

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON
REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 6, 2007**

1. Call to Order

Linda DeSantis, Borough Clerk, welcomed all in attendance and called the Meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Councilwoman Mulligan (not present – ill), Councilman Doran, Council President Driscoll, Councilman Stone.

- 3. Adequate notice** of this meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was published in the Roxbury Register and the Daily Record on December 7, 2006; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on November 28, 2006 and has been available to the public; notice of this meeting is on file in the office of the Borough Clerk

4. Flag Salute

Attorney Joseph Bell led the flag salute.

5. Certification of Election

Linda DeSantis read the Statement of Determination into the record, as signed and sealed by Morris County Clerk Joan Bramhall on November 16, 2006.

6. Swearing in of Mayor

Randolph Councilman Gary Algeier commended Mayor Ondish on his accomplishments and reelection. Councilman Algeier administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Arthur Ondish and the Mayor took his place on the dais.

7. Swearing in of New Council Members

The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office to Councilwoman Maureen Cerasoli and Councilman Robert Sorge, individually, and they took their places on the dais.

8. Roll Call of the 2007 Council Members

Councilwoman Mulligan (not present – ill), Councilman Doran, Councilman Sorge, Councilwoman Cerasoli, Councilman Driscoll, Councilman Stone, Mayor Ondish.

9. Invocation

Reverend Kim Capwell delivered the Invocation.

10. Guests in Audience

The Mayor recognized some of the guests in attendance: Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen, Assemblyman Richard Merkt, Morris County Freeholder Director Margaret Nordstrom, Freeholder Douglas Cabana, Freeholder Gene Feyl, Freeholder Chegwidden, Randolph Councilman Gary Algeier, James Sloan, Land Use Board Attorney Michael Selvaggi, Judge Arnold Miniman.

11. Nomination of Council President for 2007

Councilwoman Cerasoli stated that the Council President's job is an honor amongst ourselves and usually this position is given to a person we can rely on, is trustworthy and represents us as a Council. Councilwoman Cerasoli stated that the Council has chosen John Driscoll, who has gone beyond the call of duty, a negotiator, a mediator and a good friend to everybody.

Councilwoman Cerasoli: I nominate John Driscoll serve as Council President for 2007.

Second: Councilman Sorge

Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.

Motion Approved.

12. Appointment of Borough Administrator

Mayor Ondish: I recommend JoAnne Sendler be appointed Borough Administrator to serve a four-year term.

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Cerasoli

Second: Councilman Stone

Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.

Motion Approved.

The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Sendler and she took her place on the dais.

Councilwoman Cerasoli expressed her gratitude to everyone for their overwhelming support and vote of confidence in the last election; also, thanks for all the kind letters/e-mail she has received regarding the opening of the library, which is near and dear to her heart.

Councilman Sorge expressed his gratitude to the voters of Mount Arlington for affording him the Council member position again. Councilman Sorge stated that he is very proud of the team sitting on the dais and commended their teamwork.

13. Mayor's Address

(The Mayor's address is attached.)

14. Appointments:

Borough Officials

The Mayor recommended appointment of the following Borough Officials:

Pension Certifying Official
DPW Supervisor

Allan Dickinson for a 1-year term
Paul Nelson for a 1-year term

Motion to Approve: Councilman Doran

Second: Councilman Stone

Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.

Motion Approved.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office.

Professional Services

The Mayor recommended the following appointments for a 1-year term:

Borough Attorney	Joseph J. Bell of Bell & Gage
Borough Engineer	Daren Phil Suburban Consulting Engineers
Borough Prosecutor	Douglas Cabana
Borough Auditor	Nisivoccia & Company
Borough Planner	Kimball & Kimball
Public Defender	James Sloan
Bond Counsel	Frohling, Hudak & Pellegrino, LLC
Internal Auditor	Allan Dickinson, RMA
Tax Appeal Appraiser	Scott Holzhauer, CTA, SCGRE
Stormwater Management Consultant	Suburban Consulting Engineers
Land Use Board Attorney	Michael Selvaggi, Esq.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Sorge

Second: Council President Driscoll

Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.

Motion Approved.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office.

