

**BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON
MINUTES OF MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
September 9, 2025, 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.

ROLL CALL

The Municipal Clerk called roll of Council with the following in attendance: Council President Beach, Councilman Beyer, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Drumm, Councilwoman Mercado-Miller. Councilman Robenolt was absent with prior notice. Mayor Hanson, Municipal Clerk Terry Shannon, and Solicitor Timothy Higgins were also on the dais.

RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL

The Clerk read the following resolutions for approval by consent agenda.

- 9-2025-86 RESOLUTION PROMOTING TYRELL THOMAS TO SERGEANT AND MATTHEW CHARLTON TO CORPORAL IN THE BARRINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
- 9-2025-87 RESOLUTION APPOINTING RYAN BOYLE AS A PATROLMAN TO THE BARRINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
- 9-2025-97 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RETIREMENT OF POLICE SERGEANT DAVID HUNT

On a motion by Drumm, second by Mercado-Miller, the resolutions were approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Beyer-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Mercado-Miller-yes.

Chief Minardi congratulated Tyrell and Matt, two of our best guys who will keep doing what they are doing. All the guys are amazing and were great candidates for the positions. For these two to get the positions with this group of competition is a huge credit to them. Congratulations to Ryan. If he follows these two and the rest of the guys he will do just fine. Congratulations to all three of you.

We also recognize Sgt. Dave Hunt for his twenty years of service to the Barrington P.D., retired as a Sergeant, that is why we are here today. Sgt. Hunt spoke and thanked the town for twenty great years here where he was born and raised, and dedicated his career to it. It is now time for the next step in his life and his family's life. He is glad he got through the twenty years. Congratulations to these three guys, welcome Ryan. I am sure you will do great things; you have some big shoes to fill. Make sure you show up and do your job! Thank you everyone.

Chief Minardi thanked Mayor and Council and CFO Denise Moules for making all of this possible.

Mayor Hanson and Council gave congratulations and thanks to the promoted officers, welcome and good luck to our new officer and thanks and best wishes to Sgt. Hunt. Kudos to our entire Police Department.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Hanson announced that the following proclamations are being approved and will be posted: National Recovery & Suicide Prevention Month; Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month; 9/11 Patriot Day, National Day of Service & Remembrance; National POW/MIA Recognition Day; Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

A Proclamation was also presented by Council President Beach and Superintendent Mike Ciocco to employee Sean Foster for life savings efforts. They explained that on June 25, our mechanic, Rich Constantine, was having chest pains and was feeling ill. Sean immediately called 9-1-1 and when EMT's arrived, they quickly identified that Rich was having a heart attack. He was rushed to the hospital and quickly treated for a heart attack. Sean's quick thinking in calling 9-1-1 saved Rich's life. Rich Constantine was also present to see Sean get this proclamation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Hanson reported that council was provided with the minutes of August 6, 2025, caucus, and August 12, 2025, council meetings and asked if there were any corrections or abstentions. On a motion by Beyer, second by Beach, the minutes were approved with all members present in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Hanson reported that the monthly departmental reports were distributed to the governing body, are posted outside of council chambers, and are 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 Drumm, second by Beach, the monthly departmental reports were accepted with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Beyer-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Mercado-Miller-yes.

The record will show that Councilman Robenolt is on vacation.

ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION BY CONSENT AGENDA

The Clerk read the following ordinance by title:

Ord. 1212 Ordinance Amending Article II, Residential Districts, in Chapter 360, Zoning, in the Code of the Borough of Barrington (regarding accessory dwelling units)

On a motion by Drumm, second by Beyer, the second reading of this ordinance was approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Beyer-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Mercado-Miller-yes.

On a motion by Beyer, second by Mercado-Miller, the public hearing on this ordinance was opened.

Seeing no comments from the public, on a motion by Drumm, second by Mercado-Miller, the public hearing on the ordinance was closed.

On a motion by Beach, second by Drumm, the ordinance was adopted with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Beyer-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Mercado-Miller-yes.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION ON FIRST READING

Ord. 1216 Ordinance Adding Article XII., Regulations for Solar and Photovoltaic Energy Systems, in Chapter 360, Zoning, of the Code of the Borough of Barrington

On a motion by Drumm, second by Beyer, the ordinance was approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Beyer-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Mercado-Miller-yes.

This ordinance will be considered for adoption after proper notice and a public hearing to be held during the October 14 council meeting.

RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA (to be read and approved by consent agenda)

- 9-2025-88 Awarding a Contract to Think Pavers for the Oak Ave Storm Sewer Pipe Lining Project--Phase 1
- 9-2025-89 Awarding a Contract to Landberg Construction, for the Municipal Building Parking Lot Improvements
- 9-2025-90 Authorizing Cash Advances for the Harvest Festival
- 9-2025-91 Referring Certain Matters to the Planning Board for Review and Recommendations
- 9-2025-92 Resolution in Support of the "Green Amendment" to the NJ State Constitution
- 9-2025-93 Approving Change Order No. 3, for the Fourth Ave Pump Station Improvements
- 9-2025-94 Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Expense for Grants Received
- 9-2025-95 Resolution to Cancel Unexpended Contract Balances
- 9-2025-96 Cancellation of the Funded Appropriation Balance for Certain Improvement Authorizations in the Sewer Capital Fund
- 9-2025-98 Rejecting the Bids Received for Flooring Renovations at the Municipal Building and Authorizing the Engineer to Readvertise for Bids
- 9-2025-99 Approving the September Bill List in the Total Amount of: \$531,449.56

On a motion by Beach, second by Drumm, the resolution consent agenda was approved with the following poll vote: Beach-yes, Beyer-yes, Cerrito-yes, Drumm-yes, Mercado-Miller-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 Beyer, second by Mercado-Miller, the public portion of the meeting was opened.

