

Committee Meeting – February 4, 2008

MAYOR’S REPORT

In the coming weeks, Administrator Breeden, and I will be meeting with Ocean County officials to discuss their 2008 County Road Improvement program. This is where we, the township, provide the County with a “wish list” for areas within Barnegat that we feel needs improvement such as paving, stripping, signalization or additional signage on County roads. Over the past, the County has been very receptive in meeting our requests and hopefully this year will be the same.

I am happy to announce that the DEP has issued our permit for Well # 6 located off Lakeland Dr at the Mirage. Having this well online will greatly enhance our ability to deliver firm capacity west of the Parkway and also ensure continued water supply should Well # 5 on Bay Ave require maintenance. In the near future, Well # 9 on Barnegat Blvd will also go online.

There is an ordinance on tonight’s agenda to introduce the bonding for Frederick A. Watts Recreational Complex at Rosehill. This is probably one of the most important decisions that this Committee will make this year. We all must consider the future of our children and young adults as well as our seniors that are in desperate need of additional recreational opportunities. While bonding is never popular, we need to realize the important need for this facility for our growing community. And when interest rates are at their lowest in decades, it is our best time to take advantage by bonding now. I urge this Committee not only to pass the introduction of this ordinance, but to pass its adoption upon second reading.

A resolution in opposition to the Governor’s toll hike plan is on tonight’s agenda. The Governor’s proposal would create an extreme hardship on our residents as well as all of Ocean County that rely on the Garden State Parkway to commute to and from work every day. We will all see higher costs for consumer goods as a result of passing along the increase in tolls and our secondary roads will require increased maintenance due to much heavier volumes of traffic to avoid using the Parkway.

On this past Saturday Governor Corzine pitched his proposal to the Ocean County Mayors and Freeholders. Of the roughly 40 of us in attendance, not one was in favor of the Governor’s proposal. Later that day at the Ritacco Center, approximately 2000 Ocean County residents echoed the sentiments of the County leaders by strongly opposing his plan.

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The Governor has said that in the next few weeks he will look at alternate means to fund his proposal in an attempt to make it more equally shared by all New Jersey residents. I urge everyone here to contact your 9th District Legislators and voice your opposition to the Governor’s monetization plan. And I again ask this Committee to pass this resolution and oppose placing even more burdensome costs on the backs of our residents.

Just a couple of reminders, February is Black History Month and if you have a chance, the Barnegat Library is hosting its annual celebration this Saturday at 12 noon. The Mt. Zion Baptist Church will be serving a variety of soul food.

Also, tomorrow is the Presidential Primary, so please go out and vote!

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MAYOR’S COMMITTEE REPORTS

PD:

COX COMM:

HPC:

FOOD PANTRY:

OEM: