

MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
November 12, 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, Gutowski, Saburn, Reynolds, Foley and Mikuletzky
Also present: Mayor Wellington, Terry Brady, Borough Attorney, Sponge Washburn, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer, Michele Inman, Assistant Treasurer, Ed Seeger, Tax Assessor and Garrett Martin, Project Manager for Professional Property Appraisers and Brenda Kuhn

Discussion:

Congratulation from Mayor Wellington

- Jim Gutowski and Barry Mescolotto were congratulated for being elected at the general election. He added that Barry would be replacing Councilman Mikuletzky who is retiring.
- Tom Costello, who is our new school board representative, replacing LeeAnne Oros.
- Thank you to LeeAnne for her service.

Meeting time for next year

- Suggested advertising our meeting to start at 4:30pm and having the Caucus meeting the first item on the agenda
- This would eliminate a gap between the caucus and regular meeting. Also, if the caucus meeting needed additional time, it would be available.
- Councilmembers were in favor of this change

Labor Day celebration

- Mayor Wellington thought it would be nice to end the summer with a celebration that was started at the end of the season this year
- The Friday before Labor Day was suggested, open to discussion

School Board update

- LeeAnne used to give Mayor Larson a school board update every month.
- Asked Tom Costello to continue to follow that tradition so he could update everyone at our meeting
- The Ethel A Jacobson School will be renamed the Long Beach Island Elementary School despite of opposition via petition from Karen Larson and LeeAnne voting no.
- The media center at the school will be named after Ethel A. Jacobson
- Celebration will be held on the 22nd in front of the school at 10:00am

Veteran's Day 2026

- Veteran's Day is on the same day as our council meeting
- The union representative and the full-time clerical staff have been consulted and are willing to celebrate Veteran's Day on Friday in lieu of Wednesday

Future for legal notices

- The future of Municipalities

Revaluation

- Ed Seeger, Tax Assessor, introduced himself and Garrett Martin, the project manager of Professional Property Appraisers
- Ed explained that revaluation doesn't necessarily mean your taxes will go up. It's a neutral process
- Regarding the field inspectors, they are just gathering the information
- Garrett Martin explained the process. The exteriors of all properties will be measured and any other detached items on the property such as sheds, pools, etc.
- The inspectors will knock at the door, if no one is home they will leave a card, they will make a second attempt in person and a letter will be sent for the third attempt
- If the inspectors do not get into the home, they will assume that it has been updated and the home will be assessed at the best, highest possible use.
- All inspectors will be wearing Professional Property Appraisers apparel and ID
- Long Beach Township PD are aware of their presence and have copies of the IDs and vehicle information

Open Space

- Councilman Gutowski said we haven't heard much about Open Space since the acquisition of the Coast Guard property. He talked to the CFO and she informed him that there is \$11,83.44 in the fund and \$107,000 will be moved into the fund at the end of the year.
- The Park and pavilion are paid off. The park cost \$3, 090,000.
- The Open Space money can be used for acquisition of land for recreational purposes, development of land for recreational purposes, maintenance of land acquired for recreational purposes, historic preservation and payment of debt service or indebtedness related to these purposes.
- He said he is on the committee currently and there hasn't been a meeting for a long time. There will be a resolution at reorganization meeting to appoint members to the Open Space Advisory Committee and it would be appropriate to have a meeting shortly after that.

Mayor Wellington asked for a motion to close the Caucus.

On a motion by Reynolds, seconded by Saburn 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, Gutowski, Saburn, Reynolds, Foley and Mikuletzky

Also present: Mayor Wellington, Terry Brady, Borough Attorney, Kathleen Flanagan, CFO, Sponge Washburn, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer, Michele Inman, Assistant Treasurer, Ed Seeger, Tax Assessor and Garrett Martin, Project Manager for Professional Property Appraisers and Brenda Kuhn

APPROVE MINUTES: Mayor Wellington asked for a motion to approve the minutes of October 8, 2025 regular meeting.

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

APPROVE MINUTES: Mayor Wellington asked for a motion to approve the minutes of October 28, 2025 Special Budget Workshop meeting.

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

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

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

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

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

LIVERY LEASES:

Terry Brady, Municipal Attorney, said the liveries are publicly bid by auction method.