Brittany Beyer, Chairperson for the Barrington Green Team, spoke with an update of the grant received from Sustainable New Jersey and the PSE&G Foundation. The grant was for the green initiative and stormwater management in town. With the grant, one hundred rain barrels were purchased, they published an interest form in Barrington on Track to see if residents wanted a free rain barrel--they had fifty-seven residents respond. If anyone is interested in receiving a rain barrel, please contact the Green Team. Ms. Beyer also thanked Mayor and Council and the Public Works Department for their support on these projects.

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

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

COUNCILMAN BEYER – congratulations on the promotions in the Police Department and to Sean Foster for his diligence and quick service for help at DPW for our employee. It is Suicide Prevention Month and it's important to check on those you care about. Also, there are several cancer awareness initiatives this month and we wish all those touched with cancer the best.

COUNCILMAN CERRITO – great job Sean Foster. Congratulations Brittany and the Green Team on your hard work. It's great to hear about your success.

COUNCILMAN DRUMM – congratulations to Sean Foster and Rich looks like he is doing well. Congratulations Brittany, great job with the Green Team, as always. Wishes for a great recovery for our EMS Chief Kate Bowen and her donor. She will be out and missed for a while, and we hope she recovers well. Thanks to Chief Minardi and Captain Pawling. The two officers promoted tonight is an example of your administration and how great it is run. I think Ryan will be successful under your leadership. Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN MERCADO-MILLER – it's great to be in a town where everyone looks out for each other and cares for each other. As Councilman Beyer said, it is Suicide Prevention month and Recovery month, please take some time and take intentional moments to be gracious to yourself and others. The Board of Health quarterly meeting is Thursday, September 18 from 6-8pm. The meeting will be dedicated to creating signs to be placed around town about Suicide Prevention Month. If you are interested come in and bring the kids, no artistic ability necessary, just spend time and community. Seniors are active, per usual. Nutrition and exercise classes throughout September and October, a pasta dinner on the 25th and on October 9 a Fire Company, Fire Alliance, Tax Office luncheon. October 23 is Karaoke Night and the 30th is the Halloween Party. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT BEACH – repeating former comments, our departments do an amazing job. You can see that tonight with Rich and Sean and our Police promotions. Leadership starts at the top. Thanks Chief, Dave, and Mike Ciocco, you can see it through and through all our departments. Brittany thanks for your commitment to the Green Team along with Councilman Cerrito, thank you. For our EMS Chief Kate Bowen and her donor Michael please continue your prayers for a healthy and speedy recovery. Thank you.

MAYOR HANSON – echoed comments wishing Chief Bowen and her donor Michael Ellershaw, a Lieutenant in the EMS Squad, a speedy recovery. If it is not evident by that that our staff here is more of a family than a staff, we are very proud of the group of individuals that work here in the borough. It is not just our Police that get training. You heard tonight that Sean Foster received training and other staff are in courses now. Everyone here is trying to better themselves from the top down, from the middle out, we are very well rounded and happy with our borough staff. We cannot thank them enough for all they do every day. Thanks Berry Caffeinated and Elevated Golf for organizing our town's first Farmers Market two weeks ago. Great turnout, great weather, very successful and two more dates coming up, including this Sunday 9am-2pm. The grand re-opening of the Lost World Park is this Saturday at 11am, we hope to have some state and county officials in attendance. We will have free ice cream and giveaways. Harvest Festival is October 12th from 10am-4pm, we are still accepting vendor applications. Reach out to Mindy Berwick who is running the festival and doing so very successfully the past few years, we thank her for her hard work. We are having a Chili Cookoff Competition this year sponsored by Living Tree Wellness, the new business across the street and we thank them for their sponsorship. Fall fun with First Responders will be October 18. To be hosted by Police, Fire and EMS for the kids in town, a free family event. Brews, Beats and Eats was postponed due to the weather until October 25. A little Food Pantry was installed at Deerefield, across from Union Grove Apartments. Thanks to our Public Works Department for building and installing the pantry. Residents and non-residents can donate food or if needed you can access the food, no questions asked, no lock, no camera. It has been emptied and filled multiple times already, so it is definitely getting its use. Mayor Hanson encouraged residents to be sure they are getting their information from proper sources before spreading any false information online. We cover this every other month, and probably will every other month. Proper sources are the people on this dais and the people in the audience representing the borough. Not your neighbor, not your sister, not a random cop from Bordentown.

You need to get your information from us before you disseminate that information and cause panic or mass chaos. We can work together, we can answer your questions, we are not hiding anything here. But we can't give you information unless you ask us for it or you come to a meeting. We also do not respond to Facebook comments.

Chief Minardi added that he can't urge people enough to call us if you have a question. We can't respond to every Facebook comment and people seem to be relying on Facebook and 99% of it is false. If you see something the Police need to know about, call us, don't post it on the neighbor's page. No one is responding to your house based on your Facebook posts. We cover this a lot, and we can't express enough to just call us. If you are worried about something you saw on Facebook, call us. The Chief also thanked Berry Caffeinated for hosting Coffee with a Cop. It was great turnout, they were great hosts, and we will do more there. Thanks to all the officers who ran the Junior Police Academy. It was our second year, Cpl. Lampe, SRO Bowman, and Sgt. Mulhearn were there all week with the kids and did a great job. Captain Pawling set up the program. It was a great success, and we look forward to growing that.

Seeing no further business to be transacted, on a motion by Beach, second by Mercado-Miller, the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm.

APPROVED: *Terry Shannon*

Terry Shannon, Borough Clerk