

The Borough Hall Report

GYPSY MOTHS

Last fall we read with alarm of the damage done to many trees in New Jersey by the moths. We wrote a letter to Trenton and received a reply to the effect that we are not considered a problem area. Thus, we urge residents to be alert and report any signs of trouble to the Shade Tree Commission.

DOG LICENSES

In case you have forgotten, January 31st was the deadline for 1971 tags. Another point to remember, it is unlawful to let dogs run loose.

CLEAN UP WEEKS

These will resume in March. The first clean week will be March 22-27. Normal household items may be placed at the curb on your regular pick up days during that week. It is not practical to try to have clean up during the winter months. Snow is enough of a problem. Following March, the weeks will be; April 19-24, May 24-29, June 21-26, etc. A copy of the Garbage rules and regulations are available at Borough Hall.

GLASS PICKUP

The Junior Woman's Club will sponsor a glass cleanup day. It will be on March 20, with a rain date of March 27. All glass containers, rinsed, stripped of labels and caps and segregated by color should be brought to the A. & P. parking lot between 9 A.M. and Noon. If you need help, call Mrs. S. P. Jennings at 825-0176 by March 18th. We salute the ladies for their efforts.

CRESTWOOD LAKE

We have been negotiating for the purchase of a part of this property for approximately 14 months and are now almost in a position to make a recommendation to the residents of Allendale as to what we think should be done. We need just a little more time to put the facts, as we see them, together and present them for your consideration. We

hope to be able to mail some information within the next month and then schedule a public hearing.

LEAF BURNING

We applaud all who cooperated by not burning leaves last fall. The community spirit displayed, was great. We know hauling leaves to the dump is an inconvenience and we thank all who did it. We also thank Pete Cauwenberghs and his crew, who picked up many truckfuls of bags and carted them away. To those who asked for a leaf sweeping and collecting machine, we ask that you consider whether the capital outlay involved is really worth it for a machine that will be used only a few weeks each year. This type of machine would cost approximately \$23,000.00. Also, there is the problem of storage for such a machine.

SEWER PROGRESS

We are moving ahead on two fronts these days. The first is the wind up of the first stage. All but a few residents have connected to the system and the mess is gradually disappearing. To those not connected and who do not have permission to delay, we urge you to proceed before we are forced to take action. In March we plan to sell \$1,575,000.00, 30 year bonds to provide the long term financing for Stage 1. We are joining with the Elementary School District, which is selling its bonds for the Brookside School addition, in order to save some costs and to have a more attractive package to offer to prospective purchasers of the bonds.

The second area concerns sewers for the balance of the Borough. Plans and specifications are now complete, and we have been to the State for our certificate of necessity to proceed. Next, we introduce the ordinance and then return to the State for permission to exceed our debt limit. Then we finalize

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SEWER PROGRESS (continued)

the ordinance and advertise for construction bids. If the bids come in within the ordinance estimates, we can proceed with construction. We are hopeful to start construction this summer and will attempt to start in the areas that need the facilities most. Our estimates of cost for this work is \$2,600,000.00.

Mr. Eid, representing Manganero, Martin and Lincoln, our sewer consultants, is now making the rounds to set up the house tie-in specifications. Please remember that it is the Borough's responsibility to provide a sewer in the street (or in an easement) deep enough for you to connect, but it is the resident's responsibility to set the exact point and depth of connection. If you need help, consult a plumber.

Another word of caution. Please be very careful about who you contract with to have your connection work done; a few residents have run into problems in Stage 1. We have a list of plumbers and contractors who are licensed to do work in the Borough.

NOW IS THE TIME TO ASK ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE CONCERNING YOUR FUTURE SEWER CONNECTION. CALL MR. EID, OR THE SUPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR. FRANK GRIEDER, AT 825-2373 OR 327-3505.

THE ALLENDALE BLOOD BANK

We are making an exception to our policy of not plugging all the worthwhile appeals we are confronted with each year, and are asking all residents to donate blood if they are physically able. Money can do a lot but it cannot produce blood. Only people can do that and it is desperately needed.

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

In an effort to recognize in a small way the effort put forth by our volunteers, your Council decided last year to give each man who attended a minimum number of drills and alarms, a clothing allowance. This is intended to assist them in replacing some of their own clothing which is ruined in the line of duty. Payments of either \$40.00 or \$60.00 were made to each man. A reminder, the department can use some more help. Anyone interested may call John Fredericks, Chief.

COMMERCIAL GARBAGE PICKUP

After receiving many requests, we have decided to make the Borough garbage service available to those commercial establishments that ask for it. This service started January 1st, and so far about twenty have signed up, including the Regional High School. For the small store with a nominal amount there is no charge. For others, charges range from \$40.00 to \$92.00 per quarter, (the high school pays more).

OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINES

The Public Service Electric and Gas Co., proposes to run a 345 KV transmission line from Waldwick to a point in Rockland County, New York, using the right-of-way of the Erie Lackawanna Railroad. The lines would be strung on towers which would be 150 feet high. The present zoning code allows no structure of more than 35 feet, which will give you an idea of how high 150 feet is. It is our opinion that these lines would be both unsightly and dangerous, as they would pass right through the middle of Allendale. We have written letters and are told a public hearing must be held before any action is finalized. However, we believe that the more letters that are sent, the better are our chances for keeping these lines out. We suggest you write to the Public Utilities Commission, 1100 Raymond Blvd., Newark, expressing your concern. While you are at it, send a copy to Senator Hagedorn in Trenton, so he is aware of your concern.

