

**Committee Meeting – February 7, 2011  
MAYOR’S REPORT**

**SHARED SERVICES:**

Barnegat is continuing to move forward with shared service agreements, primarily with Ocean Township and our school district. We will be looking to combine our resources in a number of departments thus saving us both some money. We will soon be putting out to bid, the trash and/or recycling contracts for both towns and our schools. As our esteemed solicitor always says, “Stay tuned”, there’s more to come.

**2011 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS:**

The Township was recently awarded an NJDOT grant for resurfacing Hillside Avenue from Route 9 to West Bay Avenue. We received \$160,000 of our request of \$193,000 for the project. The Township’s share is about \$50,000, for a total projected expenditure of \$210,000. We also received notice from NJDOT that the long awaited resurfacing of Route 9 from Manahawkin to Lacey will commence later this month and continue into spring. Initial work will be on the shoulder repairs during the day with milling and paving as weather permits being done overnight.

As a side note, our 9<sup>th</sup> District legislators have joined forces with us by sending a strong letter to Trenton urging the DOT to move quickly to resolve the safety issues at the corner of Route 9 and Barnegat Blvd/Bayshore Drive.

**RECENT REASSESSMENTS:**

By now, everyone should have received their new property assessments in the mail. For the most part, all values have been reduced to reflect the current market value of each property. As cautioned in the mailing, DO NOT apply the current tax rate to this new value. The new tax rate will be determined once all 2011 budgets are completed. The impending rate will be reflected on the August 2011 tax bill.

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**JANUARY’S SNOWSTORMS:**

I again need to commend our public works and water/sewer personnel for the way they handled all of our snowstorms in January. The Township received numerous compliments on the excellent job that they did. We of course did receive a few complaints but for the most part handled them as they came in and most everyone was happy with the results. Dave Breeden and our Township support staff again did a great job as well. Now let’s just hope that Punxsutawney Phil was right with his forecast for an early spring!

**FIREWISE DESIGNATION:**

Congratulations are in order for the Four Seasons at Mirage for being awarded the second Firewise Community designation in Barnegat Township. Tomorrow at 1 PM at their homeowner’s meeting, Greg McLaughlin of the New Jersey State Forest Fire Service will be presenting Moira Flynn, Firewise Project Manager and the Mirage community with a plaque denoting their designation. The Township will also provide a sign to be placed at the entrance to Mirage announcing that they are a “Firewise Community USA” member.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH:**

February is celebrated as Black History Month annually throughout our nation and in Barnegat as well. The Barnegat Library will host “The Still Family and the Legacy of Promise” on this Saturday, February 12 at 2 PM and on Saturday, February 24 a 4 PM, they will host “Betcha Can’t Eat Just One!” the true story of George Crum, inventor of the potato chip.

**Jeffrey M. Melchiondo**  
**Mayor, Barnegat Township**