

Merchantville, NJ

September 11, 2006

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held at 7:30 PM, Monday, September 11, 2006. Mayor Patrick J. Brennan presided. Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Prayer were observed. Mayor Brennan asked all of those in attendance to remember the events of September 11, 2001, on this five year anniversary of the attacks. Announcement was made that the meeting had been advertised in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the "Open Public Meetings Act".

ROLL CALL:

Council Present: Finnegan, Fields, Pagano and North

Council Absent: Alloway and Zeiders

Borough Clerk Thomas and Solicitor Higgins were present.

PUBLIC:

Marvin Gaskill, 102 East Chestnut Avenue, inquired if Council had chosen a liaison to act on the Borough's behalf with AST Developers and if a market study had been received per the redeveloper's agreement. **Mayor Brennan** stated that no liaison existed and corrected Mr. Gaskill with regards to the redeveloper's agreement. A market study was not required under the contract, it would be provided only after Borough Council requested it. Mr. Gaskill inquired if the job descriptions for the Crime Prevention Officer and Fireman changed to reflect that they were "first responders". **Mr. North** responded that has always been a part of the job descriptions for those positions. The Crime Prevention Officer is not a certified E.M.T. and can act only as a driver of the ambulance.

Christina Kealy, 202 Glenwood Avenue, thanked everyone at Borough Hall for their assistance with the flooding situation and inquired to preparations for future "floods". **Mayor Brennan** stated that Haddon Township has in the past come out and jetted out the storm sewer pipes. A major problem is that residents of Glenwood Avenue along the train tracks use the tracks as a garbage dump which then clogs drainage along the tracks. New Jersey Transit must clean debris from the train side of the fence. Mr. Finnegan stated he would like Haddon Township to clean the storm sewer pipes bi-yearly. **Dolly Wintters**, 202 Glenwood Avenue, is worried about a reoccurrence of last weeks flooding. Mayor Brennan stated that the Borough had storm pipes installed at the end of Glenwood Avenue with assistance from both Camden County and the New Jersey Department of Transportation. Borough engineers will examine the site and make recommendations prior to any further actions. **Debra King**, 210 Glenwood Avenue, also experienced flooding due to the severe storms last week. **Mike Callahan**, 214 Glenwood Avenue, thanked Borough Council for their assistance with the situation and agreed that the drainage situation is much improved since the installation of the new storm pipes. Mr. Callahan believes that the undergrowth and dead trees along the train tracks pose a severe problem to proper drainage. Inquired if the Borough could bring a suit against the railroad for creating a public hazard. **James Colangelo**, 203 Glenwood Avenue, inquired to the degree of flood damage contributed from

Merchantville Country Club and the D.M.V. parking lot. Asked if the Borough could investigate the Cherry Hill Township drains to ensure they are cleaned. Mayor Brennan stated the drainage flow is fine along the golf course. The resident at 201 Glenwood Avenue stated that her vehicle was damaged in the flooding and inquired if the Borough's insurance would compensate her. Mayor Brennan stated that Merchantville's insurance did not allow for such payments. **Jennifer Parker**, 123 Glenwood Avenue, thanked Mayor and Council for listening to the Glenwood Avenue residents regarding the flooding situation. Would like to volunteer and help with any future efforts towards preventing a recurrence.

Mayor Brennan stated he will ask Remington & Vernick Engineer's to perform an analysis of the site. Would also like to reach out to Haddon Township to schedule a twice-yearly flushing of the drains located at Holly and Glenwood Avenues. Mayor Brennan asked Mr. Finnegan to contact New Jersey Transit to clean out the culvert and the line under the traffic.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Thomas Cundey, Remington & Vernick Engineer's, delivered an update of Borough projects.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 7/10/06 REGULAR; 8/14/06 REGULAR & PRIVATE SESSIONS: On the motion of Mr. North and second of Mr. Finnegan, Council unanimously approved the 7/10/06 regular and 8/14/06 regular and private session minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

COUNCIL REPORTS:

MRS. FIELDS delivered the Code Enforcement report. Mr. Higgins has been given the Community Center rental agreement and will examine to see if it is consistent with Borough Council wishes.

