

Mayor and Council Newsletter

Borough of Island Heights
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Official Special Council Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Silver at 7:02 p.m.

Mayor Silver read the following statement: “The special Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Island Heights is hereby called to order. Notice of this meeting is in accordance with the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 (Section 10:4-10). Notice of the Meeting was transmitted to the Asbury Park Press on July 31, 2016, published on August 3, 2016 and is posted on the bulletin board, and in the municipal building.”

Pledge to the flag and a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Council President Asay	Councilmember Snow
Councilmember Bendel	Councilmember Thompson
Councilmember Berglund	Mayor Silver
Councilmember Pillion	Attorney O’Connell

	Asay	Bendel	Berglund	Pillion	Snow	Thompson	Mayor Silver	Atty O’Connell
Present	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Absent								

Also present Margaret “Peggy” Gorman, Chief Financial Officer.

1. OATH OF OFFICE TO ACTING MUNICIPAL CLERK

Mayor Silver gave the Oath of Office to Katherine Fenton-Newman, Acting Municipal Clerk.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

3. Maria Sessa of First Energy Corporation presentation:

Ms. Sessa stated that she had two updates. The first was the topic of the month which was preparing for Thunder Storms. Everyone needs to be prepared and have the necessary equipment in case of an extended outage.

The second was that at 10:00 a.m. on August 24th there will be a tour of their dispatch center. Freehold Ginny Haines will be joining them.

Ms. Sessa also said that she is going to work with Engineering to continue the work started earlier this year to see what current outages were, what the solutions were and what the corrective actions were. She should have them by September.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council President Asay asked that the Meeting Minutes be moved as a consent agenda.

- Resolution 2016-184** Approving Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2016
- Resolution 2016-185** Approving Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2016
- Resolution 2016-186** Approving Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2016
- Resolution 2016-187** Approving Meeting Minutes of July 6, 2016
- Resolution 2016-188** Approving Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2016

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Asay	X		6/6 & 6/13	
		Bendel	X		7/13	
		Berglund	X		6/15 & 7/13	
		Pillion	X			
	X	Snow	X			
X		Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

5. ORDINANCE

Ordinance 2016-09 Bond Ordinance of the Borough of Island Heights, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Providing for Various Water and Sewer Improvements in and for the Borough of Island Heights and Appropriating \$937,500 therefore. And Providing for the Issuance of \$937,500 in Bonds or Notes of the Borough of Island Heights to Finance the Same. (Second Reading)

Public Hearing – No comments

Councilwoman Thompson asked for updates as the projects go forward.

Roll Call to close public hearing.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Asay	X			
		Bendel	X			
		Berglund	X			
	X	Pillion	X			
		Snow	X			
		Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

Ordinance 2016-10 An Ordinance of the Borough of Island Heights, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Granting Comcast of New Jersey to construct, connect, operate and maintain a Cable Television and Communications System in the Borough of Island Heights, New Jersey. (Second Reading)

Public Hearing – No Comments

Roll Call to close public hearing.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Asay	X			
		Bendel	X			
		Berglund	X			
		Pillion	X			
		Snow	X			
	X	Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

6. PUBLIC HEARING

Amendments to 2016 Municipal Budget

Open Public Hearing

Andrew Parks - 121 Summit Avenue asked if there will be public comment at the end of the meeting. The Mayor told him there would be.

Close Public Hearing

There being no other public comment, Council President Asay motioned to close the public hearing. Councilman Berglund seconded. All in favor.

7. RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2016-189 Bill List

Public Comment - None

Roll Call

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Asay	X			
		Bendel	X			
		Berglund	X			
		Pillion	X			
		Snow	X			
	X	Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

**Resolution 2016-190 Save the Date Request from the Barnegat Bay Partnership for
The 20th Annual Barnegat Bay Festival, June 4, 2017**
Public Comment - None
Roll Call

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Asay	X			
X		Bendel	X			
	X	Berglund	X			
		Pillion	X			
		Snow	X			
		Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

**Resolution 2016-191 Approving Application of Use of Pavilion for Top Hats String
Band Concert August 29, 2016**
Public Comment - None
Roll Call

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
	X	Asay	X			
		Bendel	X			
X		Berglund	X			
		Pillion	X			
		Snow	X			
		Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

**Resolution 2016-192 Approving Application of Use of Pavilion for Michael Valenti
and Jennifer Rosario Wedding on October 15, 2016.**
Public Comment
Roll Call

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
	X	Asay	X			
		Bendel	X			
X		Berglund	X			
		Pillion	X			
		Snow	X			
		Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

