

Merchantville, NJ

May 14, 2007

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held at 7:30 PM, Monday, May 14, 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, Finnegan, Waldron and Zeiders

Borough Clerk Thomas and Solicitor Higgins were present.

PUBLIC HEARING:

RESOLUTION – READ BUDGET BY TITLE ONLY: On the motion of Mr. Zeiders and second of Mrs. Fields, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R07-54**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE BUDGET TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-8, as amended by Chapter 259, P.L. 1995, provides that the budget be read by title only at the time of the public hearing if a resolution is passed by not less than a majority of the full governing body, providing that at least one week prior to the date of the hearing a complete copy of the budget has been made available for public inspection in the free public library, if any, located within our municipality and a county library. If there is no county library located within the municipality, then it must be provided to any county library in the county wherein the municipality is located. Further, the public office delegated the responsibility for delivery of the copies to said libraries has completed a certification forwarded to the governing body that such deliveries were made and copies have been made available by the Clerk to persons requiring them; and

WHEREAS, these two conditions have been met;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Budget shall be read by title only.

RESOLUTION – 2007 BUDGET: Mayor North opened the public hearing on the 2007 Budget. **Gail Ford**, 135 North Centre Street, asked for clarification on the final amount provided for the new business directory and if money was included for purchase of the website. **Mrs. Walker** responded that it would be \$3,775.00. **Mayor North** added that money has been included in the budget for the purchase of the website. Ms. Ford continued that the only way to save money was to cut salaries and wages by cutting personnel. **Alice Diamond**, 105 Westminster Avenue, opined that that budget should state the town's priorities; also believed that Council should not take salaries. Mayor North responded that Council members volunteer enormous amounts of time and effort and he would not ask that they waive their salaries. Mrs. Diamond suggested a voucher system to reimburse Council members for any out-of-pocket expenses. She continued that this money could be used for a park project or towards tree reduction costs.

PUBLIC:

Debra Binder, 57 Chapel Avenue, thanked Mayor North for meeting with her last week, but added that she is still concerned about her "quality of life" issue with regards to a fence that would be erected between her property and the Maple/ Chapel Redevelopment lot. Every foot the Borough gives contributes to her quality of life. **Gail Ford**, continued that Council has the power to remove the right away from the Maple/ Chapel Redevelopment Proposal. **Mayor North** stated that the additional lot will not be removed from the redevelopment zone.

Mark Brunton, 28 South Cove Road, inquired about required sidewalk setbacks on county roads. Confirmed that a public meeting regarding the proposed roundabout will take place at Borough Hall on June 28 at 7:00 PM. Mr. Brunton also asked if the Borough planned on respecting the existing easement. Mayor North responded that parking would be provided to Ms. Binder. **Alice Diamond**, remarked about the proposed parking needed for the Maple/ Chapel Redevelopment lot.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Thomas Cundey, Remington & Vernick Engineers, provided an update of Borough projects. **Mayor North** noted that home owners adjacent to the Community Center have complained of flooding as a result of the parking lot; please look into the situation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the motion of Mrs. Fields and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the 3/19/07 and 3/26/07 regular minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

NEW JERSEY LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES: An address has been provided to all New Jersey municipalities from the sister organization in Kansas for those towns who wish to help the residents of Greensburg, KS. Greensburg was almost completely destroyed last week by a tornado.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

MR. ALLOWAY delivered the Police report for the month of April. A \$4,000 grant has been received through the Click It or Ticket program. OEM will be holding their next meeting on June 25.

MRS. FIELDS reported on the Planning Board. Delivered reports for Code Enforcement and Recreation Department and the Community Center. This evening Council will be approving Resolutions regarding encumbrance of funds from the Camden County Open Space Preservation Grant the borough was awarded back in 2005. These monies must be spent or the County will be taking the grant award away from the borough. Delivered the MEMS report.

MR. VOLKERT reported that the Fire Department answered 42 calls during the month of April.

MR. WALDRON delivered the Public Events report. To date, 75 artists have registered for the Arts Fair. The Birthday Celebration will be on next months Council agenda. Public Events will be hosting a community softball game at the Community Center after the Birthday Celebration. Delivered the Shade Tree Commission report. A coded list of trees in town has been outlined; many of the trees listed have

been removed recently. An edition of the newsletter was released over the weekend and volunteers were responsive in delivering copies throughout the town. Delivered the Historic Preservation Commission report.

MR. ZEIDERS reported on the Buildings & Grounds Department. Mr. Zeiders has asked Mr. Lammey, who has previously provided architectural services to the borough) to assist with the specifications for replacing the windows at Borough Hall.

