

MINUTES OF MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
August 13, 2008, at 8:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT MUNICIPAL BUILDING

A regular monthly Council Meeting of the Borough of Barrington was held on August 9, 2008, at 8:00 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Municipal Building with Mayor Rink presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Rink called the meeting to order and made 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 filed with the Retrospect and Courier Post and also in the main office of the Borough Clerk where notices are currently kept.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Rink led the audience in saluting the flag of our country.

ROLL CALL: The Borough Clerk called the roll of Council and reports the following:

Klaus	- present	Popiolek	- present
Dinella	- present	Bergeron	- absent
Vincent	- present	Cowling	- present

Also on the dais: Terry Shannon, Borough Clerk; Timothy Higgins, Esq.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Rink noted that Council was provided with copies of the printed Minutes for July, 2008, council meeting and asked if there were any corrections. On a Motion by Klaus and Vincent the minutes of the July, 2008, council meeting were approved as submitted with all members of Council present in favor.

MOTION IS CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS: The Borough Clerk read a summary of the July 2008, monthly report as submitted by the Police Department, Ambulance/EMS Alliance and the Recycling Report. On a Motion by Popiolek and Dinella all monthly committee reports submitted for July 2008 were approved to be received and filed with all members of Council present in favor.

MOTION IS CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS: The Borough Clerk read the following Ordinance for second reading; public hearing,

ORDINANCE NO. 914, ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, FIXING THE 2008 COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON.

On a Motion by Vincent and Cowling the second reading of the Ordinance was approved with the following poll vote:

Klaus	- yes	Popiolek	- yes
Dinella	- yes	Bergeron	- absent
Vincent	- yes	Cowling	- yes

On a Motion by Klaus and Vincent the public hearing on the Ordinance was opened.

Mrs. Syrunt asked the Mayor to explain what that was and he advised it was the salary ordinance for police. The Municipal Clerk advised that the salaries are posted on the board in the hall if anyone is interested in reviewing them.

Seeing no more comments from the public, on a Motion by Klaus and Dinella the public hearing on the above Ordinance was closed.

On a Motion by Popiolek and Cowling, the adoption of the Ordinance was approved with the following poll vote:

Klaus	- yes	Popiolek	- yes
Dinella	- yes	Bergeron	- absent
Vincent	- yes	Cowling	- yes

MOTION IS CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS: ORDINANCES: Ordinances for introduction and first reading. The Municipal

Clerk advised that the public hearing on the Ordinances would be at the September 9 Council Meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 915, ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE NO. 817.

ORDINANCE NO. 916, ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, 2008-2012 AFSCME SALARY ORDINANCE BY AND BETWEEN AFLCIO COUNCIL 71 AND THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON.

On a Motion by Klaus and Vincent the first reading of the Ordinances were approved with the following poll vote:

Klaus	- yes	Popiolek	- yes
Dinella	- yes	Bergeron	- absent
Vincent	- yes	Cowling	- yes

NEW BUSINESS: RESOLUTIONS: The Borough Clerk advised that she would read the following Resolutions by title, one after another, and Council would have the opportunity to vote as a consent agenda at the end of the reading:

RESOLUTION NO. 8-2008-103: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE FOR GRANTS RECEIVED.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-2008-104: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, ENDORSING S-1974/A-2982, AN INCREASE IN STATE POLICE SURCHARGES TO DEFRAY COSTS OF LOCAL POLICE SERVICES.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-2008-105: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, ACCEPTING THE 2007 CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-2008-106: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, DELETING AND ADDING 2008 TAX EXEMPTIONS.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-2008-107: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR MUNICIPAL DRUG ALLIANCE GRANT.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-2008-108: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, APPROVING THE AFSCME CONGTRACT FOR 2008-2012.

On a Motion by Klaus and Popiolek the Resolutions as read were approved with the following poll vote:

Klaus	- yes	Popiolek	- yes
Vincent	- yes	Bergeron	- absent
Dinella	- yes	Cowling	- yes

MOTION IS CARRIED

APPROVAL OF BILLS: The Borough Clerk read the sum total of the bills to be paid this month is \$3,791,020.61.

