

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026, 6:45 PM, MAYOR/COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Mayor Hanson called the meeting to order in council chambers at 6:45pm with the Sunshine Statement and led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Borough Clerk called the roll of council, and the following were present: Council President Beach, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Drumm, Councilman Beyer, Councilwoman Mercado-Miller and Councilwoman VanBernum. Also present were CFO Denise Moules, Secretary Eileen Holcombe and Solicitor Tim Higgins.

Engineer's report

Greg Evans from KEI Engineers thanked the Governing Body for the reappointment. He then reviewed the following action items: voucher No. 1 and change order No. 1 for the Oak Avenue storm sewer pipelining project—the sliplining is done and there is some driveway work to be done when weather permits; voucher No. 3 and change order No. 3 for the Second Avenue improvements—the drainage improvements are done, paving is done and lawn restoration and temporary paving are done and roadway improvements will be when weather permits and residents were notified. Regarding the Beaver Brook storm drainage improvements, we did submit to the Water Bank and the project has been put into the ranking. We are working on the plans and specs and reviewed the short term financing with CFO Moules.

Public Portion

On a motion by Councilman Beyer, second by Council President Beach, the public portion was opened. Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Councilman Drumm, second by Councilwoman VanBerenum, the public portion was closed.

Administration

Resolution to permit open containers for winter event being held by Berri Caffeinated and Elevate Golf on February 7. Mayor Hanson explained that the owners want to hold an event in the winter so they are planning a Night in Paris event. They hope to have a small ice skating rink where the farmers market was held. They also hope to have an Eiffel Tower replica and vendors with other features. There will be a crepe vendor and a mime. They are working with Tonewood and the Old Rail and would get a license for alcohol for the event and want a resolution to allow open containers. Tentatively planned for February 7. Chief Minardi said he needs more information regarding the horse and carriage rides. Councilwoman Mercado-Miller said she needs more information before she will vote on open containers. Chief Minardi said they have never had an issue with open containers—he just needs info on the horse and carriage rides. After more discussion, it was determined that we need more information on the event details that can be shared with council before any resolutions are approved.

Introduction of Sewer Rate Ordinance—Denise explained the rates are not changing. We just needed clarification of the language for senior discounts. The primary purpose is to eliminate the discounts that previously went to income restricted units, specifically the Mews. As many of the income restricted units have been eliminated, it is necessary that those units now pay market rates. The amending ordinance language is provided for your review.

Introduction of ordinance for towing services. Previously, as we only had one garage in town that provided towing services, it was not necessary for us to maintain a revolving list of towing companies. As we no longer have a towing company in town that can provide these services, we must develop a list of qualified towing vendors so the work can be shared among those who qualify. Ordinance language is provided for your review.

Council agenda review

Ordinances for introduction on first reading:

Ord. 1223 Amending Residential Sewer Rates
Ord. 1224 Adding Chapter 321, Towing, in the Borough Code

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

- Resolution for change order no. 1, for Oak Ave Storm Sewer Pipe Lining
- Resolution for change order o. 3 for Second Ave Improvements
- Allowing open containers for February 7 winter event
- Property maintenance lien for various properties
- Resolution to approve the January bill list

Finance

CFO Moules presented the monthly reports showing account balances for the budget expenditures—the totals for anticipated revenues are provided and also the budget totals. This is basically a recap of last year.

Seeing nothing else for discussion, on a motion by Councilman Beyer second by Councilwoman Mercado-Miller, the meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.

Approved: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Clerk/RMC