

Mayor and Council Newsletter

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Council Meeting February 14, 2017

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 was advertised in the Asbury Park Press on December 21, 2016 and was also posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building.

Pledge to the flag and moment of silence.

1. ROLL CALL

Councilmember Asay	Councilmember Snow
Councilmember Bendel	Councilmember Thompson
Council President Berglund	Councilmember Wudzki
Mayor Silver	

	Asay	Bendel	Berglund	Snow	Thompson	Wudzki	Mayor Silver	Atty O'Connell
Present	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Absent								

2. PUBLIC HEARING FOR FILING A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE APPLICATION WITH THE NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, GREEN ACRES PROGRAM TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE RIVER AVENUE BOARDWALK.

Mayor Silver explained that the hearing was cancelled to do job cost estimates exceeding anticipated costs. This grant will not be pursued at this time.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Due to the large amount of people in the audience the Metered Parking "Item for Discussion" was moved to the "Public Comment" portion of the meeting.

Betty Jo Leahey, 110 Oak Avenue, stated she was a member of the Yacht Club. She is concerned about the Junior Olympic Regatta. She said that parents would have a hard time watching their children, dealing with the boats and feeding meters all day long. She also thinks it will discourage them from wanting to come. It is a big event and it is a privilege for Island Heights to be part of this event. In addition, the Yacht Club pays for a lot of things in the town like beach badges, tennis badges, crabbing badges.

For some of the older members the only free entertainment and form of enjoyment is to be able to sit under the pavilion. Some can't walk further than the edge of River Avenue. If they have to feed meters all day they won't be able to afford to enjoy it.

She also expressed concern that the meters would force people to park up the side streets. She said it would create a huge problem. She said that when she worked for the Municipal Court, people were angrier about getting parking violations than drunk driving violations. She fears that it would create more problems for the Municipal Court.

Frank Parisi, 15 Jaynes Avenue, had questions on how the metered parking would work financially. He would like to see something in writing and have a discussion on what the costs would be. He understands that there are certain fixed costs for maintenance on the boardwalk such as lawsuits, electricity, maintenance, etc. Will the parking structure generate enough money to offset that structure? Will the Borough net enough money in the end?

Mayor Silver said that he did some rough math of what could be generated at peak season. He said there was 2400 feet of parking area along the street. 20 foot parking spaces comes to 120 total spaces. If you made \$25 per space in peak season, meaning during the summer time when there are solid cars around the entire curve from west to east, would be approximately \$3,000 per day.

Mayor Silver reminded everyone that this is a subject that is in its infancy. It is only an item for discussion. There is nothing that is being pursued for a resolution. The Mayor has not spoken to any vendors nor manufacturers of the parking pay stations.

Council President Berglund said that he had received many emails, as had the rest of the Council. He said most of them spoke about all the parking meters sticking up. That is not what you will be seeing down here. This is paid parking and it is done with the numbers painted onto the asphalt.

John Columbus, 38 Highland Avenue, wanted to know if there would be an off-season, as they do in Seaside Park, which would make it easier for locals and seniors. Mayor Silver said that maybe there could be, however, this is only

the third time this subject has been spoken about and no decisions have been made. Mr. Columbus said the centralized parking meters were a disaster for the first year in Seaside Park. They had to have a police officer help people muddle through. Mayor Silver said that there would be a learning curve. Mr. Columbus suggested that should be considered.

Mr. Columbus also said sometimes people would have to walk quite far to pay at the kiosks. Mayor Silver responded by saying that is why people are here, to walk on the boardwalk. Mr. Columbus said some people park their car and set out their beach chair and sit right by their car.

George Hanna, 185 Ocean Avenue, asked who was going to police this. Mayor Silver told him it would be the Police Department. Mr. Hanna wanted to know if the department was going to have enough staff. The Mayor explained that the parking pay stations are all "smart" now. They go to an application on an iPad or a Smartphone. It lets the officer know when the space number was paid for and when the meter has run out. When it expires it sends an automatic notice to the officer on his smart device saying the space number has expired. There is no patrolling. Mr. Hanna said that it will now require the officer to go and write the ticket. He wanted to know if that will that require additional officers. The Mayor said that might be very possible. Mr. Hanna said that should be included in consideration of the cost. The Mayor said absolutely, but again, it is only the third discussion regarding this issue.

Scott Nesson, 174 Summit Avenue, said that the Borough will be assuming all these expenses against the potential revenue on the road. Mayor Silver interjected that \$3,000 a day per space for 30 days is \$90,000 a month. Mr. Nesson said that that may be in the middle of the summer on the weekend but not in the middle of the week. He walks the boardwalk. The Mayor said that in the middle of the week it is packed. The Mayor said he also walks the boardwalk in the summer time volunteering as a badge checker. Mr. Nesson asked the Mayor when he walks the boardwalk. The Mayor responded that he walks the boardwalk morning, afternoon and evenings and so does his wife.

Dorie Leonardi, 154 Ocean Avenue, asked if the purpose was totally to bring in revenue or partially to lessen the amount of visitors. Mayor Silver said it was not to lessen the amount of visitors. The taxpayers pay for the trash cleanup, the maintenance of the boardwalk and the vandalism on the second floor of the pavilion. The estimates he has gotten for the boardwalk rehabilitation has been in the excess of millions of dollars. When you walk down the boardwalk it springs, it doesn't have a solid feel to it. The structure underneath is not being supported anymore. A lot of the damage did occur from Sandy, which should have been addressed by FEMA. Things fell through the cracks and we did not obtain funding from FEMA for the boardwalk. Either the taxpayer continues to pay for not just residents, but people from out of town. People from all over the state and other states come here to walk the boardwalk. The Mayor told Ms. Leonardi that if she feels that it is fine for the residents of Island Heights to foot the bill for other people to come and enjoy, so be it. If everyone thinks it is okay for us to finance it and for others to come here without generating any other revenue source, fine. He said he is trying to come up with something that helps offset the cost of the boardwalk.

Ms. Leonardi asked if the taxpayers will get some kind of permit. Mayor Silver said of course they would. All residents of the town will get an annual window sticker and hang tags for the rear view mirror when guests come.

