

BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE
Mayor & Borough Council Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2021

Mayor Mary Jane Canose called this meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. remotely via Zoom. Present were Council Members John Donahue, Jeff Hammond, Matthew Marino, Jena McCredie, Chad McQueen, and Christine Zamarra. Also present were John Pidgeon, Borough Attorney, Tom Czerniecki, Administrator, and Anthony Suriano, Borough Clerk.

STATEMENT OF PRESIDING OFFICER

Notice of this meeting was provided to the Bernardsville News, Courier News and the Star Ledger, filed with the Municipal Clerk and posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board on December 24, 2020 and revised on August 5, 2021 to change the start time to 6:15pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved to adjourn to an executive session to consider Property Acquisition and Contract Negotiations, and that the time when and circumstances under which the matter can be disclosed to the public is when it is finally resolved. The motion was seconded and approved with six yes votes.

REOPEN

It was moved, seconded, and approved to reopen the meeting to the public at 7:00pm.

Formal Action on Closed Session topic:

Mr. McQueen moved to adopt **Resolution #21-168, RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE, COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY DESIGNATING ADVANCE REALTY INVESTORS AS REDEVELOPER FOR THE QUIMBY LANE REDEVELOPMENT AREA FOR BLOCK 70, LOTS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6.01, 6.02, 6.03, 6.04, 6.05, 6.06, 6.07 AND 6.08; BLOCK 71, LOTS 4, 5, 5.01, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 AND 13 AND THE QUIMBY LANE RIGHT OF WAY AS SHOWN ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE BROOK AND AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION OF A REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE REDEVELOPER FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF SUCH PROPERTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN.** Ms. Zamarra seconded and the motion was approved by the following roll call vote. Mr. Hammond, Mr. Marino, Ms. McCredie, Mr. McQueen, and Ms. Zamarra voted yes. Mr. Donahue voted no.

Mayor Canose said this was a really difficult decision to make, and it was an involved decision. She said we spent a lot of time on it and thanked Joe DeMarco, Jack Pidgeon, Tom Czerniecki, Chris Colley from Topology, and everyone that's been involved in this process. She said we will be working on an agreement so that we will be setting milestones for the developer. Our goal is

to have things continue to move and we have been making great progress since this process started. Mayor Canose thanked the council members for their diligence in this whole process.

Mr. Donahue said he was the lone dissenter as he feels it made more sense to appoint someone who already owned a key piece of property than giving someone a designation that has to assemble it. He said he thinks the process may lead us to places that we have to consider things that we shouldn't do, and not within the cost basis it might take to assemble it. He said while his vote didn't prevail, he wants to move forward.

Mayor Canose said our attorney has advised us the designation is not a permanent designation, so at some point if we feel that our developer isn't meeting the milestones we set, we can revoke that designation. She said right now we feel very positive about where we're going and what was great about this process is that both of the developers are local with wonderful reputations and we were very fortunate to have two very qualified developers submit proposals as they're both very committed to the community.

PRESENTATIONS

Rai Bindra, Survey of Local Services, Mayor Canose said she met Rai Bindra in May and he was asking about an internship. She put him in touch with Mr. Czerniecki and they came up with the idea of a community survey. Mr. Czerniecki said the idea to have something that we can revisit every few years and it points to service areas that may need more attention than we are aware of. He said it's consistent with our commitment to good management and Mr. Bindra did a great job meeting with department heads individually and as a group to go over the survey questions. Mr. Czerniecki said our goal is to receive 300 random surveys and we will summarize the data and have a report for council and department heads. Mr. Hammond asked what we will do with the information we receive. Mr. Czerniecki said we will include it in our budget assessment to know where to focus resources and it's also very helpful in applying for grants. Ms. McCredie asked if this is an actual citizen's survey or resident survey. Mr. Czerniecki said ICMA calls it a citizen survey. Ms. McCredie said she didn't know if calling it a citizen's survey would dissuade people from participating and maybe something to think about is changing it to resident's survey. Mr. Czerniecki said we can certainly change it to resident survey if we are more comfortable with that. Ms. Zamarra asked if we have the ability for someone to click a button on the website and translate the survey. Mr. Czerniecki said we can try to have that done and we have people on retainer in the Court and Police Department that can look at the final version to make sure it's accurate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McQueen moved approval of minutes from July 12, 2021 and July 26, 2021. Ms. Zamarra seconded and the motion was approved with six yes votes.

OPEN SESSION

Mayor Canose opened the meeting to the public. Hearing no comments, Mayor Canose closed the open session.

