

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024, 6:00PM, MAYOR/COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Mayor Hanson 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 Borough Clerk called roll and the following were present: Councilman President Beach, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Drumm, Councilman Ludwig, Councilwoman Mercado-Miller and Councilman Robenolt. Also present were Secretary Eileen Holcombe, Engineer Greg Evans and Solicitor Tim Higgins, and Clerk Terry Shannon.

Engineer's report—Greg Evans reported on the following

Action items—resolution for Recreation Facility Enhancement (Open Space) funding, Round 24 for Lost World Park; we have voucher No. 1 for Pioneer Contracting for the Austin Ave project; award or reject bids for police department renovations. I believe the Clerk also has amending the one-way on Lawrence Avenue on Sundays already on the agenda. The church has a smaller congregation than the prior church and we also discussed with Chief Minardi and he is in agreement that the one-way restriction can be removed.

Review of report—Runnemedede sanitary sewer project will be starting April 8. We are waiting to hear from them regarding a potential change order for Hidden Ponds.

First public portion—on a motion by Councilman Ludwig, second by Councilman Drumm, the first public portion was opened. Present was Alex Beyer who thanked the governing body for eliminating the one-way restriction on Lawrence Avenue. Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Councilman Ludwig, second by Councilman Drumm, the public portion was closed.

Administration—Clerk Shannon reported on the following

Parking lot ordinance—our current ordinance only pertains to the borough hall parking lot. We need to add the public lots and establish rules and regulations. We need to consider things like overnight parking, parking of trailers and more. After some discussion, it was determined that we will identify all of the lots and establish a sub-committee that will meet and draft regulations for the governing body to consider.

Resolution for wedding fees—we are increasing the fee charged for performing weddings to \$175. The fee to the mayor for the service is \$150 and the additional \$25 will cover the payroll taxes. We will also be introducing an amending fee ordinance but in the meantime, we want to make this effective for April 1 so we will do by resolution until the ordinance is adopted.

Sale of fire truck—the 2016 Pierce ladder truck was sold for \$650,000 to Little Creek Volunteer Fire Company in Delaware and settlement was made this past Friday. Funds have been deposited.

Revision of tree removal and salt storage ordinances—as was previously reported, DEP substantially changed the requirements regarding these ordinances and the relaxed language is much better for residents. Attached are samples of both ordinances for your consideration. The tree ordinance has also been sent to the Green Team and if they are in agreement, we can introduce the amending ordinances at the council meeting.

Code adoption ordinance—to finalize the codification of our ordinances, General Code has prepared a code adoption ordinance that codifies all ordinances that have been adopted through December 31, 2023 and formally adopts the new code. This has been sent to Tim for his review. The ordinance was emailed to you and can be introduced at council if it has been reviewed and approved. After adoption of this ordinance, the new code will replace the current code posted online. Hereafter, all new ordinances will be codified into the new code annually.

Resolution to award a contract to Schaeffer Fireworks—we solicited proposals from Delaware Valley vendors. Our incumbent submitted a proposal, but we also got a proposal from Schaeffer Fireworks and they will give us more than double the fireworks for the same price. We have checked their references and the JIF is not aware of any issues with this vendor so we want to give them a try. Resolution to award will be on the council agenda.

- Town-wide yard sale—is scheduled for April 27. Benefits the Green Team this year.
- Articles for the spring-summer Barrington on Track are due this Friday, April 5.
- Annual Financial Disclosure filings are due. Deadline is April 30. I will send out email reminders.

Council agenda review

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption:

- Ord. 1181—Establishing Police Department Salaries per new contract
- Ord. 1182—COLA ordinance to accompany the 2024 budget

Ordinances for introduction on first reading:

- Ord. 1183—Amending Chapter 127, Weddings and Civil Union Ceremonies (fees)
- Ord. 1184—Repealing and replacing the Tree Removal ordinance
- Ord. 1185—Repealing and replacing the Privately-owned Salt Storage ordinance
- Ord. 1186—Amending the parking lot ordinance (being held pending review)
- Ord. 1187—Introducing the Code Adoption ordinance
- Ord. 1188—Amending the Zoning Code pertaining to political signs

Resolutions for approval by consent agenda: *preliminary—more may be added*

- Increasing fee for performance of wedding ceremonies
- Authorizing submission of a grant application for Recreation Facility Enhancements
- Introduction of the 2024 Municipal Budget
- Awarding a contract to Schaeffer Fireworks for the 2024 fireworks show
- Approving the April bill list

Finance

CFO Moules was not present so Mayor Hanson reported we had budget meetings with all department heads and Denise has been putting the budget together. She will email it out to us either later this week or early next week so we can prepare for introduction.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilwoman President Beach—thank you to the police department for their work on the incident a couple of weeks ago. Public Works will be working with the Green Team and Girl Scouts on a rain garden at the Tot Lot. We are also looking at the softball field and the VFW for additional rain gardens. We will be pushing rain gardens as ideas for residents as well to help with drainage problems.

Councilwoman Mercado-Miller—we had our first Board of Health meeting a couple weeks ago and it was well-attended. We launched our Facebook page and connected with the Green Team, Young at Heart and other organizations so we can work together and support each other. This week is Public Health week and we have been featuring information. The Board of Health ordinance is antiquated so we are looking at that. Shout out to Eileen and Meg for the new format on the senior calendar. We are

sending out letters to businesses looking for sponsors for the senior bus. She then asked if we can make sure minutes are posted to the website timely.

Councilman Cerrito—town-wide clean-up is April 20 with the Green Team as well. I will be getting a flyer out regarding military appreciation. Thanks to Councilman Beach for Public Works help with the Green Team.

Mayor Hanson—Little League opening day is Saturday morning; Softball is the following Saturday. Town-wide yard sale is April 27; next Tuesday is student government day and each of us will be shadowed by an eighth grade student. Thanks to police, fire, ambulance and OEM for managing the incident a couple of weeks ago. Thanks to Denise for her work on the budget.

Seeing no further business to be discussed, on a motion by Councilman Ludwig, second by Councilman Cerrito, the meeting adjourned at 6:35pm with all in favor.

Approved: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Clerk/RMC