

September 7, 2005

The work session meeting of the Riverton Borough Council was held on the above date. Mayor Martin presiding.

PRESENT: Council members Daniel, Villari, Smyth (arrived at 7:02), Gilmore, Cesaretti, Alls-Moffatt and Solicitor Bruce M. Gunn

The following statement was read by Mayor Martin:

Public notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given by the Municipal Clerk in the following manner:

(a) Having written notification of all meetings to be held in 2005 published in the Burlington County Times on December 29, 2004

(b) Posting written notice on the official bulletin board on January 4, 2005

RESOLUTION 92-05

**A RESOLUTION PERMITTING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM A MEETING IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES PER SECTION 8 OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT C.231 P.L. 1975
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mr. Cesaretti, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mrs. Alls-Moffatt. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth absent, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye. It should be noted that Personnel, Contract Negotiations & Litigation will be discussed

At this time Mr. Smyth moved that we return to public session. This was seconded Mrs. Villari. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

RESOLUTION 93-05

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ALAN ADAMS AS ZONING OFFICER/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2005
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mrs. Alls-Moffatt, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Smyth. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

Streets & Roads Issues:

Second reading and public hearings on the following required Stormwater Regulation Ordinances:

ORDINANCE 2005-8

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 106 OF THE RIVERTON BOROUGH CODE, TO PROHIBIT ILLICIT CONNECTIONS TO THE MUNICIPAL SEPTIC STORM SYSTEM OPERATED BY THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON
(IN FULL IN ORDINANCE BOOK)**

The above Ordinance was read by title only for the second time by Mrs. Villari, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Gilmore. At this time Mayor Martin opened this portion of the meeting to the public for any comment on this Ordinance. **Bill Harris, 502 Cinnaminson Street** asked for a clarification. Mrs. Villari responded that this Ordinance prohibits illicit connections to the municipal septic storm system. There being no further comment, Mayor Martin closed this portion of the meeting to the public. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

ORDINANCE 9-05

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 106 OF THE RIVERTON BOROUGH CODE, TO PROHIBIT THE IMPROPER DISPOSAL OF WASTE
(IN FULL IN ORDINANCE BOOK)**

The above Ordinance was read by title only for the second time by Mrs. Villari, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Gilmore. At this time Mayor Martin opened this portion of the meeting to the public for any comment on this Ordinance. There being no comment regarding this Ordinance, Mayor Martin closed this portion of the meeting to the public. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

ORDINANCE 10-05

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 45 OF THE RIVERTON BOROUGH CODE, TO PROHIBIT THE FEEDING OF UNCONFINED WILDLIFE IN ANY PARK AREA OR ANY OTHER PROPERTY OWNED OR OPERATED BY THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON
(IN FULL IN ORDINANCE BOOK)**

The above Ordinance was read by title only for the second time by Mrs. Villari, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Smyth. At this time Mayor Martin opened this portion of the meeting to the public for any comment on the Ordinance. There being no comment on this Ordinance, Mayor Martin closed this portion of the meeting to the public. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

ORDINANCE 11-05

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 45 OF THE RIVERTON BOROUGH CODE, TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR DISPOSAL OF PET WASTE
(IN FULL IN ORDINANCE BOOK)**

The above Ordinance was read by title only for the second time by Mrs. Villari, who moved for its adoption. At this time Mayor Martin opened this portion of the meeting to the public for any comment on this Ordinance. There being no comment on the Ordinance, Mayor Martin closed this portion of the meeting to the public. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

ORDINANCE 12-05

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 74 OF THE RIVERTON BOROUGH CODE, TO ESTABLISH A YARD WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM
(IN FULL IN ORDINANCE BOOK)**

The above Ordinance was read for the second time by title only by Mrs. Villari, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Gilmore. At this time Mayor Martin opened this portion of the meeting to the public for any comment on this Ordinance. There being no comment on this Ordinance, Mayor Martin closed this portion of the meeting to the public. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

ORDINANCE 13-05

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 74 OF THE RIVERTON BOROUGH CODE,

**TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS TO CONTROL LITTER IN THE BOROUGH
OF RIVERTON
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Ordinance was read by title only for the second time by Mrs. Villari, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Gilmore. At this time Mayor Martin opened this portion of the meeting to the public for any comment on this Ordinance. There being no comment on this Ordinance, Mayor Martin closed this portion of the meeting to the public. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

Review of "Draft" Ordinance regarding Streets & Sidewalks. Mrs. Villari reminded Council that we were considering several amendments to this portion of our code. Mrs. Villari reported that our Streets and Roads Engineer (Richard Arango) had also been consulted regarding this issue. Mr. Arango submitted a model Ordinance of what his firm had previously recommended to Cinnaminson Township. Mrs. Villari commented that after reviewing Cinnaminson's Ordinance, it has been determined that we should incorporate their Ordinance with Riverton's suggested amendments. Council had been given copies of both for their review. After reviewing the draft Ordinance prepared by our Solicitor and making some additional modifications, it was the consensus that this issue be placed on our agenda for next week for consideration.

