

**MINUTES
JUNE 12, 2012**

The Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on the above date with Mayor McLaughlin presiding and Commissioners Bolan and McLoughlin answering the roll call. Also in attendance was the Borough Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. with a salute to the flag.

Mayor McLaughlin announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 had been satisfied by delivering the required notice to the Coaster, posting the notice on the board in Borough Hall and filing a copy of said notice with the Borough Clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS

Notice from Monmouth County Regional Board of Health offering TDaP (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) vaccines for \$5.00. Please call for appointment.

Public Hearing on Route changes for NJ Transit.

ORDINANCE #2012-03 – CAP RATE – ADOPTED

Offered By: Mayor McLaughlin

Seconded By: Comm. McLoughlin

**ORDINANCE #2012-03
ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND
TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)**

There was no response to Mayor McLaughlin's request for public comments.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

ORDINANCE #2012-05 – CODIFICATION - APPROVED

Offered By: Mayor McLaughlin

Seconded By: Comm. McLoughlin

**ORDINANCE #2012-05
AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A CODE AND CODIFICATION
OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF ALLENHURST
IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY**

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

**RESOLUTION #1
A RESOLUTION TO RATIFY AND APPROVE MINUTES**

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

BE IT RESOLVED, That the minutes of the Sine Die meeting and reorganization meeting of May 15, 2012, be ratified and approved.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #2

A RESOLUTION TO DISPENSE WITH READING OF MINUTES

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Clerk dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Sine Die meeting and reorganization meeting of May 15, 2012.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #3

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE RAFFLE LICENSE PERMITS

Offered By: Comm. Bolan

Seconded By: Comm. McLoughlin

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst, that the following raffle licenses be granted:

Allenhurst Fire Department #1 – July 14, 2012, 7:30PM – 11:30 PM, Allenhurst Beach Club, 1A Ocean Place, Non-draw (Big Wheel)

Allenhurst Fire Department #1 – August 11, 2012, 7 PM – 12 Midnight, Allenhurst Beach Club, 1A Ocean Place, Non-draw (Casino Night)

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #4

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE UTILITY AGREEMENT FOR ROUTE 71

Offered By: Mayor McLaughlin

Seconded By: Comm. McLoughlin

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, Department of Transportation has notified all municipalities within the Route 71 project area Main Avenue (M.P. 7.87) to Cedar Avenue (M.P. 0.92) of the Pavement Rehabilitation of Route 71.

WHEREAS, the Borough of Allenhurst is desirous of entering into an agreement under this program for the following purposes:

- Improvements to Route 71, Norwood Avenue Pavement Rehabilitation in the Borough of Allenhurst.
- The State will authorize and reimburse the Borough for its actual costs incurred for verification, design, review, approval and inspection for the protection, relocation or adjustment of its existing sanitary sewer facilities.
- When the State proceeds to develop the Project plans, the State and Borough shall jointly identify potential conflicts between the Borough's facilities and the Route 71 Project, and shall jointly develop a scheme for the protection, relocation, rearrangement and/or betterment of facilities in accordance with N.J.A.C. 16:25 Utility Accommodation to accomplish the Route 71 Project.
- Subsequent to the development of the above scheme with the approval of the State and concurrence of the Borough, the State will issue a "Utility Owner Design Authorization" describing the utility work and authorizing the State's designer to finalize design plans, estimates, and schedules necessary to construct new, and/or protect, relocate, and/or rearrange facilities in concert with the Route 71 Project, and incorporate them into the State's contract documents.

- The State will develop a “Utility agreement Modification” which may include a Utility Agreement Plan outlining work “To be performed by State’s contractor at State Expense”, estimated cost for field engineering, inspection and/or valve turning operations to be performed by Borough’s personnel. This will be issued in the person of the Program Manager Group C (NJDOT).
- The purpose of this Agreement is to cover all the required utility facility construction, protection, relocation and rearrangement work necessitated by the Route 71 Project; however, it is agreed that the State, in the Person of the Program Manager Group C (NJDOT), will issue modifications to this Agreement to cover unanticipated work, resulting from the Route 71 Project activities and/or field conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Commissioners of Allenhurst, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, formally approves the utility agreement for the above stated project; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Engineer, Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to submit a utility agreement identified as UECA-8-RT 71-113790 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Allenhurst; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to sign the utility agreement on behalf of the Borough of Allenhurst and that the Clerk’s signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the utility agreement and approves the execution of the utility agreement.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #5

