

MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
October 8, 2025

THE CAUCUS MEETING of the Mayor and Council was called to order by Mayor Wellington 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, Gutowski, Reynolds, Foley and Mikuletzky

Also present: Mayor Wellington, Terry Brady, Sponge Washburn, Cece Mattina, Kathleen Flanagan and Brenda Kuhn

Meeting notices on website

- Mayor Wellington discussed recent changes to the new laws concerning how legal notices must be published. All municipalities are required to have a dedicated area on their official website for posting legal notices. The notices must be published for at least one week, after that the notice must be archived for a minimum of one year. We have already implemented this system on our website.

Safety precautions for mast site at 11th Street

- Mayor Wellington talked about the safety issue for swimmers and boaters at the 11th Street mast area. At a previous meeting, he talked about getting a commercial grade buoy. He has looked into this and it proved to be very difficult to purchase one. He talked to the Coast Guard, they said they would get one for him but they wouldn't install it.
- An alternate plan is an installation of a piling with a danger sign to mark the hazardous area. He added that there was a company working at the 6th Street Marina that could do the job.

Parking safety at Post Office was discussed.

- Mayor Wellington reported a safety issue at the Post Office following the construction of a new handicap-accessible ramp leading to the public restroom. To address this, he proposed making the west side of the parking lot one-way, from 10th Street to 11th Street. Additionally, he suggested that angled parking spaces could be added at the rear of the building to improve parking capacity.

Signage for the Kirk O. Larson Sr. Memorial Park

- The mayor reported that he has been researching the cost of installing three quality signs for the park's renaming—one at each entrance. He shared a rendering of the proposed sign with the council and attendees. The mayor mentioned that he met with a local sign maker who provided a design; however, the estimated cost for all three signs would be approximately \$13,000. Due to the high cost, he is now exploring alternative options.

Personnel Committee

- Mayor Wellington announced that there would be a Budget Workshop on October 28, 2025 in the morning. He asked the Chair of the Personnel Committee, Michael Spark, to have a committee meeting and look in to the salary comparisons.

Revaluation

- Council President Spark told everyone to be prepared for the revaluation. You will be receiving a pamphlet in the mail explaining the procedure. This doesn't mean that your taxes will go up, it's just rebalancing the assessments. The company will inspect the inside and outside of your home. If you have questions, you can call our Tax Assessor @ 609-494-3522. Councilwoman Foley said that the revaluation company inspectors will be wearing IDs

Shortage of First Aid volunteers in the winter

- Councilman Mikuletzky noted that with winter approaching, the First Aid Squad loses a significant number of members. He mentioned that Mark Pojednic, Captain of the First Aid Squad, expressed interest in possibly speaking with the Council about offering the lifeguard house as temporary housing for squad members who do not reside in the area. Mikuletzky said this is something the Council should consider, especially given the ongoing staffing shortages during the winter months. Terry Brady, Borough Attorney, added that the Municipality has the authority to lease the property to the Fire Company or First Aid Squad for a nominal fee, but emphasized the need to consult with the insurance company before moving forward. Councilman Gutowski supported the idea, stating that if the squad is at risk of being compromised during the winter, the Borough should proactively work to prevent that.

Motion to end Caucus meeting: moved by Foley and seconded by Spark

Mayor called Regular Meeting to order at 5:00pm, Read Adequate Notice

Pledge of Allegiance

Clerk's Statement

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

Also present: Mayor Wellington, Terry Brady, Sponge Washburn, Cece Mattina, Kathleen Flanagan and Brenda Kuhn

Nominations for Councilmember

Joseph Saburn was nominated by Foley

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

Oath Office administered by Terry Brady, Municipal Attorney

RESOLUTION 2025-100

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, MAKING AN APPOINTMENT TO THE VACANCY ON THE BARNEGAT LIGHT BOROUGH COUNCIL.

