

Mayor and Council Newsletter

Borough of Island Heights
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Official Council Meeting Minutes

October 11, 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

Mayor Silver announced Benedict L. DeFonzo's passing. Mr. DeFonzo passed away on October 7, 2016 and lived on Ocean Avenue. He was Co-Director of Athletics at Southern Regional High School until his retirement in 1999. He was Ocean County Athletic Director of the Year in 1997-1998 and inducted into the Southern Regional Athletic Hall of Fame in 2007. He has two sons, David and Andrew, and is grandfather to six. He loved spending time with his family, playing tennis, enjoying boating and fishing and was an avid Penn State Football fan. He was a member of the Planning Board for a long time. Visitation will be at Anderson and Campbell Funeral Home, 703 Main Street, Toms River on Thursday, October 13 from 4-8 p.m. He will be greatly missed.

Mayor Silver congratulated Terry Kempton on being inducted into the Barnegat Bay Sailing Hall of Fame.

2. COMMUNITY UPDATE

A. Christine Maloney, Island Heights Library Branch Manager, providing an update on the Island Heights Library.

Ms. Maloney said that the summer reading program had amazing statistics this year. 700 books were read collectively. One child read 106 books over the summer. All the children who participated in summer reading got taken to see the Blue Claws.

Upcoming Events:

1. Flower Arranging with the Whiting Flower Shop. Registration completely filled up in 3 days.
2. There will be a Paint Party in December. Everyone gets their own canvass and will learn to paint. This will be on the same day as the Island Heights Walking Tour.
3. The day before the Paint Party, the Library will have a band come in and do holiday songs.

The Friends of the Library are working with Jason Austin of the Little Plant Company who will make the front gardens native plant gardens.

3. PROCLAMATIONS

- A. National Friends of Libraries Week 2016 – October 16-22, 2016
- B. Halloween Proclamation 2016

No one under the age of 18, unless accompanied by an adult, will be permitted on the streets after the hour of 8 p.m. from Friday, October 21, 2016 through Monday, October 31, 2016.

No one under the age of 18, unless accompanied by an adult, will be permitted on the streets after the hour of 10 p.m. on Monday, October 31, 2016 (Toms River Parade).

Trick or Treating will be between the hours of 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Sunday, October 30, 2016.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Mary Judge reminded everyone that they have a Sustainable Island Heights Facebook page through the Sustainable New Jersey Program and encourages everyone to look at it. There is a Green Team in town and they are working on getting certified as a Sustainable Community. The first level of certification should happen in November.

Rob Harrington did pro bono work designing the bioswale and has won the Firman E. Bear Environmental Excellence Award for that work and received a \$500 award.

The committee is having a planting, weeding and putting the bioswale to bed day on Sunday, October 16th beginning at 10:00 a.m. Local participation would be appreciated.

Mary Judge asked the Mayor and Council to post a link to the Barnegat Partnership’s 12 minute State of the Bay video to the Borough’s website. She also would like a link posted on the Borough’s website to the Jersey Friendly Yards website.

Councilman Berglund and Mary Judge will be attending the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Meeting at the end of October in order to get the core training and earn continuing education hours for the entire year per the community forestry plan requirements.

The Environmental Committee is always welcoming new members and to the Sustainable Jersey Green Team. It is not a big commitment. If you have a project you would like to work on, your participation is appreciated.

Clean Ocean Action’s Beach Sweep is taking place on Saturday, October 22. The Brownswoods will be cleaned. The meeting place is on the corner of Whittier and Washington. Please sign up on Clean Ocean Action’s website and come out and help for an hour or two on Saturday.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes of September 13, 2016 Regular Meeting
 - B. Minutes of September 27, 2016 Regular Meeting
- Minutes approved as consent agenda.

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

6. RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2016-225 A Resolution Setting the 2017 Fees for Recreation Badges

Public Comment

A resident asked why the Borough is charging for children now. Mayor Silver stated if people go to any other town that offers crabbing or fishing along the waterfront, there is always a fee involved. Now Island Heights will charge a fee.

Changes have been made to the recreation badges for presales. There will be two separate preseason sales. A children’s badge has been added and fees set as follows:

Recreational Badges purchased from November 1st, through December 31st, 2016

14 Years of Age and Older	Season	\$15.00
6 Years to 13 Years of Age	Season	\$ 2.00

Recreational Badges purchased from January 1st, through May 31st, 2017

14 Years of Age and Older	Season	\$20.00
6 Years to 13 Years of Age	Season	\$ 4.00
14 Years of Age and Older	Daily	\$ 5.00
6 Years to 13 Years of Age	Daily	\$ 3.00

Recreational Badges purchased June 1st through December 31st, 2017

14 Years of Age and Older	Season	\$30.00
6 Years to 13 Years of Age	Season	\$ 5.00
14 Years of Age and Older	Daily	\$10.00
6 Years to 13 Years of Age	Daily	\$ 5.00

Boat Ramp Resident Fee \$50.00

Boat Ramp Commercial Fees \$500.00

Tennis Badge With Key Fee Residents Only \$30.00

All badges and fees are non-refundable when purchased.