STATE ADMINISTRATION REPORT

For a number of years the Council has been concerned about the fact that Borough government was not keeping up with the growth in Allendale. During the past 20 years, the population has tripled, from some 2,000 to the present 6,200, and yet the Borough still functions in almost the same way now as then.

None of us felt qualified to determine the requirements for good government and so we asked for help from the Department of Community Affairs in Trenton. The result is a study of the administrative practices of the Borough which was prepared over last summer and fall. The report has now been delivered and we are

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STATE ADMINISTRATION REPORT (continued)

Distributing copies to interested organizations. Copies will be available at the Library and the Borough Clerk's Office.

The purpose of the report was not to evaluate the performance of the Borough employees, but rather to evaluate the organization structure within which the employees are called upon to work. The report is rather complete and deals with all aspects of the Borough administration. It draws many conclusions and makes many specific recommendations. These, all need to be studied carefully, and then it will be up to us on the Council to decide specifically what to do. In some instances we have already been able to use the report as a guide for action as we have known of some of the recommendations it would make since last summer, and have seen a draft since November.

In general, the report covers three areas. The first is the recommendations that the Borough create the post of Administrator to oversee the everyday operation of the Borough and insure that all ordinances, resolutions and policies of the Council are carried out. In addition, the administrator would have duties in the areas of budget and finance, personnel, purchasing, among others.

The second general area covered by the Report, suggests the consolidation of records and functions now handled by a number of part time employees into fewer full time employees working out of Borough Hall. The third general area covered by the report suggests that the Borough provide adequate space.

It should be noted that while the report recommends certain courses of action, we are not required to follow them. Whatever we do is up to us. However, we on the Council feel that the report provides a fair guide line for a gradual modernization of our set up and practices. We will be pleased to make copies available and to receive any comments and suggestions from any resident.

THE SPACE SITUATION

The present space situation at Borough Hall is critical. Even without the comments in the State report on Administration, it was obvious to us that something had to be done soon. However, hoping to get some ideas from the report, we held off as long as possible. In addition to your Borough Clerk and Assistant Clerk, the

building inspector has a very small office. The police occupy approximately 700 square feet in the rear of the building. The space occupied, is in each case inadequate for them to do their jobs properly. However, this is only part of the problem, as an additional dozen or so part time personnel must also utilize this space. These people must find a corner of the Council Chamber or use the space of others. The entire situation is very poor.

The straw that broke the camel's back was the decision of the Council and the Board of Public Works, not to replace the Water Collector with another part-time employee. (In case you have not heard, Mark Olson and his family have moved south.) Thus, it was decided to bring this function into Borough Hall, and in this way begin our updating program.

In order to gain some space, that is needed immediately and still give us time to properly plan the Boroughs' long range space needs, we have decided to rent a house on Cottage Place and locate the Police Department there. The lease will run for an initial period of three years, with three one year renewal options for the Borough. Thus, we will have from three to six years to study the situation and plan for adequate and functional space. The space vacated by the Police will be turned into two offices which will provide additional conference space, as well as the much needed office space.

Last summer, we were forced to ask certain organizations to stop meeting in the Borough Hall in order to provide the Chamber room for our various Municipal Boards, and in order to hold court on four nights each month instead of two. It is our hope that with this reorganization at Borough Hall and with some general face lifting that we plan to give the building, that we may be in a position to allow the use of the hall again by these groups in the near future.

ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES ON MUNICIPAL BOARDS

William Turner, on Shade Tree Commission. James Thomas, on Bd. of Health. H. Alan Koski, on Board of Adjustment, Hans Sammer, on Bd. of Adjustment. David Burgess, to Bd. of Adjustment plus William Lee and Ralph Brown as alternates. Gordon Rose, on Planning

ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES ON MUNICIPAL BOARDS
(continued)

Board. Thomas Monfried, on Library Board. Bernard Blide on Bd. of Public Works.

We welcome these new volunteers and thank them for their willingness to give their time.

Charles Palmer, from Shade Tree Commission. Floyd Drake, from Board of Adjustment. Frank Mc Cord as Library Trustee. Joseph Waldorf, from Board of Adjustment. Harry Long, from Planning Board. Mrs. Sparling from Board of Health and Mr. Perotta and Joe Hanney from the Board of Public Works.

We wish these residents well and thank them for their efforts on behalf of the Borough.

LEAF DISPOSAL AREA, NEW STREET

It has been necessary to close off the leaf disposal area on New Street, because of the dumping there of unacceptable items. The dumping area will re-open in April and

residents may deposit leaves, grass clippings, small brush on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. Brush includes limbs which are 2" in diameter or smaller. No large limbs or stumps, please. The disposal area will be under the supervision of attendants and will be closed to all dumping after December 15th until further notice.

VOTER REGISTRATION

For the convenience of those who go to business during the hours the Borough Clerk's office is open during the day, evening voter registration hours have been set for April 21, 26 and 27. The hours are 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. If you have recently received notification from the County Board of Elections that you should re-register, we invite you to come to the Borough Clerk's office and do so.

Municipal Building
290 Franklin Turnpike
Allendale, N. J. 07401

BULK RATE
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