

Approved 1/1/11

**.BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
December 20, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Rocky Hill was called to order by Mayor Edward Zimmerman at 7:30 PM followed by the salute to the Flag.

**NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

The following statement was read into the record by Mayor Zimmerman: This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting was included in a list of meetings transmitted to the Courier News and Somerset Spectator on January 6, 2010. Notice remains continuously posted as to required notices under the Statute. A copy of this notice is available to the public and is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Jim Banks-present, Mr. Jeff Donahue-present, Ms. Linda Goldman-present, Ms. Julia Hasser-present, Mr. Mark Pausch-present, Mr. Robert Steen-present.

Also present: Borough Attorney Albert Cruz, Deputy Clerk Raymond Whitlock

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Zimmerman informed the Council the Somerset County Governing Officials (SCGOA) Meeting would be on the second Wednesday in January. Mayor Zimmerman stated the speaker would be the newly elected County Prosecutor. Mayor Zimmerman stated he is now the Vice President of the SCGOA.

Mayor Zimmerman stated he received a request to attend Governor Christies signing of the arbitration reform bill in Wayne, NJ.

Mayor Zimmerman stated that he received a copy of the preliminary rescue squad audit. Mayor Zimmerman asked the Council to review the findings and be prepared to discuss it at the next Council meeting. Mayor Zimmerman stated that if there was something the rescue squad needed in the interim they could make the request to the Council for approval.

Mayor Zimmerman informed the Council that he received an email from Engineer Tanner stating Stephen Drilling, the contractor hired to seal the borough well, cannot complete the job. Engineer Tanner is looking into other options at this point. Mayor Zimmerman informed the Council the well had been sealed in the past, however it was only sealed to a certain point.

Mayor Zimmerman stated that the Borough has been approved to receive a piece of the World Trade Center to create a 9-11 monument. Mayor Zimmerman stated they received this due to Brenda Fallon and her late husband Bill Fallon who was lost in the attack. Mayor Zimmerman stated the Port Authority may be able to deliver the piece, if not Acting Clerk Newman secured a truck and driver as a donation. Mayor Zimmerman asked for approval to sign the contract that Attorney Cruz has reviewed, and allow the Borough to receive the piece. Motion was made by Hasser to allow Mayor Zimmerman to sign the contract allowing the Borough to obtain a piece of the World Trade Center. Motion was seconded by Goldman. Motion carried on voice vote- all ayes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regular Meeting Minutes December 6, 2010- Council Member Donahue pointed out an error. Motion was made to approve the minutes as amended by Goldman. Motion was seconded by Banks. Motion carried on roll call vote- all ayes.

For: Banks, Goldman, Pausch, Steen  
Against: None

Approved 1/1/11

Abstain: Donahue, Hasser

**REQUEST OF COUNCIL FOR NEW OR OLD BUSINESS (NOT ON AGENDA)**

Mayor Zimmerman stated that he would like to thank Council member Banks and Council President Goldman for their commitment to the Council. Mayor Zimmerman reminded them to come to the reorganizational meeting to be formally recognized.

Unfinished Business-Recycling Agreement  
Unfinished Business-Tax Revaluation Update

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The floor was opened to the public for comments/questions. Hearing none, the floor was closed.

*\*Mayor Zimmerman requested a change in agenda order*

**Resolution 2010-78 Resolution for the Transfer of Funds in the Current Fund**

Mayor Zimmerman read the resolution. Motion was made by Goldman to approve the resolution as presented. Motion was seconded by Banks. Motion carried on roll call vote- all ayes.

For: Banks, Donahue, Goldman, Hasser, Pausch, Steen  
Against: None  
Abstain: None

*\*Regular agenda order resumed*

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

Bill list dated December 20, 2010, was presented for approval. Motion was made to approve vouchers with the exception of voucher #6283 by Goldman. Motion seconded by Pausch. Motion carried on roll call vote- all ayes.

For: Banks, Donahue, Goldman, Hasser, Pausch, Steen  
Against: None  
Abstain: None

Motion was made to approve voucher #6283 by Goldman. Motion was seconded by Hasser. Motion carried on roll call vote- all ayes.

For: Banks, Goldman, Hasser, Pausch, Steen  
Against: None  
Abstain: Donahue

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

Tax Collector Report – November 2010  
Court Administrator Report – November 2010

Mayor Zimmerman summarized the Court Administrators report for November 2010. Motion was made by Goldman to approve the reports as presented. Motion was seconded by Hasser. Motion carried on roll call vote- all ayes.