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM PURCHASES

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, Purchases were made for amounts over \$1,000.00 and it is the policy of the Borough that the Board of Commissioners approve or confirm said purchases; and;

WHEREAS, Funds for these purposes are provided for in various accounts within the current budget, and the CFO has so certified; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the following contracts are hereby confirmed:

Pilot Electric - \$12,000 for repair of pool pumps due to Hurricane Irene
 Asay Boats - \$10,600 for lifeguard boat
 Burke Construction - \$23,965 for repair of well points due to Hurricane Irene
 R.N. DeMaio - \$2,273.91 for bathroom and cleaning supplies
 R. Sullivan Electric - \$1,040 for electrical work for cabanas
 Roy Press - \$1,424 for printing supplies for Municipal election
 Monmouth Building Center - \$5,630.04 for painting supplies for ABC
 PH2O - \$2,339 for plumbing repairs at ABC
 Grainger – Supplies & drinking fountain for ABC - \$1,121.91
 Home Depot – Materials and supplies for ABC - \$5,483.92
 Public Safety Outfitters – Thermal Camera, lowest of three quotes secured - \$9,250.00
 Bryan McCarthy Electric – Bonding & electrical work at ABC - \$3,112.00
 Century Office Products – Maintenance Agreement on Ricoh Copier - \$2,050.09
 TRJ Graphics – 2012 Calendar - \$2,650.00 (paid through advertising)
 TRJ Graphics – ABC staff uniforms - \$2,324.50
 Shore Awning, Repair, replacement and installation of awnings at ABC - \$9,683.27
 Crabnet – cable, tablets, switches for security system at ABC - \$3,684.00

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #6

A RESOLUTION TO HIRE SEASONAL EMPLOYEES

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following are hereby employed by the Borough of Allenhurst for the 2012 summer season:

Shuttle Bus Driver

Dennis Driscoll \$15.00/hr.

Pre-Season

Dennis Driscoll \$12.00/hr.

Tim Koar \$12.00/hr.

Security

Rachelle Wade 9.00/hr.

Thomas Gironda \$8.00/hr.

Evan White \$8.00/hr.

Shauna Leys \$8.00/hr.

Pool Lifeguard

Lauren Fazio \$7.25/hr.

Ocean Lifeguard

Jonathan Costanzo \$13.00/hr.

Poolside

Jake Gironda \$5.25/hr.

Gabrielle Parkhill \$5.25/hr.

Kelly Lehote \$5.25/hr.

Cabana – Part Time

Jack Rose \$5.50/hr.

Deck

Clayton Hommel \$5.75/hr.

Recreation

Emily Henderson \$5.25/hr.

Public Works

Brendan Queenan \$12.00/hr.

Shawn O’Grady \$12.00/hr.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #7

A RESOLUTION TO EXTEND FIRE SERVICES

Offered By: Mayor McLaughlin

Seconded By: Comm. McLoughlin

WHEREAS, The Allenhurst Fire Department has requested that the Borough hire a paid firefighter/maintenance person to be stationed at the Allenhurst firehouse for a 30 hour work week between 6 AM and 6 PM, Monday through Friday; and,

WHEREAS, The Board has determined that these are extraordinary unspecifiable services, which are specialized and qualitative in nature requiring expertise, extensive training and proven reputation in the field of endeavor as per N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2(7); and,

WHEREAS, A quote was obtained from JHH Services, LLC, in the amount of \$2,000 per month for firefighter/maintenance services, payable through monthly invoices to the Borough of Allenhurst; and,

WHEREAS, Funds for this service are available through the appropriation entitled, Fire, O.E., and the Chief Finance Officer has so certified; and

WHEREAS, A contract was awarded through June 30, 2012 and the Board of Commissioner now wish to extend that contract through December 31, 2012;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the contract awarded to JHH Services, LLC for firefighter/maintenance services at the Allenhurst firehouse at a cost of \$2,000.00, be extended for an additional six month period beginning July 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2012.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #8

