

Merchantville, NJ

April 9, 2007

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held at 7:30 PM, Monday, April 9, 2007. Mayor Frank M. North 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: Alloway, Fields, Volkert, Waldron, Zeiders and Finnegan

Borough Clerk Thomas and Solicitor Higgins were present.

PUBLIC:

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Thomas Cundey, Remington & Vernick Engineers, provided an update of Borough projects. [Mr. Cundey] will be preparing a quote for replacing all windows in Borough Hall.

Gail Ford, 135 North Centre Street, inquired if the redeveloper's agreement between the Borough and RLC III, Inc. had been signed. **Mayor North** answered that it had not.

Deborah Binder, 57 Chapel Avenue, inquired if the Borough had concluded that she indeed had a right-of-way between the proposed redevelopment site and her property. Mayor North stated there would be a meeting on Thursday of this week.

Marvin Gaskill, 102 East Chestnut Avenue, presented his ideas for the proposed roundabout at Park and Chestnut Avenues. Mayor North replied that a meeting took place last week between the County and the Police Chief, Fire Chief and Mayor. An open public meeting will be hosted at a later date.

Marc Brunton, 28 South Cove Road, attempted to clarify his position from an email he authored claiming "backroom deals" were being conducted by municipal officials and inquired into the proposed traffic circle. Mayor North stated that the borough would be relying on engineer's to make traffic suggestions. **Mr. Finnegan** countered that there was an apparent lack of respect for Council members from a small group of the public.

Rosemari Hicks, 206 Saint James Avenue, inquired to the Ordinance being introduced, allowing the establishment of a Cap Bank. **Mrs. Walker** explained.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the motion of Mr. Finnegan and second of Mrs. Fields, Council unanimously approved the minutes from the February 26 Council meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

COUNCIL REPORTS:

MR. FINNEGAN delivered the Public Works report. They have been performing various tree work and stump removal throughout the borough.

MR. ZEIDERS reported for the Buildings and Grounds Department; looking into the drainage issues at the Community Center as well as upgrading the windows at Borough Hall. In reference to Mr. Brunton's comment during the Public Session, Council appreciates involvement of the public.

MR. WALDRON stated that the Shade Tree Commission had recently removed 3 trees and 13 stumps. Updated Council on both the Arts Fair and Birthday Celebration for the Public Events Committee. Delivered the Historic Preservation report.

MR. VOLKERT reported on the Fire Department. Nine calls were answered during the month of March.

MRS. FIELDS delivered the Planning Board report; they are continuing with the process of updating the Master Plan. The Special Meeting scheduled for April 24 will be held at 7:00 PM. Delivered the Zoning & Code Enforcement report. Updated Council on the Recreation Commission for the month of April, focusing on the Easter Egg Hunt. The Community Center is booked through October. The current rental contract needs to be discussed and updated. Delivered the MEMS report for the month of March, where only 9% of calls were handled by Merchantville. **Mayor Brennan** asked if Council should look into a potential shared service for EMS service. Board of Health report was given. The NPP grant is ending this summer.

MR. ALLOWAY delivered the Police and Court office reports.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

John Fry, Borough Administrator, provided Council with a written report and outlined a few of the points. Currently searching for an email hosting service.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

FINANCIAL REPORTS: On the motion of Mr. Zeiders, second of Mr. Volkert and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the Chief Financial Officer's Report of Cash Receipts for March 2007 and the Abbreviated Budget Status through March 31, 2007.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION – EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT:

On the motion of Mr. Zeiders and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the introduction of the following ordinance:

07-05

**ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2007 (N.J.S.A.
40A: 4-45.14)**

The public hearing will be held on April 23.

RESOLUTION – INTRODUCTION OF 2007 BUDGET: On the motion of Mr. Finnegan, second of Mr. Volkert and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the following resolution:

R07-47**MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2007**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2007;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Budget be published in The Retrospect in the issue of April 27, 2007. The Governing Body of the Borough of Merchantville does hereby approve the following as the Budget for the year 2007.

RESOLUTION – INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT: MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE: On the motion of Mrs. Fields and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R07-48**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, 2007;

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.

RESOLUTION - INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT: MAINTAIN SCHOOL FIELDS: On the motion of Mr. Finnegan and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R07-49**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE AND MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION RELATIVE TO THE SERVICES OF THE MERCHANTVILLE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Merchantville (hereinafter "Merchantville") is a municipal entity organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey and located in Camden County; and

WHEREAS, the Merchantville Board of Education (hereinafter "Board of Education") is a municipal school board organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey and located in Camden County; and

WHEREAS, said the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville, duly elected pursuant to statute, after a careful survey, have concluded that the residents of Merchantville will best be served when certain professional services on the grounds of and the athletic fields of the Board of Education are performed by the Public Works Department of the Borough of Merchantville; and

WHEREAS, by negotiations previously had between Board of Education and Merchantville, the terms and provisions hereafter set forth were determined and agreed thereto;

WHEREAS, Merchantville and Board of Education intend by virtue of this document to set forth the terms and conditions of this Agreement;

WHEREAS, the proper and respective public officials were authorized to execute this Interlocal Services Agreement pursuant to Resolutions of their respective public entities, attached hereto and made a part of this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, that Frank M. North, Mayor of the Borough of Merchantville and Oren R. Thomas, IV, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Merchantville be and hereby are authorized to execute the Interlocal Services Agreement, attached hereto as Exhibit "A," providing for certain services to be provided by the Merchantville Public Works Department to the Merchantville Board of Education.

