

Committee Meeting – September 21, 2009
MAYOR’S REPORT

PIRATE’S DAY:

Without stealing too much thunder from Committeeman Lisella, the 16th annual Pirate’s Day was an overwhelming success. I would like to commend Barbara, Staci and the Recreation Department, Ginny and the Barnegat Chamber of Commerce, our Police, crossing guards, public works, the fire police, the American Legion, Boy Scouts, Bamboo Productions and Pastor Glenn Swank for their tremendous efforts in making this event bigger and better every year.

MENK REPAIRS UPDATE:

Our Administrator, attorney, Deputy Mayor Cirulli and I met with the homeowners at the Mirage this afternoon to discuss ongoing repair issues of the Menk homes. As a result of unacceptable work, Menk has hired a new contractor who will begin making repairs this week on the remaining Menk homes with UCC violations. All County Construction was selected by Menk to replace the original contractor. I want to again thank the Menk homeowners for their patience and understanding during this long repair process. The schedule of repairs should soon be back on track with substantial completion achieved by the end of this year.

PARKWAY CONSTRUCTION:

The latest on the Parkway construction is that on next Monday, 9/28, the northbound entrance to the Parkway coming from the west, will be closed for two (2) weeks. On Sunday, October 4th, westbound traffic on West Bay Ave will be transitioned to the new bridge. On Sunday, October 11th, eastbound traffic will be transitioned to the new bridge and the northbound entrance to the Parkway will be re-opened. Signage is in place alerting traffic to the upcoming ramp closure and detours. Mr. Breeden will provide additional information on the status of road construction work during his administrator’s report. As stated at the last meeting, pedestrians and bikers WILL NOT be permitted to go over the bridge for approximately a six (6) month period. Signs have been posted advising those that utilize the bridge of this restriction and the Township will assist residents who walk across the bridge with other transportation arrangements. However, I have asked Dave to urge the Turnpike Authority to construct a temporary walkway for their use during this time period.

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I have also instructed Dave that any additional expense incurred as a result of providing additional transportation services should be paid for by the Turnpike Authority. The Township will also continue to furnish timely updates through its public notification service or email alert system. I urge residents to frequently check the Township web site for current information on traffic and road conditions in the construction zone.

NEW PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY:

Good progress is being made down at the new Public Works Complex. The new salt storage building is now being constructed with a target date for completion by Halloween. The fueling facility is also under construction and should be ready for use by late November. The security fencing around the property is almost complete and the contractor will be installing an electronic gate to the facility in the next few weeks. Both the salt storage building and the new fueling facility should be operational by the winter season.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OCTOBER:

The Farmer’s Market continues on Thursdays until October 22nd.

Saturday, October 3rd – 100th anniversary celebration of the Barnegat Volunteer Fire Department beginning with a parade from the Public Dock to the Firehouse at 12 noon. At 1 PM, the festivities continue at the Firehouse.

Sunday, October 11th – The first of the monthly Pancake Breakfast’s will be held at the Pinewood Estates Volunteer Fire Company’s firehouse. The breakfast is from 8 AM until Noon and will be held the second Sunday of each month from now until May. Prices are \$8.00 for adults, \$6.00 for seniors and \$5.00 for kids up to 10 years old.

Saturday, October 24th – The Halloween Fall Festival will be held at the Gazebo Park and municipal parking lot from 1 to 5 PM followed by an outdoor movie behind the Food Pantry at 6 PM. A short parade will be held at the event itself, followed by a costume contest.

Jeffrey M. Melchiondo
Mayor, Barnegat Township