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the membership of the Barnegat Light Borough Council, due to the resignation and appointment of a member of the Borough Council to the position of Mayor, said vacancy being created on September 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, according to NJSA 40A:16-5, where a vacancy occurs any time subsequent to September 1 of the next-to-the last year of the term of the officer whose office has become vacant, the office may be filled for its unexpired term by appointment by the remaining governing body members, until a successor is elected to the same; if the vacancy occurs at any other time, the vacancy shall be filled for its unexpired term at the next general election to be held not less than 60 days after the occurrence of the vacancy, and the governing body may fill the vacancy temporarily by appointment until said election; and

WHEREAS, according to NJSA 40A:16-11, where the incumbent whose office has become vacant was elected to office as the nominee of a political party, the municipal committee of the political party of which the incumbent was the nominee shall, no later than 15 days after the occurrence of the vacancy, present to the governing body the names of three nominees for the selection of a successor to fill the vacancy; and the governing body shall, within 30 days after the occurrence of the vacancy, appoint one of the nominees as the successor to fill the vacancy; and

WHEREAS, all current members of the Borough Council were nominees of the Barnegat Light Republican Party at the time of election; and

WHEREAS, the municipal committee of the Barnegat Light Republican Party submitted the names of three nominees, who are members of the Barnegat Light Republican Party and are qualified to be appointed to and serve on the Barnegat Light Borough Council; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Barnegat Light Borough Council to make an appointment to the vacancy on the Borough Council, as provided by law.

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

1. That the Barnegat Light Borough Council hereby appoints Joseph Saburn to the vacancy on the Barnegat Light Borough Council, said appointment to expire on December 31, 2026.
2. That a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the aforementioned appointed councilmember and the Barnegat Light Republican Party.

National Friends of Libraries Week Proclamation

October 19-25, 2025.

Laurence Krupinski, Branch Manager of the Long Beach Island Library and Ann Markey, President of Friends of Libraries, were in attendance. Ann shared a few words of appreciation: "My first thank you goes to the Mayor and the Council. Thank you so much for this proclamation recognizing National Friends of Libraries Week. The Friends of the Island Library is now 66 years old. My second thank you is to all of you — especially Barnegat Light. Of the five towns we serve, you've been incredible. You're there all the time, supporting our efforts, sending donations that allow us to continue offering programs and funding items the library budget just can't cover. So, thank you again for the recognition and for your continued support and we look forward to serving you.

The clerk read the proclamation as follows:

National Friends of Libraries Week-October 19- 25, 2025

Whereas, Friends of the Library raise money that enables our library to move from good to great -providing the resources for additional programming, much needed equipment, support for children's summer reading, and special events throughout the year;

Whereas, the work of the Friends highlights, on an on-going basis, the fact that our library is the cornerstone of the community, providing opportunities for all to engage in the joy of life-long learning and connect with the thoughts and ideas of others from ages past to present;

Whereas, the Friends understand the critical importance of well-funded libraries and advocate to ensure that our library gets the resources it needs to provide a wide variety of services to all ages including access to print and electronic materials, along with expert assistance in research, readers' advisory, and children's services;

Whereas, the Friends' gift of their time and commitment to the library sets an example for all in how volunteerism leads to positive civic engagement and the betterment of our community;

Mayor Wellington read this section: Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Mayor Ed Wellington proclaim October 19- 25, 2025, as Friends of Libraries week in Borough of Barnegat Light and urges everyone to join the Friends of the Library and thank them for all they do to make our library and community so much better.

Approval of minutes of the September 10, 2025 Regular Meeting

WELLINGTON	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark			X			
Gutowski	X		X			
Reynolds			X			
Foley			X			
Mikuletzky			X			
Saburn					X	

Approval of minutes of the September 29, 2025 Special Meeting

WELLINGTON	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark		X	X			
Gutowski			X			
Reynolds			X			
Foley	X		X			
Mikuletzky			X			
Saburn					X	

Approval of Treasurers Report

WELLINGTON	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark	X		X			
Gutowski			X			
Reynolds		X	X			
Foley			X			
Mikuletzky			X			
Saburn					X	

Approval of the Building and Zoning Report

WELLINGTON	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Spark	X		X			
Gutowski			X			
Reynolds		X	X			
Foley			X			
Mikuletzky			X			
Saburn					X	

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Mikuletzky reported as follows:

- Court Report a part of the meeting minutes
- Court brought in \$3,55.25 – Barnegat Light kept \$1,672.50
- 179 fire calls, 460 first aid calls which 60 over average
- In need of members for the Fire Company and the First Aid Squad
- A lot of members getting older, need new people
- Mark phone on the FA sign if you are interested in volunteering

WATER/SEWER: Councilwoman Foley reported as follows:

- Going out to bid for water mains on East 27th and West 28th this year which will be done in 2027
- 7th Street will be done this year, Broadway to the oceanfront
- Superintendent and engineer discussion with cell phone companies to move antennas from the water tower for painting in the spring - possibly doing what Surf City did while painting. They put the antennas outside the scaffolding, discussions are ongoing

FINANCE: Councilman Spark reported as follows:

