

**Mayor's Senior Advisory Committee**  
**April 4, 2023 Minutes**

**Attendance:**

**Representatives –Virginia Carlson, Bob O'Brien, Barbara Mortensen, Alice Tully, Edward Torres, Veronica Meyer**

**Alternates –Helen Grant, Jim Harris, Marilyn Lago, Debbie Rogers, Vincent Tyburczy**

**Brick Township – Mayor Lisa Crate  
Councilwoman Heather deJong  
Terri Martinelli, Senior Services**

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**Mayor Crate:**

**Mayor Crate has been meeting with various departments within town hall and our Public Works Department to become acquainted with our staff members.**

**New Council Member- The appointment of Mayor left a vacancy on the Council and someone needed to be selected as a replacement. The person who was appointed is Melissa Travers. Melissa is a nurse and a mom of 2 boys. She and her family reside in the Herbertsville section of Brick Township. She also will have to run to fill that seat in November.**

**Our 2023 municipal operating budget was introduced at our last council meeting. The budget currently has a 0% tax increase for the coming year. We worked really hard with our CFO Maureen ((Mo), and our BA Joanne to make sure that we could keep it at -0- for this year. We understand the difficulties that people have been facing over the last couple of years with the rise in inflation and the rise in cost for everything. This administration and financial team sat down, did our due diligence, to make sure that, at least, the township portion of your tax bill will not go up for this year. I want to thank all the people who**

participated and all the department heads who went back and looked at their budget to see what we could cut. The good news about the 0-tax increase is that there is not going to be any change to our services.

### Brick Township School Funding:

On March 20<sup>th</sup> Mayor Crate testified before the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee in Trenton. There has been \$2 cuts to Brick schools for the last 7 years and it is an 8-year process, so next year is the last year of cuts. Initially \$2.54 million was to be cut. Mayor Crate testified, on behalf of our school district and all of our students and teachers, to see if something could be done, and there was a bill that passed both the Senate and Assembly that will put over \$100 million back into the budget for districts that had large \$2 cuts. It didn't clear out the cut completely, but replaced most of it. Approximately \$1.7 million was returned to Brick.

Mayor Crated participated in "Climb with a Cop" hosted by the PBA and held at Gravity Vault located in Brick Plaza. The event was to raise money for the Special Olympics.

Catalyst Awards, March 16<sup>th</sup> – Dan Newman, Construction Official received the Catalyst award presented by The Arc, Ocean County Chapter.

Mayor's Cup Mock Trial March 21<sup>st</sup> – Brick Township High School vs. Brick Memorial High School. First time in approximately 4 years that Brick Township High School won the title. Both schools did a fantastic job.

Crate Conversation – Ed Moroney and myself have been working on an idea of interviewing people around our community about things that are interesting. We came up with "Crate Conversation". Our first conversation was with the President of the Brick Garden Club. Future guests will include someone from our EMS, Chamber of Commerce, students from our high schools. It will be a 10-15-minute discussion.

The interviews will be aired on Facebook, Township website and on B20. An air date has not been confirmed.

Wawa Lanes Mill Rd – Their Grand Opening will be on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Round Pie Pizzeria - Located in the Shop-Rite Plaza, next to Manhattan Bagel will be opening in 2-3 weeks.

Livoti's – Laurel Square where Path Mark was. They applied for and received all their building permits. Intentions are to open in March of 2024.

Lifter's Lair – Opened last week, located on Brick Blvd. where Planet Fitness use to be.

Senior Prom – Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 6pm until 9pm at the Brick Civic Plaza. This is a free event for residents ages 65 and over and promises to be a memorable evening of dancing, food and fun. This year's theme for the Senior Prom is Cinco de Mayo. There will be a dance contest with awards for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place and the naming of the Prom Queen and King. Registrations are limited. For more information call Recreation at 732.262.1073.

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Brick Township Green Fair – Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 10am-2pm. Held at the Havens Farm/Anstett Cultural Arts Center, 515 Herbertsville Road. There will be vendors, exhibitors, door prizes and giveaways. A presentation by Ocean University Medical Center, a rain barrel workshop cohosted by Brick MUA and a clothing/textile recycling drive.

Brick's Farmer's Market - The market, in its ninth season, will be open on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. starting May 6<sup>th</sup> through Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>. There are nearly 60 vendors signed up for the 2023 season, offering fruit, vegetables, pastries, cheese, sauces, pickles, shakes and smoothies, artisanal goods, coffees, ethnic delicacies, jellies, jams, honey, handcrafted items and more.

**Buy-in-Brick – As of last year, 2022, we had 7,793 Buy-in-Brick transactions. The dollar amount spent at Buy-in-Brick businesses was \$644,597.00. The rebate back to residents off on their property taxes was \$44,200.00. We have, approximately, 55 participating businesses.**

**Terri:**

**“Got Your Ducks in a Row” – Preparing your financial and personal matters. April 17, 24 and 28, and May 1 at 1:30pm. Call 732.920.8686 to register.**

**Chronic Disease Workshop – 6-week class on Friday’s from 10am to 12pm April 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19 and 26. They ask you attend all 6-week classes. Call 732.920.8686 to register.**

**Ice Cream Social & Bingo – Wednesday April 26 at 12:30pm. Must register to attend. Suggested donation of \$2**

**Community Café – Mondays and Wednesdays 11am-1:30pm. Lunch reservation is required the day before by no later than 11am. Transportation provided. Call 732.920.8686 for reservations. Suggested donation of \$2.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Marilyn Kaczka,  
Secretary**

**Next Meeting:**

**May 2, 2023 at 2 pm**

**(Meeting will be held in the A/B Room)**