

**REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
JANUARY 10, 2024**

THE CAUCUS MEETING of the Mayor and Council was called to order by Mayor Larson at 4:30pm at the at the Barnegat Light Borough Hall, 10 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Barnegat Light, NJ. He stated that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was posted on the bulletin board in Borough Hall and was advertised in the Asbury Park Press and Beach Haven Times on January 19, 2023.

**ROLL CALL:** Spark, Wellington, Gutowski, Reynolds, Foley was absent and Mikuletzky

**Also present:** Mayor Larson, Terry Brady, Sponge Washburn, Michele Inman and Brenda Kuhn

**Discussion:**

The kayak area was discussed. Raising or lowering price of registration, stickers and enforcement were some of the topics. Councilman Spark said most of the people don't use their kayaks, it was just a place to park them. Councilman Spark said that the registration was good because we would have contact information. Councilman Gutowski said that he was going to have a committee meeting to come up with ideas for how to proceed with the kayak area.

The Kubel's deck improvements inspired a discussion on the parking issue on West 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor Larson said it could be a dangerous situation during concerts at the pavilion.

Councilman Mikuletzky brought up the Police contract. He said it was a 3-year contract with a 3% increase. He said that it's expensive but it would cost a lot more to have our own force.

Kathleen Flangan arrived at 4:45pm. She wanted to discuss the Corrective Action Report. She said there were 3 findings in the 2022 Annual Audit. She explained each item. She asked if there were any question about the Cap Bank Ordinance.

Mayor Larson asked for a motion to close the Caucus. On a motion by Spark, seconded by Wellington and carried by all the Caucus Meeting was closed.

THE MEETING of the Mayor and Council was called to order by Mayor Larson at 5:00pm at Borough Hall, 10 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Barnegat Light, NJ. He stated that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was posted on the bulletin board in Borough Hall and was advertised in the Asbury Park Press and Beach haven Times on January 19, 2023.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Municipal Clerk stated that the meeting was being recorded and that a written copy would be available in the Clerk's office.

**ROLL CALL:** Spark, Wellington, Gutowski, Reynolds, Foley was absent and Mikuletzky

**Also present:** Mayor Larson, Terry Brady, Sponge Washburn, Michele Inman and Brenda Kuhn

**APPROVE MINUTES:** Mayor Larson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of November 16, 2023 Budget meeting.

Larson	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark	X		X			
Wellington			X			
Gutowski					X	
Reynolds		X	X			
Foley						X
Mikuletzky			X			

**APPROVE MINUTES:** Mayor Larson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of December 13, 2023 Regular meeting.

Larson	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark			X			
Wellington	X		X			
Gutowski					X	
Reynolds			X			
Foley						X
Mikuletzky		X	X			

**APPROVE MINUTES:** Mayor Larson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of December 21, Special Meeting

Larson	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark			X			
Wellington	X		X			
Gutowski			X			
Reynolds		X	X			
Foley			X			
Mikuletzky					X	

**APPROVE MINUTES:** Mayor Larson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of January 5, 2024

Reorganization Meeting:

Larson	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark		X	X			
Wellington					X	
Gutowski			X			
Reynolds	X		X			
Foley						X
Mikuletzky			X			

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mayor Larson asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Larson	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark	X		X			
Wellington					X	
Gutowski			X			
Reynolds		X	X			
Foley						X
Mikuletzky			X			

BUILDING AND ZONING REPORT: Mayor Larson asked for a motion to approve the Building and Zoning Report.

Larson	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark			X			
Wellington		X	X			
Gutowski			X			
Reynolds			X			
Foley						X
Mikuletzky	X		X			

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Mikuletzky reported as follows:

- Requested to make the Court Report part of the meeting minutes
- Reported on the Court collections and how it was distributed

BEACHES AND PARKS: Councilwoman Reynolds reported as follows:

- 2023 beach badge total sales were \$283,535, up from previous year.
- Pickleball revenue was \$9,325 in 2023
- Dog park 2023 revenue was \$8,670 which was down slightly from 2022
- Now have small dog park
- Now is the time to renew dog licenses and paw passes
- Asked Hock for proposal for beach walkways

DOCKS AND HARBORS: Councilman Gutowski reported as follows:

- Revenue for docks & harbors was up by \$25,000 in 2023, mostly from slips
- Currently 3 slips available-Kathy going through wait list to fill
- Met with Mayor and Superintendent
- Will have a committee meeting

PUBLIC WORKS: Councilman Wellington reported as follows:

- Storms created a lot of damage to the beaches-worked on cleaning up
- Batting cage completed
- All Christmas lights down
- Installed new playground equipment at bay beach
- Abandoned kayaks put away
- General town maintenance

FINANCE: Councilman Spark reported as follows:

- Bills were paid in the amount of \$474,600
- Regional school tax \$135,800/LBI school tax \$114,000

WATER/SEWER: Councilman Spark reported on behalf of Councilwoman Foley:

- Stuart is working with Long Beach Township to install a new meter for High Bar Harbor
- Should be done within the next couple of months

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION: Mayor Larson asked for a motion to open the open public session.

Motion: Mikuletzky All in favor

Tim Brindley, 1404 Bayview Avenue, asked if there was access to the batting cage from outside of the park and the response was yes.

Councilwoman Reynolds started reading a text from James Murtaugh, 13 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street regarding the beach walkways. The mayor said that he should attend a meeting or send a letter because it was correspondence.

