

Merchantville, NJ

January 26, 2004

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held at 7:30 PM, Monday, January 26, 2004.

Mayor Patrick J. Brennan presided.

Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Prayer were observed.

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: Madden, Alloway, Finnegan and Zeiders (seated at 7:31)

Council Absent: North and Pagano

Solicitor Higgins, Borough Clerk Walker and Administrative Assistant Thomas were present.

PUBLIC:

Paul Stridick, 112 East Walnut Avenue, thanked Mayor and Council for the party on January 5 and bid farewell to Mrs. Walker. He asked if direction has been given to the Planning Board regarding the PNC Bank redevelopment zone and expanding the zone to include the Bell Telephone lot, the firehouse and all the other properties to the corner. He further suggested that the Alexander Avenue townhouses become another redevelopment zone. **Mayor Brennan** attended a recent Main Street seminar with Mr. Stridick. The MBPA has asked about creating a Special Improvement District (SID). This will be discussed during the year.

Jean Collins, 116 Poplar Avenue, informed Council that the West Maple NPP is getting support from the Junior Woman's Club for Art in the Park. The Juniors are hosting a fundraiser on February 14 and some of the proceeds will be donated. A West End convenience store is considering opening a deli. In response to her question, an open house is planned for Chestnut Station, however the date isn't known. All units have been rented and there are approximately 150 people on the waiting list.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On the motion of Mrs. Madden and second of Mr. Zeiders, the minutes from the 8/11/03 and 9/8/03 regular meetings and the 9/22/03 regular and private Council meetings were unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION – CONFIRMING 1/12/04 COUNCIL MEETING ACTIONS: On the motion of Mr. Finnegan, second of Mr. Zeiders and a unanimous roll call vote Council approved the following resolution:

R04-20

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CONFIRMING THE ACTIONS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL ON JANUARY 12, 2004

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the Borough Council meeting held on January 12, 2004 may not have been properly advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville that the actions of Borough Council on January 12, 2004 are hereby confirmed.

PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACT: There has been no response from the union.

RESOLUTION – P/W SUPERINTENDENT MILEAGE STIPEND: On the motion of Mrs. Madden and second of Mr. Finnegan, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R04-21

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Public Works uses his personal vehicle for Borough business on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified as to the availability of funds in the 2004 temporary Current Fund Budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to pay the Superintendent of Public Works a quarterly mileage stipend based on three hundred ninety (390) miles at the current IRS standard mileage rate as of January 1, 2004.

LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER: The license transfer from PLK Inc. to JVS Limited will become effective on January 27.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION – APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH CLERK: On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mrs. Madden, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R04-22

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPOINTING OREN R. THOMAS, IV, CLERK OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE

WHEREAS, Susan B. Walker is the duly elected and appointed Borough Clerk of the Borough of Merchantville; and

WHEREAS, Susan B. Walker has decided to resign from her position as Borough Clerk as of January 31, 2004; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:9-1 et seq. requires the appointment of a municipal clerk when such a vacancy occurs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville that Oren R. Thomas, IV, be and hereby is appointed to the position of Municipal Clerk for the Borough of Merchantville for a three year term, commencing February 1, 2004 and concluding on January 31, 2007, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-133.

APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM PAID FIREMAN: Mayor Brennan and Mr. Zeiders provided details of the appointment as outlined in a memo of understanding. On the motion of Mr. Zeiders and second of Mrs. Madden, Council unanimously approved the appointment of Jonathan Metzler, 103 Benson Court, Camden, as Interim Paid Fireman until Kevin Patti returns from active military duty.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION – CHAPTER 94, ZONING: Mayor Brennan explained that the purpose of this amendment to the Zoning Ordinance is to prohibit the long-term use of storage trailers

and/or commercial-type truck bodies, intermodel containers or trailers within the Borough limits. On the motion of Mrs. Madden and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously introduced the following ordinance:

04-01

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 95, ZONING, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE

The public hearing will be on February 9.