Mayor's Appointments

The Mayor recommended the following appointments for a 1-year term:

Tax Search Officer:	Patricia Simari
Assessment Search Officer:	Linda DeSantis
Clean Communities Coordinator:	Paul Nelson
Recycling Coordinator:	Paul Nelson
Zoning Officer	Al Thompson

Sussex County Water Quality Mgmt. Plan
Policy Advisory Committee (PAC): Doug Zellman

Historian:	Virginia Rooney
Licensed Water Operator:	Andrew DuJack
Police Matron:	Valerie Kourtz
League of Municipalities Rep.:	Mayor Arthur Ondish
Liaison to the Board of Education:	Councilman Robert Sorge
Liaison to the Board of Health:	Councilman John Driscoll
Borough Pastor:	Pastor Roy Roderick
NJJIF Commissioner:	JoAnne Sendler
Alternate I:	Brian Kincaid
Public Safety Coordinator:	Chief Richard Peterson
Public Safety Coordinator:	JoAnne Sendler
Public Safety Coordinator:	Paul Nelson
Public Safety Clerk:	Patricia Simari
Public Safety Clerk:	Terry Smith
Deputy OEM Coordinator:	JoAnne Sendler
Deputy OEM Coordinator:	Chief Richard Peterson
Deputy OEM Coordinator:	Keith Licata
Deputy OEM Coordinator:	Captain Richard Husni
Deputy OEM Coordinator:	Chief Ken Smith
Deputy OEM Coordinator:	Patricia Simari
Secretary to OEM:	Diane Perillo
CDRS Representative by Mayor:	Mary Johanna LoPonte
CDRS Alt. Rep. by Mayor:	James Garland

Motion to Approve: Councilman Doran
Second: Councilwoman Cerasoli
Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
Motion Approved.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office.

15. Council's Appointment to CDRS (1-year term)

Motion to nominate Brian Kincaid as Council's Representative to
CDRS: Councilwoman Cerasoli
Second: Councilman Stone
Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
Motion Approved.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office.

16. Council Committee Appointments

The Mayor asked for confirmation of the following appointments to Chair the Council Committees for the Year 2007:

Finance Chairman: Councilman Stone (Sorge, Driscoll)

Police Chairman: Councilwoman Mulligan (Stone, Doran)

Personnel & Public

Relations: Chairman: Councilman Sorge (Stone, Doran)

Fire, Rescue

& OEM Chairman: Councilwoman Cerasoli (Mulligan, Sorge)

Parks &

Recreation Chairman: Councilman Driscoll (Cerasoli, Mulligan)

DPW, Bldgs., Grounds &

Utilities Chairman: Councilman Doran (Driscoll, Cerasoli)

Motion to Approve: Councilman Stone

Second: Councilwoman Cerasoli

Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.

Motion Approved.

17. Fire Department Officers & Fire Official

The Mayor recommended appointment of the following to the Fire Department as Officers for 2007 – 2008 (2-year term)

Fire Chief: Ken Smith

Assistant Chief: Marc Feinberg

Captain: Steve Norman

Lieutenant: Brian Heber

Engineer: John Morsch

Motion to Approve: Councilman Stone

Second: Councilman Doran

Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.

Motion Approved.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office.

The Mayor recommended appointment of the following:

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire and Safety, as the Fire Official for the Year 2007 (1-year term)

Motion to Approve: Councilman Doran

Second: Councilman Driscoll

Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.

Motion Approved.

18. Rescue Squad Officers for 2007

The Mayor recommended appointment of the following to the Rescue Squad as Officers for the Year 2007:

Captain: Richard Husni
 Assistant Captain: Robert Smay
 1st Lieutenant: Steven Szardenings

Motion to Approve: Councilman Stone
 Second: Councilwoman Cerasoli
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office.

19. Council's Appointment to the Land Use Board

Councilwoman Cerasoli: I nominate John Driscoll as a Class III Member of the Land Use Board for the Year 2007.
 Second: Councilman Stone
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

20. Land Use Board Members

The Mayor recommended the following appointments to the Land Use Board:

Class I member - Mayor Arthur Ondish (1 yr appt – exp: 12/31/07)
 Class II member – JoAnne Sendler, Borough Administrator (1 yr appt – exp: 12/31/07)
 Class IV member – Mary Johanna LoPonte (4 yr. appt – exp: 12/31/10)
 Class IV member – Jan Robert van den Hende (2 yr. appt – exp: 12/31/08)
 Class IV member – Melissa Fostle (4 yr. appt – exp: 12/31/10)
 Alternate #1 – Margarette Wilson (2 yr. appt – exp: 12/31/08)
 Alternate #2 – Raymond Simard (2 yr. appt – exp: 12/31/08)
 Alternate #3 – Leonard Loughridge (2 yr. appt – exp: 12/31/08)
 Alternate #4 – Tom Foley (2 yr. appt - exp: 12/31/08)

Motion to Approve: Council President Driscoll
 Second: Councilwoman Cerasoli
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office.

The Mayor expressed his gratitude to the Land Use Board, stating that this was a tough year with a couple of controversial issues.

