

4-Year

Continued from page A1

ees hired before Oct. 15 is calculated at \$1,500 plus a 2 percent increase to the base pay. However, longevity has been eliminated for all employees hired after Oct. 15, 2012.

A new paragraph added to the collective bargaining agreement allows employees to review their personnel files and to attach a response "of reasonable length."

In other business, the council Halloween events in the township (see Community Events, page A4).

There will be a Department of Transportation Railroad Crossing Exemption Hearing on Monday, Oct. 22, from 3:30

to 6:30 p.m. at Township Hall.

On Oct. 28, there will be a Flag Retirement Ceremony at Cape May County Park South, Bayshore Road, Del Haven.

The township recognized Marvin Hume for his dedication to honoring the American Flag for the past 40 years, and Charles Othold, the east coast representative of Operation Gratitude. Since Operation Gratitude was formed nine years ago, it has sent over 855,000 care packages to American military service members deployed around the world and to their children in the United States. Hume said the care packages, which contain treats, toiletries and a letter of appreciation, are

valued at about \$125 each. Hume said he received 100 packages for service members and another 100 children's packages, and anyone who knows an eligible service member or child should contact Township Hall for more information.

During the public portion of the meeting, Jack Sparks told council that John Louderback of Gaiss' Market was just named Businessman of the Year by the Lower Township Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, the chamber named Mayor Mike Beck as Citizen of the Year. Beck was also recognized by resolution by the Cape May County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Resident Steve Sheftz complained about a telephone call he received regarding a political poll, which he said was designed to make someone look bad. Beck stopped a speaker following Sheftz, who started to name a political party and refer to council members in his comments. He suggested the speaker, Walter Miller, put his comments in a letter to the editor.

Resident Robert Rizzo said he was wearing a pink shirt for breast cancer awareness.

Steve Sheftz announced a public meeting concerning the DRBA and the water supply, on Oct. 30, at 10 a.m., in the Freeholders Meeting Room.

Rates

Continued from page A1

large sum to pay in a short period of time. The other is to do slight increases little by little. He said the drawback of doing small increases periodically is that residents are technically paying for something they don't need to pay for at the present time and often get distraught.

"It's a very sensitive issue and it's one I've had to battle all over the place," Costello said. "It's the nature of the way New Jersey works. It's, 'no increase, no increase, no increase,' but it would be smart to save that money (built up) and put it aside and have it reserved so you wouldn't have a large increase in the future."

He said the borough will not actually receive the USDA loan funding until the project is completed and payments on the debt will not begin until six months afterward.

"So we're still a few years away from that actual debt being a part of the borough's budget," he said.

He said West Cape May used \$37,000 out of its fund balance this year, leaving \$152,000 remaining for reserves. There is a level of uncertainty with the potential litigation with Cape May City over the lost water issue, but Costello said West Cape May did pay \$5,000 to \$6,000 less on its last three water payments to the city now that the master meters in Wilbraham Park and Canning House Lane have been replaced. He said those savings could potentially take off a portion of the debt from the USDA loan.

Costello said the borough has been very frugal in the past and did not believe it would be a bad decision to begin small increases in rates to pay off the future debt service. He said the borough would receive at least one year's notice before the debt service begins.

"I wouldn't panic and say you need a rate increase today," he said to the commissioners. "There may be one in three years. In 2015, you probably will need something. But right now, you're financially sound."

Regarding the water sys-

tem, Bud McDonough of Third Avenue suggested the borough require everyone in the community capable of connecting to the water line to do so. He said a number of residents have a private well, but should still be connected to the system to lower rates overall and create more revenue for the borough.

"We're a small community, we should have the people on it," he said. "Whether you use it or not, you should still have a meter and pay a basic rate." Commissioner Ramsey Geyer said there are municipalities that require all residents to connect to a water line and pay a minimum rate whether they have a well or not based on emergency services using fire hydrants and other public activities, utilized by the entire community.

John Rowley of Emerald Avenue asked why the borough used bond anticipation notes, which he said are essentially used as an accelerator of payment that needs to be paid off in 10 years.

Costello said the borough only borrows money when it needs funding and this particular project was authorized last summer. He said bond anticipation notes bridge the financing from the beginning of the project to the time when the project is done and the borough actually receives the loan from the USDA. He said once the \$2,305,000 loan is received, it will retire the bond anticipation notes by 2015. He said \$665,000 of debt is to be paid off by 2017.

Rowley asked why the borough would project \$578,000 as the operating sewer income. Costello said the \$578,000 was the budget, while \$506,000 was the projected income of the sewer rates. Rowley said only \$415,000 is being collected now for the operating sewer system.

"There's going to be more (sewer) hook ups," Costello responded in reference to the project.

There was no decision made by the Board of Commissioners as to when rates would increase or the method of how it would occur.

Hook

Continued from page A1

Sachs reported a successful dune cleanup on Oct. 6.

She said Triangle Park has seen "a lot of varieties of everything," including 44 different kinds of butterflies.

She said several new "Bedfellows" have come on board. Bedfellows care for flower beds on municipal property, most notably in Pavilion Circle.