Possible amendments to Chapter 99 of Borough Code Re: Recycling. Mrs. Villari reported that the County is recommending changes to our Recycling Ordinance. Copies were distributed to Council for their review. Mr. Gilmore suggested placing this issue on Council's October 5 work session for discussion. This will give Council time to review the recommended amendments. It was the consensus of Council to agree to this.

Designating portions of Thomas, Linden & Elm Terrace as Through Streets. Mrs. Villari reported that we had made a request to the Department of Transportation (DOT) to investigate the feasibility of designating the above referenced streets as through streets in the Borough. Based upon their field investigation, Mrs. Villari reported that our request has been found to be warranted by the DOT and can be recommended for approval. Mrs. Villari reported that an Ordinance needs to be done. After a short discussion, it was the general consensus of Council to agree to this. The Solicitor will be asked to prepare the required Ordinance for Council's consideration at next week's meeting.

Update: 2005 Road Program-Fulton Street Reconstruction. Mrs. Villari reported that our Streets and Roads Engineer continues to work on this project. We are scheduled to go out to bid in October. Council will be kept apprised of this situation.

Update Re: T&M Associates. Public Works Manager, Scott Reed, reported that T&M Associates are working on the required permitting process (Army Corps of Engineers and Department of Environmental Protection) regarding the Borough owned portion of the riverwall at Linden Avenue. Mr. Reed reported that a request has been received from Robert E. Smyth, the property owner at 1 Bank Avenue. Mr. Smyth believes that a section of the riverwall at Morgan Avenue is a pocket park owned by the Borough. Mr. Reed stated that we are unsure that the Borough does in fact own this particular portion. However, Mr. Reed is requesting that this portion be added to T&M's permitting list, in the event a determination shows that the Borough does own this portion. Mrs. Villari reported that T&M Associates have already contacted the required agencies regarding the Borough's portion of Linden Avenue. We are awaiting their response.

Change Order No 1 for the 2004 Community Development Block Grant Project. Mrs. Villari reported that two (2) barrier-free ramps at the intersection of Fourth Street and Lippincott Avenue were removed from this project because they met the required codes. Mrs. Villari stated that the removal of these two ramps reduced the amount of the project by \$2,500.00. The original contract price was \$85,000.00. It will now be \$82,500.00. Mrs. Villari stated that a formal resolution to authorize this change needs to be approved by Council.

RESOLUTION 94-05

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON APPROVING
CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 REGARDING THE 2004 COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTON BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mrs. Villari, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Gilmore. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

Review of bids received for the Broad Street Enhancement Grant. Mr. Gilmore announced that one bid was received, opened and publicly read this morning. The lone bid received was from **Mount Construction of Berlin, New Jersey. The total bid amount, including alternate No. 1 was \$631,340.00.** Mr. Gilmore stated that this bid was well in excess of the grant amount. Mr. Gilmore further stated that Council had just received correspondence from Dante Guzzi, the Borough's Engineer for this project. Mr. Guzzi is recommending that Council reject this bid and re-bid it with specific changes. Mr. Gilmore stated that he feels Mr. Guzzi needs to clarify his suggested changes. After a short discussion, it was the consensus of Council that this issue be placed on next week's agenda for review and action to give Mr. Gilmore time to discuss the suggested changes with Mr. Guzzi.

