

Merchantville, NJ

March 8, 2004

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held at 7:30 PM, Monday, March 8, 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, North, Zeiders, Pagano, Alloway and Finnegan

Council Absent: None

Solicitor Higgins and Borough Clerk Thomas were present.

PUBLIC HEARING:

ORDINANCE – SALARIES & WAGES: Mayor Brennan opened the public hearing on the following Ordinance:

04-04

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY ENTITLED SALARIES AND WAGES

There being no public comment, the hearing was closed.

PUBLIC:

Michael McCloone, Merchantville School Board, distributed the proposed school budget to Mayor and Council and briefly explained the appropriations. The tuition rate for Pennsauken High School students has been lowered by \$200,000 due to a decreased number of Merchantville students attending. The PILOT payment from Chestnut Station is included in the final amount. The final increase is eight cents (3.65%). **Mayor Brennan** stressed that the School Board would receive a fixed amount of \$11,500 of the Chestnut Station PILOT payment.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Tom Cundey, Remington & Vernick Engineers, provided an update of Borough projects. They have begun work on the land swap with Merchantville Country Club. Mr. Higgins stated that Merchantville Country Club would escrow an estimated amount for the engineering costs. **Mr. Pagano** asked if the Community Center Tennis Courts Project would be put to bid. **Mayor Brennan** stated that it would.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On the motion of Mrs. Madden and second of Mr. North, with Mr. Pagano abstaining, the minutes from the 10/15/03 regular, 10/27/03 and 11/10/03 regular and private Council meetings were unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

CCMUA: Sump pumps may not be reroute Stormwater from streets or private lots into the sewers.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

MR. NORTH reported that he attended the MEL/ JIF meeting. Mrs. Walker added that all Supervisors

attended the required meetings. Two must attend in order for the Borough to receive its discount. The Police and Court reports were delivered. The Chief has indicated that the Police will be purchasing a car this year.

MR. ALLOWAY delivered the Board of Health report. Patti Fields attended a Bloodborne Pathogen training session. The State of New Jersey has increased the cost of Burial Permits to \$5 each. Mrs. Madden and Mr. Finnegan are helping with the Newsletter. **Mayor Brennan** asked Mr. Alloway to possibly print an article from a Chestnut Station resident in each edition. The Planning Board is meeting tomorrow night.

MR. FINNEGAN reported that the Public Works Department has been cleaning up the grounds at the Community Center, Wellwood Park and Morrissey Park. The new street sweeper should be operational by next week. The ditch along Glenwood Avenue is still a serious drainage problem. New Jersey Transit has yet to claim ownership of the land. **Mayor Brennan** stated that the property would be taxed if New Jersey Transit continues to claim that they do not own the property. It is too dangerous for our Public Works employees to enter the tracks and clean out the ditch. The Shade Tree Commission will remove the tree in front of Philly Fruit Market.

MR. PAGANO delivered the MEMS report. Most calls are being answered by Pennsauken during the day but Merchantville responded to nearly 80% during the evening. The heater has broken at the MEMS building. The Ambulance breaks have been repaired. The Public Events report was delivered. Rentals are down since the rental rules were implemented. Damage after renting has been reduced. **Mayor Brennan** stated that the rules were not new, but Council was reapplying them to prevent the problems that were being experienced. **Mr. Finnegan** suggested that ads be placed in the newsletter regarding rental of the Community Center.

MR. ZEIDERS will call Richard Kurkian regarding the Community Center roof repairs. The Fire House roof has been patched. Dawn Schmidt and Detective Bauer have provided a list of prospective building problems at the Community Center and Borough Hall, respectively. A contract for the Community Center live-in employees was never signed regarding maintenance of the building, and duties need to be clearly defined and put in writing. Mr. Higgins will draft and send Mr. Zeiders a copy. The Fire report was delivered. The Fire Prevention invoices have been sent out. John Metzler has been very energetic as interim Fireman. The Public Works Department will trim branches along the Fire House.

