

Mayor and Council Newsletter

Borough of Island Heights
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Official Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Island Heights will be called to order by Mayor Silver. He will then read the notice of the meeting in accordance with the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT P.L. 1975 Chapter 231 (Section 10:4-10). Notice of the Meeting appeared in the Asbury Park Press on December 20, 2014 notice is also posted on the bulletin board and in the municipal building.

Roll Call:

Council President	Sean Asay	Council Member	Sandra Snow*
Council Member	John Bendel	Council Member	Susan Thompson
Council Member	Steve Berglund	Mayor	Jeffrey Silver
Council Member	Kieran Pillion, Jr.*	Borough Attorney	George McGill, Esq.

* Absent

Approve obligations chargeable to the 2014 operating budget and 2015 temporary operating budget as presented.

Motion by Mr. Asay second Mr. Berglund.

No Council comments were offered.

No Public Comments were offered.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Asay	Yes	Ms. Snow	Absent
Mr. Bendel	Yes	Ms. Thompson	Yes
Mr. Berglund	Yes	Mayor Silver	Yes
Mr. Pillion	Absent		

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve the minutes from the April 28, 2015 Meeting.

Motion Mr. Bendel second Mr. Asay adopt resolution.

Council Comments:

Mr. Asay inquired if there were any amendments to the April 28, 2015 minutes.

No Public Comments were offered.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Asay	Yes	Ms. Snow	Absent
Mr. Bendel	Yes	Ms. Thompson	Yes
Mr. Berglund	Yes	Mayor Silver	Yes
Mr. Pillion	Absent		

Approve the hiring of the following summer employees:

Alexandra Wickel, Head Guard at \$10.50 p/h; Sean McKee and Christine McKee; Lifeguard at \$10.00 per hour (pending certification) and approve reimbursement of the cost of Red Cross Lifeguard Certification. (approx. cost of certification \$280.)

Motion Mr. Asay second Mr. Bendel.

Council Comments:

Ms. Thompson – asked if the borough normally supports the cost of their lifeguard certification, and if this has been done in the past. The Clerk responded that this started last year when the borough was unable to find certified guards. Ms. Thompson asked if the same problem existed this year. Mr. Bendel noted that Wendy called me and said that she found out that these people were available. Ms. Thompson questioned their ability to

obtain certification on their own, and is it not the practice to look for certified guards. Mr. Bendel stated that he did not realize the candidates were not certified, discussion continued on the difficulty in finding lifeguards. Public Comments were offered.

Mr. MacLean asked if any of this group had their certifications paid by the borough last year, it appears that we pay for their certification and then the following year find employment elsewhere.

Borough Clerk – I can actually tell you who we paid for last year. I have last year’s pay sheet. We paid for Jamie Prior last year and we paid for Sean McKee.

Bob MacLean – We paid for Sean McKee last year? Why would we be...

Ms. Thompson – It should continue.

Borough Clerk – That I can’t answer, I don’t oversee the lifeguards, anymore.

Mayor Silver – So, it’s just for Christine?

Borough Clerk – I can’t answer that.

Ms. Thompson – So we should be sure that Wendy follows-up and gets confirmation as to who actually needs certification and that it will be completed in time for the season.

Mayor Silver – And that starts on Memorial Day?

Borough Clerk – No, our beaches open June 22nd by ordinance.

Mayor Silver – And then we go through until Labor Day. We’ll have some answers by the next meeting.

Mr. Bendel – I’m going to make a wild guess and say that if you took the money that we pay for the certification and prorated it across the summer that they were here, they go someplace else that’s going to pay them more. We don’t pay that much to begin with.

Ms. ?? – I think that they probably start here. If they can’t get a big job, this is a nice starting ground. One thought, too, is that I know for a lot of sailing programs you have to be a US Sailing certified instructor. What they do to encourage younger kids that might choose Island Heights rather than over at the beach is they offer half one year and if they come back, they’ll pay the second half.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Asay	Yes	Ms. Snow	Absent
Mr. Bendel	Yes	Ms. Thompson	Yes
Mr. Berglund	Yes	Mayor Silver	Yes
Mr. Pillion	Absent		

Approve the hiring of the following part-time public works employees for 120 days @\$12.50 p/h: Jason Cannella, Kyle Donnelly.

Motion by Mr. Berglund second Mr. Bendel.

Council comments:

Mr. Asay – Even if there are funds available, we don’t intend for them to be employed after the end of the summer?

Mayor Silver – Yes, that’s why the 120 day thing is in there.

Ms. Thompson – Could I get clarification on how many full-time Public Works employees we have now and are all of the positions filled?

