

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
315 Westfield Ave
January 2, 2018
7:30pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

Also, Present: Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Joseph Triarsi, Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dispensed

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

The regular order of business will be suspended on January 16th for Police Department promotions.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

- 1. AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARIES OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES (BLUE COLLAR EMPLOYEES) FOR THE YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2022**

Discussion: None

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance

Mover: Mazzarella Second: Barr

RESOLUTIONS:

- 2. Authorizing final payment to S. Brothers Inc., in the amount of \$4,109.06 for completion of the 2015 NJDOT Roadway Improvements to Lexington Blvd.**

Discussion:

Councilman Mazzarella: I have a question on that. Mr. Laezza does that go onto a maintenance bond?

Mr. Laezza: Yes.

Councilman Mazzarella: How long is that for?

Mr. Laezza: One year.

Councilman Mazzarella: So, if there is anything wrong, we could go after them to repair it.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Hund Second: O'Connor

3. Authorizing final payment to Fieldturf USA Inc., in the amount of \$9,206.95 for completion of the Turf Field at Bartell Park Soccer Field

Discussion: None

Councilman Toal: Mr. President can we have an "Entire Council" on that?

Council President Smith: Is everyone okay with that?

Council: Yes.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Entire Council Second: Entire Council

Township Clerk: Right before I get to the Consent Agenda, we had a request from the Business Administrator to add a Resolution ratifying Union County Council 8, Blue Collar Employees Contract (I.F.P.T.E., AFL-CIO). So, that is going to go in before the Consent Agenda Resolutions.

Council President Smith: Is that kind of in conjunction with the Proposed Ordinance, with the contract that was ratified?

Township Clerk: Yes.

Council President Smith: Perfect, just so that everyone understands.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Mazzarella

Second: Barr

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

Township Clerk: On the Consent Agenda I have two Resolutions from the Tax Collector; these numbers are going to change as she gives us more.

4. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of Sewer Fees in the amount of \$690.00

Discussion: None

5. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2017 taxes in the amount of \$226.14

Discussion: None

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on the Consent Agenda

Mover: Toal

Second: Hund

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Seeing no one coming forward, Council President asked for a motion to close the public portion of the meeting.

Motion: Albanese Second: Barr

Roll Call: All aye.

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: No comment.

Councilwoman Albanese: I will mention this at the meeting, but I just want to remind everyone that the Friends of the Library are having a golf outing, the mini golf outing, on February 3rd, if you are interested in attending.

Councilman Barr: No comment.

Councilman Hund: No comment.

Councilman Mazzarella: No comment.

Councilman O'Connor: I am going to bridge the two meetings. I was remissive the last meeting for not thanking my mom who came today to swear me in because my family is in Florida, so thank you mom.

Councilman Toal: Happy New Year to all.

Mr. Laezza: I would like to thank the Republican Party for passing the tax law because the last four days of the year we collected \$3,224,000.00, in prepaid taxes. So, our cash flow is excellent.

Councilman Mazzarella: No comment.

Township Clerk: No comment.

Council President Smith: No comments.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Albanese, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
February 5, 2018
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

Also, Present: Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Joseph Triarsi, Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dispensed

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

The regular order of business will be suspended on February 20th for the Recreation Department's Volunteer of the Year Award

PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

1. **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 294 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED "SMOKING"**

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: This was given to me by Security Director Sarnecki at the high school. This is an existing ordinance, as you know, and what we are adding in, as you know, is electronic smoking device, for this vaping nonsense and all of this stuff that is going on. They want to make sure that they have provisions in there to handle as we would tobacco. And it's also on the buildings on the properties owned by the jurisdiction of Clark Board of Education and the Township of Clark, so it includes our sites also.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance

Mover: Mazzarella Second: Barr

Mr. Laezza: What is not on here is the second Ordinance which we will be introducing. We will be introducing a second ordinance, it is our construction road program for the year, it is a one-million-dollar program, with a down payment of \$50,000.00, borrowing of \$950,000.00, it includes Alice Lane and Peter Circle, Acorn Drive and Shadow Lane, Gertrude Street and Fan Street, if we have enough money left over we might provide for additional streets, that's your

second ordinance. We have an analysis of our roads, the roads that need being done are being done immediately if not sooner, it will total about six-million dollars, so we are taking it bit by bit.

Councilman O'Connor: We appreciate your sharp pencil Mr. Laezza.

Councilman Smith: So, you are going to do Gertrude from Kathryn to Bartell?

Mr. Laezza: Gertrude Street, it's the unfinished section.

RESOLUTIONS:

2. Introduction of the 2018 Municipal Budget

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: I have given you a copy of the budget in finite detail. I had a meeting with the Finance Committee, we spent some time on each of the sections, I explained each of the sections, each of you got a copy of it, and having heard no questions I guess you are happy with this budget. It shows a 3.4 tax point increase, it is under the 2% levy, our salaries are all under the 2% cap, and our other expenses have been maintained at the 2001 level, except for those that are mandated by the State.

Councilman Mazzarella: As for Council's information the increase on the home per \$100,000.00, is an increase of \$34.00 only.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you Mr. Laezza.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you, great job.

Councilman Smith: Now we just hope the State goes back and does the cap on the arbitration and all that.

Mr. Laezza: We don't have arbitration until 2019, that is when the police come up, we will probably have a better negotiation agreement, I don't think we will go to arbitration. This way you can give them what you want and you make the determination where you have to go.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: O'Connor Second: Albanese

Council as the Board of Health:

3. Accepting and Approving the Annual Health Report for 2017

Discussion:

Township Clerk: You all received the Annual Health Report from our Health Officer and this is accepting and approving that report.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: O'Connor Second: Barr

Council as the Pool Utility:

4. Authorizing and Directing the Council President to enter into employment contracts with Mike Kozlowski as Pool Director and Robert Cahill and Matt Acosta as Assistant Managers for the 2018 pool season

Discussion: None

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Smith Second: O'Connor

Township Clerk: The next three are pool resolutions and I thought that if it was okay with you we will do them as a block.

Council President Smith: Actually number 6, I would like to pull from this meeting because there are going to be some minor changes to the Pool Rules and Regulations. There were some typos and they left out some refund words and stuff like that.

Township Clerk: Okay, so do it next month?

Council President Smith: Yes. So, we will just pull out #6, if that is okay, but everything else is fine.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

5. Authorizing Amendments to the Pool Advisory Board By-laws

Discussion:

Council President Smith: We sat with Mr. Laezza on that because the way the they were written was it actually.... the Advisory Board kind of thought they had some power the way it was written, but they do not. So, we revised everything basically that they are going to advise myself and Ralph and then we will come to the Council with any changes or recommendations at that point.

Councilwoman Albanese: Which is what we have been doing anyhow.

Council President Smith: Correct. Mr. Laezza changed the verbiage a little bit and made it clear.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Smith Second: O'Connor

6. Adopting the Pool Rules and Regulations

Mr. Triarsi: So, you are going to do #4 and #5 together?

Council President Smith: Yes, I will email you in the next couple of days with the revisions.

Township Clerk: It will be done by the meeting on the 20th?

Council President Smith: It should be.

Township Clerk: That is up to you guys. The pool meeting is on the 12th or the 15th?

Council President Smith: The 15th.

Township Clerk: What I am saying is to keep it on and if we don't get it in time we can always....

Mr. Triarsi: Go back down to the two.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

7. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of Sewer Fees in the amount of \$3,295.91

Discussion: None

8. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2017 taxes in the amount of \$2,184.71

Discussion: None

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Consent Agenda

Motion: Toal Second: Albanese

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Council President opens the meeting to the public

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia Street: I just wanted to let you know that the Borough of Fanwood has pulled out of Associated Humane and we are working on trying to get Clark out of there and the other towns and the City of Plainfield have not moved on it. I just wanted to let the Mayor know....

Council President Smith: Before you go any further I think that the Mayor has an update on that.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes. We spoke at the Mayors meeting the other night about the quarry up in Springfield, the County is feverishly looking into doing something up there.

Delia Collins: I heard.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I don't know if it is going to happen but they are feverishly looking at it because we've all complained that we need a County facility.

Delia Collins: I know for 30 years.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I know, but hopefully now it gets done.

Delia Collins: I just have a question. I have been trying to figure it out myself and it was very hard to read about the affordable housing. If a township increases their population and units does that cause their obligation to go higher?

Mr. Laezza: No. Basically, we have gone through the court system and this is how it works. If they have made a determination as to what our criteria are through 2025 (Delia Collins: okay) after 2025, there will probably be new laws, hopefully a new governor and find out what is happening in the Legislature, our Legislature knows what is going on.

Delia Collins: Just for my own knowledge, is it based on population, or is it based on the available units that are in the town?

Mr. Laezza: It is based on how much vacant land they can jam houses in... has no criteria about what is good for the municipality?

Delia Collins: Because if you have driven through Fanwood, it looks like Jersey City all over again.

Mr. Laezza: You won't be able to drive down South Avenue between Plainfield and Elizabeth when this gets done.

Delia Collins: I know. I know Garwood and everywhere else.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Now if you noticed one thing in Westfield, I am going to say this to you John, I don't know if you went by there, the big monstrosity that they put up by the train, they are already offering a free month rent on a one-year lease and on a two-year lease two months' rent, so you are going to see a lot of that throughout New Jersey.

Delia Collins: I was thinking today, how many people are going to want to live in New Jersey that are going to populate all of these....

Mr. Laezza: Basically, so that you know how this is all created, it has nothing to do with poor people, it is the Builders Association and the Contractors Association which is the biggest lobby

in Trenton next to the teachers. So that is how it has gotten started and that is where it is going. If you leave it to the courts that is what is going to happen.

Delia Collins: Regarding Westfield Avenue, I don't get involved in that because I don't care, I don't live on that side of town, but how come Cranford can condemn...

Mayor Bonaccorso: We will talk about that, I have that in my report.

Delia Collins: It was just odd because I was watching...

Mr. Laezza: Obviously Cranford did not do it well.

Delia Collins: They wanted to condemn an area....

Mr. Laezza: They did not do it well, they forget to notify people.

Delia Collins: What is the difference between condemnation and eminent domain?

Mr. Laezza: Same thing.

Delia Collins: From what they explained in Cranford and I am not.....condemnation can be on property that is not condemnable?

Mr. Laezza: If you have ever gone to Long Branch you will find that they took all of the beach by condemnation.

Delia Collins: But it could be property in perfect condition and they can condemn it?

Mr. Laezza: It just gives a developer the opportunity to negotiate and use the court system to get an accommodation.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It is supposed to be for a public....

Mr. Triarsi: The answer is yes. There is a legitimate public purpose a governmental entity can come in and condemn private property for public use. That doesn't mean that they don't pay for it, they pay full value for it, and that doesn't mean that they should do it. What happened in Cranford has been changed, they have decided not to condemn it because of the public outcry. And they are looking for other means to satisfy their housing requirements. In fact, I was at a meeting, Mayor you would be pleased to hear this, Clark was brought up by a number of people as being a community that saw what was coming and decided not to put all of these multiple units all in the same place but rather to pick out bad spots here and there and rehabilitate the bad spots. The question was, why didn't we do that? And of course, there was not answer to that. So, the record should say that we have a judgment of repose, we are good. Nothing is going to happen here. What is going to happen in Cranford is up to Cranford.

Delia Collins: The same with Scotch Plains, it appears that they dropped the ball.

Mr. Triarsi: The same with Scotch Plains.

Delia Collins: They have five or six properties that are going to be built on.

Mayor Bonaccorso: That is throughout the County, we talked about that at the Mayor's meeting.

Delia Collins: It is all over.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It is just ridiculous today as it was when I talked about it back in August. Hopefully, Jerry Green who is the Assemblyman who is the head of the Housing Committee, in the Assembly is ill, so I don't know where anything will go at this point. But one of the things that I want to speak about at the April 30th Mayor's meeting is the Affordable Housing again, and if we could get back to a COAH type organization that can maybe look and finite what we create out in court because what we agreed on was enough to say and do what we had to do but it is not a great plan we all know that. You know like I said everyone is getting a gun put at their head.

Delia Collins: But let's say...they were talking about contaminated property verses condemned property. I know with Hyatt Hills and all of that, that it was taken care of by GM, but I mean property that is left and the owner just walks away from it?

Mr. Laezza: There are funds in Trenton that would probably provide assistance if you wanted to clean it up.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Certain builders will take on certain aspects of that depending on the pricing of the property, if it is cheap enough and they feel that they can do a clean up and still stay under market value they will see if they could do it that way or as John said they can go to Trenton and the municipalities would have to take over.

Mr. Laezza: To satisfy you, the Evening Reality property, that's going to have Affordable Housing on it.

Delia Collins: At Brant and....

Mr. Laezza: Walnut and Valley. That property, the developers that took it over had to spend an extra million dollars to clean it up to make it available for Affordable Housing.

Delia Collins: I know that that this isn't on the subject but how far does that property go back?

Mr. Laezza: It is seven acres.

Delia Collins: So, I could look on the township map and see where the lines are.

Mr. Laezza: Yes, see all of those buildings come down probably within the next two months.

Delia Collins: But somebody was talking about one of the buildings being a historical building?

Mr. Laezza: Well, it did miss the cut.

Delia Collins: Thank you.

Council President asked for a motion to close the public portion of the meeting.

Motion: O'Connor Second: Albanese

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, I have a few things, so hold on. First off, let me start with this before I forget. We would like to wish our Clerk a very happy birthday tonight, Happy Birthday Edie.

Secondly, we had a Traffic Coordinating meeting back on the 17th of January, and these signs are not going to be negotiated on any other road, so I will tell you before I say it, I don't want you in my office telling me that we need one on this road, it will not happen, okay, because everybody would want one. Valley Road, there will be two 25 mile an hour signs by the school that flash, okay? Meadow Road, there will be two 25 MPH signs back on Meadow by Hehnly School, 25 MPH "when children are present" up on Raritan Road in front of Hehnly with two flashing signs that will be used for pickup and drop-off. Westfield Avenue, right out here by the tennis courts, near the cross walk, we had a complaint that started this. We looked on it, we are going to have two programable signs out there, so people know that there is a crossing there and to slow down. Signs will also be changed coming up the road from Denman up to here and from Raritan down (tape inaudible) school and recreation area to try to slow people down.

My honest opinion is, and I discussed it with the Chief and the Traffic Sergeant and John signs are a waste of money unless they are lit and you can see them. The people who are speeding do not read signs, the people who are careful read the signs, so you are never going to stop a moron from speeding, doing 30mph down this road because the sign says "slow, children are present", I mean if you drove through this town once in your life, you know that there are children present in this area. So that is going to be done shortly.

Councilman Hund: Anything on Mildred Terrace?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Mildred Terrace, no, we haven't had problems up right in front of the school area, so we're not getting anything there at this time. Valley Road though, Councilman Hund, there is going to be a sign down by coming from Ross Street as we get to the Union County Parkway, trying to get that area there more noticeable because of the accidents that we are having up there. So, the Police Department is on it, Sergeant Lott is on it and he is doing a great job with all this stuff.

Police Chief Matos: Just to add to that, in those areas which is the back of Hehnly School and the front of Hehnly School, the front of Valley Road School, with the addition of the luminated signs, we are also going to go down the entire length of those roads and make sure that there are proper

speed limits signs, the normal regular speed limit signs also. Also, in front of Westfield Avenue, that's pedestrian crossing that will be properly signed and of course the speed limit signs. With Mildred Terrace, we just felt that being it is such a short area between Madison Hill Road up to where you get the bend up into Brentwood there are signs already there and the only crossing that is there is manned when there are children present, so there was no further need for anything else.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Valley Road and Meadow and Tudor there is a long run so cars are flying up to that sign, up to the sign you'll see them because we have the children present there so that is very important there. Mildred Terrace is a shorter run that is why it is different there. When there is pick up and drop off on Mildred Terrace there is no speeding, there is one lane, how can you speed down the road?

Councilman Hund: It's off hours.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It is off hours, yeah. That takes care of that.

I had a Mayor's meeting on January 30th here, it was very well attended by all the Union County Mayors, it seems like it is starting to catch fire on what I started and I am happy that we had started. There are some good people in the room on both sides of the aisle taking about things. The one thing that I am very pleased to report, my initiative has been adopted by the Union County Mayors and we are going to be sending a letter to our Legislature and our Governor speaking about the legalization of marijuana. We are not touching that, we are touching the revenue that will come in for it. I asked for a letter to endorse it and I am going to ask you guys to do a resolution, either in February or March, I am not sure yet. Taking the money that is brought in from legalizing marijuana and paying into the pension system, having a constitutional vote that dedication that the money that comes in goes into the pension. We had a blurb that we read that the Mayors were sent saying that if Murphy funds the pension fund like Christie did at 60%, there is going to be a \$234 million-dollar shortfall in the pension. Again, their projecting \$300 million dollars in marijuana tax money coming in. Well why don't we take that money, that revenue stream and dedicate into a hole that we have in our State Budget verses turning around and squandering it away in every inner city that we could find to try to promulgate more votes for everybody. So, the entire membership was for it and I am proud of that, I think that it is a great issue and a great idea and we are going to ask the Council to do a resolution on that going forward.

The next thing that we did a letter on is the Union County Mayors call for balance board compensation on pension transfer legislation. The State is looking to transfer the PBA and FMBA, want to transfer their, have control over their pension fund. The way that they have it, the balance is unbalanced, there is more labor than management and we would have representatives from the State to watch the taxpayers interest and they have a Union dominated 7-5 decision making. We are asking for it to be equal, okay? This will keep an eye and protect the property taxpayers of this State and have an independent voice for a tiebreaking decision which will ensure that the membership, the board is more accurately represents all stake holders, the way the PBA and FMBA want it, they want to run it and make the rules on how they run it. And nothing against them because I don't know how well the State did running it but taxpayers can be affected by it, and we need to have a balanced voice there. So that worked out well there at the meeting, we talked about that.

We talked about the 2% cap that we are all supporting to keep in place and hopefully it will. Right now, Trenton has been a little silent on it, they are more interested in legalizing marijuana in Trenton. We spoke about the dog kennel at the meeting that the County is taking a very aggressive look at doing something up at the quarry up in Springfield, which would be great.

I am going to be bringing Affordable Housing back next month as a discussion to see where we are going with that and what is happening because that's what started this meeting back in January. So, the Mayors are going to meet 4 times a year and have a discussion on these types of things, we have been having it here and it has worked out very well. You know guys, you always say that Government has no party, and it is true. When you sit in a room with Democrats and Republicans together and the thing that we have more in common with other parties being Republican or Democrat is we always get dumped on. So, the guys and gals at the local level probably work the hardest and have to deal with the most and their problems, even in the Democratic communities mirror our problems in the Republican communities. And that's why it has been working out so well because we put politics aside and we talk about the problems we are all dealing with. And the problems that we mentioned tonight are the things that we are all dealing with. So, it is very interesting to see that. At the last meeting I talked to Mayor Armstead and he mentioned talk about Affordable Housing where they did away with the regional contribution agreement and they said in Trenton that that was the way for towns not to build Affordable Housing. Well Mayor Armstead from Linden said, "not so fast, that helped my town, we were able to get money and bring them into areas that needed rehabilitation and fix those neighborhoods." So, the problem is in Trenton, like Washington, the right hand is not working with the left hand, and that is why things come out lopsided usually. So that worked out.

Delia brought up a point that we were going to hit on. John and I have had serious discussions and we are going to ask Mr. Triarsi to begin condemnation against the A&P property on Westfield Avenue. There is no more discussion, it is over! I have been a gentleman to these people for many years. They have been stakeholders in this community for many years, we brought them in, we have discussed it, and when we meet with the Davidsons, they are nothing but nice gentlemen like people who are so sympathetic to Clark and wanting to get that site fixed up. And they have mentioned two things in the years that we have been here, one was Dollar General and the other was a high-end thrift shop, and I kind of take resentment to both of that. Those have been off the table for a long time, okay? But I take offence to that. Because there's developers from the A&P to Manny's Diner lined up wanting to buy that. The problem is that it is overpriced and it is ridiculous, so now it is time that we take an aggressive action. They can walk in here tomorrow morning and tell me that they have someone on the string and they are going to be doing it and are going to say, "fine, we are going to proceed and when you have a bonified contract that passes the Board we will stop what we are doing. Because we are not going to take anymore chances.

Mr. Triarsi: You better go through the same proceeding with the Planning Board.

Mr. Laezza: Yes.

Mr. Triarsi: I mean you just can't condemn.

Mr. Laezza: We are going through all of the right proceedings. We are also going to include Danny Chens property.

Mr. Triarsi: Whose?