Lynn Pendleton, 249 Ocean Avenue, questioned the revenue generation of \$3,000 per day. Mayor Silver replied it was just a rough estimate he came up with. Mrs. Pendleton said she questions it because so many residents with permits and Yacht Club visitors will take up those parking spaces which won't be generating revenue. Mayor Silver said that he has observed that the Yacht Club members do not take up a lot of real estate. Mrs. Pendleton said they do during an event. The Mayor said, "Of course, it is like Fourth of July."

Mrs. Pendleton asked if the Mayor could image that she lived in that area and she is coming home with a car full of groceries. There are all kinds of people who don't want to pay parked illegally on Jaynes Avenue. Would she have to stop and call police and say come tow the car away so I can park my car? Mayor Silver said that she would not because there would be signs posted on all the north to south roads saying "Permit Parking Only." If they don't have a resident sticker or a guest hang tag when the officer makes his rounds they will get ticketed. Mrs. Pendleton said that still doesn't help her park her car. She also wanted to know if it is going to be done for the boardwalk will it be done for Summit Avenue Beach and Longpoint? Mayor Silver said he didn't know yet. Mrs. Pendleton said that it would stand to reason because those are two places out-of-towners use. Mayor Silver said it might be a good idea to start down that way and work our way to River Avenue.

Gail Cudia, 11 Jaynes Avenue, stated that 25% of the people who live in that area do not have driveways. Her concern is that the people who are required to pay will encroach on their parking spots. Despite the fact that she is being told that it is electronic, it will take manpower to police the streets that don't have numbered parking spots. She thinks any funds generated will be negated by that. She said that there are many ordinances by the Borough regarding crabbing, fishing and trash. If those were enforced there wouldn't be a need for paid parking. Mayor Silver replied that we have volunteers and paid people in the summertime that do enforce the crabbing and recreation badges. Ms. Cudia said she has called because there were people violating the well signed area of crabbing and fishing and nothing is done about it. Mayor Silver said that he appreciates her calling. He would like more people to do that. He said they are not locals doing this, they are people coming from out of town. They like it because it is safe, it is a great view, it is very quiet and they come to enjoy it. He has experienced what she experienced down there.

Mayor Silver said if there are any other solutions beside parking pay stations he would welcome suggestions. We have talked about a farm market and having gourmet lunch wagons come to town. We need another source of revenue beside the taxpayer. Ms. Cudia told the Mayor to enforce the ordinances we already have. Mayor Silver said that the existing ordinance do not generate recurring monthly revenue like you think it would, by having something that would have a dollar amount that would be generated weekly, monthly, and annually on a constant basis. Mrs. Cudia said that she thinks it would improve the quality of life in the area and at \$100 a pop, when she is down there and encounters six and seven people on the curb alone. Mayor Silver said if she is fine footing the bill for everything it takes to maintain our open boardwalk it is fine, we won't do it. It will just be more burden on the taxpayer with nothing to offset.

Jim Jablonski, 186 Central Avenue, wanted to know if the boardwalk was extended through funding by the County. Mayor Silver said we are still paying for it. The County did the work. The Borough has a loan that we are still paying back. Mr. Jablonski asked if the County was involved in any of the ownership or maintenance of the boardwalk. The Mayor told him no, that it is the responsibility of the town and the County did the construction work. The Borough has a Schedule C Agreement with the County and we hire them as needed to do work here in the town.

Angela Whitehill, 218 Ocean Avenue, suggested that the Borough use Camp Meeting Ground for the Farmers Market and Gourmet Food Trucks if the Borough decides to do that.

Lynn Pendleton, 249 Ocean Avenue, said that River Avenue is a County Road. Would we have to share the revenue with the County? The Mayor said we would not have to share the revenue.

An unidentified resident stated that a few years ago this question came up before Council, according to a resident who was a Council Member about 10 years ago. That person indicated that the County would not give permission. Is the County going to allow this? Mayor Silver said he already spoke to the County and they do not have an issue. The resident wanted reassurance that the County would not have an issue such as asking to be paid back for payback to pave the street or clear the snow or anything like that. Mayor Silver said the County would not want any payback.

Brian Gabriel, 185 Summit Avenue, said he was dead set against metered parking for all the reasons mentioned at this meeting. He thinks it will look aesthetically ugly to have parking numbers and lines up and down River Avenue when we live in an historic community. The Yacht Club is affected more than just the Junior Olympics. It affects events at the pavilion when there are concerts down there.

Enforcement is a problem. We hired part-time officers a short time ago because they didn't have enough officers to do what they currently have to do. Are we going to have to create a parking authority? He believes the residents deserve a full schematic of what the revenue potential could be, good, bad, or indifferent. The 30 days at \$3,000 a day doesn't cut it because it probably rains two days out of the week. The Mayor told him that he just gave a rough estimate tonight. He can do the math, it's real easy addition.

Mr. Gabriel said that you can look at the math and it can look real fluffy and good, but the reality of it is that it is not that good to offset the cost. The Mayor said that he doesn't even know what the cost of the pay stations will be right now. Everybody is here like we are making a resolution to adopt this. We are not. It's a discussion.

Mr. Gabriel said that there was a line item in the budget last year that was left empty for parking meters. Councilmember Asay confirmed there was an unfunded line item in the budget for parking meters. Mr. Gabriel said that the Council needs to explore all their revenue items, but all the residents need to be made aware of the pros and cons before they do anything. Mayor Silver told him that the residents would be made aware of everything. There are no back door dealings going on here. It's all open conversation. Mr. Gabriel responded saying he did not suggest that.

Justin Shearer, 7 Simpson Avenue, is against the meters. This will directly affect his home as he does not have a driveway. He stated that all the people at the meeting would be an indication of what the general population would want. The Mayor replied that there are 950 homes with 3,000 residents here and the meeting would not make a good statistic.

Bill Hummel, 18 Ocean Bend, said he has spoken to a number of people and they all had the same objections that were being heard tonight. He said that the financial aspects need to be flushed out. Residents should know what the revenue was, such as how much the Borough spent on lawsuits due to "trip and fall," maintenance, etc. They should also know the cost of enforcement, such as \$50 for a ticket and the cost of the pay stations per hour.

Mayor Silver said that we don't even know what the rate would be because Island Heights is such a prime location. Is it worth \$1.00 per hour to be here? Councilmember Snow said it was worth more. A discussion ensued about the amount of money Seaside charges for parking. An unidentified resident said it is a dollar on weekdays and a dollar fifty an hour on weekends. Mayor Silver said again, it is just a discussion. He is coming up with figures on what pay stations, annual maintenance would cost and other monthly fees. He doesn't have all of that data right now.