For: Banks, Donahue, Goldman, Hasser, Pausch, Steen  
Against: None  
Abstain: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Approved 1/1/11

The floor was opened to the public for questions/comments. Hearing none the floor was closed.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration & Records – Nothing to report at this time

Buildings & Grounds - Nothing to report at this time

Finance & Insurance - Nothing to report at this time, however Council Member Banks thanked his colleagues for the past years they have all worked together.

Public Safety & Emergency Services – Nothing to report at this time

Streets & Roads – Nothing to report at this time

Water, Sewer & Environmental Protection – Council Member Steen stated that Water Supervisor Larry Merk will be submitting potential budget numbers to survey the Borough's sewer system for leaks. Council Member Steen reported there were 2,670,000 gallons of water pumped in the month of November from Well #2.

Council Representative to Planning Board – Acting Clerk Newman stated two resolutions were memorialized. One for the Bank of America for a minor site plan approval to meet ADA requirements, and the second to extend Trinity Church's demolition permit.

Council Representative to Board of Health – Council President Goldman stated the flu clinic was very successful. Council President Goldman stated the amount of people coming to the clinic was lower than in the previous year.

Zoning Official's Report – Zoning Officer Whitlock stated that the porch at 98 Washington Street is coming along nicely.

Grants Committee – Council Member Pausch stated that he is awaiting a CCR number from the Federal Government to complete the applications for energy grant funds.

Mayor Zimmerman stated that he spoke at the Montgomery Township School Board meeting on December 14, 2010. Mayor Zimmerman stated that the board was supportive of the tax levy being equal, however, adamantly opposed to representation on the School Board. Mayor Zimmerman stated that the Board felt a person representing 1.7% of the children should not have 10% of the vote. Mayor Zimmerman stated the possibility of a non-voting member was discussed. Mayor Zimmerman felt this was acceptable, as he was looking to have open communication with the board, and he felt this would achieve communication.

Council Member Hasser stated that the County has been using due diligence to try and contact the homeowners on the corner of Washington and Montgomery before the shrubs obstructing the site line are removed.

### SPECIAL BUSINESS

Discussion of Proposed County Police Force- Mayor Zimmerman stated he attended a meeting discussing the possibility of a Countywide police force. Mayor Zimmerman stated there would be 3 precincts. The precinct for Rocky Hill would also encompass Montgomery, Franklin, Hillsborough and Millstone Borough. Mayor Zimmerman stated the entry fee would be whatever the towns are currently paying for the first two years. Mayor Zimmerman stated that after the first two years the municipality will pay based on number and duration of calls, and a per mile of roads charge. Mayor Zimmerman stated this will be a voluntary opt in program. Mayor Zimmerman felt this was a good idea, however, the Borough would need to proceed carefully, as once the Borough release's the use of the State Police, the Borough could not get them back. Mayor Zimmerman felt the police presence would increase as the officers would have to travel through Rocky Hill to go from Montgomery to Franklin and vice versa. Mayor Zimmerman stated that the municipalities would keep the ticket revenue to offset costs. Mayor Zimmerman informed the Council there is a task force that has been formed which consists of Mayors and Police Chiefs, in Rocky Hill it is the Mayor and Mark Pausch, to do research and work through some of the issues. Mayor Zimmerman stated the County would like to have the force in place by 2013.

Resolution 2010 – 79 Resolution for the Cancellation of Appropriations in the Current Fund- A discussion ensued regarding the amount to be cancelled in the Buildings and Grounds line item. Upon conclusion of the discussion it was determined the amount was appropriate. Motion was made by Steen to approve the resolution as presented. Motion was seconded by Hasser. Motion carried on roll call vote- all ayes.

Approved 1/1/11

For: Banks, Donahue, Goldman, Hasser, Pausch, Steen  
Against: None  
Abstain: None

Resolution 2010- 80 Resolution Ratifying the Appropriation for Playground Mulching - Motion was made by Hasser to approve the resolution as presented. Motion was seconded by Donahue. Motion carried on roll call vote- all ayes.