Livery No. 1

- Minimum bid \$30,000 with 2 ½ increase per year for the 5-year lease
- Check for 20% of the 1st years rent
- No bidders were in the room

Livery No. 3

- Minimum bid \$29,500 with 2 ½ increase per year for the 5-year lease
- Check for 20% of the 1st years rent
- Vince Chiaro of Bobbie's Boats bid \$29,500
- The Attorney said that a resolution will be adopted and 20% of first year shall be due immediately

BEST PRACTICES SURVEY:

- Required to complete each year
- This year's survey had 70 questions
- Must score 32 or above in order to not have loss of revenue from the state
- Barnegat Light scored 39.5, no loss of revenue

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Mikuletzky reported as follows:

- Court Report a part of the meeting minutes

- Court revenue was \$7,220.14.
 1. Traffic fines-\$840.14
 2. Criminal fines-\$5,744.00
 3. Fish & Game-\$5,550.00
 4. Barnegat Light-\$963.50
- There were 190 fire calls, 501 first aid calls, which were both records
- In need of EMTs, it's an extensive course, lots of time, classes paid by First Aid Squad
- Some towns in the county are having trouble making calls and are considering going to partially paid
- The mayor added that you don't have to be an EMT, you can start as a driver. Then in time you may want to take the EMT course

WATER/SEWER: Councilwoman Foley reported as follows:

- New hydrant installed on 16th Street
- Hydrant flushing completed
- Hoping to install 3 new hydrants, they are on back order

FINANCE: Councilman Spark reported as follows:

- The Finance Committee approved bills amounted to \$550,145.43,
- The regional school tax was \$167,0568.42

DOCKS AND HARBORS: Councilman Saburn reported as follows:

- Last two weekends the ramp was busy, weekdays aren't busy
- Main focus has been the livery leases
- Completed the auction on one of the liveries

PUBLIC WORKS: Councilman Gutowski reported as follows:

- 26th Street walkway is being widened for the gators
- DPW demoed, graded and installed the first, new section of walkway
- Old Borough Hall exterior renovation is completed
- The Building Department is going to be updated in the beginning of the year
- The Borough Hall sign was taken down, rebuilt, painted and reinstalled, looks terrific
- The signs to Memorialize Kirk's legacy should be done in a couple of weeks-commemoration ceremony
- West side of Post Office is now one way-north to south only
- Christmas lights going up
- Bathroom and sprinkler at the park are closed down
- Platform for new water fountain at dog park done

BEACHES AND PARKS: Councilwoman Reynolds reported as follows:

- Dog Park revenue is about \$6,800 which is down from last year
- Pickle ball revenue is about \$6,800 which is also down from last year
- Beach badge sales are now \$813 ahead of last year-Holiday badges \$6,700
- DPW found mast and will put in a piling with safety sign
- Beach access for handicap, real problem all other towns have this.
- Their beaches are more accessible, ours are wider
- Staff would be needed and a big question would be how many people would be using this ser

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

Motion: Foley Second: Gutowski All in favor X

Tim Brindley, 1404 Bayview Avenue, explained that beach access from 17th Street south is flatter, providing easier access. He added that when you go north, the dunes drop off.

John Tennyson, 6 W 22nd, was glad to hear that there is some movement on the Open Space Fund.

Allan Canter, 1 West 29th, thanked Rich & Bonnie Brodman for a very successful beach clean-up. He asked who is responsible for picking up garbage that doesn't make it into the cans, is it the garbage men or Public Works? Mayor Wellington said Public Works doesn't really have time to check this, but if there is a particular area that needs attention, we'll take care of it, we want to keep our town is clean and presentable.

Tom Costello, 33 West 9th Street, publicly thanked everyone for their support in the recent Board of Education election. He stated that he will work to advocate for students, collaborate with parents, represent taxpayers, and work cooperatively with the Town Council and Mayor. He also noted that the naming ceremony for the Ethel Jacobson Media Center will take place in two weeks.

Connie Higgins, 10 East 11th Street, asked about the mast area at 11th Street and noted that a red stake had been placed there. The mayor explained that the Superintendent placed it temporarily until the contractor arrives to install a piling, and that a safety sign will be added. Ms. Higgins also asked whether any trimming of the site corners, previously discussed at an earlier meeting, had been completed. The mayor stated that a couple of corners have been trimmed and added that he would prefer homeowners handle the trimming themselves or hire a landscaper.

Bob Durham, 9 West 29th Street, reported that many of the dog-waste stations are out of bags and that the waste containers are full. He added that he has observed an increase in uncollected dog waste due to the lack of available bags.