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			

Councilwoman Thompson expressed her opinion that the Borough should not charge fees for children, which is the reason she voted “no.”

Resolution 2016-226 Authorizing the Mayor and Acting Borough Clerk to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management Regarding the Application of the Borough of Island Heights to receive Grants for FEMA Public Assistance and/or Hazard Mitigation Programs under the Stafford Act.

Public Comment
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 2016-227 Special Item of Revenue and Appropriation – Chapter 159

Public Comment
Roll Call

Adding \$1,301.99 for Body Armor to the budget.

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 2016-228 Bill List

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			

7. PURCHASE ORDER

Resolution 2016-229 Approving the Following Purchase Order

Vendor: Reiner Pump Systems
 Item: ABS Submersible Pumps, Guiderail Assemblies w/hardware,
 Orifice Plates, ACIII Plus Duplex Control Panel, Go Floats
 Amount: \$17,815.00

For Fletcher Avenue pump station.

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

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. 2017 Budget Committee

Mayor Silver asked for volunteers from the Council to sit on the 2017 Budget Committee. Councilwoman Thompson and Council President Asay volunteered.

9. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilwoman Thompson reported that the new steps at the Camp Meeting Park are starting to go in. There was concern that the height was higher than the previous steps. Councilwoman Thompson spoke to the mason working on the steps. He explained that the reason for the height of the steps is because the prior steps were getting a lot of water runoff. This makes them slippery because it causes algae to grow on them. It also denigrates the quality of the material. The steps needed to be about 4 inches higher so the water would not run off of the park and onto the steps.

Councilwoman Thompson said the Chief Financial Officer provided a revenue report for receipt of fees and collections year to date through September. The report is a benchmark to see if the Borough is in line with where it is expected to be with certain accounts. The report indicates if collections are above or below what was collected last year at this time. A lot of areas are on target or above. A couple of areas are below target. However, when the totals are all combined, the collection rate is at 99% of revenues. Councilwoman Thompson thanked, through the Mayor, the Chief Financial Officer for the report. It was very informative and helpful.

The Chief Financial Officer has confirmed that the waterfront access fund, which was asked about by Mr. Kempton during a previous meeting, is still on deposit. The funds are still available.

Councilwoman Thompson reported that she had a follow up discussion with Mr. Cocco regarding code enforcement issues. She stated that they are “a real bear to wrestle” and that we need diligence. She appreciates his time and focus on these issues.

Councilwoman Snow thanked Councilman Berglund for graciously stepping up and taking her place in going to the conference with Mary Judge. Due to a conflict in scheduling, Councilwoman Snow could not go.

Trunk or Treat is definitely scheduled. The PTO is handling that. The bonfire is the 22nd from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The flyer will go out through the schools the week of the event. The following week is the Halloween Parade at 11 a.m. A flyer will go out through the school the week of the event.

Mary Judge commented that Suez Water is giving out grants for water use and reuse. She would like to get a rehydration station in order for people to be able to refill their refillable water bottles. This will reduce the use of plastic water bottles which are a tremendous environmental disaster. The water would come from our water system and there would be a nominal cost to replace the water filters. Ms. Judge asked permission to apply for the \$1,000 grant if there weren't matching funds required. The Mayor said she could apply for the grant.

Councilman Pillion reported that the Island Heights Police Department has launched its annual food drive and Toys for Tots. Bring food or toys to the lobby of the Police Department. He commends Lt. Kevin Arnold and the members of the police department for hosting the drive again for the 18th year.

Councilman Pillion reported that the Fire Company is holding their annual 50/50 cash raffle. Tickets can be purchased from any fireman or at the Island Heights Fire Company on Friday beginning at 7:00 p.m. It is a very important fundraiser for the fire company. The raffle date is November 23rd.

Councilman Pillion has spoken with Brook Kelly Smith, the woman who appeared before Council and lives on West End Avenue. She is pursuing an effort to identify areas where the speed limit should be lowered in town. She will make another presentation at a future Council meeting when she has her data compiled.

Councilman Bendel had no report.

Councilman Berglund had no report.