On a Motion by Dinella and Vincent the bills were approved for payment with the following poll vote:

Klaus	- yes	Popiolek	- yes
Dinella	- yes	Bergeron	- absent
Vincent	- yes	Cowling	- yes

MOTION IS CARRIED

PUBLIC PORTION: On a motion by Popiolek and Vincent the public portion of the meeting was opened.

RICK FIORILE, 214 W. Gloucester Pike, thanks for your efforts with the county to get signs on Gloucester Pike at the crossing areas. My other question tonight is on the taxes. The tax increase is tough for all of us. Please explain. Mayor said that 42% of the budget goes to Haddon Heights for the kids to go to school. Regionalization is the way to go. You can go to the school board meetings and express your concerns. We had worked very hard with the school board to keep costs down; the major increase was for the Heights tuition. Small towns like ours operate very efficiently. With reference to our budget, we had three people retire this year and we have not replaced them. We have hired part time personnel to take over and saved in health insurance and pension by doing this.

JOYCE NATALE, 123 Albany Ave., asked why a representative from the School Board is not at this council meeting. Mayor advised that they are a separate entity from the Borough and they are not required to attend or send a representative. Our Borough Council does send a council member to the School Board meetings and the School Board used to send a representative to our monthly meeting but that was in the past. It would be great if they had a representative attend our meeting.

JENN STUART, 246 E. Williams Ave., thanked Mayor and Council for their support of the C.O.F.F.E.E. Group which is against the building of 55 + community that Magnolia wants to build that borders Barrington and Runnemedede homes and would exit onto Davis Road – not into Magnolia at all. She also advised that as a school teacher, but not in Barrington, the budget difficulties are the same in most all towns. Mayor Rink advised that the School Board has their meeting on the 2nd Monday of the month at Avon School. He also advised that the Borough has claims filed against Magnolia. Magnolia had been advised at their Planning Board meeting that Barrington would contest the building of the 55+ community.

GLORIA SURYNT, 513 Dubois Ave., advised that she is on Social Security and wants to know what their money is being used for; seniors are being pushed out of town. Mayor advised that the state keeps adding requirements for all of the schools and they don't fund the new requirements. The Mayor advised of the property tax reimbursement program which is a tax freeze for seniors, if they qualify. The state then pays the difference in the taxes. Information will be given to Mrs. Surynt after the meeting.

Robert Haas, 918 Chesterfield Road, not happy with timing at the lights at the Atlantic Avenue and Clements Bridge Road railroad tracks. The timing is way off and needs to be adjusted. The Mayor advised that the state agency is aware of the problem and hasn't come out to fix it. We are having difficulties with the state agency.

DAWN MUTCHLER, 213 E. Williams Ave., asked when the light is going up at the corner of Commerce Drive and Atlantic Avenue as there is an officer to direct traffic, if she gets off the phone long enough to do so. Chief Eisenhardt advised that it is a Lawnside officer. He may contact Lawnside about the officer. Mrs. Mutchler also asked what could be done about people cutting through to avoid the speed humps on Shreve Ave. The Mayor and the Chief advised that if residents get the license plate information the person can be contacted and given a warning. As far as having police out there at rush hour, that is what all the neighborhoods would like. During the school year the police are needed at the schools. At other times they try to spread them out in different areas.

Seeing no further comments from the public, on a Motion by Klaus and Dinella the public portion of the meeting was closed.

MOTION IS CARRIED

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY:

MAYOR RINK - thanks all for coming out tonight, we appreciate your input. On Sunday the 18th our Scout Troop 96 will have 6 scouts become Eagle Scouts. Usually there are one or two but 6 are just wonderful. Over the years they have had several Eagle Scouts. Also, this Thursday night the Camden County Freeholders will hold their monthly meeting here at the municipal building. The town meeting begins at 6:30 pm and their meeting begins at 7 pm. The audit corrective action plan is for a minor issue. Terry Shannon and Denise Moules, along with all employees, we thank you all. You all did a great job and the residents should be proud. All of our employees do a bang up job.