For: Banks, Donahue, Goldman, Hasser, Pausch, Steen  
Against: None  
Abstain: None

Resolution 2010 –81 Resolution for the Extension of Snow Plow Contract- Motion was made by Steen to approve the resolution as presented. Motion was seconded by Goldman. Motion carried on roll call vote- all ayes.

For: Banks, Donahue, Goldman, Hasser, Pausch, Steen  
Against: None  
Abstain: None

Resolution 2010-82 Resolution Giving Authorization for the Mayor & Clerk to Sign Consent Giving the ARC Permission to Make an Application to the Planning Board - Motion was made by Hasser to approve the resolution as presented. Motion was seconded by Steen. Motion carried on roll call vote-all ayes.

For: Banks, Donahue, Goldman, Hasser, Pausch, Steen  
Against: None  
Abstain: None

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Tree Removal-Members of Council discussed the date to remove the Christmas trees in the Borough. It was determined that January 10, 2011 would be sufficient.

Revaluation Update- Council Member Steen asked for an update on the revaluation process. Acting Clerk Newman stated she received an email from the tax assessor stating the letters should have been going out the second week of December. Mayor Zimmerman stated ASI would be scheduling conferences to discuss each property during the beginning of January. Deputy Clerk Whitlock asked if there would be provisions made for those residents who do not reside in the Borough through the winter months. Acting Clerk Newman stated she would follow up with ASI to determine what the status was at this point.

Recycling Agreement-Mayor Zimmerman stated that the Clerk was in receipt of the updated recycling contract from Somerset County. Motion was made by Hasser to authorize signing the agreement for 2011. Motion was seconded by Goldman. Motion carried on roll call vote – all ayes.

For: Banks, Donahue, Goldman, Hasser, Pausch, Steen  
Against: None  
Abstain: None

#### NEW BUSINESS

None

#### COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications as listed were distributed, disseminated and filed accordingly.

#### FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Approved 1/1/11

The floor was opened to the public for comments/questions: Hearing none the floor was closed

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion was made by Goldman with a second by Banks to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 PM. All voted in favor of adjournment.

Respectfully submitted:

Rebecca P. Newman  
Acting Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL  
SOMERSET COUNTY**

**RESOLUTION FOR THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS IN THE CURRENT  
FUND IN THE  
Borough OF Rocky Hill FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2010**

**RESOLUTION 2010-78**

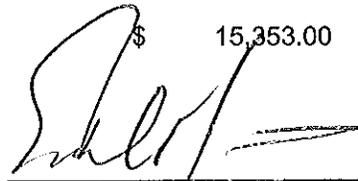
BE IT RESOLVED on this 20th day of December, 2010 by the Borough Council for the Borough of Rocky Hill, County of Somerset, that from the surplus balance in the 2010 budget appropriations transfers be made as follows:

CURRENT FUND: Inside the CAP to Inside the CAP  
Operating Expenses and Salaries & Wages

<u>Title</u>	<u>Transfer From</u>	<u>Transfer To</u>
Clerk SW	700.00	
Finance SW	368.00	
Garbage		
Tax Collector SW		1,006.00
Fire SW		7.00
FICA		55.00
 TOTAL	 \$ 1,068.00	 \$ 1,068.00

UTILITY FUND  
Operating Expenses and Salaries & Wages

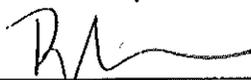
Sewer Service Charge	12,343.00	
Salaries and Wages	3,010.00	
 Operating Expenses		 15,353.00
 TOTAL	 \$ 15,353.00	 \$ 15,353.00

