MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL April 9, 2025

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 7th 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 23, 2025.

ROLL CALL: Spark, Wellington, Gutowski, Reynolds, Foley and Mikuletzky

Also present: Mayor Larson, Terry Brady, Sponge Washburn, Kathleen Flanagan and Brenda Kuhn

Discussion:

Mayor Larson said that the budget was being introduced and asked council if anyone had any problems with the 2025 budget. Everyone was okay with it so they moved onto the next topic.

Mercantile and Landlord registrations were discussed. Each council member had a packet with examples of the registration forms from another island town.

Mayor Larson started the conversation with mercantile registration. He emphasized that it is now a state requirement. Council members asked many questions regarding this requirement.

Reynolds inquired if we had a choice to do it or not to do it. Gutowski said that is state mandated.

Foley asked if this was for every store and every duplex. the Clerk explained that the mercantile is just for businesses and landlord registration is for all rentals. All are required to provide the Borough with liability insurance.

Gutowski asked if every municipality makes their own application format and the Clerk responded yes.

Spark expressed that some of the items on the sample application were ridiculous. One of his concerns was that it wasn't anyone's business if the property owner had a mortgage on the property. The Clerk said that we can make the application to fit our town. Sponge said that this was just an example and we can format our application to include whatever we want.

Wellington wanted to know exactly is the state mandating. Washburn said that we have to get the proof of liability insurance. Wellington stated that we should make it simple and just ask for liability insurance and not charge any fees. The Clerk pointed out that having the knowledge of what type of business it is and what goods are being sold would also be a benefit for zoning because it would be known what they are selling but the fees would be up to the council. She went on to say that we would have to identify every business and there would be administrative costs involved. Wellington expressed his concern about charging fees and suggested to just make a mercantile application with business name and submit liability insurance. Why do we need fees, we only have 28 business in town, how big of a problem is it going to be?

Mayor Larson pointed out that there may be a problem with the business that they don't conform and they don't come in. He asked Flanagan how it works in Ship Bottom. She explained that the Clerk sends out a mailer and lets them know that their mercantile license is due. The application includes owner, mailing address, email address and certificate of insurance. There's a fee for registration and a late fee. If a business changes and they don't have to go the zoning board, it's not a change of use. With the registration we know what type of business is going to be conducted there and we have the insurance.

Mayor Larson said this is just a round table discussion and we should plan on implementing this January 1, 2026. Flanagan said that gives you time to work out what exactly what council wants. Someone asked if the fishing vessels were included within this law.

Terry Brady changed the topic to landlord registration, which he said he was more familiar with. He said that every town has to do it. Gutowski asked about the registration form. The council had an example from another town and had questions for the attorney, such as, what information has to be included, how would we notify everyone that has a rental property. Wellington said, do what Brenda suggested, come up with a letter to let the public know what's happening and an appropriate registration form, mail them out to all properties and after that, it's on them. Other council members suggested to put the requirement on the website, signboard and notify the Taxpayer Association President.

The mayor mentioned that there was a meeting tomorrow at 10:00am with County Officials regarding the 14' building height.

Reynolds asked if the Planning Board will be doing Affordable Housing next Wednesday and the Mayor said yes.

Mayor Larson asked for a motion to close the Caucus.

On a motion by Foley, seconded by Reynolds and carried by all the Caucus Meeting was closed.

THE 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 7th 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 23, 2025.

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 and Mikuletzky

Also present: Mayor Larson, Terry Brady, Sponge Washburn, Kathleen Flanagan and Brenda Kuhn

APPROVE MINUTES: Mayor Larson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of March 12, 2025 regular meeting.