The Mayor said he has asked the governing body to come up with solutions to generate additional revenue like the Fire Company has done. They have rented out their parking lot to Lester Glenn to park cars in their parking lot because they are looking to generate additional revenue for the Fire Company. Councilmember Snow added that when that happened the Borough received a petition with fifty signatures on it from neighbors who were unhappy about that. Mayor Silver said the people that live around that area now have to look at a parking area full of Hyundais and they didn't move here for that, but they accepted it.

Angela Whitehill, 218 Ocean Avenue, said that it seems people aren't really getting the whole thing. This is not Seaside Heights, Avalon, Atlantic City or Toms River. This is a lovely, quiet, quaint, little town that doesn't want parking meters. We are not going to be charming or quaint with parking meters. Mayor Silver said that there will not be meters every 20 feet. Mrs. Whitehill said that Angela Lansbury will never move here.

Barbara Parisi, 15 Jaynes Avenue, said she has gone to four different towns in the past three days and all had the solar powered parking pay stations. Westfield has a parking lot that has a pay station that you have to use even to run into the drug store. The three closest pay stations were not functioning so you had to pay at the opposite end and walk all the way across the parking lot to pick up your prescription or run the risk of getting a ticket. They will give you a ticket even if you are sitting in your car. Additionally, she has no driveway, at least two days a week she is not permitted to park on her own street in front of her own house. People who don't live in town park there. She has called the police and they just walk right past and don't do anything about it. Mayor Silver said that Lt. Arnold was not at the meeting to be able to address that issue. She says she already has a problem parking in front of her house and

this would make it worse. She doesn't think a parking fine for someone parking in front of her house is going to make someone not park there.

Councilmember Snow commended everyone for coming out on Valentine's Day evening when they could be doing something much more romantic than sitting with the Council. She wanted to thank everyone for the emails and letters that came to their mail addresses. A lot of thought and effort went into this and the residents brought up excellent questions. She thinks the biggest misunderstanding that was out there was that tonight Council was going to vote this through and no one would have a say. She said that is not how we operate. The biggest thing is that everyone has excellent ideas and solutions. What the Mayor and Council are looking for are more solutions and feedback from everyone. Councilmember Snow asked how many people in the audience were Yacht Club Members. There were a large number in attendance that raised their hands. She thinks public discussion at a Council Meeting might not represent the whole town. She said we are hearing a lot from people along the water front but she thinks that the waterfront people aren't the only individuals in the town that use the waterfront. Other people experience problems here such as people along the side streets. Also, people from the other side of town, the northern part, need to be heard from. We do need to create more revenue in this town and Council's desire is to do it without burdening the taxpayer. What we need is to hear back from the public.

Joe Connors, 106 Central Avenue, said aside from being a Yacht Club Member, he lives in town. The idea of putting numbers and pay stations is very tacky.

Dorie Leonardi, a Trustee for Island Heights Cultural and Heritage Society said that they are trying to maintain the character of Island Heights and they find that it is rapidly changing i.e., the parking lot in Wanamaker Complex with all the lines and arrows; down at the beach has big arrows going in at the beach and all the paving that's been done on Boy Scout Island. A lot of it has come to their attention as contributing to changing the flavor of Island Heights and she doesn't know at this point how she feels about the parking meters. She understands the need for revenue and if in fact, the amount of money the Mayor is talking about is somewhat accurate, she understands how that would feed our coffers.

Mayor Silver told the audience that the Borough has received a letter from the County saying that the Borough of Island Heights has been eleven years without a revaluation and there be a town-wide assessment done this year and implemented in 2018. The tax burden will continue to be on the taxpayer without offset from any other revenue source.

Ms. Leonardi said that she is still concerned about what it will look like. Mayor Silver said she can get an idea of what it looks like in downtown Toms River. Ms. Leonardi said she already finds it offensive here, and down at the beach, finding all this stuff painted. It seems unnecessary. Mayor Silver said it could be a small number on the curb. Ms. Leonardi asked if the Council would take into consideration the numbers being more discrete. She would like it quieter. She doesn't want big white lines like in the parking lot at the municipal building. Councilmember Snow said that she thinks it is nice having the lines because it gives better guidance where people are supposed to park. She understands the aesthetic and she understands that we are a unique and special town, but were are trying to find some way to stay unique, beautiful and aesthetically pleasing and also control what goes on along the boardwalk. Many people complain about parties that break out with large group of people who set out and picnic along there. If we can find a happy medium, that would make everyone happy.

Jim Jablonski, 186 Central Avenue, told Council they need more signage along the boardwalk saying no wheeled vehicles, no pets, no fishing or crabbing. They should have signs at each light post. He sees people walking their dogs urinating on lampposts and with enough acid, the Borough will be replacing the lampposts. The Mayor indicated he was concerned about sign pollution. Mr. Jablonski said that the signs should be small and mounted on the polls. Additionally, there should be no parking in front of the post office and people do it all the time. He recommended placing an officer there to issue violations to bring in more revenue. Mayor Silver said he has signs on order for no parking.

John Columbus, 38 Highland Avenue, mentioned that there are wedding parties with big limo buses and maybe to generate more revenue, charge \$100 or \$1,000 to park by the Pavilion. He said he has a family member with low vision. He drops off that family member and leaves immediately after he drops the family member off at the post office. He drives back around and picks up that person when they come out of the post office. To say that he cannot drop a low vision person off is ridiculous. Mayor Silver said, again, Lt. Arnold was not present to address any issues regarding fire lanes, etc. Mayor Silver said that this issue was deviating away from the parking meter issue.

Jim Jablonski, 186 Central Avenue, said his issue was not with dropping anyone off.

Ellen Columbus, 38 Highland Avenue, asked if the Council was pursuing a farm market and asked what kind of revenue that would bring. Mayor Silver said he had no idea. Councilmember Wudzki said she has a call into a Councilmember in Berkley to get some information on how they run theirs and what type of revenue it generates. She has not heard back as of yet. Mrs. Columbus said that she thought it would be a more positive thing that would bring people in and bring people together. The Mayor agreed and said we could charge for parking, too.

