Mayor's Report - Monday, February 24, 2025

First of all, we would like to thank Neptune City residents for the outpouring of support and contributions in recent days since experiencing several events locally that have tested our faith and resolve as we grapple with these difficult situations. These are times when living in a place like Neptune City, where neighbors truly care for one another and pull together in times of distress, make it possible to endure these times of difficulty. Thank you to everyone in our community who has stepped forward to lend a hand and respond to their neighbors. Whether it is a kind word, a smile or financial or emotional support, you are appreciated and is what makes Neptune City such a special place to live. We continue to pray for our families in Neptune City and stand strong as a community.

TOMORROW is the Mayors St. Patrick's Day Event
All are welcome to join the McGreevy family celebrate Irish-American Heritage Month in support of the Bradley Food Pantry. Trad Irish music, food and drinks provided. Suggested donation $25 per person. Saturday, March 1 from 11:30 – 2:30 at the Shark River Beach & Yacht Club, 360 South Riverside Dr., Neptune.

Flood Mitigation Coalition
Several members of the Governing Body continue to serve as liaisons to the local Flood Mitigation Coalition that we began last year with Neptune City, Neptune Township, Bradley Beach, Monmouth County as well State and Federal officials to address ongoing coastal flooding in our area. Thank you to our Governing Body representatives, Councilperson Pamela Renee and Councilman Brian Thomas who attended a meeting last week that included a presentation on all FEMA grants available to our municipalities to help mitigate flooding in our respective municipalities. Neptune City professionals are also working with the Coalition and the County to update the drainage study and find a grant to address the ongoing drainage issues from Sylvan Lake to Memorial Dr./ Laird Ave/Route 35/ Third Ave. We will keep the public informed of continued efforts and next steps with the Flood Mitigation Coalition.

Avian Flu (H5 HPAI)
To report a dead bird (or any dead animal) on public property, call Neptune City DPW 732-775-1607. DPW will collect on local roads and Borough properties only. The Borough does not have a policy that allows the DPW to collect dead animals of any kind on private property (it is not allowed by the DEP for us to do this).
DPW is responsible to handle any issues with municipal properties and has the proper channels for reporting to the State.
The overall public health risk remains low at this time. While H5 HPAI has been

detected in humans in the U.S. – primarily in individuals with close contact with infected poultry or dairy cattle – there have been no human cases reported in New Jersey.
As a precaution, please keep pets away from areas of avian habitat and note, according to the New Jersey Dept. of Health, cats are particularly susceptible to H5 HPAI and often experience severe disease and high mortality when infected. Potential exposure sources of Avian Flu for cats include consuming raw (unpasteurized) milk or raw/undercooked meat contaminated with the virus, infected birds or other animals and their environments, or exposure to contaminated clothing or items (fomites) worn or used on affected premises.

New Jersey American Water
Due to the use of salt and brine for public safety during the recent extreme winter weather and ongoing drought conditions, New Jersey residents may have noticed a salty taste in their tap water.
Each winter, local road departments, commercial parking lot owners, and homeowners use salt to melt snow and ice and to maintain roads and other surfaces for safe traction. As snow and ice melt, this salt can wash into nearby waterways, some of which serve as drinking water sources. This causes higher concentrations of sodium and chloride in the source water, which is exacerbated by lower reservoir and river levels caused by the statewide drought conditions, and results in a salty taste. These impacts typically diminish once road salt applications and associated runoff from snow melt have ceased. Despite the slight change in taste, New Jersey American Water wants to assure its customers that the water it provides continues to meet all health-based primary drinking water standards.
For more information about the effects of road salting on New Jersey source water, visit The New Jersey Watershed Watch Network's website at njwatershedwatch.org/road-salt. New Jersey American Water continues to work with source water protection organizations dedicated to finding less impactful means of road maintenance.

Grant Committee - Thank you to Chair Councilwoman Kim Karalovich for leading the first meeting and to our appointed volunteers stepping up to help bring in outside funding to support the Borough. More to come! Please contact the Borough if you would like to get involved in the Grant Committee.

Black History Month
Throughout Black History Month, the Borough has had a lot of fun recognizing our local Black Owned Businesses, learning about their stories and contributions to the community including Neptune City Cleaners, Naava Hair Studio, Meet the Barber Gentleman's Lounge and Eileen's Soul Food & Catering! As we close out Black History

Month, honor the contributions and lift up the local businesses in our community, we hope their uniquely American stories continue to inspire us all throughout the year.

Women's History Month Event – Save-the-Date – Sunday, March 30 in honor of the Neptune City Governing Body historic female majority!

SAVE-THE-DATE March 30 Women's History Month
We will celebrating local women leaders with invited special guests and showcase local artists and women-owned small businesses in Neptune City. The event will benefit the Sarah Stern Memorial Scholarship Fund and will be held at the Fire Company Banquet Hall. More info to follow soon!

Neptune City Business Roundtable
The Neptune City Business Roundtable was launched last month - and held our second meeting this week on Wednesday. We had a good group of local small businesses get together and discuss greater collaboration with Borough and ways to support each other. Thank you to everyone who came out and Kelly's Tavern at the Jersey Shore for providing space for the meeting.

Are you a small business in Neptune City or do you have a skill set to share in support of the local business community? Please join us for our next meeting!

(Thanks again to the Kelly's for generously providing the space for our first two meetings!).