Mayor Silver – We have four full-timers and I currently have two part-timers. During the summer, we always pick up a couple extra part-timers.

Ms. Thompson – So we have six...four full-time and two part-time and seasonally we have two additional.

Mayor Silver – We had six full-time guys, but a couple of them found a better place and I don’t have funding to fill in those full-time positions. So, currently, we’re keeping it a part-time position.

No Public Comments were offered.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Asay	Yes	Ms. Snow	Absent
Mr. Bendel	Yes	Ms. Thompson	Yes
Mr. Berglund	Yes	Mayor Silver	Yes
Mr. Pillion	Absent		

Approve the following purchase order(s):

Requesting Dept:	Public Works Water/Sewer
Vendor:	Deckman Electric

Item/Service:	Rebuild Hydromatic Pump, Model No. HPGHX300CD
Cost:	\$2,200.00 – cost is based on “sight unseen”
Item /Service:	New: 2” Disconnect Cast Iron Ball Check Valve
	Part No: QDV200
Cost:	\$316.02
Item/Service:	New: Hydromatic Pump, Model No: HPGHX300CD
Cost:	\$5,525.00 – plus freight
Total:	\$8,041.02

Motion by Mr. Berglund second Mr. Bendel.

Council comments:

Mr. Berglund – When we were in discussion with the Toms River Sewerage Authority and we looked at the various lift stations that we had in town, this one was noted as the one that was most problematic because it only had the one pump. We never put the second one in. So we were sitting there asking for a problem to shut us down and what happened, we got four years out of the last rebuild but we still had to go out and try to find something that would get us still working during the period when the rebuilding of this one takes place. So we went out and found a submersible trash pump that would pass a one-inch cylinder and we could use one of our guys with the submersible, instead of having to send two guys out when they used the pump that was up on the surface.

Mayor Silver – It was a gasoline-powered trash pump that was very heavy and bulky to move around.

Mr. Berglund – And because of its location, it required two people to operate it. So, my logic in buying the submersible pump was that we could save the overtime on that second person in the length of time that it takes to rebuild the primary pump.

Mayor Silver – It’s going to be two to three weeks on the rebuild, if nothing goes wrong.

Mr. Berglund – This has happened to us a couple of times in recent years as I recall.

Mr. Asay – Who’s doing the work at the site, our guys?

Mayor Silver – And then we have to hire an electrician for the high-voltage connection.

Mr. Asay – How does this pump get to Pennsylvania to be repaired?

Mayor Silver – One of our guys puts it in a truck and drives it out there.

Ms. Thompson – I notice that we’re paying freight for the new pump.

Mayor Silver – That’s to get it from the manufacturer to the distributor, which is Deckman Electric in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Asay – If we install a second pump in that pit, then how would the second pump be triggered if the first one goes down?

Mr. Berglund – That will be set up during the electrical work. One will operate so many cycles and then the other one will turn on.

Mr. Asay – We can’t put in a temporary pump there like we did by the boatyard last year?

Mayor Silver – That was still an above-ground thing and it was expensive compared to the electric pump being about \$890.00. It’s been out since last Monday.

Ms. Thompson – This will cost about \$8,000.00. Where is the money coming from to pay for it?

Mayor Silver – Our CFO has gotten us funds from another project, which would be the pump station that we did over on West End. There’s a balance there and the balance should just cover the cost of the repair, labor and the electrician.

No Public Comments were offered.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Asay	Yes	Ms. Snow	Absent
Mr. Bendel	Yes	Ms. Thompson	Yes
Mr. Berglund	Yes	Mayor Silver	Yes
Mr. Pillion	Absent		

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion on the request from Jess Pomeroy for the use Wanamaker Field, for June 11, 2016 wedding. (carried from the meeting of April 28th, 2015.)

Among the items discussed were the need to adopt or amend the ordinance, “Hold Harmless” agreements, insurance policies, availability of the site to the public, clean up of the site after the events, use of other Borough sites and restriction of use to Borough residents only. The Borough Attorney will have a draft ordinance prepared for the next meeting. Further discussion of this item is tabled to the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor Silver – At the last meeting, we were talking about the crabbing and fishing along River Avenue and I’m making up the template for the stencil for “No Crabbing & Fishing”. It’s going to be painted on the bulkhead from Pavilion and west to the stone area. They’re fishing everywhere and I want to make it clear where they’re supposed to be. I’m making up ID’s for the Public Works Department and also for the Tax Assessor, the Building Official and the Code Enforcer. I met with Cindy Randazzo from the DEP who is going to assist us in the FEMA claim for the pump stations in order to partially or fully fund our rehab there. I’ve been looking to revamp our Borough website. Joseph Kostecki, the South Toms River Clerk, is a certified web designer and will work with us in his free time to give us some direction for our website. I signed up for notification of when residential accounts in town are disconnected from Jersey Central Power & Light.

