

Merchantville, NJ

November 26, 2007

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held at 7:30 PM, Monday, November 26, 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 Fry, Deputy Clerk Brouse and Solicitor Higgins were present.

PUBLIC:**CAMDEN COUNTY ROUNDABOUT QUESTIONS:**

Gail Ford, 135 N. Centre Street, asked why there are so many plans for the roundabout and how will the roundabout increase safety?

Monica Soler, 5 Clifton Avenue, questioned if private property will be taken for the roundabout?

Marge Disch, 23 E. Chestnut Avenue, is concerned for pedestrians if a roundabout is added.

Barbara Carfagno, 133 E. Park Avenue, stated that there are no crossing guards at Park and Gilmore.

Marvin Gaskill, 102 E. Chestnut Avenue, made a presentation of alternatives for the roundabout and asked why the County is not correcting the Chapel Avenue circle? He asked many questions about the roundabout.

Joe Brickley, 8 Springfield Avenue, was concerned that Mr. Gaskill does not have professional credentials.

Gail Ford, 135 N. Centre Street, doesn't want personal property taken or eliminate use of parking spaces. If we have so many objections to the plan, why not use another option?

Bill Lammey, 26 E. Rogers Avenue, would like the public to ask questions, not make presentations. If the issues are not solved, the county may not allow this project to take place.

Bob Kelly representing the County, did not intend to make a presentation, but would answer any questions.

Bob Disch, 23 E. Chestnut Avenue, asked how long it would take to construct.

Wally Hussong, 33 Franklin Avenue, is happy to see this done to stop the cut through on Franklin.

Judy Myers, 37 E. Chestnut Avenue, asked if New Jersey is doing away with circles in the state.

Bill Walker, 23 W. Cedar Avenue, questioned have the extension of the bike trail would be affected by the roundabout.

Councilor Volkert, stated that he surveyed 42 people in the roundabout area in September and the majority were in favor of the roundabout.

A Lengthy discussion ensued between council and the county representatives regarding stop signs options, mountable curbs, use of crossing guards and the ability for large trucks to pass through the proposed roundabout.

There being no further public comment, on the motion of Mr. Alloway, second of Mr. Zeiders and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the county to proceed with the roundabout.

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF MEMS MEMBERS- On the motion of Mrs. Fields, second of Mr. Volkert and a unanimous roll call vote, Council approved Charlotte Murphy and Anthony Trainer as new members of MEMS.

DISCUSSION OF UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK AT COMMUNITY CENTER-

Mr. Zeiders described the situation at the community center and approved proceeding with removal.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Waldron announced that the tree lighting and holiday parade will be on the first Friday and Saturday in December.

PRIVATE SESSION:

On the motion of Mr. Zeiders and second of Mr. Volkert, Council adjourned into a private session to discuss matters of personnel and litigation.

ADJOURNMENT:

On the motion of Mr. Zeiders and second of Mr. Alloway, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 PM.

JOHN C. FRY
BOROUGH CLERK