

Pump

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Depot Travel Park off Broadway. These three, plus the Vassar property on Sixth Avenue, all drain to the low spot where the pump is operating, sending water into a storm drain. McPherson said the drain runs under the railroad tracks and goes out to Pond Creek. McPherson said the drain is clogged and won't drain.

"Right now all the water is trapped on the east side of Bayshore Road," he said. The fire company got the

pump on Friday, March 19, and expected to have it until Tuesday.

"The fire company has been manning the pump since Friday, and we let it run to 10 p.m. or midnight. We've noticed some change in the ground water, but not a significant change. My pond has come in (shrunk) four to six inches," McPherson said.

"The volume of water is so astronomical. There are millions of gallons trapped," he added.

McPherson said he has lived in the local area all his

life and has never seen the water table so high.

"I never remember this much water laying anywhere. It's just a mess," he said.

McPherson said he believes the water problem has been due to a combination of factors, including bad weather and poor drainage.

He said the county had the drain and road repairs on their schedule in January, but the work has been delayed because of all the water.

Zero

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called on the council not to raise taxes.

Erik Simonsen told council the board had created a website, newsletter and was putting together a community volunteer workforce, composed mainly of retired professionals. A memo on the 2010 budget indicated the board would like to keep the tax rate the same by cutting costs.

The MAB also said they would like to help design a questionnaire for applicants for appointments to boards and commissions in the township.

Flood relief

Councilman Thomas Conrad suggested opening floodgates at Fishing Creek and Cox Hall Creek to allow standing surface water to drain because it can't be absorbed into the ground.

Municipal Budget

The 2010 Lower Township Municipal budget will be introduced on Monday, March 29, at 7 p.m. The budget will reflect reductions in state aid announced by Gov. Chris Christie on March 16.

"There is a piece missing in this year's budget that was not missing in other years,"

Mayor Mike Beck said, referring to state aid.

Long recommend watching overtime as a means of controlling the tax rate. The township spent about \$379,000 for overtime in 2009. Beck said as the township decreases the workforce it has to expect a little more overtime in some areas.

Former mayor Jack Sparks repeated a call for some municipal employees to take a smaller increase.

"Everybody who works for government their salary goes up, but the people who are paying the bills are earning less," he said.

Hike

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be talking to the Honeywell Company to see what the district can do to alleviate the problem.

"Honeywell is saying we need to install a much larger generator. We are doing the research now," she said.

Zelenak said the school is not officially a shelter by Red Cross designation, but the district would like to make the school available as a community service.

The school district will

present its new budget to Cape May City Council on March 30, and will also be making a presentation to the Taxpayers Association of Cape May.

Jack Wichterman, a TPA member, said he doesn't like the teachers' raises, which he said is compounded each year.

"I don't care what the rest of the county makes - I live here," Wichterman said. "The school has no debt, the building is paid for, and we don't get enough impact aid."

He said the pay raise was too much considering what it costs to educate each child and that there is no capital debt.

"I'm friendly with the teachers, I've nothing against them. But the governor is calling for a freeze (on wages) and there's got to be some kind of a capital project, that is a one-time deal, they could spend the money on. This is 12 percent over three years."

Seven

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Future on Shared Values."

Jayne Dawn Brautigam has owned a home in Cape May for 25 years and has lived

here permanently since 2004. She has been working in the business office at Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts and Humanities for the past four years. Her campaign slo-

gan is "Dawn for Council for You."

Just hold it - Promenade restrooms will open soon

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Anyone out walking on the Promenade in Cape May over the weekend probably noticed this sight a time or two - someone walking up to a restroom, trying the door and finding it locked.

There are a number of locations for public restrooms along Beach Avenue, but virtually none of them were

open over the weekend, which was sunny and mild, bringing quite a few people into town.

"Usually this time of year when weather breaks, when it gets closer to the Easter holiday, we will have them open," Cape May City Manager Bruce MacLeod said.

MacLeod said the number of hours the public restrooms are open normally depends upon having the seasonal staff on board to keep the restrooms clean, supplied and maintained. He said the official opening date is normally April 15 - tax day.

People might find it taxing

waiting that long for the restrooms to open.

"We will have them open on the weekend for use," MacLeod said.

That is a good thing, because if the weather is good, people might be strolling on the Promenade this Sunday, which happens to be Palm Sunday.

If opened for the weekends, however, the restrooms probably won't be open as late as they would in the summer, when they are available until 10 or 11 p.m.

"We will make them available for use," MacLeod said.

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