

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON**  
**MINUTES OF MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**May 14, 2024, 6:00PM**  
**COUNCIL ROOM AT MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A regular monthly Council Meeting of the Borough of Barrington was held with Mayor Hanson presiding.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hanson called the meeting to order with the following statement: "This meeting is held in compliance with Chapter 231 of the open public meetings act of 1975 and appropriate notice has been given. Notice of the meeting was filed with the Retrospect and Courier Post and is also posted in the main office of the Borough Clerk where notices are primarily kept. He then led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The Municipal Clerk called roll of Council with the following in attendance: Council President Beach, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Drumm, Councilman Ludwig and Councilwoman Mercado-Miller. Councilman Robenolt arrived just a few minutes late. Mayor Hanson, Municipal Clerk Terry Shannon, and Solicitor Timothy Higgins were also on the dais.

**PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Hanson advised that the following proclamations will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Mayor's Office:

National Fallen Firefighter Day; National Women's Health Week; Mental Health Awareness Month; Brain Cancer Awareness Month; National Public Works Week; National Police Week; Older Americans Month; National Military Appreciation Month; National EMS Week

**PROCLAMATION FOR ROSS BECK**

Council President Beach presented Ross Beck with a proclamation "Recognizing Ross Beck for Completion of the CPWM Program". All council members present congratulated Ross on his accomplishment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Hanson reported that Council was provided with the minutes of the April 2, 2024, caucus, and the April 9, 2024, council meetings and asked if there were any corrections or abstentions.

On a motion by Ludwig, second by Drumm the minutes were approved with all member present.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Hanson advised that the monthly departmental reports were distributed to the governing body, are posted outside of council chambers, and posted on the borough website. If there are no questions on the reports, I will entertain a motion to accept monthly reports.

On a motion by Ludwig, second by Drumm, the monthly departmental reports were approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Ludwig – yes, Mercado-Miller-yes.

**ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION**

The Clerk announced that Ordinance 1184, Repealing and Replacing the Tree Removal and Replacement Ordinance, is being tabled pending further investigation regarding compliance with DEP requirements.

- Ord. 1183—Amending Chapter 127, Weddings and Civil Union Ceremonies Fees
- Ord. 1185—Repealing and Replacing the Privately-owned Salt Storage Ordinance
- Ord. 1186—Introducing the Borough Code Adoption Ordinance
- Ord. 1187—Amending the Zoning Code Pertaining to Political Signs
- Ord. 1188—Amending Chapter 120, Parking on Lawrence Ave

On a motion by Ludwig, second by Beach, the second reading of the ordinances was approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Ludwig-yes, Mercado-Miller-yes, Robenolt-yes

On a motion by Ludwig, second by Drumm, the public hearing on these ordinances was opened.

Seeing no comments from the public, on a motion by Ludwig, second by Cerrito, the public hearing was closed.

On a motion by Ludwig, second by Cerrito, ordinances 1183, 1185, 1186, 1187 and 1188 were adopted with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Ludwig-yes, Mercado-Miller-yes, Robenolt-yes

### **RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA**

The Clerk read the following resolutions to be approved by consent agenda:

- 5-2024-52 Change Order for Austin Ave project
- 5-2024-53 Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement with Camden Co. for Street Sweeping
- 5-2024-54 Authorizing the 2024 Budget to be Read by Title at Time of Public Hearing
- 5-2024-55 Authorizing Cancellation of Grant Balances
- 5-2024-56 Resolution to Hire a Muralist as a Temporary Employee
- 5-2024-57 Allowing Open Containers During the Harvest Fest
- 5-2024-58 Authorizing Sale of Equipment No Longer Needed through GovDeals
- 5-2024-59 Authorizing a Fair and Open Process for Selection of Redevelopment Counsel
- 5-2024-60 Approving Membership in the Barrington Fire Department
- 5-2024-61 Rescinding Prior Approval of Renewal of Liquor License
- 5-2024-62 Deleting 2024 Tax Exemptions
- 5-2024-63 Authorizing the Barrington Planning Board to Undertake a Preliminary Investigation to Ascertain whether a Certain Property and Area within the Borough is in Need of Redevelopment or Rehabilitation
- 5-2024-64 Approving the May Bill List in the Total Amount of: \$6,580,323.56

On a motion by Ludwig, second by Mercado-Miller, the resolution consent agenda was approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Ludwig-yes, Mercado-Miller-yes, Robenolt-yes.

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Mayor Hanson advised that if you have comments or questions on the Budget, please come forward and state your name for the record. Public comment is limited to five minutes per person. On a motion by Ludwig, second by Cerrito, the public hearing was opened.

Seeing no comments from the public, on a motion by Ludwig, second by Drumm, the public hearing was closed.