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FINAL PAYMENT FOR MAIN POOL PROJECT

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, A contract was awarded to Aquatic Renovation System, Inc. for a PVC swimming pool lining system for the main pool at the Allenhurst Beach Club; and,

WHEREAS, The Borough Engineer has reviewed the project and recommended payment as provided for in Engineer=s Certificate #1, which is on file in the Clerk=s office;

WHEREAS, Funds for this purpose shall be provided for in the Capital Appropriation known as 2012-01 Improvements to Public Buildings and Grounds, and the Finance Officer has so certified;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Aquatic Renovation System, Inc., be compensated in the amount of \$35,500.00 for work done in accordance with Engineer=s Certificate #1.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #9

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FINAL PAYMENT FOR WADING POOL PROJECT

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

WHEREAS, A contract was awarded to Aquatic Renovation System, Inc. for a PVC swimming pool lining system for the wading pool at the Allenhurst Beach Club; and,

WHEREAS, The Borough Engineer has reviewed the project and recommended payment as provided for in Engineer=s Certificate #1, which is on file in the Clerk=s office;

WHEREAS, Funds for this purpose shall be provided for in the Capital Appropriation known as 2012-01 Improvements to Public Buildings and Grounds, and the Finance Officer has so certified;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Aquatic Renovation System, Inc., be compensated in the amount of \$21,495.00 for work done in accordance with Engineer=s Certificate #1.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #10

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ENGINEER'S CERTIFICATE FOR MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Offered By: Comm. Bolan

Seconded By: Comm. McLoughlin

WHEREAS, A contract was awarded to Fernandes Construction for Improvements to Main Street, Phase II; and,

WHEREAS, The Borough Engineer has reviewed the project and recommended payment as provided for in Engineer=s Certificate #2, which is on file in the Clerk=s office;

WHEREAS, Funds for this purpose shall be provided for in the Capital Account #2011-12, known as Improvements to Main Street, and the CFO has so certified;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Fernandes Construction be compensated in the amount of \$56,311.67 for work done in accordance with Engineer=s Certificate #2.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #11

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SOCIAL AFFAIR PERMIT

Offered By: Comm. Bolan

Seconded By: Comm. McLoughlin

BE IT RESOLVED, That a Social Affair Permit be granted to the Allenhurst PBA, Local #57, for an affair to be held on Saturday, July 14, 2012, with a rain date of Saturday, July 21, 2012, from 7:30 PM to 11:30 PM, at the Allenhurst Beach Club; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Chief of Police and the Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the application for said Social Affair Permit.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #12

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE BEACH CLUB REFUND

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

BE IT RESOLVED, That a Beach Club Refund be issued to Sari Sitt for the removal of Audrey Levy, in the amount of \$291.00.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #13

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH JCP&L FOR PARKING LOT USE

Offered By: Comm. Bolan

Seconded By: Comm. McLoughlin

WHEREAS, JCP&L owns a parking lot on Block 18, Lot 1, in the Borough of Allenhurst; and,

WHEREAS, The parking lot is not being utilized; and,

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst have requested the use of the parking lot during the summer months for Allenhurst Beach and Beach Club parking, with the Allenhurst bus transporting people to the beach and Beach Club; and,

WHEREAS, JCP&L has agreed to lease the property to the Borough during the summer months at no cost to the Borough;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Mayor and Clerk be and they are hereby authorized to sign the lease agreement on behalf of the Borough for lease of Block 18, Lot 1, for parking during the summer months.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

RESOLUTION #14

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM BILLS AND PAYROLL (05/16/12 - 06/15/12)

Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin

Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

BE IT RESOLVED, That bills and payrolls totaling \$541,929.72 be approved for payment; and,
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the May 24th and June 12th consolidated bill lists be attached hereto and made a part thereof.

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2012 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

There was no response to Mayor McLaughlin’s request for comments on the proposed 2012 municipal budget.