Terry Kempton, 76 River Avenue, asked if the goal of the parking meters was to pay for the maintenance of the boardwalk. Mayor Silver said it could even fund other entities in the town. Mr. Kempton suggested getting rid of the boardwalk. When the original boardwalk was there, everything was fine. When the grant was given to do the addition to the boardwalk, it's been nothing but a problem. Maybe another way of looking at it would be to get rid of the boardwalk. Many people in the audience agreed. Mayor Silver said we have a half mile of boardwalk that everyone comes to enjoy and taxpayers foot the clean up and grounds maintenance. The estimate for rehabbing the boardwalk is in the millions of dollars. It has been eighteen years since the boardwalk has been put down. It is aging like anything

else and needs maintenance. It must be paid for somehow. He is looking for out-of-towners to pay for the boardwalk instead of the taxpayers.

An audience member asked what the next step will be. Mayor Silver said he will get more data on what the pay stations cost, how they are maintained, how the manufacturer would perform service on them, etc. The audience member asked how he will let the residents know. Will he notify the residents in advance that this will be an agenda item? Mayor Silver said he would let them know.

Councilmember Thompson said that members of the Council received quite a number of emails and she asked that the Borough Clerk gathers all the emails and letters received so they are part of the record. She thinks that it is important in further discussions that the people who are immediately effected by how this would happen with proposed hand tags and parking stickers need to be given consideration.

Councilmember Snow explained that she had asked for a show of hands on how many audience members present were from the Yacht Club because they are directly impacted. She would like to see this spread around the rest of the town. She would like to reach out to the major committees around town, like the fire department. If there could be one contact from every committee around town we could spread it around, which would be an excellent idea.

Councilmember Bendel also thanked everyone for sending him emails. Councilmember Bendel said that if you put the money issue aside, he cannot see administering metered parking and doesn't support it. Councilmember Asay agreed with Councilmember Bendel. He believes the administration would be overwhelming especially given the staffing that the Borough is able to afford. More importantly, it changes the character of the community. It is a different kind of community when you have a pay system. He doesn't think it is Island Heights and he won't support it. Mayor Silver said that was fine as long as he doesn't mind additional tax increases to maintain the riverfront boardwalk with any offset from visitors from other towns that like to walk the property. Councilmember Asay said that we have done it for a lot of years. We have held the line and he thinks we can manage.

An unidentified resident said that the volume of the people coming into town before the boardwalk was extended was a lot less than it is now. Perhaps the best solution would be to eliminate the new part of the boardwalk and maybe that would eliminate the volume of people. Eliminating the boardwalk extension would be less of a maintenance issue and a lawsuit issue. It would be easier to maintain the smaller boardwalk.

The discussion of the Parking Stations closed and representatives of the Camp Meeting Restoration Association gave a presentation as follows:

Judith Carluccio, 100 Laurel Avenue, member of the Camp Meeting Restoration Association, said the new staircase is complete. She showed pictures of the completed stair project. More than 50 people came to the ribbon cutting. She reported that many people also came and helped them plant. Mrs. Carluccio showed before and after pictures of the staircase. They will be completing the retaining wall around March 25th. Mayor Silver mentioned that public works is dropping off boatloads of soil there. Mrs. Carluccio said that Jon Brodbeck has been doing that to prepare the ground.

During the ribbon cutting they sold \$1,500 worth of memorial celebration trees to plant. They are very precious to the people who bought them because they are a tribute. Now the Association is turning their attention to the grounds. Jon Brodbeck has been their hero and he is now spreading topsoil for planting the trees and other plantings. They also have the plants that were put in by generous volunteers in the fall. There are lots of plantings along the front of the meeting ground.

Mrs. Carluccio reported that they have been in conversation with Jon Brodbeck who has offered, with permission from the Council, to use his expertise and labor to put in a sprinkler system. Council President Berglund stated that was incorrect. The permission of the Council has not been given to put in a sprinkler system. Mrs. Carluccio said that Jon had offered to put in the sprinkler system "subject to permission from the Council." Council President Berglund said the permission has been denied and that Jon has been offered another avenue. He hoped that Jon had expressed that to the Association. Mrs. Carluccio said he hadn't. Mayor Silver said that the Borough will be supplying water service, but Council President Berglund hasn't spoken to the Association about other options for providing water. The Mayor said that the Borough will supply a yard hydrant or hose bed. Mrs. Carluccio said that wouldn't work because it would mean that someone would spend hours and hours standing there watering. Jon had given them an estimate of \$1,500 or less for a sprinkler system.

The installation would be supervised by a person who has been doing sprinkler systems for over 25 years and is an expert in this area. The Association would pay for materials and the labor would be supplied by the Borough through Jon Brodbeck. Council President Berglund said that he had given Jon Brodbeck instructions that he is not to use his people during regular hours to put in a sprinkler system. If there were people who work for him that have expertise that want to deal with the Association directly, he should encourage that. Lynn Pendelton asked the Council if they realized that they are doing this for the town. The sprinkler system is benefiting everyone who lives in the town. She asked, "Don't public works employees work on town property?" Council President Berglund said that right now the people working for the town are working on the work they are assigned to do on a regular basis. They are fully booked. Ms. Pendelton said that is not what Jon tells them. Council President Berglund stated that Jon tells him that he is short staffed. Mrs. Carluccio was concerned that they would have to pay for labor if the project was done after hours. She impressed upon Council that the Association has not asked Council for anything and they have paid for the whole project, except the sidewalk replacement, which was gifted to them by Council.

Mayor Silver said a plethora of hoses was used to irrigate the community garden. Council President Berglund said he dug the hoses in himself. Mrs. Carluccio asked Council President Berglund if he would do that at the Camp Meeting Ground. Council President Berglund asked "Would you?" Mayor Silver said that the irrigation issue will not be solved at the meeting tonight. He is supplying the water service by the taxpayer to the Camp Meeting Grounds.

Councilmember Snow said that this is an issue of which they were supposed to have a meeting and flush out. The meeting never happened. She said that there needs to be a meeting to sit down and discuss this outside of the Council meeting. Mayor Silver has arranged with Public Works to get a material list together for a hose bib tied into the water main there. She said we are going to work on the irrigation issue, which won't be resolved tonight.