MR. PAGANO delivered the MEMS and Public Events reports.

MR. FINNEGAN delivered the Public Works report. Leaf season is approaching and the Borough is preparing.

MR. NORTH stated that a retirement party was held for Lieutenant Eric Schmidt and it was well attended by Borough employees and residents. The Police report was delivered.

Mayor Brennan stated that a meeting was held at the "old train station" recently and the basement was saturated from the rains several days after the storms Merchantville experienced.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: John Fry, Borough Administrator, delivered a written report to Mayor and Council, highlighting some significant points. The "Junior" volunteer programs have been reinstated. The Municipal Tax Sale is on September 13. A new server for Borough administrative offices will be purchased and installed in the near future. Mr. Fry will coordinate the efforts on Glenwood Avenue between Council members and the residents.

OLD BUSINESS:

PROCUREMENT CARD POLICIES & PROCEDURES: **Mayor Brennan** gave background information on Procurement Cards. Mr. Thomas explained the process as will be presented to Council at a later meeting for approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

FINANCIAL REPORTS: On the motion of Mr. Alloway, second of Mr. Finnegan and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the Chief Financial Officer's Report of Cash Receipts for August 2006 and the Abbreviated Budget Status as of August 31, 2006.

RESOLUTION – SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION (CODIFICATION): On the motion of Mr. North, second of Mr. Finnegan and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the following resolution:

R06-79**SPECIAL EMERGENCY RESOLUTION N.J.S.A. 4A:4-53, 54, 55.1 AND 55.13**

WHEREAS, it has been found necessary to make an Emergency Appropriation to meet certain extraordinary expenses incurred, or to be incurred, for the revision and codification of its ordinances and shall be deemed a special emergency appropriation as defined and provided for in N.J.S.A. 40A:4-55; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53 provides that it shall be lawful to make such appropriation, which appropriation and/or the "special emergency notes" issued to finance the same shall be provided for in succeeding annual budgets by the inclusion of an appropriation of at least one-fifth of the amount authorized pursuant to this act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville in the County of Camden, New Jersey, that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-55:

1. An emergency appropriation is hereby made for the revision and codification of its ordinances in the total amount of \$10,000.00.
2. That the emergency appropriation shall be provided for in the budgets of the next succeeding years by the inclusion of not less than \$2,000.00.
3. That two (2) certified copies of this resolution will be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services; however, no approval is required from the Division.

RESOLUTION – CH. 159: YOU DRINK, YOU DRIVE, YOU LOSE GRANT: On the motion of Mr. North, second of Mr. Pagano and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the following resolution:

R06-80**RESOLUTION INSERTION OF SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948)**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget, and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville in the County of Camden, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2006 in the sum of \$3,000.00 which is now available from a You Drink, You Drive, You Lose Grant in the amount of \$3,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a like sum of \$3,000.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption You Drink, You Drive, You Lose Grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above is the result of funds from the You Drink, You Drive, You Lose Grant in the amount of \$3,000.00.

RESOLUTION – CANCEL OUTSTANDING COURT CHECKS: On the motion of Mr. North, second of Mrs. Fields and a unanimous roll call vote (Finnegan abstain), Council approved the following resolution:

R06-81

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR CANCELLATION OF OUTSTANDING COURT CHECKS

WHEREAS, there exist numerous outstanding checks on the Merchantville Municipal Court General Account which have been outstanding for over six months; and

WHEREAS, the various checks have been investigated and have been determined to have been lost or otherwise destroyed or undeliverable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following checks be cancelled and the expenditures be cancelled to the Current Fund.