Mr. Laezza: Danny Chen's property.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well we sent a letter about the house next to the restaurant saying that they had to get this fixed or they are going to start having monthly fines and it is something that we're also going to be considering. You know the problem is here in Clark is when you are nice some people take that for weakness, that you are being nice. We try to work with people, we don't want to be heavy handed and take peoples properties, it is a cost, it is a headache, it is a negotiation, it is a lot to do and we have a lot to do here every day. So, but now it is to the point where it has to end and Joe will talk with you, myself and John and however we have to serve them and let them know what they are doing, let it begin. Because it's an eyesore, we have all kinds of trucks parked in there, the last snow they didn't shovel the sidewalks, they didn't plow the lots, the place is a dump and they told the Township of Clark a tale for too long. Now it is time to get going. The Jacks Tavern is in place, as you know, that has been talked about, that is an eyesore, now we are going to take care of the second eyesore. And we'll try to get a vibrant downtown into Clark and then when the stores are vacant, someday they can blame the Mayor and Council that we made the stores get vacant, like they do in Cranford and in Westfield and all of the other towns, right or wrong? Are there questions on any of that?

Councilman Toal: I just have to say that since 1999-2006, that was when the A&P was in there, since 1948 to 1999, it was the Merit Foodtown, then it was the A&P, from 2006 it has been vacant. (Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes) It has turned into a disgrace. The Mayor and I have been going back and forth about doing exactly what you are talking about now, it is long overdue sir, thank you for your support.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We tried to reason and we try to do but now I don't want to hear it.

Councilman Toal: It is not a Ward issue it is the future of Clark issue.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes. Any questions?

Mr. Laezza: I only have one thing to talk about. The State of New Jersey and in its infinite wisdom has not gotten rid of the SPCA, and they have mandated on local governments that we shall now maintain municipal and county humane law enforcement officers to take care of any animal cruelty cases. We are going to be sending our police to a seminar, however, speaking to the Chief there is a great deal of responsibility that if we do pick up an animal cruelty case it is going to be our responsibility to house that animal until the case is resolved. Things like that start mandating cost on local governments and naturally the State of New Jersey is good at passing down responsibilities to local government. So, we will be actively discussing this at the next Mayor's Meeting. The Chief will be bringing us back further information after he gets educated.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You would have to find someone that really knows what they are doing and that is qualified in your department.

Council President Smith: When is this effective?

Mr. Laezza: Immediately.

Delia Collins: I had heard April.

Councilwoman Albanese: That is immediate.

Mr. Laezza: We will be assigning a police officer for the responsibility.

Council President Smith: Then we have to find a location to house anything.

Police Chief Matos: What happen is that when you are dealing with an animal cruelty investigation, let's say, and I am using the example of a dog, the owner when you take that animal through court order to remove that dog from the house the owner could give you rights to the dog, sign the dog away let's say, in that case then we can give it to a foster home to then adopt. But if that the owner of the dog doesn't then we are required to house that animal until the case is dismissed or completed. Because if he is found not guilty he gets his animal back, so that is the initial problem that we are going to have to find an agency or facility that will contract with us to take that responsibility in case that happens. Not that we get many, I don't ever remember....

Councilwoman Albanese: Since you have been on the force how many cases have you had?

Police Chief Matos: I don't ever remember a case of animal cruelty where we had to remove an animal.

Delia Collins: Neglect.

Police Chief Matos: Same thing.

Delia Collins: No there is a neglect case in town.

Mr. Laezza: It didn't come to us.

Police Chief Matos: Is it being handled by the ASPCA?

Delia Collins: No, the Clark PD was involved.

Police Chief Matos: Did you read something?

Delia Collins: Yes.

Mr. Laezza: So that will be on our next meeting.

Delia Collins: We have Animal Control people in town that is what I don't understand.

Police Chief Matos: What do you mean?

Delia Collins: They are Certified Animal Control Officers.

Police Chief Matos: But Animal Control doesn't handle....

Delia Collins: They are Animal Control Investigators.

Police Chief Matos: They don't handle neglect, they are not.... ASPCA is the one that handles neglect and cruelty investigations, not the Animal Control.

Councilwoman Albanese: No comments, just thank you to the Mayor for all of his efforts, seems like things are really moving ahead and some great ideas. Like you said, we have common issues amongst the towns, it is very refreshing.

Mayor Bonaccorso: And you would be surprised when they get up there they have got the same problems that we talked about the OPRA law the other night Edie and what a nonsense that is and how they have whack-a-doos in all of these towns that just look to bother people and try and run government.

Councilman Barr: I was at the A&P and there was a building before there that burnt down I believe.

Councilman Toal: 1971.

Councilman Barr: Yes. And it was an electrical fire, I happened to be an electrical foreman on the job.

Councilman Hund: I just want to thank Mr. Laezza and Mr. Bonaccorso for their work in the process of starting with the A&P because I know that it falls in your ward but my members....

Councilman Toal: Your ward, it actually isn't mine at all, it is the third ward. It is the third ward right along that line.

Councilman Hund: Either way, thank you very much, and it will make my constituents very happy then.

Councilman Toal: The whole Township will be happy.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well, look guys, I just want to reiterate again, I started out busting a little bit but when these lit speed limit signs are going out, we are going to start hearing, "I need it on this street" It is not going to happen. The cost is a heavy cost to do it and we are doing it in high speed areas for children safety, so people have got to understand that.

Mr. Laezza: What you heard the Mayor talk about is \$22,000.00.

Councilwoman Albanese: That's without the operation and maintenance excluded.

Mayor Bonaccorso: So please just understand that right up front.

Councilman Mazzarella: I have one quick comment. The Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority sent the Mayor and our Administrator, and maybe the Council had received a solicitation, they are opening their doors if anybody wants to go for a tour. We have a state of the art system right now. I mean my former college Mark Dugan is on the Board with me there and he knows first hand the fights and the hurtles that we have faced at the Sewerage Authority. And we have turned it around to put together a really good infrastructure in the plant and they wanted to open up to all of the municipalities, all of the eleven-member municipalities, the Mayors and any of the Council that wants to go for a tour they will be happy to show you around.

Councilwoman Albanese: So, it is just on demand? Do you make an appointment and go?

Councilman Mazzarella: You could let me know.

Mr. Laezza: I recommend you don't do it in the heat of the summer.

Mayor Bonaccorso: John and I did.

Councilman Mazzarella: But at least you will see first hand what we accomplished. It really is a nice facility now, we are self-sufficient, we have the cogeneration after a lot of arguments and a lot of problems that we had with it, it is up and running, it really feeds the whole plant. When everybody is out as far as power, we produce power for the whole plant. And it's important because if the plant goes out everybody's deep in (laughter). So, they open the doors, if anybody wants to just let me know and I can arrange it with the Sewerage Authority.

Council President Smith: Thank you for your work.

Councilman O'Connor: We got a "thank you" from the Deutscher Club, Councilwoman Albanese and I attended a fundraiser for two Clark residents, Charles and Grace Gosda, whose parents tragically died the same year. They were young, we went, we represented the town and they did nothing but tell us how happy they are that they are in Clark and that they feel so welcomed, and they had nothing but good things to say about Clark and how they are treated and they just love it here. So, on their behalf, thank you.

Mayor, nice job with the A&P property. Mr. Laezza, as you know, you heard from myself and the other members of the Finance Committee that you did a great job on the budget, we will talk more about that at the live meeting but again, most people don't get to see how John thinks, they just see John on TV and they say you don't get what you want but John always has the best interest of the town. And the thing about John is that is never personal, it is business, if you don't get it, it is not because he doesn't like you. Thank you, Mr. Laezza, that is my report.

Councilman Toal: First of all, to Howard, we are going to miss you. Counsel, welcome to the Township of Clark, when you are here you see it a whole lot different then what you heard from the grapevine. Mr. Mayor, thank you again publicly for the pothole repairs. At our last meeting I mentioned about potholes, they have been filled for the time being and we thank you. I want this Council, this Mayor and those in here and the public to understand something, 1999, Jacks Tavern and the laundromat closed, 2006 the A&P was using the old Foodtown and they closed in 2006, it is 2018, in the last three months Jacks Tavern will now become a brand new CVS with Bernie's Garage, Bob Gittleman is retiring and going to Florida and ending a legacy of family back to the 1930's in Clark running a business from when the automobile industry just started to take off. They are leaving, change and progress in Clark.

Councilman O'Connor: The house is going too.

Councilman Toal: Yes, everything, it is all going. So, what is happening is the one eyesore that has been a problem with the residents of Clark was Jacks Tavern and, and of course, the old, as they call it Merit Foodtown or the A&P site, from 2006. And now tonight we are making the change for progress. And Mr. Mayor that has to be duly noted by the media. Thank you for doing the steps towards progress, people have to understand things do change and it takes the government a long, long time to get it done.

Evening Reality, it's called a felt mill and it goes back to 1698, then it was in the 1700's, the farmers farmed the crops in the winter months they worked in the felt mill then it became a chair factory, National Chair. Now if you look at the back wall in 1963 the Township of Clark had it's first five alarm fire in the history of the Township of Clark, the entire building on the side next to the reservoir burned to the ground, every lacquered, stained stuff went into the ground so a DEP clean-up should be in any contractual agreement. What is in that ground is.....

Mr. Laezza: They already did it, they had to do it to close.

Councilman Toal: You have the reports on that?

Mr. Laezza: Yes.

Councilman Toal: It is a historical site, but progress we don't control, progress comes and goes and we have a say in it, which I will put my voice into thoughts. So that's about it folks, thank you very much and yes there are more streets to be done and I will get them to you for when the money is available.

Mr. Laezza: Can I make a general comment to the entire council, I don't want to name names here but every once in a while, each of you get a little generous to your neighbors and tell them that you are going to fix potholes and you are going to do this and you make it a public thing, you know if someone gets hurt within 48 hours and we haven't fixed that....you know, keep it to yourself and mention it to me but don't mention it to the world. You have to put it down so we can schedule how we are going to fix them, that's one problem and the other problem is when there are Zoning Board Meetings or Planning Board Meetings it is not your responsibility as Council to sit at that meeting or testify on behalf of your neighbors because I know you are doing it for the best of your

heart but if should that case come to a court hearing you have put the Council in a serious problem. And what you have been doing good for your neighbors have adversely affect your neighbor, so that they may think that you have cause some influence on those Boards. So, as a rule I think you should pay attention and if you think that you have a neighbor that needs a favor have another person in the neighborhood support them, not you individually. Just a word to the wise is all I am saying.

Mr. Triarsi: It should be more then a word to the wise it should be a policy.

Mr. Laezza: It is a policy.

Mr. Triarsi: A member of the Council does not appear for or an opposition to any application before the Planning Board or the Board of Adjustment, period, end of story.

Mr. Laezza: Thank you Counselor.

Council President Smith: I don't have anything this evening.

Police Chief Matos: No report.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Hund, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzearella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
March 5, 2018
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith
Absent: Hund

Also, Present: Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Joseph Triarsi, Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG - MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dispensed

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

- 1. Chapter 195 Land Use and Development, Part 2 Subdivision and Site Plan Review – Ordinance revisions required due to changes to N.J.S.A. 40:55D-53 regarding performance guarantees**

Discussion:

Attorney Triarsi: You folks you don't have that ordinance yet.

John Laezza: No, we don't. Basically, this is in the hands of our attorney, he will have it ready for the March 19th meeting. This ordinance went through the Planning Board for their review with regard to the changes and how it accommodates the State Statue. Our attorney is putting it in ordinance form for ourselves to satisfy himself regarding that entity and we'll be ready to introduce this on March 19th.

Township Clerk: You did get all the notes though?

All of Council: Yes.

Councilman O'Connor: And I do like how it's in red.

Attorney Triarsi: You will have it prior to the meeting to review. I will say for the record that Richard's office did an incredible job, they made some changes in it but nothing significant. The law has changed dramatically in certain areas if we have to accommodate that law and that's what

is in this ordinance. So, unless you have particular questions about it, I just assume let it lay until you get the entire ordinance and then if you have questions you call me and we can discuss it.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance.

Mover: Mazzarella

Second: O'Connor

2. Fire Department Chapter 3-30 and Chapter 161-40

Discussion:

Township Clerk: #2 is actually going to split into two ordinances when we get to the Public Meeting. It is the Fire Department Chapter 3-30, and also Chapter 161-40.

Attorney Triarsi: These are Mr. Cerasa's ordinances. It is my experience that he changes them every year, adds some detail, and he gives me a warrant to put them in a form that I need to put them in. So, I did, I gave them to Edie, and she sent them to Frank. Is everything the way you want it?

Frank Cerasa: Perfect.

Mr. Triarsi: There you go.

Mr. Laezza: Basically, this is a change if you recall, no you may not recall, Mr. Cerasa came to me during the Budget preparation season indicating that he wanted to make Lieutenants, he wanted to give them \$2,000.00 each. I said okay, I think that makes sense because we have to try to entice our volunteers, give them some direction, give them some titles. I said however Frank to do that legally you just can't make them Lieutenants and give them \$2,000.00, you have to create the positions. So, in creating the positions he kind of reworked everything that he wanted done in the fire department in this ordinance. They are insignificant changes that he will put in and so this makes it the utilization that they can appoint linemen as Lieutenants. We will have a salary ordinance amendment to put those Lieutenants down in our salary ordinance so they can properly get paid. So, when the Auditors look at our books and see John Jones got "x" number of dollars, we want to say how John Jones get in there, and we'll have the ordinance to show for it, and that's what this does. So, they are two separate ordinances.

Township Clerk: So, there's two separate ordinances and then the following one will be the salary ordinance amendment which is literally just to add that line item.

Councilwoman Albanese: Yes, and then we are going to have the salary ordinance.

Mr. Laezza: The salary ordinance will be the third.

Attorney Triarsi: You are talking three. You are talking this ordinance, then you are talking the Fire Prevention Bureau, and then you are talking the Salary Ordinance.

Mr. Laezza: It's a one-line amendment to the Salary Ordinance.

Attorney Triarsi: But you still have three ordinances.

Mr. Laezza: Yes, we have three ordinances.

Council President Smith: Is there a cap on the number of Lieutenants?

Mr. Laezza: Yes, I think there's four.

Councilman O'Connor: And they are appointments, not voted, correct?

Fire Chief Cerasa: That's correct.

Mr. Laezza: Right.

Council President Smith: Appointments by the Chief?

Mr. Laezza: By the Chief.

Councilman Mazzarella: Frank, you appoint every year?

Fire Chief Cerasa: Yes, every year. Every year they get reappointed, we go through an evaluation process. And we had a couple of senior guys retire, higher positions and now to replace those, like you were saying, we are trying to get new blood in.

Mr. Laezza: They made a bunch of the accommodation to make sure it fit into to what I was going to give him on his Budget.

Fire Chief Cerasa: That is correct.

Councilman O'Connor: I think it's important because as we know people don't like to volunteer. If you keep on making changes like this it keeps people enticed and gives them some level of authority or they feel that they are valued and have a say on what goes on, so thank you for that.

Chief Cerasa: That is right.

Mr. Laezza: That's what that's about.

Council President Smith: So now are we going to move all 3.

Councilwoman Albanese: Do you want to add the Salary Ordinance?

Township Clerk: So, #1 is Chapter 195, #2 is going to be Chapter 3-30, and #3 is going to be Chapter 161-40.

Mr. Laezza: No, I would say #2, you might make it 2 as 2b and make that a Salary Ordinance.

Attorney Triarsi: What's the difference?

Township Clerk: You are only saving 30 seconds, and a roll call.

Council President Smith: Let's stick to the original, 2, 3 and 4.

Attorney Triarsi: Yes.

Council President Smith: So, we are going to move each one individually.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on Ordinance #2 – Fire Department Chapter 3-30

Mover: Barr Second: Albanese

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on Ordinance #3 – Chapter 161-40

Mover: Barr Second: O'Connor

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on Ordinance #4 – Salary Ordinance

Mover: O'Connor Second: Albanese

Township Clerk: I have one more ordinance that came up at the end of today. Actually, we've been working on it for a while. There's a new...over on Terminal Avenue there's a pedestrian beacon that lights up, if somebody pushes the button they can cross the street. We finally just got the plan today, and it became operational today, and so now we need to put it in ordinance form, so that will be ordinance #5.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on Ordinance #5

Mover: O'Connor Second: Albanese

RESOLUTIONS:

3. Authorizing the Township of Clark to enter into a New Jersey Interoperable Communications System (NJICS) User Agreement with the County of Union.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: O'Connor Second: Barr

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

4. Endorsing the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application and designating Jennifer Kobliska to ensure that the application is properly filed.

Discussion: None

5. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2018 taxes in the amount of \$991.74.

Discussion: None

6. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$23,924.20 and additional charges in the amount of \$280.00.

Discussion: None

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Consent Agenda

Mover: Toal Second: Albanese

Township Clerk: While we're adding here, I did forget and it can't be on the Consent Agenda, it has to be a separate resolution. We are having a bid opening on Wednesday, March 7th for the Opening and Closing of the Pool, so hopefully that goes smoothly and we will have a resolution of award of contract also on the agenda. So, do you want to have a mover and second on that.

Council President Smith as for a mover and second on added Resolution: Opening and Closing of Pool for 2018-2019 Season

Mover: Smith Second: O'Connor

Council President Smith: Mr. Laezza, I have a question on the sewer billing adjustments. When it says "leaks", who eventually pays for that? Because the water was running.

Mr. Laezza: Yes, basically we've been accommodating our people, it's all according to the type of leak, if it is just an ordinary bathroom leak, we don't do a thing (Council President Smith: right,) if it's a substantial leak, such as an outside pipe that has been leaking, it really doesn't go into the sewer system we give them credit for it. Those are the kind of things we look at when we adjust it.

Council President Smith: Thank you. I was looking at some of the explanations and reasons, I was just curious.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Council President opens the meeting to the public

Seeing no one coming forward, Council President asked for a motion to close the public portion of the meeting

Motion: Toal Second: O'Connor

Roll Call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Mazzearella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: I will be inviting the 4th Grade Girls Basketball Team for the meeting, twelve girls were congratulatory on winning the Clark Tournament. So, they will be coming out on the 19th.

Secondly, they are calling for snow, there's a question with branches that's being asked today that people have lost branches that have come down in the storm over the weekend. What I would tell you is very simple, if you get a call tomorrow, tell them to keep them off the street so we can plow, and then once it melts, put them out in the street. Because on or about St. Patrick's Day we're going to start doing spring clean-up.

We had the road closed in front of Hyatt Hills for a pole that was broken and literally leaning. That started the night of the storm and finished up the next day, it was good day project, full day. But they got that taken care of, and we had a few other trees down, nothing real major though, nothing of big areas of power outage either, so we were in pretty good shape here in Clark. Like I said let me just check the date on my phone for the branch clean-up. Probably on the 19th we'll go out, we'll start picking up if not sooner, it depends how much is out there. But officially the 19th but after the snows melts they can put it out. You know people will start cleaning up and that's fine with me, that's not a big deal. So just tell them to hold off on doing it tomorrow if you get any calls.

The Turf Field is done, it came out nicely, they did a good job.

Councilman O'Connor: Did they repaint the track?

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, the track is getting redone after graduation. (Councilman O'Connor: okay, that make sense) We don't want to play with it now, they are going to have to take it up, re-mill it and replace it. It's going to be a black track with white stripes. (Councilman O'Connor: perfect) It came out nice. Actually, I have to tell you the truth, as much as I enjoyed doing that first field, I think this field looks nicer, when you look at it, it almost looks like hi-def, really looks nice. That's it, thank you

Mr. Laezza: Yes, Elizabeth, I would like you to put in your newspapers New Jersey American Water to start annual spring cleaning even though we talked about snow. So, they will be flushing the lines, I'll give you a document that you put in about what happens when they see the lines that contain dirty water, what to do. And if anybody want to know when they are coming to Clark their email is Newjerseyamwater.com, they will tell you when they'll be in Clark.

Councilwoman Albanese: No comment.

Councilman Barr: I just actually want to say one thing. With the pole that was broken, unless you are an electrician you don't realize how lucky we are because if you looked at those three lines on top that's four thousand volts. If that came down the town would practically be out.

Mr. Laezza: When Clark Commons was being built they just replaced the poles on the other side of Hyatt. PSE&G said that those poles would not be replacing. That helped the developer but now PSE&G had to put them up at their cost, no ours, so thank goodness we got new poles.

Councilman O'Connor: I just want to say that Scott McCabe has been doing a nice job on Facebook, I am sure it is not part of his job responsibilities, but he does answer questions that people do have on Facebook. When they ask questions, I have seen him response, so he does a nice job. Just another reason that he does do a good job for our town.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Always.

Councilman Toal: Thank you for talking about the branches Mayor.

Chief Cerasa: No comment.

Mr. Triarsi: No comment.

Council President Smith: Actually, I was with Mayor Bonaccorso over the weekend at the Clark Tournament where there was 183 teams, it ended on Sunday, but throughout was the storm and I know you were on the phone with Lieutenant Manata and I know that they were stretched thin with all of the lines out, a lot of the Specials came in and worked, and thank God we have a lot of connections with the utilities and he was able to make a phone call to a friend of ours to help expedite.

We had a few teams from New York, and we had Wykoff's, and Glen Ridge and Monroe, it was Presidents weekend, three weekends, so it was about 14 days total and a couple of weeknights. It was a big undertaking.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Do you want to know something Joe, to our credit, and this is a true statement, not one team leaves here saying, "I will never come back", most everybody that walks out the door says, "I will see you guys next year, thank you". We are fair and we treat everyone right and we make sure that the referees are good so that people don't feel robbed.

