

**BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE  
Mayor and Council Reorganization  
January 5, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Statement of Presiding Officer**

Notice of this meeting was provided to the Bernardsville News, Courier-News, Star Ledger, filed in the Office of the Borough Clerk, and posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board on December 23, 2008.

**Oaths of Office**

Joseph DeMarco and Joseph C. Rossi, Jr., elected to three year terms on the Borough Council at a General Election held November 4, 2008, were sworn into office by the Borough Clerk.

**Roll Call & Pledge of Allegiance**

Present at this meeting were Lee C. Honecker, Mayor, Joseph DeMarco, John McCrossan, Edward McDowell, Joseph C. Rossi, Jr. and Kevin Sooy, Members of Borough Council. Also present were John Pidgeon, Ralph Maresca and Sandra Jones, Borough Clerk. Council Member Charlotte Foster was absent.

**Mayor's Annual Address**

*Thank you all for coming. Congratulations to Mr. DeMarco and Mr. Rossi. Mr. DeMarco, I said last year to Mr. McDowell and Mr. Sooy that the difference between wanting and actually having the position can be quite shocking. But knowing this group and the fact that we all work in the best interests of the borough, I anticipate getting a lot of work done this year. I would like to thank former Council Member Denis Dooley for his past service and dedication to the borough. His work with our senior citizens and the Chapter Two organization was nothing less than admirable.*

*In preparing this address, I went back and looked at my 2008 address to see what I said about what issues the borough was expected to face that year:*

***The downtown project.** Done. Although the project got off to a late start we persevered and completed the project under budget save for minor construction issues and punch list items that will be addressed when weather permits. I have been stopped on the street by residents who comment on how much better the downtown area looks and is a pleasure to walk.*

***Renovation of Olcott Avenue.** Done. It is important to note that both the downtown project and the Olcott Avenue renovation were on the borough's anticipated project list for over a decade.*

*So this past year we took on two major public works projects in addition to improvements made to Orchard Hill, Ballantine Road, Post Lane, Post Kuhnhardt and Crest Drive. Congratulations and jobs well done go to John Macdowell, our Public Works Manager and Rob Haynes, assistant to the Public Works Manager, for their oversight on these projects.*

***The restructuring/reorganization of the borough staff.*** *That process is under way, as the borough received the pro bono services of professional consultants who conducted a study of borough staffing. The results and recommendations from that study are expected to be presented to the council sometime in the upcoming weeks.*

***Completion of municipal budget in accordance with the restrictions imposed by the governor.*** *Kudos to Mr. Maresca, borough staff and the finance committee.*

***Installation of solar panels on the library roof to supply electricity to the building.*** *That concept is in progress. We shall be applying for an energy audit grant with Somerset county which may lead to either a low interest loan or grant money to not only install the panels but implement recommendations to make our buildings energy efficient. As required by the guidelines for the county grant, tonight we will be creating an energy team to begin the application process.*

***Completed the purchase of the Belcher property.*** *The purchase price was \$985,000.00. However, the borough received a county grant of \$150,000 and a greenacres grant of \$500,000. Thus the borough will have ended up expending only about \$335,000 from open space monies for the property.*

*In regard to open space funding, this year the borough passed an ordinance allowing a percentage of the open space tax to be used for development of property on the borough list of open space property.*

*In regard to grant monies, this year the borough received \$300,000 in grant money this year from the county and the state. Congratulations to again to John Macdowell as well as to our grants committee, Paula Marasco and Councilwoman Charlotte Foster.*

*The borough hired two part-time field inspectors in the zoning department to enforce the borough's housing ordinance. They will help us get a handle on overcrowded housing.*

*So we certainly not sitting on our hands in 2008.*

*However, not every borough cloud had a silver lining. The downturn in the economy affected our residents and business owners and I expect will continue to do so in 2009. In response, this past fall, the borough froze discretionary spending to help preserve available funds.*

*The borough joined a lawsuit with other municipalities challenging the data used by COAH to establish moderate/low income housing obligations.*

*What's are some of the issues I expect us to face in 2009?*

***The economy will remain an issue.*** *The borough will have the arduous task of keeping spending in line while still maintaining services. And, for businesses, residents must remember to shop locally whenever possible.*