ORDINANCES (Public Hearing)

Mayor Canose opened the public hearing on Ordinance #2021-1888, **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #2021-1872, WHICH AMENDED STORMWATER REGULATIONS, AND SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING SECTION 29 OF CHAPTER 12 IN THE BOROUGH LAND USE CODE.** Hearing no comments or questions, Mayor Canose closed the public hearing. Mr. Hammond asked when the three-year cycle starts. Mr. Czerniecki said we divide the list in thirds, so for the balance of this year, we will be in year one. He said the end of 2021 will mark the end of year one, and then after 2022 and 2023, we will come back to the year one group in 2024. Mr. McQueen asked for verification that the yearly requirement to file with the borough was still in this ordinance. Mayor Canose said no, it's every three years. Mr. Czerniecki said all this ordinance did is take minor developments and put them on a three-year cycle and left everything else the same. He said we didn't change anything that was included in the original ordinance with respect to the major developments and we dialed down the minor developments from one to three years. Ms. McCredie moved to pass this ordinance on final reading and adopt as published. Mr. McQueen seconded and the motion was approved by the following roll call vote. Mr. Donahue, Mr. Hammond, Mr. Marino, Ms. McCredie, Mr. McQueen, and Ms. Zamarra voted yes.

Mayor Canose opened the public hearing on Ordinance #2021-1889, **AN ORDINANCE REPEALING § 3-9A OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED "CONSUMPTION OR POSSESSION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BY MINORS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY".** Hearing no comments or questions, Mayor Canose closed the public hearing. Mr. McQueen said he feels that fundamentally, the state is wrong and are making mistakes on this topic. He said he understands that this is a state mandate, and asked how can we give the state what they want, but he has to vote his conscience and cannot vote a conscience to remove such a thing. Mr. Pidgeon said the state adopted the statute allowing us to do it a few years ago, which is when we adopted the ordinance and for some reason the cannabis bill had this provision. He said in any event, they specifically repealed the prior law which authorized our ordinance and said we had to repeal it. Mr. McQueen asked what happens if all council members vote no. Mr. Hammond said he voted against introduction at the last council meeting as a matter of conscience and he is wondering if council rejects repealing this ordinance, what that would force the state to do. Mr. Pidgeon said it probably won't affect the state and would remain on the books. Mr. Hammond said he has been told multiple times by Chief Valentine that police have discretion on enforcement of certain ordinances. He said he feels this is wrong and we shouldn't necessarily go along with it just because the state has told us we have to do it. He said if enough towns reject this, maybe the state will reconsider. Chief Valentine said he likes what council is proposing and he is not in favor of this ordinance at all. He said at the end

of the day we will not be able to enforce this law because as he understands, what the legislation did was remove the authority of the council to regulate. Mr. McQueen said if council votes this ordinance down he proposes a proclamation to be voted on at the next council meeting and then that would be sent to the appropriate people in Trenton. Mr. Donahue moved to reject this ordinance. Mr. Hammond seconded and the motion was approved by the following roll call vote. Mr. Donahue, Mr. Hammond, Mr. Marino, Ms. McCredie, Mr. McQueen, and Ms. Zamarra voted yes.

ORDINANCES (Introduction)

Mr. Hammond moved that Ordinance #2021-1890, **CONCERNING SPECIAL EVENTS AND AMENDING CHAPTER 4 OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED “GENERAL LICENSING”**, be introduced by title, passed on first reading, published according to law, and that a public hearing be scheduled for a meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m., Monday, September 13, 2021. Mr. McQueen seconded and the motion was approved with six yes votes.

Mr. Donahue moved that Ordinance #2021-1891, **ESTABLISHING SMALL ACCESSORY MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT SETBACKS IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES AND SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING ARTICLE 12 OF THE BOROUGH LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS ENTITLED “ZONING”**, be introduced by title, passed on first reading, published according to law, and that a public hearing be scheduled for a meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m., Monday, September 13, 2021. Ms. Zamarra seconded and the motion was approved with six yes votes.

Mr. Hammond moved that Ordinance #2021-1892, **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE #2021-1882**, be introduced by title, passed on first reading, published according to law, and that a public hearing be scheduled for a meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m., Monday, September 13, 2021. Ms. McCredie seconded and the motion was approved with six yes votes.