21. Library Board of Trustees

The Mayor recommended Councilman Robert Sorge as the Mayor's Alternate to the Library Board of Trustees for the Year 2007.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Doran
 Second: Councilman Cerasoli
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

Added Appointment – not listed on original Agenda:

The Mayor recommended the following to the Library Board of Trustees: Anna Travers (5 yr. appt. – expires 12/31/11).

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Cerasoli
 Second: Councilman Sorge
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

22. Lake Hopatcong Commission

The Mayor recommended appointment of the following to the Lake Hopatcong Commission:

Borough Representative: Richard O'Connor (2 year appt - expires 12/31/08)
 Borough Alternate Representative: Robert Gruber (2 year appt - expires 12/31/08)

Motion to Approve: Councilman Sorge
 Second: Councilman Doran
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

23. Local Assistance Board

The Mayor recommended appointment of the following to the Local Assistance Board:

Father Desmond O'Connor (2 year term - expires 12/31/08)
 Harry Martin (1 year term - expires 12/31/07)

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Cerasoli
 Second: Council President Driscoll
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

24. Board of Health

The Mayor recommended appointment of the following to the Board of Health:

Linda Tuorinsky (3 year term, expires 12/31/09)
 Christopher W. Anderson (3 year term, expires 12/31/09)
 Anne Marie Westerfield (3 year term, expires 12/31/09)
 Patricia Simari, Secretary (1 year term, expires 12/31/07)

Motion to Approve: Councilman Stone
 Second: Councilwoman Cerasoli
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office.

25. Recreation Committee:

The Mayor recommended the following appointments to the Recreation Committee and stated that the appointed members do not have to take an oath, but asked that they please stand to be recognized after confirmation of their appointments.

Joseph Newkirk, Chairman (2-year term, expires 12/31/07)
 Lisa Abline, Co-Chair (2-year term, expires 12/31/07)
 Donna Blakely, Secretary (1-year term, expires 12/31/07)
 Erin McKenzie, Member (1-year term, expires 12/31/07)
 Bob Carney, Member (1-year term, expires 12/31/07)
 Joe Keltos, Alternate (1-year term, expires 12/31/07)

Motion to Approve: Council President Driscoll
 Second: Councilwoman Cerasoli
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

26. Advisory Council Appointments

The Mayor stated that the Advisory Council appointed members do not have to take an oath, but asked that they please stand to be recognized after confirmation of their appointments. Their appointments are for a 1-year term.

The Mayor recommended the following appointments:

Dial-A-Ride Committee

Mayor Arthur Ondish
 Councilman Robert Sorge
 Councilwoman Kerri Ann Mulligan
 Diane Perillo

Civic Center Committee

Councilman William Doran
 Councilwoman Kerri Ann Mulligan
 Councilman Robert Sorge

Mount Arlington Veteran's Day Committee

Councilman Robert Sorge
 Councilman William Doran
 Councilman John Driscoll

Technology Committee

Councilman John Driscoll
 Councilman Robert Sorge
 Chief Richard Peterson
 Chief Ken Smith
 Jim Garland
 John Goldin
 Frank Hughes

Water & Sewer Committee

Mayor Arthur Ondish
 Councilman John Driscoll
 Councilman William Doran
 Daren Phil & Andrew Holt, Suburban Consulting Engineering
 JoAnne Sendler
 Paul Nelson
 Sandor Nyari
 Layne Morris
 Mary Johanna LoPonte
 Carolyn Rinaldi, Recording Secretary
 Councilman Robert Sorge - Alternate

Neighborhood Watch Committee

Councilwoman Kerri Ann Mulligan, Chair
 Det. Keith Licata, Chair
 Lorraine Dzidual, CoChair
 Beth Ward
 Frank Hughes
 Tony Arellano
 Harry Martin

Traffic Safety Committee

Mayor Arthur Ondish
 Councilwoman Maureen Cerasoli
 Chief Richard Peterson
 Captain Richard Husni
 Chief Ken Smith
 JoAnne Sendler
 Paul Nelson
 Daren Phil

Raritan Highlands Compact

Mayor Arthur Ondish
 Councilman John Driscoll
 JoAnne Sendler

Code Book Review Committee

Mayor Arthur Ondish
 Councilwoman Maureen Cerasoli
 JoAnne Sendler
 Nancy Gage
 Linda DeSantis

Building Committee

Mayor Arthur Ondish
 Councilwoman Maureen Cerasoli
 Councilman William Doran
 JoAnne Sendler
 Daren Phil
 Paul Nelson
 Sandor Nyari
 Councilman Robert Sorge, Alternate

Motion to Approve: Council President Driscoll
 Second: Councilman Doran
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

The Mayor recommended reinstating the four 2006 appointments to the **Domestic Violence Response Team** for the year 2007. These members are not named due to the confidential nature of this team.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Stone
 Second: Councilwoman Cerasoli
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

27. Borough Employees

The Mayor recommended the continued employment of all Borough Employees who were on the payroll on December 31, 2006, except for any employees whose services with the Borough may have been terminated at or on December 31, 2006.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Sorge
 Second: Councilwoman Cerasoli
 Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.
 Motion Approved.