Mrs. Carluccio asked Council President Berglund if it would be a problem for him if Jon says that he has the time during work hours to install the sprinkler system on town time. Council President Berglund reiterated that Jon tells him that he doesn't have the time to get his regular work done during the work day. Mayor Silver said that a machine is needed to put the irrigation system in the ground. The ladies of the Association in unison said they will rent it. Lynn Pendleton said that the Association has raised \$21,000 for the project from generous town people. They put \$9,500 into the steps. They put in \$500 of their own money towards plants and miscellaneous things they have done. They've raised \$1,500 for trees to be planted on the property. They will continue to raise money for shrubs because the banks still need to be finished with shrubs. They have people who volunteer to plant them. They have a person on staff, who is a professional, who knows how to plant trees. They are ready to go. They have \$11,000 sitting in the bank and they can do this if they can use the town's people to do this. They still have the wall to do and they still want to upgrade the pavilion.

Councilmember Snow asked if they could schedule a time to meet because there have been very fragmented conversations. Mrs. Carluccio said that her position is to talk to Jon. Mayor Silver said that he must communicate with Jon.

John Columbus, 38 Highland, said the project has emerged recently. The park is historically important to the heritage of the town, which needs to be taken into account. The goals are wonderful. The stairways need to lead to something. At the same time he would request more information about the background of the Association. He wants to know the genesis of the Association and if it is an open membership organization.

Mrs. Carluccio said that it started when she was new in town and she would walk through the park. She thought, "What a beautiful place this is." It is a natural bluff and a place for people who don't own a home by the river to sit by the river. She remembers speaking to Angela about wishing they could do something to revitalize this very special place. She learned while being on the Board of PETO that the Camp Meeting Ground was really the birth of Island Heights. So it is a very special and precious place.

Mr. Columbus asked about the Association and what it was an outgrowth of. Mrs. Carluccio replied that it was an outgrowth of the Garden Club.

Councilmember Snow said that we will talk about when they could all get together to discuss this issue and make it work. Councilmember Bendel asked if this was Borough property. The answer was yes. He asked the Association if it was just assumed that it was okay to put a sprinkler system in there. Council President Berglund said that they turned down the sprinkler system months ago. Councilmember Bendel said that he thinks a sprinkler system is a bad idea.

Linda Baxter, 34 Highland, is one of the people who helped plant some of the shrubs in the fall. She said that this means a lot to her. The things that were planted will not survive without water. They are running a close race against time. It won't be long before it is hot enough to fry the plants. There were people who contributed \$100 or \$150 for memorial trees who do not want to see those trees die. It is important to have a meeting and do it in a timely manner to bring the irrigation to the plants.

Angela Whitehill, 218 Ocean Avenue, has been told by very good sources who have been here a very long time, that there were many dogwoods planted on Camp Meeting Ground. They were gorgeous but they all died because there was no water. She asked why we have this gorgeous property and not doing anything about it.

Mayor Silver said that we will resolve this issue in a timely manner. Next Monday Borough Hall is closed due to President's Day. He asked the ladies of the Association to come in the following Monday, February 27th at 6 p.m. and meet with everyone involved.

Angela Whitehill said that the Camp Meeting Grounds would be a perfect place for a Farm Market. Cultural and Heritage have a garden tour on June 10th and they are going to be making it available for a string band and refreshments. She said that maybe they could put in place gourmet food trucks so the town can get some money. When the place is beautified people might want to have their weddings there.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A. January 24, 2017 Meeting Minutes

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

5. RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2017-28 Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI)

Mayor Silver explained that this is the Recreation and Open Space Inventory List for Green Acres. Our boardwalk, Boy Scout Island, Long Point, Camp Meeting Ground, Wanamaker Complex and Summit Avenue Beach are all on the ROSI List. It is housekeeping that the Borough must do to show that we are maintaining it as an open space for public use.

Councilmember Snow said that if she understands it correctly, you can go to the Green Acres website and look up the County and the Municipality and it shows a map of all the Green Acres Open Space Properties. Mayor Silver stated that Green Acres needed an update to show that we still have them, that we maintain them and we haven't sold them off.

Public Comment - None

Roll Call

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

Resolution 2017-29 Approving Special Events Application for Toms River Kiwanis Daybreak 5K Running Race to be held on May 6, 2017

Mayor Silver said that when they have this type of event, we have to have additional police protection. The Borough of Island Heights does not receive any additional revenue from having this event. It all goes to the Kiwanis. Council President Berglund said that this used to be called the River to the Bay 5K and they have renamed it the Daybreak 5K.

Public Comment - None

Roll Call

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

Resolution 2017-30 Authorizing Change Order Number 1 for a Net Decrease of \$3,636.13 for Simpson Avenue Road Improvements Project #13086.00

Mayor Silver explained that this closes out what was done for the paving project and curving along Simpson Avenue going from north to south.

Public Comment - None

Roll Call

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

Resolution 2017-31 Providing for the Hiring of Crossing Guards and Fixing Their Compensations

Public Comment – A member of the audience asked the Mayor to explain what this item is.

Council Member Snow asked if the resolution was maxing out the total number of hours worked at 25 hours for each individual crossing guard or for the total hours for both crossing guards. A few members of the Council stated that it

was per person. Mayor Silver said that the resolution was hiring the crossing guards for a period of one year commencing on February 15, 2017 and ending on February 14, 2018.

A member of the audience asked if having the crossing guards was a State requirement. Council President Berglund replied that it was. Councilmember Asay said the crossing guards already work for us but we are just fulfilling the legal requirements of the State that the governing body appoint them annually. Councilmember Snow said it was just formalizing their appointment.

Councilmember Thompson asked if this was something that the School Board could take on in the future. Mayor Silver said that it was the Borough's responsibility for now.

Roll Call

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

Resolution 2017-32 Awarding a Contract for Jaynes, River and Lake Avenue Water and Sanitary Sewer Improvements to Vollers Excavating and Construction, Inc.

James Priolo of Maser Engineering gave a synopsis of the project. He said the scope of work is to replace the water and sewer mains on Jaynes Avenue on the base bid. The base bid is the complete replacement of water and sewer mains on Jaynes Avenue including the service connections to all of the residential dwellings. When this contract is complete, the paving contract that has been on hold will follow that. The road will get a complete overlay.

The Mayor asked what the footage on the bid was. Mr. Priolo replied that 1,100 feet of sanitary sewer main and a similar amount of water main would be replaced. Mayor Silver said that the laterals that come off to all the homes for sanitary and city water will be replaced up to the clean out. This will be done prior to the paving project which was awarded to Earle Asphalt in 2016. The project was put on hold because the infrastructure was in need of replacement.

