

**Mayor's Senior Advisory Committee
October 7, 2025 Minutes**

Attendance:

Representatives – Helen Grant, Karen Brown, Bob O'Brien, Deborah Krause, Marie Sidoti, Larry Clifton, Edward Torres

Alternates –Roseann Brennan, Ronald Forbes

**Brick Township – Mayor Lisa Crate
Councilwoman Heather deJong
Amy Schmiedeberg, Senior Services**

Guest: Dr. Thomas Farrell, Superintendent

Mayor Crate:

Longest Table event was held on September 20th. It was a great event that was well attended. We will be continuing the tradition next year.

Saturday October 11th is our craft fair held at Windward Beach. 78 vendors have signed up. The event starts at 9am, rain date will be Sunday, October 12th.

Laurelton Fire Company will be hosting a "Meet Your Firemen" event on Saturday, October 11th beginning at 10am.

Monday, October 13th town hall be closed in observance of Columbus Day.

Thursday, October 16th Visitation Church will be hosting their community lunch café. This event is held the 3rd Thursday of every month, everyone is invited. The doors open at 11:30. We encourage you to arrive no later than 11:45 as they start serving promptly at 12 noon.

Saturday October 18th there are two events, Beach Sweeps and Fall Fest. Beach sweeps is Clean Ocean Actions 40th anniversary of doing

this. They will be at Beach 1 and 3 and then at Windward Beach. That begins at 9am, rain or shine. Our annual Fall Fest at Windward Beach. The event is from 1pm-7pm. There will be food trucks, a cornhole event, games for all ages and the night ends with fireworks. Guests can enjoy seasonal treats from an array of food trucks offering a variety of delicious options. At 7pm you will be treated to a spectacular firework display.

Thursday October 23rd is Brick Township's annual Trunk or Treat at the Drum Point Sports Complex. Families can sign up for one of three time slots, 6pm, 7pm or 8pm. Call 732.262.1075 for more information.

Saturday, October 25th the Brick PBA Local 230 is hosting their 3rd annual Allie's Army a 5K fundraiser, +2.5kwalk/fun run. The event is to benefit the Labruzzo family. It begins at 10am at Drum Point Sports Complex.

Monday October 27th Mayor will be meeting with the commissioners and members of JCP&L to discuss the rate increase we have all been experiencing and to find out what the plan is to see if some of those rates can be reduced. There is an energy assistance for seniors and you can contact Amy for more information.

On Sunday October 19th, November 2nd, November 16th and November 30th the Food Angels will offer free meals to anyone who wants to take a hot meal home, you don't have to eat it there. They setup around 10am and are there until 11:30. They are located in the SOS building at 725 Mantoloking Road.

Dunkin Donuts located at 780 Route 70, (Aldi's) will replace the Dunkin Donuts that is currently located at 905 Route 70. The second pad site at the 780 Route 70 site will be a Subway.

Tim Horton's donuts will be opening at I Lanes Mill Road.

Windmill has picked up their permits so work should begin shortly. The Windmill will be located at 905 Route 70.

Preserved Land:

Brick Open Space Savers have been working really hard over the last year. We have had some success with preserved land on Second Avenue that was approved. It is only 2-1/2 acres but to us it was significant. It is on the corner of Herbertsville Road and Maple Avenue and butts up to the Fire Safety Training center and is developable land and prime property. Osborn off of Drum Point is 6-acres and that property closed. There is an adjoining property which is 4-acres that we are getting ready to close on. There's 6-acres in the Sawmill Tract off of Summit Avenue that we are working on getting appraised and move towards purchasing that for Green Acres. There is an area called Sea Horse Estates near N. Pier and Cheryl Lane that is about 10-acres we are working on now to preserve and add to our Green Acres. There is a big chunk that is attached, but not part of the Forsythe Reserve, that is 20-acres we are currently looking at and hopefully acquire and turn into Green Acres. The owners of that property reached out to us and asked if we would be interested. We sent letters through the Brick Open Space Savers to people who have purchased lots years ago that are not buildable lots and the owners are paying taxes on them and asked if they would be interested in donating the property to the Township. We have had a few responses that agreed to donating their property. We currently have approximately 80-acres of land we are hoping to obtain and little by little Green Acres expansion is happening for us. Part of the process is the Township pays for the appraisal and then we apply for grants through Green Acres, through the County and through other entities and we get back the money we paid for the appraisal. Once we purchase the land, the Township will maintain it by teaming up with the Environmental Commission to engage volunteers.