RESOLUTIONS

- #21-155A AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS (as of 7/14/21)**
- #21-155B AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS (after 7/14/21)**
- #21-156 APPROVING MEMBERSHIP IN THE FIRE COMPANY**
- #21-157 AUTHORIZATION OF TAX REFUND**

- #21-158 INCREASING THE BID THRESHOLD TO \$44,000.00 AND QUOTE THRESHOLD TO \$6,600**
- #21-159 RECOGNITION OF MAY AS “BAG UP NJ” MONTH EACH YEAR**
- #21-160 REGARDING THE NJ HIGHLANDS INITIAL ASSESSMENT GRANT**
- #21-161 APPROVING A FIREWORKS PERMIT AT 391 MENDHAM ROAD**
- #21-162 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF AN RFP FOR A PARKS AND RECREATION ENGINEER**
- #21-163 AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST CHANGE IN TITLE, TEXT, OR AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO NJS 40A:4-85**
- #21-164 REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS PER NJS 40A:4-87 SOMERSET COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT – FY2021/2022**
- #21-165 AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR FIRE COMPANY COMMAND VEHICLE 2021 CHEVROLET TAHOE SSV 4WD THROUGH THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY CO-OP**
- #21-166 AUTHORIZING INTEGRA REALTY RESOURCES TO COMPLETE AN UPDATED APPRAISAL REPORT FOR 63 BERNARDS AVENUE WHICH THE BOROUGH IS IN THE PROCESS OF ACQUIRING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PURPOSES**
- #21-167 AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A SOMERSET COUNTY RECREATION GRANT FOR PICKLEBALL COURTS**

Regarding Resolution #21-161, the property owner has advised that they will not be holding a fireworks display on their property. This resolution will be removed.

Regarding Resolution #21-165, Mr. Hammond said he has no objection to getting the fire command vehicle and supporting them, but as we're moving more towards looking at what vehicles can be either hybrids or electric vehicles. Now that we know that even larger vehicles such as trucks and buses are becoming hybrids and available as hybrids or electric vehicles, he

feels a discussion of vehicle purchase ought to be considered through the Environmental Commission as well as through the Finance Committee or any other committee. Mr. McQueen said while he appreciates the position of the Environmental Commission and what they're trying to do, he feels that these decisions should be left to the Fire Chief. He said this is a truck that Chief Miller has been working on for a long time and it should be his choice if he chooses to go electric. Mr. Hammond said he agrees it should be Chief Miller's choice but there may be things that are available that the department is not aware of, and the Environmental Commission can help give that kind of advice so they can make the final decision. He said the same is true for the Police Department. Chief Miller said they did not find the vehicles that are available as a command vehicle to be electric in the contract that they entered into with the state. He said it wasn't discussed for this project as it has been in the process for three years and wasn't something that entered into a thought process. He said it is a trade-off because they are relinquishing the vehicle that the Fire Company owns to the Fire Prevention Bureau and the Housing Department so that they don't purchase another vehicle for the borough at the same time. He said the emergency vehicle would be the newer vehicle. Mr. Hammond said to his point, this is something that we need to think ahead about because the lead time for these vehicles is at least a year. He said the state just recently changed some of their procurement rules to allow for more purchases of these vehicles. He said while not for this particular vehicle, his point is that for future purchases of vehicles we take this into consideration. Chief Miller said we have to be careful and have to consider what the infrastructure requirements are going to be as we purchase those vehicles. He gave an example for the command vehicle which doesn't get stationed at the Firehouse and goes home with the Chief. He said we are going to be asking a volunteer Chief to pay for the electricity for that command vehicle and feels this is not necessarily a realistic option. He said we have to be concerned about the infrastructure in the borough with some of the municipal buildings as we don't have a new infrastructure with our municipal building and our Firehouse that would sustain any superchargers in order to charge those vehicles in a one to two hour period. He said this makes purchasing these vehicles bring about other costs. Mr. McQueen said this is a policy issue and proposes to consider an ordinance regarding electric vehicles. We can bring that forward and deliberate on it. He said he does not want to hold up this particular vehicle because it's been delayed for two years in finance and feels it just needs to get done. Mr. Czerniecki said while it was stated the purchase is from the state, we purchase these through a co-op and this one is being purchased through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Co-op. Mr. Czerniecki explained the process of a Co-op and said he suspects that it will include options of installation of the charging infrastructure as it becomes more and more in demand. Mr. Hammond said he is not opposing this purchase and wholeheartedly supports it, but he is bringing up the point that since this is the wave of the future and the Public Works Committee as well as the Environmental Commission has been working on this, he feels those groups ought to have some input on vehicle purchases in the future. He said it would not just be for electric vehicles, but also hybrids which would have a different charging requirement and demand to Chief Miller's point. Mr. McQueen said his point is that purchase of vehicles is not an Environmental Commission issue. He said if it is believed this is an Environmental Commission issue in regards to purchasing vehicles, he is willing to let the

Environmental Commission bring an ordinance of such to council so they can vote on it. Mr. Donahue said the end user needs to determine what they need.