Mr. Bendel – Brian Gabriel had asked that we have the numbers in terms of money that has been spent on the Tower and the Water Treatment Plant. I just wanted to read those numbers into the record so that they’re there and are part of the newsletter. They are for the Water Tower – \$1,320,000.00, the Water Treatment Plant - \$2,240,000.00, Engineering costs - \$435,000.00. The total is \$3,995,000.00 and the bonded money we have available is \$4,720,000.00. The other thing I wanted to mention is that I’m not sure how this starts, but it may need to start with the Planning Board and I’ll bring it up there tomorrow night. Our Code as it stands allows fences and retaining walls. There are no restrictions on them. They can be put on the property line. Most of the time there’s no problem. People two doors away from me now have a seven foot retaining wall. The lot is filled in and there’s a seven foot retaining wall that she’s looking at. It’s not right on her property, but it could be. I think there’s a little hole in our Code there and I’d like to at least talk about it with some people. We may be able to do something about it, we may not. A lot of this town is on hills and it’s possible it could happen again. The builder is not doing anything illegal. He’s totally within the Code and this would have no impact on what’s going on there now. It’s something we need to look at and it is something the Council would have to approve.

Mr. Berglund – In response to Bob’s question last time about the compost... the next morning I went down and asked for them to fill a truck and it was there the next day. You all followed us through as we rehabbed the bluff where it was caving in and starting to go towards the first house that was east of the bluff. We spent quite a few thousand dollars for backfill and then before the end of the year, we laid mesh down and we planted grass through that and planted several hundred dollars’ worth of shrubs there. The day after the last meeting I got a call from Public Works saying that kids had been down there and pretty much destroyed what we built. They were building a tree house, were jumping and sliding down on the mesh, and were tearing out the plantings and the shrubs. So, after it stabilizes this spring, we’ll go down and find out how much we have to rebuild. It bothers me to waste money like that. Our police were notified but they haven’t found anyone who might have been responsible for it. The next thing is a modification to the five-year plan, but I have to thank Councilwoman Thompson for it. Because she pointed out that there was a hole developing near the catch basin on Lake Avenue. It was just before the 5K and she wanted to make sure there was no safety issue there. We got out and patched it and so forth. There was a second, much smaller hole that she pointed out thirty feet away from the original hole. I went down to Public Works and they said oh yeah, there’s a drain line that connects the catch basins and feeds into Dillon’s Creek. It was built with a steel corrugated culvert. They ran a camera down it a few years ago and found out that it’s collapsing. So replacement of that from Oak to probably over to Jaynes has been added to the five-year plan.

Mr. Asay – Follow-up on the bulkhead at the Dillon’s Creek mouth. I spoke again to Toms River’s Engineer this week who told me that he had determined that it was the responsibility of the Gilford Park Yacht Club. He referred it to the Township Administrator who referred it to Code Enforcement who said that they were sending a Code Enforcement Officer out there to serve notice on the Yacht Club that they needed to take action to repair this or they could be cited because it’s a safety and environmental issue. Related to the website issue, I came upon this looking up something different, in our ordinances there is a chapter that allows for a company called “Official Payments Corporation” to collect taxes, fees that were due the Borough. I don’t know if that was ever implemented. It authorizes “convenience fees” to be collected so that there’s no cost to the Borough. This might

be something we can implement when we update our site. If there is any cost, it goes to the user. You could use a credit or debit card or a direct payment from your bank account.

A discussion was held regarding problems in starting to use the online payment system, utilizing the online payment system to be used to purchase badges, what the restrictions were regarding this in the ordinance and how the badges could be acquired after purchase.

Mr. Asay – Our retired police car is stripped, is it being advertised? Will it be an onsite auction?

Mayor Silver read the Notice that the Public Hearing for the Renewal of Municipal Consent for Comcast would be held at the Borough Hall on May 26, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Pillion – Absent

Ms. Snow – Absent

Ms. Thompson – The Collector's report for the month of April is \$413,911.00 in collections, which is about \$35,000.00 higher than last April.

Mr. Asay read the April 2015 Police blotter for the Borough's Police Department.