<u>FUND</u>	<u>ACCT NO</u>	<u>CHECK #</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
General Account	031207869	1414	3.00
		1426	3.00
		1438	1.00
		1440	2.00
		1449	1.00
		1477	1.00
		1490	1.00
Bail Account	031207869	1818	11.00

RESOLUTION – CANCELLATION OF TAX & SEWER CHARGES: On the motion of Mr. Finnegan, second of Mrs. Fields and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the following resolution:

R06-82

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES AND SEWER CHARGES DUE TO PROPERTY USED BY THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE

WHEREAS, taxes for 2005 & 2006 as listed below for the periods and amounts stated be cancelled as follows:

<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Amount</u>
26/18	Maple & Centre St.	2005/3 rd	\$144.62
		2005/4 th	\$144.61
		2006/1 st	\$138.86
		2006/2 nd	\$138.85
		2006/3 rd	\$154.10
		2006/4 th	\$154.09

DISCUSSION – THE RUSSELL AVENUE PROPERTY: Mr. Higgins explained that The Russell Avenue Property sits almost entirely in Pennsauken with a small portion in Merchantville (owned by Michael McCollum); Council would elect to abide by decisions of corresponding Pennsauken Boards. On the motion of Mr. North and second of Mr. Pagano, Council unanimously approved allowing decisions of Pennsauken Township regarding The Russell Avenue Property apply in Merchantville as well.

SERVER PURCHASE: Mr. Fry stated that monies are available in the Capital Budget. Install will require

approximately 2- 3 days for Ryan Hummel to complete. On the motion of Mr. Pagano and second of Mrs. Fields, Council unanimously approved the purchase of a new server for Borough Hall.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: On the motion of Mrs. Fields, second of Mr. Finnegan and a unanimous roll call vote, Council unanimously approved the following bills for payment:

CURRENT FUND: (PER 9/11/06 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #11829- 11840	\$ 129,301.46
CHECK #11841- 11897	\$ 82,456.55
	<u>\$ 211,758.01</u>

DOG ACCOUNT: (PER 9/11/06 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #	\$ -
	<u>\$ -</u>

GENERAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT: (PER 9/11/06 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #	\$ -
CHECK #1392	\$ 1,312.50
	<u>\$ 1,312.50</u>

MERCHANTVILLE SEWER UTILITY: (PER 9/11/06 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #1582- 1583	\$ 2,391.90
CHECK #	\$ -
	<u>\$ 2,391.90</u>

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TRUST FUND: (PER 9/11/06 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #	\$ -
	<u>\$ -</u>

RECREATION COMMISSION: (PER 9/11/06 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #2654- 2655	\$ 735.00
CHECK #2656- 2662	\$ 2,845.77
	<u>\$ 3,580.77</u>

TRUST ACCOUNT - OTHER FUNDS: (PER 9/11/06 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #1080- 1081	\$ 496.84
CHECK #1082	\$ 2,221.75
	<u>\$ 2,718.59</u>

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION: (PER 9/11/06 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #	\$ -
	<u>\$ -</u>

TOTAL: \$ 221,761.77

EXAMINED AND FOUND CORRECT: (SIGNED JOHN N. ALLOWAY)
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING
R06-83

RESOLUTION that the Report of the Department of Accounts and Auditing be accepted and spread upon the minutes and the Treasurer be and is hereby authorized to pay the bills therein.

MERCHANTVILLE TOWN CENTRE EAST PROJECT UPDATE: Their will be a Planning Board meeting on September 12; the Town Center East application will be on the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: TNT performed pest control work at the Gazebo free of charge as a service to the Borough.

St. James Avenue Block Party: On the motion of Mr. North and second of Mr. Pagano, Council unanimously approved use of St. James Avenue for a block party on September 16 from 4 until 10 PM.

PRIVATE SESSION: On the motion of Mr. Pagano and second of Mrs. Fields, Council adjourned to a Private Session to discuss matters of personnel.

PUBLIC II: When Council reconvened, on the motion of Mr. Pagano and second of Mr. Finnegan, Council unanimously introduced the following ordinance:

06-09

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE IN THE COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY ENTITLED "SALARIES & COMPENSATION"

The public hearing will be held on September 25.

ADJOURNMENT: On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mr. Zeiders the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

OREN R. THOMAS IV
BOROUGH CLERK