RESOLUTION – FILE RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT: On the motion of Mr. Finnegan and second of Mr. Volkert, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R07-50

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE FILING FOR A 2007 RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT

WHEREAS, the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L. 1987, c. 102 has established a recycling fund from which a tonnage grant may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, the recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, a resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for such tonnage grants for 2007 will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the assent of the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS, such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville that the Borough of Merchantville hereby endorses the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates Paul D. Finnegan, Recycling Coordinator, to ensure that the application is properly filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

RESOLUTION – SALARIES & WAGES: On the motion of Mr. Volkert and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R07-50A

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

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville have established the maximum salaries of the below listed employee of the Borough of Merchantville by ordinance adopted March 12, 2007, and retroactive to January 1, 2007;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the maximum annual salaries of the below listed employee of the Borough of Merchantville are hereby established, in accordance with the following schedule for services performed during the year 2007 as of January 1, 2007.

POSITION

Paid Fireman

SALARY

\$36,050.00

PROCLAMATION – ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH: Read aloud by **Mayor North:**

ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH 2007

Whereas, alcohol is a primary factor in the four leading causes of death among persons ages 10-24: motor vehicle crashes, unintentional injuries, homicide and suicide; and

Whereas, approximately 9.7 current drinkers in the United States are between the ages of 12-20; and

Whereas, alcohol is the most frequently used drug by high school seniors; and

Whereas, young people begin drinking, on average, at 13.1 years of age; and

Whereas, young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21; and

Whereas, alcohol abuse is linked to as many as two-thirds of all sexual assaults and date rapes of teens and college students; and

Whereas, alcohol abuse is a major factor in unprotected sex among youth, increasing their risk of contracting HIV or other transmitted diseases; and

Whereas, the typical American young person will see 100,000 beer commercials before he or she turns 18 (more than sneakers, gum and jeans combined); and

Whereas, 13 percent of all youth, ages 12-17, had at least one serious problem related to drinking in the past year;

Now, Therefore, We the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville join the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. (NCADD) and do hereby proclaim that the month of April 2007 is Alcohol Awareness Month and call on all citizens, parents, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in the Borough of Merchantville to support efforts that will increase community awareness, understanding and action to address underage drinking in our community and **"Keep Our Future Growing."**

F.W. GRIGG POST#68 MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE IN WELLWOOD PARK (5/28/07): On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mr. Finnegan, Council approved the use of Wellwood Park on May 28, 2007 by the Merchantville American Legion for their annual Memorial Day Celebration.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

On the motion of Mr. Zeiders, second of Mr. Alloway and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the following bills for payment:

CURRENT FUND: (PER 4/9/07 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #12420- 12428	\$ 124,215.90
ACH PAYMENTS TO STATE OF NJ DIVISION OF PENSIONS	\$ 155,562.80
CHECK #12429- 12504	\$ 92,354.55
	\$ 372,133.25

DOG ACCOUNT: (PER 4/9/07 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #

\$ -

GENERAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT: (PER 4/9/07 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #1406- 1407

\$ 51,209.60

	\$ 51,209.60
<u>MERCHANTVILLE SEWER UTILITY: (PER 4/9/07 CHECK REGISTER)</u>	
CHECKS DELIVERED	
CHECK #1601- 1602	\$ 6,751.85
CHECK #1603	\$ 1,562.30
	\$ 8,314.15
<u>PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TRUST FUND: (PER 4/9/07 CHECK REGISTER)</u>	
CHECK #	\$ -
	\$ -
<u>RECREATION COMMISSION: (PER 4/9/07 CHECK REGISTER)</u>	
CHECKS DELIVERED	
CHECK #2717- 2718	\$ 880.00
CHECK #2719- 2729	\$ 2,773.21
	\$ 3,653.21
<u>TRUST ACCOUNT - OTHER FUNDS: (PER 4/9/07 CHECK REGISTER)</u>	
CHECKS DELIVERED	
CHECK #1111- 1112	\$ 496.84
CHECK #1113- 1114	\$ 628.13
	\$ 1,124.97
<u>UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION: (PER 4/9/07 CHECK REGISTER)</u>	
CHECK #	\$ -
	\$ -
TOTAL:	\$ 436,435.18

EXAMINED AND FOUND CORRECT: (SIGNED ROBERT H. ZEIDERS)
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING
R07-51

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION: Mr. Waldron stated that trees would be planted along Chestnut Avenue honoring all of Merchantville's living ex-mayors.

PRIVATE SESSION:

On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mr. Volkert, Council adjourned into a Private Session to discuss matters of personnel and litigation.

ADJOURNMENT:

When Council reconvened, on the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mr. Zeiders the meeting was adjourned at 10:06 PM.

OREN R. THOMAS IV
BOROUGH CLERK