***The major street renovation in 2009 will be Old Fort Road.*** *The borough received \$150,000 in grant money for the project and engineering plans will soon be ready to share with the public.*

***The borough shall be studying whether or not to opt into the highlands plan.*** *Last year the borough filed an intention to opt in to the highlands regional plan and applied for grant money to study the plan and determine whether participating in it would be a benefit or a detriment to the borough. I intend to appoint a committee to drive the study process and evaluate the information in order to make a recommendation to the council.*

*With regard to **personnel and staffing**, once our consultants have issued the results of their study of borough operations, we must decide what action, if any, to take.*

*Finally, in late fall, the county announced the availability of grant money to assist smaller municipalities in the improvement of open space and recreational facilities. I anticipate that we will apply for this grant and look to the recommendations of the recreation committee in this regard.*

*The lack of adequate recreational field space is a problem that has not gone away.*

*I have enjoyed working with everyone this past year and look forward to 2009. I know that the council and staff have worked very hard for you this past year and I am extremely proud to be mayor of such a wonderful group of individuals. I can say that you are in good hands. Thank you very much and I hope everyone has a happy and healthy new year.*

### **Mayor's Appointments**

<b>GROUP</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TERM</b>
Planning Board	Terry Thompson, Class II	one year
Planning Board	Alice Rochat, Class IV	four years
Environmental	Rosalie Ballantine & Johanna Wissinger	three years
Shade Tree	Tom Shea & Anne Peterson	four years
Historic Preservation	Daniel Lincoln & Paula Marasco	four years
Historic Preservation	Linda Kragie, Alternate #1	one year
SCCD	Paula Marasco	one year
SCWWMP	Lee C. Honecker, Donald Knudsen, John Macdowall, Robert Brightly	one year
URWAC	Sherry Frawley	one year

Local EM Council	Kevin Valentine, OEM Coordinator Lee Honecker, Mayor Kevin Sooy, Public Safety Committee Ralph Maresca, Borough Administrator Captain Michael Perez, Police Department Richard McCorry, OEM Deputy Coordinator John Macdowall, Public Works Manager Allan Rome, Road Superintendent Joseph Sutula, Animal Control Officer Jerry Negri, Fire Chief John Orfan, First Aid Squad Lucy Forgione, Health Officer Janet George Murnick & Kay Paragano, CERT Pat Robinson, CERT - media	three years one year
Energy Team	Paula Marasco, Charlotte Foster, Joe DeMarco, Tom Voss, John Macdowall or Rob Haynes, Allen Rome	one year

**AD HOC COMMITTEES**

**NAME**

Community Relations	Lee Honecker and Kevin Sooy
SC Relations	Paula Marasco, Kathy Pierce Desjourdy, Joseph Rossi
Municipal Grants	Charlotte Foster, Paula Marasco and Kate Lincoln
Information Systems	David Greenebaum, Michael Landau, Ed McDowell, Joseph Rossi, John McCrossan, Karen Brodsky, Stephen Marasco, Sandra Jones, Anthony Suriano

Town & School

NOMINATION to SCSWAC (pending)

**Resolutions**

**#09-1 ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Mr. McCrossan moved that Charlotte Foster serve as Council President for 2009. Mr. Sooy seconded, and the motion was adopted with five yes votes.

**#09-2 ORGANIZATION OF BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Mr. McDowell moved the following:

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:** Kevin Sooy, Charlotte Foster, Joe Rossi

FINANCE COMMITTEE: John McCrossan, Ed McDowell, Joe Rossi  
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Charlotte Foster, Joe DeMarco, Kevin Sooy  
ENG./PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: John McCrossan, Joe DeMarco, Ed McDowell

**OTHER COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Planning Board Class III Member: Charlotte Foster  
Liaison to Recreation Committee: John McCrossan  
Liaison to Environmental Commission: Joe DeMarco  
Liaison to Historic Preservation Advisory Board: Charlotte Foster  
Open Space Advisory Committee: Charlotte Foster and Ed McDowell  
Liaison to Shade Tree Committee: Kevin Sooy  
Liaison to Board of Health: Ed McDowell  
Representative to JIF: Ed McDowell

Mr. DeMarco seconded the motion which was approved with five yes votes.