Ms. Thompson stated that residents who read the newsletter should be encouraged to follow the Police Department's Facebook page.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Extended to the following:

Scott Zimmerman – I'm here in regards to the cars in the Fire Department parking lot. It's just about a year ago they were snuck in overnight and the Council and Mayor weren't informed at that time. Who really owns that property? When the President of the Fire Company was here, he said that the Fire Department owns the grounds. Mr. Asay – At the time, I was the liaison to the Fire Department. I was notified in writing by the President of the Fire Department that due to issues with their fundraising, they had entered into an agreement to park new vehicles from Lester Glenn on their property in return for a rental fee. The property is owned by the Island Heights Fire Company, which is a non-profit corporation.

Scott Zimmerman – Is this a permanent thing? We were told that it was a yearly thing and that we would look into it at the end of the year. Has it been looked into? Has the Mayor and Council been informed that this would carry over for this year? It's really not a good thing. You see those cars there... There are 120 cars parked in the middle of town.

Mr. Asay – I don't speak for the Fire Company. I'm not their liaison any more. I can just tell you that of course the cars will be moved for their summer event, like they were last year.

Scott Zimmerman – And they were brought back. It creates noise and traffic. I can't tell you how many times I walk by there and I see a car pulling out, I see a car pulling in and I see a car pulling out. It just adds extra traffic. What about the safety and liability issues? Who is liable?

Ms. Thompson – Wouldn't this be a commercial use of a non-profit property. I don't know if it's zoned for that type of a commercial use?

Mayor Silver – Didn't he give us a time-window of how this was going to play out?

Mr. Asay – No, they indicated that they enter into an annual agreement with Lester Glenn. The Fire Company is also anticipating, sometime in the not too distant future, beginning a construction project on that site to either renovate or completely demolish and build a new firehouse. I doubt that the vehicles will be on the site during that construction. But that's a ways off yet, they don't have a start date for that. They have a preliminary proposal and plans for such a building. I'm sure that would have an impact on the vehicles being on the lot. But, as I recall, the issue was vetted with our Code Enforcement Officer at that time who found it not to be an issue.

Scott Zimmerman – The Mayor was furious at the time. Has anything been heard about them renewing?

Mr. Asay – No, and I couldn't tell you when that agreement started.

Borough Clerk – We have a copy of that agreement on file.

Mayor Silver – We'll have some answers for you at the next meeting.

Scott Zimmerman – Am I about to ask you a personal question... Whether you like those cars there or not?

Mayor Silver – Personally, I don't. It's a sore subject. I know they're doing it as a fundraiser for the volunteer fire department and the rebuilding of their firehouse and everything like that. We'll get some communications as to their intent as to continuing to use Lester Glenn as a revenue maker or not. June is their Summerbrew.

Scott Zimmerman – We’re all in a tough spot and if my house catches on fire, I’m going to call them. Everybody’s in a tough spot, but...

Mr. Bendel – There hasn’t been any official discussion, but the subject of increased town support of the Fire Department has been mentioned.

Scott Zimmerman – Could the Council, in fact, say get them out of there?

Mr. Bendel – Could the Council? The Council could do anything, but it doesn’t mean necessarily that we have the power to do that. We could say anything, but does that make it legal? I don’t know. I doubt it. If it’s not our property, I don’t see how we can do that. We could pass a resolution and say do that, but where’s the enforcement if it’s not legally binding?

Mayor Silver – We’ll get updated information from the fire house.

Adopt Resolution 2015 – 34, entitled, RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF ISLAND HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. There being no items for executive session, therefore this resolution was not acted on.

Motion by Mr. Bendel second by Mr. Berglund to adjourn, unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted, Ellie Rogalski, RMC/MMC

Items of Interest:

- ❑ The **Island Heights Board of Health** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 9:00 AM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Board of Education** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at 6:15 PM held at the Island Heights Grade School, 115 Summit Avenue, Island Heights.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Environmental Committee** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Central Regional School Board** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, June 18, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Board of Education building, Forest Hills Parkway, Bayville.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.

DOG & CAT LICENSES ARE TO BE RENEWED JANUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR

*** Proof of Current Rabies Required, Spaying/Neutering Certificate to obtain \$3.00 discount**

Cat & Dog Fee: \$10.00 Proof Spayed/Neutered: \$7.00

In addition, a Late Fee of \$5.00 will be imposed February 1 and an additional \$1.00 each month late thereafter.

Last Day of Pre-Season Sale of Recreational Badges is Sunday, May 31, 2015. Increase as set by ordinance begins Sunday, June 1, 2015

The Municipal Clerk’s Office, Tax Collector & Water/Sewer Office, Finance & Purchasing, are open Monday – Friday 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM and Monday evening 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM. Building Department & Fire Official, Tax Assessor and Municipal Court are open Monday evening 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM. Please call the borough hall at (732) 270-6415 for days and times of offices not listed above.

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Council Member John Bendel

April D. Elley, Newsletter Editor (732) 270-6415