An audience member asked what time of year this would be done. The Mayor replied that it would be done in the spring. The audience member asked if it would be done before summer. The Mayor replied in the affirmative.

Another audience member asked who the successful bidder was. Mayor Silver told her that it was Vollers Excavating.

Peter Kier, 109 Oak Avenue, asked if the project was from end to end on Jaynes Avenue. Mayor Silver said that it was 1,100 feet on Jaynes Avenue from River to Lake Avenue. Mr. Kier asked if it included rainwater runoff. Council President Berglund said that the only rainwater he could recall was one that was along where the street crosses Ocean and goes underneath. The restoration of that area is not under this contract, but will be done under the paving contract.

Councilmember Thompson asked how we are paying for this. Mayor Silver said that it was money borrowed from a BAN. He also went on to say that the Chief Financial Officer told him that she was looking to refinance the Bond Anticipation Notes. Everything was going to be grouped back together and refinanced again within the next few months. This is a utility debt and it goes into our water and sewer capital expenses. Councilmember Thompson asked if this resets our interest payments. Mayor Silver said it does. Councilwoman Thompson asked if the asphalt resurfacing is under the Department of Transportation. Mayor Silver said the asphalt is under a grant from the Department of Transportation (DOT). The DOT pays 80% of the cost and we pay 20%. We do not have to pay the DOT grant back.

Councilmember Asay asked Mr. Priolo if the gas company is notified of this work and offered an opportunity to replace their linage under the street. Mr. Priolo said that if this is awarded, the gas company would be notified and would participate in the preconstruction meeting.

Councilmember Asay asked what evidence we have that these sewer lines need to be replaced. Council President Berglund said that we have had a resident complain at a Council Meeting that every time it rains the street fills with sewage. The resident was concerned that his children play in that street. There is also a problem with the lines getting plugged with hair roots from trees making it impossible to maintain a flow. They couldn't get a TV camera through because of the clog. Councilmember Asay asked if there was a way to sleeve it. The answer was no. Councilmember Asay asked if these kinds of costs are typical for this type of project. Mr. Priolo said yes. Councilmember Asay said that even without doing the add-on, we are at \$700,000 to do one of these streets and we have 5 or 6 more to fix. Mayor Silver said that it is \$691,000 for 1,100 feet. We have 9 miles of pipe in this town. The cost is staggering.

Jim Jablonski, 186 Central Avenue, asked if the new pipes were going to be more impervious to root invasion. Mr. Priolo said that they are standard PVC pipes and they will be more impervious to root invasion. Council President Berglund said the joints are longer and the o-rings are so much better than anything that used to be available. Mr. Jablonski asked if the company doing the work was responsible to replace the road surface to what it was prior. Mayor Silver said that they will build up an R-blend thickness and a rough asphalt thickness to Earle's specifications. Earle is going to come through and mill the road down again. This contractor needs to supply a base for the final paving contractor. They won't leave it like a wagon trail.

Public Comment
Roll Call

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

Resolution 2017-33 Authorizing the Submission of a Tonnage Grant Application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Mayor Silver explained that this was a housekeeping issue that is done every year. We get a certain dollar amount from the State. The more we recycle the more money we get back. Councilmember Thompson asked how much money we received last year. Mayor Silver said last year we got about \$6,300 and change. He is getting new recycling and trash receptacles and dog waste station receptacles for our parks and Post Office with some of the money we received last year.

A member of the audience asked why the receptacles were removed. The Mayor said that they were removed because of a recommendation from law enforcement arising out of the Seaside Park bombing.

Don Roberts wanted to know how many dog waste stations we will be getting. Mayor Silver said he thought there would be six locations for dog waste stations. A member of the audience said that he believed if you had a dog, it was your responsibility to pick up its waste and bring a bag with you versus getting to the bag location and there being no bags. As a dog owner you should be replacing bags if possible.

Councilmember Snow was approached by several residents when the dog waste stations disappeared who missed them very much. They even offered to volunteer to put bags in if need be. Most responsible dog walkers have their dog poop bags. It is for those situations where it is a particularly busy walk and you run out of bags.

Council President Berglund said you would be surprised at how many people, non-residents, pull up in front of his house and he will shout at them to pick it up. They basically say do whatever you want. Councilmember Wudzki said it is the same on River Avenue. She actually stopped walking her dog there because you wouldn't know what you would be stepping in. She believes that most of offenders are not residents. Mayor Silver said there is a \$100 fine for not picking up after your dog. Councilmember Snow said she and the Mayor receive emails of pictures of dog poop bags left behind. Mr. Roberts said that basically it boils down to enforcement. He said it is a Catch 22 because if he is walking his dog and he sees someone who is letting their dog go on the ground; it is his responsibility to pick up the phone. Certain people will say that it is 2 ½ blocks away to get a bag.

Councilmember Thompson asked if we have told Public Works that there will be more dog stations and that they need to timely empty them. She had gotten a lot of complaints about the waste stations being filled and wanted to know if the Department of Public Works was told to make the time to empty them. Mayor Silver said no. Councilmember Snow recommended a neighborhood watch. Mayor Silver said that he is running very lean in hiring part-time individuals. This year he is making provisions for more full time individuals in Public Works.

Bill Hummel, 18 Ocean Bend, suggested raising the fee for dog licenses. Mayor Silver said that a lot of the problem is people who are not residents are coming into town and letting their dogs go without picking it up. A fee on the residents will not help that.

An audience member said that there should be more signage.

Public Comment
Roll Call

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

Resolution 2017-34 Authorizing the Island Heights Police Department to Participate in the Law Enforcement Support Office Program (LESO)

Councilmember Asay explained that this is a program where our police department applies to receive grants that are low cost, surplus, Department of Defense military equipment. The State Legislature made a change that any such application requires approval of the governing body. There were concerns that police departments were acquiring equipment that the governing body didn't necessarily approve of. In our case the only equipment we are looking for is

high water equipment. We are not looking for any riot control equipment. In our case, all we look for is any high water trucks, Hummers, anything like that we can get, in case of flooding so we can get in and out of the Borough. We haven't been successful so far, but we saw some rigs that have potential. This is the governing body's approval to continue to pursue this kind of equipment when it becomes available.