28. Council Meeting Dates for 2007

The Mayor stated that the Open Public Meetings Law, which is commonly referred to as the "Sunshine Law," establishes the right of all citizens to have adequate advance notice of all public meetings and the right to attend meetings at which any business affecting the public is discussed or acted upon.

It also requires the official announcement during the first ten days of the New Year of all the official meeting dates. The Council Meetings will commence at 7:00 pm. All Meetings will be held at the Municipal Building, 419 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington, New Jersey.

We have scheduled the Council Meetings as follows:

Saturday, January 6	Monday, July 9
Monday, January 22	
Monday, February 12	Monday, August 13
Monday, February 26	
Monday, March 12	Monday, September 10
Monday, March 26	Monday, September 24
Monday, April 9	Monday, October 8
Monday, April 23	Monday, October 22
Monday, May 7 – 10:00 a.m.	Monday, November 12
Monday, May 21	Monday, November 26
Monday, June 11	Monday, December 10
Monday, June 25	

The Mayor stated that it will be useful to mention at this time that the law specifies nine exceptions to the requirement for admitting the public to meetings. They are:

- (1) Matters ruled confidential by law.
- (2) Matters which would impair monies.
- (3) Matters constituting invasion of individual privacy.
- (4) Matters involving collective bargaining including negotiations.
- (5) Tactics and techniques involving protection, public safety and property and investigations of possible violations.
- (6) Matters involving acquisition of real property and investment of funds.
- (7) Litigation, contract negotiations, or matters involving attorney client relationship.
- (8) Personnel matters: hiring, firing, discipline, etc.
- (9) Deliberations after public hearing that may result in civil penalty or loss of license or permit.

29. Open to the Public

None.

30. Resolutions

The Mayor stated that the following resolutions have been referred to Members of the Borough Council for reading and study and are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion of the Borough Council with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired, the resolution may be removed and be subject to a separate roll call.

- 2007-01** Resolution Establishing the Rate of Interest on Delinquent Municipal Charges.
- 2007-02** Resolution Authorizing Professional Services for the Borough of Mount Arlington for the Calendar Year 2007.
- 2007-03** Resolution Re-Appointing Borough Administrator for Four Year Term.
- 2007-04** Resolution Designating Official Newspapers of the Borough.
- 2007-05** Resolution Authorizing the Official Depositories of the Borough.
- 2007-06** Resolution Authorizing the Assistant Administrator Maintain a Petty Cash Fund.
- 2007-07** Resolution Authorizing Signatures on Payroll and Other Checks.
- 2007-08** Resolution Authorizing Municipal Attorney to Undertake Certain Actions on Behalf of the Borough on Recommendation of the Tax Assessor.
- 2007-09** Resolution Appointing Rich Allocca, Wachovia Insurance Services, Inc., as the Borough's Risk Management Consultant.
- 2007-10** Resolution Establishing Holiday Schedule and Closure of Borough Hall Offices for Calendar Year 2007.
- 2007-11** Resolution Designating Council Meeting Dates for the Year 2007.
- 2007-12** Resolution Allowing Cancellation of Tax and Utility Overpayments or Delinquent Amounts Less than \$10.00.
- 2007-13** Resolution Appointing New Jersey Joint Insurance Fund Commissioner and Alternate I Member for the Borough of Mount Arlington.
- 2007-14** Resolution To Review, Revise and Supplement the Rules and Regulations Providing for Police Department Promotion Opportunities.
- 2007-15** Resolution Appointing the Local Emergency Planning Council.
- 2007-16** Resolution Authorizing a Tax Sale to Be Held in the Year 2007.
- 2007-17** Resolution Waiving the Food & Drink Licensing Fees for the Recreation Committee Concession Stand for 2007.
- 2007-18** Resolution Adopting a Form Required To Be Used for the Filing of Notices of Tort Claims Against the Borough of Mount Arlington.
- 2007-19** Resolution Authorizing Creation of Community Emergency Response Team.
- 2007-20** Resolution Supporting the Lake Hopatcong Commission.
- 2007-21** Resolution Supporting and Participating in the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program (P.L. 1998, C. 145).
- 2007-22** Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Animal Control Contract.
- 2007-23** Resolution Authorizing Temporary Appropriations for Operating Purposes.

