

## **Committee Meeting – August 18, 2008**

### **MAYOR’S REPORT**

#### **2008 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:**

As I stated at the last meeting, the Township will not be in a position to adopt the 2008 Municipal budget until October due to anticipated revenues. We are currently looking at various options to reduce the original budget that has been introduced. It is still premature but it is my hope that our administrator will be able to reduce our budget so that the taxpayers of Barnegat will not see any increase in their overall tax bill compared to last year.

#### **POLICE VEHICLES:**

Ordinance 2008-29 is up for second reading tonight. This is the ordinance that will allow us to purchase the needed vehicles for the Police Department. Over the past two weeks there has been many discussions regarding this issue and I believe we have come to a consensus and can move forward tonight and pass this ordinance.

#### **WARREN GROVE BOMBING RANGE:**

A press release from Governor Corzine effectively okayed the re-opening of the Bombing Range at Warren Grove as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. As I stated to the press, I am fully in favor of the range re-opening provided that new safety protocols are fully implemented thus substantially reducing the risk of future incidents such as the May 2007 wildfire. I spoke to Major General Reith, in charge of military and veteran’s affairs and he has assured me that their mitigation plan has been endorsed by the Governor and will be strictly monitored to ensure the safety of our residents. I truly believe that this training facility is a vital component to the safety of our nation and should continue in operation so long as our exposure to potential hazards are kept to a minimum.

#### **MIRAGE ISSUES:**

I would like to update the Mirage homeowners as to the issue of the water in the crawl spaces. In a letter to our solicitor, Mr. Jerry Dasti, Chad Warnken, Director of Development for Hovenanian Industries writes: “I am writing to you regarding the outstanding NOV’s for the water in the crawlspace.

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**As I explained to you when we spoke earlier today, we are finalizing our proposal to the township and will have it to you very shortly. I appreciate the Township’s patience and we are looking forward to bringing closure to this matter.”**

**It has been my position from the onset that the UCC violations at the Mirage be addressed by the builder and that the residents should not have to accept anything less than the best quality in the home that they paid for.**

#### **HORIZON’S DRAINAGE BASINS:**

**I am pleased to announce that plans for the remediation of the storm water basins at the Horizon’s development have been approved by our engineer’s office. This is the final phase of the work that was left undone by Kara Homes and should be completed in the fall. I must commend our attorney, our engineer and our landscape architect for being diligent with these issues and insuring that the Horizon residents did not get caught up in the builder’s bankruptcy.**

#### **OTHER EVENTS:**

**Some events coming up that you may want to attend are;**

- 1. The last flea market of the season at the public dock is scheduled for Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8 AM to 4 PM.**
- 2. Pirate’s Day is set for Saturday, September 6 in the Historic District at Route 9 and East Bay Avenue. With well over 100 vendors and non-profit organizations, this is our biggest event of the year. The event runs from 10 AM to 4PM followed by music, a boat parade and fireworks at the public dock in the evening. Last year’s attendance was estimated at 12,000 and this year should even top that. Shuttle bus service is available from Town Hall and St. Mary’s Church.**

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