MR. FINNEGAN delivered the Public Works Department report. Hanging flower baskets have been displayed throughout the downtown area.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

John Fry, Borough Administrator, provided Council with a written report and outlined a few of the points. Research is being done into feasibility of issuing Certificates of Occupancy for all tenant changes in town to help avoid problems like the ones experienced with 606 West Maple Avenue. The borough has received a \$32,000 grant to perform a parking study from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

R07-54A

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING THE 2007 ADOPTED BUDGET

WHEREAS, the local municipal budget for the year 2007 was approved on the 9th day of April 2007; and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised; and

WHEREAS, it is desired to amend said budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville that the attached amendments to the approved budget of 2007 be made;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that two certified copies of this resolution be filed forthwith in the Office of the Director of Local Government Services for certification of the local municipal budget so amended.

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

R07-55

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2007 MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville, County of Camden that the budget hereinafter set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of \$1,683,481.56 for municipal purposes, and certification to the County Board of Taxation of the following summary of general revenues and appropriations:

SUMMARY OF REVENUES:

General Revenues:	
Surplus Anticipated	\$ 850,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated	1,546,827.79
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	243,356.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxation for Municipal Purposes	<u>1,683,481.56</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	\$4,323,665.35
GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS:	
WITHIN "CAPS":	
Operations including Contingent	\$ 3,370,693.79
Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures – Municipal	59,000.00
EXCLUDED FROM "CAPS":	
Operations – Total Operations Excluded From "CAPS"	1,047,120.66
Capital Improvements	69,000.00
Municipal Debt Service	433,407.48
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	<u>391,564.08</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$4,323,665.35

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the utility budget hereinafter set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of \$397,000.00.

SUMMARY OF REVENUES:

General Revenues:	
Surplus	\$ 87,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues	<u>318,000.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 405,000.00

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS:

Operations	\$ 273,000.00
Capital Improvements	70,174.00
Debt Service	56,626.00
Deferred Charges	<u>5,200.00</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 405,000.00

SALE OF MUNICIPAL VEHICLES ON EBAY: Mr. Thomas informed Council that all vehicles posted on Ebay last month have been sold and picked up by their new owners.

NEW BUSINESS:

FINANCIAL REPORTS: On the motion of Mr. Zeiders, second of Mrs. Fields and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the Chief Financial Officer's Report of Cash Receipts for April 2007 and the Abbreviated Budget Status through April 30, 2007.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION – APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO

WEST CHESTNUT AVENUE: On the motion of Mr. Finnegan and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the introduction of the following ordinance:

07-06

**ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN
AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$9,000.00 FROM
THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES**

FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF WEST CHESTNUT AVENUE FROM POPLAR AVENUE TO THE MUNICIPAL BORDER WEST OF POPLAR AVENUE

The public hearing will be held on May 29.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION – SALARIES & WAGES 2007: On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mrs. Fields, Council unanimously approved the introduction of the following ordinance:

07-07

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 May 29.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION – AMEND CHAPTER 84, TOWING: On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mr. Zeiders, Council unanimously approved the introduction of the following ordinance:

07-08

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 84, TOWING, IN THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE

The public hearing will be held on May 29.

RESOLUTION – ABC RENEWAL APPLICATIONS 2007-2008: Tabled.

RESOLUTION – REPLACE COMMUNITY CENTER BACKSTOP: On the motion of Mrs. Fields and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R07-57

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDED CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A BASEBALL BACKSTOP

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville has determined that there exists a need to replace the backstop at the Community Center baseball field; and

WHEREAS, quotes have been solicited to complete this project; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified as to the availability of funds from the Open Space Preservation (Recreation Facility Enhancement) Grant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a contract be awarded to American Discount Fence, Runnemede, NJ the lowest responsible quote, in the amount of \$12,750.00.

RESOLUTION – VARIOUS COMMUNITY CENTER IMPROVEMENTS: On the motion of Mrs. Fields and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R07-58

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH CERTAIN APPROVED STATE CONTRACT VENDORS FOR CONTRACTING UNITS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29©, may by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase any goods or services under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for any State contracts entered

into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville has the need on a timely basis to purchase goods or services utilizing State contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville intends to enter into a contract with Boyce Associates, Trexlertown, Pennsylvania through this resolution and properly executed contracts, which will be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current State contracts; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville authorizes the Purchasing Department to purchase 200 cubic yards of Wood Carpet Safety Surfacing, and 81 Kid Timbers, State Contract Vendor #A59064, pursuant to all conditions of the individual State contract for Merchantville Community Center; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(b), has received a certification as to the availability of funds from the Chief Financial Officer in the amount of \$8,935.11.

RESOLUTION – APPROVE PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACT: Tabled.