Regarding Resolution #21-156, Mayor Canose thanked Andrew Lucid, Gregory Lucid, and Christopher Otteau for volunteering their time to the Bernardsville Fire Company.

Ms. McCredie moved to adopt Resolutions #21-155A to #21-167, except #21-161 which has been removed. Mr. McQueen seconded and the motion was approved by the following roll call vote. Mr. Donahue, Mr. Hammond, Mr. Marino, Ms. McCredie, Mr. McQueen, and Ms. Zamarra voted yes.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor's Update, Mayor Canose said on July 13th she met with Brenda Curnin and the new owners of Cycle Bar in the Bernards Shopping Center. The owners are very enthusiastic and have also joined the Mayor's Wellness Campaign. Mayor Canose attended a Mayor's Monarch Pledge Webinar and they are encouraging creation of more small habitats rather than big areas. She said hopefully we'll be planting more milkweed in the spring. The Mayor's Wellness Campaign had a meeting at the new Community In Crisis building, and along with the Recreation Department, will be sponsoring a Fall Fitness Fair on Saturday, September 18th. They are looking to do a healthy cookbook and help with the Downtown Bernardsville's Labor Day 5k. Mayor Canose said Community In Crisis is going to hold their Chefs Unite event on October 24th at the Bernard's Inn, which is their major fundraiser. Mayor Canose met with band members who are going to do a concert at 271 Mine Brook Road and went over all the logistics for parking and dance setup. Mayor Canose participated in a downtown cleanup on July 16th, attended Coffee With A Cop on July 20th at Community In Crisis. There will be more Coffee With A Cop sessions coming up. The Cultural Arts Committee met and had to cancel the concert because of weather but they are hoping to schedule more either in late September or early October. They are also talking with the schools to possibly do an art show and then an international potluck supper in the winter. Mayor Canose attended the Somerset County Human Services Advisory Council meeting and the presentation was from the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Mayor Canose attended the EV Fleet Analysis webinar which had some great resources for how to do a gradual conversion of vehicles. It's really recommended for vehicles that travel over 50 miles but under 150 miles a day starting with sedans and small SUV vehicles that have a consistent parking location and a long dwell time that are in the same place overnight. The Department Of Community Affairs will be providing municipalities with a model ordinance to make permitting easier to put in charging stations and there will be an EV show at Duke Farms on September 25th from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Mayor Canose attended National Night Out on August 3rd and thanked the Police, Fire, and First Aid departments for an incredible program. She said they had the LEAD van on site and we're transferring from DARE into the LEAD program. There was also a vaccination clinic and they managed to get some people vaccinated. Mayor Canose attended an in-person county forum on the Rescue Act which was held in Hillsborough. She said they had a lot of good information on how those funds are supposed to

be used. Somerset County updated the Covid numbers which are creeping up. She said in Bernardsville our vaccination numbers for people ages 18 and over are at 79%, for 65 and over they are at 77%, and for all ages they are at 64%. Mayor Canose said we had another vaccination clinic at the train station on July 29th. Somerset County employees are 100% back to work, but now they are back to all wearing masks. Mayor Canose said we got a call from Congressman Malinowski with good news that the Boylan Terrace Walkway Project made the first cut in the list of community projects for the 2022 house appropriations bill, so we are excited to hear that is moving along. Mayor Canose has been meeting with Ashwin Barama, who is going to be a junior in High School, who has come up with a very interesting project called a wind bush. She said they have them in France right now but none in this country. He is raising money and would like to try and install one of these at the Library with the goal that it would be next to a bench and you would make enough energy to have some charge, so people could charge their laptops or phones while they're sitting. We have committee replacements for Tom O'Dea seats, so Mr. Marino will be serving as council liaison to the Recreation Committee and HPAC, and also will sit on the Public Safety Committee. She said Ms. McCredie will take Mr. O'Dea's place on the Land Use Committee. These appointments will be confirmed later in the meeting. Mr. Hammond said on August 23rd there will be a vaccination clinic run by Bernards Township, which we have shared health department services with, that will include the Pfizer vaccine which is really meant to target 12 to 18 year olds as we get ready to go back to school.

