

Committee Meeting – JULY 7, 2008 MAYOR’S REPORT

2008 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:

Over the past few weeks, I had several discussions with our administrator regarding the operation of the Township along with the Township's fiscal condition. During the discussions, our administrator has made global recommendations concerning the realignment of all municipal assets required to maintain an acceptable level of services to the community while minimizing the financial burden on taxpayers. In concept, our administrator has developed what I would consider to be a radical plan for the future of this township that maximizes resources while stabilizing the overall tax rate. For this to happen, significant changes in the manner in which this township operates will have to take place. This would include additional personnel actions beyond those taken to date along with an unprecedented level of cooperation between the Barnegat Board of Education and the County of Ocean. The end result could be the stabilization of property taxes for this community for sometime to come. Since the rewards of such a unique approach to the management of government is so appealing, ample time should be given to explore the possibilities. The administrator will reach out to assess the viability of these recommendations in the next couple of weeks and report back accordingly. The administrator will brief individual members of the committee during this time and hopefully all of you will realize the great potential with the implementation of his course of action.

POLICE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES:

The second reading of the ordinance for the Police Department vehicles is on tonight’s agenda. Discussions of alternate energy vehicles hopefully has resulted in a compromise that the Committee can agree upon that will result in adoption of this ordinance tonight.

FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND:

Although after being upstaged by Committeeman Morano, I had the pleasure of addressing the large crowd at the dock to kick off the season with a flag salute, some thoughts for the Fourth of July and the introduction of the rest of the Committee that was there. All of which Len forgot to mention.

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KAY & SHARON:

Tonight we have the pleasure of formally appointing Kay West as our Clerk and Sharon Auer as our Deputy Clerk effective July 1st 2008. Enough cannot be said about how much these two ladies have earned the positions and how happy this Committee is to appoint them.

SENIOR COMMUNITY ISSUES:

1. Sterling Woods - This is a Kara development with unfinished site improvements. We have been negotiating with the bonding company for about 9 months. We will approve at our 7/21 meeting an agreement with the bonding company to finish the work, at its cost. The work will take about 2 weeks to conclude, and should be done by early August.
2. Horizons - water main extension – another Kara Homes development - Work should be done by mid August. This will assist in fire fighting capabilities. This extension connects to Paramount, and results in better pressure, fire fighting capabilities, etc.
3. Mirage - crawl spaces. We expect to receive by the end of the week a proposal from Menk to do the work on those homes that we have already inspected. We will be inspecting about 30 more over the next 30 days. We anticipate a favorable proposal from Menk and then will schedule another meeting with the HOA to discuss it.

OTHER EVENTS:

I also had the opportunity to attend some other events two weeks ago. They were the Off Highway Vehicle event at Johnson’s Pit, the Day on the Bay and the Old Barney Radio Operators annual competition at Wells Mills Park. All were well attended and very successful.

I had the distinct honor of addressing the first graduating class of the new Barnegat High School. The rain held off just long enough for the new grads to toss their caps in the air and move on to their future endeavors.

Jeffrey M. Melchiondo
Mayor, Barnegat Township