Councilmember Thompson asked if there was specific equipment we were looking for. Councilmember Asay said there was no specific equipment at this point available or being contemplated. Councilmember Thompson asked if Council would know beforehand when it would become available. Councilmember Asay said that the timeline would be short. He said it would get to the Council for a final approval but we would have to indicate our intention to desire when it becomes available because it disappears quickly. Councilmember Thompson asked Councilmember Asay if he was the checkpoint as the police liaison. Councilmember Asay said he and the Mayor would both be checkpoints on whatever the Lieutenant would have in mind. Mayor Silver said the Lieutenant would have to generate a letter to the organization and we would get in the pool of what vehicles are available. We have done it in past years but haven't gotten lucky.

Public Comment - None
Roll Call

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

6. BILL LIST

Public Comment - None
Roll Call

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

7. PURCHASE ORDERS

A. Approving the Following Purchase Order:

Vendor: PowerDMS, Inc.
Item: PowerDMS0001 SDMS-AS
Amount: \$2,705.25

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

B. Approving the Following Purchase Order:

Vendor: ERS Fleet
Item: Plow Light Harness, Bearing, Vehicle Control Harness, Module, Harness, Adapter Harness, Job Supplies and labor for 2005 GMC Truck
Amount: \$1,448.92

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

C. Approving the Following Purchase Order:

Vendor: ERS Fleet
 Item: Clutch Brake, Clutch, Clutch Cable, Pilot Bearing
 On 1994 Mack RD688S
 Amount: \$1,907.75

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

D. Approving the Following Purchase Order

Vendor: Northern Tool & Equipment
 Item: Vestil DC Powered Jib Crane
 Amount: \$2,119.99

PURCHASE ORDER TABLED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

8. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

a. Parking Stations on River Avenue was addressed during the Public Comment section of this meeting.

9. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Wudzki said that Joe Cocco, Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer, asks to remind everyone again that if you are coming in for permits, you don't have to wait for Monday nights to come in. You can come in any time the office is open and pick up permits then. You can also leave a message for him so he can get back to you. That way everyone is not waiting until they see him on Monday night, coming in to pick up the permits and coming back a second time.

Councilmember Wudzki wanted to clarify her last Council report. Someone had commented to her about the referendum work. The \$740,000 amount she had mentioned for the summer project at the school included the 25% contingency amount.

Councilwoman Wudzki reported on the school's Theatre Week with the children. The show is March 3rd at Central Regional High School. They work on the play for the week and then they put on the production March 3rd. Also Kindergarten Roundup is this Thursday at the school. It won't make it in time for the newsletter, but anyone who missed it can contact the school to register their kindergartners.

Councilmember Wudzki did some research on the Farmers' Market and she has a call into a Councilmember in Berkley about their Farmers' Market. As soon as she has that information she will bring it to the Council.

Councilmember Thompson reported that there continues to be a problem with keeping dogs on leashes. There is a problem in her neighborhood with a dog that isn't kept on-leash and allowed to run around with the owner present. It is unacceptable. It is a danger to children and other dogs. Island Heights Police Department is aware of it. We all need to adhere to our ordinances and this applies to everyone.

There is also a problem with fireworks going off at very early hours in the morning. She said it is not New Year's Eve or the Fourth of July and if anyone has the idea that they want to set off a firework, please don't. Regardless of where you set it off, on a dock or in a yard, it is illegal in the State of New Jersey. If it is in your backyard, it is illegal in the State of New Jersey. We have had a problem with residents being awakened at 2:00 in the morning. It is very quiet the nights that these are going off. Neighboring towns are actually trying to find out if shots are being fired because of some person in our town who seems to not be able to sleep. It is just not acceptable. If you do have fireworks, do not set them off

Councilmember Thompson said that she called the police department and a cruiser was sent to the area, however, no one was found. The police have done some follow up work to try to deal with the situation. Unless you actually see the person setting the firework off, law enforcement is not able to issue a summons. But they do have some tools in their toolkit that they are using to try to address it and she applauds that work. She hopes they are successful.

Councilmember Snow reported that they did send the IT surveys to all of the departments in the town. Councilmember Thompson interviewed the administrative staff in town hall. Councilmember Snow spoke with employees in town hall as well. She has received surveys back from the Police Lieutenant, the Construction Official, the Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer are putting all the information together to get a better feel of what the IT landscape is in Island Heights. They will continue to work towards updating our website and bringing our IT up to date.

Councilmember Snow also reported that she had April Elley reach out to the Mayor of Seaside Park about why part of their boardwalk was composite material and part of it was wood. Some individuals during the last discussion misconstrued that to mean Seaside was not happy with one material over the other. His answer was that there have been different Mayors and different Councils which have impacted which materials have been used. There is no feedback as to whether they preferred one over the other.

Don Roberts mentioned that Spring Lake tested out all different types of materials over a time. They watched it over time and they determined which materials were more effective. They did it scientifically. Councilmember Snow said she would reach out to Spring Lake and ask.

Councilmember Snow announced that the Recreation Committee will have a meeting on February 27th at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Hall. Anyone interested in attending or joining, they will be discussing the spring activities for the year.

Councilmember Snow reported that she was contacted by a resident who had trouble making a change to the Code Red notification system. They tried going on the website to remove their home phone number and change it to their cell phone number and were unable to do that. They kept receiving error numbers. Councilmember Snow reached out to Wendy Prior, who reached out to Doug Platt, and he got the issue resolved. Councilmember Snow will reach out to Doug Platt to determine if it was a case of operator error or a glitch in the system.

Councilmember Snow thanked Mr. and Mrs. Levin on Park Avenue who reached out to her last Tuesday. They were out for a walk and noticed the smell of gas and called her to report it. They asked her what to do and she told them to report it to the police department. The police department, fire company and first aid responded. Lt. Arnold reported that it was determined there was a gas leak and the gas company did come out. Councilmember Snow urged everyone who sees something or smells something strange to report it to the police department or any of the Council and they will direct you to the proper authorities. It was very helpful that the Levins noticed that.

Councilmember Asay reported that Mr. Platt has scheduled the first OEM meeting of the year for February 15th. They will be meeting with all the department heads and OEM for annual planning.

Councilmember Asay also reported that he followed up with Mr. Clifton from Comcast regarding the government access channel. He reported that Comcast asked the Board of Public Utilities to give the Borough permission to give us that equipment, but they have to receive approval to do so. Mr. Clifton gave Councilmember Asay a contact there who he is trying to get a hold of in an effort to speed up that process. They did agree that they would provide equipment in advance of our new agreement being approved if the Board will allow it.