Administrator's Report, Mr. Czerniecki said our auditors concluded the FY 2020 audit a couple days ago and that document will be distributed to the Governing Body shortly. He said there are no recommendations made by the auditors. Council thanked the Finance Department and Mr. Czerniecki said he will pass that along to the Finance staff. He said it's a team effort with each department following the purchasing manual, making timely purchases, getting all their quotes, documenting the quotes, and not spending outside of their budget allocations. Mr. Czerniecki said we started the process of addressing the most severe lifts and depressions in our pavers around Olcott Square. We had a challenge getting people to comply with the weed ordinance but of the 25 violations we have been pursuing, Geoff Price has been ultimately successful in getting the vast majority of those into compliance. He will continue to keep pursuing the non-compliant properties. There will be Coffee With A Cop tomorrow at Starbucks from 9:00am to 11:00am. He said we are reviewing police applications and we may be asking the council to have a special meeting early next week to authorize contingent offers of employment. The Police Department is sponsoring a collection of back to school supplies for children in need and there's a collection bin at the Police Department entrance and at the Library. Mr. Czerniecki said with respect to masking, he consulted with Dr. Hammond this morning and we are asking the public to wear a mask when they come into any municipal building/facility whether they're vaccinated or not and staff will do likewise when they meet with the public.

Monthly Reports, Mr. McQueen moved to accept the monthly reports as listed on the agenda. Ms. McCredie seconded and the motion was approved with six yes votes.

Municipal Attorney's Report, there were no comments or questions from council

Public Safety Committee, Mr. Donahue said the committee will meet this Thursday to conduct interviews.

Finance Committee, Mr. McQueen said the committee is already starting to think about 2022 budget cycle. He said last year they started thinking about a move to zero-based budgeting. Mr. Czerniecki said we are going to allow department heads some initial discretion in prioritizing budget this year and that process will start in September.

Organization Development and Personnel Committee, Mr. Hammond said most of the activities the committee did at their last meeting have already been covered with ordinances and resolutions. The salary ordinance amendment from earlier in this meeting had to do with the Police Captain as well as the creation of a Part-Time Pool Executive Director. Mr. Hammond said they also discussed encouraging our DPW employees to volunteer as firefighters and to collaborate with our EMS squad. He said we are not going to require them to volunteer but agree with Chief Miller that it would be helpful if they did and encourage them to do so.

Engineering, Technology, and Public Works Committee, Ms. McCredie said the committee is looking to get some information of preliminary design for the Bernards Avenue Road Improvement Project at a future meeting in October. She said we are awaiting input for the sediment sampling and testing we sent in June regarding the dam remediation and the annual day of inspection is scheduled in November. Ms. McCredie said we are hoping to complete work on the Polo Grounds walking path in October but we are up against the availability of contractors and materials. Washington Corner Road and Carriage House Road are to be milled and paved this fall. Crestview Drive work has been slightly delayed as PSE&G has been delayed in getting the dry lines for gas installed, but we are looking at possibly starting next week. The project for road work on Chestnut Avenue has been awarded. Milling and paving were completed in mid-July on Ravine Lake Road, Washington Avenue, Prospect Street, Windwood Road, Pheasant Hill Drive, Oakley Street, Courter Street, and Condit Place. The Quiet Zone Ad Hoc Committee is waiting for NJDOT to get back to us with meeting dates. We updated and completed the road survey and now have a full list of how poor or great our roads are with a zero to 100 scale. This survey is done about every three years. The final gas and electrical inspections for the generator at the lower level of the Library were scheduled and done on July 19th. The county project for the Meeker Road Bridge has been completed.

Municipal Attorney Report, there were no questions or comments from council on Mr. Pidgeon's report.

Land Use Committee, Mayor Canose said we just approved our developer for Quimby Lane redevelopment earlier in the meeting.

Shade Tree Committee, Johanna Wissinger, committee member, said the committee had their July meeting, which was the first meeting that Dennis Galway chaired. The committee welcomed new member Mike Gunderson. They talked about what they proposed to work on at their September meeting since they don't have a meeting in August. She said the committee is going to start tree planting again and hopes they can get enough interest and people power to accomplish it. She said we haven't done an inventory of municipal trees in a long time and it might be worthwhile to do one. She said Rutgers has some programs that can help municipalities with that. She said with invasive insects coming, it's good to know which species we have, especially so that we are prepared and know where they are going to be coming from. She said she's hoping we could do the municipal tree inventory in September.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Appointments

Mayor Canose announced the appointment of Jena McCredie to the Land Use Committee.