Discussion: Traffic patterns around the School (Possible amendments to various sections of Chapter 123 (Vehicles & Traffic) of the Borough Code. Chief Norcross reported that the Borough has received a recommendation from the Burlington County Engineer relative to a traffic study performed in accordance with a grant from the Safe Routes to Schools Program. Chief Norcross stated that the Borough Engineer has concurred in the study performed by the Burlington County Engineer. Chief Norcross is making the following recommendations regarding the additional designations of one-way streets in the Borough contiguous to the Riverton Public School or playground: Howard Street in the Northwest Direction between Fifth Street and Fourth Street and Cinnaminson Street in the Southeast direction, between Fourth Street and Fifth Street. Chief Norcross is recommending the placement of stop signs on Howard Street at the intersection of Fifth Street, on Howard Street at the intersection of Fourth Street, on Cinnaminson Street at the intersection of Fifth Street and Cinnaminson Street at the intersection of Fourth Street. Chief Norcross is also recommending that loading zones be amended as follows: Howard Street on the Northeast side between Fifth Street and Fourth Street during all hours, Cinnaminson Street on the Southeast side between Fourth Street and Fifth Street during all hours. Chief Norcross also recommended that Section 25(No stopping or Standing) of Chapter 123 of the Borough Code be repealed. Chief Norcross further recommended that this same section should now read as follows: Fifth Street on the West side between Howard Street and Cinnaminson Street during all hours. Mr. Gilmore asked if the School Board have reviewed these recommendations and have agreed to them. Chief Norcross stated that these are public streets. Mr. Gilmore stated that while he is not opposed to these recommendations, he believes people should stop acting individually and work as committees. Mr. Gilmore suggested that the Chief go to the next school board meeting and discuss this issue with them.

Large truck problem. Mr. Gilmore asked the Chief where we stand with signage prohibiting large trucks from going down Main Street. Chief Norcross responded that he is trying to get the County to do that.

Review of Chapter 128-64 pertaining to automobile parking spaces-Off-Street parking. Mrs. Villari stated that she was asked that this be placed on the agenda by some business owners. Mrs. Villari stated that the way this ordinance reads, it is impossible to accommodate. Mrs. Villari believes it is difficult for a prospective business owner to obtain a variance regarding these parking requirements. Mrs. Villari stated that there is not a lot of parking in the Borough. Mr. Gilmore disagreed with Mrs. Villari. He cited instances where business owners have been granted parking variances with not much trouble. **Frank**

Cioci, 408 Lippincott Avenue commented that he feels there is no reason for this ordinance because there is no parking in Riverton. Mr. Cioci commented that as a member of the Economic Development Committee, he knows that many of the other business owners in town agree with him. He does not feel this Ordinance makes sense for pre existing buildings. Mr. Gilmore stated that if you open up a business, it is a requirement. The owner of a business should have adequate parking. If the parking is not there, a variance is then required. **Jason Cioci, 109 7th Street** did not agree with Mr. Gilmore's comments. He does not believe a prospective business owner should have to put out money to obtain a parking variance. Dr. Daniel commented that there are public parking lots in town. However, if a business owner has a storefront that will not accommodate the flow of traffic into their store, then it is a given that they apply for a variance. Mayor Martin commented that a parking variance is not the only reason why an applicant would come before the respective Boards for a variance. Mr. Cesaretti is of the opinion that this Ordinance safeguards the town. It makes sure that something doesn't come in that would drastically alter the landscape and shape of the downtown district. After a protracted discussion on this issue, Mr. Gunn suggested that this be referred to both the Planning Board and Zoning Board for their review, input and recommendation. It was the general consensus of Council to agree to this.

Mayoral appointments to the Planning Board

Mayor Martin announced that he was appointing **Suzanne Cairns Wells as a Class IV** member of the Planning Board. Ms. Wells will be replacing Birnist O'Reilly, who recently resigned from the Planning Board. Ms. Wells' term expires on December 31, 2008. Mayor Martin announced that he was appointing **Alan Adams as a Class II** member of the Planning Board. Mr. Adams will be replacing Anthony Dydek, who recently resigned from the Board. Mr. Adams' term expires December 31, 2005.

Update Re: Smart Growth Grant. Mrs. Alls-Moffatt stated that Council had previously reviewed the Office of Smart Growth's modifications to our scope of work for this project (redevelopment) and found them unacceptable. A Resolution and a letter from the Mayor were forwarded to the Office of Smart Growth explaining Council's position in this regard. Mrs. Alls-Moffatt then reviewed recent correspondence from the Office of Smart Growth regarding this grant. The Deputy Director, Joseph Donald, is requesting a meeting between Borough representatives and his Department in hopes of resolving the issues. Mrs. Alls-Moffatt stated that she believes it is imperative for us to have this meeting and asked which members of Council would attend. Mayor Martin and Mr. Gilmore volunteered to attend with Mrs. Alls-Moffatt. Mrs. Alls-Moffatt will set up the requested meeting and will keep Council informed of the outcome.