Council President Asay remarked that the Borough's speed limit ordinance, 7-11, indicates that “the following shall be the speed limits in town” but it was never completed. He said this is an opportunity to see this through and have the recommendations of the Lieutenant, the residents and other interested parties to come up with a list. The State law is already 25 miles per hour in a residential area. Maybe the streets that should be above 25 miles per hour should be identified in the ordinance with all other streets being 25 miles per hour.

Mayor Silver read a letter from Comcast formally accepting Ordinance 2016-10 granting the renewal of municipal consent to Comcast of New Jersey, LLC. They will petition the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities for issuance of a Renewal Certificate of Approval in this matter.

Council President Asay thanked Bob MacNeal and Mr. Bendel for their assistance in drafting the ordinance. It will be interesting to get the government access channel up and running whenever the Board of Public Utilities approves it.

10. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Maureen DeSanto, 15 Fletcher Avenue – Her daughter, Lauren, ran a fund raiser through her school for Locks of Love. She donated 10 inches of her hair to children with cancer. Unfortunately, only Lauren and Maureen got their hair cut and were the only donations made. Lauren would like to run another fundraiser in November. She asked if there was a way for them to get the word out. She said last time she went through the school and it didn't generate much interest. Councilman Pillion asked if she would like to put something in the Borough's newsletter.

Councilwoman Snow asked her to explain how Locks of Love works. Mrs. DeSanto said that last year her daughter wanted to donate her hair to children with cancer. She had long hair and wanted to donate it to use for wigs. Locks of Love takes the hair, it has to be at least ten inches, and they make wigs for children who lose their hair due to chemotherapy. They also take monetary donations because it is a not-for-profit organization. The hair dresser in town at Ambiance Salon didn't charge her for Lauren's haircut and charged Maureen \$40 and donated 50% to Locks of Love. The hairdresser said that she is willing to do it again at 50% for a haircut.

Lauren and Maureen will branch off on their own and run this fundraiser themselves. Councilwoman Snow suggested reaching out to Central Regional School because it seems to be a popular charity for teenagers and young adults. She asked if they had some timeline in mind. The hairdresser said that sometime in November would be good. Mrs. DeSanto said she would call and get dates. Councilwoman Snow will reach out to the High School and see if something could be circulated through the High School.

Tim Paar, President of the Island Heights Volunteer Fire Company read a letter to the Mayor, Councilmembers and the Chief Financial Officer which said the following:

“We are writing to you on behalf of the Island Heights volunteer Fire Company to request a meeting with the Mayor, our liaison and the CFO, to discuss the Fire Company’s budget for 2017.

Due to the current issues with our building and our current financial situation, it is important that we work with the Mayor and the town Council to come up with a plan on keeping the Fire Company operating efficiently in Island Heights.

We look forward to the opportunity to meet with you to discuss our operating budget. Please contact us to discuss your availability. Thank you for your time.”

Signed by Timothy Paar, President and Andy Parks, Chief.

Bob MacNeil, 237 Ocean Avenue said that it was his understanding that when construction happened they needed to put up a silt fence. The house (Stewart’s House) never put up a silt fence. There was a downpour and their front and side yard washed down the street. There is a lot of sand and silt that washed down the street. The Mayor said the construction official needs to address this and have them clean it up.

Mary Judge said that the tree ordinance seems to be unenforceable. Is there any other way to fix the tree ordinance to make it enforceable? Council President Asay told Joe Cocco to send him his suggestions and he will rewrite the ordinance.

Joe Cocco, Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer, said he is seeing a lot more residents coming in for Tree Permits. Councilman Bendel stated, requiring permits for removing trees is not saving trees it is just making money.

11. ADJOURNMENT 8:10 P.M.

First: Bendel Second: Berglund 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 Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- General Election** is Tuesday, November 8, 2016, vote at the borough hall from 6:00 AM until 8:00 PM. **Municipal offices are closed this day.**
- The **Island Heights Board of Health** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at 9:00 AM held at the borough hall.
- The **Island Heights Board of Education** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, November 9, 2016 at 6:15 PM held at the Island Heights Grade School, 115 Summit Avenue, Island Heights.
- The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, November 9, 2016 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- The **Island Heights Planning Board** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, November 10, 2016 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- All municipal offices will be closed** on Friday, November 11, 2016 in observance of Veteran’s Day.
- The **Island Heights Environmental Committee** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- The **Central Regional School Board** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Board of Education building, Forest Hills Parkway, Bayville.
- All municipal offices will be closed** on Thursday and Friday, November 24 and 25, 2016 in observance of Thanksgiving.
- The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, November 29, 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.

mayorcouncil@islandheightsboro.com

Council Member John Bendel

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