

NEWS FROM OUTSIDE THE GATES

Written by Mayor Ken Baulderstone, Township of Ocean

Off-Leash Dog Park

Because of the difficulty in obtaining quotes for the erection of the fence the plan was being changed to have the Department of Public Works build the fence. However in response to the COVID-19 pandemic all Township employees are working a modified schedule and have been broken into two teams working on alternate days to reduce the impact of an employee testing positive so the amount of available time to perform normal DPW work is halved and is required to perform essential tasks. The fence will not be erected until the normal work schedule is resumed.

Greenbriar Oceanaire Men's Club donation to Waretown First Aid Squad

Soon after the start of the pandemic the Waretown First Aid Squad identified that they need a washer and dryer for First Responders to wash their uniforms after calls attending to residents. By taking their uniforms home to be washed they were exposing their families to the virus. As soon as the Men's Club heard about this need they immediately responded by donating the funds to cover the purchase of a new washer and dryer. This is unbelievable generosity and support for these brave volunteers upon whom we depend.

Death of former Mayor

Former Township of Ocean Mayor Tony Fonseca died on March 24 after a long illness. Tony was Mayor and Committeeman from 1998 to 2007 and was very instrumental in major changes to the Township including the building of Greenbriar Oceanaire, obtaining the Exit 69 interchange and creating the Town Center where Shoprite is located.

2020 Municipal Budget

The 2020 Municipal Budget of \$12,828,953.53 was passed on April 9 and included Local Tax for Municipal Purpose of \$9,228,198.97 This is an increase of 1.8997 cents per \$100 of assessed value. This is an average increase of \$5.12 per month for Greenbriar Oceanaire homes.

Short-term Rental Ban

In response to concerns by Township residents that people from areas with a high level of COVID-19 cases were moving temporarily into the Township increasing the risk of spread to Township residents the Township Committee passed a Resolution prohibiting the short-term rental of homes to non-residents within the Township for the duration of the State of Emergency.

Route 532 Water Treatment Plant

A contract has been awarded for rehabilitation of the Water Treatment Plant including:

- Two of the filters are in need of replacing the media
- Repairs to all filters
- Replacement of valves

The contract was awarded to the lowest bidder, TKT Construction Co. Inc for \$229,010.

The work is to be completed prior to Memorial Day when the highest demand period commences.

New Park on Bryant Road adjacent to Barnegat Bay

The work on removing the old dock and illegal in-water structures has been completed. Approval has been given for the Township Engineer to prepare the bid specifications to replace the deteriorated and damaged bulkhead and small dock and the installation of 140 linear feet of new vinyl bulkhead sheeting or stone gabion baskets and construction of a new small dock of non-polluting materials.

Township Park has a new name

The park on Wells Mills Road often referred to as "The Lake" has been renamed to "Corliss Park - Lake and Recreation Area" from "Ocean Memorial Park and Recreation Area". This name change recognizes the countless contributions of the Corliss family including the donation to the Township of the land and cranberry bog by Ruth and Leroy Corliss.

If you have topics you would like to be addressed please call me at (609)312-8059, email me at kbaulderstone@twpoceannj.gov, or visit me in the Town Hall.