

# MEETING MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES AUGUST 27, 2018

#### HELD AT MOUNTIAN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL POWERVILLE ROAD, 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 <u>The Citizen</u> and the <u>Morris County Daily Record</u> and <u>The Star Ledger</u> on January 8, 2018 and posted in the municipal building.

Mayor Barnett called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the media center of the Mountain Lakes High School.

#### **ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE**

Roll Call	<b>Present</b>	<u>Absent</u>		<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Happer	$\boxtimes$		Shepherd		
Holmberg	$\boxtimes$		Barrett		
Horst	$\boxtimes$		Barnett	$\boxtimes$	
Korman		$\boxtimes$			

#### **FLAG**

Mayor Barnett led the salute to the flag.

#### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Barnett stated that movie night will be held on Tuesday night. She stated that she received a letter from the County Freeholders regarding a candle light vigil for 9/11 on Sunday September 9<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. The League of women voters will have a meet and greet with the school principals. The Morris County Freeholders will be holding their meeting at the Mountain Lakes municipal building on Wednesday October 10 at 7pm. Mayor Barnett stated that she heard from the Board of Education that everything is in order for the smooth opening of the schools. She stated that we will be appointing student members to several of the Borough committees this evening.

#### **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Proclamation for Jerry Uhrig**

Mayor Barnett read a proclamation for Jerry Uhrig, long time Woodlands Advisory Committee member for his service to the town.

Mr. Holmberg motioned for a short recess.

Second from Mr. Happer

Refreshments were served in honor of Mr. Uhrig.

#### **Mountain Lakes Police Department Update**

Chief Bennett came before the Council to provide an update on Police Department activities. He mentioned that the department is at full staff. He stated that call volume is up. He mentioned the recent burglaries of vehicles which are on the increase. He stated that the department is now required to have a humane officer for animal matters. He discussed the Ranger program for the beaches. He mentioned revamping the CERT team. Coffee with a Cop is being scheduled. He mentioned the traffic problem at Wildwood School. There is significant traffic congestion during drop-off and pick up. A letter will be sent out to parents of the students regarding the process for arriving and leaving school. He explained what the police department will be doing regarding traffic control during drop off and pick up. He suggested putting together a committee to discuss a permanent solution to the problem.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Barnett opened the meeting to the public

Jack Renahan,143 Kenilworth Road, stated that he met with the Chief and Sgt. Benitez regarding the school traffic. He asked if there was still a Board of Ed representative on the Traffic and Safety Committee. He stated that carpooling should be encouraged. His concern is that a child could get injured.

Consuela Mertz suggested the school have premium parking spots for carpoolers.



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#### **BOROUGH COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter budget review

Monica Goscicki, CFO reviewed the second quarter revenues. She stated that construction fees and Clerk's fees are down. She reviewed the expenditures. Most items seem to be on target. Fire truck maintenance may be a problem and may need a transfer in November. She discussed the water and sewer utility budgets. Revenue is a concern for the water utility since the summer was so wet and collections for water used in irrigation systems is down. Appropriations are on target. Sewer collections are up due to the extra collection for the fees that should have been billed last year but was not collected until this year. Appropriations are on target.

Ms. Horst asked if we could look at street lighting being converted to solar. Mr. Stern will check with JCP&L.

#### **Invasive Plant Species Resolution**

Ms. Horst spoke about invasive plant species and a potential resolution that may be adopted. She provided a list of invasive plants that are unique to Mountain Lakes and photographs of these plants. She explained the difference between exotic plants and invasive plants that take over an area like weeds. The resolution would be educational, not punitive.

#### 2018 Council Goals

The 2018 Borough Council Goals were discussed. It was suggested that asset management needs attention. There was a discussion regarding grants. The grants that the borough is eligible for are being applied for. Mayor Barnett stated that the e-blasts and social media have improved. Mayor Barnett mentioned the new student committee member program. Completing a review of the town wide survey findings was discussed. Mayor Barnett stated that she would like to see this item concluded. Completion of Capital projects was discussed. Mr. Barrett stated that the borough needs to do a better job monitoring capital projects. It was suggested that a report on capital projects could be incorporated with the quarterly budget review. The Public Safety/Borough Hall renovation was discussed. Mr. Stern stated that the project is slowly moving forward. Mr. Shepherd stated that the borough's water infrastructure is in good shape. Supporting Economic Development was discussed. Mr. Shepherd mentioned the proposed assisted living facility. A report should be coming from the County regarding this item.

#### ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Oostdyk mentioned the legislation regarding charitable donations for property taxes. The IRS has adopted regulations that have negated the States charitable donation program. Mr. Oostdyk stated that Mountain Lakes does not have any ordinances regarding smoking on beaches and in parks. He stated that there is now State legislation regarding smoking on beaches and in parks. The municipality will be responsible for putting up signage regarding no smoking. Smoking areas can be designated. It was suggested that putting local ordinances in place may make for easier enforcement.

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Stern reviewed his report. It included deer management, the safe route to schools grant, Health Commission survey, the Pocono Midvale paving bids, and the upcoming beach project bid.

#### **ORDINANCES**

None

#### \*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

R131-18, Payment of Bills

R132-18. Membership to the NJ State Firemen's Association for Riccardi and Ribeiro

R133-18, Authorization for a tax overpayment refund

R134-18, Authorization to apply for a NJDOT transportation grant for sidewalks

R135-18, Authorization for an online auction of surplus property, (removed from Consent)

R136-18, Authorization to sell surplus property



### MEETING MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES **AUGUST 27, 2018**

#### **HELD AT MOUNTIAN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL** POWERVILLE ROAD, MOUNTAIN LAKES, NJ 07046

*APPROVAL OF MINUTES Regular minutes of July 23, 2018, (Barrett and Shepherd not eligible)				
*APPROVAL OF REPORTS FOR FILING (reports are included only if checked)				
<ul> <li>Construction Department</li> <li>Department of Public Works</li> <li>Finance</li> <li>Fire Department</li> <li>Health Department</li> <li>Police Department</li> <li>Recreation Department</li> <li>Property maintenance report</li> </ul>				
*BOARD AND COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS  Eric Lee and Natilie Blaney to the Woodlands Committee as student members  Niralee Shah and Maimoonah Shafqat to the Lakes Management Committee as a student members  Kaylee Smith and Meghan Powers to the Historic Preservation Committee as student members  Megan Beik and Kyla Hunter to the Environmental Commission as student members  Lucan Franzblau to the Shade Tree Commission as student members  All appointments begin in September and continue through the end of the school year.				
*Approval of the Consent Agenda				
(Mr. Barrett and Mr. Shepherd abstained from voting on the minutes)   Council member M 2nd Yes No Abstain Absent   Happer				
R135-18, Authorization for an online auction of surplus property  There was a discussion regarding the boats that were being auctioned off. Mr. Stern stated that all the boats that are on the list for auction have been stored for over 6 months. If someone comes in to claim their boat we will take it off the auction list.				
Council member         M         2nd         Yes         No         Abstain         Absent           Happer         Image: Council member of the properties of the propert				

#### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mr. Happer stated that the Finance Committee will discuss the water and sewer rates. Ms. Horst stated that the Green Team will be working with a student to video trash pick-up, the DPW recycling yard, and where the recycling goes after it



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leaves the borough. Mayor Barnett stated that the Personnel Committee will be talking about RFP's. There was a conversation regarding the Kiwanis Ambulance Squad. Mr. Holmberg stated that the President of the Board will speak with the Council regarding this topic in the near future.

#### **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.

There was no one from the public who wished to speak.

#### **NEXT STEPS AND PRIORITIES**

Mayor Barnett reviewed the following next steps and priorities:

Next Step	Completed by	Completion date
Traffic and Safety meeting scheduling to discuss Wildwood school traffic issues	Mr. Stern, Mr. Happer, Chief Bennett, committee members	TBD
Capital budget items incorporated into the quarterly budget	Mr. Stern and Ms. Goscicki	Next quarter

#### ADJOURNMENT at 10:49 P.M.

Motion made by Councilmember Happer, second by Councilmember Horst to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 p.m., with all members in favor signifying by "Aye".

Respectfully Submitted					
Valerie A. Egan, Borough Clerk					