

RESOLUTION 2012-481

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BARNEGAT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING THE ECOLOGICAL AND ECONOMICAL SUCCESS OF THE BARNEGAT BAY

WHEREAS, The Barnegat Bay Estuary is located along the central New Jersey coastline within the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic province and its watershed encompasses most of the 33 municipalities in Ocean County, as well as four municipalities in Monmouth County; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Barnegat, in the County of Ocean in the State of New Jersey is on the border of the Barnegat Bay Estuary watershed; and

WHEREAS, Barnegat Bay has been a significant source of both economic vitality and recreational pleasure for the people of the Township of Barnegat since long before the official establishment of the Township in 1846; and

WHEREAS, Barnegat Bay continues to provide such economic vitality and recreational pleasure to this day not only for people of the Township of Barnegat, but also for the people of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, on Thursday, July 26, 2012 the Honorable Chris Christie, Governor of the State of New Jersey visited Long Beach Island as part of the “Endless Summer Tax Relief Tour” and during the public portion of the event was applauded by Mr. Rick Bushnell, President of Re-Clam the Bay for the Governor’s 10-point plan for Barnegat Bay; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bushnell, in addition to praising the Governor, Mr. Bushnell requested that the Governor consider that “it is time to expand the ecological efforts to reflect your desire to create jobs and improve the economy in all the NJ counties. Improved water quality (fundamental to the 10 point plan) serves both economic and ecologic ends and improves jobs, real estate values, tourism and quality of life. Taken together and planned wisely, the economic and ecological value of Barnegat Bay can be greatly magnified. This asset could create many, many jobs in our county NOW” and;

WHEREAS, since the time of the Leni Lenape peoples until recent history, the Barnegat Bay has served as a source of subsistence and as an economic engine of the region due to the harvesting of shellfish and finfish. An economic engine which has, due to the impact of land use policies and practices over the past 40 years in the Barnegat Bay watershed, detrimentally affecting the ecology of the Barnegat Bay estuary system, been seriously diminished and;

WHEREAS, “it is time to invest some of your time into making the bay a hub for **responsible aquaculture**” and to “leverage Barnegat Bay in a **responsible** way that is good for both the economy and the ecology” so;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Mayor and Governing Body of the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey by resolution respectfully request that

Honorable Chris Christie, Governor, State of New Jersey, the Honorable Bob Martin, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection see now as a unique time in which to commit forthwith the resources and expertise of the State of New Jersey so that Barnegat Bay could and should be both an ecologic success and an economic success and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Honorable Chris Christie Governor of the State of New Jersey, the Honorable Robert Martin, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the 9th Legislative District of the State of New Jersey, the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders and to each municipality of the County of Ocean.

CERTIFICATION

I Sharon L. Auer, Acting Municipal Clerk of the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the township Committee at their regular meeting held on the 18th day of September 2012, in the Municipal Courtroom, 900 West Bay Avenue, Barnegat NJ 08005.

Sharon L. Auer
Acting Municipal Clerk