Council President Smith: This year we won one (game).

Mayor Bonaccorso: Do you know there was the fourth-grade boys right up to eighth (grade), then there is the "B" brackets, I think that there were fifteen winners and only one town won two brackets and that was Wayne. There were all different winners in every bracket. Hey, there are years that the Clark teams win a lot and there are years like this year where we won one (game).

Councilman O'Connor: I would love to see the economic impact on our town having these people in here buying stuff at QuickChek, gas stations, going to Clark Commons, Manny's (diner), there has to be great contributions to the town.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We have a concession that does very well, but a lot of the towns that are far out so they are grabbing dinner, or something, and then get ready to go home, they stop at Manny's, Tarantella's....

Councilwoman Albanese: I wonder how many people come into the town for that?

Chief Matos: 3,000 – 5,000 people.

Councilwoman Albanese: Over the course of the three weeks?

Mayor Bonaccorso: I think a lot more than that.

Council President Smith: That is all I have.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Toal.

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Mazarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

**COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ**

April 2, 2018

7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzearella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

Also, Present: Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Mark Sposato Acting Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG - MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dispensed

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

The regular order of business will be suspended for presentations at the April 16th meeting:

- Annual Police Awards
- ALJ Cheerleaders will be recognized
- Ralph Bernardo will discuss the new online features that will be available to the public

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Award of contract to Schaefer Pyrotechnics, Inc. for the July 4th Fireworks display in the amount of \$15,000.00

Discussion:

Township Clerk: The Fire Chief requested quotes from three companies. One company is already booked for July 4th, another company did not submit a proposal and Schaefer gave us the proposal that I gave to all of you in your packet. They did it last year and possibly the year prior. They do a good job.

Council President Smith: Yes, they have been excellent.

Mr. Laezza: Council President I would recommend that when you read the date of July 4th, tell everyone that it is going to be on July 4th. It is a Wednesday. We already have gotten 6 calls today, "is it going to be on July 4th, or is it going to be on the weekend?"

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Motion and second from the Entire Council

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

2. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$3,655.00

Discussion: None

3. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of Sewer Fees in the amount of \$55.00

Discussion: None

Mr. Laezza: I would like to bring to your attention that I might have a couple of Capital Ordinances for you to review, I am waiting for cost and values to make a determination. So, it if comes up I will send you the information so we can discuss it prior to the meeting.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Consent Agenda
Motion: Toal Second: Albanese

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Council President opens the meeting to the public

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia St.: A couple of meetings ago we had brought up about the disbandment of the New Jersey SPCA and Chief Matos was exploring or concerned about having investigations done by police officers within the town of any type of brutality or anything against animals. And may I direct a question to him or do I have to do it to the Council? Have you explored anything because I spoke to a few ACO's (Animal Control Officer) and ACI's (Animal Cruelty Investigator) and they can be.....

Police Chief Matos: I have trained four officers, both of my Lieutenants and two Patrol Officers in Animal Cruelty Investigations. Of course, the routine Patrol Officer would start an investigation, and if he needed assistance, he would get that assistance of those specifically trained officers. And also, we could call out too, if we needed the help, from the Human Society out of Newark. I know that you are not a big fan, they also have ACO's that could come out and also Nancy Raymond who is an ACO.

Delia Collins: But she is not an ACI. (Chief Matos: we would reach out just for help if we should need it.) oh I know I am just asking.

Police Chief Matos: Just keep in mind all of my police officers can investigate crimes, there is not much difference between an animal cruelty case, except for what you do now with the animal God

forbid if you have to remove the animal and provide those services, so there isn't much difference between a criminal investigation, let's say an assault.

Delia Collins: Right so now if someone is suspected of this happening; would they call the Clark Police directly and have a police officer come to the scene?

Police Chief Matos: Yes. Then whoever lets says a witness would know of an incident, you would just call us like you would for any other incident and we would respond immediately.

Delia Collins: Is that effective now?

Police Chief Matos: Yes.

Delia Collins: Okay. Are you going to put anything out there on the police township...?

Police Chief Matos: I haven't.

Delia Collins: Because a lot of people still want to call the New Jersey SPCA and they are not....

Mayor Bonaccorso: You can put it on our website Chief.

Delia Collins: I mean you know...I'll inform some people that I know, you know that.

Police Chief Matos: Here's the thing, most of the residents in town if they have an animal issue, whether it be a neighbor.... I don't know that they are calling the SPCA, most of the time they call us directly. In the past they have called us directly.

Councilwoman Albanese: Even if you have a squirrel in your house you call the police, right?

Delia Collins: Right, so a lot of people that are in the knowledge of the New Jersey SPCA, would call the SPCA and have them come out versus the Clark Police.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Our citizens call the police for everything.

Councilwoman Albanese: Yes.

Mayor Bonaccorso: They do, they always call.

Delia Collins: Thank you.

Council President Smith: Thank you Delia.

Council President asked for a motion to close the public portion of the meeting.

Motion: O'Connor Second: Toal

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: First off, belated Happy Easter and Happy Passover to our Jewish friends out here in Clark. It was a nice holiday weekend. We had the Easter Egg Hunt the weekend before, it was crazy outrageous, there were a bunch of little kids running around and it was very nice to see.

Today hopefully we had the last snow of the year, we asked the lord to plow it for us and he provided some warm weather and sunshine. We salted the main roads and Scotty cleaned up some of the main roads, branch clean up is going on today. DPW did a very good job this winter handling the snow. Last snow that we had, which I guess was a week ago, a lot of snow in March this year, as you know it developed later in the day and the DPW, in the snow, was out that day picking up branches, we thought we would get hit a lot harder than we did. And it's been the morning and the better part of the afternoon picking up branches to clear the streets, not to plow over the branches or around them and weave through the streets. That day I sent the DPW home at 2 o'clock so that they could get rest, they could eat, they could shower and come out and be full guns to go. They ended up getting out about 10 o'clock that night, worked right through the night plowing and then went right back to the day job here until quitting time. It is a lot of hours for those guys to put in, they do a good job. And again, I thank the Police Department and the Fire Department for assisting through the snow, through the down power lines, especially in the first snow we had, it was real bad, and of course the EMS, they are always out there. So, we have a good trifecta of emergency services that come out and help along with out DPW, so it is a good, good crew.

As you know Branch Clean-up and Spring Yard Clean-up is under way, I know that I said it the last meeting, everything is rolling along pretty good. For the record I would like to congratulate and thank Councilman Mazarella, Councilman O'Connor, Councilman Hund and Councilman Toal for committing to us for another four years. It is great to see that, that you are up for reelection, that you filed your petitions today and not that there was ever a doubt in my mind that you guys would run but I do appreciate your service to this community. And I think in November when the people get to see the contrast between my four and their four, it is going to be four more years of our Wards in very safe hands in Clark. So, I am very happy that you guys are coming back again and I know that you are going to continue another great four years for us all. So, thank you personally and professionally. That is all I have.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you, just to follow up on what the Mayor said, I am really glad to hear that the DPW staff went home at 2:00 pm and then went back out at 8:00 pm because it was a very strange storm. You could have worked all day and then working 24 hours and it is just important to know that we are concerned about the safety. It is just not acceptable for people to work over 16 hours and some people working 24 hours I know in other towns. So, thank you for sharing that information. One thing that I wanted to mention is I mentioned at a couple of meetings that the Library has hotspots available to take out for two weeks, this is what it looks like, so if you are interested I will mention this at the other meeting. If you are traveling or you are in a remote location, you can borrow this hotspot and you will have all of the data and Wi-Fi you need right at hand for two weeks, so that is available to everyone, and that concludes my report.

Council President Smith: That's awesome to know.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President, you know we are talking about the budget and how things are progressing, I have been around for a long time in Clark and I remember when Clark was almost in bankruptcy, and because we have this Mayor and Business Administrator and basically the Council, we have become a great town. As you can see with the budget, everybody should be happy and they should appreciate it and we are hoping that they will, especially in November. That concludes my report.

Councilman Hund: Thank you Mr. President, again, reiterate as we have done before to the Mayor, the Finance Committee, and Mr. Laezza for the fine job they did with the budget this year. The township should be very happy as we all are. On a personal note, I just want to say that I am happy to be back sitting here, so thank you very much.

Councilman Mazzarella: I'll say this at our Public Meeting but I really want to extend my appreciation to the DPW, as the Mayor said, the last snow fall that happened they were doing branch removal and went right into snow removal, I am telling you, it is incredible the work that they do for our community and the diligence that they show to keep our community safe. And at the head of it is our Mayor, he gives the direction to DPW to go ahead and have the leverage to do all of this for our community. And they are doing a wonderful job and I'm sure they will continue with that, thank you.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you. Everybody has covered a lot of things and I am not big on repeating, and I don't want to step on Frank's toes but I do want to mention one thing if you don't mind (Councilman Mazzarella: go ahead) the Mayor talked about you know bulky pick-up, you need to call Thursday, by 3 pm to the week prior too, that is send and email or call the Thursday prior to by 3:00 pm. We get a lot of calls saying, "Why wasn't mind picked up? I called" but unfortunately they do it late.

Councilman Mazzarella: Also, to add to that please, for the residents, they have to look at our website because it gives a rundown on what we can take and what we can't take. A lot of people are throwing out a lot of stuff that the DPW cannot take. And they get offended by it, they get mad over it, but they have to look at our website to see.

Councilman Toal: It has all been said tonight. For the residents of the Kumpf School area and Mildred Terrace, if you drive in transverse Mildred Terrace, you see on a regular basis, during school hours, in the morning or in the afternoon when you are coming home from work, there is always a guy out there with a big Chocolate Labrador, that Chocolate Labrador has passed away. The dog's name was Tex, a relative of Councilman Hund's. If you ever drove on Mildred Terrace in the morning hours or the evening hours you always saw the dog and the resident, Mr. Superak and the dog was just put to sleep. Again, our condolences to the Superak family. You have to understand Clark folks, animals are very important, they are like family members and Tex was a part of the Mildred Terrace Kumpf School area. To the Superak family, again, we will miss Tex. That is all I have tonight.

Mr. Laezza: No report.

Chief Matos: No report.

Mr. Sposato: Nothing

Township Clerk: I heard today that the Little League and Softball Parade is Saturday?

Council President Smith: Saturday morning at 9:00 am, line-up at 8:30 am.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Toal, seconded by Councilman O'Connor.

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzaella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
May 7, 2018
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Mazzearella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith
Absent: Hund

Also, Present: Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Mark Dugan, Acting Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG - MOMENT OF SILENCE

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

1. **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK IN PARTICULAR CHAPTER 57 ENTITLED "SEWERAGE AUTHORITY" AND CHAPTER 279 ENTITLED "SEWERS"**

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: Let me try and explain this to you. Our sewer rights are getting down to the bare minimum now, this is an ordinance that says that when our flow rights are finished from the RVSA and if developer wanted to build in here, it is his responsibility to find the rights before he can get a permit to build in this town. Many years ago, we bought a million gallons and it cost us a lot of money, and that million gallons is now down to the 462 (inaudible).

Council President Smith: So that basically puts the liability on the builder.

Councilman Mazzearella: Just to add on this for Council's information that there are a number of communities at the Sewerage Authority that are in the same situation, John, myself and the Mayor are trying to give them guidance on entering into an ordinance similar to what we have and have the developers, if they want to build purchase the flow rights because it is really is a burden on the communities.

Mr. Laezza: And in section two, the section is where we are reevaluating because people who are doing additions to their house, whether they are paying sufficient flow rights for their facility, we can go after them if needed.

Councilman Toal: I have a question. So, when they are before the Boards who make that determination at that time, the Board of Adjustment, the Planning Board they would give them the proper notification that they are going to be paying a higher.....

Mr. Laezza: Yes, a two-bedroom house to a four-bedroom house.

Councilman O'Connor: And additionally, in adding bathrooms as well, or just more people?

Mr. Laezza: Same thing.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Back in my historic years on Council I put the legislation in that we were buying flow rights and the taxpayers of Clark were footing the bill and that is what I told the Ellenport Administration that when you sell the flow right, hypothetically, just use a number, if you sell it for a dollar a gallon and you buy it for a dollar, you sell it for a dollar, you get interest on that bond because you went out and bonded that money for that. So, that is how they had to pay that back over the years.

Mr. Laezza: Before the fee structure, obviously. We put that money in capital and basically offset it, the bond issue that we sold to pay it but we really had to pay the bond issue off, that took ten years to accommodate. We haven't paid off the whole bond issue yet. So, it takes a while to do it that way so, in the future I am trying to protect the community.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you.

Council President Smith asked for a motion and second on this Proposed Ordinance
Mover: Mazzarella Second: Barr

**2. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 145 "FEES", ARTICLE V. OF THE
CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED "RECREATION
DEPARTMENT"**

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: Just so you know what we are doing here if you looked at the one that we deleted it had a list of one hundred programs that we have put on, separate numbers for each, the book kind of changes it every time as to what we are going to charge. This gives us flexibility in all the recreation programs as set forth in the new brochure every year. We think that range from \$25 to \$200 will save you for a long time.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Just like the minimum and maximum in the salary.

Mr. Laezza: That gives you more flexibility as a community.

Council President Smith asked for a motion and second on this Proposed Ordinance
Mover: Smith Second: O'Connor

3. Discussion conducted by Legislative Committee: Short Term Rentals

Councilman Toal: The Legislative Committee, Council President Smith, Council O'Connor and I met on the 19th of April, keeping this brief, we reviewed ordinances that are in other municipalities and we came to one that we favored. Before we continue to ask you for your support on this at the next Public Meeting, Councilman O'Connor and Council President Smith has some legal questions and follow up questions. I am going to defer them to the President and to our Attorney.

Councilman O'Connor: So, my question was they talk about the minimum age of 21, I just wanted to know if that was going to be considered discriminatory since an 18 year old are considered adults and are able to enter into agreements. I just want to make sure we were not, at best, supporting discrimination, age discrimination, but on the younger end opposed to the older end.

Mr. Laezza: Before we get any further, basically presently as far as we know we do not have a problem in Clark. If we did something like this it might be preventive. Right now, I think if sufficient police areas that they can accommodate extra noise, parties, blah, blah, blah....so, I just brought this to your attention if you want to talk about developing something preventive, it can take as long as you want to do, it is not necessary to go onto the next meeting, we left it to your digressions.

Council President Smith: That is kind of what we thought, we didn't think it was imminent problem.

Councilman Toal: But it would help to rest a potential issue (Mr. Laezza: maybe) again, Council President Smith do you have any questions for the attorney with regards to legal?

Councilman Smith: No, because it was pretty self-explanatory, it had the minimum and maximum and the 60 days.

Mark Dugan: There are some things in there I would like to take out.

Councilman O'Connor: One of the things that we talked about was that although we did look at it, we did feel that it needed to be reviewed by the attorney because we are not attorneys, even though we have a phenomenal mastermind over there (Mr. Laezza), but us three together don't have the degree involved, so if you could review it (Mark Dugan: absolutely) if you don't mind.

Councilman Toal: That makes sense.

Mark Dugan: Are there any other questions that you have that you would like me to find the answer too?

Councilman O'Connor: Mine was about the age.

Mark Dugan: Age issue, right.

Councilman Toal: After review, let's say we bring it back in and take a look for June?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Not a rush.

Councilman Toal: We will let the Counselor look at it and bring it back to us, thank you.

Council President Smith: Boarding houses, or houses I guess that a regular resident has a house and they are renting out four or five rooms....

Mr. Laezza: I don't know that we can do that in Clark.

Council President Smith: What is that?

Mr. Laezza: I don't know if that is allowable in Clark.

Council President Smith: Because I don't know specifically where they are but I know there are some in Clark.

Councilwoman Albanese: That is the ARC you are thinking of maybe.

Council President Smith: I know that there are people working at an establishment in town who are just renting rooms, there are two people and they are sharing one bathroom and two other people are sharing another bathroom.

Mr. Laezza: We have basically an ordinance, and I would like to know those places because we send our inspector to see that they don't have more than two to a bedroom blah, blah, blah. I know that there are some homes with Chinese restaurants that they moved out mattresses in those houses. They have been moved out because I found that out by looking at the sewer bill and asked the neighbor across the street about how many people are living in there, and he said about twenty.

Councilman Toal: That is an issue.

Mr. Laezza: So, we got rid of that.

Council President Smith: I don't know the specific addresses but I have an idea of where they are I just don't know.

Mr. Laezza: If you give me an idea we will find them.

Council President Smith: I will.

Councilman Toal: Mr. President again, the question is if you want to have it posted for June? Do you want the attorney to review it?

Council President Smith: Attorney review.

RESOLUTIONS:

4. Award of Contract to D.L.S. Contracting Inc. for the 2018 Capital Road Improvements to Alice Lane, Peter Circle, Acorn Drive, Shadow Lane, Gertrude Street and Fan Street in the amount of \$856,229.00

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: If you have seen it, it is broken down into two, the \$312,606.00 is for Alice Lane because it is a sewer project and a road project. The other \$543,600.00, is for those other roads.

Councilman Toal: Gertrude Street is not the entire length you are just talking from Katheryn up to Bartell.

Mr. Laezza: Right.

Councilman Toal: That is important for those other residents to understand that.

Mr. Laezza: Bartell is getting done now.

Councilman Toal: Correct, you are doing the end piece, near the park.

Mr. Laezza: Bartell and Ginesi should both be done.

Mayor Bonaccorso: The water company is doing main work on Coldevin, they are going to be repaving Coldevin for us.

Councilman O'Connor: The whole thing from curb to curb?

Mr. Laezza: Yes, curb to curb.

Councilman O'Connor: Okay, so we are responsible for Alice and Peter Circle and then the water company is going to do Coldevin curb to curb. The whole thing?

Mr. Laezza: Correct.

Councilman O'Connor: What about James.

Mr. Laezza: No.

Council President Smith asked for a motion and second on this Resolution
Mover: O'Connor Second: Toal

5. Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Interlocal Services Agreement with the City of Linden for the resurfacing of Forest Drive in an amount not to exceed \$85,000.00

Discussion:

Township Clerk: It said \$85,000.00, and I am told this evening that it is being changed to \$50,000.00.

Councilman Toal: Good.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Linden was paving for Steve, he is not here but for the At-Large (Council), Linden was paving Forest so they wanted to know if we wanted to jump in and get the rest paved on the way up. For that kind of money, it is definitely worth it.

Council President Smith asked for a motion and second on this Resolution

Mover: Smith Second: Barr

6. Appointing Kenneth Brennan as Alternate I and Maria Santiago as Alternate II Members of the Environmental Commission

Discussion:

Township Clerk: What happened was recently you appointed Kenneth Brennan as Alternate II, we had Alternate I open up when Marc Hayden moved up, and so Kenneth Brennan is moving up to I, and Maria Santiago is coming in as Alternate II.

Councilman Toal: Again, the Environmental Commission is going through a major revitalization and getting new blood.

Council President Smith asked for a motion and second on this Resolution

Mover: Toal Second: Albanese

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

7. Seeking approval of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the amount of \$6,600.00 for the 2018 Distracted Driving Crackdown Grant

Discussion: None

8. Seeking approval of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the amount of \$13,865.00 for the Kids Recreation Grant

Discussion: None

9. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$24,144.40

Discussion: None

10. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of Sewer Fees in the amount of \$300.00

Discussion: None

Council President Smith asked for a motion and second on this Consent Agenda
Mover: Albanese Second: Toal

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Council President opens the meeting to the public

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia Street: One the Consent Agenda Resolution #7, you mention a person or persons, a Director of the Division of Local Government Service, is that local or is that statewide.

Mr. Laezza: It is the State Department of Community Affairs.

Delia Collins: Do you know who that is?

Mr. Laezza: Timothy Cunningham.

Councilwoman Albanese: It just means local government "municipal government".

Delia Collins: Okay, thank you.

Council President asked for a motion to close the public portion of the meeting.
Motion: Toal Second: Albanese

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Mazarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: A couple of things. I talked to the Chief today, the Department had a record month of motor vehicle summons 465, that is a lot. I am very happy that the men are out there and working hard. They had a motor vehicle incident up on the Circle, which between that, and the sewer break at the new condos on Westfield Avenue by Manny's (Diner), the town was moving like a snail. But some people were driving South to North and they saw the Trooper come out of

the cut, just happened too, and they had heroin, and warrants, and thought that the trooper was going to chase them. They sped down our ramp and got t-boned when they ran the light, got rolled, the woman in the car got ejected pretty far, and the other three suspects started running, and the police stopped them and locked them up. Found out that there was heroin and warrants and all kinds of things, so their paranoia got them locked up and in a pretty bad accident. So that tied up the circle for many, many hours that day.

The grass is being picked up, bulky pick up is of course underway and that is all going fine, the branches are going well, put them out the third week and pick up the fourth week. I have not seen many piles out so maybe some people are tired of cutting branches or they are starting to pay attention.