Tracey Cameron, 13 W 5<sup>th</sup> Street, said she was considering forming an advisory committee regarding the beach walkways.

Councilman Wellington said that he didn't know what an advisory committee would do. He said they make a couple of mistakes and has apologized for them. He said that things will grow back by spring and the DPW will be able to maintain with lawnmowers and weed wackers. He also addressed hiring a contractor to maintain the beach walkways as Councilwoman Reynolds has suggested. He said that we have a legally binding union contract with the teamsters and you cannot take work away from union workers. So, hiring a contractors would have to be negotiated with the union.

Bruce Allen, 1405 Seaview Avenue, asked if Harvey Cedars was willing and able to bid on our Police Contract. Mayor Larson said that they have been asked and they do not want to increase their police force. Councilman Mikuletzky said that Long Beach Township police have to come this way because of High Bar Harbor.

Allan Cantor, "mayor of 29<sup>th</sup> street", addressed Councilwoman Reynolds regarding online beach badge sales. He said check the internet because there are lots of companies out there. Then he addressed Councilman Gutowski. He said he would be happy to share his notes regarding the kayak area.

George Benedict, The White Whale, said that he did not have a problem with the parking on 7<sup>th</sup> Street but some of the neighbors did. Councilman Spark said that the problem was a safety issue.

John Alchus, 8 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, said he didn't understand about the parking on 7<sup>th</sup> Street. He was told

**CLOSE PUBLIC SESSION:** Councilman Spark asked for a motion to close the open public session.

Motion: Reynolds      Second: Mikuletzky      All in favor X

**RESOLUTIONS:**

The clerk said that the resolution would be done by consent agenda. She read each resolution by title and then recorded the votes as follows:

Larson	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark		X	X			
Wellington			X			
Gutowski			X			
Reynolds	X		X			
Foley						X
Mikuletzky			X			

**RESOLUTION 2024-045**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AS SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF LONG BEACH FOR THE PROVISION OF POLICE SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Shared Services Act, NJSA 40A:65-1 et. seq. authorizes two or more municipalities to enter into a Shared Services agreement for the provision of certain governmental services; and

WHEREAS, Section 4 of P.L. 1973, c. 208(C.40:8A-4) has been amended and approved a Chapter 356, on January 5, 1996 to authorize that such agreements can be adopted by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Barnegat Light has requested the Township of Long Beach to provide Police services; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed to be in public interest for the Borough of Barnegat Light to execute such an agreement with the Township of Long Beach for the Police Services in accordance to the terms set forth in the said agreement for the term January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a Shared Services Agreement with the Township of Long Beach for Police Services, a copy of which is attached hereto, in accordance with the provision of the law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect January 1, 2024.

**RESOLUTION 2024-046**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDDING A STIPEND TO CERTAIN EMPLOYEE

WHEREAS, Cecile U, Hodgson has entered into an agreement with the Borough of Barnegat Light to pursue the course of education required for Certification as a Registered Municipal Clerk; and WHEREAS, her agreement with the Borough states that she shall receive a \$1,000.00 stipend after the successful completion of each course; and

WHEREAS, Cecile has successfully completed Municipal Finance Administration for Municipal Clerks.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That Cecile shall receive a stipend of \$1,000.00
2. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forward to Cecile U. Hodgson and the Finance Department.
3. A certified copy shall be place in Cecile U. Hodgson's file.

#### **RESOLUTION 2024-047**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF MUNICIPAL BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$474,662.32

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee of the Borough of Barnegat Light has examined the vouchers presented for payment,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the approved vouchers amounting to \$474,663.32 authorized to be paid upon verification of the Treasurer that there is sufficient money in the appropriated accounts, subject to adequate signatures and funding.

#### **RESOLUTION 2024-048**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ADOPTING A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE 2022 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions, and

WHEREAS, the Borough Auditor has conducted an Annual Audit of the 2022 finances of the Borough of Barnegat Light; and

WHEREAS, said Audit Report found interfund receivables and payables appear on the balance sheets of the various funds as of December 31, 2021 which has an effect on cash flow and with respect to the current fund. Interfund receivables impact upon the amount of fund balance that can be utilized in the budget cycle; and

WHEREAS, said Audit Report recommends that all interfunds, where practicable, be liquidated prior to year-end; and

WHEREAS, said Audit Report recommends that grant appropriated reserve balances be reviewed for possible cancellation; and

WHEREAS, said Audit Report recommends that stale dated items in the Court be cleared from the bank reconciliation timely

WHEREAS, the Borough Chief Financial Officer has developed a corrective action plan, implementing said recommendations; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light to approve and adopt the corrective action plan submitted by the Chief Financial Officer, a copy of which is attached hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That the Mayor & Borough Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light do hereby approve and adopt the corrective action plan submitted by the Chief Financial Officer, a copy of which is attached hereto.
2. That a copy of this resolution and said corrective action plan shall be filed with the NJ Division of Local Government Services and uploaded to the NJ Fast System.

#### **ORDINANCES:**

##### **First Reading:**

Ordinance 2024-01 was read by title and the Clerk recorded the votes.

##### **ORDINANCE 2024-01**

ORDINANCE OF THE BOUROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Larson	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark	X		X			
Wellington		X	X			
Gutowski			X			
Reynolds			X			
Foley						X
Mikuletzky			X			

CORRESPONDENCE:

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

Mayor Larson asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Wellington    Second: Reynolds    All in Favor X

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
KIRK O. LARSON, MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
BRENDA L. KUHN, MUNICIPAL CLERK