Financial Issues:

Update re: Revaluation/Reassessment of all properties. Mr. Smyth reported that on August 12, 2005 we sent out five (5) requests for Revaluation proposals for the Borough. The proposals are due back no later than 11:00am on October 3, 2005. Council will review the received proposals at that time.

Charging interest for sewer on a per diem basis. Council reviewed this request from the Treasurer. Mr. Smyth asked that the wording on the proposed resolution be reviewed and revised for next week's meeting.

2005 budgetary expenditures. Mr. Smyth reported that many budget line items are getting tight and that spending should be done with caution.

Update Re: Agreement with Farmers & Mechanics Bank to utilize their parking lot. Mr. Gunn reviewed the required Ordinance with Council and recommended its passage.

ORDINANCE 14-05

AN ORDINANCE MAKING PROVISIONS OF SUBTITLE ONE OF TITLE 39 WITH VARIOUS TRAFFIC REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO THE FARMERS AND MECHANICS BANK AND REGULATING THE USE OF SAID

ROADWAYS, STREET, DRIVEWAYS AND PARKING LOTS BY MOTOR VEHICLES

The above Ordinance was read by title only for the first time by Mr. Gilmore, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mrs. Alls-Moffatt. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye. It should be noted that second reading and a public hearing on the Ordinance is scheduled for October 5.

Update Re: Economic Development Committee. Mrs. Villari reported that the committee is considering numerous suggestions: A shop Riverton campaign with advertisements, adding items of interest to our website, a possible coupon book, events planning, the possible creation of a calendar, the possible creation of a division of tourism self guided tours, the placement of signs indicating the downtown area, the availability of parking on Farmers & Mechanics second parking lot and real estate improvements (possibly turning multi family apartments into condominiums) Mrs. Villari reported that on September 17 there will be a River-line yard sale running from Florence Township to Camden City. Mrs. Villari commented that the committee would like to get more involved with Palmyra's Halloween parade and participate in the Burlington County Freeholder's calendar of events with the placement of an ad.

Jason Cioci, 109 7th Street, reported that he calculates we need 12 directional signs for parking (8 for the Route 130 side of the rail and 4 for the river side of the rail. Mr. Cioci stressed the fact that people need to know where the parking is in town. Public Works Manager, Scott Reed, stated that he would work with the Committee regarding the purchase of these directional signs.

Gary Ford, 311 Bank Avenue. Regarding the River-line yard sale, Mr. Ford stated that we would have five tables for artists, realtors, a furniture refinisher, and people would be available to distribute information regarding Riverton. This will take place between 9:00am until 2:00pm. Mr. Ford requested that restroom facilities be available for this event at either the fire hall or municipal building. Mr. Ford stated that volunteers would be available to monitor these buildings during this event or any others that the Economic Development Committee plans. Council took this request under advisement.

Frank Cioci, 408 Lippincott Avenue asked if formal approval was needed from Council for the placement of the directional parking signs. Mr. Reed stated that we are permitted to put these signs up; however; the County has to give their approval for any signs placed on their road. Mr. Cioci asked for a clarification regarding the signs to be placed on Farmers & Mechanics Bank parking lot on Harrison Street. Mr. Gilmore commented that there will be a two (2) hour parking limit on this lot. The suggested wording was: Public parking for downtown shopping.

Nitya Fiorentino, 531 Main Street, stated that the Committee needs to submit something firm to be included on the County's Calendar of events.

Jason Cioci, 109 7th Street, asked Council if they will support the Economic Development Committee and provide police protection during their events. Mrs. Villari commented that if Council is not behind the committee, then there is no reason to go forward. Mrs. Villari asked for a consensus of Council on this issue. Dr. Daniel stated that he is interested, Mr. Smyth is absolutely interested, Mayor Martin is very interested, but feels Council will have to determine how we would fund any anticipated budget submitted by the Committee next year, Mr. Gilmore is interested and both Mr. Cesaretti and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt absolutely supports the committee. Chief Norcross commented that the safety of this town and our residents is his responsibility. He will need to work closely with the Economic Development Committee.

Phyllis Rodgers, 405 Lippincott Avenue, thanked Council for supporting the Economic Development Committee. Mrs. Rodgers believes we are at a critical crossroads now as to whether Riverton can become the height of a Victorian village or not.

MaryAnn Shea, 205 Bank Avenue stated that there would be a meeting tomorrow to discuss the duplex and condo issue. Mrs. Villari stated that Ms. Shea and Frank Cioci are

working on helping people that might want to convert their multi-family unit properties back to single family homes. There may be state funding for this. Mr. Cioci stated that this is similar to what Collingswood is doing.