Mr. Hammond moved to appoint Matt Marino as HPAC Council Liaison, Recreation Committee Liaison, and member of the Public Safety Committee. Ms. Zamarra seconded and the motion was approved with six yes votes.

Submission of Applications in Digital Form to both Land Use Boards

Mr. Pidgeon said Frank Mottola asked that we adopt an ordinance requiring submission of application materials in digital form as well as hard copies. He said this is the procedure during the pandemic and was found to be very useful. Council consent was given to Mr. Pidgeon to prepare an ordinance for introduction at the next meeting on September 13th.

Correspondence - Tour de Summer Camp Bike Ride, October 10th

This bike ride will take place on October 10 and will pass through some streets in town. Tour de Summer Camp will work with the Police Department for any safety concerns and submit an insurance certificate naming the Borough of Bernardsville as an additional insured and sign a Hold Harmless Agreement. This item was just for information only and no council action was necessary.

Unfinished Business

Fall Cyclocross, Mr. Donahue said the Fall Cyclocross is being worked on with Bob Markowick. He said Trek was a swag sponsor last spring and they will be there again in the fall. They brought in SRAM which is a components maker, and SRAM said they will spend up to

\$4,000 to buy food for people at the event. He said the Fall Cyclocross starts on September 15th and runs for five Wednesdays until October 13th.

New Business

Bike Racks, Mr. Hammond said he has talked to Mr. Czerniecki about the issue of the lack of bike racks that we have in town and wanted to bring it forward so that the Finance Committee can discuss. He said this would fit into not only our master plan but the recreation master plan that we've just developed, as well as some of the work we've done with RideWise. He said he hopes to begin to implement the master plan, and as we implement our finances for the 2022 budget we should consider some bike racks for municipal properties. Mr. McQueen said there are several items in the Recreation Master Plan that are short solutions for ADA compliance or otherwise. He said he mentioned this at the Finance Committee meeting as they were talking about the master plan. He said he expects the Recreation Committee to move quickly on those items, and get them in front of council within 30 days so this does not get delayed and we can start moving on these things. Mayor Canose said there is an old bike rack at the train station and this is something Downtown Bernardsville was also looking at as a project to replace. Mr. Markowick said Recreation Committee meeting is tomorrow night. He said they had a vote on the Fall Cyclocross and the committee is in favor of it. He said the committee is meeting tomorrow night and will be moving up their September meeting to the seventh, so they will have two meetings before the next council meeting. He hopes to have discussion and bring final recommendations to the council before the next council meeting.

Spotted Lanternflies, Mr. Marino said an infestation people have noticed around town is the spotted lanternfly, and residents are questioning if there's anything that can be done about them. Mr. Hammond asked if the Shade Tree Committee has given any formal recommendation. Johanna Wissinger said they posted some ways of handling them and they entered information at different stages to address it, for instance taking the eggs off the trees. She said they can redirect requests as we have some great people who are getting information out on the different medias. She said it's on the Environmental Commission's page on the borough website as well.

OPEN SESSION

Mayor Canose opened the meeting to the public.

Johanna Wissinger said she wanted to underscore that the Environmental Commission recognizes that they are advisory. She said she heard comments earlier about not wanting the Environmental Commission to communicate with issues that should be environmental, like the electric vehicles. She said the Environmental Commission has members on a subcommittee who have spent a tremendous amount of time learning about electric vehicles. Ms. Wissinger said Mr. Hammond was just questioning that in the future, the Environmental Commission should be involved in those matters. She said there's no one on the Commission's subcommittee that would tell either Chief Valentine or Chief Miller what vehicles they should have, but they have

investigated quite a bit and should be allowed to give their opinion, and so to exclude the Environmental Commission really is stressful. She said she would like to see Bernardsville move ahead and not miss any grants and be proactive. She said she is grateful that the Mayor attends these meetings and that we have an active liaison from the council, but asked to please not shut the Environmental Commission down as it would be a disservice to our community.

Glenn Miller, Fire Chief, thanked council, Tom Czerniecki, and Leslie Roberson for all their efforts that have gone into two very large purchases in the last month. He said they were invaluable and we are doing what's best for the town.

Hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Canose closed the open session.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved to adjourn to an executive session to consider Property Acquisition, and that the time when and circumstances under which the matter can be disclosed to the public is when it is finally resolved. The motion was seconded and approved with six yes votes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.