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor

Edward Zimmerman

Date: 12/20/2010

  
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Acting Borough Clerk

Rebecca P. Newman

Date: 12/20/2010

# Bill List 12/20/2010

## List of Bills - (0110101001) CASH Current Fund

Check#	Vendor	Description	Payment	Check Total
6278	60 - COURIER NEWS	PO 3026 ord 8-2010 print	11.00	11.00
6279	60 - COURIER NEWS	PO 3039 publish ord 9,10,1, & 12 2010	44.00	44.00
6280	72 - DUO BLDG MAINTENANCE	PO 3025 december 2010 boro hall cleaning	185.00	185.00
6281	81 - ROCKY HILL FIRE COMPANY NO 1	PO 3028 misc equipment emergency services	3,027.98	3,027.98
6282	83 - G & T Landscaping Inc	PO 2700 lawn care boro properties 2010	710.00	710.00
6283	441 - Jeff Donahue	PO 3027 reimbursement for reapiir of window	250.00	250.00
6284	463 - MASON, GRIFFIN & PIERSON	PO 3036 gen plan bd work & bank america	112.00	112.00
6285	149 - MASTROIANNI LANDSCAPING INC	PO 2964 2010 leaf pu contract	6,237.50	6,237.50
6286	173 - N J League of Municipalities	PO 3038 2010 member convention registraions	350.00	350.00
6287	210 - PSE&G	PO 3033 bor hall electric	303.03	303.03
6288	210 - PSE&G	PO 3034 cres pt park electric	5.53	5.53
6289	210 - PSE&G	PO 3035 panicaro park eelectric	26.20	26.20
6290	319 - RARITAN VALLEY DISPOSAL INC	PO 2702 solid waste collection 6-01 to 12-3	3,808.49	3,808.49
6291	248 - SOMERSET CTY COV. OFFS. ASSOC.	PO 3031 dec mtg exp	175.00	175.00
6292	285 - VALLEY OIL COMPANY	PO 3024 fuel oil del 289.4 gal 12-6-2010	788.47	788.47
6293	286 - VAN CLEEF ENGINEERING	PO 3037 eng service nov 2010	2,335.00	2,335.00
TOTAL				18,369.20

Total to be paid from Fund 01 Current Fund

18,369.20

## List of Bills - (1926005) INTERFUND - DUE CURRENT TRUST OTHER

Check#	Vendor	Description	Payment	Check Total
6294	463 - MASON, GRIFFIN & PIERSON	PO 3036 gen plan bd work & bank america	70.00	70.00
TOTAL				70.00

Total to be paid from Fund 19 TRUST OTHER

70.00

70.00

## List of Bills - (0810101001) CASH UTILITY OPERATING

Check#	Vendor	Description	Payment	Check Total
5933	415 - AQUA PRO TECH LABS	PO 3044 wqter tests nov 1, 2010	18.00	18.00
5934	123 - JOHN KESSLER	PO 3046 water dept lawn care	250.00	250.00
5935	321 - MIRACLE CHEMICAL CO	PO 3045 15 gallons clorine	71.75	71.75
5936	450 - ONE CALL CONCEPTS INC	PO 3047 nov 2010 one calls	4.28	4.28
5937	204 - PITNEY BOWES	PO 3040 postage mach rental	29.00	29.00
5938	204 - PITNEY BOWES	PO 3043 postage mach refill	207.99	207.99
5939	210 - PSE&G	PO 3042 water dept electric	4,245.37	4,245.37
5940	286 - VAN CLEEF ENGINEERING	PO 3041 sewer eng work	285.00	285.00
TOTAL				5,111.39

Total to be paid from Fund 08 UTILITY OPERATING

5,111.39

5,111.39

BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL  
SOMERSET COUNTY

RESOLUTION 2010-79  
RESOLUTION FOR THE CANCELLATION OF APPROPRIATIONS IN THE CURRENT  
FUND IN THE  
Borough OF Rocky Hill FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2010

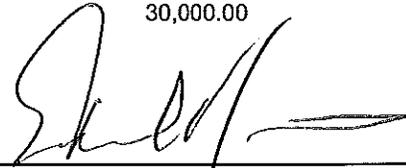
BE IT RESOLVED on this 20th day of December, 2010 by the Borough Council for the Borough of Rocky Hill, County of Somerset, that from the surplus balance in the 2010 budget appropriations the following balances be cancelled to fund balance:

CURRENT FUND: Inside the CAP to Inside the CAP  
Operating Expenses and Salaries & Wages

<u>Title</u>	
Police SW	3,000.00
Prosecutor	2,000.00
Animal Control	1,500.00
Shade Tree	1,000.00
Public Defender	800.00
Court SW	1,700.00
Recreation	2,500.00
Health	2,000.00
Legal	3,500.00
Planning	2,000.00
Buildings and Grounds	10,000.00

TOTAL

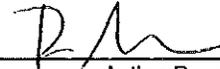
30,000.00



Mayor  
Edward Zimmerman

Date:

12/20/2010



Acting Borough Clerk  
Rebecca P. Newman

Date:

12/20/2010

**RESOLUTION 2010 - 80**

**BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL  
SOMERSET COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to purchase safety surfacing, filter fabric and drainage pipe for the playgrounds in the Borough of Rocky Hill, in the County of Somerset, State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, this can be purchased through State Contract #A59081; and