RESOLUTION – APPROVE WESTFIELD ARCHITECTS: PREPARATION OF GRANT APPLICATION: On the motion of Mr. Zeiders and second of Mr. Finnegan, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R07-60

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY SELECTING WESTFIELD ARCHITECTS & PRESERVATION CONSULTANTS TO PREPARE NEW JERSEY HISTORIC TRUST GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville desires to contract with Westfield Architects & Preservation Consultants, Haddon Heights, NJ for the preparation of a New Jersey Historic Trust Grant Application for the Merchantville Community/ Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified as to the availability of funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville does hereby select Westfield Architects & Preservation Consultants to provide the services as detailed in their September 20, 2006 proposal letter in an amount not to exceed \$4,000.00.

RESOLUTION – PURCHASE COPIER FOR ANNEX: On the motion of Mr. Volkert and second of Mr. Alloway, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R07-61

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING CONTRACT TO PURCHASE A COPIER FOR THE BOROUGH ANNEX

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville desires to purchase a copier for the Borough Annex offices; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville intends to enter into a contract with American Duplicating Products, Pennsauken, New Jersey through this resolution and properly executed contracts; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville authorizes the Purchasing Department to purchase a copier for the Borough Annex Offices; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville has received a certification as to the availability of funds from the Chief Financial Officer in the amount of \$3,835.89 for such purchase.

RESOLUTION – SUBMIT JOINT APPLICATION OF NPP GRANT: On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mr. Waldron, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

R07-62

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF PENNSAUKEN AND THE TOWNSHIP OF CHERRY HILL IN THE SUBMISSION OF A JOINT APPLICATION FOR NEIGHBORHOOD PERSERVATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Borough of Merchantville wishes to undertake a Neighborhood Preservation Program in partnership with the Township of Pennsauken and the Township of Cherry Hill; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs allows the submission of a joint application for a Neighborhood Preservation Program which will benefit two or more municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Merchantville, Township of Pennsauken and Township of Cherry Hill have delineated a proposed Neighborhood Preservation Program target area which includes portions of each of the three Municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Merchantville wishes to submit a joint Application for Neighborhood Preservation Program Grant in partnership with the Township of Pennsauken and the Township of Cherry Hill to undertake housing rehabilitation and/or public improvements in the joint target area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Merchantville, County of Camden and State of New Jersey, that Mayor Frank North or the successor to the office of Mayor, is authorized:

1. To make a joint application for a Neighborhood Preservation Program Grant in cooperation with the Township of Pennsauken and the Township of Cherry Hill.
2. If awarded, to execute a Grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for a Neighborhood Preservation Program Grant of approximately \$100,000 a year for five years to undertake housing rehabilitation and/or public improvements.
3. The Borough of Merchantville will be designated the Lead Agency for the purposes of submitting a joint Application for a Neighborhood Preservation Program and implementing the Grant.
4. A certified copy of this Resolution will be forwarded to the Township of Pennsauken, then the Township of Cherry Hill and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs as part of the Grant Application.

APPLICATION - USE OF WELLWOOD PARK: On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mr. Volkert, Council unanimously approved the use of Wellwood Park by the Merchantville Women's Club for their Annual Flea Market.

BANNER APPLICATION: On the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mr. Volkert, Council unanimously approved the banner application by the Merchantville Car Show Committee.

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 5/14/07 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #12505- 12523
CHECK #12524- 12602

\$	222,654.65
\$	1,683,597.44
\$	1,906,252.09

DOG ACCOUNT: (PER 5/14/07 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #

\$	-
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GENERAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT: (PER 5/14/07 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #1408- 1410

\$	13,364.64
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\$	13,364.64
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MERCHANTVILLE SEWER UTILITY: (PER 5/14/07 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #1604-1606

\$	8,378.47
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CHECK #1607

\$	11,581.30
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\$	19,959.77
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PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TRUST FUND: (PER 5/14/07 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #

\$	-
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\$	-
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RECREATION COMMISSION: (PER 5/14/07 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #2730- 2732

\$	1,105.00
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CHECK #2733- 2740

\$	3,137.30
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\$	4,242.30
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TRUST ACCOUNT - OTHER FUNDS: (PER 5/14/07 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECKS DELIVERED

CHECK #1115- 1117

\$	745.26
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CHECK #1118- 1119

\$	1,733.51
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\$	2,478.77
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UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION: (PER 5/14/07 CHECK REGISTER)

CHECK #337

\$	837.82
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\$	837.82
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TOTAL:	\$ 1,947,135.39
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EXAMINED AND FOUND CORRECT: (SIGNED ROBERT H. ZEIDERS)
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING
R07-63

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:

WEB DISPLAY: Mayor North stated that Mrs. Brennan, website organizer, will be attending a future Council meeting to provide information to Council as well as the public on the borough website.

PRIVATE SESSION:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

When Council reconvened, on the motion of Mr. Alloway and second of Mr. Volkert, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 PM.

OREN R. THOMAS IV
BOROUGH CLERK