RESOLUTION #15
A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT 2012 MUNICIPAL BUDGET
Offered By: Comm. McLoughlin Seconded By: Comm. Bolan

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst, County of Monmouth, that the budget hereinbefore 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:

(a) \$2,218,918.87 (Item 2 below) for municipal purposes:

SUMMARY OF REVENUES

1. General Revenues		
Surplus Anticipated	08-100	330,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated	13-099	1,950,432.62
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	15-499	38,700.00
2. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES	07-190	2,218,918.87
3. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE I DISTRICTS ONLY: Item 6, Sheet 42	07-195	.00
Item 6(b), Sheet 11 (N.J.S. 40a:4-14)	07-191	.00
Total Amount to be Raised by Taxation for Schools in Type I School Districts Only		.00
4. To be Added TO THE CERTIFICATE FOR AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY: Item 6(b), Sheet 11 (N.J.S. 40A:4-14)	07-191	.00
Total Revenues	13-299	4,538,051.49

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS

5. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS:	XXXXXX	XXXXXXX
Within ACAPS@	XXXXXX	XXXXXXX
(a+b) Operations Including Contingent	34-201	3,229,398.00
(e) Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures - Municipal	34-209	352,670.00
(g) Cash Deficit	46.885	.00
Excluded from ACAPS@	XXXXXX	XXXXXXX

(a) Operations - Total Operations Excluded from ACAPS@	34-305	359,546.62
(c) Capital Improvements	44-999	57,500.00
(d) Municipal Debt Service	45-999	396,090.01
(e) Deferred Charges - Municipal	49-999	85,000.00
(f) Judgments	37-480	.00
(n) Transferred to Board of Education for Use of Local Schools (N.J.S. 40:48-17.1 & 17.3)	29-405	.00
(g) Cash Deficit	46-885	.00
(k) For Local School District Purposes	29-410	.00
(m) Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	50-899	57,846.86
6. SCHOOL APPROPRIATIONS - TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY (N.J.S. 40a:4-13)	07-195	.00
Total General Appropriations	34-499	4,538,051.49

VOTE: Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Comm. Bolan-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor McLaughlin thanked Larry O’Rourke, James Caulfield and Joseph Tomaino for the work they did on the subcommittee which was created to look into the consolidation of Loch Arbour into the Borough of Allenhurst.

Tim Moriarty, West Allenhurst, stated he had previously suggested changing the traffic flow on Corlies Avenue by the Beach Club. Mayor McLaughlin stated that they haven’t gotten to it yet.

Mr. Moriarty stated he has seen patrol cars go through there, instead of going around. Maybe they are new and don’t realize they should go around. A patrol car was even parked the wrong way on the street. Mr. Moriarty also stated that the Beach Club is short on white chairs. There were none bought this year. Older folks need those chairs as they cannot get in and out of the Adirondack chairs. He asked if there was any way to get more.

Doug Caron, Public Works Supervisor/Beach Club Manager, stated that a lot of residents put a lounge chair and a white chair up on the deck. These people are taking up double space on the deck. They moved some of the Adirondack chairs to the deck as well as lounge chairs. It is pretty crowded. He can see it getting too crowded on the deck if they put more white chairs there. Mayor McLaughlin stated he has heard no complaints about the chairs.

Mr. Moriarty stated that last year, they had some Board meetings under the tent in the summer. It gets very hot under the tent. He asked if the tent could be retro-fitted to allow air flow. Mayor McLaughlin stated they could consider fans and lights, but probably not until next year. Mr. Moriarty added that when the Firemen had their event under the tent, it was roasting.

Comm. Bolan stated he has heard the absence of complaints at the Beach Club this year.

Mr. Caron responded that they have a good group of kids. He has learned quite a bit this year and is quickly learning there is a lot more to it than meets the eye. The three managers work very well together and everything seems to be working pretty well.

Mayor McLaughlin stated he is a fussbudget and he feels the Club has been immaculate. He has gotten no complaints and Lori has not received any complaints. He stated the managers are doing a terrific job. He has received many compliments on the pool and the kids.

Comm. McLoughlin asked how the Firemen’s lottery went and Cpt. Heitmueller stated it was

very successful. They brought in \$4,500.

Mayor McLaughlin announced that four people have signed up to be on the Beach subcommittee. There will be sign up for the recreation program this weekend. It will be held rain or shine. He stated the Borough has entered into an agreement with JCP&L for parking in their lot on Main Street. The bus will pick up and drop off there on a regular basis.

Chris Rogers, Beach Club Manager, stated they are working with Sonny to come up with a bus schedule.

