

Mayor and Council Newsletter

Borough of Island Heights
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Official Council Meeting Minutes

September 27, 2016

The Regular 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 appeared in the Asbury Park Press on December 30, 2015, published on January 7, 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								

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

2. REPORT

Timothy Rehm, Superintendent, Island Heights School District – Update on Renovation Project.

Mr. Rehm thanked Councilpersons Berglund, Snow and Thompson for a great job they did last year in opening the School Boards’ eyes to many things and for giving the committee valuable, insightful, critical information. His first year here in Island Heights was amazing. He said that working in Island Heights this past year has been the most enjoyable year in his 38-year career. The community is incredible. There are great parents and great kids. He is so happy that they were able to move forward with the referendum. The children are very happy to see the new roof and the new Sea Devil on the cupola. It demonstrates to the children that we are really caring for them and providing them with a wonderful building.

Mr. Rehm invited the community to a ceremony for the Veterans on Wednesday, November 9th at 9:00 a.m. Any Veterans in the community please come to the school. There will be a nice acknowledgement for their service that day. Families of Veterans are welcome, too.

Mr. Rehm said that he knew the Borough was participating in the Sustainable New Jersey Program. The school is a participating Sustainable School. He would like to work together. One of the District goals is achieving a bronze certification. He asked that the person in charge of the program contact either Mrs. Thomas or himself to coordinate programs.

Some other things the school is focusing on are:

S.T.E.A.M. – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math. There are expanded clubs, like Lego robotics, art club, and music club. They continue with their band. They continue to infuse S.T.E.A.M. into the everyday lessons.

There is a new reading initiative called “Drop Everything and Read.” At 12:15 every day, everything stops and every child in the building, along with the staff, is reading silently and independently for 15 minutes. The children enjoy it very much.

The roof project was completed this summer and it came in under budget. Most of the work was done in the first few weeks in August. Things were expedited to get the roof done last summer. The leaks that used to happen don’t happen anymore.

Next summer the big work will happen. They are in the design phase for the second part. The bids will be going out in November and hopefully bids will be awarded in December. They would like to get some of the work started in May. After the heating season they will be starting on the boilers. They are converting the steam system to a hot water system. They are replacing unit ventilators. This work will start in May.

Throughout the summer they will be replacing doors, windows, replacing carpets with tile, building management system, electrical upgrades, and addressing most of the work that encompasses the second part of the referendum. They will be busy from May until October of next year without interrupting instruction. Hopefully there will be good weather and be able to accomplish everything they need to do within that time frame.

He also praised the police department, fire department and public works department by saying they have been phenomenal. He thanked the Council for their cooperation.

Councilwoman Snow will be reaching out to the School Board Secretary to put her in touch with the Sustainable New Jersey contacts in Island Heights.

3. ORDINANCE

Ordinance 2016-11 An Ordinance of the Borough of Island Heights, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Amending and Supplementing Chapter 19 of the Borough Code Entitled Parks, Recreation Areas and Other Public Places. (Second Reading)
Public Hearing – No Public Comment

First: Bendel Second: Snow

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

Councilwoman Thompson explained that she voted “no” because she does not believe that we should charge children for recreational badges.

4. RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2016-217 A Resolution to Affirm the Borough of Island Heights’ Civil Rights Policy with Respect to all Officials, Appointees, Employees, Prospective Employees, Volunteers, Independent Contractors, and Members of the Public that Come into Contact with Municipal Employees, Officials and Volunteers

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 2016-218 Special Item Of Revenue and Appropriation – Chapter 159

Public Comment - None
Roll Call

These funds were received as a result of Winter Storm Jonas. This resolution authorizes these funds to be put into the budget.

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

Resolution 2016-219 Authorizing the Auction of Three (3) Borough-Owned Vehicles by Priced Rite Towing on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 11:00 A.M.

Public Comment - None
Roll Call

These vehicles were impounded by the Police Department for various reasons. The owners did not come back to pick them up.

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

Resolution 2016-220 Approving the 3rd Annual Island Heights Grade School PTO Trunk or Treat, Friday, October 28, 2016

Public Comment
Roll Call

Melissa Wudzki from the PTO, and Trunk or Treat organizer explained that this is a fun event. The cars are set up and decorated for Halloween. The children come and Trick or Treat among the cars. They do a food drive to take cans and food donations which are taken over to the local food pantry. They do some games and have a lot of fun. It starts for the kids at 6:30 to Trick or Treat. The cars set up at 5:00. She requested that the lights be put on from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

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 2016-221 Approving Raffle License #2016-5 for the Island Heights Grade School
 Public Comment
 Roll Call

Melissa Wudzki explained that every year the six grade, along with their parents, puts together a spaghetti dinner to raise money for their class trip. The raffle is done in conjunction with the spaghetti dinner.

