

January 10, 2007

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

**PRESENT:** Council members Daniel (Left meeting at 10:00pm) Brown, Dr. Smyth, Mr. Smyth, Kinzler (arrived at 7:40pm), Cesaretti and William Martin, Esquire (filling in for 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 2007 published in the Burlington County Times on December 27, 2006

(b) Posting written notice on the official bulletin board on January 3, 2007

William Martin, Esquire administered the Oath of Office to Joseph Daniel as a member of Borough Council.

The minutes from December 6, December 13 and closed session minutes from December 6 and December 13 were then presented. Dr. Smyth moved that these minutes be approved as submitted. This was seconded by Mr. Brown. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mr. Brown aye, Dr. Smyth aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler absent and Mr. Cesaretti abstained.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **PUBLIC SAFETY-Mr. Cesaretti**

Mr. Cesaretti read the attached report for the month of December that was submitted by Chief Norcross. Vehicle Mileage 2668, Gas Used 443.4, Juvenile Arrests 2 (Assault 0, Miscellaneous 2-Arson, Curfew 0), Adult Arrests 14 (Criminal Warrant 0, Criminal Summons 0, Traffic Warrant 13, DWI 1, and Other 0), Motor Vehicle Crashes 4, Motor Vehicle Stops 132, Motor Vehicle Warnings 37, Motor Vehicle Summons 103 (Riverton Officers 103, NJ Transit ??-listed like this in Report, Others 0), Burglar Alarms 16, Asst. to other Police Departments 42, Animal Complaints 6, Fire Calls 23, Arson 1, Ambulance Calls (Riverton) 21, Unattended Deaths 1, Criminal Case 25, Domestic Violence 0, Thefts 3, Burglaries 0, Assaults 0, Sexual Assaults 0, Criminal Mischief 1, Robberies 0, Motor Vehicle Thefts 0, Miscellaneous Complaints 0, Miscellaneous Calls 508 and Total Calls 962.

Mr. Cesaretti read a report for the month of December that was submitted by Deputy Fire Chief Robert Yearly. There were 21 fire calls for the month, 3 drills, 13 calls in town, 8 calls out of town and 380.2 man hours for the month.

At this time Mr. Cesaretti announced that Sergeant Gerard Furrer submitted written notice of his retirement from the Riverton Police Department effective January 1, 2007. Mr. Cesaretti read Sgt. Furrer's letter in full.

##### **UPDATE RE: ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER**

Mr. Cesaretti reported that he will be contacting Riverfront Animal Control Services to ask them to submit a proposal for Animal Control Services for the Borough. Mr. Cesaretti will keep Council informed.

Mr. Smyth reported that the Borough received two defibrillators from the Rotary Club.

Patrolman Merino reviewed in detail the attached report regarding the recent County Task Force incident in Maple Shade, New Jersey as well as information regarding the New Jersey Light Rail System. Copies are also on file with the Municipal Clerk.

**STREETS, ROADS & SEWER-Dr. Smyth**

Public Works Manager Scott Reed reported that the Fulton Street contractor will be fixing the ponding problem in front of 441 Fulton Street. Mr. Reed reported that we received notification from the Department of Transportation that we have been awarded grant money in the amount of \$150,000.00 to be used to repave 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Reed reported that we are waiting on estimates from our Engineer regarding the drainage issue on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street at the National Casein location.

**ZONING, CODE ENFORCEMENT, PARK & COURT-Mr. Brown**

Mr. Brown reported that the violation issues regarding 300 Main Street should be addressed by the County Board of Health. Some language issues had to be resolved first. Mr. Brown reported that our Code Enforcement Officer is looking into complaints regarding the property at 7<sup>th</sup> & Linden Avenue. Mr. Brown reported that the property located at 622 Thomas is going through the foreclosure process. Mr. Brown understands that there might be 2 people interested in this property.

**PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SHARED SERVICES**

**AND REDEVELOPMENT-Mr. Smyth**

Mr. Smyth reported that the hearing on the sub-division application for 815 Homewood was continued until next month. Mr. Smyth reported that work continues on the re-examination of our Master Plan and the Smart Growth Grant (the Environmental Resource Inventory). Mr. Smyth reported that the Planning Board is reviewing suggested amendments to our Sign Ordinance. Mr. Smyth reported that Victorian Day is scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Smyth reported that the Riverton Business and Civic Association would be putting the Borough directory together this year. They have asked Council for a \$600.00 donation for the Borough's portion of the booklet. Mr. Smyth reported that we have submitted an application for the Safe Routes to Schools grant to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

**SHADE TREE, BOARD OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL-Dr. Daniel**

Dr. Daniel reported that 30 hazardous trees are scheduled to be removed. The Shade Tree Commission is looking into various grants to help offset expenditures.

**TREASURER'S, FINANCE REPORTS AND BILL LIST FOR APPROVAL-Mr. Kinzler**

Mr. Kinzler moved that the attached Treasurer's, Finance Reports for December 2006 and the Bill List be approved. This was seconded by Mr. Cesaretti. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mr. Brown aye, Dr. Smyth aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti aye.