Councilmember Bendel thanked the stalwarts who were still at the meeting keeping him company, but had nothing to report.

Council President Berglund said his items had been previously discussed during the meeting. He had no other report.

Mayor Silver reported that he and the Council President will be meeting with Jim Priolo, the Borough Engineer tomorrow morning. Currently our water treatment plant operates on a chlorine system that utilizes chlorine tablets. The tablets are proprietary due to the construction manufacturer's specifications when the plant was built. The chlorine tablet costs average about \$3,000 per month which comes out to \$36,000 per year. The Borough is looking into converting to a liquid chlorine system. He will get some figures on the cost to retrofit the system and also what the monthly cost would be over the tablet system. We are still ironing out the details.

Ocean County Utility Authority sent the Mayor their annual charge certificate. Our sewage rate will cost approximately \$213,510.00 for 2017. They estimate the discharge will be fifty-five million (55,000,000) gallons of wastewater during 2017. The dollar amount has come down. We used to be around the \$240,000 range. The Mayor thinks \$213,000 is just fine.

Mayor Silver gave Council President Berglund a letter entitled "Win A Grant To Save Your Community." It read, "Your idea could be chosen to receive a \$100,000 grant to turn your thoughts into action." The grants have to do with wellness, education, arts and culture. The Mayor thought that it would be pertinent to the Council President's interests. Council President Berglund said it looked as though it could apply to each one of the Council Members.

Mayor Silver reported that he received a letter from the United States Department of Commerce from the Census Bureau. They are already gearing up for the 2020 Census. He received preliminary data forms which he gave to the Acting Borough Clerk to fill out.

Ocean County Community College has a Substance Abuse Summit on Tuesday, May 9th. Members of Law Enforcement, Elected Officials, and School Administrators are invited. Substance abuse and rehabilitation organizations both raise awareness on heroine abuse here in Ocean County.

Mayor Silver reported that Ocean County has ordered Island Heights to perform a town-wide revaluation. It has been 11 years since the last revaluation was performed. The revaluation needs to be implemented in 2017 so it is in effect for 2018. The Tax Assessor communicated with the County telling them that we are seeking firms to help with the process. We need to determine which firm will be chosen for the process.

Mayor Silver reported that he received a resolution from the Ocean County Health Department that the month of February is National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. Mayor Silver read the resolution.

10. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Bill Hummel, 18 Ocean Bend, is very distressed to see the Council, who volunteer for the residents’ benefit and give their own time, versus the people here, Lynn and the two other ladies, who have done a whole lot of work volunteering their time and do all kinds of good things around town. He suggests that perhaps in the interest of avoiding that in the future, when these types of projects come up and it will require the Borough participation, the Borough ask them for a budget and plan so you know the whole scope of work. He also said that the sprinkler system does not end when you install it. You have to call in a sprinkler company at the end of the year. They have to have a timer, which needs an electrical source, and so on.

Brian Gabriel, 185 Summit Avenue, announced that the Fire Department was incorporated in 1895 and went in to service to the community 122 years ago today. (Everyone applauded.)

Jim Jablonski, 186 Central, offered that certain trees are more adaptable to certain environments than others. Dogwoods are understory trees. They like to have some shade and don’t like to have direct sun all the time. He believes that it is a matter of planting the right things in the right place. In addition, in various travels he has seen various places with signs that say they are a Shade Tree City. There are a lot of streets in town that would benefit if the town would have a tree sale and line some of the streets that don’t have overhead wires. If we added trees to the streets it would add to the appeal of the avenues and streets and beautify the town. It would also help reduce air pollution. It could be a revenue source if you purchase them for “x” and sell them for “y.” Maybe it could be brought up if the town has an environmental or shade tree committee.

Councilmember Snow said they meet tomorrow night. There is a program designation for a Tree City. There is a right plant in the right place. The main reason for a plant not surviving is called environmental stress or wrong plant in the wrong space. Native species tend to do better. Mr. Jablonski is correct. Dogwood trees are an understory tree. We have very sandy soil that tends to drain very quickly. We have very sandy and very acid soil so we need plants that can handle those conditions. Most of the river grasses planted survived Superstorm Sandy because they were meant to deal with harsh conditions. That is something they will look at.

Council President Berglund announced that the electric utility will be coming in to do trimming around the wires, as is their right in order to maintain service. In his discussions with the utility he found out that they have a wealth of information available to citizens on what to plant under power lines that won’t get up to the power lines. Also it cites the tall ones to put back further so the canopy can still be maintained so that it won’t interfere. If you are going to be planting trees along the roadway, ask the power company for their suggestions.

Council President Berglund said that we will be asking for 500 shrubs this year which will be passed out on Arbor Day. Last year we had Willow Oak and Pin Oak trees. This year he was asked what he would like and he expressed to them he would like shrubs instead of trees. Councilmember Snow said that they are scheduling the date with Mary and she would let everyone know when she has a date. It was very popular last year. Every tree was given out. She has one in her back yard.

Mayor Silver reported that a resident, who owns a landscaping business, reached out to him to perform free grounds maintenance of Memorial Field. He will get more details. The Mayor said he must be insured. The Mayor will discuss this further as to what he is looking to do with Memorial Field for grounds maintenance. He wants to donate his services for maintaining the property. The Mayor will continue that at another meeting.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR CONTRACT DISCUSSION

Resolution 2017-35

TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 9:12 p.m.

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

TO ENTER BACK INTO REGULAR MEETING at 10:13 p.m.

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

12. ADJOURNMENT at 10:13 p.m.

First: Bendel

Second: Berglund

All In Favor

Respectfully Submitted by:

Katherine Fenton-Newman
Acting Municipal Clerk

Items of Interest:

- ❑ The **Central Regional Board of Education** re-organization meeting is Thursday, March 16, 2017 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, March 28, 2017 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Board of Education** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 6:15 PM held at the Island Heights Grade School, 115 Summit Avenue, Island Heights.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Board of Health** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 9:00 AM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ **All borough offices** will be **closed** on Friday, April 14, 2017 in observance of Good Friday.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Planning Board** regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Environmental Committee** regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Island Heights Mayor and Council** regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 7:00 PM held at the borough hall.
- ❑ The **Central Regional Board of Education** re-organization meeting is Thursday, April 27, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Board of Education building, Forest Hills Parkway, Bayville.

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.

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