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 2016-222 Approving Bill List
 Public Comment - None
 Roll Call

Motion made approving Bill List but excluding payment to Seal Team.

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 2016-224 Appointing Timothy A. Magee as Part-Time Laborer
 Public Comment - None
 Roll Call

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

5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Referendum to Exceed Budget Cap

Attorney Michael O’Connell said, while he was in Trenton, he asked if a referendum to raise the budget passed does the budget amount stay up permanently or for just a year. Trenton told him that if the referendum passed, the new amount becomes your base for your budget. There is no need to hold a referendum every year.

B. Air B&B Enforcement

The Mayor asked another municipality to get him their Air B&B regulations but they have not gotten back to him yet.

Attorney O'Connell said that he asked another municipality what they have done to regulate their Air B&Bs. They addressed the issue through zoning to not allow for short term habitability. It would preclude hotel/motel overnight stays.

6. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Bendel stated that he and the Mayor were going to bring up the Air B&B issue at the Mayor's meeting but it turned out to be inappropriate to do so at the time. The discussion at the Mayor's meeting was strictly about the recent bombing in Seaside Park.

Councilman Berglund reported that Public Works installed a new hydrant at Camp Walk. The old one was not functional.

40 feet of new sewer was put in around Summit Avenue.

Geese are a problem in the parking lot. Other towns have successfully kept the geese away by encouraging other people to fly their drones around the geese. It appears that if drones are flown over geese multiple times they will not come back. Councilwoman Snow prefers that dogs run them off. Councilman Berglund said that the geese are no longer afraid of dogs. The Mayor said we are going to take a scientific approach by allowing drone owners to come in and scare off the geese.

Council President Asay said that New Jersey Natural Gas asked for a 24% rate increase in the spring. He and other Council Members let the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) that they were not happy with that increase. It would be too much for the residents to endure. The BPU has reached an agreement with NJ Natural Gas and the increase will only be 7.5%. Almost all of the increase will be offset by the decreased in the price of natural gas.

Councilwoman Thompson had no report.

Councilwoman Snow called on Judith Carluccio and Angela Whitehill from the Methodist Restoration Association to provide an update on the work at the Camp Meeting.

Judith Carluccio, 100 Laurel Avenue, is the chairperson of the Camp Meeting Restoration Association. She was happy to report that the first leg of the journey to revitalize Camp Meeting, the stairway reconstruction, is almost completed. It was helped along a great deal by Jon Broadbeck who has been a friend of their campaign. He took the old staircase out and trimmed the trees on the Camp Meeting grounds. According to their gardeners, he did a masterful job. It looks wonderful. They won't plant a garden until next spring. Their contractor has been on the job all day and they are thinking of using the rest of the money donated to erect a low wall along Ocean Avenue.

Mrs. Carluccio said that since that is looking so beautiful, the sidewalk is looking like a disaster and asked if the Borough could replace the sidewalk. The Mayor spoke with the contractor and is inclined to replace a couple of pieces of sidewalk by the front apron. The sections are about 6 feet wide.

Angela Whitehill said that putting in a wall along Ocean Avenue was a lot more expensive than they thought it would be. They will definitely put in daffodils whether or not they put in the wall. Then they will have a show of color in the spring of something pretty. She also emphasized that Jon Brodbeck did a great job pruning. Mrs. Whitehill said the pavilion needs a new roof and they are pretty sure they can't take it down because it was put up with a State grant. She asked the Borough if they would put up a new roof.

Councilman Bendel said that the structure really does not suit the area and should not have been put up in the first place. If it could be demolished we could go from there.

Mrs. Carluccio said that would be a whole lot more expensive. George Thompson has offered to do a simple design change for the pavilion. She hasn't seen it yet. Councilman Bendel said he took back his statement and said, "Go with George." Mrs. Carluccio said they would need more funding in order to do that.

Mrs. Whitehill said they would like to put in a real garden there. They would like to put in some dogwoods because they are indigenous to Island Heights. They would also like to put in plants that are low maintenance and maybe a dry stream bed.