Motion to Approve: Councilwoman Cerasoli

Second: Councilman Sorge

Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.

Motion Approved.

31. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Councilman Doran

Second: Councilman Sorge

Roll Call: Doran, Sorge, Cerasoli, Council President Driscoll, Stone.

Motion Approved.

Linda DeSantis, R.M.C.

Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved at Council Meeting on February 12, 2007.



I will read The
STATEMENT OF DETERMINATION
as signed & sealed by Morris County Clerk Joan Bramhall

A STATEMENT of Determination of the **BOARD OF CANVASSERS**, relative to an Election held in the **BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON** County of Morris and State of New Jersey, for the election of certain Municipal Officers for the Municipality on the 7th day of **November, 2006**.

The said Board does determine that at the said election:

NAME	OFFICE	TERM
Arthur R. Ondish	Mayor	4 Years
Maureen Cerasoli	Borough Council	3 Years
Robert W. Sorge	Borough Council	3 Years

was or were duly elected to the office and for the term above set forth.

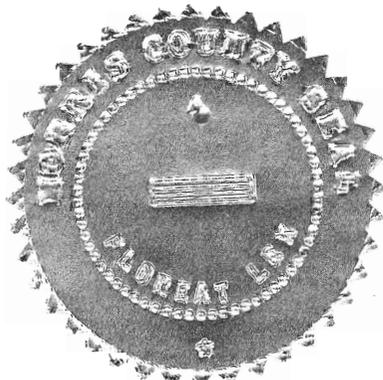
COUNTY of MORRIS

~~I~~ ^{The} **Joan Bramhall**, Clerk of the County of Morris, ^{does} ~~do~~ hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and correct copy of the statement of the determination of the Board of County Canvassers relative to an election held in the Municipality or Political Subdivision thereof on the date therein noted, for certain Officers and the Certificate thereto appended as fully and entirely as the same remains on file in my office.

Signed & sealed on Nov. 16, 2006.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,

I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the said County, at Morristown, on the 16th day of **November, 2006**.




Joan Bramhall
Morris County Clerk

Good afternoon and welcome everyone to our reorganization meeting. It is a pleasure to see all of you here to share this very special day with us. This is a very important meeting since it is where we put the team together for the upcoming year. I am honored to have been re-elected to continue to serve at the will of the people of Mount Arlington. I am surely blessed to have this opportunity once again. Congratulations to our re-elected Councilmembers Maureen Ceresoli and Robert Sorge. Councilman Sorge, I know where you are!! I look forward to serving with them for another 3 years as well as the rest of our Council. Thanks, once again, Gary Algier for honoring me by administering my oath of office. Thank you Linda DeSantis, our Clerk, who keeps us all organized and in order. My question is, where did the last 4 years go? Wow they went by fast.

As I began to put this message together I had to say to myself, where to do I begin. Well I think the most appropriate place to begin is with a word of thanks. First I want to thank God for my health and for all my blessings. I have been blessed with a fine group of Councilmember's, a fine staff, fine professionals and dedicated volunteers. I am proud to have the opportunity to sit here and say this is my administration. This is my team. These are the people who make it all happen. I think we can all take pride in this group. Much like a football team, it is rare that everything comes together and a team wins the super bowl. Well I feel like I am part of a super bowl winning team.

Much like a football game, I was handed the ball, 4 years ago, by Mayor LoPonte, who was handed the ball 4 years previous by Mayor Rivinius and so on back to the birth of our Borough. You can see the pictures of those Mayors who have faithfully served our Borough, some for one term and some for many. Some time in the future I will hand the ball off to the next Mayor. Whoever gets the ball tries to do the best they can to get to the goal line. The difference here is that the game never ends. We all take the hits, shake them off, and continue to strive to do the best we can. I want to thank all of the previous Mayors and Councilmember's, staff, professionals and volunteers who paved the way for our turn with the ball. I am sure Mount Arlington will continue to go on long after all of us have moved on but we are giving it our best while we are here.

Some highlights of things we have accomplished, over the last 4 years, while we have had the ball:

In the area of buildings:

We remodeled this building to improve work efficiency, using our qualified DPW employees, rather than expensive contractors, to complete the work.

We replaced the main firehouse roof and made improvements to that facility.