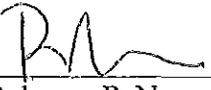
**WHEREAS**, the amount of purchase is estimated at \$11,000.00 (not to exceed \$11,000.00); and

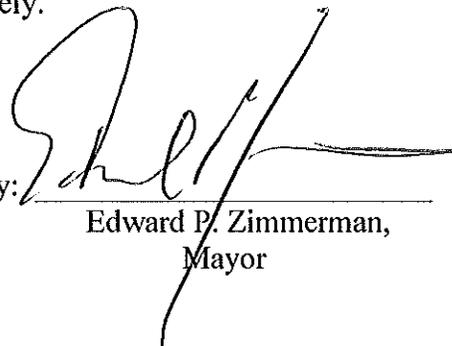
**WHEREAS**, public bids are not required when the purchase is under a state contract in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12 of the Local Public Contracts Law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rocky Hill, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, as follows:

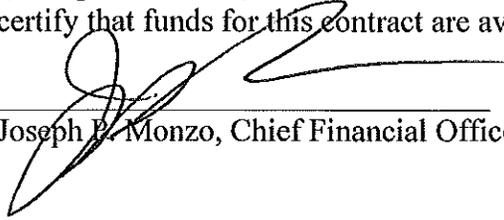
1. That the Borough of Rocky Hill awards State Contract #A59081 to Fibar Systems for the purchase of safety surfacing, filter fabric and drainage pipe at an estimated price of \$11,000.00 (not to exceed \$11,000.00).
2. That there are sufficient funds in the Borough of Rocky Hill budget for this purchase as certified by the Chief Financial Officer.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ATTEST:

By:   
Rebecca P. Newman  
Acting Borough Clerk

By:   
Edward P. Zimmerman,  
Mayor

I, Joseph P. Monzo, Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Rocky Hill do hereby certify that funds for this contract are available from: 01-201-28-375-1.99

  
Joseph P. Monzo, Chief Financial Officer

**RESOLUTION 2010 - 81**

**BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL  
SOMERSET COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Rocky Hill desires to enter into a contract extension for snow removal for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough had solicited quotes in 2010 for this work because the work is below the bid threshold;

**WHEREAS**, two quotes were received as follows:

- Severiano Berrios, Princeton NJ - \$50.00 per hour;
- Mastroianni Landscaping Inc., Hopewell NJ - \$44.00 per hour; and

**WHEREAS**, the quote that is most advantageous to the Borough is that of Mastroianni Landscaping Inc. of Hopewell, NJ, at a price of \$44.00 per hour (not to exceed \$2,500.00; and

**WHEREAS**, Mastroianni Landscaping Inc. of Hopewell, NJ, agreed to the keep the same hourly billing rate as previously quoted; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Rocky Hill was very satisfied with the services provided by Mastroianni Landscape Inc.; and

**WHEREAS**, the total value of these services for the year 2010 is less than \$17,500 and, therefore, these services are exempt from the Local Unit Pay-to-Play law, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-27.7 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, there are sufficient funds in the Borough's budget to pay for these services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rocky Hill, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, as follows:

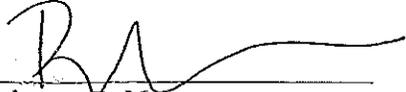
1. That the Borough of Rocky Hill awards a contract to Mastroianni Landscaping of Hopewell, NJ, to perform the following services: snow removal. The term of the contract shall be one (1) year from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, at the rate of \$44.00 per hour not to exceed \$2,500.00.

2. That there are sufficient funds in the Borough of Rocky Hill budget for this purchase as certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

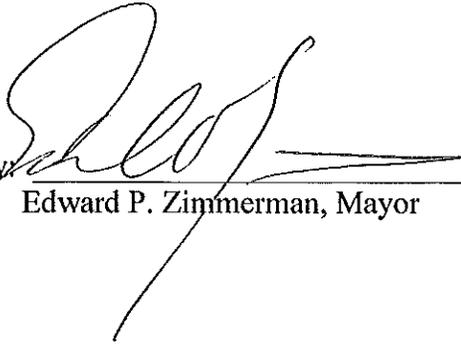
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ATTEST:

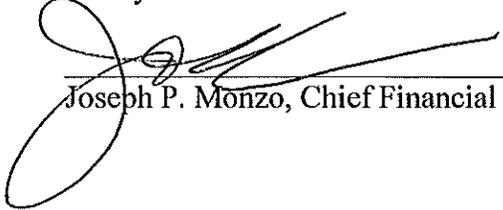
By:

  
Rebecca P. Newman  
Acting Borough Clerk

By:

  
Edward P. Zimmerman, Mayor

I, Joseph P. Monzo, Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Rocky Hill do hereby certify that funds for this contract are available from: 01-201-26-290-161.