Mr. Rossi moved adoption of Resolutions #09-3 through 09-12, 09-15 and 09-17 through 09-20.  
Mr. McCrossan seconded. Motion was adopted with five yes votes. Resolutions follow:

**#09-3 AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES APPOINTMENTS/CONTRACTS**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Bernardsville has a need to acquire services listed herein as non-fair and open contracts pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A - 20.4 or 20.5 as appropriate, and

WHEREAS, the Finance Officer has determined and certified in writing that the value of the acquisition will exceed \$17,500, and

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of the contracts is one year, and

WHEREAS, the contractors listed herein have submitted proposals indicating they will provide the services needed by the Borough, and

WHEREAS, the contractors have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that their business entity has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Bernardsville in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the contractors named herein from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Finance Officer has certified in writing that sufficient funds are available for these contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Bernardsville authorizes contracts with the following professional services contractors for 2009:

Pidgeon and Pidgeon, for Legal Services  
 Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro & Murphy, Labor Counsel  
 Hanlon, Dunn and Robertson, Public Defenders  
 Ferriero Engineering, Inc., Borough Engineers  
 Hawkins, Delafield & Wood, Bonding Attorneys  
 John D. Cassells & Company, Auditor  
 James Hurley Agency, Insurance Agent and JIF Risk Manager  
 Malcolm Pirnie, Inc., for wastewater consulting  
 Coded Systems, Inc., for ordinance codification  
 Brownworth Engineering LLC, for the downtown project  
 Stormwater Compliance Solutions, for NJDEP storm water compliance

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution, and that notice of these awards be advertised once in the Bernardsville News.

**#09-4 APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES**

Ralph Maresca, Administrator  
 Sandra G. Jones, Assistant Administrator, Assessment Search Officer  
 John R. Pidgeon, Municipal Attorney  
 John Cassells, Municipal Auditor  
 Paul Ferriero, Engineer (1/07 to 12/09)  
 Miles Winder, Prosecutor  
 Robert Dunn, Public Defender  
 Anthony Suriano, Deputy Borough Clerk  
 Antonietta Marino, Tax Search Officer

And, contingent upon passing hearing and vision testing, Crossing Guards:

Kim Brenner, Sergeant, Shelly Benetin, Elizabeth Cook, John Lucas, Peter Nastacio, Martha Santini, Deborah Vaughn, Bruce Watson, and Substitutes Deborah Colonna, Olivia & Patrick D’Amico, Carol Melendez, Nancy Negri, Karen Szarek

**#09-5 COUNCIL CONFIRMATION OF THE MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS**

GROUP	NAME	TERM
Board of Health	Miller Mowder	three years
Library Board of Trustees	Stephanie Wallace and James Kellett	five years
Open Space AC	Marilyn Dee, Citizen at Large	three years
Recreation Committee	Peg Trinter and Andrew Taylor	three years
OEM CERT & Volunteers	(See attached list)	one year

Fire Prevention Bureau (none--appts. effective through 12/09)  
Ten Towns GSWMC Paula Marasco, Mayors designee

NOMINATION:  
SCCHA COMMITTEE (pending)

**#09-6 BOROUGH COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS & NOMINATION**

Board of Adjustment	Marilyn Dee	four years
Board of Adjustment	George Peterson, Alternate #4	two years
Environmental Commission	Paula Dees, Alternate #1	two years
SCCD	John McCrossan and Kevin Sooy, Alternate	one year

NOMINATION:  
SCSWAC Robert Marasco one year

**#09-7 DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES AND SIGNATORIES**

The following banks are designated depositories for funds of the Borough, including Current Funds, Public Defender fees, Open Space Trust Funds, Animal Control Funds, Capital Funds, Assessment Trust funds, Sewer Utility Funds, Sewer Capital account, Recreation/Pool Utility Funds, Recreation/Pool capital account, payroll funds, escrow account, landfill escrow account, construction fund, Municipal Court account, bail bond account, State and Federal Grants fund, Railroad Station fund, Somerset Hills Alliance Fund, Fire Penalty Account, COAH Development Fees Account, Police Department Law Enforcement Trust account, Police Off-Duty Employment, Shade Tree Trust Fund, and subject to receipt from each depository hereafter named, their statement of financial condition which is equal to, or better than, current standards:

