



**MEETING MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES**  
**JANUARY 22, 2018**  
**HELD AT BOROUGH HALL, 400 BOULEVARD, MOUNTAIN LAKES, NJ 07046**

**CALL TO ORDER AND OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT**

This meeting is being held in compliance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, Sections 4 and 13, as notice of this meeting and the agenda thereof had been reported to The Citizen and the Morris County Daily Record and The Star Ledger on January 8, 2018 and posted in the municipal building.

Mayor Barnett called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. in the municipal building.

**ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE**

<b>Roll Call</b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>		<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>
Happer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Holmberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horst	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Korman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**FLAG**

Mayor Barnett led the salute to the flag.

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Barnett stated that the library has kicked off its cinema series. Tri Town chamber of commerce is starting their meetings. Ms. Korman mentioned the Garden Club's photography competition. She stated that the League of Women voters will be meeting at Barka Restaurant. Topic of the meeting is empowering women. She stated that the Shade Tree planted 21 trees in town. Mr. Shepherd stated that this Saturday at Borough Hall there will be a meeting of committee chairs and new committee members. Mr. Barrett stated that the Briarwood Sports Club will be holding their poker night fundraiser this Saturday.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Please state your name and address for the record.** Each speaker is limited to one (1) comment of no more than five (5) minutes and no yielding of time to another person.

Mayor Barnett opened the meeting to the public

Penny Leman, 32 Sherman Drive, stated that in the Mayor's New Year's letter it was stated that the Economic Development Advisory Committee was reestablished. She asked if there will be public members, will there be minutes? Will they be concentrating on the whole of the Borough or just the Route 46 corridor?

Mr. Shepherd gave more information regarding the Economic Development Committee.

Steven Shaw, 4 Pointview Place, He thanked Mayor Holmberg for his service as Mayor and he congratulated Mayor Barnett. He mentioned the operating budget as part of the 2018 goals. He asked there to be a benchmark. He mentioned that he thought that the Borough has always been inclusive. He asked who was setting goals, the Council or the Committees. He asked if there was a preliminary plan for the building. He asked about the redevelopment plan mentioned in the 2018 goals. He stated that he thought that a bullet point regarding affordable housing should be added to the goals list.

**BOROUGH COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Update on Property Tax Deduction Issues**

Mr. Oostdyk discussed the recent tax change in regard to property tax deductions. About a third of the town prepaid property taxes. He stated that there is nothing the municipality can really do about the matter except to stay on top of any new information. He discussed some of the strategies that are being talked about to deal with the new tax law in some other municipalities.



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**Final Review: 2017 Borough Council Goals and Objectives**

**Fiscal Strength and Accountability:** the budget was adopted within statute. The ten year capital plan was almost complete but not presented to Council. This plan needs to be reviewed.

**Openness and Responsiveness:** The resident survey was completed. There were more postings and emails. There was a joint meeting with the Board of Education. There was a member of the Board of Ed attending Borough meetings.

**Services and Infrastructure:** It was expected that the beach project would be completed. It was not. The Dam project is moving forward. The committee for the renovation of the municipal building is moving the project along.

**Environmental Stewardship and Community Development:** The emerald ash borer was discussed. The Environmental Commission is discussing the water usage plan. The Economic Development Advisory Committee was reestablished. The Borough obtained Silver level certification in the Sustainable Jersey program.

**Discussion: 2018 Borough Council Goals and Objectives**

The Draft of the Goals and Objectives was discussed.

**Fiscal Strength & Accountability:** There was a discussion regarding the budget and if there should be a goal to raise the budget by a certain percent or have a zero based budget. It was suggested that there be a goal to adopt a fiscally responsible budget within the statutory time frames. Mr. Stern will give the statutory introduction and adoption dates to council at the next meeting. Ms. Korman stated that the Borough should revitalize the affordable housing trust fund. There was a discussion regarding performing a timely quarterly budget review. It was stated that the ten year capital plan needs to be adopted. There was a discussion regarding applying for grants.

**Openness & Responsiveness:** There was a discussion regarding getting news out about capital projects. Mr. Happer suggested gaging the community's response to push notifications. There was a discussion regarding improving the process of obtaining volunteers.

**Services & Infrastructure:** There was a discussion regarding revamping the beach projects. It was suggested that a final plan for the municipal building renovations needs to be completed. Street resurfacing and sidewalk improvements should be completed on time and on budget. There should be execution of all approved projects.

**Environmental Stewardship & Community Development:** Emerald Ash Borer issues need to be addressed. Ms. Horst suggested having a Council meeting dedicated to environmental issues after Arbor Day.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Mr. Oostdyk stated that he will be meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> with the rep from Fair Share Housing.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

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Mayor Barnet opened the meeting to the public.