**Resolution 2016-193 Appointing Alec Mazzaccaro as Summer Seasonal Laborer at
a rate of \$12.50 per hour not to exceed 28 hours per week.**
Public Comment - None
Roll Call

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Asay	X			
		Bendel	X			
		Berglund	X			
		Pillion	X			
	X	Snow	X			
		Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

**Resolution 2016-194 Approving a Shared Services Agreement with the Township of
Toms River for Beach Cleaning Services for the Summit
Avenue Beach.**

The Mayor stated that the charge will be \$45 per hour to deep clean the beach. He also stated that this probably hasn't been done in 5 years. Last time it was done Seaside came over to clean the beach but they were constrained. The Mayor said this is on an as-needed basis.

Councilwoman Thompson asked that the language be cleaned up under Terms and Conditions. It was decided that the last part of the last sentence be struck out.

Public Comment - None
Roll Call

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Asay	X			
		Bendel	X			
		Berglund	X			
		Pillion	X			
		Snow	X			
	X	Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

Resolution 2016-195 Authorizing Ocean County Parks and Recreation to use the Municipal Dock at the end of Central Avenue on August 25, 2016.

This is for a lunch cruise for the Ocean County Parks and Recreation. They will go to the Deli and walk back down to the boat.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Asay	X			
		Bendel	X			
	X	Berglund	X			
		Pillion	X			
		Snow	X			
		Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Andrew Parks – 121 Summit Avenue, read a statement from Island Heights Fire Company. The statement was as follows:

“Over the past several months we have been providing detailed information to you about our financial situation, the status and the condition of our fire equipment and our firehouse building. We have requested financial assistant from the Borough to cover our costs of our ongoing operations and planned apparatus and equipment purchases so that we can apply all of our fund raising resources towards replacing our deteriorating building.

As we have advised you, our building is in tenuous condition, at best, and given the structural deterioration it has suffered, and continues to suffer, we cannot be sure it will continue to provide us a safe environment to house our equipment and operate our department. Any significant environmental or catastrophic impacts on this building may render it uninhabitable. Also, given the current condition, it can no longer be used by the residents as a place of refuge during local emergencies.

Given that the newly approved municipal budget did not provide significant funding allotted to the fire company to cover operating costs, we are now unable to secure financing to start the replacement of our firehouse. This project will now be delayed at least another year. If significant funding for our department cannot be guaranteed or put in the budget by the municipal government, we will have to use our remaining funds to support our operation. Thereby eliminating any funds we had set aside for our new building. This, then, makes our new building a financial impossibility for us. We have done everything that you asked of us to gain your support but to no avail. While we do not wish to see our fire company go out of existence after faithfully serving the community for 121 years. If you cannot find a way to help us to a necessary level, we suggest that you begin finding an alternate supplier of your fire protection services immediately.”

The Mayor stated that we did our best to assist with our financial responsibility and we will see what we can do in the future.

Brooke Smith – 136 West End Avenue, has a concern about the speed of the vehicles on the street. She would like to see the speed reduced and asked for a new traffic study on the street. She asked for the Borough’s assistance in obtaining a lower speed on the street. Mrs. Smith provided a Traffic Study Request, Speed Limit Comparison of Main Roads in Island Heights and a sample letter to the Ocean County Engineer. The Mayor and the Council said they would assist.

Lynn Pendelton - 249 Ocean Avenue. On behalf of the Yacht Club she went and spoke to Jon Brodbeck of Public Works about getting "Do Not Feed the Fowl" signs put back up at the Yacht Club. He said he was out of them and needed the Mayor's approval to order them. The Mayor indicated that he would order them.

She also gave Council an update on CMRA (Camp Meeting Restoration Association). The CMRA sent out their first fundraising letter and have already received two checks for a thousand dollars each. This will go towards the first phase of getting the steps repaired. They have gotten several bids and are trying to get a better bid. They had a meeting that afternoon with Dick Martin and George Thompson to talk about the redesign for the gazebo. They have agreed to do drawings for the CMRA. She is hopeful for more contributions.

9. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilwoman Thompson reported that she had gotten the Tax Collector's report for the period ending July 31. The total collections were \$357,000 which is on track and consistent with last year's report.

The Zoning Officer's report stated that it has been a very busy office since the beginning of the year. He has been pursuing 13 Notice of Violations which is up quite a bit from previous years. A number of problems are being resolved. There were a total of 62 permits applied for. 24 were for tree permits. 9 were for rentals. 16 were for zoning approvals. 10 were for resales. 3 were for Certificates of Occupancy.