MRS. MADDEN has been attending MBPA meetings on behalf of Economic Redevelopment. The Gala is being reinstituted this year on November 13 at Merchantville Country Club. The Historic Preservation Commission will be reviewing the Ordinance at their next meeting. NPP is obtaining quotes for new curbs at 13 different properties in the West End Neighborhood. Mrs. Madden discussed the trash problem at 607 West Maple Avenue with Mr. Zeiders and Mr. Alloway and sent a letter with a copy of the trash ordinance to the owner of the property. Mr. Koehler drafted a letter

and delivered to all residents of 607 West Maple Avenue making them aware of the ordinance. Council will be voting tonight on a resolution regarding CDBG Year XXVI monies, which will help fund the replacement of concrete and remove architectural barriers in accordance with the sidewalk project.

OLD BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE ADOPTION – SALARIES & WAGES: On the motion of Mr. Finnegan, second of Mrs. Madden and a unanimous roll call vote, Council adopted the following ordinance:

04-04

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY ENTITLED SALARIES AND WAGES

NEW BUSINESS:

FINANCIAL REPORTS: On the motion of Mr. North, second of Mr. Finnegan and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the Chief Financial Officer's Report of Cash Receipts for February 2004 and the Abbreviated Budget Status as of February 29, 2004.

Mayor Brennan reminded all Council members that employee reviews needed to be completed immediately.

RESOLUTION – CDBG YEAR XXVI PROJECTS: On the motion of Mrs. Madden and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R04-31

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY CDBG YEAR XXVI PROJECTS**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Merchantville is entitled to Community Development Block Grant funding; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have chosen to submit an application for Program Year 26 (2004-2005); and

WHEREAS, the grant allocation for YEAR 26 (2004-2005) for the Borough of Merchantville is \$32,028.00; and

WHEREAS, the governing body has agreed to apply for funding for the following activities:

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Architectural Barrier-Free Projects | \$23,828.00 |
| 2. Senior Transportation | 8,200.00 |

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the Project Description Form for Program Year 26 (2004-2005).

RESOLUTION – CAMDEN COUNTY CO-OP CONTRACT AWARD FOR PAPER & ENVELOPES:

On the motion of Mrs. Madden and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R04-32

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SIX MONTH EXTENSION OF A CONTRACT WITH
MONMOUTH PAPER CO., PAPER MART INC., AND OFFICE BASICS, FOR PRICE ONLY
CONTRACTS FOR BID A-26, COPY AND COMPUTER PAPER AND ENVELOPES UNDER THE
CAMDEN COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM, SYSTEM IDENTIFIER #57-CCCP**

WHEREAS, by resolution adopted July 17, 2003, the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders awarded price only contracts to Monmouth Paper Co., 2101 Atlantic Avenue, Manasquan, NJ 08736, Paper Mart Inc., 151 Ridgedale Avenue, East Hanover, NJ 07936 and Office Basics, PO Box 2230, Boothwyn, PA 19061 for Bid A-26, Copy and Computer Paper and Envelopes for Camden County Departments and Municipalities under the Camden County Cooperative Pricing System, System Identifier #57-CCCPS for a period of six months; and

WHEREAS, said bid provided for an additional six month extension option; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Chosen Freeholders to exercise the additional six month extension; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville to award contracts to the lowest responsible bidders, for the items listed herein for the needs of the Borough of Merchantville; and

WHEREAS, that funding for this purpose for the Borough of Merchantville shall not exceed the maximum line items for office supplies in the Borough's 2004 temporary and/or permanent budget and shall be encumbered prior to incurring the obligation pursuant to NJAC 5:30-5.3(b)(2); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville that, contingent upon funding as described herein, the aforementioned Bid A-26, be and are hereby authorized to extend the contract with Monmouth Paper Co., for Section E, Items 3, 4 and 6 for a period of six months; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville that, contingent upon funding as described herein, the aforementioned Bid A-26, be and are hereby authorized to extend the contract with Paper Mart Inc., for Section C, Item No. 1; Section D, Item No. 2 and Section E, Item No. 7 for a period of six months; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville that, contingent upon funding as described herein, the aforementioned Bid A-26, be and are hereby authorized to extend the contract with Office Basics, for Section A, Items 1, 2 and 3; Section B, Item No. 1; Section D, Item No. 1 and Section E, Items 1, 2 and 5 for a period of six months; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the proper Borough officials be and are hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to effect this award.