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

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

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

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

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Mikuletzky reported as follows:

- Court Report a part of the meeting minutes
- Court brought in \$874.03 of which the Borough kept \$528.50
- 13 fire calls this month, 78.25 man-hours
- Four different drills (some were driver training) 40 man-hours
- Gas main break evacuated 3 homes (Sponge said 7 people in 7 blocks)

WATER/SEWER: Councilwoman Foley reported as follows:

- Water mains on 21st & 29th Streets are completed
- Drainage and services are complete on 21st St. and 29th is halfway
- Hydrant flushing, discovered that three need to be replaced
- Paving of both streets will be done in the fall

FINANCE: Councilman Spark reported as follows:

- Bills were reviewed and approved in the amount of \$884,005.41 (mostly local and regional school tax)
- Budget being introduce tonight
- .05 increase in the local tax which amounts to about \$48.00 on a home valued at 881,000

DOCKS AND HARBORS: Councilman Gutowski reported as follows:

- 21 kayaks and 5 nonmotorized watercraft have been registered
- 44 boat slips have been rented and 1 is undesirable (slip #1)
- Work was done at the boat ramp
- Bathroom will be open next weekend
- Ramp will be staffed this weekend

On the wind project

- Atlantic Shores in trouble-good news
- Empire ready to put in pilings in May
- Keep up the fight

PUBLIC WORKS: Councilman Wellington reported as follows:

- Dock bathroom interior was power washed and will be painted
- Finishing up Old Borough Hall
- Next week digging for ramp on west side of building
- Bathroom interior finished
- Filled cracks at pickleball courts-will repaint

- Wind screens will be installed when wind die down!
- Getting beaches ready-lifeguard stands
- Tennis court nets will be done
- Irrigation system will be installed here at Borough Hall

BEACHES AND PARKS: Councilwoman Reynolds reported as follows:

- We have a lot of recreation facilities in our small town
- Reported the revenue from beach badges, pickleball and dog park
- Volleyball will be available again this year, east side of tennis courts

Wellington added that a regulation court fits there but be mindful of traffic because its about 15' from the road. If it becomes a hit, next year take out our shuffle ball court and put the volleyball there. Foley asked if there was any consideration of putting it where the lacrosse nets are. Wellington said that was a good thought but no one ever thought about putting it there. Reynolds thought that the volleyball didn't have any activity. Wellington explained that the request wasn't received until the middle of September and even later before it was installed.

- Met with Lifeguard Captain to discuss the coming season
- We will have a public meeting with beach committee
- Junior Lifeguard program will be held again this summer
- Asked about sinkholes at jetty-gone
- Fencing will be going up around restoration area for endangered birds
- Barnegat Light was 2nd most successful with the Piping Plover fledges last year

Mikuletzky cautioned the public of scams that are happening. Some of these scams involve credit cards, EZ-Pass, electric bills and properties for sale.

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

Motion: <u>Spark</u> Second: <u>Gutowski</u> All in favor <u>X</u>

Tim Brindley, 1404 Bayview Avenue, said that the flags were half mass for the passing of his father-in-law and proceeded to talk about his life and history in Barnegat Light.

Cricket Luker, Wildflowers, proposed a community art project. The intention of this project is to preserve history through art. Artists will do paintings of historic Barnegat Light buildings on 4x4 sheets of plywood and she would like to display them throughout the town. She suggested to display them throughout the town in places such as, the pavilion, outside fence of the park, the side yard at Borough Hall and beach pathways. She mentioned dog park project, which was was done in 2013. The artists painted dog pictures with exterior paint. The dog paintings get displayed each year and put away for the winter. Cricket asked for to secure a place to put them and was open to discussion. The mayor said this will need more discussion and he couldn't give her an answer tonight. Terry Brady said to check with the Zoning Officer.

Rich Brodman, 4 East 10th, Barnegat Light Taxpayers Association., begin year on May 25th with their wine and cheese party. The 1st general meeting will include the County Administrator speaking about taxes. Three County Commissioners will talk about how the tax dollars come back to the town. Todd Plover, Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey, will be speaking at the September meeting. Mr. Pover was a part of the restoration area project. A rack card has been created with a lot of information on it, including a QR Code that links to BLTA website that has a lot of information. Committee working on ideas for donation to the town which included a bicycle repair station. It would have tools and an air pump. He addressed Councilman Gutowski, Chairman of docks and harbors

Pete Snieckus, 8 East 13th, commented on the volleyball court. He asked, "why don't you just put it on the beach?"