Request from property owners at 204 Lippincott Avenue for a reduction in sewer charges. Council reviewed documentation from Dr. and Mrs. Daniel requesting a reduction in their sewer charge from three units to two units. Council also reviewed written verification from the Borough's Construction Official, that the owner's request is consistent with his findings at the time of his inspection of this property.

RESOLUTION 95-05

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REDUCTION IN SEWER CHARGES ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 204 LIPPINCOTT AVENUE (BLOCK 600, LOT 1), RIVERTON, NEW JERSEY (IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mr. Smyth, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mrs. Villari. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel recused himself from this issue, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt aye.

Discussion: Proposed Redevelopment Plan. Mr. Gilmore presented his proposed plan once again. Mr. Gilmore asked that this Ordinance be placed on next week's agenda for consideration. Mr. Gunn commented that this proposed plan should be forwarded to the Borough's redevelopment attorney, Tom Coleman, for his review.

RESOLUTION 96-05

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN RIVERTON BOROUGH AND CINNAMINSON TOWNSHIP FOR THE JOINT PROVISION OF MUNICIPAL COURT (IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)

The above Resolution was read by title only by Dr. Daniel, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Smyth. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mrs. Villari aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Gilmore aye, Mr. Cesaretti aye and Mrs. Alls-Moffatt nay.

Bank & Lippincott Avenue. Mr. Gilmore stated that he would like the Borough owned portion of this area cleaned up. After a short discussion, it was the general consensus that our Public Works Department take care of this.

Halloween Curfew. Chief Norcross asked Council to consider implementing a curfew for October 28, October 29, October 30 and October 31. Chief Norcross stated that the curfew would be from the hours of 9:00PM until 5:00AM for all people under the age of 18. It was the consensus of Council to agree to this. A formal Resolution will be placed on next week's agenda for action.

Preliminary agenda for September 14. The Clerk reviewed this with the Council.

Meeting open to the public

Charles Caruso, 531 Broad Street, commended Council for listening and understanding the concerns of the business community. Regarding the increase in sewer charges, Mr. Caruso would like the charges done on a sliding scale based on water consumption. Mr. Cesaretti stated that Council had considered incorporating the sewer charges into the tax rate during last year's budget discussions. Mr. Cesaretti stated that if Council does decide to do this, the sewer charges can be used as a tax deduction.

Phyllis Rodgers, 405 Lippincott Avenue, recommended that Council hire a professional grant writer who would get paid from any grant money they are able to get for Riverton. Mrs. Rodgers does not feel we should pay someone for just writing a grant.

Regarding the sewer increases, Mrs. Rodgers, a multi family unit property owner, stated that this increase completely blew her budget for the year. Mrs. Rodgers stated that there is no way she can recoup this increase from the rents. Mrs. Rodgers stated that she may have to give up her professional landscaper who maintains her properties. Mrs. Rodgers further stated that she probably can't afford that extra paint job that multiple

housing might require. Mrs. Rodgers believes there is a misconception that these multiple housing units bring in so much revenue. Mr. Gilmore stated that if we didn't have the sewer increase, we would have had to have placed the increase in the taxes because the cost of sludge removal went up.

MaryAnn Shea, 205 Bank Avenue, reiterated what Mrs. Rodgers said about the sewer increase and how that is affecting her rental property. Ms. Shea would be in favor of consumption by water usage.

Frank Cioci, 408 Lippincott Avenue questioned the sewer reduction at 204 Lippincott Avenue, which went from three units to two. Mr. Cicoci asked if this would be permanent. The response was yes. As an example Mr. Cioci stated that he knows of duplexes in town whereby the owners are paying for two units, but have not rented one unit in quite some time. Mr. Cioci believes that these owners are still entitled to keep their duplex. The issue of abandonment was briefly mentioned.

Jason Cioci, 109 7th Street, stated that the court system just went to Cinnaminson due to the lack of proper facilities here. Mr. Cicoci thinks the next thing to go to Cinnaminson will be our Police Department. Mr. Cioci believes we may become the Borough of Cinnaminson. Mayor Martin commented that he does not believe we are going that route.

There being not further business to discuss, Mr. Smyth moved that the meeting be adjourned. This was seconded by Mr. Gilmore, with all present voting in the affirmative.

Mary Longbottom, RMC
Municipal Clerk