Laurelton Gardens micro-surfacing is on the agenda for tonight's council meeting and will be approved for funding.

Wedgewood Place- Sgt. Rossi will call to explain about the striping on county road.

Princeton Avenue - depending on the weather, milling and paving operation will start on Wednesday, October 15th. The county will start in Section 1, between Post Road and Midstreams Road using a one-way detour where eastbound traffic on Princeton will be maintained. Hours of operation will start at 7pm.

Lions Head South – Paving has been approved.

Green Briar 2 – There is a gap in the striping because cars were parked there. Two sections need to be striped. Green Briar 2 is on the paving list but not for the next 2 years. Handi-cap ramps were replaced within the last few years but did not put the truncated pads on them, and, they may not be pitched correctly. JCP&L said that the street lights will not be switched over to LED. A street pole near 41 Rainier Dr. has been down because a FedEx truck hit it. Would like it replaced. Tree questions contact Jim McCutcheon 732.262.1040, X1351.

Amy Schmiedeberg:

Property tax rebate books are due October 31st. We're still doing the walk-in Wednesdays, we've done about 650 applications for Brick seniors thus far. A lot of questions are coming up about the Anchor benefit, remember if you are a homeowner and you filled out the blue book the Anchor is part of that application.

Medicare open enrollment starts next week. You can meet with a SHIP counselor October 15th through December 1st. Please call to schedule an appointment. Government shutdown should not impact open enrollment, your application and changes should go through as normal.

We do have a new event, Bunco dice game Tuesday October 28th 1pm. call to register.

Our Halloween party will be on Wednesday October 29th 12pm. Call to register.

Dr. Thomas Farrell:

Our Pre-K program in Brick educates 590 3 & 4-year old's which is almost 60% of our Pre-K universe which is about 900 and we have been expanding every year. We have the Herbertsville Pre-K and Warren Wolf Pre-K and are looking to expand it next year. The reason this is important, when you educate 3- and 4-year old's, it helps remediate the cost of educating that child if they are not reading on grade level by 3rd or 4th grade. We receive state funds, 83-cents on the dollar, for our Pre-K programs. There is a lottery for the Pre-K program. Our classified students are automatically admitted and we have almost 200 on the waiting list. We are hoping to expand.

We do so much more with less, and that's a tribute to the community, to our staff and our teachers. We are no frills in our budget. We're not as comprehensive as we would like, but we have been able to maintain much of the programming.

Over the years, the population of special education students has increased in population across the state and throughout the nation. We need to educate those students as well, and as the population increases, so does the resources for those students. With those resources comes a cost and that cost really does siphon money out of our budget. Brick has done a phenomenal job weathering the storm financially and improving our student performance.

Currently, enrollment in Brick schools is 8,400 students. In 2008 there were just over 10,000 students. We've converted and sold off multiple schools. Herbertsville school was changed and Laurelton school was sold. Our enrollment has stayed static over the last few years.

Transportation - Substitute school bus drivers are needed. If you have a CDL license, we will train you. We have a need for part-time and/or substitute drivers for co-curricular and sports.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Marilyn Kaczka
Secretary**

Next Meeting:

Monday, Nov. 3rd at 11am

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

Scheduled Guest Speaker:

***Vincent Camporeale, VSO/Division Director, Ocean
County Veteran Service Bureau***