Jeff Jorda, 2807 Central Avenue, said that he walks on the beach every day and asked if the dead birds ever get picked up and he saw 13 the other day. He also mentioned dog poop on the beach.

Rich Brodman, 4 East 10th, asked if there was any thought from the council regarding the bike repair station because he had opposition from Wellington. Wellington didn't think it's appropriate for our town but if they have to put one in, it would be better centrally located. An air compressor was another idea for a donation.

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

Motion: Foley Second: Spark All in favor X

PROCLAMATION: National Library Week 2025

Laurence Krupinski, Branch Manager of the LBI Library, gave a presentation and was given a signed copy of a proclamation.

Also, Terry, a board member at the library, said it is the Ocean County Library's 100th anniversary. In recognition of this, she presented Mayor Larson a hat. She asked him to put it on for a picture. She urged everyone to visit the library. Mayor Larson thanked the library representatives for coming to the meeting.

National Library Week Proclamation

April 6-12, 2025

WHEREAS, libraries spark creativity, fuel imagination, and inspire lifelong learning, offering a space where individuals of all ages can explore new ideas and be drawn to new possibilities;

WHEREAS, libraries serve as vibrant community hubs, connecting people with knowledge, technology, and resources while fostering civic engagement, critical thinking, and lifelong learning;

WHEREAS, libraries provide free and equitable access to books, digital tools, and innovative programming, ensuring that all individuals—regardless of background—have the support they need to learn, connect, and thrive;

WHEREAS, libraries partner with schools, businesses, and organizations, connecting the dots to maximize resources, increase efficiency, and expand access to essential services, strengthening the entire community;

WHEREAS, libraries empower job seekers, entrepreneurs, and lifelong learners by providing access to resources, training, and opportunities that support career growth and economic success;

WHEREAS, libraries nurture young minds through storytimes, STEAM programs, and literacy initiatives, fostering curiosity and a love of learning that lasts a lifetime;

WHEREAS, libraries protect the right to read, think, and explore without censorship, standing as champions of intellectual freedom and free expression;

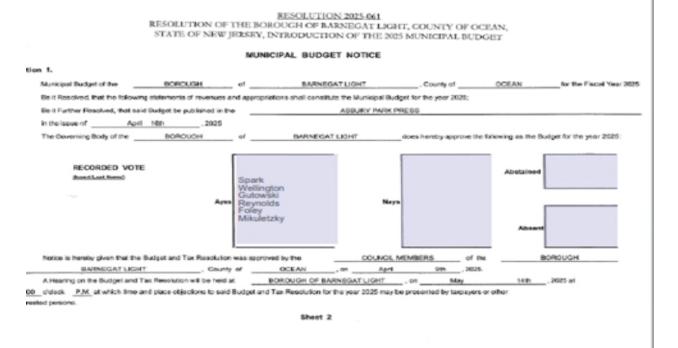
WHEREAS, dedicated librarians and library workers provide welcoming spaces that inspire discovery, collaboration, and creativity for all;

WHEREAS, libraries, librarians, and library workers across the country are joining together to celebrate National Library Week under the theme "Drawn to the Library";

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Kirk O. Larson, Mayor, Borough of Barnegat Light, proclaim April 6–12, 2025, as National Library Week. During this week, I encourage all residents to visit their library, explore its resources, and celebrate all the ways that the library draws us together as a community.