Mrs. Carluccio said that now that it looks so much better, they are hoping people will give them more contributions.

They provided the Borough Clerk with the insurance certificate and license of the contractor.

Councilwoman Snow reported that the Recreation Committee has officially been resurrected and has set dates for meetings. They had their first meeting and are taking minutes. The committee will be meeting four times a year. They have laid out their schedule for Halloween.

- The **Annual Autumn Bonfire** will be on Summit Avenue Beach on October 22 between 6 and 8 p.m.
- The **Halloween Parade** will be on Saturday, October 29th at 11:00 a.m.
- The next **Recreation Committee meeting** will be November 27th in order to gear up for the Christmas Tree Lighting. She urges anyone who is interested in volunteering to do so. This is one of the most fun committees you can volunteer for. You don't have to do a lot and it's a great feeling.

Councilwoman Snow also reported that the Environmental Committee is losing two wonderful volunteers, Betty and George Wood. They are moving out of the area to be closer to their daughter and son-in-law. They have been a fixture in town and will be greatly missed.

Councilwoman Snow wanted everyone to know that Jon Bon Jovi's Soul Kitchen on Hooper Avenue is having an event Saturday, October 22nd, 12 to 2 p.m. They are inviting local Fire, Police and EMS to serve up their mouth-watering chili entries. Guests will sample the chili and vote for their favorite. There is a \$10 per person charge to enter the event.

Councilman Pillion asked Lt. Kevin Arnold to give the police report. Lt. Arnold said that since school has opened they have been passing out flyers giving a warning to motorists saying that nothing will be tolerated in the school zone area. He is trying to get in touch with the County to extend the school zone from Laurel and, on the other side, at least to Jaynes. Lt. Arnold will look into seeing if the school zone can be expanded. Either way, there will be stronger enforcement in the area.

Councilman Pillion asked if Lt. Arnold had any success in reaching out to the County to lower the speed on West End Avenue. Is it in the purview of the municipality through its ordinances? Lt. Arnold said the speed limit can be changed.

Councilman Pillion said that our Chief has reached out to the County Sherriff's Department and has acquired for our event, extra personnel, bomb sniffing dogs and a command center that sets up for the Sail Fest. He thinks the extra presence of law enforcement has a positive impact of tamping down the rowdiness that has happened in the past.

Councilman Asay had no report.

Mayor Silver reported the figures for the 2016 Recreation Badge sales. Our walk-in sales totaled \$14,875.00. Our Badge Checkers sold \$11,880. The total amount of badges sold for 2016 was \$26,755. That amount has never been done in Island Heights. There were outstanding sales this year.

Mayor Silver, Councilwoman Snow and Councilman Berglund are working with a sign company to get some proofs for the entrance. The sign will go to the left side by the top cap of the stone column coming into the complex. The sign will tell people where all the offices are.

The Mayor also wants to address the sign at Triangle Park that is split.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Brook Smith, 136 West End Avenue – Wanted to follow up about the speed limit on the road. Mayor Silver said that it is not a County Road. He said that during the winter months you need

enough speed to get up the hill if there is ice and snow. He was thinking that the speed should be lowered from 35 to 30 miles per hour. Two more radar units have been ordered for the police cars. Mrs. Smith said that she has been thrilled by the police presence.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 8:13 P.M.

Resolution 2016-223 Executive Session
Public Comment
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			

8. RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING 8:45 p.m.

First: Thompson Seconded: Snow All In Favor

9. Motion was made to have purchasing agent, Joseph Kostecki, advertise for contract bids for garbage and/or recycling services with two options. Option 1 would be for what we currently have and Option 2 would be for weekly trash collection and recycling by an outside contractor.

First: Asay Seconded: Pillion All in Favor

10. ADJOURNMENT 8:50 p.m.

First: Bendel Second: All in Favor

Submitted By:

Katherine Fenton-Newman
Acting Borough Clerk/Registrar

Items of Interest:

Taxes are due by Thursday, November 10th with no interest!

- The **Island Heights Board of Health** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 9:00 AM held at the borough hall.
- The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- The **Island Heights Board of Education** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 6:15 PM held at the Island Heights Grade School, 115 Summit Avenue, Island Heights.
- The **Island Heights Planning Board** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- The **Island Heights Environmental Committee** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- The **Central Regional School Board** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, October 20, 2016 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, October 25, 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
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