5-2024-65 Resolution to Adopt the 2024 Municipal Budget

On a motion by Ludwig, second by Mercado-Miller, Resolution 5-2024-65, to Adopt the Municipal Budget, was approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Ludwig-yes, Mercado-Miller-yes, Robenolt-yes

5-2024-66 Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Expense for Grants Received

On a motion by Ludwig, second by Drumm, Resolution 5-2024-66, Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Expense for Grants Received, was approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Ludwig-yes, Mercado-Miller-yes, Robenolt-yes

**PUBLIC PORTION**

Mayor Hanson advised that if you have comments or questions, please come forward and state your name for the record. Public comment is limited to five minutes per person. On a motion by Ludwig, second by Mercado-Miller, the public portion of the meeting was opened.

Bernie Bryson – I was here last month and brought up two subjects and never heard back from anyone. Solicitor Higgins asked what the subjects were and was advised it is encroachment on his private property. Solicitor Higgins said since private property, it is not borough matter. Mr. Bryson disagreed and was advised if it is an encroachment, it is a private right of action against you by the other landowner or against the other landowner by you. Solicitor Higgins said it is not a borough matter but a private matter. Mr. Bryson asked about his complaint against a borough employee and was asked by the Solicitor if anything formal was filed. Mr. Bryson said the Solicitor would not accept his complaint. Solicitor Higgins will go over his records and get back to Mr. Bryson. Asking who is the boss of the Zoning Officer, Councilman Ludwig said he was and asked what the problem is. Mr. Bryson advised that the problem went back before Covid and the zoning officer at the time; also the current zoning officer was disrespectful, used foul language. Councilman Ludwig will speak with the zoning officer and Mr. Bryson can come to the next meeting to find out what is going on.

Seeing no further comments from the public, on a motion by Drumm, second by Ludwig, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

**COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

COUNCILMAN DRUMM – congratulated Ross on his completion of the CPWM Program. Thanked CFO Denise Moules, the directors and department heads for their work on the budget. Have a great holiday weekend and focus on the sacrifice of our serviceman. Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN MERCADO-MILLER – echoed the councilman’s comments on Denise and all who worked on the budget. Update on senior services--we have a sponsorship for our senior bus, The Pool Experts, big thank you to them for their support. The seniors will hold a brunch this Thursday at 11am for the Police and EMS Departments at the VFW/Memorial Senior Center and watch the Phillies game on May 23. Doors open at noon and the game is at 1pm; serving hot dogs, popcorn and soda. For more events check their Facebook page and borough website. Thanked the Mayor and eventually the residents for their support through the Board of Health for the Mayor’s Wellness Campaign. A pledge was signed noting that Barrington is a town that would like to become healthier; see the Board of Health Facebook page for more information.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT BEACH– congratulations again, Ross. That is a big accomplishment to continue working and to attend school, we appreciate all you do. Echoed the rest of council on the work of our CFO Denise Moules, we have the best CFO in New Jersey and it’s still a lot of work for you! Thanks to our DPW Superintendent Mike Ciocco and Foreman Ken Broome, to Ross and Sam who are here. It is Public Works Week coming up and they get calls from all of

council, and others, for work to be done beside what they do on a daily basis. We appreciate all you do from top to bottom.

COUNCILMAN ROBENOLT- nothing to report

COUNCILMAN CERRITO – congratulated Ross on furthering his work education. Commended Denise and all department heads on a great job with the budget. Barrington will be honoring Barrington high school seniors who will be going into the service upon their graduation. If you have a child entering any branch of the service or a military academy, please let us know. Commended Mayor, the Civic Association and anyone else involved in Barrington Day, It is a great event and the children appreciate it. Thanks to all who participated in Earth Day, it's another great event. Thank you to the Green Team, DPW and Eileen for putting that together. On Community Development, "The Avenue" is coming along nicely and we look forward to the opening.

COUNCILMAN LUDWIG – told Ross he could not be more proud of him; he took the challenge and did a great job. Your dad and I both know you put the time and effort into this education and your future.

MAYOR HANSON – commended Ross on the completion of the program. I have seen you working at several of our events, so no shock you got it done! Thanked the Governing Body and our CFO Denise for their hard work on the budget. Memorial Day services will be Monday, May 27 at 10am at the War Memorials. Primary voting is Tuesday, June 4; Districts 2 and 5 will now vote here at the Borough Hall, not Avon School, in the back annex room. Since voting day is June 4, our caucus meeting will be held Wednesday, June 5. Our Town Pride Event with Audubon is Monday, June 3--watch social media for information.

Seeing no further business to be transacted, on a motion by Ludwig, second by Drumm, the meeting was adjourned at 6:21 pm.

APPROVED: Terry Shannon  
Terry Shannon, Borough Clerk