  
Joseph P. Monzo, Chief Financial Officer

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Rebecca P. Newman, Acting Borough Clerk of the Borough of Rocky Hill do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough Council on December 20, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca P. Newman  
Acting Borough Clerk

**Explanation:** This Resolution authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to sign a consent authorizing The Arc of Somerset County to make application to the Planning Board for Site Plan Approval and related variances for a portion of that property owned by the Borough of Rocky Hill on Young Drive and known as Block 5, Lot 1 on the Borough of Rocky Hill Tax Map.

**RESOLUTION 2010-82**

**BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL  
SOMERSET COUNTY**

**WHEREAS,** The Arc of Somerset County is in need of additional parking for its facility on Young Drive and known as Block 5, Lot 1.01 on the Borough of Rocky Hill Tax Map; and

**WHEREAS,** the Borough owns the adjacent property known as Block 5, Lot 1 on the Borough Tax Map, on which the Borough water tank facility is located; and

**WHEREAS,** there is a vacant area on the Borough property which the Borough does not currently need for a public purpose; and

**WHEREAS,** that area is suitable for parking and a parking lot; and

**WHEREAS,** The Arc of Somerset County has requested to use that portion of the Borough property for parking thereby promoting its public purpose of providing housing to the developmentally disabled; and

**WHEREAS,** the Borough desires to lease a portion of Block 5, Lot 1 to The Arc of Somerset County conditioned upon The Arc of Somerset County obtaining all necessary land use approvals from the Planning Board and any related approvals; and

**WHEREAS,** under the Municipal Land Use Law, the Borough, as the owner of Block 5, Lot 1, must consent to The Arc of Somerset County applying for such approvals for Borough owned property; and

**WHEREAS,** the Council desires to grant its consent to The Arc of Somerset County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rocky Hill, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Borough of Rocky Hill grants its consent to The Arc of Somerset County to make application to the Planning Board to use a portion of Block 5, Lot 1 as a parking lot.

2. The Borough of Rocky Hill, by granting its consent, is not substituting its judgment for that of the Planning Board and this consent does not constitute a prejudgment of that application by the Borough.

3. A copy of this Resolution shall be provided to The Arc of Somerset County and the Planning Board.

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ATTEST:

By: RA  
Rebecca P. Newman  
Acting Borough Clerk

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Edward P. Zimmerman, Mayor

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Rebecca P. Newman, Acting Borough Clerk of the Borough of Rocky Hill do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough Council on December 20, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca P. Newman  
Acting Borough Clerk

## **RHBC Grants Committee Year End Report**

### Panicaro Park Memorial site

A committee of Rocky Hill citizens (Michael Goldman, Peggy Harris, Sam Panicaro) was convened and met with Borough engineer, Bill Tanner, and Borough Planner, Tamara Lee, to design a memorial site to be built using state grant funds in the Panicaro Park. After receiving input from the committee, the planner developed conceptual plans for a set of three options. The committee agreed unanimously to one of the options, which included crushed rock walking surfaces, benches for seating and a lighted flagpole. The committee submitted the plans to the Borough Council, which approved its recommendation and asked Mr. Tanner to seek bids for the implementation of the plans. Ultimately, the landscaping and flag pole were completed and unveiled to the public at the annual Memorial Day ceremony. The electrical installation was completed a few weeks later.

### Sustainable Jersey Grant application

In order to follow-up on the completed energy audit of borough facilities, a sustainable Jersey grant application at the \$10K level was developed. The proposal was intended to provide funding to implement the recommendations from the energy audit that would increase the energy efficiency of Borough Hall, the Firehouse and Rescue Squad Station. The proposal was reviewed and approved by the Council and submitted, though was ultimately not funded. As the Borough was registered with the Sustainable Jersey program as part of the grants application process, the program remains open to the borough for future applications.