Terry Brady, Borough Attorney, addressed the use of personal devices for public business, noting that if personal and business emails are commingled, personal emails could be subject to disclosure under an OPRA request. He emphasized that personal emails should remain separate and that no public business should be conducted through personal email accounts. All official business should be conducted using the Barnegat Light email address.

Due to the lack of bidders for Livery Lease No. 1, notice to bidders will have to be advertised and rebid.

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

Motion: Foley Second: Reynolds 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:

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

RESOLUTION 2025-118

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING SECURITY DEPOSIT REFUND FOR RECREATIONAL USE APPLICATION WHEREAS, Colin Goodall paid the \$500 security deposit for use of the pavilion for a Memorial Gathering; and

WHEREAS, a request has been received to refund the security deposit.

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

1. That the Finance Department is authorized to refund the security deposit in the amount of \$500.00.
2. Certified copies of this resolution will be forwarded to the Barnegat Light Finance Department and to the Recreation Use File
3. That the checks shall be made payable and sent to:

Colin Goodall
P. O. Box 13
7 West 8th Street
Barnegat Light, NJ 08006-0013

RESOLUTION 2025-119

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, SUPPORTING REVOLUTIONNJ

WHEREAS, Governor Philip Murphy and the New Jersey State Legislature created RevolutionNJ in 2018 to plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, New Jersey's pivotal role in the American Revolution, and the contributions of its diverse peoples to the nation's past, present, and future; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Historical Commission, under the leadership of Secretary of State Tahesha Way, with its non-profit partner Crossroads of the American Revolution established RevolutionNJ to advance the role that history plays in public discourse, community engagement, education, tourism, and scholarship in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will engage New Jerseyans in all 21 counties and 564 municipalities through its officially recognized programs, initiatives, and events over the next ten years; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and desirable that we commemorate the beginning of the Nation and the role New Jersey played over the past 250 years as well as its present and future role as part of the United States, with particular focus on the individuals, ideas, and events that shaped our Country, State, and the Borough of Barnegat Light; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will consider the role New Jersey played during the American Revolution when it saw more battles and skirmishes than any other state and was truly the Crossroads of the American Revolution; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will highlight the role New Jerseyans played beyond the battlefield during the American Revolution when people of diverse backgrounds contributed to the development of the State and the Nation in various ways and fought for the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, preserving, studying, and enjoying state history strengthens communities and builds bonds between New Jersey residents as we work together toward the goals of justice and equality embedded in the United States Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Barnegat Light hereby endorses RevolutionNJ and its mission to advance the role that history plays in public discourse, community engagement, education, tourism and scholarship in New Jersey.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that:

1. The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light commemorate the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the United States as an independent Nation.
2. The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light further urges all its residents to reflect upon the significance of this event and the role that our State and its diverse people have played in the history and development of our Nation and to participate in this important commemoration,

endeavoring to include the stories of all those whose lives are part of the history of what we now know as New Jersey, and understanding that the revolution continues today as we uphold the revolutionary ideals articulated in our founding documents.

RESOLUTION 2025-120

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE OCEAN COUNTY JOINT INSURANCE FUND AND EXECUTION OF THE AGREEMENT BY THE MAYOR AND CLERK

WHEREAS Barnegat Light Borough is a member of the Ocean County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund; and

WHEREAS, said renewed membership terminates as of December 31, 2025, unless earlier renewed by agreement between the Municipality and the Fund; and

WHEREAS the Municipality desires to renew said membership.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved as follows:

1. The Barnegat Light Borough agrees to renew its membership in the Ocean County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund and to be subject to the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, coverages, and operating procedures thereof as presently existing or as modified from time to time by lawful act of the Fund.
2. The Mayor and Clerk shall be and hereby are authorized to execute the agreement to renew membership annexed hereto and made a part hereof and to deliver same to the Ocean County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund evidencing the Municipality's intention to renew its membership.

RESOLUTION 2025-121

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARING A STAND-BY CONTRACT FOR EMERGENCY WATER & SEWER REPAIRS TO CREST CONSTRUCTION GROUP, LLC

WHEREAS, the Borough of Barnegat Light duly advertised for the receipt of bids for a stand-by contract for any necessary emergency water & sewer repairs; and

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

Crest Construction Group, LLC	\$126,307.00
Mathis Construction Co., Inc.	\$147,706
Earl Asphalt Co.	\$175,213.13

WHEREAS, said bids were taken under advisement and have been reviewed by the Borough Engineer and it has been determined that Crest Construction Group, LLC submitted the lowest responsible bid in accordance with the bid specifications, said bid being in the amount of \$126,307.00; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light to award a stand-by contract for any necessary emergency repairs to Crest Construction Group, LLC, the lowest bidder.