Councilwoman Snow reported that we are into our fifth week of the summer recreation program and it is going along well. Sports are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Arts and Crafts are Wednesday and Friday. The program may be starting a bit later to make it easier for parents to get their children there. She thanked the Mayor's wife for helping with the Arts and Crafts.

Councilman Pillion reported that the Fire Company's Ladies Auxiliary is selling 25% off Boscov's shopping passes for \$5.00 to help raise money for the building fund. Wendie Gabriel is the contact. Her telephone number is 732-504-9977 for anyone interested in obtaining the passes.

Doug Platt, OEM Coordinator, was having a nuclear drill tonight over at the OEM building. Councilman Pillion stated that the Police and Fire are dedicated in maintaining our readiness to respond to emergencies.

The Police Department just obtained another radar unit. The new hires are obtaining their radar certifications. This may have a visible impact on the speeding in town.

The Council is continuing to work with the Mayor and the leadership of the fire company to try to find ways to fully meet their needs for their annual operating costs. The Council is well aware of their situation with their building and their need to be able to raise funds to build their new fire station.

Lt. Kevin Arnold asked about the Ordinance for House Number on houses. It is making it difficult to respond to calls when there are no numbers on the houses. He asked that the Code Enforcement Officer help with ensuring numbers are up on houses and that something be posted in the Newsletter. The Mayor said that it will be addressed again. The Code pertaining to this is 11-3 Numbering of Buildings.

Councilman Bendel had no report.

Councilman Berglund reported that we are very much in the vacation period in the department of Public Works. He is encouraging people not wait to the end of the year to get their vacation in.

The Community Garden is beyond blooming and producing very well.

Council President Asay reported that we received our Audit Report for calendar year 2015. According to our auditor we are in pretty good shape. The only issues were some funding issues on Capital Ordinances which were discussed with the CFO and will be addressed in the 2016 budget. Otherwise we were found in good compliance.

The battle to get the groin/bulkhead rebuilt on the Gilford Park side of the mouth of Dillon's creek continues. Council President Asay spoke with Mr. Vasquez of Code Enforcement in Toms River who said that every opportunity was given to the Yacht Club and Gilford Park to rebuild their bulkhead. They have said they don't have the resources to do it at this time and they don't intend to do it in the near future. Mr. Vasquez said that Toms River is proceeding with serving them with a notice of violation. This needs to be closed up if there is any hope in maintaining the depth in the channel or considering a dredging project.

The building of a boat ramp that was going to dump into Dillon’s Creek appears to have been tabled. The Council President hasn’t seen any action on that on any agendas in Toms River. He hopes they are going to abandon that for now because it is going to dump more traffic into the Creek.

Mayor Silver reported that he received a cooperative agreement renewal from the Ocean County Board of Freeholders for a CDBG (Community Development Block Grant Program) for 2017, 2018 and 2019. He gave it to the Acting Municipal Clerk to put in on the next meeting agenda in September.

The Mayor has been working with Don Roberts of the Preservation of Historic Places here in NJ to construct an interpretive panel to detail the historical nature of the Wanamaker Camp Site and its history since its inception until just after World War II. The Historic Trust holds an easement for the footprint of where the Wanamaker building was. The interpretive panel location will be decided upon. Artist renderings of the panel will be supplied to Council in the future.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTRACTS

Resolution 2016-196 Authorizing an Executive Session for the Purposes of Contracts

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Asay	X			
	X	Bendel	X			
		Berglund	X			
		Pillion	X			
		Snow	X			
		Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

11. RECONVENE SPECIAL MEETING at 9:09 pm.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Asay	X			
		Bendel	X			
	X	Berglund	X			
		Pillion	X			
		Snow	X			
		Thompson	X			
		Mayor Silver	X			

12. ADJOURNMENT at 9:10 pm.

Motion: Bendel Second: Berglund All in Favor

Submitted by:

**Katherine Fenton-Newman
Acting Borough Clerk**

Items of Interest:

- ❑ The **Island Heights Planning Board** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, August 15, 2016 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Central Regional School Board** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, August 15, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Board of Education building, Forest Hills Parkway, Bayville.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Environmental Committee** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.

The **Municipal Clerk’s Office, Tax Collector & Water/Sewer Office**, are open Monday – Thursday 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM (**closed Friday**) and Monday evening 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM. Finance & Purchasing are open Wednesday 9:00 AM to 3:00 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