### Rapid Install and ARRA funding

A combined state and federal granting program intended to provide funding for improvements in municipal facilities was made available to the borough. As part of the follow-up to the completed energy audit of borough facilities, engineers from Donnelly Energy Associates were invited to inspect borough facilities and to provide recommendations for improvements in energy efficiency of these buildings. After lengthy consideration, the consultants produced an extensive application that provided for extensive refit of the mechanical systems in Borough Hall, the Firehouse and Rescue Squad Station. The applications necessitated application by the Borough for DUNS and CCR numbers. Once these numbers became available, the applications were completed and submitted.

### RHBC Public Safety Committee

NJSP requests for patrol

Winter storm

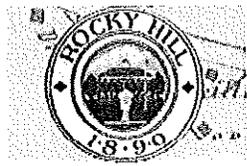
Rescue squad reorg

## **RHBC Public Safety Committee Annual Report**

The officers of the New Jersey State Police (NJSP) and South Bound Brook Police (SBBP) continued to make their routine public safety and traffic patrols through Rocky Hill and to provide periodic reports of their activities to the council. The Rocky Hill Hook and Ladder Company and Rocky Hill Rescue Squad continued to provide public safety services to the borough and the surrounding community. In addition, the NJSP and SBBP responded with patrols to the several requests from the Chair of the Public Safety committee to provide for traffic control during Borough events including the Independence Day parade and Holiday Tree Lighting ceremony. The constables, Al Chini and Dave Dorie, continued to provide enforcement of borough ordinances to support the Police, Fire and Rescue services on a as needed basis.

During the winter of 2010, a fierce storm struck Rocky Hill with heavy rain and high winds causing the toppling of numerous trees and power lines with resultant loss of power throughout the borough. Main roads leading into and out of Rocky Hill, including Washington St. (Rt. 518), Montgomery and Princeton Avenues and River Road were rendered impassible. In response, the community, including members of the Fire Company, constables, the Mayor, and members of the borough council pitched in to support NJSP and police from surrounding communities in providing traffic control, manning barricades restricting access to blocked roads until county and utility crews were able to remove downed trees and restore power.

In response to a desire to ensure satisfactory responses to emergency calls and to maintain adequate organizational stability and financial oversight of the Rescue Squad, the Mayor and Public Safety Chair met with the Rescue Squad leadership. In response to recommendations from the Borough, the Rescue Squad leadership implemented scheduling and recruiting changes that produced improvement in the effectiveness of the Rescue Squad to emergency calls, made changes in the leadership of the Squad in order to provide future consistency in response effectiveness and complete an independent audit of Rescue Squad finances. The audit indicated that the Rescue Squad's books were in order.



## Water, Sewer, and Environmental Protection 2010 Committee Report

December 20, 2010

The functioning of the water, sewer, and environmental protection in Rocky Hill during 2010 has been smooth and steady. It was a quiet year.

There were only a few minor incidents involving water main breaks, and a \$3 part that failed at the pump house spilled a small amount of water.

The summer drought resulted in slightly more water use than normal, but demand was well within the capacity of our well.

We used only our own well water – no water was needed from New Jersey American Water. One change of note is that we now have a formal agreement with New Jersey American Water allowing us to draw water from that system with effectively no notice required, although the borough will pay for that water at the going “consumer” rate, not a bulk rate. But we did not need to use this provision in 2010, not even during the extensive power outages of the March storm.

All water tests have shown our water to be of acceptable quality, and no new environment regulations are anticipated which would require action.

Our water superintendent Larry Merk is largely responsible for the smooth operations of our utility. Special thanks to Toby Whitlock for being the man on location as needed.

It should also be noted that the Bill Tanner, the personification of our engineering department, was able to provide outstanding service even though he was not required to ascend to the top of the water tower for inspections, nor has he been required to descend into the sewer for the installation of the water flow gauge.

For 2011, we are planning on doing a comprehensive inspection of infiltration and inflow in the sewer system. This will probably result in the identification of minor repair needs at a minimum, and will possibly identify larger problems. The upcoming budget should provision for some expenditures in this area.

