

VF-Allen Dale



BOROUGH HALL REPORT

Borough of Allendale, NJ

Fall, 1993

1993 MUNICIPAL BUDGET: TAXES DECREASE

The 1993 Municipal Budget provided for a 2.8 tax point decrease in the Municipal Tax rate for property owners in the Borough. Significant savings were realized in the new garbage collection contract, the revaluation of the Public Employees pension fund, an increase in tax collections, and cost savings programs instituted by the Mayor and Council. The 1993 budget is within the 1.5% CAP in municipal expenditures, and overall represented a decrease of \$145,393.91 in appropriations from 1992.

The Borough is responsible for collecting 100% of the tax levy for the Allendale schools, Northern Highlands Regional High School, and Bergen County, whose tax rates are as follows:

	1992	1993	+ / (-)
	RATE	RATE	
Municipal	.742	.714	-.028
Local School	1.125	1.166	.041
High School	.604	.630	.026
County	.389	.410	.021
Total	2.860	2.920	.06

On a home assessed at \$210,000, the tax increase is \$126.00.

WHERE'S THE WATER?

This past summer brought restrictions on lawn watering to Borough residents. The odd-even restrictions helped balance water pressure throughout the Borough, and allowed us to maintain an adequate water supply each day. In order to have sufficient water for normal uses, and for fire protection, it is essential that we fill our two water tanks each night. The restrictions allowed us to do that. The two-hour per week restrictions were necessary to comply with the terms of our contract with the Borough of Ramsey, which gets a supply of water from Mahwah Township. Mahwah was unable to refill their tanks at night, and had reached a critical stage. Mahwah imposed a total ban on its residents, and cut back the amount of water which it was supplying to Ramsey. In turn, Ramsey placed a complete ban on its residents, and cut back the amount of water supplied to Allendale. Hence, it was necessary to place more severe limitations on lawn watering.

The Water Committee of the Borough Council is preparing a recommendation to the entire Council which will focus on the current and future water needs of the Borough. The Committee realizes that residents desire an adequate water supply 365 days per year, and this must be balanced on the cost to provide such service.

MAYOR'S COLUMN

Albert H. Klomburg, Mayor

This issue marks the return of the quarterly Borough Hall Report, which allows your Borough Government to communicate with you directly. With the suspension of both this publication and the monthly calendar, there has been a gap in communicating with the residents. A lean work force and heavy work load is never an excuse for lack of communication. In this and each ensuing quarterly Borough Hall Report, we will bring you the latest information on recycling, grass and leaf disposal, Crestwood, the municipal budget, and other timely matters. There will also be a list of all ordinances and major resolutions passed since the last newsletter with a brief explanation of the effect on Allendale life. In this, the Mayor's Column, I will discuss some past, current and potential problems and opportunities. We look forward to renewing this newsletter and hope that all of our residents will read it fully and provide the Governing Body with your comments.

OMACHI STUDENTS RETURN

For the second year, Allendale played host to junior and senior high students from Omachi, Japan. At the invitation of Daniel Moss, a 1986 Highlands graduate and an English teacher in Omachi, 14 students and their chaperons enjoyed a weekend of Allendale life. Their trip included visits to Borough Hall and the Library, Fire and Police Headquarters, a tour of the Celery Farm, visits to Brookside School and Northern Highlands, and a bus ride to Yankee Stadium. The visit was a great opportunity for our host families to share in an international exchange. Both our visitors and our own children benefitted from this wonderful experience. We wish to thank the homestay families, plus School and Borough personnel for making the weekend a success.

PARK AND RIDE OPENS

Those residents who do not regularly commute to work by train might not have discovered the new Park and Ride on the outbound (east side) of the NJ Transit railroad tracks. The old cinder and dirt battlefield on the east side with its two foot deep, water filled shell holes has been improved by the Borough, with Belgian block curbs, macadam surface and striping. The Holiday Observers' pine tree, in the island, has been relocated to provide twelve new shopper parking spots in the north end of the lot near the town clock. The rest of the lot is restricted to commuter parking from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM Monday through Friday, but is open parking the balance of the time. Resident and non-resident commuter parking permits are available from the Allendale Police Department at a cost of \$40 and \$90 respectively, pro-rated through June. There are also twenty hourly meters which utilize quarters and provide up to twelve hours of parking for only \$2.00. Why not give the train another shot at getting you to work without the hassle of the highways. If you do not use the train to commute, get to know the lot for evening and weekend shopping in Allendale.