In the Department of Public Works location we remodeled the building and made needed yard improvements. That would include moving the construction offices to that facility to free up space in this building to avoid having to build additional space here. This went along with our assessment of all of our facilities to maximize use of existing buildings and space. Also in the DPW yard a new salt shed was constructed to enable us to buy salt

in bulk. This saves money on the purchase and the down time that our trucks used to have driving to Morristown to load up during a storm. A new, state of the art, fuel pump station was installed to replace the old antiquated system. Then we constructed a new aesthetically pleasing fence to contain noise and provide privacy for the neighboring houses.

We now have a new police building, through a carefully negotiated developers agreement with the Atkins.

We now have a new public library, with all the trimmings, through a carefully negotiated developers agreement with Jack Richards and Kara Homes. Once again a special thanks to Peg Richards. Peg encouraged Jack to move forward with this donation. We did dedicate the media room in Pegs name out of respect.

We located and secured a new larger location for our expanding senior population to comfortably have their meetings.

In the area of Grounds:

We made parking improvements at Firemans Field

Improvements were made at Memorial Park, including pavers, flag poles and lights, reconstructed the gazebo, drainage improvements, dredging of the pond, new parking areas and established rules and regulations for use of the park.

In the area of Recreation:

We have new basketball courts.

We revamped the tennis courts.

We initiated long range plan for new fields and facilities at Firemans Field

We have a new playground at Firemans field, which by the way, is always filled with children.

We constructed a new concession stand at Firemans field.

We remodeled the tot lot on North Glen.

We repaired the municipal dock on Bertrand Island.

In the area of equipment:

We purchased and Council President installed new municipal computers and software in order to increase efficiency. I know Council President Driscoll doesn't like the

recognition but his services have saved the Borough considerable dollars by not having to contract out for a contractor.

We contracted with Jersey Professional Management to impartially review our inventory of emergency equipment and, upon their recommendation, replaced needed emergency equipment.

We received new ladder/pump truck through a carefully negotiated developers agreement with Jack Richards

We purchased a new ambulance. We were able to negotiate with St. Clare's for them to use our ambulance in order to reduce the cost for their services since we have a perfectly good piece of equipment sitting idle.

We purchased a remote camera to inspect and maintain our fairly new sewer lines and system.

We purchased a sewer vacuum truck in order to maintain our storm drains to meet federal storm water runoff regulations, and to do the right thing for Lake Hopatcong and its watershed.

We purchased two new dump trucks.

We purchased two new dial a ride vans.

We purchased 3 electronic message boards to help improve communication with our residents.

We purchased new mobile computers for our police vehicles to provide them with the most information possible to help them to do their jobs as efficient as possible.

In the area of infrastructure, which some of these things are not aesthetic but essential?

Deconstructed the old and installed a new water tank on Schmitz Terrace. This new tank was constructed higher and narrower than the old one in order to increase water pressure in the area. This new tank also provides better water pressure to insure fire protection in the area.

We purchased and have installed new more efficient water meters that can be read remotely, which is much more cost effective, and accurate readings can be obtained to provide accurate billing.

We installed new water and sewer lines on Sunset Terr

We provided new water and sewer service to the Speakertown section along Howard Blvd

We reconstructed phase 2 on McGregor Ave, making it a much safer roadway.

We installed new water lines on ½ of McGregor Ave, with future plans to complete water service for the rest of the street.

We reconstructed Bertrand Island Rd including the intersection of Mount Arlington Blvd, improving access and visibility.

We installed sidewalks on Bertrand Island Rd, Windermere Ave and North Glen. With the most recent completion of the sidewalk and new walls on Windermere from Kadel to North Glen. What a spectacular view of the lake on that section of sidewalk. This also improved site distance while driving around the bends.

We made intersection improvements at Altenbrand and Windermere

We reconstructed Roosevelt Way in Lake Rogerene

We are in the process of improving the Lake Rogerene firehouse and grounds.

In the area of personnel:

We hired new DPW personnel including our Supervisor and since efficiency improvements have been implemented.

Initiated using seasonal contractors for grounds maintenance

We hired additional police officers. It amazes me how many calls our police department respond to. They are always professional and I only hear praise about how they help anyone in need. I applaud our department under the leadership of our fine Chief, Rich Peterson.

We reviewed and adjusted staffing levels of all departments in order to be as efficient as possible.

We initiated an employee recognition and appreciation event.

In the area of contacts and negotiations:

We negotiated a very reasonable garbage contract (5 Years)

We worked with the FOP and successfully negotiated a new reasonable police contract prior to expiration of the old contract. (3 years) I mention this because I hear of so

many other towns with departments working without a contract because they could not come to terms.