RESOLUTIONS:

The Municipal budget was considered for adoption prior to the other resolutions. The Clerk read the title and recorded the votes



The clerk said that the remainder of the resolutions 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			Х			
Wellington		Х	Х			
Gutowski			Х			
Reynolds			Х			
Foley	Х		Х			
Mikuletzky			Х			

RESOLUTION 2025-059

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF MUNICIPAL BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$884,005.41

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 \$884,005.41 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 2025-060

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ADOPTION OF EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS

WHEREAS, emergent conditions have arisen in that the Borough is expected to enter into contracts, commitments or payments prior to the 2025 budget adoption and no adequate provision has been made in the 2025 temporary budget for the aforesaid purposes; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of an emergency temporary appropriation for said

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary appropriation resolutions adopted in the year 2025 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$3,243,623.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light, in the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 as follows:

1. Emergency temporary appropriations be and the same are hereby made in the amount of \$3,243,623.00 as follows:

CURRENT FUND:	Salaries &	Other
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:	Wages	<u>Expenses</u>
Mayor & Council	\$10,000.00	\$500.00
Municipal Clerk	\$33,750.00	\$13,000.00
Advertising	<i>\$33,730.00</i>	\$1,000.00
Financial Administration	\$45,000.00	\$10,000.00
Audit Services	φ15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Information Technology		\$50,000.00
Tax Collection	\$25,000.00	\$2,500.00
Reserve for Revaluation	φ _ 3,000.000	\$125,000.00
Tax Assessor	\$10,000.00	\$2,500.00
Legal Services	+,	\$10,000.00
Engineering Services and Costs		\$5,000.00
Contribution to Chamber of Commerce		\$25.00
Land Use Administration:		+
Planning Board	\$1,250.00	\$5,000.00
Zoning Board of Adjustment	\$12,000.00	\$1,200.00
Insurance:		
Liability Insurance		\$40,000.00
Workers Compensation		\$27,500.00
Employee Group Insurance		\$125,000.00
Public Safety Functions:		
Emergency Management Services	\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00
Aid to Volunteer Fire Company		\$20,000.00
Aid to Volunteer Ambulance Company		\$7,500.00
Municipal Court	\$10,000.00	\$2,500.00
Public Defender		\$300.00
Municipal Prosecutor		\$3,000.00
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Public Works Functions:		
Streets and Roads	\$50,000.00	\$10,000.00
Garbage and Trash Removal		\$160,000.00
Sanitary Landfill Fees		\$30,000.00
Recycling	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Public Buildings and Grounds	\$40,000.00	\$25,000.00
Health and Human Services:		
Board of Health		\$650.00
Animal Control		\$7,500.00
Contribution to Senior Citizen Center		\$2,000.00
Park and Recreation Functions:		
Parks and Playgrounds	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Lifeguards	\$75,000.00	\$10,000.00
Beachfront Maintenance	\$75,000.00	\$10,000.00
Public Docks	\$15,000.00	\$7,500.00
Celebration of Public Events		\$15,000.00
Uniform Construction Code:		
Construction Code Official	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00
<u>Utility Expenses:</u>		
Electricity		\$25,000.00
Street Lighting		\$17,500.00
Telephone		\$15,000.00

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Natural Gas		\$12,000.00
Gasoline		\$10,000.00
Statutory Expenditures:		
Contribution to Social Security		\$50,000.00
Contribution to PERS		\$67,224.00
Unemployment Insurance		\$10,000.00
Shared Service Agreements:		
Construction Code Services-Other Expenses		\$20,000.00
Police-Other Expenses		\$350,000.00
Board of Health-Other Expenses		\$20,000.00
L.O.S.A.P.		
Fire Company		\$45,000.00
Ambulance Company		\$8,500.00
GRANTS		
Local Recreation Grants		\$62,000.00
Capital Improvements		
Capital Improvement Fund		\$150,000.00
Debt Service		
Payments on Bond Anticipation Notes		\$117,000.00
Interest on Bond Anticipation Notes		\$23,000.00
Totals		
	\$437,000.00	\$1,778,399.00
Current Fund Operating Appropriations Grand Total		
		\$2,215,399.00
DEDICATED MATER A OFMER LITHER		
DEDICATED WATER & SEWER UTILITY	Salaries &	Other
	<u>Wages</u>	Expenses
Operating:	\$250,000.00	\$400,000.00
<u>Statutory Expenditures:</u>		
Contribution to Social Security		\$20,000.00
Contribution to PERS		\$67,224.00
Unemployment Insurance		\$3,000.00
Debt Service		
Payments on Bond Anticipation Notes		\$226,000.00
Interest on Bond Anticipation Notes		\$62,000.00
Interest on Bond Anticipation Notes		\$02,000.00
Totals	\$250,000.00	\$778,224.00
	+200,000.00	+110,221.00
Water/Sewer Operating Appropriations Grand Total		\$1,028,224.00