- The bills being approved for payment total \$2,421,476.40
- Big ticket items were the County Tax levy, Regional School and the Police Contract
- Budget Workshop is scheduled for October 28, 2025 @ 9am

PUBLIC WORKS: Mayor Wellington on behalf of Councilman Saburn, reported as follows:

- Graded and seeded at Borough Hall- this will be multi-year project
- Aerated and seeded at the pavilion
- Continuing to reside the Post Office building
- Main door, commercial quality broken beyond repair-replacing Friday
- Beaches are ready for winter
- Some of the grass at the pavilion was killed by saltwater from storms
- Safety problem with corner lots that are overgrown impairing site line. Working with residents and most have asked the Borough to cut them back.
- Bay beach fencing was removed
- Cut back beach entrances

DOCKS AND HARBORS: Councilman Gutowski reported on behalf of Councilman Saburn as follows:

- Kayak revenue up \$25 from this time last year
- Ramp revenue was down slightly
- Limited hours that ramp is attended, Friday, Saturday and Sunday-weather permitting

- Northeaster coming this weekend-secure your boats and kayaks
- Dredging company has been moving equipment out of the 16th Street end
- Offered help to Councilman Saburn during the transition to Docks & Harbors Committee

BEACHES AND PARKS: Councilwoman Reynolds reported as follows:

- Few beautiful bonus days this fall
- Pickleball revenue was \$6,700
- Paw Passes revenue was \$6,600
- Beach badge revenue \$206,000
- Brenda designed the holiday beach badge featuring a scallop shell and show a picture of it
- Beach erosion hasn't gotten worse
- Has continued, with the help of Kelly Phillips, to look into beach access for people with limited mobility or handicapped. We are the only town on the Island not providing this service. Everyone does it differently and will bring it up at the Budget Workshop. Mayor Wellington asked to have number attached to her proposal.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION: Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Foley

Public Comments:

Jack Mckee, of 24 E 8th, inquired if there would be any notification about the revaluation, letters, website or email and when it would be starting. The Clerk, said that the contracted revaluation company will be sending out mailings and it will also be on our website. He asked when the last revaluation was done. No one had a definitive answer.

Rich Brodman, of 4 E 10th Street, speaking on behalf of the BLTPA, announced that they will be hosting a town and walkway cleanup event on October 25, 2025, meeting at the 29th Street porch. Participants will include the Coast Guard, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts, everyone is welcome to help.

John Tennyson, of 6 W 22nd, said he would like to say thank you to the Council and I know that others in this room would like to thank you for all of your work in keeping the Borough moving forward, over these past difficult weeks. And that's a sincere thank you. I would be remiss, though, if I did not also thank one person who, I think provides all of you with the correct information that you need to move things forward. So, a very big thank you and a round of applause for Brenda Kuhn. The Clerk thanked Mr. Tennyson.

Jeff Jorda, of 2807 Central Avenue, inquired about the status of the paving project on 21st & 29th. the response was that the paving is still scheduled and is expected to begin sometimes this fall.

Dan Malay, President of the Republican Club and resident of 21 W 20th, announced that the Club will be hosting a townwide picnic on Saturday, October 18th at 12:30 PM at the Kirk O. Larson Sr. Memorial Park. The cost to attend is \$20.00, and everyone is welcome—you do **not** need to be a member of the Club to participate. However, if you're interested, you're welcome to join the Club as well.

CLOSE PUBLIC SESSION: Moved by Spark, seconded by Foley

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 2025-106

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF SECURITY DEPOSIT TO CERTAIN LIFEGUARDS

WHEREAS, 510 Broadway is designated for lifeguard housing, and

WHEREAS, the lifeguards living at 510 Broadway for the 2025 season were required to submit a \$100.00 security deposit; and

WHEREAS, the property has been inspected and conditions have been deemed acceptable; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Borough Council to refund the entire deposit to the lifeguards.

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

That a certified copy will be forwarded to the Finance Department.

That the Finance Department is authorized to refund the security deposits to each of the lifeguards listed below.