PAYMENT OF BILLS – PETTY CASH: On the motion of Mr. Alloway, second of Mrs. Madden and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the following bills for payment:

R04-22A

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS REPLENISHING THE BOROUGH CLERK HEALTH CO-PAY PETTY CASH FUND AND THE POLICE HEALTH CO-PAY PETTY CASH FUND

WHEREAS, the Department of Accounts and Auditing has examined the following Petty Cash vouchers amounting to \$364.45 and finds same to be correct:

CHECKS DELIVERED TO BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE CURRENT FUND:

Borough Clerk Health Co-Pay Petty Cash Fund (#04-001 – 04-008)	\$165.00
Police Health Petty Cash Fund (#04-001 – 04-007)	<u>\$199.45</u>
TOTAL:	<u>\$364.45</u>

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that these Petty Cash vouchers be approved for payment.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR: Mayor Brennan met with several candidates regarding the position. John Fry has a very strong background for this position.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION – CHAPTER 50, OFFICERS & EMPLOYEES: On the motion of Mrs. Madden and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously waived the rules of Council requiring forty-eight hour notice for the introduction of an ordinance. On the motion of Mrs. Madden and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously introduced the following ordinance which creates the positions of Borough Administrator, Public Defender, Municipal Prosecutor, Planning Board Solicitor and Historic Preservation Commission Solicitor as required by statute:

04-02

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 50, OFFICERS & EMPLOYEES, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE

The public hearing will be held on February 9.

REDEVELOPMENT AREA: Mayor, Council and William Walker, Planning Board Chair, discussed at length the extent of the area to be included in the redevelopment zone, which included the PNC parking lot. Mr. Higgins will define the area by block and lot for a Council resolution and will include

all properties from the back end of Merchantville Cleaners east along Park Avenue to the east side of Mulhern's Auto.

RESOLUTION – GARDEN STATE HUMANE SOCIETY: It was explained that animal control services were formerly provided by the Garden State Humane Society and that animal shelter services were provided by West Jersey Animal Shelter. These were both operated by the same management. They have now merged into the Garden State Humane Society which performs both services. On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mrs. Madden, Council approved the following resolution:

R04-23

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPOINTING GARDEN STATE HUMANE SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL CONTROL AND SHELTER SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville requires animal control and shelter services for the Borough of Merchantville; and

WHEREAS, Garden State Humane Society of Pennsauken, New Jersey is a facility licensed by the State of New Jersey to provide such services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville that a contract be awarded to the Garden State Humane Society for animal control and shelter services for the Borough of Merchantville for the base monthly amount of \$200.00.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PRESENTATION TO BOROUGH CLERK: Mrs. Madden presented Mrs. Walker a Borough Hall pin in recognition of her dedicated service to the Borough as Borough Clerk, Tax Collector and Chief Financial Officer. Mrs. Walker will continue with the Borough as part-time CFO and will be relinquishing her position of Tax Collector once a replacement is found. She thanked Mayor and Council for the gift and kind words and commented on her experiences as a Borough employee. Mrs. Walker wished Mr. Thomas success as he assumes the role of Borough Clerk.

NEW BUSINESS II:

FIRE INSPECTIONS INVOICING: In response to Mr. Zeiders suggestion that the Finance Office handle the billing, Mayor Brennan stated that this is not a possibility.

PRIVATE SESSION: On the motion of Mrs. Madden and second of Mr. Alloway, Council adjourned to Private Session to discuss personnel matters. The minutes of this session will be available for public review when matters are closed.

PUBLIC:

APPOINTMENT – BOROUGH ADMINISTRATION: When Council reconvened, on the motion of Mrs. Madden and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the hiring of John Fry as Borough Administrator at an annual salary of \$70,000.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION – SALARIES & WAGES: On the motion of Mrs. Madden and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously waived the rules of Council requiring forty-eight hour

notice for the introduction of an ordinance. On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mrs. Madden, Council unanimously introduced the following ordinance:

04-03

**ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF
NEW JERSEY ENTITLED SALARIES & COMPENSATION**

The public hearing will be held on February 9.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, on the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mrs. Madden the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

SUSAN B. WALKER
BOROUGH CLERK