COUNCILWOMAN BERGERON – absent

COUNCIL PRESIDENT KLAUS – thanks for coming out tonight and expressing your concerns. Congratulations to the Eagle Scouts; three are residents and three are from Audubon. The Green Team is a group of residents who get together once a month to see how the Borough can go green and save our resources and reduce our fossil fuel print. We are working with Home Depot on a project and they will give Barrington residents a 10% discount during the month of September on eco-option products; this will range from light bulbs to appliances. Watch for information in the Communique. You will come to the Municipal building to get a letter to take to the home depot to get the discount. Home Depot has combined with the Democrat Club for a raffle. Raffle is for a front load eco-option washer and dryer; washer bought and donated by the Democrat Club and the dryer by the Home Depot. Tickets are \$5 and the drawing will be held at the Harvest Festival at 3 pm. all proceeds will go to defray the costs of the July 4th fireworks for 2009. Mayor and Council President both said this is another way that we are trying to cut our costs.

COUNCILMAN DINELLA – thanks for coming out tonight. Stated we need to thank Home Depot; they have been a very good corporate citizen by helping us out with a lot of things, they are always there for us. As Bob Klaus is with the Green Team, I am with the Borough Finances. They all go together. If every one climbs on board and we can find a way to for alternative energy, like having solar panels on the municipal building, we could use that energy to offset the cost for the street lights and save money. The work being done could help us save taxes. Everyone have a safe and happy Labor Day weekend. The Mayor highlighted good corporate partners and advised that one of them has left Gloucester Pike. The Weyerhaeuser Corporation was bought out by International Paper. We did hear that all the local employees will keep their jobs. I just want it on the record that Weyerhaeuser Corporation was a great, great community sponsor and the Chief can also attest to that. They have given to and supported all Borough departments; I just want to tip my hat to them. We will send a letter of welcome to International Paper.

COUNCILMAN VINCENT – thanks to Police; we are very fortunate. One of our officers was involved in a horrible accident. All turned out well and after being checked out at the hospital that officer came right back to work. People have asked questions as to why the police department has big cars, this officer would not have been alive had he been in a regular car. We can thank the Lord and the Borough's foresight in getting a large car – it saved that officers life. Mayor said that our car and an SUV get the same gas mileage in town with the stop and go. The Borough gets a state discount for some cars when we buy and they are cheaper than purchasing a police car. Also, a police car will last only about 3 years and some of our SUV's have lasted 7 years.

COUNCILMAN POPIOLEK – appreciate you all coming out tonight and addressing your concerns to us. Tax bills are less joyful to open each year! My property taxes are on the verge of doubling as well. As the Mayor stated, the only way to get relief is through regionalization and consolidation. Nobody wants to loose their hometown but this is the way to go. In the up and coming years if you hear of a town consolidating and schools regionalizing try not to be as disheartened by it. Remember the shock you get in your tax bills and look at it as a positive way to change. Another way to change is to increase revenue, and with the Economic Development Program we have been working on just that. The White Horse Pike redeveloper is interested and he has several large tenants looking to move there so hopefully we will have something in writing and a shovel in the ground soon. Another project is at the former Harvey's Gift Shop site. Given the economy this is all taking a lot longer than

we like but we want to be sure we don't rush into anything and that we get the maximum dollar for our property and pass the savings off to you, the tax payer. Have a great Labor Day.

COUNCILMAN COWLING – the dog park plan will be finalized in the next week or so. We will have a new dog park at the Lost World Park in Stoneybrook; all information will be on the Borough website, Ch. 19 and the next Communique. There will be fees for the year: \$25 per dog and \$10 per each additional dog up to two additional – no more than three per family. The fees will offset the maintenance cost so that we won't have to raise taxes for a dog park. If you have questions please see me after the meeting. Mayor Rink mentioned that the next Communique will be out soon, but the Councilman advised the information on the dog park will not be in the one on Aug. 29th but the following one. Mayor advised that hopefully everyone enjoys the paper; we try to put lots of useful information and news in it. Bob Haas is here and he is the writer of the Bright Lights section and we thank him for highlighting the kids in town.

MAYOR RINK – school will be in session soon so please be careful of the kids!

On a motion by Klaus and Popiolek the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

ATTEST: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Borough Clerk