Sachs said three members of Cape May Point Environmental Commission attended a meeting of the West Cape May Environmental Commission, and the question was raised as to whether or not they could work together on a shared concern. Asked if

it presented any legal issues, Borough Solicitor Brock Russell said, "I see no problem whatsoever with that."

Commissioner Bob Moffatt said the borough received FCC approval for narrow band radios.

He announced 2013 beach tags were on sale for the holiday season.

Moffatt said there were a number of parking issues in the Point that would be addressed one place at a time. He said Cape May Police Chief Sorrentino would be attending an upcoming work session of commission.

Deputy Mayor Anita vanHeeswyk said the borough had received a demolition permit application for a prop-

erty on Lincoln Avenue. She said there was an application for a subdivision by right, and potentially three lots would be created on Central Avenue, leading to an increase in ratables.

vanHeeswyk said November is when municipalities are allowed to transfer funds from one line item to another, and the borough is already looking at where funds can be moved.

Stanger said the borough met with state and federal agencies regarding beach replenishment, which he said would start very soon at the Cove in Cape May.

He said new fencing was installed at St. Peter's Beach and more was planned for Surf Avenue.

Stanger said the borough purchased 800 packages of brown paper lawn waste bags. He said that was 4,000 bags, adding, "That should get us through the next couple of weeks."

Cape May Point will be hosting the upcoming Conference of Mayors, to which Rep. Frank LoBiondo has been invited. Stanger said the conference includes dinner at a local restaurant, which in this case will be the Red Store.

Stanger said Freeholder

Will Morey had made a request of the municipalities to propose ideas for economic development. Stanger said the borough recommended creating a bike path by enhancing that which is now available on Sunset Boulevard to go along Railroad Avenue to Sunset Beach. He said this is in the very preliminary stages, but the genesis for the proposal is the condition on Sunset Boulevard during the summer. He said dedicated bike paths would improve safety, but it won't be easy to accomplish because the country right of way is not that wide.

During the public portion of the meeting, a woman told the story of her husband joining the fire company in the early 70s after living in the Point for four years. She said he came home from a meeting feeling a little nervous. When she asked why, he said a local man had died in his home and his absence had apparently gone unnoticed for three days. A longtime fire company member remarked, "Well, he was only here for 50 years."



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Suit

Continued from page A1

its liquor license and a temporary certificate of occupancy (TCO).

Residents of Stevens Street

who neighbor the vineyard have expressed concern of Willow Creek creating potential traffic and noise issues by holding large events like festivals and celebratory life

events such as weddings. In 2005, Wilde began the development of the vineyard on the property and has since, built a 12,000 square foot winery facility.

Willow Creek's lawsuit claims because Kaithern performs wedding ceremonies throughout Cape May City and West Cape May, she is attempting to interfere with the winery's operations in

order to protect herself from competition.

The lawsuit says Kaithern has a personal interest in controlling traffic, development and all other activities surrounding her home and also has a business relationship with one of the plaintiff's direct economic competitors.

It claims that under the New Jersey Municipal Land Use Laws, Kaithern and several of her conspirators should have excluded themselves from official proceedings and actions concerning the winery because they reside within 200 feet of the property.

Willow Creek Winery and Wilde are suing based on civil rights violations pursuant to 42 U.S. Code 1983 and 1985 and for violations of the plaintiff's rights under the New Jersey Constitution pursuant to the New Jersey Civil Rights Act.

Under all three counts, Wilde and Willow Creek Winery are seeking reimbursement for compensatory, nominal and punitive damages as well as attorney fees, interest and costs of the suit. An injunction prohibiting Kaithern and the borough from further rights violations of the winery and Wilde is also being sought.

Kaithern did not wish to make a comment to the Star and Wave.

Borough Solicitor Frank Corrado said because it is a matter of litigation, he could speak in depth on the topic but told the Star and Wave that the "allegations in the complaint are made com

Please see Suit, page A3



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*ALEX CROSS PG-13 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

*ARGO R 12:20, 3:00, 7:00, 9:35

*HERE COMES THE BOOM PG 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

*SINISTER R 12:00, 2:25, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

TAKEN 2 PG-13 12:40, 2:55, 5:05, 7:40, 9:55

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA PG 12:05, 2:10, 4:40, 6:50

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 3D PG 9:00

PITCH PERFECT PG-13 7:05, 9:40

FRANKENWEENIE PG 2:20, 4:30

FRANKENWEENIE 3D PG 12:15

**No Passes

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OCTOBER 2012
Eastern Standard Time

	High	Low	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M. P.M.
16	8:56	9:17	2:23 3:05
17	9:45	10:07	3:10 3:57
18	10:36	11:02	4:00 4:52
19	11:31		4:53 5:50
20	12:01	12:31	5:52 6:52
21	1:07	1:36	6:57 7:56
22	2:19	2:45	8:07 9:00
23	3:30	3:51	9:17 10:01
24	4:35	4:52	10:23 10:55

Moon Phases
Last Quarter, Oct. 8
New Moon, Oct. 15
First Quarter, Oct. 21
Full Moon, Oct. 29
Apogee, Oct. 4
Perigee, Oct. 16