

**Committee Meeting – May 18, 2009
MAYOR’S REPORT**

2009 BUDGET:

The Administrator will give a brief overview of the 2009 municipal budget this evening. Both Dave and our CFO, Kathy Janeski, have worked very hard to keep this years’ municipal tax rate flat. The Committee made it quite clear that we needed to hold the line on taxes this year as did the County and our School Board. The end result will be NO tax increase for Barnegat Township taxpayers.

LIGHTHOUSE DRIVE & THE NEW PARKWAY EXIT:

If all goes as planned, we should see the new Lighthouse Drive and the new Parkway entrance and exit open by Thursday. Milling and paving began today on the final portion of West Bay Avenue at Lighthouse Drive. If the weather holds out, top coat paving and stripping is all that is left to do for this portion of the project. Traffic signals are complete and flashing at Lighthouse and First/Second Street and are also complete at the new Parkway entrance on Lighthouse Dr. The present Parkway exit heading south will be closed in conjunction with the opening of the new exit. Extensive construction is now underway on the widening of West Bay Ave and some traffic delays are expected. Please use caution when traveling through this area.

MENK ATTIC REPAIRS:

The Township has reached an agreement with the Menk Corporation with respect to the remaining homes to be inspected and repaired that have UCC violations. The agreement is on tonight’s agenda. Although this should hopefully remedy the situation for the Menk homeowners, the Township must now push forward to seek financial reimbursement for our expenses that are related to this long drawn out process.

MEMORIAL DAY:

Memorial Day is next Monday, the 25th. The annual parade will begin at 1 PM in the downtown and continue to the American Legion Post 232 hall on Route 9 where a ceremony and barbeque will follow. The event is open to all.

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SCHOOL ADDITION DEDICATIONS:

This week there will be two dedications and ribbon cutting ceremonies at the Robert L. Horbelt and the Lillian M. Dunfee Schools signaling the opening of the new additions. The NJ School Development Authority will be hosting the events along with the Barnegat Township School District. The dates are; Wed, May 20th, at the Horbelt School and Thurs, May 21st, at the Dunfee School. Both are at 10 AM with a tour of the new additions following the ribbon cutting.

PET DAY:

The Fourth Annual Pet Day was held this past Saturday at Meadowedge Park. The weather held out and provided a perfect day as a large crowd showed up to see the over 60 pet related vendors and non profit groups. We even had Elwood, the World’s Ugliest Dog along with hawks, owls, snakes, falcons, turtles, goats, sheep and horses, to name a few. The Barnegat Chamber of Commerce hosted the event along with the support of the Township and the proceeds were dedicated to their Community Fund which supports our local volunteer and emergency organizations.

PINEWOOD ESTATES FIRE DEP’T OPEN HOUSE:

The Pinewood Estates Volunteer Fire Company is holding its annual open house on Saturday, May 23rd at noon with displays and demonstrations of emergency equipment along with fun and games for the kids. Food is available from Smokey’s Barbeque. This event is open to the public.

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