Stephen Walsh, Anna Salamy, Amanada Murray, Kelly Murray, Alexis Barillo, Henry Annone, David Burden

RESOLUTION 2025-107

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF A DUPLICATE BEACH BADGE ORDER

WHEREAS, Kenneth Emen mailed in an order for seven seasonal beach badges and paid \$280.00; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Emens wife came in and purchased beach badges in June; and

WHEREAS, it has been confirmed that the mail in order was not picked up.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Barnegat Light CFO be authorized to refund the payment.
2. That a check in the amount of \$280.00 will be mailed to: Kenneth Emens

6 Harbor View Court
High Bar Harbor, NJ 08008

RESOLUTION 2025-108

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, EMPLOYING SEASONAL WORKERS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Barnegat Light is in need of seasonal employees for the 2025 season; and
WHEREAS, the following is a complete list of people are employed as noted with the compensation listed below:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Body of the Borough of Barnegat Light approves the list of seasonal employees.

<u>DOCK</u>	Joseph Piscitello	Ramp Attendant	\$17.00
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RESOLUTION 2025-109

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF MUNICIPAL BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,421,476.40

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 \$2,421,476.40 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 2025-110

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARING A CONTRACT FOR THE 7th STREET ROAD RECONSTRUCTION & UTILITY REPLACEMENT PROJECT TO SHORE CONNECTION INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$921,869.00.

WHEREAS, the Borough of Barnegat Light duly advertised for the receipt of bids for the 7th Street Road Reconstruction & Utility Replacement Project; and

WHEREAS, at the time, place and date set for the receipt of bids, formal bids were received by the Borough as follows:

Mathis Construction Co.	\$955,635.00
Earle Asphalt Co	\$934,613.13
Shore Connection Inc.	\$921,869.00
ConstructConnect	no bid
West Bay Construction	no bid

WHEREAS, said bids were taken under advisement and have been reviewed by the Borough Engineer and it has been determined that Shore Connection Inc. submitted the lowest responsible bid in accordance with the bid specifications, said bid being in the amount of \$921,869.00; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light to award a contract for the 7th Street Road Reconstruction & Utility Replacement Project to Shore Connection Inc., the lowest bidder; and

WHEREAS, part of the funding for said project comes from financing awarded by the NJ Department of Transportation, and the award is, therefore, subject to NJDOT review and approval, per their grant rules and regulations.

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 award the contract for the 7th Street Road Reconstruction & Utility Replacement Project to Shore Connection Inc., at the price of \$921,869.00, subject to NJDOT review and approval.

2. That the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Shore Connection Inc. for said project, said agreement to be in conformance with bid specifications and bid submitted by Shore Connection Inc.

3. That a certificate of availability of funds executed by the Chief Financial Officer is annexed hereto. The following line-item appropriations or ordinances constitute the availability of funds for this contract:

Barnegat Light Bond Ordinances
2025-04 & 2025-05

4. That a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded Shore Connection Inc., the NJDOT, the Chief Financial Officer and the Borough Engineer.

5. This contract award is subject to NJDOT review and approval, per their grant rules and regulations.

RESOLUTION 2025-111

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROVAL TO REINSTATE SICK LEAVE ENTITLEMENT FOR A SPECIFIC EMPLOYEE

WHEREAS, a certain employee was previously entitled to fifteen (15) sick leave days per year under prior employment terms; and

WHEREAS, a policy change reduced the annual sick leave entitlement to ten (10) days, which affected only this individual employee; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that the employee, having been previously granted fifteen (15) sick days annually, should have been grandfathered under the prior policy; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes it is just and equitable to restore the employee's original sick leave entitlement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council hereby grants the aforementioned employee a sick leave entitlement of fifteen (15) days per year, effective immediately and going forward;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall serve to correct the prior reduction and ensure the employee is afforded the same terms originally granted at the commencement of their employment.

RESOLUTION 2025-112

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, REORGANIZING COUNCIL MEMBERS INTO COMMITTEES DEEMED NECESSARY

BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with Resolution 87-95, adopted by a two-thirds majority of the Governing Body, in September 1987 that Council members shall organize into Committees deemed necessary. Each Committee shall have its own chairperson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following committees are formed for the remainder of 2025:

CORRESPONDENCE:

Approval: St Francis Community Center sponsoring the 18 Mile Run (12K race) application to use County Roads. Sunday, October 12th, 6am-3pm

Approval: Brendan Walsh, Oak Leaf Media, request to film on the beach, 9th Street Access
October 18th-6:30am – 10:00 am
Producing a documentary series titled *The American Revolution in Ocean County*, commissioned by the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission under the Division of Parks & Recreation

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Trunk of Treat on Halloween 5-6:30
- Sign up for Trick or Treater friendly homes at Borough Hall

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Motion: Foley Second: Gutowski All in Favor X

APPROVED:

ED WELLINGTON, MAYOR

BRENDA L. KUHN, MUNICIPAL CLERK