

Committee Meeting – March 7, 2011
MAYOR’S REPORT

POLICE K-9 UNIT

On tonight’s agenda is a resolution to allow our Police Department to continue its K-9 Unit. Everyone knows that I have been a strong advocate for keeping this vital service and that we have secured enough funding through many generous donations including free health care from both Barnegat and Whiting veterinarians. The Barnegat Police K-9 unit has been in existence since the mid 1990's. The cost of this vital law enforcement program will be covered by the many donations along with the concessions made by the Barnegat PBA. I am asking for a favorable vote tonight on this issue.

PATROLMAN ROBERT ARMSTRONG:

Last Thursday, Barnegat Township Patrolman Robert Armstrong received the New Jersey State Police Law Enforcement Commendation Award at a ceremony held in Trenton. Patrolman Armstrong was cited for his bravery in assisting with saving a victim from a burning vehicle involved in a crash on the Garden State Parkway last year. I want to personally thank Patrolman Armstrong on behalf of the Township Committee and the residents of Barnegat for his heroic act on that day and for his well deserved commendation from the New Jersey State Police.

BARNEGAT LITTLE LEAGUE & THE TRAVEL TEAMS

Last week, the Administrator and I met with representatives of the Barnegat/Waretown Little League and two of the traveling teams, in an effort to help resolve the issue of locating a field for the traveling teams. At that meeting, I said that the Township would honor the fifty (50) year lease held by the little league and that we would help secure a field for the traveling teams to play on. Our Administrator was able to arrange for the travel teams to practice and play their games on the Eleventh Street field in Waretown. I have heard from many residents from both sides of the aisle on this issue, but will say that we did the best that we could and resolved the situation. The Township's goal was to secure a playing field for the traveling teams, which we where able to accomplish. At this time I would like to thank Mayor Joe L, Deputy Mayor Dennis Tredy and Committeewoman Tina Wetter for the use of the Ocean Township field.

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SHARED SERVICES:

I am happy to report that the Township is moving forward with a number of shared service opportunities with other local municipalities and our school district. Our solid waste and recycling contracts are out for bids for Barnegat, Waretown and both of our schools. Additionally, a number of other agreements are being discussed with Ocean, Lacey and Stafford Townships. Among some of the areas being discussed include public works, zoning, code enforcement and construction inspection.

Many of these shared service agreements will be finalized in March and will be implemented in April.

GERRY NOLAN:

Former Committeeman and active volunteer, Gerry Nolan, passed away at the age of 51. Gerry was very much involved in our Boy Scouts and many of the local sports here in Barnegat. He leaves behind his wife, Darlene and 4 sons. Our sincere condolences go out to his family and the many friends that knew him well. A fund has been set up at TD Bank to help support his children.

RETIRED NYPD SGT. HAROLD SMITH

At the last meeting, I read a proclamation honoring 9/11 hero, Sergeant Harold J. Smith, retired NYPD police officer and 9/11 first responder. Sadly, Sergeant Smith passed away this past Saturday, from illnesses resulting from his work at the World Trade Center in 2001. Sergeant Smith leaves behind his wife, Margie and 3 children. Sergeant Harold Smith was only 47, and our condolences go out to his family and friends along with our thanks for his service to his fellow Americans.

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JERRY DEY:

And lastly, Barnegat has lost yet another good friend. Jerry Dey, best known as “Captain Jerry”, of Bamboo Productions, passed away on Saturday morning. Jerry and his longtime friend and partner, Patrice Horton, spent countless hours of volunteering their services to the Barnegat Chamber of Commerce, Barnegat Township and the Barnegat School District. Jerry provided the sound and music production for Pirate’s Day, Community Day, Pet Day, was always at Day on the Bay and many other local events. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Patrice, their families and friends.

I have asked that our flags be lowered in honor of all of these fine gentleman, may they rest in peace.

Jeffrey M. Melchiondo
Mayor, Barnegat Township