Millington Savings Bank, Millington, NJ  
Peapack-Gladstone Bank, Bernardsville, NJ  
The Bank of the Somerset Hills, Bernardsville, NJ  
Bank of America, Basking Ridge and Bridgewater, NJ  
State of NJ, Cash Management, Trenton, NJ  
Roselle Savings Bank, Bernardsville, NJ  
PNC Bank, Bernardsville, NJ

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Council President or a Member of the Finance Committee, Administrator/CMFO, Borough Clerk or, in her absence the Deputy Borough Clerk, are hereby authorized to sign all checks, notes and drafts of this Borough drawn on any account in the above institutions which have been or may be opened in accordance with resolution (except payroll account) and that any of them is hereby authorized to endorse and deposit checks and drafts payable to the Borough.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is authorized to sign payroll checks and in her absence the Treasurer, Administrator/Finance Officer and Deputy Borough Clerk are authorized to sign said checks.

#### **#09-8 RATE OF INTEREST ON 2009 DELINQUENT TAXES**

The rate of interest on delinquent taxes as follows:

FOR TAXES NOT IN ARREARS, 0% for ten days after the first day of the month on which the taxes are due. Taxes not paid during this ten day period shall be deemed to be in arrears as of the said first day of the month.

FOR TAXES IN ARREARS, 8% per annum on the first \$1500 of the delinquency, 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1500 BOTH TO BE INCREASED TO THE MAXIMUM ALLOWED BY LAW IN THE EVENT OF AN INCREASE IN THE STATUTORY MAXIMUM.

RESOLVED FURTHER that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-67, as amended, a penalty shall be charged to a taxpayer with a delinquency in excess of \$10,000 who fails to pay said delinquency prior to the end of the calendar year. The penalty so charged is hereby fixed at 6% of the amount of the delinquency; and

if taxes are fully paid and satisfied for that calendar year by the holder of an outstanding tax sale certificate, the holder shall be entitled to receive the same 6% penalty as part of the amount required to redeem such certificate of sale; and

pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-61, as amended, the amount to be charged on account of tax sale certificates shall include the following redemption penalties:

- A. 2% of the amount of the certificate over \$200 and up to \$5,000
- B. 4% of the amount of the certificate over \$5,000 and up to \$10,000
- C. 6% of the amount of the certificate over \$10,000

and that a service charge in the amount of \$20 shall be imposed for each check returned for insufficient funds.

RESOLVED FURTHER that per N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3, if failure of the State to approve budgets in a timely manner causes the delay in the delivery of property tax bills, the Collector must include notice of the payment date after which interest will be charged back to the statutory dates. No interest may be charged for 25 days after mailing.

#### **#09-9 AUTHORIZATION FOR INVESTMENTS**

The Administrator/CMFO is authorized to make investments of Borough funds, subject to Current Policy on Investments and subsequent approval by the Borough Council, maximum of \$4,000,000.00 (except NJ Cash Management), GUDPA insures all governmental deposits, Check financial statements of banks quarterly and report on Cap/Assets ratio and Investments in individual banks may be increased above limits above, based on Cap/Assets ratio; minimum 6% (will seek highest interest rate for short-term investments; some banks with very high C/A ratios are not competitive.)

**#09-10 DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS**

The Bernardsville News, Courier News and Star Ledger are designated as the official newspapers for the Borough, that all official notices may be published in any or all of these papers, and they are hereby designated to receive notice of meetings in accordance with Section 3d of the Open Public Meetings Act because said newspapers have the greatest likelihood of informing the public of such meetings.

**#09-11 PROVISION FOR KEEPING TAPE RECORDINGS OF MEETINGS**

Tape recordings of meetings of the Governing Body shall be maintained for 90 days, or as otherwise determined by the Borough Legal Advisor.

**#09-12 AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR SUPPLIES & SERVICES**

The Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise for bids in the usual form for the following:

- |                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sludge removal                     | Spring roadside cleanup        |
| Water sampling and lab analysis    | Road improvements              |
| Garbage container pickup           | Snow plowing/sidewalk clearing |
| Liquid Alum                        | Grass cutting/lawn maintenance |
| Police vehicles                    | Landfill tub grinding          |
| Road Department equipment/vehicles | Catch basin jet vac cleaning   |
| Tree pruning/removal services      |                                |

to be publicly opened in accordance with law by the Administrator or his authorized delegate, who is hereby designated as the contracting agent for the Borough for the aforesaid purposes.