The new digital message board out front will be up and running shortly. Ralph got one and we have one, Unico paid for Ralphs and they gave us a donation towards our board, which is terrific. So, I think that is good because a lot of people go by there and they will be able to see it. The board that we had out there was very popular when Kennedy was President, so it was way overdue.

On Facebook you can see that Pat went on my behalf the other night and picked up a few checks from the County Government, which was very nice and we appreciate their cooperation, they will be put to good use I know. The one will be for the playground out here, and the other is an infrastructure grant so we are going to be using it toward the new basketball courts outside, to repair that stuff. It is used for infrastructure so that is whatever it could be. Other than that, it has been pretty quiet.

Councilman O'Connor: I have a question for the Mayor. Mr. Mayor, if a car in Clark.... if someone was pulled over with drugs in the car and the car get impounded, do we get to keep the car?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, in some cases we do, yes.

Councilman O'Connor: I mean obviously we wouldn't want the van because I saw what condition it was in, but that is an option that we do have at times?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes. We have one vehicle that we grabbed in the murder in Shoprite that one year, and we had another one or two over the years. In the one case we had a Mercedes back there and we tried to get that. In instances like that, even with money, things like that, the Township (inaudible) and the other agency tries to grab whatever they can too.

Councilman O'Connor: Okay, thank you.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We have a forfeiture account that is separate from our regular account that the police department wants to buy stuff out of with the BA approval and the prosecutors approval also. We bought things out of it over the years that were pretty useful. Any other questions?

Councilwoman Albanese: I think everyone received an invitation to the Legislative Breakfast that the libraries have, it is the Union County Libraries, which we are a member of. They are having the meeting at our library and what they typically do is the librarians will speak on different

legislation that is available. I don't know if anyone is available to go to this, it is during the workday. It is from 8am till 10am on May 18th, which is a Friday. Usually one of the Freeholders attends and speaks a few minutes and they will probably talk about a construction bond. Which we will be, hopefully, applying for some money as we did in the past.

Mr. Laezza: We can't apply for it yet.

Councilwoman Albanese: Not yet.

Mr. Laezza: The State Treasure does not know anything about it.

Councilwoman Albanese: So, if you can make it, that's great.

Councilman Smith: I may be there Councilwoman Albanese.

Councilwoman Albanese: Okay. I just wanted to congratulate the Mayor on getting nominated to the Hall of Fame, congratulations.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Angel.

Councilman Toal: It is very important, very prestigious.

Councilman Barr: No comment.

Councilman Mazzarella: Just a to the Mayor or John, did you get any update on the grant money for Lake Avenue yet?

Mr. Laezza: Maybe the May 20th meeting for the Ordinance.

Councilman Mazzarella: Okay.

Mr. Laezza: Yes, we are finished, we got \$285,000.00, it is going to cost us \$400,000.00.

Councilman O'Connor: Yes, the Mayor, Council President Smith and myself attended "First Day" at Hehnly School. It was good to see the kids walk to school, it is something that you very rarely see anymore. So, the police were there and they stopped traffic so everybody could cross the street and walk. It was a very safe environment and that was really nice to see that a lot of parents were there as well. Rotundos was kind enough to let everybody gather in their parking lot, which was nice, it filled up their parking lot. Again, the police were there so thanks to the police. Again, it is just nice to see, maybe someday the kids will actually walk to school again or ride their bikes. That was a time when things were good and it was easy. That's it, so thank you. Again, the Mayor did mention me going to the Freeholders Meeting, I appreciate him selecting me to go, thank you very much.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It was a good meeting and I appreciate that you stayed to the end like you were supposed to (Councilman O'Connor: Yes) and we have a very good working relationship with Union County and that is the way I would like to keep it.

Councilman O'Connor: You are very well thought of there by the way.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well, Freeholder Mirabella told me that he that you seemed like one heck of a nice guy and I said it was absolutely true.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you.

Councilman Toal: Thank you Mr. President. Yesterday we were talking about being quiet and it has been quiet in town and my phone rang off the hook last night for about six calls. Benjamin Street, some of the residents were upset, they were talking to one of their neighbors and saying that the CVS application is dead. I just want to get an interpretation for "Public" tonight.... Mr. Mayor, Mr. Laezza, do we have anything saying that the application is not going forward?

Mr. Laezza: The last telephone call I had with the attorney two weeks ago it was still a go.

Councilman Toal: Again, I wished people in this township worked by fact, not fiction, or presumed fiction.

Again, to the residents, work by fact and don't go out and spread lies and innuendo, let's work by the truth and let's get the truth out there.

Mayor Bonaccorso: As I told you and I will tell you in Public, I don't know what they would be upset about anyway, it is not their property, it is a privately-owned piece of property. The Township passed it through the Boards, if they decided not to build on it we can't force them too, we have no control over it. I am starting to get to the point where I don't understand what people think we do. It is like a Downtown Clark, we are going to build that Downtown, it is going to come eventually. The first time the stores open they are going to say, "what are you doing about it?" well, until my name is on the deed, nothing, plain and simple, that is for the owner to do.

Councilman Toal: Well that is some of our concerns, we have some senior citizens whose property abuts this project and they are concerned because their houses are a big part of their existence, and we support them, and make sure everything is done right.

Mayor Bonaccorso: What do you mean? Do they want it too or not?

Councilman Toal: They are in favor, they just want to know what is going on, is something going to change? Something different?

Mr. Laezza: If it was something different they would have to come before the Planning Board again.

Councilman Toal: Exactly, but we want to get the facts, not political, or here say.

Council President Smith: I don't have anything this evening. Mr. Laezza, do you have anything else?

Mr. Laezza: Nothing.

Council President Smith: Mark (Dugan)?

Mark Dugan: You certainly have had enough of me.

Township Clerk: Just to bring back to your attention the issue with the Open Public Records Act, I sent it to you. It is very disturbing, nobody has any privacy anymore. We have to give out all of the tax records, and we just got another one the other day where it is "so and so buys houses" and they want to know everyone who is delinquent, anyone who is in the tax sale. Some of these people have gone to people's homes, which number one, they have no license to solicit door to door and they claimed that they work for the Township of Clark and that the people are going to lose their homes if they don't sign on with them to help clear themselves. So, the police have been informed, I contacted the New Jersey League of Municipalities, I spoke to one of the attorneys there who was going to speak to Senator Weinberg, who is the originator of the Open Public Records Act. I contact Senator Scutari's Office, I did not hear back from him, I contacted Senator Kennedy's Office and did not hear back from him, I contacted the State Clerk's Association and I spoke to the incoming president and he is supposed to meet with Senator Weinberg, really all that we are asking is not to have to give out the names and the addresses. If they want a block and lot and the amount that is due, that is fine, let them do the legwork, let them go online and not just that we have to provide a list of two hundred names.

Councilman Mazzarella: So, we are doing the legwork for them?

Township Clerk: We have to by law at this time.

Mayor Bonaccorso: The problem is that the Open Public Records Act, the person who wrote it (Senator) Weinberg should retire. You can turn around and ask the governor what you sold the CWA Contract for and he is not telling anybody, but we have to give out people's business. The other thing you have the other people that want to play council to be on elections that come under names like "Concerned Clark Citizen", looking into stuff, and the bottom line is if you want open public records, then put your name and your address, and give me your phone number, you are welcome to anything we have.

Township Clerk: Right, but at this time....

Mayor Bonaccorso: I worked in Government prior to being the Mayor of this town where when you asked for a document as a councilman you couldn't get it. You got the six-month run around before you got it, I remember that day. So, I am in favor of the transparency.

Township Clerk: As we are.

Mayor Bonaccorso: But the problem is the State Government does not have to comply, they could do what they want.

Township Clerk: Right.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Let me tell you something, there are people right now at the Mayor's Meeting that are saying...up in Berkeley Heights some people just want to bother the Clerk every day with it (OPRA) that they are having to go out and hire an OPRA person just to sit there and do the work every day in the Clerk's Office.

Township Clerk: Scotch Plains is the same way. We manage it, we have a system that we have come up with ourselves but it's constant. There is never a time that we don't have a request.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We have a 50% cap and towns have to go out and hire people to run around for this nonsense.

Councilwoman Albanese: I mean there are requests from all over the country that come in.

Council President Smith: It just doesn't make sense.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Delia, your concerns at the Public Meeting with the railroad and everything back there, no problems on anything. There was a Public Meeting and you asked if those things could be checked into, and we did, and everything was fine. The thing under the easement, the tunnel....

Delia Collins: (Inaudible).

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, it is all good. The manhole cover probably vibrates off when the train....
(Delia Collins: yes) I called the person, the contact that I had and I asked them if maybe they could bolt that down somehow and they said they would look into doing that, and then they asked how I knew about this stuff? I said one of my residents was back there and he said to please remind that person, I did not give your name or anything, that it is private property and to please not trespass. I said, "Well, I don't think it was trespassing, I think that she saw something and went to investigate it and brought it to our attention." I also said that if they don't want people on their property that they should take care of it, maintain it and it wouldn't happen. So at least your concerns are answered.

Delia Collins: Can I speak now?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Sure.

Delia Collins: Where that brook is...do they own that? Is that their property?

Mayor Bonaccorso: I believe so, right John?

Mr. Laezza: Yes.

Mayor Bonaccorso: That is what we are saying, yes.

Delia Collins: Okay. I am going to call because that trench back there where the water lays, I am going to call the Union County Mosquito people and have them go back and check because the more the water lays the more the mosquitos....

Mayor Bonaccorso: Sure, you should do that and they will spray it anyway which helps.

Delia Collins: I mean they do have someone who comes out about twice a year to cut the back down there.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Right. They told us that some of your neighbors are throwing stuff over the fence. So, if you see anybody doing it or you talk to anybody tell them not to do it. They said they are going to try and find out....

Council President Smith: Tell them to set a camera up.

Delia Collins: Well there are other people who do it at nighttime too, the trucks.

Mr. Laezza: Right.

Mayor Bonaccorso: They said a lot of stuff is right behind the fence line.

Delia Collins: Not by me.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, I know.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn
A motion to adjourn was made by Mazzarella, seconded by Albanese

ROLL CALL: All Ayes
Aye: Albanese, Barr, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

**COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ**

June 4, 2018

7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

Also, Present: John Laezza, Acting Mayor/Business Administrator; Mark Dugan, Acting Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: MOMENT OF SILENCE

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

DISCUSSION:

1. Collection and Disposal of Recycling beyond the current contract year

John Laezza: For the last six months or so we've been notified by our recycling contractor that the prices of recycling will more than triple next year. We have also been notified that there are a number of new rules and regulations in relationship to the recycle as to what can and what cannot be collected. So, in that regard I've been doing some research around, we've tried to get a ball park figure educated guess from our contractor, they weren't ready to put out any numbers. But they indicated that it would be well in excess of three hundred thousand dollars. We paid eighty-three thousand dollars now.

So, in that process I had some discussions with the Plainfield Municipal Utilities Authority and they came and met with myself, DPW, the Clerk, Scott, Pat and Jennifer and gave us how they work it and how it works with their facilities. It made sense to me that we get involved in an agreement with them. So, I asked them to go further and give us a proposal as to what their costs were. In your sheets you'll look at their proposal, they indicated on the cost that they will give us ninety-six-gallon container carts on wheels delivered to every homeowner. Those carts costs about two hundred and fifty-five thousand dollars. We have the option to buy them ourselves or have them do it. For us to buy it ourselves we have to go through an ordinance, advertising, and go out for bids. They will buy them and give it to us at cost. Deliver them to each of our homes, every homeowner in Clark will get one. The carts will be wheeled out to the curb a certain way, the trucks come along with an arm and pick it up, dump the recycling and then they are on their way. Their proposal's range from two hundred and thirty thousand six hundred and ninety-nine dollars plus the disposal's cost. Presently we dispose of about ten tons of recycling, ten to fourteen tons of recycling. If we stay at that rate it would be about two hundred and forty-three thousand. I think since every homeowner would be getting a cart and would be convenient for them to

recycle, they'll all be putting it out, so I believe our tonnage may go up to about thirty-nine thousand tons. So, I think this is a proposal for five years that will cost us about two hundred and seventy thousand dollars. This would be a good proposal.

Councilman Barr: With the carts that you saying everything has to be in there because I know our garbage collector has that where it picks up the cart. But now you have all the cardboard and the newspapers.

Councilman O'Connor: You have to break it down, you have to break the cardboard down.

John Laezza: You have to break the cardboard down but you don't have to put the cardboard in it, you can put the cardboard on the side.

Councilman Barr: That's what I was wondering.

John Laezza: They'll do an education program for our citizens.

Councilman Mazzearella: So once the container is filled, that's all they will pick up is just that one container.

John Laezza: Correct.

Councilman Mazzearella: Can the homeowners purchased another container if they wanted.

John Laezza: No.

Council President Smith: What size is the container?

John Laezza: They are ninety-six gallons.

Councilman O'Connor: So is the frequency is the same as it is, every two weeks.

John Laezza: well they do Wards 1 and 2 one week and Wards 3 and 4 the next week.

Councilman O'Connor: So, it's every one week.

John Laezza: Yes, it's every one week.

Councilman O'Connor: And then when you had said about twenty-nine/thirty thousand tons, correct.

John Laezza: Right

Councilman O'Connor: Ok perfect.

Councilman Toal: You are basically commingling everything now.

Council President Smith: You mentioned that our current contractor we're using said certain recyclables wouldn't be allowed, it's the same to be true.

John Laezza: The same would be true. Because basically the problem is recyclable material is collected in the United States and shipped to China and China doesn't want to refuse anymore.

Councilman Barr: Plastic bags they don't want.

Councilman Mazzarella: To answer Brian's question when he said it's comingled, in the past the recycling you were allowed to put Styrofoam in there and all types of bottles. Now it's restrictive to certain number of plastic bottles.

John Laezza: That information will be put on every can.

Councilman Toal: And your start for this.

John Laezza: January 1.

Councilman O'Connor: So, the only other question that I have is when they do the collection of Clark, is it going to be comingled with Plainfield or are we going to be kept separately so when and if there's an issue with contaminated goods, will they be able to determine who did it or are we going to have to share in on the fines as well.

John Laezza: They have three disposable places, one in Kearny and one outside of Perth Amboy, Keasby. And they are thinking of building their own collection facility.

Councilman Mazzarella: They are transferred station, right?

John Laezza: Right.

Councilman Toal: Are there any other surrounding communities that are following the same suit, same approach to this.

John Laezza: They do Fanwood now. They probably won't do anymore because they could only handle five thousand.

Councilman Mazzarella: One other question. On Giordano's, did they offer any explanation on why it went to so much.

John Laezza: They have a disposable place themselves, that disposable place is filled because they can't get rid of it. And basically, they are going to have to find a place to travel to dispose it, the costs are going up. In fact, Giordano's just sent us a notice out that if you have plastic bags in your recycling they will just dump them out.

Councilman Mazzarella: Good job researching that cost.

Council President Smith: The cost of these recycle bins of what they are paying for and charging us for it, am I reading this correctly that it's going to be paid for over five years.

John Laezza: Five years.

Council President Smith: And they after that comes off.

John Laezza: That comes off correct.

Council President Smith: But I'm sure the price of recycling at that point will go up but...

John Laezza: But you may have to replace some of those cans.

Council President Smith: Correct. But if they could be a fifty-one thousand savings in five years but the odds are there will be some expenses in the cost...

John Laezza: On no there keeping all their labor costs and everything static for those five years.

Council President Smith: For five years, right, but I'm saying after the fifth year whatever it's going to be...so it's basically a five-year contract.

John Laezza: Yes, five-year contract.

Township Clerk: Can I just add. They also said one of the advantages is that it would be an interlocal services agreement as oppose to a company that is in business to make a profit. So that if they have any cost that go down, they pass that onto the township. Whereas if the for-profit company has cost that go down, they just go woo hoo. So, in that regard you know there's some chance that we could save a little bit more.

John Laezza: We can go out to bid and see what comes in. Once again if you go out to bid, right now I would say we do not service five thousand homes. We'll probably service at least four thousand homes because the carts will be there. Because right now it's if you want to recycle they put it out, not everybody puts out recycling.

Councilman Mazarella: I think we should pursue it.

Council President Smith: I agree.

John Laezza: Ok thank you, we'll go through the process.

Council President Smith: Before we go on to resolutions.

Township Clerk: I was just going to say it. (Council President Smith: it slipped in there) Right, I didn't want to change the agenda. Everybody got this that the Chief is going to be doing a presentation at the June 18th meeting. I don't know if you want to talk about it at all Chief?

Police Chief Matos: So last year myself and the Juvenile Bureau began looking into drug awareness programs that we wanted to bring into the high school. At this point we don't have any kind of drug awareness program at the high school level. So, we then settled on bringing the (tape inaudible) program which is basically out of Manchester Township in South Jersey. Part of creating that program is creating a video, some of your might have seen already where Jose Lanza who works for the DPW volunteered to share his story video, his son's addiction and his son's death. Once we decided on doing that, I reached out to a friend of mine who (tape inaudible – someone coughing) and explained to what I was trying to do and what it would cost and his company nearly jumped on board and said absolutely, we in, we'll do it, whatever it takes. These two individuals along with the company they traveled with us to Lanza's house, they did the videos, they videoed taped a portion of me, they edited, sound edited the whole entire video and when I approached them and I said "I need to pay you guys, you guys have to charge me something." And they basically said no, absolutely not, not for this, we don't want anything, we're just glad we're able to help. (tape inaudible) who just happens to be my cousin, that's why I reached out to him. His partner who's from Rutherford had really no stake in this but they he decided to help us out of course no cost to the township, so I was at least going to do something to recognize him and present him with a plaque.

Councilman Mazzearella: That's great, sure.

Council President Smith: That sounds awesome. Thank you for persuading that, it's a great idea.

RESOLUTIONS:

2. **Council as the ABC Board:** Authorizing the annual renewal of the Alcoholic Beverage Licenses for the 2018-2019 Term

Discussion:

Township Clerk: I'm just going to say that we have a number who are not in compliance as of this date. So, they will get a fair warning tomorrow that they need to comply.

Council President Smith: The ones that are pending.

Township Clerk: Those are the ones that are still pending. And if they don't comply they will not be on the resolution.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Mazzearella Second: Hund

3. Authorizing the purchase of an emergency generator for the Broadway Firehouse through State Contract in the amount of \$48,275.00

Discussion:

Councilman Mazzearella: I have a question. I thought they had one there.

John Laezza: It's not functioning.

Councilman Mazzarella: It's not functioning. What are they going to do with the one they have?

John Laezza: They probably are going to junk it.

Councilman Mazzarella: Just junk it, they won't get anything for it, they can't get it refurbished.

Councilman Barr: Recycle

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Councilman Barr Second: O'Connor

4. Authorizing a Bond Reduction for Vincenzo Court to an amount sufficient to guarantee completion of construction

Township Clerk: I'm waiting for final word from the engineer.

John Laezza: The engineer basically already told me that this is fine.

Township Clerk: So, we'll have a specific number in time for the...

Councilman Mazzarella: This is a performance bond reduction.

John Laezza: Yes.

Councilman Mazzarella: But that will still stay until they are completed and then it goes to maintenance. (John Laezza: correct)

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: O'Connor Second: Mazzarella

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

5. Seeking approval of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the amount of \$25,470.00 for the Level the Playing Field Grant
6. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$2,395.00
7. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of Sewer Fees in the amount of \$1,226.66

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on the Consent Agenda

Mover: Toal Second: Hund

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Council President Smith opens the meeting to the public

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia St.: Mr. Laezza on an issue with PUMA in Plainfield, they do have a facility on Rock Avenue in (tape inaudible) Greenbrook and Plainfield where you can bring certain items and I think that's open to anyone who comes in there. It's like downtown Rahway you (tape inaudible – due to someone ripping paper) and tells you how much you owe. Would that be something that might be considered that there will be no question/questions to bring items there or if we do bulky pickup.

John Laezza: I can check with them.

Delia Collins: Yeah because I've heard it that you can go...

John Laezza: This is only recycling.

Councilman O'Connor: I think you're about transfer station back in the day.

Delia Collins: You can go there and dump not washing machines but couches and things like that.

John Laezza: We do drop our bulky to them, that's where our bulky goes. We have an interlocal service agreement for our bulky with them.

Delia Collins: Oh okay, so maybe that can...well recycle we don't have the bulky pick up.

John Laezza: Yeah if anybody wants to drive to Plainfield, it would be my pleasure.

Delia Collins: Also, just to make you aware of the issue at Associated Humane. Roseanne Trezza is no longer the Director and there's a new gentleman that's come in and we all hope that he will change it and make it better and he'll have watchful eyes over him.

Councilman O'Connor: She's no longer because she was removed or she resigned.

Delia Collins: I was trying to look that up right now and she didn't resign, she's still involved but she's not the Director.

Councilman O'Connor: Okay.

Council President Smith: Thank you for that information.

Seeing no one else coming forward Council President Smith asked for a motion to close the public portion of the meeting

Motion: Barr Second Toal

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS

John Laezza: No comments.

Councilman Barr: I just want to say that the Parade finally turned out and it went very well.

Councilman Hund: No comments.