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 a stand-by contract for any necessary emergency repairs to Crest Construction Group, LLC at the price of \$126,307.00.
2. That the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Crest Construction Group, LLC for said project, said agreement to be in conformance with bid specifications and bid submitted by Crest Construction Group, LLC.
3. That a certificate of availability of funds executed by the Chief Financial Officer is annexed hereto (attachment A). The following line-item appropriations or ordinances constitute the availability of funds for this contract:

Water/Sewer OE

4. That a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Crest Construction Group, LLC, the Borough Superintendent of Public Works, the Chief Financial Officer and the Borough Engineer

RESOLUTION 2025-122

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS ACCORDING TO 40A:4-58

WHEREAS, the Borough of Barnegat Light in the County of Ocean and State of New Jersey finds it necessary to transfer money from certain 2025 budget appropriations to carry on and pay its obligations and that such transfers are permitted by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to make the following transfers:

CURRENT FUND:

FROM:

Consulting	OE	\$10,000.00
------------	----	-------------

TO:

Legal	OE	\$5,000.00
-------	----	------------

Engineering	OE	\$5,000.00
-------------	----	------------

RESOLUTION 2025-123

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF MUNICIPAL BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$550,145.43

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 \$550,145.43 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 2025-124

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SCHEDULE "C" AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF OCEAN FOR 2026

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Services Act, N.J.S.A. 40:8a-1 et seq. authorized the Borough of Barnegat Light to enter into a contract for the provision of certain governmental services with the County of Ocean; and WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40-8 requires such a contract to be authorized by resolution or ordinance; and WHEREAS, it is the desire of the governing body to authorize the execution of a contract with The County of Ocean for the provision of services, materials and equipment as set forth in Schedule "C" attached hereto. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of Barnegat Light, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. That the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a Schedule "C" agreement with The County of Ocean in accordance with the provisions of the law to include \$7,500 for the Road Department and \$2,500.00 for the Engineering Department for a total sum not to exceed \$10,000.00. A copy of the said agreement is attached hereto and made part hereof as Schedule "C".
2. This agreement is for the period January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026.
3. That a copy of this agreement referenced herein shall be kept on file and made available for public inspection in the Municipal Clerk's office during normal business hours.

RESOLUTION 2025-125

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BARNEGAT LIGHT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDED A CONTRACT FOR THE LEASING OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL PROPERTY (LIVERY LEASE PARCEL #3).

WHEREAS, the Borough of Barnegat Light duly advertised for the receipt of bids for the leasing of liveries; and

WHEREAS, bids for the leasing of the liveries in question were received on November 12, 2025 at public auction; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light to accept the highest bids submitted for the leasing of municipal liveries.

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 do hereby formally award contracts to the highest bidders received at public auction for the leasing of liveries as follows:

Livery No. 3 – Bobbie's Boats-Vince Chiaro
\$29,500 per year for 2026
Plus 2.5% increase each year in the
second, third, fourth and fifth years of the lease

2. That the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the leases for the subject liveries with the highest bidder for each livery, said lease agreement to be in the form on file with the Borough Clerk and previously approved by resolution of the Borough.

CORRESPONDENCE:

RE: Use of Pavilion for Zumba Classes 2025

Dear Council Members and Staff,

I want to thank you for another season of Zumba Dance classes at the Pavilion from Spring through early Fall this year. It is a wonderful space for the residents and visitors to Barnegat Light to meet, make new friends and grow to love your township!

We had between 15 and 30 attendees per class this season. Which is a wonderful turnout of interest!! I am so happy the classes are appreciated and well attended.

Thank you so very much for approving the request for my class! I also appreciate and thank your helpful and competent staff that advertised the class on the post office sign and noted on your activity calendar. It was always posted and an accurate advertisement for the Barnegat Light classes at the Pavilion. I wish you all a happy and safe Fall and Winter ahead. Sincerely, Judie Putt

The Coast Guard ceremony was mentioned.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Mayor Larson asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Foley Second: Gutowski All in Favor X

APPROVED:

ED WELLINGTON, MAYOR

BRENDA L. KUHN, MUNICIPAL CLERK