**#09-15 ADOPTING A CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The Borough Council of the Borough of Bernardsville, County of Somerset, for the year 2009 or until further action by the Borough Council, shall adopt the policy attached hereto as "Attachment A", which shall serve as the cash management plan of the Borough of Bernardsville.

The Chief Financial Officer is directed to use this cash management plan as the guide in depositing and investing the Borough funds. Suitable and authorized investments are Interest-bearing bank accounts and certificates of deposit in authorized banks, listed below, for deposit of local unit funds; Government money market mutual funds as comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1(e); Local government investment pools which comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1(e) and conditions set by the Division of Local Government Services; New Jersey State Cash Management Fund; and Repurchase agreements (repos) of fully collateralized securities which comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1(a).

Each month, the Chief Financial Officer shall prepare a schedule of investments purchased and redeemed, investment earnings, fees incurred and market value of all investments. Government Unit Depository Protection Act approved banks are authorized depositories for the deposit of funds and those used by the Borough of Bernardsville are listed in Resolution #09-7. The Chief Financial Officer shall report to the governing body any account that does not earn interest.

#### **#09-17 ADOPTING POLICE DEPARTMENT RULES & REGULATIONS**

The Rules and Regulations of the Bernardsville Police Department (Attachment B) are hereby adopted.

#### **#09-18 DESIGNATING WRECKER SERVICES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

The following wrecker services are approved for use by the Bernardsville Police Department during the year 2009:

Eagle/Morristown Towing  
Morristown Auto Body  
Somerset Hills Towing  
Tom DeLucas Towing, Inc.

#### **#09-19 2009 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

The annual schedule of meetings of the Mayor and Borough Council is adopted into the public record of the municipality.

#### **#09-20 MUNICIPAL PARTICIPATION IN COUNTY ENERGY AUDIT PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, in January 2008, the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders established the Somerset County Energy Council to advise the Board of Chosen Freeholders on energy issues and opportunities, advocate for energy efficiency and conservation, and promote public understanding of energy-saving and alternative energy opportunities and choices; and

**WHEREAS**, in support of the Energy Council's mission and recommendations, the Board of Chosen Freeholders created a new County Energy Audit Program (hereinafter referred to as the "Program"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Bernardsville has accepted the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders and County Energy Council's invitation to voluntarily participate in and assist in implementing the new County Energy Audit Program, and endorsed submission of the completed attached Energy Audit Program Application; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to facilitate completion of the energy audits and Energy Star Portfolio Manager Tool in accordance with the Program, the County requires establishing a Municipal Energy Team whose primary role will be to provide data, information and access to buildings/facilities to the Energy Audit Firm and assist with implementing improvement measures and other follow-up activities as specified in the attached Energy Audit Program Guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Energy Audit Program guidelines specify additional responsibilities of the Energy Team, which include facilitating proposal generation efforts from Energy Audit Firms assigned by the County Energy Council, reviewing EA Firm proposals, and recommending the desired EA Firm to perform the work for the municipality, in accordance with the established Program timeline.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council that the Mayor is hereby authorized to establish an Energy Team and designates its Representative in accord with the Somerset County Energy Audit Program FY 2009 and its section labeled "General Responsibilities of the Municipal Energy Team," to fulfill the role and responsibilities specified in same, and in addition to authorizing submission of an application to participate in the Program.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution and the name, address, phone and e-mail information for each member of the Energy Team to the Somerset County Planning Board and Somerset County Energy Council.

