

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 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 Cerrito, Councilman Drumm, and Councilman Robenolt. Councilman Ludwig was absent and Councilwoman Mercado-Miller arrived at 6:10pm. Council President Beach was absent with prior notice. Also present were Secretary Eileen Holcombe, Solicitor Tim Higgins, and Clerk Terry Shannon and CFO Denise Moules.

**Engineer's report**

Greg Evans reported on the following action items: voucher No. 4 for police department renovations, award of a contract for the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue pump station project to DiMeglio Construction. The quotes for the LED lights at Wish Upon a Star Playground have to be tabled until next month.

He then reviewed certain items from their monthly report including bids will be received for Lost World Park improvements on September 26; contractor completed Austin Avenue phase 2 and 3 except for the speed humps which they will be doing this Thursday and Friday. That concluded his report.

**Public Portion**

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

**Administration—Clerk Shannon reported on the following**

Resident request for designated parking spots for tenants along Barrington Avenue. Tenant at the Avenue building is asking for one designated parking spot for each apartment along the railroad tracks. From Thursday through Sunday, it is impossible for them to park. Mayor Hanson responded that if we do that for them, we will have to do it for all of the other residents in the area. The rest of council agreed—we cannot do it for one and not for all. Clerk Shannon said she will respond to the tenant that we cannot do assigned parking. Mayor Hanson added that for future development, the planning board may want to consider that parking has to be provided.

Appointments for construction official, building sub-code official and building inspector. We received a proposal from Stratford to have Mark Laggy serve as construction official through a shared service agreement. Also received a proposal from Mike DePalma to serve as building sub-code official and building inspector. Bob Harris has other candidates he wants to consider and will review all and make a recommendation to the governing body.

Ordell retail consumption liquor license—per ABC, we need to rescind the 2024-25 approval of the license for Ordell, then we need to do a resolution approving renewal for 2023-24 followed by a new resolution approving 2024-25. This was a very complicated process dealing with ABC on this license but according to them, this will finally resolve this license. There will be three different resolutions on the council agenda to finalize this.

Sustainable Jersey Certification—the Green Team worked very hard at submitting Barrington for bronze status. We are required to have two priority actions but we were only approved for one. The Green Team is asking that the borough consider approving the Sustainable Land Use Pledge which could be our second priority action. The resolution for the pledge is attached for your consideration. We will be sending to Ed Fox so this can be incorporated into the Master Plan. Please review and let me know if you have any questions. Resolution can be approved at the council meeting.

Agreement with E3 IT for building security systems—attached are two quotes from E3 IT, our current IT vendor, for complete installation of new security access systems for borough hall and the police department. These are below the bid threshold so they can be awarded by resolution. As E3 is our current IT vendor and has complete understanding of the JIF cyber security requirements, we are recommending that we move forward with these installations. Denise has certified that funds are available for this purpose. If approved, resolution will be on the council agenda.

Discussion regarding Air B&B's—we have a couple of Air B&B's in town. Our current ordinance requires that rentals be inspected annually or upon change in tenant. Do we want to amend our ordinance to address short-term rentals? Some towns are adopting ordinances that require short term rentals to be a minimum of three months. This discourages Air B&B's. Mayor Hanson added that in the next year, there are a lot of events coming to the area that will draw visitors. Or, since there haven't been any complaints so far, should we wait to address if it becomes a problem? After more discussion, it was determined we should at least look at the current ordinance that requires an inspection upon each change in tenant to make it less burdensome on the owner as well as the borough.

### **Council agenda review**

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption:

- Ord. 1190, Amending Schedule 339, Vehicles and Traffic (Bell Rd no stopping/standing)
- Ord. 1191, Capital Bond Ordinance
- Ord. 1192, Sewer Bond Ordinance

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

- Awarding a contract to DiMeglio for 4<sup>th</sup> Ave pump station project
- Awarding/rejecting quote for Wish Upon a Star Park project
- Appointing construction official, building sub-code and building inspector
- Resolution to cancel a grant receivable
- Resolution authorizing agreement with E3 IT for police dept and borough hall security systems
- Resolutions for the renewals of the Ordell liquor license
- Approving the September bill list

### **Finance**

CFO Moules reported the standard monthly reports were distributed. The bank balances are high because the payments to the County and the school district have not cleared yet. Revenues are trending as expected and all budget accounts are in the black. Next week I will not be here so Terry will be taking care of the checks.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilwoman Mercado-Miller—we are applying for an RFA for the Mayor's Wellness Campaign. We have new members for the Board of Health—how do we get them appointed? Clerk Shannon responded it is done by resolution and we can add to next week's agenda. Councilman Mercado-Miller then reported that the seniors have asked for a bench at the VFW senior center. It is around \$600 plus labor for installation. Not sure where the funding is available—can this be charged to the CDBG grant? Mayor Hanson said he is sure we can come up with that funding.

Mayor Hanson—we will be recognizing resident Phyllis Hait next week who is turning 95 and we will be presenting her with a proclamation. This weekend is Brews, Beats and Eats; Summer Nights was last week and was a successful event. He asked Captain Pawling to talk about the junior police academy and Captain Pawling said it went very well and they were happy with the attendance. It exposed them

to a lot of different aspects of the borough. Mayor Hanson added that the police have been doing great with community outreach—check out their Facebook page. National Night Out is the 17<sup>th</sup>. He thanked Denise for her work on all of the IT projects going on in the borough.

Seeing no additional business to be discussed, on a motion by Councilman Drumm, second by Councilman Cerrito, the meeting adjourned at 6:28pm with all in favor.

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