We negotiated a contract with St Clare's for emergency services. This was necessary with the lack of volunteers to keep our own rescue squad in place. The Mount Arlington Rescue Squad still is intact and helps St Clare's when necessary. I am still hopeful we may have new volunteers come forward to revitalize our squad.

We have lowered Borough sewer fees 3 times thus far over the past 4 years. We will continue to review our budget and reduce farther if we can.

We enacted water conservation measures, and reduced Borough water fees, and will continue to monitor that budget.

We negotiated and worked with New Jersey Transit on the new Mount Arlington Train Station scheduled to open in the fall of this year.

Miscellaneous improvements include:

We initiated a day time council meeting in May in order for our school children to attend and learn about our forum of government

We increased operation hours of the municipal building

We brought back our new improved calendar / newsletter

We updated our Master plan and completed re-evaluation of land to redistribute our tax base in a fair and balanced manner

The Borough has achieved and maintains an A2 Bond rating, the highest possible for a town our size.

Currently in 2006 we have achieved the second lowest tax rate in Morris County, second only to Riverdale.

We have improved our website to contain as much information as possible. We are currently proceeding with getting our code book online with the link being at our website.

We began a "meet and greet" program to introduce Mayor and staff to residents in a "town hall" format. I have to thank the staff who attended those meetings, on their own time, at no cost to the Borough.

We have had multiple events, during the year, to bring everyone out to have some fun and to pay tribute. Those events included Memorial Day parade, Fourth of July Beach Bash, September 11th memorial service, Veterans Day memorial service, the Monster Bash, and our Christmas Tree lighting ceremony. These have become regular annual

events and I want to thank those volunteers who help to organize and run those events. I want to thank our police, rescue and fire departments for their time donated to these events.

I think that is quite an impressive list of accomplishment. I am very proud to have been able to accomplish that list with very little tax increase. Remember we run the entire Borough on approximately 25% of your tax dollar.

I want to take this moment to recognize and appreciate our administrator JoAnne Sendler for all of her hard work and dedication to make sure that all of these projects went from conception to completion through her coordination and management, especially when it comes to the appropriation of funds. She is tight with the purse strings! I can get a little crazy but she is always there to reel me in!

I have to also recognize and appreciate someone else who through his efforts of seeking out and landing over 3.2 million dollars in grants from the county and state we have been able to proceed with these many projects and improvement. We say make it happen and he goes about the engineering and grant hunting to make it feasible. That would be Daren Phil of Suburban Consulting engineering.

So what are we planning over the next year and for the rest of my 4 year term? Well here is a short list of the project we are looking at. I say short list because we don't know what the future is going to hold as far as state funding. We have to stay within our means.

We did have a setback during this past year. As you may be aware, one of our large developers in town had to go into bankruptcy. This happened with one of the three approved developments, Pennington Woods, in the middle of construction. Those residents who live in that development have to deal with some issues that no one expected. The other 2 developments, Lakeshore Harbor and the Ridgeview development have some punch list items to be completed, nothing near as extensive as Pennington but still there is a need for completion. I have been in contact with Kara homes executives and there is a very positive outlook. A bank has purchased one of Karas larger outstanding notes and now has committed to getting Kara back to work in Pennington as soon as the middle of this month. I have also been assured resolve to the other outstanding issues with the other two developments. I am very optimistic and look forward to this all coming to fruition. I ask those new residents to please bear with the process and look forward to joining our community. I have been in contact with many of those folks and they assure me they are anxiously anticipating getting to the end of this current mess and being part of our community. I look forward to getting out of this dark part of Mount Arlington's history and moving forward.

We are planning to see the long planned street scape project move forward. That will include paver sidewalks, street lights, street trees and curbing for our downtown area. This will be done in a couple of phases. This first phase will include Howard Boulevard from the Municipal building to Altenbrand Ave.

We plan to install a new flashing emergency light for the safe exit and entrance of our fire equipment, rescue squad, and personnel at the main firehouse on Howard Boulevard.

We will see reconstruction and storm water abatement on Windermeme Avenue.

We will see Rogerene Way reconstructed.

We will see Orben Drive reconstructed.

While the 5 year, 5 feet drawdown occurs, we plan reconstruction of a more environmentally suitable municipal dock at the municipal beach.

We plan on refurbishment of the roller rink to bring it back to a modern facility.

Once we receive final permission from the DEP, we plan on the installation of new sewer and water lines for Circle Parker and Southard Roads

We will be continuing the sidewalk installation projects. We should be able to get the section between Ridgeview and the library, to Kadel Drive, done this year.