**UPDATE RE: 2007 budget process.** Mr. Kinzler distributed information to Council regarding the 2007 budget process and timeline. A copy is on file with the Municipal Clerk. Mr. Kinzler provided an overview of the 2006 year in review. Mr. Kinzler stated that it was an excellent year of cost control and that we should come in under budget. Most departments beat their budget, offsetting overruns in Shade

Tree. The tax receipts were a disappointing 97.5%, which will have a negative impact on the 2007 budget. Mr. Kinzler stated that we have reduced existing debt by \$488,934. The interest paid was \$98,554.00. Mr. Kinzler then reviewed the 2007 budget process, which includes the need to agree upon goals, what work has been done to date, when to present the draft budget to Council for their review (most likely at Council's February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting) and when to present the budget to the public for comment and then adoption. Council will be kept informed.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Katy Roussos, 708 Thomas Avenue**, asked for the status of the Pedestrian/Bicycle Study. Mr. Brown responded that he met with representatives from the Department of Transportation last month to review the required process. A scope of work should be submitted for review by the end of January.

**Mr. Kinzler** asked if there were any results from the County's recent speeding test in Riverton. Chief Norcross responded that he would find out.

**Gene Bandine, 522 Main Street** asked why there was tubing running across the 400 block of Lippincott Avenue. Chief Norcross responded that we were counting cars.

Mr. Bandine reported that he knows of many residents who wish to purchase additional personalized bricks to be placed at the plaza in front of Zena's Bakery. Mr. Bandine has found company that will do it, but they can only provide engraving for up to 14 characters. Concern was raised by this limitation. Mr. Brown commented that he is working closely with the Riverton Improvement Association regarding this issue. He wants to check out other companies, in particular the one previously used, to determine if we can increase the number of characters permitted on the engraved bricks. Mr. Brown also cautioned that he wants to review any proposal regarding the bricks before proceeding and distribution begins to the general public. Council will be kept informed.

**UPDATE RE: PEACE POLE**

Dr. Smyth stated that since we have been advised that the owner of Riverton Square, LLC (James Brandenberger) has agreed to permit the placement of the peace pole on his property, he believes Council should formally decide this issue. Dr. Smyth further stated that Council had previously agreed to work with the Peace Pole Committee to determine the appropriate location for the peace pole, by Resolution adopted May 3, 2006. After a short discussion, it was the consensus to agree to this location for the peace pole.

**RESOLUTION 18-07**

**A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE PLACEMENT OF THE RIVERTON  
COMMUNITY PEACE POLE  
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Dr. Smyth, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Cesaretti. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mr. Brown aye, Dr. Smyth aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti aye.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 11-07**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A SOLID WASTE  
CONTRACT WITH THE BURLINGTON COUNTY FREEHOLDERS FOR THE  
CONTINUATION OF RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES FOR  
THE CALENDAR YEAR 2007  
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution as read by title only by Dr. Smyth, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Cesaretti. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mr. Brown aye, Dr. Smyth aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti aye.

**RESOLUTION 12-07  
A RESOLUTION APPOINTING COURT PERSONNEL  
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mr. Brown, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Cesaretti. It should be noted that Dr. Daniel had left the dais and was not present for this vote. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel absent, Mr. Brown aye, Dr. Smyth aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti aye.

**RESOLUTION 13-07  
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITOR OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON  
TO FILE APPEALS, OMITTED AND ADDED ASSESSMENT APPEALS AND  
ROLLBACK COMPLAINTS WITH THE BURLINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS  
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mr. Kinzler, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Cesaretti. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mr. Brown aye, Dr. Smyth aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti aye.

**RESOLUTION 14-07  
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF ZONING VARIANCE ESCROW FEES  
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mr. Kinzler, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Cesaretti. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mr. Brown aye, Dr. Smyth aye, Mr. Smyth aye Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti aye.

**RESOLUTION 15-07  
TRANSFER RESOLUTION  
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Mr. Kinzler, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Cesaretti. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mr. Brown aye, Dr. Smyth aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti aye.

**RESOLUTION 16-07  
A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TWO MEMBERS OF COUNCIL TO SERVE ON THE  
2007 RIVER ROUTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

The above Resolution was read by title only by Dr. Smyth, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Cesaretti. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mr. Brown aye, Dr. Smyth aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti aye

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Council reviewed and discussed a letter received from Congressman Rob Andrews Re: NJ Transit's proposed signal improvement project that will help extend late night service between Camden and the Route 73 Pennsauken Station and Park n Ride. Congressman Andrews requested the Mayor's stance on this issue. Going down the table, Dr. Daniel, Mr. Brown, Dr. Smyth, Mayor Martin and Mr. Smyth opposed this project. Mr. Cesaretti was in favor. A letter will be sent to the Congressman to inform him of Council's opinion.

### **REQUEST FROM MARK REMSA OF THE COUNTY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONAL PLANNING OFFICE**

Mr. Smyth reported that Mr. Remsa would like to come before Council to provide a comprehensive overview of ways Burlington County can assist municipalities with economic development and regional planning issues. After a short discussion, it was the consensus that Mr. Remsa be asked to attend Council's April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **REQUEST FROM PAT BRUNKER OF THE RIVERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Dr. Daniel reported that Ms. Brunker has asked to come before Council to review historic preservation issues and concerns with Council. After a short discussion, it was the consensus to try and set this up for Council's February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**-There was no public comment at this time.

### **RESOLUTION 17-07**

### **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 Dr. Smyth, who moved for its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. Brown. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel aye, Mr. Brown aye, Dr. Smyth aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti aye. It should be noted that personnel matters will be discussed.

At this time Dr. Smyth moved that we return to public session. This was seconded by Mr. Brown. A poll vote was then taken. Dr. Daniel absent, Mr. Brown aye, Dr. Smyth aye, Mr. Smyth aye, Mr. Kinzler aye and Mr. Cesaretti aye.

There being no further business to discuss, Dr. Smyth moved that the meeting be adjourned. This was seconded by Mr. Brown, with all present voting in the affirmative.

Mary Longbottom, RMC  
Municipal Clerk