Councilman Mazzarella: Again, thank you John for Lake Avenue and please extend my thanks to the Mayor as well. And to the Chief, it's very good that you are doing something like that for our students, thank you very much.

Councilman O'Connor: Al thanks for all of your hard work on the Parade.

Council Toal: Tonight, I was going to be bringing before the Council for your consideration a proclamation and resolution to honor one of our own who has been in Clark for over seventy plus years. He's known through us by in the halls out here with his photograph, he was a photographer for many years and he's a longtime resident. He did all the aerial photography that's out in the walls. I was going to honor Carl Frank and ask you to give a presentation to him because he just turned 97. Unfortunately, he has a higher appointment now, the Good Lord called him home on Thursday afternoon, Clark First Aid Squad and Police were there for me and the family wants to express their deepest appreciation to the responders for being there on several times when he fell. Carl dies of a stroke, his wife and his daughters who just happen to be neighbors of our Clerk in Cranford who also are photographers but a lot of the photos on our walls were taken by Carl. He went up in aerial photograph cart in 1954, 1966, 1978, 1985 and then I paid him in 2000 to fly over Clark and do aerial photographs which we have. We tried to get the town every ten to fifteen years and see the changes on the photographs as a community as well as historical research. Carl was always there for us and him and Robbie Lerner (Robbie's Clark Camera) were inseparable. Clark has lost a true landmark citizen and a dear friend of mine and this community. We will miss him.

Township Clerk: Go out and vote tomorrow.

Police Chief Matos: I think there was a larger crowd than usual at the Parade this year. Thanked Councilman Barr for his hard work. We have made a decision of the individual that we are going to hire. I'll be bringing him to town hall to see the Mayor tomorrow morning, I expect great things from him and I guess his swearing in will be July 2nd and he'll start the Academy on the 13th. He's young, I think he's 23.

Councilman Mazzarella: Where's he from?

Police Chief Matos: He's originally from Berkeley Height's.

Council President Smith: Fantastic. A great job with the Parade.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

Aye: Barr, Hund, Mazarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
July 2, 2018
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

Also, Present: Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Mark Dugan, Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dispensed

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

- 1. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK IN PARTICULAR CHAPTER 57 ENTITLED "SEWERAGE AUTHORITY" AND CHAPTER 279 ENTITLED "SEWERS"**

Discussion:

Councilman Mazzarella: Can I ask John to advise Council of the importance of this?

Mr. Laezza: Yes. Basically, in the late 90's, the Township of Clark had to put out a bond issue to buy sewer rights from the Bough of Garwood. They put out that money so that they could accommodate developers and builders of properties in the town since we did not have enough sewer compacity to go down to the Rahway River Sewerage Authority to allow buildings to be built. Each of the eleven communities in the RVSA have a limited amount of sewer rights as granted by the RVSA. We are getting near the end of the sewer rights that we have available, I think that we have less than 400 million gallons of sewer rights available.

If a developer comes in and wants to build in our community and we have the wherewithal to allow them to build, they have to determine that we have sufficient sewer rights to accommodate that building. If we are out of sewer rights that developer has to seek new sewer rights from someplace. That is what this Ordinance says, they would have to acquire the sewer rights. The ordinance that we are under with the other eleven/ten municipalities, in that case that the only people that can acquire sewer rights is one member from another member. So, the developers cannot ascertain and go to Garwood to buy sewer rights to use in Clark or any place. The way I have written the phrase in this written in this ordinance is that we would accommodate them to buy the sewer rights, but

that developer would have to reimburse us immediately for the cost that we have spent plus over and above the cost that we determine that we have to pay for those sewer rights. So, before we sent a moratorium on building we would have a wherewithal the developer wants to build, we would have to first make sure that he has those sewer rights to go in there, that is what this ordinance says.

Councilman Mazzearella: I might add that the Mayor Sal agreed to have me present this ordinance to the Sewerage Authority and Commissioners there. I can say that the majority of the commissioners brought it to their towns and they are doing exactly what we are doing. They created an ordinance that mimics our ordinance so they can purchase the flow rights also. This is a very, very big issue. You just have so many gallons that goes into the sewer system and if there is no more then there is a moratorium like John said. The Mayor was very gracious permitting me to present it to the other communities and they took it overwhelmingly and they went to their communities and they created their own ordinance that mimics ours. That is very important.

Councilwoman Albanese: I have a question. So, we have 400 million gallons of sewer rights left, how much is the RVSA capacity have for all of the communities that want to go back and forth in buying....?

Councilman Mazzearella: That was originated in 1951....

Mr. Laezza: Basically, there are some communities that were created.... I mean Cranford was created and they were given at the outset 20 million gallons, I think they have used 8 or 9 million, they have sold 2 million to Mountainside, so they are making money on it. Garwood had a vast array of units and they have sold to Clark, they have been selling to other people, I think they are selling more to Springfield now. So, there are a lot of units available, I think the RVSA can accommodate 150 million of gallons per day automatically and they are not near that criteria, so they still have sufficiency to get in more.

Councilman Mazzearella: So, the issue here is not the capacity of the Sewerage Authority, the issue is the sizing of the pipes of each community, because you can only put X number of gallons in that pipe, otherwise the alternative is increase the size of the pipes. That would be extremely astronomical in price.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, Frank that is true, I agree with what you are saying but I am just going to play devil's advocate for a minute. So, everybody in Clark flushes at one time the sewer pipe is full, that is not the case.

Councilman Mazzearella: They work on peak capacity....

Mayor Bonaccorso: I know that.

Mr. Laezza: Basically....

Mayor Bonaccorso: I think that whole sewer rights are a scam anyway.

Mr. Laezza: The whole sewer rights were a scam, the whole RVSA was a scam, but we are stuck with it and the DEP controls it.

Mayor Bonaccorso: In the meantime, the Legislatures that sit in Trenton have no problem with towns overdeveloping, apartment units to accommodate affordable housing. Scotch Plains: 3,000 apartments, okay? So, I mean, take that for one town. Look what we had to agree too. But the Legislature in Trenton who have the answers to everything does not even begin to look at the sewerage problem, they let a court decide.

Councilman Mazzearella: Sal is right, 100% right. For 26 years on the Sewerage Authority I have argued to throw out the flow rights because I thought it was arbitrary because it singles out particular towns, but in order to change that you have to have that. How our charter is written, you have to have 100% affirmative vote to change it and that will never happen. So, we are dealt with this, so what do we do?

Councilwoman Albanese: When you say throw out, in other words, no one would have any other commitments, you just pay as you go?

Councilman Mazzearella: You just pay for what you use.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We have a moratorium on building here back in 1988, right Brian?

Councilman Toal: The first year that you were in office.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, prior to Brian.

Councilman Toal: Prior to that was in 1986.

Mayor Bonaccorso: 1986, 1988, something like that.

Councilman Toal: Short term, it was for 6 months, that was it.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, then they had flow rights.

Councilman Toal: Yes.

Councilman Mazzearella: Again, Clark was very unique in the settlement because whatever monies that go to penalties was to rehabilitate our infrastructure. Damn good job doing that.

Councilman Barr: I have a question. John was talking about when they build a house, do they estimate how much each house uses?

Councilwoman Albanese: Yes, you have too.

Mr. Laezza: Bathrooms and people.

Councilman Mazzarella: Our Attorney was a commissioner at the Sewerage Authority too, so he knows what I am talking about.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance
Mover: Mazzarella Second: Barr

RESOLUTIONS:

2. Authorizing the Business Administrator to enter into a contract with Inservco Insurance Services as the claims servicing organization in the amount of \$6,190.00 beginning August 1, 2018 thru December 31, 2018 and \$14,858.00 annually until December 31, 2021

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: Council President and Members of Council this our Risk Management portion of our insurance, where they review all of our claims, and get the best prices for us out of them.

Councilman Toal: We are still self-insured right?

Mr. Laezza: We are self-insured (Councilman Toal: I still wanted to make sure). Their contract ends on July 31st, they wanted a three-year contract going to 2021, they wanted a percentage of increase in each year up to 2021. I wanted to make sure that it worked through our budget so I made a deal with them after I reviewed what they wanted, I reviewed what we would pay and this is a culmination of negotiations that will have a fixed fee for three years at \$14,858.00. We are presently paying \$14,565.00, but the way they had it we would have been paying something like \$16,000.00, in 2021, so we came up with a steady contract, a five-month contract to finish this year, and then a three-year contract for the next three years.

Councilwoman Albanese: I have a question on that, so what is the scope of their work? If an employee gets injured and now they file a worker's compensation claim, where they fill out the paperwork, what do they do exactly?

Mr. Laezza: They send them to the doctors, they pay those doctor bills, the doctor sends them a bill for \$1,000.00, they review the case and they say, "Dr. that is very nice but we are only going to pay you \$400.00", then they get a commission above us to ultimately pay them.

Councilwoman Albanese: So, it is beyond the JIF, the JIF doesn't do anything with those claims? How do they work together?

Mr. Laezza: Basically, they come to all of the JIF meetings, we go over everybody's claims, then we authorized the payment of those claims. But they are protecting us as to what (inaudible due to talking) (Councilwoman Albanese: They are our advocate) they are our third-party advocate.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Barr

Second: O'Connor

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

3. Authorizing the Tax Collector to complete a contract to participate in an electronic tax sale

Discussion: None

4. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$2,150.00

Discussion: None

5. Seeking approval of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the Recycling Enhancement Grant

Discussion:

Councilwoman Albanese: I have a question, is that a matching grant?

Mr. Laezza: No.

Councilwoman Albanese: That is a new one right, this year?

Mr. Laezza: Correct.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you.

6. Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a lease agreement with the Union County Educational Services Commission for use of the gyms in the Municipal Building from September 2018 through June 2019

Discussion: None

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on the Consent Agenda

Motion: Toal

Second: O'Connor

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Seeing no one come forward Council President asked for a motion to adjourn
A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Toal

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzearella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: I had a great meeting last Friday, a week ago Friday, with the Union County Manager and seven or eight of his people about the dredging of the reservoir.

Councilman Toal: Outstanding.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We had a walk down to the Featherbed Lane Bridge and behind the Firehouse. It is a thirty-million-dollar project.

Councilman Toal: That is cheap.

Mayor Bonaccorso: That is cheap? Thirty-million dollars?

Councilman Toal: It was supposed to be Twenty-million from the Deutscher Club up to the Raritan Road Bridge.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It is the whole thing.

Councilman Toal: That is nice.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thirty-million. They are going to accompany..... it is kind of wild when I heard this story.... called Green Vest, they are an environmental company who will pay to dredge it, or work on it, because they are still at that stage, so we are going to say "work", dredge is what we want but "work", I will get to that conversation, so bear with me. What they do is they get environmentally impact areas of wetlands and waterways where builders want to build throughout the State and there are more builders waiting on line then they have bodies of water. They have to repair three acres for every one acre that they get okay? So, they are going to be doing work up at Galloping Hill Golf Course. Not only do they work on the reservoir on the body of water and take care of it, they then upkeep it in perpetuity. So technically, the Freeholder Board is not writing a check for thirty million dollars, nor is Clark Township writing the check for thirty million dollars. They are going out to this company Green Vest. They had a meeting with them Friday, at one o'clock, and they are interested in the project, they are going to start doing preliminary hydraulic testing, as they call it, they said that maybe dredging is the answer, or maybe it is not. I said, "time out" to the County. They said that the reservoir used to be a creek (Councilman Toal: Correct) I said that I did not know when it was a creek but since 1960, that I have been in this town it has been a reservoir. We need the capacity for flooding, need the capacity to make sure that when we have those big events even though it still always overflows, that we have the area. Right now, in certain areas of the reservoir you can walk right across it. I mean it nothing compared to back when

we grew up here. If you look at both side of the Featherbed Lane Bridge it is becoming a creek. You have a big rain event you are going to have a major problem in there, but, with that being said, I am not going to start sitting here debating people on what's right and wrong until I see what the proposal is. They are going to do work up at Galloping Hill for the County, they did four bodies of water in Middlesex County that turned out to be very good. This company is basically very good down in Trenton, they know their way around DEP, they know their way around Green Acres, they go after certain grant money, there is grant money down there right now that they go after and they raise their money from selling points as they call it to the builders. So, this is a very, very, very good thing that I think is going to happen. As I hear more guys, I will let you know. Right now, they are interested, they are going to do some preliminary testing.

Councilman O'Connor: No timelines, right?

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, not yet Pat, it is too early buddy, you know. Then they are going to come back to the County, but I had all of the County bigwigs there, they were terrific, great to work with on.... They said, "look at this place, absolutely have to do something". So, they jumped right on it. They actually liked the reservoir to be a very clean, operable reservoir because they would like to add some recreational opportunities down the road on boating and stuff. You know, that is for another day, probably a few years away, but they also say that there are a lot of schools looking for a place to do crewing and things of that nature, so that might be a nice aspect to it. We brought up the old conversation of when the prior mayor was going to put recreational aspect around there with walking paths, and fishing piers. They kind of said, "what ever happened to that?" I said, "well, I killed it when I became Mayor", they asked why, and I said, "well, let's think about this, you have a walking path down on Featherbed Lane up too Raritan Road with a fishing pier, little Johnny goes to fishing pier with Grandpa, Grandpa has a heart attack, it could definitely happen. I am not being far-fetched now. Do you want little six-year-old Johnny running up to the street waving a car down?" I said, "number two, when the brush, and sticker bushes, and Poison Ivy start coming on the walking paths we need DPW down there right to cut and clean it back. They said, "you are right", I said, "what about the Clark Police, how are they going to know who is down on the pier at night getting high, doing whatever". They are going to have to get out of the car and start walking the reservoir at night? There is a public safety hazard to it. They said, "Do you know what, great thinking, I don't blame you, I would not have done it either" So anything that they do would be more confined to an area, that police will be able to pull up and look at, it is not going to be this whole crazy stuff that they try and put through here. So that worked out very well, so I will keep you guys up to date on that as soon as I hear more.

Councilman Mazzearella: In that whole scheme of things when they review it, are they going to also encompass that area that I just mentioned before on the back of your mom's house that's like an island right now?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well, I don't know about that Frank. Growing up my father always said to me, "the reservoir ended there and this is Robinson's Branch over here. So, I don't know how far they are going to go. That island in back of my mother's house that you are talking about, (Councilman Mazzearella: yes) that was a good island growing up because back before the snowflake, left wing, "I love every insect and every piece of Poison Ivy" got a voice in Trenton, they used to dredge the reservoir every two or three years. What they did was empty it out, there

is a little creek in the middle, and they would take two bulldozers and go in and push all of that silt up, and a pile of it would always end up behind my mother's house, it didn't smell or nothing. We actually used to have dirt bomb fights when we were kids throwing them at each other. That was our entertainment, we didn't have Fort Apache and all these games, you threw rocks at each other and played baseball. But with all that being said, and they would push it up on the banks and then we would get done, and they would throw it back in. When it was dredged we would run out there, where the snags were and get our lures off of the branches, and it was fun! It was fun, when they dredged that reservoir. But today, with all the fruitcakes running around Trenton worrying about every insect that is in the world, and every microorganism, we would rather have people flood. You know, the hell with people, let's worry about a tree, a flower, and a microorganism. I still worry about people first. They come before anything else in my book. So, like I said that is part of it. That is why we are getting taxed out of New Jersey, because of the Environmentalist. I believe in clean water and clean air and all of that stuff, we absolutely need it but there is a limit to everything.

Councilwoman Albanese: What does that mean, repair three acres for whatever they get? What does that mean?

Mr. Laezza: If a builder wants to build a factory on one acre of land that is in a flood plain, he has to find an area of three acres that he can clean up before he is allowed to build on that one.

Councilwoman Albanese: They fund the project?

Mr. Laezza: They fund the project, yes.

Mayor Bonaccorso: According to the County, they have builders lined up throughout this State that are looking to write checks to get their projects moving. That is a great thing, and I am going to tell you something, you know in Government everybody takes a beating when the tax bill goes out, no matter is it goes up a little or goes up a lot. The County Freeholders have taken a beating over the years too, but I have to give them credit on this project, (inaudible due to coughing) good outside the box thinking to come up with something like this. That is a big check for people to write, 30 million dollars, that is why when I told you back then I was selling the reservoir for \$1, I said that this day would come and Clark could not afford it.

Councilman O'Connor: Again Sal, I just want to say thank you to you and the County and the BA for this, as you know my ward backs up against the reservoir and I am sure, as Brian says as well, that they have been asking for this for a long time (Council President Smith: a long time) and they have been waiting, and it sounds like we are making some progress, and again, I would like to thank the County Freeholders for their out of the box thinking like you said.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Do you know Pat when you think about a thirty-million-dollar project, we are talking about a Police Station here in Clark that could be three or four million dollars or whatever the number is in that range, you know, two million dollars' worth of repairs and you have to make that decision as a Mayor and Council to say should we be spending the extra money, verses throwing good money after bad money, you have to look at everything. You kind of say, "okay", John set our financing up to where our tax bill is not going to skyrocket, it is going to get paid off

over time, it won't hurt the community, but even if they had a right, even if they had to do that project in three phases, ten million each time, that is a hell of a lot of money on a body of water that really no one is using it. To be honest when we first came to the building we looked at the heating and electrical and John said to me, "Mayor, we really should fix this" I said, "John, how much"? It is about three million. I said, "John, we could fix it and feel good about it, but the people out there are getting the benefit too it technically. I would rather take that three million and pave roads and fix playgrounds and do things like that first. Remember John, we used to talk about all the time, it was the right thing to do. So, when you are telling people the County, "if" they had to write a check for thirty million, they will look at you and say, "For a body of water, who cares, who cares? I know that I would say that. But like I said this is a real good way to go about it and Clark certainly could not afford this, ever. So, it was a good meeting, they are good guys, they are great to work with, I enjoy it, there is never a Republican and Democratic line between them and I. I have built a great relationship with Union County and I appreciate their friendship and we have a good time when we get together. We did a lot of business talk over lunch and we did a lot of busting and some fun also.

Councilman Toal: Just really quick, the revivor goes back to the beginning of time and then it was in 1907, when they then went from a brook. If you look at photo number 8, next to Schieferstein, on the left-side of that is the original reservoir, it was a brook and it went all the way to the center of town. Over time silt built up, the worst part being in the 2nd ward, which is behind the Mayor's mom and along the Deutscher Club, that is the worst. We have the DEP and the Army Corp of Engineer look at it in 2010, he came back with twenty million dollars for the first section and another twenty.... he was up to sixty million dollars, for the entire length of the reservoir, that was the number that they were saying that it would cost. When we had our Environmental Meeting, they came in. That was ten years ago, God only knows what it is going to be now, I hope it is a reasonable number. We need to expedite and get that because it is filling in down near you (the Mayor), your house.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Brian, if you remember, and Pat, growing up in Clark, if you went to the Featherbed Lane Bridge in a Sunday, in January and you looked at both sides towards my mother's house and then towards Raritan Road there were 70-80 people ice skating out there. It was just a beautiful body of water, I mean, again guys, we grew up in a different time, I spent my summers in my backyard with my buddies' fishing and we caught some trout once in a blue moon, perch, carps, sonnies, bass, all of that. We went, every winter because it was cold then, and we played iced hockey on that reservoir every day after school and all day on the weekends. When you came in at night your ankles were swollen from being on skates all day. It was a fun place to grow up on the reservoir. One of the nicest things that I can say growing up in Clark was having a house by the reservoir because we did so many things on it. Today, it is terrible, it is hard to fish back there, the water is not deep. It used to be in back of my mother's house, I would say about 10-15 feet deep in the middle, and off the bridges, same thing. Now you could almost walk through it off the bridges, and they have beautiful bass down there, and a lot of great fishing opportunity out here. Who know maybe someday if they clean it, maybe it would be a place where they can stock for trout season (Councilman Toal: Why not?) because there are some beautiful fish in that water to fish in (Councilman Mazzarella: It would be nice) The one fellow that you and I were talking to the other day Chief, at the golf course with Gerard, he lives over by Frances Drive, and he was

saying that he sits on his deck and just watches big bass jump all the time. So, it could be nice, that is all that I have on that.

4th of July fireworks we will be here at 9:00 or 9:15pm depending on the sky, we will have to take a look at the sky that night to see.....sometimes it goes off as late as 9:30pm, I have seen them go off. So that will be here. The Chief is ready for this event, they have everything covered.

Today we had no parking out in front of the building for summer camp, it worked out very well. Our police department made a recommendation to me for safety, last year there was two cars that hit mirrors, two different times and they believe that it was a matter of time before a child got run over. I have to agree with that, it was mayhem out here as you know. They parked out here, they walked in, you know our millennials are having a problem with understanding that everything is not done in a (snap of finger), sometimes you have to park and walk to ensure your child's safety and that is for a camp that you get babysitting for six or seven weeks for \$35.00, for the summer. That is the best deal in the United States, for what we offer down there.

Ralph came into our office today and he was very upset and outraged that someone did a number 2, in the Clark pool. He had to close the pool for 24 hours. Again, like I said to Ralph if you find out what mother did not diaper their kid take their membership and toss them, that is how people learn. Like Ralph said, one of the hottest days of the year, people are enjoying the pool, and some kid probably just let it go. People don't follow the rules.

