

Committee Meeting – September 8, 2009
MAYOR’S REPORT

WELL # 9:

I received notice from the DEP that Well # 9 on Barnegat Blvd was denied a permit due to high levels of aluminum. The Township will be working with the Walter’s Group to rectify this situation and bring this well online as soon as possible. According to our Township Engineer, the Walter’s Group will need to install additional water treatment equipment to make the well compliant. This new well was installed to service some areas of Ocean Acres as well as Whispering Hills and other future users in Barnegat.

DOT TE GRANT PROGRAM:

The Township had applied to the Dept of Transportation for a grant to fund the “Safe Pedestrian Access Program” through their Transportation Enhancement Program. Unfortunately, our application was not one of the ones accepted for the \$19.75 million dollars in available funds. I am very disappointed that yet again, Barnegat was not selected to receive any of these grant dollars. We have been applying every year for the TE grant and have been consistently left off of the list of municipalities awarded any funding.

CHARITABLE CLOTHING BINS:

Tonight’s agenda includes the introduction of Ordinance 2009-28 regulating the placement and use of charitable clothing bins. I have requested this ordinance be enacted due to the misuse and unauthorized placement of bins within our Township. Many of these bins are not maintained properly and are not actually donating any of the proceeds to the charities they claim to be. All bins will be required to be registered with the Township and an annual fee will be assessed to those that are not registered as a 501(c) not for profit entity.

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THE NEW CELL TOWER ORDINANCE:

Also on the agenda tonight is the new cell tower ordinance. This ordinance is the culmination of many months of cooperative study by our attorney, our engineer and a number of concerned Barnegat residents. Both the Deputy Mayor and I have worked closely with all of those involved and believe that this new ordinance will satisfy the needs and concerns of both our residents and the cell tower companies.

It will provide safeguards for our community and also allow for alternate acceptable sites for new tower location. I must commend Jamie Griffin, Ken Warfield, Doug Jonas and the other concerned citizens for the tremendous amount of effort they put into the research and drafting of this ordinance. This is a perfect example of how the public can become involved in an important issue and effect a change that will benefit all of the residents of Barnegat Township.

BARNEGAT YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE:

The Deputy Mayor and I attended the grand opening celebration of the Junior Bengals football and cheerleading season. The Lower Shore field was filled with volunteers, families and spectators on a perfectly sunny day. I had the distinct privilege to kick the first ball as the Deputy Mayor was the holder. Although the kick was only about 25 yards, it did make it in the air and I didn’t kick Al. Thanks to all of the BYFL members, families and friends.

9/11:

This Friday will commemorate the 8th anniversary of the tragedies of September 11, 2001. I am again asking that all residents as well as all Americans “Never Forget” that day when thousands of American Hero’s gave their lives for their Country and the countless volunteers that are still suffering today from the ill effects of that fateful day. I have asked that our flags be lowered to half staff in their honor.

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FORMER MAYOR VICTOR DIGANGI:

I’m saddened to report that long time resident and former Barnegat Mayor, Victor DiGangi passed away on August 27th. Vic dedicated many years to Barnegat on the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Township Committee and most recently on our ADA Committee. Our condolences go out to his wife, Carol, his brother-in-law Pat Cox and all of Vic’s family and friends.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Every Thursday and now through October – The Jersey Fresh Farmer’s Market in the Municipal lot next to the Gazebo Park.

Friday, September 11th – A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at the Joseph T. Donahue School for their new playground at 2 PM.

Saturday, September 12th – The 16th Annual Pirate's Day runs from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Gazebo Park, Route 9 and East Bay Avenue. Beginning at 5:00 PM there will be music followed by our season ending fireworks at the dock at sunset.

Saturday, October 3, 2009 – 100th Anniversary celebration of the Barnegat Volunteer Fire Company.

For more information on these and other events in Barnegat, visit our website at www.barnegat.net.

Jeffrey M. Melchiondo
Mayor, Barnegat Township