the Borough and the Homeowners Association. We will advise the Governing Body accordingly.

On October 24, 2023 we attended the Preconstruction Meeting with Mr. Ciocco. The Hidden Ponds force main connection to the proposed system was discussed.

The contractor anticipates commencement of construction in March 2024.

12. POLICE DEPARTMENT RENOVATIONS (KEI#11-411BR1116):

On December 8, 2023 we attended a meeting with Mayor Hanson and Chief Minardi to re-evaluate the project "Scope of Work".

As a result, we are in the process of amending the Construction Plans and Specifications for re-bidding the project on April 3, 2024.

13. STORM DRAINAGE ISSUES - BEAVER BROOK DRAINAGE STUDY (KEI #267BR0606):

As the Governing Body is aware, the residents at No. 208 and No. 210 Shreve Avenue have filed complaints regarding the continual erosion of the banks of Beaver Brook and their properties.

We again are recommending that the Governing Body consider the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Water Bank (N.J.E.I.T.) or the recent Infrastructure Bill funding to fund this project. The N.J.E.I.T. program provides long-term loans up to thirty (30) years at a savings of 25 to 40 percent of the market rate.

In March 2022, we reported that we would work with Ms. Moules to determine the benefits to utilizing this funding program versus traditional improvement bonding, which resulted in a savings of approximately \$155,000.00 over the term of the loan through the Program.

14. FOURTH AVENUE PUMP STATION FORCE MAIN BREAK AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) FUNDS:

The Governing Body authorized our office to prepare the Construction Plans and Specifications for the replacement of the entire force main, from the pump station to the manhole at the intersection of Moore Avenue and Clements Bridge Road (C.R. 573) [approximately 2,650 linear feet] for bidding purposes.

Bids were received on February 6, 2024 from four (4) bidders. The bids submitted exceeded the Engineer's Estimate, therefore, the Governing Body rejected the bids at the Council Meeting of February 13, 2024.

We are currently reviewing the project "Scope of Work" and the Public Works Department is performing utility test pits to determine what revisions can be made to achieve a lower bid amount.

15. APPLICATION FOR RECREATION FACILITY ENHANCEMENT FUNDING, ROUND 2020 - \$25,000.00 (KEI#11-447BR0320):

The Program announced that the Borough received a funding allotment of \$25,000.00 for the continued improvements at the Wish-Upon-A-Star Inclusive Playground.

The Improvements include the following:

- Water Fountain and Water Service (*Completed*)
- Park Benches, four (4) units
- Conversion of the existing site lighting to L.E.D.

We have compiled the required documents and requested partial reimbursement from the Program.

We also requested a project extension by the December 15, 2023 deadline.

16. 2023 N.J.D.E.P. MS4 STORMWATER ASSISTANCE GRANT:

The regulation requirements for the new MS4 Stormwater Permit received by the municipality are both intense and expensive. The N.J.D.E.P. is offering a Grant in the amount of \$25,000.00 to help municipalities comply with the regulations. Mr. Ciocco submitted the application for the Grant on behalf of the Borough. The Department has provided the initial portion of the Grant in the amount of \$15,000.00.

The Grant funding is being made available to assist municipalities with making the necessary upgrades and revisions to the Municipal MS4 Stormwater Map.

Mr. Ciocco indicated that Pennoni will be completing the required data collection and GIS Mapping required by the updated MS4 rules.

The Borough adopted a Tree Removal-Replacement Ordinance and a Privately-Owned Salt Storage Ordinance at the July 11, 2023 Council Meeting. The N.J.D.E.P. has provided their final model ordinances for the tree removal replacement and privately owned salt storage ordinances.

Therefore, we can recommend that the Borough revise the existing ordinances to be in compliance with the revised model ordinances.

The revised model ordinances must be submitted to the N.J.D.E.P. by the deadline of May 1, 2024.

If you have any questions or comments in regard to the contents of this report, please feel free to contact Mr. Greg Evans (Ext. 28 or via email: gevans@keyengineers.com) or me (Ext. 27 or via email: gfusco@keyengineers.com) at this office.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gregory B. Fusco, P.E., P.P., C.P.W.M.
Certified Municipal Engineer
Barrington Borough Engineer

GE:ke

cc: Honorable Mayor Kyle Hanson
Council President Michael Beach
Councilman Wayne E. Robenolt
Councilman Shawn Ludwig
Councilman Michael Drumm
Councilman Vincent Cerrito
Councilwoman Melanie Mercado-Miller
Mr. Timothy J. Higgins, Esq., Borough Solicitor
Police Chief Mike Minardi
Fire Official Jim Arpino

Mr. Michael Ciocco, C.P.W.M., Superintendent of Public Works
Mr. Robert Harris, Construction Department Manager
Ms. Eileen E. Holcombe, Executive Secretary
Ms. Terry Shannon, R.M.C., Borough Clerk
Ms. Denise Moules, C.F.O., R.M.C., Finance Officer
Ms. Meg O'Donnell, Accounts Payable
Ms. Kate Bowen, Barrington Ambulance Captain

Projects/11/Reports/2023/March