Guys let me tell you something, the only thing that I am going to say about this town negative that I will say, I love this town, I grew up here, I live here, I love you guys, I have worked with you for many years, and the citizens of this town, as Mayor, have treated me very well, and I have tried my hardest to treat them well, the one problem that we have in this town is people don't want to follow rules, they just don't care, they just don't care! You know we are not a "police town" where every little move you have a cop pulling up behind you, or Code Enforcers there writing tickets, we try not to be that way. What do we tell our new police officers before we swear them in, we are swearing one in at the next meeting, I swore him in today, be good to our residents, if you can give them a break, give them a break every time, they are good people, they pay your salary, we have good people here. When it come to this branch thing it is starting to get my goat now because DPW goes by the streets are clean, the next day they are throwing them back out (branches), I mean come on guys. Even if it was throw them out on the third week and they threw them out at the end of the second week, no one is going to say a word about that, so what. You know what, the guy was off on Friday and he threw them out, what is the difference if he did it Saturday or Sunday the start of the third week. I am not going to complain. Think about it today if you are at the Clark pool with your family and you are enjoying the beautiful 100-degree day by the pool and all of a sudden, some kid drops a Baby Ruth out of his pants and the next thing you know, there you go.

Councilwoman Albanese: Do we know it was a kid?

Mayor Bonaccorso: I don't know. That is all I have. I will see you guys at the fireworks, it will be a great night, we will have a lot of fun again. Thank you, guys.

Councilwoman Albanese: Nothing in particular. I want to the Chamber of Commerce Meeting at Kerry and they are going to be inviting us to a grand opening they are going to be having, so we will see the invitation as soon as the assistant gets trained on how to approach a Politian. I mean they have done a lot, I was not able to stay for the tour, I had a meeting, but I can see from the outside, they have done a lot. They have built laboratories for flavor testers. New Jersey obviously has a lot of good scientists, and it is a good thing for out community.

Councilman Barr: Basically, it is a great town and we do care about the people.

Councilman Hund: I am not sure if anyone saw but the people did not listen to your decree of no plastic bags for recycling yesterday.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Again?

Councilman Hund: Oh yeah. If you drive around.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Let me interrupt you Councilman, we did go out last pick up, the next day with our own trucks and picked up all the plastic bags, because even though we put it on the webpage, social media, and this and that, we said, "okay, maybe everyone didn't hear" so you know what? I told DPW to get out and pick up the bags, and they did.

Councilman O'Connor: I don't mean to interrupt Sal but you also talked about it a lot on tv for our meeting as well.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes.

Councilwoman Albanese: But they put out a bag of bags?

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, plastic garbage bags with recyclables in it. Shame on the company, Giordano, they were never supposed to take it like that but they did. I will be honest with you, I did it in front of my house, I would fill up a garbage bag with bottles or cans, throw it out there, and they always took it, because I saw other people doing it. This is years now going by. I have to be honest, I read it on the sign, we got the new sign put up out there "no plastic bags" I went, "oh, no plastic bags" I went home and said to Geraldine, don't put anything in plastic bags, you can't do it anymore because I forgot also. So, I said to pick them up (to the DPW), this time it is on them they are going to have to put them in their own trash can. So, if you get called on it Steve, you could just tell them that two weeks ago I was posted all over, and if you didn't see it fine, the town went out and picked it up to be a good town, to help the citizens, and this time, sorry. Put it in the trash can and we will take it next time they come.

Councilman Hund: I saw in the recycling cans, plastic bags.

Councilman Toal: Really?

Councilman Mazzarella: Thank you for being on top of that reservoir thing, it is very important.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It has been a few years trying to get their attention and it worked.

Councilman O'Connor: This Sunday coming up is the Waterson Valor Ride at the Deutscher Club, I believe I forgot to say that it was at the Deutscher Club at the last meeting.

Happy 4th of July, I know Brain is going to touch on the Waterson.... Have a great time.

Look Twice, Save a Life, motorcycle riders and bicycles.

Councilman Toal: When you leave the room tonight there is Billy Waterson's photo. He went on duty that night, drove around with Richie Rider, simple routine. Then something went down and he didn't come home, he is still out on watch. His sister is in town, I see her all the time in Shoprite.

PBA 125, has the wreath laying and it is just a couple of simple words.

Councilman Toal: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes sir.

Councilman Toal: With regard to this proposal for a new police station, let me just give you a little back story.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Go ahead.

Councilman Toal: Historical. Very quickly. I am going to do this on tv with photographs. I will keep it short. In 1984, Bernie Yarusavage was running for reelection and the police department had pressured him because the police officers were changing in the hallway. You bring a prisoner in and they are out in their lockers and everything was in the hallway, it was a cluster of blank, it was a mess. As that time, they decided to.....do we put a new building up? When the building was put up in 1958, it took 5 years to get the township to come up with the funding and they went on public referendum, sorry Sal, they did.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Oh, they can, it doesn't mean we would.

Councilman Toal: They did and the people said, absolutely. It took five years from 1954 to 1958, they built a new building, they took down what was noting but a patch of woods next to the high school. The high school went in first, the building behind you is the original 1949 building then they added the back to it. They took the smoke stack off and they added the back to it. They said that they would keep the firehouse here and we will add another building to it behind, which is the building that is there now. That building was only supposed to last until 1986-1987, 25 years.

Councilman Toal continues to discuss the history on how the Police Department came to fruition.

What happens to the Public Works Department? That is my question, will there be enough room there?

Mayor Bonaccorso: It will be fine.

Councilman Toal: You have to expand backwards you are putting your building back towards the Public Works. Will there be enough room there?

Mr. Laezza: You will be fine.

Councilman Toal: If you are expanding backwards you are putting your building closer to the Public Works.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We are not losing a thing buddy, the parking we lose in the back we are going to put it in the front, that is for the court and basically the citizens. You will see when the plans get drawn.

Councilman Toal: That is why planners....

Mayor Bonaccorso: Let me answer your questions they are good questions, they are good questions.

Councilman Toal: Thank you.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Brian, I am serious they are good questions and deserve answers. The gas pumps we believe are not going to be a problem because the Chief and I first went out and measured that, it is actually a smaller building then what we have now, okay? Length wise. We accommodated that, we accommodated, do you know where the stone is in back of the parking lot next to the gas pumps? (Councilman Toal: I know where you are at). We will have additional police parking there, the range is not a problem, the DPW is not a problem. We are going to clear up the nasty exit and egress at the high school coming out. The one thing that I will say, why I happen to really like this Chief and his men that we have. They didn't pressure, they didn't ask. I went there one day with him and I looked around and I said that the place was a damn pig pen. We have to get this repaired. We didn't put any money into it guys, really. Over 18 years I am here, and 24 years that I am in Government, Ellenport didn't have a dime to put in anywhere. So, I said to the Chief these bathrooms.....and they weren't, when I say a pig sty because of his men or the way there were leaving them, it was disgusting.

Councilman O'Connor: We got a taste of it when we went on tour before the Council meeting.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You know if you really want to be fair to the police department, they kept their mouth shut, they lived in that building and did a good job for us, we put money into this building (municipal building). Now Brian, here is the answer to your question we put the 10,000 square foot library addition on and that really made our library. Maybe we should have thought about it then. Here is the problem, we had so many other "needs" in this town, including our municipal building, including the parks and playgrounds that we all built together, the recreation center, the gyms, I mean that end of the building....

Mr. Laezza: In 2000, when I moved into this building it was a pig sty.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It was deplorable, it really was. I wouldn't let my dogs go to the bathroom down in the Rec Center that is how bad it was. Again, guys too, when I tell you about John and I are here and I think you know our track record of running jobs the right way, we are not, and the Chief is not asking for Granite counter tops, and bidets in the bathrooms, and steam showers, all they are saying is give us a normal bathroom that is functionable. I mean we are going to put a little kitchen area in there, right now they have to eat at their desks. Which is really not conducive to running a business. If they want to heat up a can of soup, they can go to the microwave, they don't even have that there. So not that I want to get into that spending this money so that they could heat up soup in the wintertime, but I mean it is just normal living what they are looking for. When you see the Chiefs plan you are going to see a very functional, well thought out police department. John and I said to him that you have to live there, not us, go draw the plan if you want to. He drew it because it is his building. Now, let's talk about some other things because in my opinion growing up in Clark, Clark was always short sided. It was always about the dollar that we couldn't get streets paved here at one time years ago, we didn't have a real recreation program here because we were always worried about that was going to raise the budget. Raise the budget but give people something that they can use. It is going to work for the town. Don't raise the budget and give them nothing or take things away. That is my theory of government. Now, you look at that time when we were looking at all of the buildings, the library, there was a big grant out there and the Democrats voted the grant down it was over half a million dollars, and that was when the people came out in 2002, and threw them all out of office and they demanded a mandate that we build the library. We did, and it is a very, very good thing. Here is where I was making a point at right now guys, being short sided, let's think down the road in Clark 10, 15, 20 years from now, you now have the Clark Commons, you know have Senior Housing, two beautiful things that were put in this town. The Chief has explained to me that both of those area have raised his calls for service. The seniors are for medical calls basically, the commons are a lot of petty little things or fender benders, lots of fender benders. We are now on the board that eventually they are going to put apartment building across the street from the Holiday Inn.

By the way, the other news I forgot, the A&P is under contract on Westfield Avenue. So that is all I can tell you right now it is at the beginning stage, I talked to the developer today he said he would rather now answer any questions or have this put out there yet. But it is under contract, they are in the first phase, it is going to go, I am very trustworthy that it is going to go. We are going to be having a couple of stores down there, restaurants, whatever, with apartments above. Again, folks this is the State Legislature and the Court that mandated this. Eventually the Chief said to me that he is not asking right now but down the road Mayor you are going to have to increase my department a little bit, we are at 40 men, when I became Mayor it was 46. We cut them back through attrition to 40. So eventually we are going to have to do that. They are going to need room to expand and grow, and we thought of that in this plan. That is why we even went up with a third floor, we could probably get away without it but all you are talking about is the difference of block going up and a flooring.

The elevator is going to go up, the roof is going to sit on it whether it is two floors or three floors, so we are even trying to be a little progressive in our thought process that maybe someday in 25 years from now the Mayor and the Chief will be sitting here and the Council people will be saying that those guys had a good idea by having more room up there. Growing up in Clark guys as great

as this town was to grow up in I am sorry it was (tape inaudible) out there, they didn't want to go for a dollar on anything.

Councilman O'Connor: I remember when it was only bulky pick up on an election year.

Councilwoman Albanese: Honestly before your administration there was nothing. I look at what my kids had and what kids have today. My kids growing up here, and they are young, they didn't have all of the UNICO Festival, Christmas Celebration, Camp, etc.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You know what guys we are not doing it for election purposes. Also, cops live out of town, so they are not voting for us anyway. Again, I respect our chief and his superiors and the men. The PBA doesn't come by here saying, "oh, you have to do something about that building" Actually they are starting to hear the scuttle butt and they are stopping me saying, "is it true?" and I am telling them yes, I think that it is going to work. They are like, "thank God, that is terrific, we have a great place". Let's also say if you look at his performance of his men they are knocking it out of the park right now.

Councilman O'Connor: Right.

Mayor Bonaccorso: They are working harder now then they ever worked before in this town. Their productivity is through the roof. So, like I said, it is not being done for any other reason then it needs to be done. Any other questions?

Councilman O'Connor: No, thank you.

Councilman Toal: No report.

Mr. Laezza: No report.

Township Clerk: No report.

Chief Matos: Thank you very much on the vote because (inaudible due to paper scuffling). We did hire a new police officer today and he will be sworn in the 16th at the Public Council Meeting. We also were notified yesterday of a pending retirement of a police officer on July 31st so, you gain one and you lose one.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Do you believe he still has not filled the department since all of those retirements. How many years ago?

Chief Matos: 3 ½.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Alan started about two years before you, you have been in three (years), and we still have not gotten it back up to 40 (men). Every time we hire one, one leaves.

Councilman O'Connor: I will tell you what he is hiring the right people, thank you.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Good people, really good.

Council President Smith: I have nothing to add.

Councilwoman Albanese: I heard, what was his mother a Chief of Police, his grandmother?

Chief Matos: His grandmother was the first female police officer in Chatham.

Mayor Bonaccorso: He was born in Berkeley Heights kid, that said that he wanted to move to Clark, and we said, "great, we will take you"

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Hund.
All in favor: Aye

ROLL CALL: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzearella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
August 6, 2018
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Mazzaella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith
Councilman Hund arrived at 7:37

Also, Present: Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Mark Dugan, Acting Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk; Police Chief Pedro Matos

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: MOMENT OF SILENCE (Dispense)

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Award of Contract for the Collection and Disposal of Leaves (Bid opening August 8th)

Discussion: none

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Mazzaella Second: Barr

2. Authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with Union County for Leaf Composting

Discussion: none

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: O'Connor Second: Mazzaella

3. Award of Contract to P & A Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$332,991.12 for the 2018 NJDOT Lake Avenue Roadway Improvements from Oak Ridge Road to the Woodbridge Township border

Discussion:

Councilman Mazzaella: I want to thank the Mayor for moving forward on this regarding Lake Avenue in getting that Grant, it's really important for that area.

Council President Smith: So, Lake Avenue will be done from one end to the other in town, very nice.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Mazzarella Second: Albanese

4. Authorizing Final Payment to Fieldturf USA for the ALJ Multipurpose Field and Track Replacement in the amount of \$159,229.35

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: The track was redone a couple of weeks ago, the track is black and white. As much as I loved the blue, the blue and white looked great, but it faded and so we figured let's just go with black and white and I think it looks really nice.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: O'Connor Second: Albanese

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

5. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2018 taxes in the amount of \$8,493.85
6. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$930.00
7. Authorizing the purchase of one Emergency Generator for the Department of Public Works in the total amount of \$63,336.00 through the Sourcewell National Cooperative Pricing System.

Discussion: none

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on the Consent Agenda

Mover: Toal Second: Albanese

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Council President opens the meeting to the public

Seeing no one coming forward Council President Smith asked for a motion to close the public portion

Motion: O'Connor Second: Toal

Roll Call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: An update on the new police station. Architects have been coming by to take a look at it and draw up their plans to submit them to us. So that is a good thing, we are moving along on that. The Chief and John have been showing them around.

John and I had a meeting with L'Oréal about a week or so ago, and they are moving forward on their Research and Development Plant. It was systematically shown on the computer, it was something. They are going to take 30 Terminal, I think that it is, the last one by the bridge, they are going to redo some of that and they are going to connect it to like three new buildings behind, parking, landscaping. It is probably a half a billion-dollar project, should generate maybe a million, a million and a half in permit fees, a lot of money. The thing that John and I.... we are going to make that an area of redevelopment because they want to negotiate with us on the taxes, which we will. You might say why, well you have to because if not they will pack up and go somewhere else. So the thing is, is what they always try to accomplish is they are not going to pay less, but the project balloon going forward, they might want to say, "okay, we are paying this now, and then we go up 10% a year for ten years" I am not saying that is what it is, I am saying that is what it could be, they do stuff like that. They are making the big money out in battleships they have got so much of it, but that is corporate America and they always want to get the best deal. So, we are going to look at them for that.

The other night at the Planning Board meeting, the A&P, the Merit Foodtown owners, the Davidsons came through and they wanted to object to the condemnation because they said that the building has already been sold. We said that we understand that and we were going to actually ask you guys tonight, the Planning Board was voting on it to send it back to the Council for their vote to continue our condemnation movement and Davidson got up with his lawyer and he said that this is crazy, it is already sold, and I said that he was in due diligence and I do believe that it is going through, if I had to make a big bet it would be that it is going to go through because the developer Garden Homes, knows what he is doing and he is going to do it. He went back and forth, back and fourth and I said, "what is your due diligence date?" and he said, "September 11th-ish" I said, "okay, I will make a deal with you, the Planning Board is going to vote on this tonight because if you back out, we are continuing straight forward, I am not going to go back to square one with the condemnation we are going straight forward" He said, "okay" I said, "I will hold that resolution to Council for a month and if you are not active, if I don't get a letter by an attorney telling us that phase one is done, we are all good and moving forward, at the September meeting the Council will continue on with what they have to do" He was happy about that. I gave the guy a month break with the process still rolling forward, it is going to be a done deal, I am not worried about it. It is

not a high area of contamination or anything like that, so I don't see any problems. Garden Homes wants it so they are going to do it, you know that. Alright?

The other thing was the Chief got the belt for the PBA Police Cook-off with the Rahway Buffet.

Tomorrow night is National Night out, six o'clock here down in the Recreation Center it will be nice to see the Council Members there to say hello.

Any questions? That's it.

Councilwoman Albanese: No comments.

Councilman Barr: One question. I get a chuckle out of it, when they have the award of contracts and it is like \$332,991.12.

Mayor Bonaccorso: That is what it comes out to be.

Councilwoman Albanese: That means it was done precisely.

Mayor Bonaccorso: If they roll it to the nearest dollar that could lose them the bid.

See our Police Station, remember one thing Council, whatever the price of the Police Station is you can thank Governor McGreevy, he should have been worrying about running the state right because we are going to be paying prevailing wage, which will make that job about 50% more than we need to be paid for in a normal contract, prevailing wage.

Councilman Hund: No comment, except to apologize for being late.

Councilman Mazzarella: No comment

Council President Smith: Apology accepted.

Councilman O'Connor: I am not a representative of the Blue Knights; however, I did participate in the Blue Knights Night in the Woods, I wanted to say that it was a great ride. Obviously, the Police Department of Clark, as well as others in the County did a great job escorting us throughout the ride, very nice job, thank you Chief. They did a really nice job, thank you.

Councilman Toal: The 4th Ward is getting active, we have another month to go before things really kick off. Yesterday I was out on Mildred Terrace parked in front of Kumpf School because I have been getting a little bit, it is not as vocal as it was, on the traffic going down Mildred, which I brought up at the last couple of meetings. I sat there in my car and just counted and the speed and times with my phone, I was timing it. I don't have a radar gun but we need to start looking in to law enforcement and doing what ever we have to do, it is summer time and they are not paying attention and they are driving too fast on Mildred Terrace. Low and behold I got bored and I went to go and visit Mr. Seng on Benjamin Street, I pull out and there was a motor vehicle accident at the end of Mildred and Madison Hill Road yesterday, it was a bad one, the guy got caught up and

spun around, his car was totaled. I got out to help, I was the first one to respond. The dispatch.... let's talk about the dispatch, the personalities have to get a little bit nicer. No one was hurt, it just goes to show that we need to take another set of eyes on Mildred Terrace and Madison Hill Road. I am talking about a full-blown traffic study on that intersection. It could have been a serious accident, and the school is opening up in a month, it will become a free for all up there. It is not 1936....

Mayor Bonaccorso: The thing is Brian, when the school is in session it is bumper to bumper so you can't speed down the road.

Councilman Toal: Right, I am just asking that this Council, as for the Police Department, to look into Mildred Terrace. Whatever we could come up with.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I told you earlier tonight that we are going to be putting the blinking 25mph signs on that road.

Councilman Toal: That is the first step.

Mayor Bonaccorso: So that should help.

Councilman Toal: That gives him the tools to let his men do their jobs. I know they have been out there and I am not trying to be critical of the Department, ever.

Chief Matos: There are two things here, the speed on that stretch of road is one thing, the accident at the intersection is not because of the speed, the accident was there because that is kind of a tough....to pull out of then you have a 35-mph speed limit on Madison Hill Road and that is a County Road. I assure you that you can look into putting a light there and then you will have the residents complaining that the cars are coming to a stop and I am hearing cars stopping and accelerating all day long. I doubt that the residents want a traffic light there.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Chief, forget cars, you will have the dump trucks and diesel trucks.

Councilman Hund: It is more on Mildred Terrace, not Madison Hill Road, that the speeding is an issue.

Councilman Mazzarella: In the police defense and I have seen, not 24/7, they just can't be out there. I have seen cruisers there periodically in Kumpf parking lot, all around the area there. You know what, they can't be out there 24/7, and that is it.

Chief Matos: It is one of those roads because it is a wide road and the houses are set back. The entire road where the houses are close like my street which is three blocks long, it gets a little harder to speed down because you don't have that big site line, the houses are not set back 60 feet from the street. Those kinds of streets where the houses are set back the road is wide, you are going to have then pick up speed, so Mildred Terrace is one of those roads, Skyline, Madison Hill Road to some degree, and that is tough because....

Councilwoman Albanese: Also, who is driving on that road?

Mayor Bonaccorso: The neighbors.

Councilwoman Albanese: That's right.

Chief Matos: I guarantee you that 90% of the people that I stop live in the neighborhood.

Councilwoman Albanese: I would say more than 90%.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Especially Chief on Saturday and Sundays. On the weekday, I might say well you will get some cut through, Lake Avenue in that area, but on a Saturday and Sunday, it is going to be your neighbors. Then they are going to get tickets and they are going to come crying and complain. I know through Sergeant Lott and Detective Pereira; the Traffic Bureau has been alternating radar on all our cut throughs religiously. But it is like the old, when mommy and daddy aren't home, little Johnny and little Joe is going to do what they want, and you know it is the same thing with that. That is why we got those signs that will start up on Skyline and then two on there.