Potential changes to the “Schafer tract” (a.k.a Rocky Hill Estates) plans may have sewer implications, but water for the proposed development will come from New Jersey American Water, not from the borough well.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Steen, December 20, 2010

## Year-End Streets and Roads Report/2010

Discussion began immediately with regard to "pedestrian crossing" signs. We have three or four old signs that can be installed in the spring.

Contacted PSE&G, Verizon, and Trinity Church regarding a tree branch across the "lines" along River Road. Trinity Church finally removed it. \$60,000 is set aside in our budget for Solar Pedestrian signs.

Sink holes on Merritt Lane and Lemoire Circle are reported to the Borough Engineer.

More discussion regarding "pedestrian crossing" signs; two residents come forward to request that we install as many signs as we can. The county informs the council that since 2004, we have spent over \$11,000 on repairing and reinstalling our existing signs. We discuss the possibility of painting "stop bars" on the street.

Solar "pedestrian crossing" signs are approximately \$1,600 plus installation. Pot holes @ 186 Washington Street and @ Borough Hall/Montgomery Road are filled by the county. Grass along Washington Street is mowed.

PSE&G cable replacement project is complete by August. Contractor for the Donato construction repairs Washington Street where a trench had been dug to provide sewer service. Council begins study of Chapter 167, Streets and Roads, to update; a section for Intersection Sight Distances is created.

County is asked to install "Don't Block the Intersection" signs on Washington Street at Young Drive. County repairs two catch basins, one located on Toth Lane and the other on Skillman Road.

We are invited to try/test Solar Pedestrian signs in the Borough. We cannot decide where to install them. PSE&G replaced non-working street lights at 41 Washington Street and 24 Montgomery Road. Street signs were added/replaced at Reeve Road & Crescent, Princeton Avenue & Washington street, and Montgomery Road & Merritt Lane.



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Robert Steen, December 20, 2010

Borough of Rocky Hill  
2010 Year End Summary  
Finance and Insurance  
Submitted: Dec. 20, 2010  
James Banks

## Introduction

Like 2009, much credit for the financial health of our town must go not only to our administrative and financial professionals, but also the exemplary dedication brought to the Council by its volunteer members. Of special note should be the contributions made to our town by the Hon. Linda Goldman, whose many years experience in finance and administration at the state level, combined with her work ethic and tireless attention to detail, leave this town's administrative and legislative affairs in a condition not seen in decades. Thank you, Linda.

Again in 2010, the Mayor and all members of council continued to maintain a fiscally austere and responsible approach their respective budgets, maintaining our town's status as a model of shared services and financial efficiency.

Mr. Joe Monzo, our "newly" appointed CFO has played an effective and knowledgeable role in the financial administration of our town, not only on a day-to-day basis, but also as special issues arose.

Rebecca Newman was appointed acting clerk. We are very fortunate and grateful for the hard work and dedication of Rebecca's predecessor, Donna Griffiths, and are blessed that Rebecca has, and will do a fine job filling her shoes.

Other significant achievements in area of Finance and Insurance are summarized below. Many achievements were extensions of efforts started in FY 2009.

Annual Budget was proposed in a timely manner within applicable caps.

Insurance coverages for the borough and fire department continued to be evaluated for cost-effectiveness.

Accounting procedures for alternative funding sources continued to be streamlined in an effort to create more transparent billing and reporting of non-tax income sources.

Action continued to clarify long-standing cost reporting and billing issues involving the Sewerage Authority shared by Montgomery and Rocky Hill. The forensic accounting firm, M&K Rosenfarb, LLC, studied past accounting procedures in an effort to help develop a fair and mutually acceptable format for future billings to our borough. Results are still pending. On a related note, efforts continued to develop an updated services agreement for Van Horn Park.

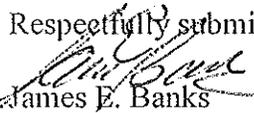
In response to current trends in property values, much of the revaluation process has been completed, results pending as of this writing.

Upon defeat of the School Budget in Montgomery, a sub-committee was appointed to participate in the formulation of an alternative budget. This committee, chaired by Linda Goldman, exhibited a thorough and almost intimidating knowledge of the Montgomery School Boards own proposed budget, and has played a major role in the development process at both the township and county level.

An audit was commissioned and completed in an attempt to help The Rescue Squad develop and maintain financial reporting standards and procedures moving forward.

And finally, like last year, our grants committee along with engineer Tanner did an effective job seeking out and maximizing many valuable funding opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James E. Banks