RESOLUTION – INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY REGARDING

COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM: On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mrs. Madden, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R04-33

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT REGARDING THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Merchantville (Borough) is desirous of entering into an agreement with the County of Camden (County) to receive Grant funds provided by the Governor's Council on Drug Abuse and Alcoholism; and

WHEREAS, the County has requested execution of an agreement between the County and the Borough for a one-year period beginning January 1, 2004;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Merchantville that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to execute a one-year Interlocal Services Agreement with the County of Camden regarding Grant funds provided by the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

DISCUSSION – PROPOSALS FOR THE PROPERTIES AT 30 & 32 WEST MAPLE AVENUE:

Mayor Brennan stated that several inquiries have been made regarding the properties. The Borough is in the process of condemning the gas station. It would most benefit the Borough to move

forward in conjunction with a developer and use their money regarding all related costs. **Mr. Zeiders** inquired to the date of the original appraisal for 32 West Maple Avenue. **Mr. Higgins** stated that the appraisal is three months old. Mayor Brennan stated that there has not been an appraisal for 30 West Maple Avenue to date but would like the Request for Proposals to include it. Private money is being sought to purchase the property to prevent the Borough from expending public funds. On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mr. Finnegan, Council unanimously approved the Request for Proposals for the Maple/ Chapel Redevelopment Area. Mr. Higgins and Mr. Thomas will coordinate the publication.

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

CURRENT FUND: (PER 3/08/04 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #9342- 9358	\$ 140,038.93
CHECK #9359- 9424	\$ 76,603.37
	<u>\$ 216,642.30</u>

DOG ACCOUNT: (PER 3/08/04 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #739- 740

\$ 90.60
<u>\$ 90.60</u>

GENERAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT: (PER 3/08/04 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #1250- 1253

\$ 3,414.72
<u>\$ 3,414.72</u>

MERCHANTVILLE SEWER UTILITY: (PER 3/08/04 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #1475- 1476	\$ 5,090.80
CHECK #1477-1479	\$ 599.00
	<u>\$ 5,689.80</u>

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TRUST FUND: (PER 3/08/04 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #

\$ -
<u>\$ -</u>

RECREATION COMMISSION: (PER 3/08/04 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #2312- 2315	\$ 790.40
CHECK #2316-2323	\$ 2,247.24
	<u>\$ 3,037.64</u>

TRUST ACCOUNT - OTHER FUNDS: (PER 3/08/04 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #936- 937	\$ 496.86
CHECK #938- 940	\$ 611.86
	<u>\$ 1,108.72</u>

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION: (PER 3/08/04 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #

\$ -
<u>\$ -</u>

TOTAL: \$ 229,983.78

EXAMINED AND FOUND CORRECT: (SIGNED AGNES A. MADDEN)
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING

R04-34

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.

APPOINTMENT – CROSSING GUARD: On the motion of Mr. North and second of Mrs. Madden, Council unanimously approved the appointment of Geraldine Gold, 5 West Walnut Avenue and Benigna Alkis, 6411 Browning Road, Pennsauken as part-time crossing guards.

PUBLIC II:

Jean Collins, 116 Poplar Avenue, believes that trash represents a huge problem on the west side of town. Mrs. Madden stated that under the Clean Communities Grant vendors can be contracted for litter abatement. Would like to organize the neighborhood into rotating a trash patrol to both clean up and prevent future problems. Transients could be contributing to the problem. The Recreation Commission met last month and discussed the Easter Egg Hunt. **Mayor Brennan** stated that the Beechwood property would be returning to the tax rolls and the funding for the Recreation Commission would need to come from the budget. Has the Special Improvement District been defined? **Mayor Brennan** responded that a budget does not yet exist so an in depth analysis has not been performed. Mrs. Collins wishes it to include the West End businesses if possible.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PENNSAUKEN HIGH SCHOOL REPORT CARD: **Mayor Brennan** has reviewed the report card and demanded to know what pro-action our School Board was taking regarding the less-than-acceptable product being provided for a top-dollar amount charged to Merchantville for its students. The Mayor would like the Merchantville School Board to initiate a suit forcing Pennsauken High School to improve their performance. Pennsauken High School must either improve their performance or release Merchantville students.

PRIVATE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, on the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mr. Pagano the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

OREN R. THOMAS IV
BOROUGH CLERK