#### **#09-13 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR OPERATING PURPOSES**

Mr. McCrossan moved:

WHEREAS, 40A:4-19 Local Budget Act provides that (where any contracts, commitments or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2009 budget) temporary appropriations be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided;

WHEREAS, the date of this resolution is within the first thirty days of 2009, and

WHEREAS, the total appropriations in the 2008 Budget, less appropriations made for capital improvement fund, debt services and relief of the poor (public assistance) are as follows:

General	\$ 10,512,172.86
Sewer Utility	\$ 796,000.00
Swim/Recreation	\$ 581,000.00

WHEREAS, 26.25 percent of the total appropriations in the 2008 Budget less appropriations for capital improvement fund, debt service and relief of the poor (public assistance) in the said 2008 Budget is as follows:

General	\$ 2,759,445.38
Sewer Utility	\$ 208,950.00
Swim/Recreation	\$ 152,512.50

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Bernardsville, County of Somerset that the following temporary appropriations be made and that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for his records.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Sooy and a call of the roll followed:

Mr. DeMarco	yes	Mr. McDowell	yes
Mrs. Foster	absent	Mr. Rossi	yes
Mr. McCrossan	yes	Mr. Sooy	yes

**#09-14 APPROVING TEMPORARY BUDGET LINE ITEMS**

Mr. Rossi moved that the breakdown by line item, as shown in the attachment entitled "Approving Temporary Budget Line Items", is hereby adopted. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCrossan and a call of the roll followed:

Mr. DeMarco	yes	Mr. McDowell	yes
Mrs. Foster	absent	Mr. Rossi	yes
Mr. McCrossan	yes	Mr. Sooy	yes

**#09-16 AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Mr. McDowell moved to authorize payments, as follows:

Current Fund to Somerset Hills Board of Education	1,759,012.49
Current Fund for Clerk's Petty Cash	300.00
Rec/Pool Utility Fund for Recreation Petty Cash	150.00
Current Fund for Police Petty Cash	250.00

Current Fund for Finance Petty Cash	300.00
Bond interest payment	<u>72,119.50</u>
	1,832,131.99

The motion was seconded by Mr. DeMarco and a call of the roll followed:

Mr. DeMarco	yes	Mr. McDowell	yes
Mrs. Foster	absent	Mr. Rossi	yes
Mr. McCrossan	yes	Mr. Sooy	yes

Mayor Honecker read the Time Capsule:

The following letter, dated July 18, 1977, is passed on in the public record, as requested by the Bernardsville Shade Tree Commission (now Shade Tree Committee):

To the Mayor of Bernardsville and Members of the Borough Council

With the recent restoration of the borough pond, it has been possible to complete the Time Capsule Project by imbedding the capsule in concrete at the base of the Bicentennial Liberty Tree. This tree, a red oak, was planted on April 17, 1976, at a point about 108 feet from the northeast corner of the Borough Hall Building. A plaque is affixed to the top of the concrete marker which reads:

1776 - 1976  
Bicentennial Liberty Tree  
Bernardsville  
Shade Tree Commission  
April 17, 1976

Information concerning the Time Capsule and its contents are contained in the accompanying envelope addressed to the residents of Bernardsville in the year 2076. Another copy, the original, has been placed in the Time Capsule itself.

It is the wish of the members of the Shade Tree Commission (1976-1977) that this letter be passed on from year to year on January 1 during the swearing in ceremonies of each new council through the year 2076.

At that time, during the Tricentennial Celebration of our country, the Time Capsule (see attached plans) is to be broken open for the residents to examine the items we have assembled which reflect the life and times of the Bicentennial Year.

The Bernardsville Shade Tree Commission  
John Edmonds, Chairman of the Commission  
Members: Victoria D. Schmidt  
John Croot  
Marty Craig  
Barbara Heckman

Mayor Honecker announced the following employee service awards:

YEARS OF SERVICE	NAME/POSITION
25	John Maccowall, Public Works Manager
20	Drew Taylor, Driver/Laborer
15	John Remian, Sergeant
15	James Smith, Patrolman
15	Matt Suriano, Dispatcher
10	Robert Pickell, Driver/Laborer
5	Tom Battista, Recreation & Road Maintenance

**Items of Business** (none)

**Open Session**

Mayor Honecker opened the meeting to the public. Greg DiGiacchino, Somerset Avenue resident spoke in support of Mr. Rossi, protested the Council decision not allowing Mr. Rossi to serve on the Public Works Committee and encouraged harmony among Members of the Borough Council. Mayor Honecker offered to meet with Mr. DiGiacchino to provide background on the decision in this regard. Mayor Honecker closed the public session.

**Adjournment**

Moved, seconded and approved with five yes votes. A public reception followed.

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**BOROUGH CLERK**

REORGANIZATION09.AG

keywords: appointments-reorganization-mayor-annual-address