

BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2026, 6:00 PM, 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.

Clerk Moules called the roll of council, and the following were present: Council President Beach, Councilman Beyer, Councilman Cerrito, Councilman Drumm Councilwoman Van Bernum. Councilwoman Mercado-Miller was absent with prior notice. Also present was Solicitor Tim Higgins.

Engineer's Report

Greg Evans was not in attendance, Mayor Hanson and Clerk Moules discussed the Engineers action items as follows:

- Change Order No. 1 for Improvement to Devon Road
 - Change Order No. 2 for Improvement to Austin Ave Phase IV
 - Application for Recreational Opportunity for Individuals with Disabilities FY 2027 Grant for Lost World Park Accessible Paving Improvements
- Discuss Engineer Recommendation:
 - Parking along Shreve Ave between Clements Bridge Road and NJ Turnpike Overpass

A parking map of the proposed parking spaces was provided, and a discussion ensued about shifting the lanes to accommodate the parking and where the lined parking spots would be placed. If all agree, we will approve the parking submissions to make traffic and pedestrian safety a priority.

Councilman Drumm asked about the 25mph sign and painting 25mph in the street near the speed bumps. Requested to change the location since people are not going 25mph. Clerk Moules will follow up with Greg Evans.

Clerk Moules advised that our borough parking lot is now repaved and she thanked all, especially the police, for coordinating with the contractor. The striping will take place when the office is closed on Friday after staff the is gone for the day.

Public Portion

On a motion by Councilman Beyer, second by Councilman Drumm, the public portion was opened.

Lois Eckman, said at council there was a discussion about data centers, she does not think we need any in Barrington, they are a power and water drain. All the data centers say they would fix, she does not agree with and we shouldn't have any. If at some point any business leave town, we should have something in place so those buildings can't be used as data centers. Mayor Hanson advised that we are like-minded and we have a motion on the agenda to recommend to the Planning Board that data centers in town should be banned. Mayor and Councilman Beyer let Lois know when the Planning Board meeting is if she would like to attend. Councilman Drumm suggested that Lois also go to Magnolia with her concerns since part of Fed Ex is in Magnolia. Parking lot is Barrington, building is Magnolia.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Councilman Beyer, second by Councilman Drumm, the public portion was closed.

Administration

Clerk Moules reported on the following:

- Chicken Ordinance – based on Council feedback, the introduced ordinance was revised to authorize Borough Council rather than a Chicken Advisor Board. Additional clarification was provided about not allowing roosters and identifying the enforcement authority.

Clerk Moules advised that we have 3 active coops still in town, 6 have come down or the residents moved. One staff member has left a message to check the other 5. It will not be a big burden on council to address potential concerns. Please review and let Clerk Moules know if any changes are requested.

- NJ League of Municipalities Conference is November 17 – 19, 2026. Early registration is from July 1 - August 31. Please let me know if you are interested in attending.
- Proposed Chapter 170 to include Regulation of Filming Ordinance. Ordinance was distributed to Council please advise if there are any changes, it will be added to the agenda for introduction

Administration – Item for September Meeting

- Public Utility Pole Replacement / Removal Enforcement Ordinance – pending additional information from the mayors association.

Council Agenda Review

Ordinance for introduction on first reading:

- Chapter 339 – Shreve Avenue Parking Modification (North Side)
- Cannabis Opt-Out Ordinance to Opt-In to all Classes

Mayor Hanson said with International Paper closing, and if it should come up, we may allow Class I grow with Classes 1 through 6, in the M2 district. It would not just be tax revenue but also a 2% revenue on top of that. Councilman Cerrito asked to see the map. Discussion ensued about the perimeters of the M2 zone. Councilman Cerrito is concerned about retail Solicitor Higgins advised that Class V only remains in the commercial district. It will be controlled as to growing, manufacturing and distribution, it is not a retail. You can create zoning regulations for that as well. Clerk Moules will prepare the ordinances to be introduced next week with the changes discussed.

- Chapter 313 – All Classes Cannabis Tax
- Chapter 360 – Cannabis Regulations (C-2 and M-2 Districts)
- Chapter 360 – Define and Prohibit Data Centers

Ordinances for public hearing and adoption:

- Ord. 1241 Chapter 313 – Article III - Class III and Class V Cannabis Tax
Solicitor Higgins recommended this ordinance not be seconded and it would just die.
- Ord. 1242 Chapter 123 – Article VII – Animal (Chickens) - REVISED

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

- Change Order 1 – Devon Road Improvements
- Change Order 2 – Austin Avenue Phase IV Improvements
- Application for Recreational Opportunity for Individuals with Disabilities FY 2027 Grant
- Resolution for Planning Board – Review and Recommendation to Prohibit Data Centers and permitting additional Cannabis Classes in M-2 zone.
- Resolution for Planning Board – Preliminary Investigation of M-2 Manufacturing District for determination as redevelopment or in need of rehabilitation

Solicitor Higgins advised that for the Planning Board it would be C2 and M2.

- Refund Duplicate Wedding Ceremony Fee
- Authorizing Contract with PSE&G for Energy Saver Program – Program to replace Roof Top A/C Unit where the Borough is responsible for 54.59% of the project.
- Authorize Sale of Fire Department Equipment through Gov Deals - Eagle Air Talon II Fill Station Compressor and Bauer Compressor Bottle Filling Station
- Refund Tax Payment for Disabled Veteran
- Resolution to approve the August bill list
- Amending Resolution to change RTO Dispensary support to Green Gas Dispensary

Solicitor Higgins prepared an Amendment to the May resolution to change the name and support Green Gas Dispensary, same people, just a different name

FINANCE

- Monthly Attachments provided through August 3, 2026: 2026 Budget Expenditures

2026 ANTICIPATED REVENUE

Revenue Source	2026 Budget	Collected as of 7-31-2026	Anticipated Balance
Fees and Permits	30,000.00	16,911.31	<13,088.69>
Fines and Costs - Municipal Court	37,000.00	26,485.30	<10,514.70>
Interest and Costs on Taxes	50,000.00	19,264.52	<30,735.48>
Interest on Investments and Deposits	25,200.00	29,554.97	4,354.97

CFO Moules said there are no concerns at this point with the revenues collected.

Council Reports

Councilman Drumm – nothing for caucus

Council President Beach – nothing for caucus

Councilwoman VanBernum – softball and baseball fall ball registration ends on August 10th

Council Reports (cont'd)

Councilman Beyer – nothing for caucus

Councilman Cerrito – nothing for caucus

Mayor Hanson – thanks to the Police Department, Chief Minardi and Captain Pawling and all who set up and organized National Night Out, the Police, Fire and EMS, all involved, thank you, great job. Rec closes this Friday, thanks to all our counselors', great job all. The Jr. Police Academy begins next week. Summer Nights is August 26 at Wish Park, and Brews, Beats and Eats is September 12 in the St. Francis de Sales parking lot, both are sponsored by the Civic Association. The Thirsty Turtle opened and is doing well, have heard nothing but great things.

Eileen Holcombe, secretary to Mayor & Council and Senior Coordinator, reported that the seniors are going to a Phillies game on September 27, at \$64 per ticket, this is Fan Appreciation Day.

Seeing nothing else for open discussion, on a motion by Councilman Beyer, second by Councilwoman VanBernum, the meeting adjourned at 6:34pm.

Approved: Denise Moules
Denise Moules, Clerk/RMC