RESOLUTION 2025-062

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTEROCAL/SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF LONG BEACH FOR THE LOCAL EFFICIENCY ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION & ADMINISTRATION

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs has elected to incentivize shared services by and through the Local Efficiency Achievement Program ("LEAP") grant that offsets startup costs; and WHEREAS, the LEAP grants were created to assist local governments with shared services efforts through implementation of innovative best practices and fiscally responsible solutions, support of decision makers in defining and attaining agency goals, and to incentivize shared services by and between local governments; and

WHEREAS, Long Beach Township & Barnegat Light Borough have agreed to jointly apply for a LEAP grant to fund a study to identify potential opportunities for shared services by and between the Township and participating municipalities to promote efficiency and potentially reduce costs to the taxpayers, specifically, for a vac truck to clean storm water catch basins and sewers; and

WHEREAS, The Interlocal Services Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:8A-1, repealed, now the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-4, provides that any local unit may enter into an agreement with any other local unit to provide or receive any service that each local unit participating in the agreement is

empowered to provide or receive within its own jurisdiction, including services incidental to the primary purposes of any of the participating local units, when approved by resolution under N.J.S.A. 40A:65-5. **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 and Borough Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light do hereby authorize the execution of an interlocal/shared services agreement with the Township of Long Beach, to jointly apply for a LEAP grant to fund a study to identify potential opportunities for shared services by and between the Township and participating municipalities to promote efficiency and potentially reduce costs to the taxpayers, specifically, for a vac truck to clean storm water catch basins and sewers. A copy of said Shared Services Agreement is attached hereto and is incorporated herein by reference.
- 2. That a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Township of Long Beach.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Maureen Cretella had a special request to have food at the event she wanted to have at the pavilion. There was a conversation that included many reasons why this request should not be approved. It was not approved

Mayor Larson brought up the request from Wildflowers. He suggested making a rack and displaying 2 or 3 at a time on a rotating basis over at the old Borough Hall.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Mayor Larson asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion: <u>Foley</u> Second: <u>Wellington</u> All in Favor <u>X</u> APPROVED:

KIRK O. LARSON, MAYOR

BRENDA L. KUHN, MUNICIPAL CLERK

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						
Wellington						
Gutowski						
Reynolds						
Foley						
Mikuletzky						

INSERT RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES:

First Reading:

Ordinance 2025-01 was read by title and the Clerk recorded the votes.

ORDINANCE 2025-01

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						
Wellington						
Gutowski						
Reynolds						
Foley						
Mikuletzky						

Second Reading/Public Hearing: 2025-xx

The Clerk said that Ordinance 2023-01 was passed on first reading at the January 11, 2023 meeting and there will be a public hearing. She read the Ordinance by number and title.

ORDINANCE 2023-xxx

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 94 OF THE BOROUGH CODE, TO BE ENTITLED "FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS," TO REVISE THE REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE SAME.

Public Hearing: Motion: <u>Wellington</u> Second: <u>Foley</u>

Public comment.

Close Public Hearing: Motion: <u>Reynolds</u> Second: <u>Foley</u>

Mayor Larson asked for a motion to adopt.

ADOPTION:

Final Passage: 20	025-01	date/	year			
Larson	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark						
Wellington						
Gutowski						
Reynolds						
Foley						
Mikuletzky						

CORRESPONDENCE:

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Mayor Larson asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: <u>Reynolds</u> Second: <u>Spark</u>

All in Favor \underline{X}

APPROVED:

KIRK O. LARSON, MAYOR

BRENDA L. KUHN, MUNICIPAL CLERK