Mimi Kaplan, 89 Lake Drive, commented on the water usage plan. She stated that the plan is only a draft. She read a statement regarding water supply and use. She stated that the Borough should hire a professional to review the water plan.

Steve Shaw, 4 Pointview place, mentioned what state aid was last year and how much is in the Developer's Trust fund. The Borough had to stop collecting developer's fees because the Borough did not file a third round plan with COAH.



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Audrey Lane, 31 Melrose Road, asked that if a Borough marketing plan is put together, that the Master Plan be used as a guiding document for that marketing plan. .

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

Recreation Presentation by Recreation Director Audrey Lane

Ms. Lane updated the Council on the 2017 activities of the Recreation Commission and the goals for 2018.

Mr. Stern reviewed his Manager's report. He discussed the sewer utility revenue issue. There was a discussion regarding when the new rate should have gone into effect. It was decided it would be the quarter following the date the ordinance was adopted. He stated that he continues work on the budget. He stated that the broadcast email has been switched to another vendor. He made mention of a report of a missing dog that may have been attacked by a wild animal.

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**\*CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

*Matters listed as Consent Agenda Items are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Council and one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member requests an item be removed for consideration.*

**\*RESOLUTIONS**

R54-18, Authorization to pay bills

R55-18, Authorization of a budget transfer, (pulled)

R56-18, Authorization for tax lien redemption, B80 L57

R57-18, Authorization for a refund of a tax overpayment, B17 L4,

R58-18, Authorization to enter into an agreement with Employee Benefits Consulting Services Group for the marketing of employee dental benefits, (pulled)

R59-18, Authorization to enter into a contract with Phillips Priess Grygiel for planning services, (pulled)

R60-18, Authorization to enter into an interlocal agreement for health services with the Township of Bloomfield, (pulled)

R61-18, Authorization to enter into an agreement with Phoenix Advisors for secondary market disclosure obligations, (pulled)

R62-18, Authorization to enter into an interlocal agreement with Madison Borough for IT services, (pulled)

**\*APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regular minutes of January 3, 2018, (Happer not eligible)

**\*APPROVAL OF REPORTS FOR FILING (reports are included only if checked)**

- Construction Department
- Department of Public Works
- Finance
- Fire Department
- Health Department
- Police Department
- Recreation Department
- Property maintenance report

**\*BOARD, COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

Nick Coppola to the Planning Board as Class IV Member, Environmental commission Representative through 12/31/21

Margaret DeWitt to the Historic Preservation Committee through 12/31/18



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*Gordon Stuss to the Traffic and Safety Committee through 12/31/18*

**\*APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

**Resolutions 55-18 and 58 through 62-18 were pulled from the consent agenda and are not part of this approval.**

Council member	M	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Happer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Holmberg	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horst	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Korman	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shepherd	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barrett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barnett	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**After some discussion it was decided that the resolutions pulled from the consent agenda will be placed on the next agenda for approval.**

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mr. Happer stated that he met with the Health Officer. There are no major issues at this time. Ms. Horst stated there is a concern about traffic on Intervale Road in regard to Whole Foods opening in Parsippany. She is meeting with a resident that lives on Intervale tomorrow to discuss. She stated that Woodlands is discussing mountain bikers. She stated that there is a letter that needs to be initiated by the Manager regarding deer culling. Mr. Barrett stated that DPW met. Recycling options were discussed. The Beach project was discussed. Ways to take costs out of the project were discussed. Mayor Barnett stated that Shared Services met. Ms. Korman spoke about the trees that were planted around town through the Shade Tree. Mr. Holmberg stated that Communications discussed getting messages to residents. Mr. Happer stated that the Finance Committee met. Replenishment of trust funds was discussed. The budget was discussed.

**NEXT STEPS AND PRIORITIES**

Mayor Barnett reviewed the following next steps and priorities:

Next Step	Completed by	Completion date
Economic Development committee information on the web site	Webmaster	ASAP
Rewrite of goals and objectives	Mayor Barnett	Next meeting
Work on issues with the budget transfers and contract approval resolutions	Mr. Stern	Next meeting

Mayor Barnett presented former Mayor Holmberg with an engraved gavel and thanked him for his service as Mayor.

**ADJOURNMENT at 11:18 P.M.**

Motion made by Councilmember Happer, second by Councilmember Barrett to adjourn the meeting at 11:18 p.m., with all members in favor signifying by "Aye".

Respectfully Submitted



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Valerie A Egan Borough Clerk