Councilman Toal: I am just trying to bring attention to the issue.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Steve will have them on Ross Street, Lincoln Boulevard and Liberty Street, the cut throughs over there. It is difficult guys, it really is. Then is you look at our police activity report, our activity is through the roof and summons are through the roof, where Mr. Barr needed an assistant to help him because he could not stay in the courtroom from 9 o'clock in the morning until 9 o'clock at night. So, we had to do that a couple of months, we have to bring someone in to relive him. Even with that being said I don't want the Clark Police Department to ever be a department of "you get pulled over, you get a ticket" I still think about 45-50% of the people that are pulled over are going free with a warning.

Chief Matos: Probably more.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Okay then 55%.

Chief Matos: It is hard to tell because you can't get an exact number. We make about 1,400 stops a year and we are averaging about 500 cases a month.

Councilman Mazarella: That is a lot of stops.

Mayor Bonaccorso: More than it has ever been guys.

Chief Matos: Our Traffic Bourgh implemented this several months ago where we have basically a rotating schedule on all of our problem streets, Skyline, Mildred, Lincoln, Liberty Ross. Ross is a problem down there, we are constantly rotating in and out that road once a week, for a couple of hours running radar.

Councilman Toal: Mr. President again, I appreciate bring attention, I am trying to bring attention to an issue. I am asking you guys to see if we could come up with anything else. With school a month away, I want to make sure..... whatever you can do.

Council President Smith: Do you have anything else Chief?

Chief Matos: Just that tomorrow is National Night Out. I think that it is going to be the best one so far. We have a dunk tank, we have face painters, balloon artist, we have a bounce house.

Council President Smith: Do you have anything for us (Mark Dugan)?

Mark Dugan: Nothing.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Toal

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
September 4, 2018
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

Also, Present: Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Mark Dugan, Acting Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: MOMENT OF SILENCE
(Dispensed)

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

The regular order of business will be suspended on September 17th:

Police Department promotions: Sgt. Joseph Teston to Detective Sergeant
 P.O. Pedro Oliveira to Sergeant.

Councilwoman Albanese: Did we have retirees or were these just openings?

Mr. Laezza: We had retirees.

Councilman Toal: Do you want to give any commentary now about these officers, or will you save it for the Public (meeting)?

Chief Matos: Joseph Teston was already a sergeant and is being promoted to detective sergeant and is taking over the Detective Bureau under Captain Grady and of course that vacated a position in the patrol division and a sergeant position which Sergeant Oliveira is going.

PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

- 1. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 347, ENTITLED VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE V. TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, SECTION 39 BUS STOPS OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK**

Mr. Laezza: Why would we do this you say in your mind.

Councilman Toal: Safety first.

Mr. Laezza: We do this because New Jersey Transit will accept a resolution. To make that resolution valid we have to adopt an ordinance. This is ratifying the resolution that you guys passed by the time they could put it in.

Township Clerk: Otherwise we would have to wait.

Mr. Laezza: Otherwise we would have to wait until January. It makes the system work.

Council President Smith asked for a motion and second on this Proposed Ordinance
Mover: O'Connor Second: Barr

RESOLUTIONS:

2. Discussion: Westfield Avenue and Walnut Avenue Areas in Need of Redevelopment

Mr. Laezza: The Planning Board will be coming with a resolution authorizing an area of redevelopment of Walnut Avenue. They will also be coming with a resolution for the A&P property.

Council President Smith: Let the record show that the Mayor arrived.

Councilman O'Connor: If I may, when you say Walnut Avenue what particular part of Walnut Avenue?

Mr. Laezza: Across the street from the Holiday Inn.

Councilman Toal: Evening Realty?

Mr. Laezza: Evening Realty. Walnut Avenue property will be an area in need of redevelopment also. The A&P will also be an area in need of redevelopment. The A&P was already determined to be an area of redevelopment for condemnation. The Mayor, in his moment of kindness, indicated to the Davidson's that until the contract that he is involved in was finalized, he would hold off the condemnation proceedings until maybe the 17th. It is supposed to close on the contract the 11th. The developer called me and said that they were getting ready to sign the contract but he wanted the area to be in condemnation.

Mayor Bonaccorso: All we will do is to let it be for now.

Councilman Hund: He wants it to be in condemnation?

Mayor Bonaccorso: He wants it, he doesn't trust him.

Mr. Laezza: He doesn't trust them that they will walk away, and we don't trust them either.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We will hold off for a while and see what happens.

Council President asks for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Mazzarella Second: O'Connor

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

3. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2018 taxes in the amount of \$152.64
4. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$2,150.00
5. Authorizing the Clark Special Events Committee and the Department of Recreation to conduct a Community Bonfire
6. Approving the Council Meeting Calendar for 2019
7. Approving the 2019 Holiday Schedule

Township Clerk: The last three items are given to you early because Jennifer is working on next years Report to the People and she needs this information to include to the Report to the People.

Councilwoman Albanese: It's a great idea.

Township Clerk: And the Bonfire, she is going to be starting school this month, if she hasn't already, so the Bonfire paperwork is done so it is ready to roll.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Speaking about the Bonfire, this is going to be the last Thanksgiving Day game play.

Councilman Toal: Why?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Right now, there are three teams in Union County that play on Thanksgiving Day, Rahway verses Clark, and I don't know who else. Everyone else has done away with it and now the State moved to an extra playoff round which is going to technically unable these schools to play.

Councilman Toal: That goes back to the 50's.

Councilman O'Connor: Progress.

Township Clerk: They play on Wednesday night now, they all do Wednesday night.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I don't even know if they will do that Edie because this year they added an extra round of playoffs. So that is why we are doing it.

Council President Smith: So, if you don't make the playoffs now you have to practice for three or four weeks until the season ends.

Mayor Bonaccorso: What they were finding out was that teams that would play on Saturday would have to come back on a Thursday, if they lost on Saturday they wouldn't really care about Thursday. So, a lot of teams, Erik Rosenmeir, he is a coach in Cranford, he told me two years ago that he has done away with it. He just says that there is no need to play Thanksgiving Day, play that Saturday.

Councilman Toal: No community reacting from that?

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, do you know what Brian, it is like everything else buddy, it is what it is. But now with the extra round of the playoffs they are not going to be able to deal with that. The way that it is going there is not going to be a football team in three years, they had four freshmen come out this year (Councilman Toal: That's scary) the numbers are terrible.

Councilman Toal: It is kind of what happened to the band. It went through the process where the band went away and now they are back up strong.

Mayor Bonaccorso: The band is great.

Councilman Toal: When there was no band, there was a great football team.

Mayor Bonaccorso: That was budget cuts.

Councilman O'Connor: Have we seen the increase in soccer?

Mayor Bonaccorso: I don't think there is an increase in so much of anything. Roselle Park has a JV team, no Varsity team. New Providence and Berkeley Heights are talking about combining because they are low.

Township Clerk: Their parents are worried about injury.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It is injury Edie and it is commitment, when you play football it starts in June and ends in December, it is the heat, it is just a lot, it is a lot.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on the Consent Agenda

Mover: Toal Second: Albanese

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Council President opens the meeting to the public

Seeing no one coming forward Councilwoman Albanese made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting, seconded by Councilman Toal

Council President Smith directed roll call: All ayes
Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzearella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Today, myself and John and the Chief and Ed Bogan from Grotto met with four architects to try to start hammering this police station together, and it was interesting. So, I think that we are going to bring the top two that we feel back and we are talking about a cost/cost, number one, size, the needs of the police department, the needs of the court, it was pretty interesting so far. So, hopefully within a month or so we will be able to narrow it down to the architect that we want and hire him and begin the process of doing this. We are going to try and start the parking lot in front of the building in October John?

Mr. Laezza: Yes.

Mayor Bonaccorso: To try and beat the winter so we can start to get parking there and get things going with that. It is a lot of concepts, a lot of interesting stuff. You learn a lot sitting there listening to everybody's ideas. I think that it is going to be a building that is great. We went down on Wednesday to see a building in, own the shore, a new police station that was put down there and a municipal complex and it was very nice, smaller, small town, but we wanted to see what does 12,000 square feet really look like. If you are there and you touch, smell and feel it, it puts in in prospective. Very interesting to go into small-town police stations. We go in and the Chief greets us and he is a nice man, and he says, "this is our dispatch center" it is about as big as this table, and he says, "Kelly is also the dispatcher but she is my secretary, she made brownies for you guys too (laughter). I fell over, fell over. The new jails, if you look at them are all stainless steel now, there are no more bars, no more bars, everything is like so that they can't hang themselves in jail. Even on the handicap bathroom, it is like crazy learning this stuff, they have a bar next to the commode, and the bar is...you can't wrap your hand around it, it is not high off of the floor, you can only grab it so that you can't put something around it and hang yourself. I don't know why you would want to hang yourself in a municipal police station, how bad could the offence be, but it is really crazy to see what they are doing, and a lot of the things that we are working out and talking with the Chief and everybody is on, you know, what are his needs as far as cell blocks go verses secure holding areas, a lot of discussions, so we will bring you up to date as we get rolling. I know the three of us have put a lot of time into this so far to try to bring the best plan to the community forward.

The last branch clean-up, you know is coming up.

Trunk or Treat this year is going to be moved to here (Townhall) verses Johnson (high school).

September 11th, 8:45am, Nelson Park.

September 12th, Senior BBQ, Deutscher Club and 12:00, I am sure that you got notified on that already. Open up your emails and you will.

You are all invited to all of that stuff, then we will just keep moving from there on it.

Ralph and I went on tv, I don't know if you saw it yet. We did a nice presentation about the Recreation Program and what is going on. We will continue on doing that throughout the fall. We will bring the Chief back on in November, talk about the holidays and the safety, and what you have to do like we did last year, and continue forward.

John and I are going to be going on about the Recycling Program. The letters are going out and he is going to touch on that right now, I just want to say to you guys I think that it is a little early for the letter but I am okay if that is what he wants it to be done, I am fine with it. Just tell the people that there is going to be a lot of information going forward to check tv36, check our website, get on our email list if they can because it is going to be very interesting how this Recycling Program works out. I think it is going to be better in the long run but like everything else they have to know what is going to happen.

Mr. Laezza: All of your residents are going to be getting a flyer in the mail this week. We try and make it very easy for them. If they talk to you this is not happening until January 2019, that is the new year. We have broken the town down by splitting it by the Parkway. zone one and zone two, that is on the back and it is in color. On each recycling bin that we give them, people that are zone one will have a blue sticker on it so they can look at the calendar and see that January 5th is them. People in zone two will have a green sticker on it. We made it so that everybody in Clark can understand it.

Councilman Hund: That is every other week, right?

Mr. Laezza: It is every other week, it is going to be on Saturdays. Recycling will be on Saturday mornings. Everybody will be getting a 96-gallon container, a recycling can on wheels delivered to their home in December. The recycling can belongs to the property, not the homeowner. When they move that can stays there.

Councilman Mazzarella: Any damage they would notify the town?

Mr. Laezza: If there is damage, we have to pay for it. They are our cans, they cost us 2\$75,000.00. Plainfield put out the money and we are paying them in our budget.

Mayor Bonaccorso: There is going to be a bar code on them so they know what can belongs to which house if the wind blows them around and people are fighting over, "that's not my can, it's broken", we can bar code it. Also, we went to Plainfield Municipal Utility Authority because we were able to lock their price in for 5 years. The price we got was...how much over John?

Mr. Laezza: The price that we got from Giordano was \$299,000.00, theirs is \$275,000.00 including the cans and that is locked in for 5 years.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Because China no longer wants our goods.

Mr. Laezza: If you notice they are taking more than everybody else is. They are taking plastic 1-7 and they allow you to put your excess on the side. I don't think that anybody would have an access of 96 gallons, but if you do you can put it on sides.

Councilman O'Connor: It is all comingle correct?

Mr. Laezza: It is all comingle.

Mayor Bonaccorso: They are coming with the automatic arm and dumping it.

Mr. Laezza: They are going to use guys to dump it.

Township Clerk: Can I just add one thing? The QR code for the app.... I didn't even have the paper I just had it up on my screen, and I just decided to see if it works, it loads right up. It chooses whether you have an Apple or and Android and it just loads right up on your phone, the app. So, if anyone asks you, it is that easy.

Mayor Bonaccorso: So, we are going to try to beat this up out there the best that we can with number one, a full mailer to the town, which went out, TV shows, messages, electronic board and in January I will be more than willing to bet you there will be a line down the hallway asking, "what the heck it this"

Councilman O'Connor: You are going to put it on the board too?

Councilwoman Albanese: Then we should just have the video playing.

Mr. Laezza: In fact, we have it on the screen now.

Township Clerk: This will be in the Report to the People as well.

Mr. Laezza: "New recycling program January 1st".

Mayor Bonaccorso: The Report the People guys, we have to get that out early. Jennifer is going to have to wait for something she said the other day, and once that is done she will be able to go to print and give it to you guys.

Councilwoman Albanese: All of those videos are on the website too, right? The new ones that you made last night?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, I think so.

Mr. Laezza: Yes.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you very much for putting effort into that.

Councilwoman Albanese: That's great.

Councilwoman Albanese: The last day to register to vote is October 16th, I just want to put that out there as a reminder.

Councilman O'Connor: There are new Voter Registration forms, correct?

Township Clerk: There are new forms, right. The County Clerk did not send them yet but we took them off of the website. I had sent all of you that link, you can just print it right off of there. If you need them printed just let me know and I will print a bunch for you.

Councilman Hund: We have Kerry (opening) on the 16th?

Mr. Laezza: Kerry is on the 15th.

Councilman Hund: In the morning, right?

Mr. Laezza: Yes.

Councilwoman Albanese: 10:00?

Mr. Laezza: Yes, 10:00am.

Councilman Hund: Thank you.

Mr. Laezza: Kerry is opening a new building, the reception of the new building.

Councilman Barr: Just out of curiosity looking at the tax refund, \$152.64, isn't that the lowest that we have had in a long time?

Mr. Laezza: What?

Councilman Barr: The tax refund.

Councilwoman Albanese: That means that someone overpaid.

Mr. Laezza: Some people just write a check for two thousand dollars, when it is actually \$1,824.15.

Councilman Hund: No report.

Councilman Mazzarella: Sal had been beating this around all year and I would think that at the last branch pick up people would understand that it is the last one. In the first ward the branches are out already.

Councilman O'Connor: No report this evening, thank you.

Councilman Toal: Yes, three quick ones because it is getting late. First of all, again, when you see it up close and first hand.... I was coming back in town from a late evening on Saturday. At 11:30pm there was a fire call, I just saw the light going down Hartman Court. Nothing but a dryer fire, but a dryer fire that the people were sitting home on a Saturday night, on a holiday weekend, they are dragged out of their house because their kid did not clear out the vent of the dryer. Something simple like that caused the house to be on fire, burnt the garage, burnt the back of the house and thank God there was not loss of life in our Fire Department. They were standing out there 11:30 at night, you are always talking about them but they are actually true. When you are out talking to a resident and they are standing there at 11:30pm, on a holiday weekend night and house is all full of smoke. All the neighbors were out on the front lawn, it is a very tight neighborhood over there. Again, Al your guys are incredible, they are actually incredible. They are standing there at 11:30 at night. Again, guys when you see it up close and you are actually experiencing what they are going through, and then the neighbors, and the upset of everyone on a holiday weekend, and to be the dryer. If you want to see what I am talking about, there is a burnt dryer still sitting out in front of the house.

Second issue, I am getting a lot of nonsense from Jack's Tavern site. Is there any rumor or word to contamination being found on the site?

Mr. Laezza: Obviously your neighbors told you (inaudible) their property.

Councilman Toal: On the property of Jacks (Tavern), or on the residential?

Mr. Laezza: Could be both.

Councilman Toal: Okay, that is the latest. The project is still a go, it is just going through some delays.

Mr. Laezza: The mediation....

Councilman Toal: The mediation delays.

Mr. Laezza: The attorneys closed without doing the environmental.... satisfied the environmental conditions.

Councilman Toal: Again, thank you because I want to squash anything that might just be in the rumor mill, we want to give the right information to the residents and explain to them, here is what is happening and here are the facts. We listen to the facts and we listen to verbal. Thank you.

Mr. Laezza: I just got that from their engineer.

Councilman Toal: Thank you very much sir, I appreciate it. To the Clerk, this lady and her office are incredible. I just had to endure about seven days of what we call neighborhood summer stupidity because of a trespassing issue up by the Garden State Parkway. Her office came through and helped me out when I had to squelch a neighborhood war involving her Santa Clause, that is

another story that I will talk to you about, but it just went from a simple, “hey, you can go and do that” turned into an entire war between eight neighbors.

Township Clerk: The Police Department did a big job too.

Councilman Toal: Chief and our Clerk, thank you so much squashing what was basically a stupid issue that then mushroomed into something else. I still just got my ear pulled by the woman’s parents that raised the issue. It is resolved, it is closed, which I told every party yesterday morning, on Sunday morning at the church. I am telling everyone just to calm down, it is all good. How the neighbors get bent out of shape over stupid stuff. But thanks to the Chief and thanks to our Clerk. The Clerk did an incredible job by getting me the paperwork, getting me the information so I can go out and tell everyone to just be normal. Thank you very much Mr. President, that is all that I have for now but I will have more as we go into the ward and knock on everyone’s door and say hello.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I am sorry, let me just interrupt a minute because I have it on my mind, Chief, do me a favor buddy. We are starting, as you know, high school, can we get on the Dawn Drive area to make sure that they are up there and they hassle those kids along.

Chief Matos: Yes.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It lasts for about a month, then they get (inaudible) then in the Spring it starts again, it is every year.

Mr. Laezza: Let me know if you guys get these (recycling schedule) in the mail. We are not mailing them out, Plainfield MUA is mailing them out.

Council: Okay.

Councilman Hund: No report.

Township Clerk: I just need Councilman Hund, Councilman O’Connor and Councilman Toal to come back to my office after the meeting.

Chief Matos: Last night we did have about ten vehicles on the westside of town that were entered into, they were unlocked, they are all fairly newer vehicles. Nothing was taken from what we could see they were probably looking for keys for the vehicles, nothing was taken, and nothing was taken out of the vehicles, but of course we are putting our reminders out there for the people to lock their doors.

Councilman Mazzarella: That is my ward, was it William Street?

Chief Matos: Also, Blake Avenue, Jupiter, that area.

Councilman O'Connor: So, Chief if you wouldn’t mind, I have had residents who when we speak of the town, North, South, East and West, could you orient the town?

Chief Matos: So, the West side of the town would be in the area nearest Lake Avenue and the East side would be towards Osceola Church.

Councilman Mazzarella: Chief were they (the cars) unlocked, most of the cars?

Chief Matos: Yes, there was not forced entry to any of them.

Council President Smith: I have nothing this evening.

Chief Matos: We have already developed a suspect, we already know who it was because we have video. Thank you to a resident.

Council President Smith asked for a motion to adjourn
A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Albanese, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

ROLL CALL: All Ayes
Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
October 1, 2018
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith
Absent: Albanese

Also, Present: Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Mark Dugan, Acting Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: MOMENT OF SILENCE

(Dispensed)

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Authorizing the submission of an application for funding for the Year 45 Community Development Block Grant Program (Public Hearing October 15th)

Discussion: None

Council President Smith asked for a motion and second on this resolution

Mover: Mazzarella Second: Barr

2. Authorizing the Health Officer to enter into an Agreement with the Visiting Nurse and Health Service for 2019 in the amount of \$7,986.00

Discussion: None

Council President Smith asked for a motion and second on this resolution

Mover: Hund Second: Barr

3. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of Sewer Fees in the amount of \$180.42

Discussion: None

Council President Smith asked for a motion and second on this Resolution

Mover: Mazzarella Second: O'Connor

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

4. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2018 taxes in the amount of \$1,175.22
5. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$420.00

Council President Smith asked for a motion and second on this Consent Agenda

Mover: Toal Second: Smith

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Seeing no one come forward Council President asked for a motion to adjourn
A motion to adjourn was made by Toal, seconded by Hund

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

Aye: Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Basically, we are getting to the end of the year now with all of our services. The branch clean-up ended the last day of October and I drive down on Charlotte Drive and there were a lot of branches out on the street over the weekend. So, much for social media, websites, Council meetings, newspapers, electronic newspapers. In all seriousness we are very gracious here because I could name three or four towns off the top of my head that they would have a summons handed to them the next day, and that is a fact. Our citizens are spoiled, they have been living the good life here for a long time now with us, and that's okay they deserve something. But that's all coming to an end, of course we have branch clean-up if there is a major storm, we always take care of that and you guys all know that.

Bulky is coming to an end.