The County is working with us to realign Howard Boulevard from Oneida Ave South to take out the sharp bend; this will also include installation of sidewalks through that section.

We plan on purchasing new needed Borough equipment.

And finally we look forward to the ribbon cutting at the opening of our new Mount Arlington Train Station, courtesy of New Jersey Transit.

This is what is in the hopper for now. We will see how it works out.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and appreciate the dedicated members of our school board. Our board has a large responsibility, managing the lions share of our tax dollars, to operate our local school system. With Trenton pulling the purse strings and cutting back funding, our Board is working hard to provide the best they can within their budget constraints. We have been working together to share services to help reduce the cost to our taxpayers. Currently we work together to provide our DPW to assist, where it is feasible, rather than using outside contractors at a large expense. We take care of snow plowing for both schools, which this year we are way ahead from a budget standpoint. We use our Borough Dial a Ride vans to help with some transportation needs that would otherwise go out to bid with a hefty cost. We will continue to do what we can to help reduce costs but there is a battle to be had with Trenton over school funding. I applaud those involved for all of the work and effort it is going to take to make a difference. I offer my support and help where I can be of assistance.

With many of our freeholders in the room, I want to thank them for their hard work in helping us and the 38 other municipalities in Morris County. Shared services are a key way for us all to conserve tax dollars in order to make up for what Trenton has stopped sending. Last month the County invited all of the municipalities to come to a meeting to discuss key points where we can share services. I am very happy to see this moving forward and I think one huge key area is in the area of public works. To avoid having to spend large sums of money on equipment can be a huge savings for all. Many of these large ticket items are not used on a daily basis and it is a shame to see all that money sitting idle. It would be much more cost effective to have a place to borrow from even if there was a small cost associated with belonging to this "shared equipment" enterprise. I look forward to these changes.

From a state perspective I would like to take a moment to mention my roll as Chairman of the Lake Hopatcong Commission. It is an honor to have been appointed, now in my 3rd year, as the Chairman of this Commission chartered with the maintenance of Lake Hopatcong. As Mayor of one of the four towns that surround the lake, I think it is very important for me to be involved with the Commission. I appreciate our Commissioner Richard O'Connor and alternate Robert Gruber for the time and effort they put in as well. I have concerns with the weather we have been having. I am afraid we are going to have weeds of biblical proportions this coming year. Without the ice and snow cover on the lake, to block out the sunlight and kill off the weeds, they are going to grow in mass. I am preparing for a rough year of abuse for not "getting the weeds cleaned up". It is difficult to harvest 2700 acres of lake with 6 harvesters. The Commission staff does the best job they can but it is a large job. The worst part is that the state has yet to find it necessary to fully fund the Commissions operating budget. We have enough funding to operate until March. Unless the balance of the Commissions operating budget is funded there will be no one to harvest the weeds in the spring and summer. I urge the governor and state officials to help avoid this upcoming disaster by finding funding for this LHC.

We can all help our Lake in the following ways. First off by using non phosphorous or no fertilizer at all on lawns will help reduce the nutrients that promote weed growth. Not just lakefront homeowners but anyone that lives in the lake watershed. You may not think you affect the lake but if you put fertilizer on your lawn, when it rains, that fertilizer winds up in a storm drain and ultimately in the lake. The other way is to be careful of what goes into the lake through the storm drains. Picking up pet waste, litter, and not feeding the water fowl helps to reduce pollution and once again, nutrients that help the weeds grow. We are all interested in preserving this great natural resource and all have a stake in doing the right thing for our children and future generations. They deserve the right to enjoy the lake when they grow up.

From a more national scale, I would like to take a moment to recognize some of Mount Arlingtons very own who served their country in the armed forces. Those fine men are: **Lance Corporal Greg Somjen, USMC Captain Charles Hart, Lance Corporal Michael Westling and Corporal Anthony Luciano.** I want to thank these men from the bottom of my heart. These men have returned safely, at Gods will. My heart goes out to

those less fortunate, who did not make it home, and their family and loved ones. We must never forget that freedom isn't free. Those who pay the ultimate price join those from wars past who willingly laid their lives down to ensure our freedom. We sit here today because of those brave and dedicated men and women. They have not died in vain. They died protecting something that we all take for granted from time to time, our freedom. I pray that this war will end soon and the effort put forth, along with the lives lost, will lead to peace and less chances of future conflict.

With that in mind I would like to thank everyone, once again, for all of your help and support. I will continue to strive to be the best I can be and in turn do the best I can do for our Borough. God bless each and every one of you, God Bless our County, State and Federal leadership, and God Bless the United States of America, the best Country in the World.

Thank you!