Comm. McLoughlin asked about putting in an ice machine and Mr. Caron gave reasons why he did not think it was a good idea.

In response to a question about the new security system, Mr. Rogers stated that it is working very well. People are buying guest books. They have turned away a lot of people who did not have memberships. There have been no problems.

Mayor McLaughlin stated they will reconvene in a few minutes as they will be holding a joint meeting with officials from Loch Arbour to talk about consolidation.

JOINT MEETING WITH LOCH ARBOUR – 8 PM

The Joint Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Allenhurst and Loch Arbour was held on the above date with Mayor McLaughlin, Commissioner Bolan and Commissioner McLoughlin answering the roll call for Allenhurst and Mayor Fernicola, Commissioner D'Angelo and Commissioner Cheswick answering the roll call for Loch Arbour. Also in attendance were the Clerks and attorneys from each municipality.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M. with a salute to the flag.

Village Clerk Lorraine Carafa read the Open Public Meetings Announcement.

Mayor McLaughlin stated that the joint subcommittee on Consolidation submitted a set of questions to the State and although they were answered, Allenhurst felt they received more assurances than legal backup. He believes Mayor Fernicola realized this also. Mayor Fernicola asked for a joint meeting to discuss the possibility of consolidation under the Local Municipal Consolidation Act and this is where we are now.

Mayor Fernicola stated the joint subcommittee came up with 25 questions which were submitted to the Department of Community Affairs as well as the Department of Education as some of the questions concerned the relationship with the Ocean Township school system. This was when they were considering consolidation under the Sparsely Populated Municipal Consolidation Act. There are express differences between the Sparsely Populated Act and the Local Consolidation Act. The Local Consolidation Act will have a consolidation plan in place before any vote. Under the Sparsely Populated Municipal Consolidation Act, the plan is implemented after the towns vote in favor of consolidation. If this process is to go forward, it is important to demonstrate to Allenhurst that there is no risk should they consolidate. They have decided to abandon the Sparsely Populated Act and proceed under the Local Consolidation Act. Under this act, the law gives both governing bodies an opportunity to develop a Consolidation Plan prior to any vote. If they come to a meeting of the minds as to a plan, the municipalities would jointly submit that plan to the DCA, which will review it and if they approve it, it is binding. At the time of the vote, there would be that certainty. He asked if Allenhurst would be willing to consider developing a plan under that act.

Mayor McLaughlin added that if there is a vote and it fails, there is a five-year wait before a consolidation can be considered again.

Comm. Bolan asked what they had to do to take the first step.

Mayor Fernicola replied that his suggestion would be to appoint a Commissioner from each municipality to try to draft a plan.

Comm. McLoughlin stated the benefit to Loch Arbour is plain. He would like to see a benefit to Allenhurst and maybe they will find that out if they take the next step.

Comm. Bolan stated he saw no risk in taking the next step.

Mayor McLaughlin stated the plan needs to be attractive to the voters. There is no question that they should take the next step and try to work out a plan.

Mayor Fernicola stated he would like to request a meeting with the DCA to review the application process.

Mayor McLaughlin stated this is all part of the framework. Does Loch Arbour still want to be known as Loch Arbour, but under one government? Comm. Bolan stated he liked the sound of the L.A. section of Allenhurst.

Mayor Fernicola stated that the DCA offers technical assistance. He would like to find out exactly what that means. Will they offer financial help for a consultant?

Mayor Fernicola stated that assuming the towns come up with a plan, there has to be a total of three meetings. Each town will have to have a meeting and they will have to have a joint meeting. This is all before submitting the plan to the DCA.

Comm. McLoughlin asked about the timetable for an election and Mayor Fernicola stated they can set the election for whenever they want, provided, however, that they follow the provisions for elections.