SENIOR HOUSING PLANS

Plans are progressing for the construction of 15 low and moderate income housing units on Borough property off of First Street. This is a Court-mandated development to comply with the Borough's Mt. Laurel housing requirements. Due to a recent Supreme Court ruling, the Borough can not set aside any units exclusively for Allendale residents. Construction is planned for 1994. The Borough is not taking applications at this time, and will publicize when they are available.

RECYCLING Q&A

We are frequently asked questions about recycling, and would like to share some of those questions and answers with you.

Q. Why must we recycle?

A. In 1988 the State of New Jersey adopted the "Mandatory Source Separation Act" which requires all municipalities to recycle 60% of their waste stream by 1996. Recycling reduces the amount of garbage sent to landfills, and helps preserve resources.

Q. What is the Borough doing with all of the money it makes from selling recyclable materials?

A. The Borough does receive revenue from the sale of aluminum, glass, tin, scrap metal and cardboard. Plastics and green glass are disposed of at no charge. Any revenues are placed in a Recycling Trust Fund, which is used to offset the cost of the recycling effort. The real savings is in the cost avoidance by not having to go to the landfill at \$120 per ton.

Q. Why do we have to separate glass, aluminum and tin, when other municipalities co-mingle their recycling collection?

A. This practice is reviewed from time to time, and we still find that it is more cost effective to collect separated recyclable materials. While we are able to dispose of separated materials at no cost or a small profit, it would cost up to \$40 per ton to dispose of co-mingled recycling.

Q. Why can't magazines and junk mail be put out with newspaper collection?

A. Magazines and junk mail are contaminants for newspaper. Since we are able to deliver clean newspaper to the vendor, we can sell the paper. If it is contaminated, it would cost us to dispose of

it. Junk mail and magazines can be disposed of at the special containers at the leaf composting site on West Crescent Avenue, during the weekend hours when the site is open. Although brush, grass and leaves are not collected from mid-December to April, you may drop off magazines and junk mail on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Q. Why are we only recycling #1 and #2 plastics.

A. Markets for the disposal of other plastics have not been developed. Once we are assured of a stable market, we will consider adding other plastics to the recycling list.

GARDEN CLUB FORMING

A Garden Club is forming in Allendale. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 20 at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall. Call Carol at 934-8925 or Janet at 825-9071 for more information.

CHILDREN'S ROOM ACTIVITIES

An active and dynamic children's room sponsors preschool storytimes, special craft programs, and theme parties for the youngest members of our community. Maggie Shoemaker, Children's Librarian, will help children and parents find that special book. A special event that Maggie has coordinated with the sponsorship of the Friends of the Library is a *Festival of Folktales* by Creative Theatre, Inc. This professional theater production is scheduled for early December. For more information contact the Lee Memorial Library at 327-4338.

The Library is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

BOROUGH COUNCIL LEGISLATION

The following ordinances were enacted from January 1, 1993 to date. If you missed the public hearing and want additional information, you may review them at the Borough Hall.

- #711 Interlocal agreement with Ramsey to share Tax Assessor.
- #712 Interlocal agreement with Bergenfield to share health officer and sanitarian.
- #713 Collection and use of developers' fees.
- #714 Determination of responsibility for construction, repair and maintenance of sidewalks.
- #715 Amendment of Chapter 57 regarding specifications for sidewalk construction.
- #716 Authorization to execute agreement with Bergen County for Community Development funds.
- #717 Amendment of Chapter 52 to fix salaries and compensation of the Borough's officers and employees.
- #718 Authorization of emergency repairs to well #11.
- #719 Amendment to an ordinance establishing rabies control.
- #720 Bond ordinance to authorize various public improvements including remediation of below ground gasoline tanks and installation of above ground gasoline and diesel tanks.
- #721 Vacation of a portion of Harding Avenue. This "paper street" appeared on maps only. Future improvement was not planned.
- #722 Establishes Parking regulations for the Park and Ride facility.
- #723 Establishes certain fees in the Tax Collector's Office.
- #724 Funds replacement of Fire Hydrants.
- #725 TABLED.
- #726 Changes the date for Fire Department and Fire Association election of officers.

BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
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Allendale, NJ 07401

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