Mayor Fernicola suggested adopting a resolution to pursue the consolidation plan under the Local Option. The following resolution was suggested:

WHEREAS, The Boards of Commissioners of the Village of Loch Arbour and the Borough of Allenhurst have had preliminary discussions regarding the consolidation of the Village of Loch Arbour and the Borough of Allenhurst into a single municipality pursuant to the Local Option (N.J.S.A. 40A:65-25, et seq.); and,

WHEREAS, The Boards wish to formally move forward with these discussions by creating a sub-committee comprised of Mayor Paul Fernicola of the Village of Loch Arbour and Mayor David McLaughlin of the Borough of Allenhurst, to discuss consolidation and prepare a consolidation plan in conjunction with the State Department of Community Affairs; and,

WHEREAS, The said consolidation sub-committee shall report their progress back to their respective governing bodies for further discussion and/or action as the process moves forward;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Allenhurst, that a consolidation sub-committee be created to study the consolidation of the two communities pursuant to the Local Option, (N.J.S.A. 40A:65-25, et seq.), and prepare a preliminary consolidation plan in consultation with the State Department of Community Affairs.

Comm. Bolan offered the above resolution, moved and seconded by Comm. McLoughlin and adopted by Allenhurst on the following vote: Comm. Bolan-AYE; Comm. McLoughlin-AYE; Mayor McLaughlin-AYE.

The resolution was also offered by Comm. D'Angelo, seconded by Comm. Cheswick and adopted by Loch Arbour on the following vote: Comm. D'Angelo-AYE; Comm. Cheswick-AYE; Mayor Fernicola-AYE.

The Mayors then opened the meeting to the public for questions and comments.

PUBLIC HEARING

Ed Lee, Loch Arbour, questioned having only one person represent each town in something as important as this. It is a heavy load for a single person. He suggested adding someone outside each Board of Commissioners. If the Commissioners talk to each other regarding this issue, it will be a violation of the Sunshine Law.

Mayor Fernicola stated the subcommittee will have no binding authority. Mr. Lee asked if this option allows an external committee and Mayor Fernicola stated it does, but this is what they are choosing.

Mr. Lee asked if this is something that can be discussed in caucus and Dave Laughlin, Allenhurst Borough Attorney, stated it was, as a legal issue. However, no action can be taken while in caucus.

Mayor McLaughlin stated that this process will be thoroughly vetted. This is not something that will be done by two people. Comm. McLoughlin added that they will make sure the voters know exactly what is happening.

Catherine Cunniff, Loch Arbour, asked if there were other options and what the differences might be. Mayor Fernicola explained the differences and stated that the Local Option, which they are considering, will provide a greater degree of flexibility.

Joseph Cattano, Allenhurst, stated he doesn't know what benefit there would be to Allenhurst residents. If this process proceeds, there could be pressure from the State to consolidate. Mayor McLaughlin explained that the plan has to be approved by each town before being submitted to the State. If they decide not to proceed, the State cannot force a vote.

Thomas Neff, Director of the Division of Local Government Services, was introduced by Mayors Fernicola and McLaughlin. Mr. Neff stated the Division wants to help. The Department is not looking to force the towns to do anything. They will only serve as a source and to give clarity to the process. This is the same process that is being undertaken in Princeton. Every Department will be available to provide assistance. They have recently hired someone to help with situations exactly like this. Mr. Neff stated he would be glad to meet with each Mayor.

John Zazzarino, Loch Arbour, asked about the process and Mr. Neff answered and explained that two other towns have been down this road. One pulled the plug and the other is still involved in the process.

Les Tinker, Loch Arbour, asked if the other towns had concerns regarding separate school districts. Mr. Neff thought one of the towns in south Jersey concerned two school systems. This is a little cleaner cut than that.

Comm. Bolan asked if there was any negative reaction to the two towns which pulled the plug. Mr. Neff responded that there were none as far as he knows. The State will not take away aid. There is always speculation that the State will be forcing mergers. That is not true with this administration. However, this is a chance to control your own destiny. You never know what the future will bring.

Comm. Bolan questioned how creative they could get with the plan and Mr. Neff replied there is a lot of leeway under this law. They can be as creative as they want.

Mr. Lee questioned costs and Mr. Neff responded that there is help with one-time costs.

Brooke Tarabour, Loch Arbour, asked if the State would be willing to help with Loch Arbour's school tax situation. Mr. Neff responded that they should not count on Trenton to solve the school problem.

Mr. Neff stated he thought the towns were moving in the right direction.

There being no further questions or comments, public hearing was closed and as there was no further business, Comm. McLoughlin moved, seconded by Comm. Bolan that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Lori L. Osborn, RMC
Clerk-Administrator