We are moving along with this police station, hopefully by the end of October or so we are going to break ground out front on the new temporary parking lot. We are going to put a parking lot in there and when that other building, the old building gets knocked down then we are going to continue the parking lot to the new building because the new building will be going right behind the old building. We have got to have ample parking for court, the citizens, council meetings and of course the day to day operations of the police force. So, we are moving really quick on this. John has already talked to PSE&G about transformers and poles and the water company. This is all the stuff when you get into the project that delays you six, eight, ten weeks at a clip. We told you earlier that we were thinking of possibly hiring a construction manager, we are interviewing someone right now to run the day to day operations in the building to make sure everything is done in the right manner. It is a very big undertaking to do this building. Although John and I will always be with our hands in the middle of it, we still need a professional to get it done the right way. We have stressed to every architect that we talked to that change orders are dirty words here, you are

building a box, you are building on a slab, we are not having a basement, let's get it right in your plans and let the builder get it right so that we can project this thing and build it the right way. We are learning a lot along the way, we are learning about different types of controls and why and why not, so it has been pretty interesting. So, I think this Kevin Settembrino, you guys would like, he is a nice guy and seems like he is really on his game. A couple of people that we interviewed, you know you can make a case for anyone of the architects that we interviewed but it is a matter of "you have to get that feeling that we can work together" and make sure that this building is done the right way. We told one guy that we didn't want the courtroom on the first floor, this is when we were strictly proposing a two-floor building and he came back the second time with it on the first floor. So, if you are not listening to me now, are you going to listen to me later? So, we will see, we will see what the one floor looks like, and that might work because you save a lot of money in elevators, stairways and that also can be used towards the building and it could actually shrink the size of the building. The other thing we're looking in doing possibly, early to tell you but I will throw it out there because we are looking to maybe constructing an old-time looking police station, not one with glass and slanted roofs and you know, the George Jetson look. I actually would like to see us even with the round lights that say "Police" by the front door. Something brand new, but set a trend that we want to set not that some other town we're following in. I think it will look pretty cool. A lot of regulations, courts, a lot of regulations for courts, a lot of regulations for jail cells. You get arrested soon don't look to bang your cup on the bars and chant to get out, there are no bars, everything is stainless steel, it is crazy what they are doing to jails. When we went down to Bayhead, we looked at a police station, brand new in Bayhead, the jail is like crazy the way it looks today. So, there are a lot of regulations and we have to sort through all of them to make sure. Working with the Department of Corrections is not an easy task, that is why you have an architect and probably a Construction Manager. It is a nightmare; those people are a nightmare right off the bat.

Council President Smith: Doing one floor will that make the footprint any bigger you think because originally when you said...

Mr. Laezza: Basically, we think that we need 12,000 square feet. It was either two 6,000, or a 12,000. The difference between two 6,000 and a 12,000 on one floor is about a million-dollar savings. You don't need stairwells, you don't need elevators and that's the million dollars.

Councilman Toal: Do you lose on parking for that?

Mayor Bonaccorso: No.

Councilman Toal: Okay.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well we're going to lay it all out Brian and make sure that it works and have plenty of parking. It is going to be tough over there when we start the project, there is no doubt about that. But when the project is complete, we are going to have beautiful courtyard in the front, we are going to have plenty of parking throughout the building. There is going to be a row for the police behind the building, and probably on the side. The citizens will all park in front of the building and come through the front door and we're trying to design out a lobby. Did you ever go to our court? There are forty, fifty, sixty people standing out in the hallway at any given time. So,

you know you walk into the main door the ideal thing is that we want to have out dispatch center there like it used to be and will all of their regulations, then we want to have the Records Department on the other side so if people come in for accident reports and things of that nature. So, then we have to try to go to a court area but we don't want those people hanging out in front of our building either.

Councilman Toal: To smoke a cigarette and stuff.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well it's not to smoke a cigarette, I'm talking about inside the lobby. So, if you come in with a police matter, you don't want to have to shuffle between thirty people to get to the window while they are waiting for court, like it's outside the Chiefs Office now, on any court date it is a mob scene out there. So, you know that's a design that has to be looked at and make sure it works. And the inside of the Police Station we are going to let Pedro really dictate what he wants in there because that is his building and he should know better. We will of course approve it and look at it and talk with him and make sure it is making sense but I have full trust in our Chief. Like I said to him, "you should know whom should be next to whom and why and where". He laid it out, the original design for it, and he did a pretty good job I have to say for the first time doing it. But this is what we need to do and there are new regulations and there is no more perp walk, you can't take a guy out of a the car outside the building and give him the perp walk, now we are going to be bringing prisoners into the Sally Port, closing the garage door, taking him or her out and bringing them into the building that way, so we need to process the room and the jail to be right there. It is all the stuff that we are going through. We have put a lot of time into this so far and we are trying to give the best product at the best price.

Council President Smith: What is the foot print of the existing building approximately?

Mr. Laezza: It is about 40x130.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It is pretty big but it is chopped.

Council President Smith: Oh yeah, it is very chopped. I'm trying to envision the size of a building behind it.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It is long overdue the building is a wreck in plain English. Like I said when we were looking at over two million dollars' worth of repairs without putting the police into trailers and moving in the dispatch rooms and jails and everything else the thing could have ended up about three-million dollars before and that would have been just to repair the building. So, I think for a little bit more, we will be able to get a brand-new building. John has worked out the financing already in his mind to where we paid and what is coming off the books. And we have some ideas of what we want to do. So, this project will not increase our debt service and be a burden on the taxpayers. And let me tell you something, when we show this community that that can happen, I would expect there to be some statues out there that look like us because any other town would go in hock and burn the taxpayers for it and that is not our goal. Our goal is to be able to manage and step the right way and hey, let's call it what it is, John is brilliant so over 18 years of handling our debt service and doing all the things that we have done in this town, you never heard of us coming to you in 18 years and say that debt services are raising taxes this year. There are tax appeals and

health insurance and things like that once in a while but he (John Laezza) has his handle on how we want to do it and we think that we are going to be doing some negotiating to get some payments due and bring that number way down when it finally hits a permanent financing. And we will be very proud to deliver that building very affordable to the taxpayers. Any other questions?

Councilman Barr: I would just like to expand on what Sal said on what we do for our citizens. As the liaison to the seniors. I was at the last senior meeting and something made me feel so good, three seniors came up to me who came in from various towns and said, "Councilman Barr no town does as much for seniors as Clark does and we've been around". That made me feel very good.

Councilman Hund: No comment.

Councilman Mazzarella: I just want to thank Sal for talking to the residents and giving them an overview on what our responsibility is and what we can not do.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Do you know what Frank it is a lousy feeling, I told you earlier when we were talking about this, I know Dan, he is a nice guy and all and you hate to have people feel adversarial towards you but we are stuck in the middle of this and like John said to me when we first talked about it, he said, "Sal if we are wrong then everybody gets there money back, quickly, nicely and professionally." And if we're right, well we're right but these courts in Trenton the two culprits that just let this stuff out there without any real direction on what to do. It is not like you could just pick up the phone and say, "hey Judge". They have to write a brief and we have to go through the whole rig-a-ma-roll. So, hopefully you know it works out and I think that he understood.

Councilman Mazzarella: But thank you for that.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No problem it is all good.

Councilman O'Connor: Again, just to comment on Sal's comment on John Laezza being a genius, it is true. I mean I have to keep beating on it but you have no idea how hard this guy works; how smart he is and how much he saves the town.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Let me tell you something, and I am going to take all of the credit, number one, for hiring the best, I have to take the credit for that, and number two for trusting him when he said to me, "just trust me and I will show you guys what you are doing wrong here". 0 We were doing a heck of a lot of everything wrong here. We let John run with it and like I said proudly we are the only administration and council that has paid debt down in this town from the day we walked though the door. And look at what we did, a library addition, two turf fields, miles and miles of roads, fire equipment, police equipment, DPW, gym floors, fixing this building up, the list goes on and on and on and on and our debt services never came back to smack us in the face with a huge tax increase. So maybe Trenton should pay attention they can learn something from this guy here.

Councilman O'Connor: Absolutely.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I did, I learned.

Mr. Laezza: Well speaking of that we are borrowing three-million dollars, we need some cash to pay some of our bills and then we will pay down a million of it each year for the next three years or more. Still maintaining our level debt service and by the time the Police Station comes up we will probably.... we can pay it off in thirty years, we can probably pay it over ten years and not raise our debt service. That is adding a million dollars every year or more, maybe a million to two-million every year, our capital infrastructure that the town needs. We have a road report that determines which wards are number 5's, number 4's, number 3's, number 2's and number 1's. The 5's means that they don't need work, the 2's.... we have no 1's and we have a lot of 2's and 3's and 4's. So, a million to two-million a half every year is not out of the question.

Councilman Toal: Again, with everything going on with the election and all we are doing doors. When we go to doors, people have issues or other things. I just want to again thank the Clerk's Office for retrieving and taking the issue, putting it in writing and sending it to Administration. Administration then responds and I thank the Mayor and I thank the BA for assisting us and getting the needs of the people met. Madam Clerk, I can't thank you and your staff enough for just being there every day, I come in and I have another issue. The residents, you do have to say no to them but you know what? It is very simple, what they are asking for is not a lot and we are there to answer them and get them the proper request and getting the request taken care of through the proper channels. Edie thank you for everything and Mr. Mayor, you and your staff and your office and the BA, thank you.

Mr. Laezza: What we consider not a lot is when you guys ask us just to do a little piece of a road and I say that I will try and then I get a price on it and that little piece of road is \$116,000.00, that is not a little piece of a road. \$8,000 is a little piece of the road, I can find that anytime, \$116,000.00 I can't do.

Councilman Toal: The residents do appreciate it and that is what we are here for, we are here for them. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We try.

Council President Smith: I just want to thank you for addressing the Bartell and the Gertrude parking.

Mr. Laezza: We are writing the ordinances.

Councilman Toal: Thank you, the residents will appreciate it.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We had a Traffic Committee meeting the other day on it.

Council President Smith: That is all that I have this evening.

Mayor Bonaccorso: When people hear that (regarding the new police dept.) they are saying, "oh my God, my taxes) but we are here a long time, we have to fix the infrastructure of this town and one of the things that John and I made a complete agreement on in the very beginning about the

police station was, you know to save a half of a million dollars, which is a lot of money, let's not do it half way and then in five years people are going, "well why didn't you just do that then" I mean we even went as far as talking to the Superintendent Ed Grande....they are talking about in three, four to five years having an influx of kids. Do you want this building back (the Municipal Building)? If you are thinking that way, tell me now. This way we are looking at two floors and we would go to three floors and move over there and leave this vacant for a year or two. Let them construct it. But like I said to the Superintendent, and I am not an architect or construction manager, but I would take to turn this building back into a school, which would be the only air conditioned one in Clark, you are probably talking two or three million dollars, my guess. Then I said to him, can you afford another principal here? Another nurse? Two office staff? He said, "Sal, we can never handle this, never". I said then that tells me that we are staying put and when you have your problem we will help you work on what to do then. So, we were looking even that far into the future to say that I don't want to hear the year after the station is built, "hey guys, can we have townhall back?" Then we have to call people in and start ripping that apart again. We don't do business that way.

Councilman O'Connor: Of the Council people that were born and raised in Clark, I believe that I am the only one who actually went to Brewer, so this was my school.

Council President Smith: Starting Thursday night is the Feast, I am assuming we'll all be in and out there. For those of you that have volunteered to work, thanks. I know that most of you will be walking around. Are you going to have a special guest possibly come on Friday night?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Saturday, Leonard Lance is coming.

Councilman Hund: Do we have a time?

Mayor Bonaccorso: I would say about seven or eight o'clock, I don't know yet but I will let you know.

Councilman Toal: Is there an essay contest this year?

Council President Smith: Yes, that is 12:00, on Sunday on the stage, you are all invited.

Council President Smith asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman O'Connor, second by Councilman Toal

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

Aye: Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
November 7, 2018
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzaella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

Also, Present: John Laezza, Acting Mayor/Business Administrator; Mark Dugan, Acting Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk; Captain Concina, Representing the Chief

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dispensed

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

New Police Officer, Nicholas A. Kurus Jr. will be sworn in at the Public meeting

PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

1. **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 343 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "VEHICLES ABANDONED" AND CHAPTER 347 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC"**

Discussion:

Councilman O'Connor: Just a quick question. So, this is saying on township property, people can have cars on personal property without tags?

Mr. Laezza: All properties in the township, not township property.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you.

Township Clerk: On the street, not their driveway.

Councilman O'Connor: Correct, driveway is fine. I am good with that.

Councilman Mazzaella: Unless the car is parked on the right-of-way on the driveway.

Mr. Laezza: Right. Within 15 feet in the right-of-way.

Council President Smith: And it allows for work vehicle as I saw within 200ft, they can be parked on certain hours.

Township Clerk: But not overnight.

Council President Smith: But not overnight, correct.

Mr. Laezza: We had people working on cars at 11 o'clock at night, 12 o'clock at night, making noise and they did not have any ordinances to try...well their quality of life.

Councilman Toal: There is an individual on Stanton Street, a prime example.

Mr. Laezza: We know.

Councilman Toal: There is an actual case involving why this is being done.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thais is the case with most ordinance.

Mr. Laezza: We have someone in all of your wards.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance
Mover: Mazzarella Second: Barr

RESOLUTIONS:

2. Authorizing the Health Officer and Township Clerk to enter into an agreement between the Township of Clark and the City of Elizabeth, Division of Health, STD Clinic

Discussion: None

Councilman O'Connor: This is serious and at the end of the day this affects people's lives.

Councilwoman Albanese: That's why I moved it.

Mr. Laezza: This is the arrangement that we have had for the last number of years and it works out pretty well for us.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution
Mover: Albanese Second: O'Connor

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

3. Authorizing the Tax Collector to settle a tax appeal for Block 60 Lot 13 as authorized by the Tax Court of New Jersey to be issued as credit in the amount of \$77,548.93 as detailed in the filed schedule

4. Authorizing the Tax Collector to make the proper adjustments for 100% property tax exemption of Block 120 Lot 13 in accordance with a directive of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
5. Authorizing the Tax Collector to transfer overpayment of 2018 taxes in the amount of \$109.79
6. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments in the amount of \$4,015.00

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on the Consent Agenda

Mover: Toal Second: Albanese

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Council President Smith opened the public portion of the meeting.

Seeing no one coming forward Councilwoman Albanese made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting, seconded by Councilman Hund

Council President Smith directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Township Clerk: Mr. President may I just jump in because I just forgot two things.

Council President Smith: Absolutely.

Township Clerk: We have two resolutions to add to the 19th, one is a Chapter 159 which is the addition of a special item of revenue for the Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund, we received a check in the amount of \$2,251.18, and we have to report that to the State that we received it and put it in our budget.

The second one, there was just a simple typographical error on the contract for the Plainfield Municipal Utilities Authority for the recycling, and so, we just need the Governing Body to affirm that we corrected that. So those are the two.

Council President Smith: So, they will be added to the public at the next meeting?

Township Clerk: Yes, and with no objection I will just add them to Consent.

Council President Smith: That's fine, thank you.

Mr. Laezza: In the words of the Mayor I want to congratulate each of you on your performance in the election. You worked hard and it showed. That is all that we have to say and let's get onto 2019, that budget is on the way.

Councilwoman Albanese: Once again I would like to congratulate all of our newly elected ward councilmen, great job.

Councilman Barr: Congratulations.

Councilman Hund: No comment.

Councilman Mazarella: No comment.

Councilman O'Connor: I gave my statement to the Tap after the election, but again just to recognize Sal talks about the Bonaccorso Team, which we are a team that is why we pitched in and helped each other out to make sure that we had what we needed to do the wards. And I know when the at-large run you guys can count on us as well. We are a team, led by Sal, supported heavily by Mr. Laezza and his team. Again, I just want to thank everyone, thank you.

Councilman Toal: To the residents of the 4th Ward, I will do my public comments at the Public Meeting for their gratitude and thanks for their overwhelming support. To my colleagues, I know each and everyone of you worked hard. Actually, the Mayor can say what he says, I am going to say that you worked really hard. Pat, Steven, Frank, I know that you worked really long and hard, even with being sick the last two weeks and calling me about things. Again, the word team is what is was. It is an effort in trying to make a better Clark. I will get the whole speech and all that stuff out at the public meeting. To the citizens, you have asked for things, we will try and help you do what is legal and what is correct and to resolve your problems. To the Administration, you have been nothing but great and I thank Mr. Laezza especially for hearing the word yes instead of no, and I thank you for the last two months. I have 18 requests that I will put through the proper channels in written form and I ask for your support to resolve. The citizens don't ask for much, sometimes they do and sometimes they don't but these numbers (election results) this is because we are helping meet what they are asking. And I thank you. Again, you, Mayor and Council, again thank you for being a friend during this time. To our Clerk and her staff, thank you for everything, I know you guys keep separate and professional, you were, you and your staff were wonderful and we appreciate you guys so much. You don't get in without a lot of help.

Council President Smith: I just want to say that it has been a great team, so glad it is going to continue at least for another two years until the at-large and Mayor run, and we will go for it again. The Mayor has been warning us that way that the State is turning, things will start to change but hopefully not for another two, six, ten years down the road, as long as we can maintain it.

Mr. Laezza: The split is 3,600 Democrats, 3,200 Republicans, 5,600 in town.

Councilwoman Albanese: How does that turn out compare to two years ago?

Mr. Laezza: Bigger.

Councilwoman Albanese: That is amazing, the is amazing.

Council President Smith: In Union County there are only four or five now Republican control towns, it's down to four now after last night with all of the turnover.

Mr. Laezza: I think maybe less.

Council President Smith: The Democrats did put some money into the elections this year and they were out and about, and some Federal money was in our little town.

Councilwoman Albanese: But the bottom line of it is, is what you are doing on a local level. Obviously, we are doing our job, the people know it and they are responding to it.

Council President Smith: Kudos to the four people that just ran because you didn't rest on your laurels and you were really out there working hard, and hopefully in two years we will do the same thing.

Councilman Mazzearella: Like Pat said, I am there committed to you guys, whatever you need.

Captain Concina: Standing in for the Chief Matos, Clark Police Department. There is nothing going on, no police business to speak of tonight other than we would like to congratulate everybody that was re-elected and we look forward to your continued support.

Councilman Toal: Everything is quiet on the Parkway? Nothing insane lately? I am hearing a couple of sirens going by late at night.

Captain Concina: That is not translating to us locally.

Councilman Toal: But they come through us.

Captain Concina: They are busy every night but they are staying on the Parkway.

Mr. Laezza: There was a car robbery in Rahway that was picked up in Clark in about 4 ½ minutes.

Captain Concina: She was apprehended very fast. But that actually originated in Carteret.

Councilman Mazzearella: I have to say the police officers are outstanding, they are out there.

Township Clerk: I just wanted to complement the police department, we had Brian Pereira come out, one of our poll workers was disrespectful to him, belligerent and he was patient with her. I complemented him on it, I said that I could not be that patient. She moved a cone to park in a

handicap spot to block the ramp so that no wheelchair could get in. A person in a wheelchair could not vote because of her and she insisted that she was not going to move her car. Now that car was there almost 12 hours by the time, we even you know people kept saying, you have to move your car...anyway, Brian was very patient, got her to move her car without incident. And I thanked him yesterday, today, he was great, he was really great.

Councilwoman Albanese: Was that videotaped?

Captain Concina: Every call for service is videotaped.

Mark Dugan: Congratulations to everybody.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Toal, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazarella, O'Connor, Toal, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
December 3, 2018
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, Toal, Smith

Absent: O'Connor

Also Present: Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Mark Dugan, Acting Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dispensed

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as Adequate Notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the annual schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such annual meeting schedule on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

DISCUSSION: NJ Marijuana Law

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Mr. President. Council, I talked to Legal Counsel Mr. Triarsi about putting in the ordinance banning the sale of marijuana in the township. We had some sample ordinances that Edie grabbed from other towns, Joe reviewed them all, read them all, and talked to me last night about it. And he basically said that he had some real good ideas for what we need but there is no state statute yet allowing the sale of Marijuana, and until there is, which will be very shortly, we have to hold off. The ship is sailing in that direction and when they pass this as law at our next meeting, we will have an ordinance prepared for your opinions on to ban it. At this time in our township I as Mayor do not believe that this is a direction that Clark needs or wants to go in. I know that we have talked to people throughout the town and many of us feeling the same way. And the money, as far as going back to the town, is not a big grab. Right now, Senator Scutari told me a couple of weeks ago that it looks like it is going to be 2% tax on it. So, if you are selling a million dollars' worth of Marijuana the tax will be twenty thousand dollars back to the town. I don't think that it is enough money, I really wanted to see what the money was about, I was thinking about this for a long time, and that is certainly not going to change the tax base in Clark for \$20,000.00. Let's see what the other towns do and down the road some day it can always be reopened for discussion whether it be with us or another governing body, it doesn't matter. But I hope that when this becomes law and Joe gives us our ordinances, we will be able to look at them and put something good in place for the township. Any questions?

Councilwoman Albanese: I think it was Edie that sent some information out on it? Because it said in there what they were thinking of putting in the law, let's say the towns don't want to have it, it would come up every five years so you would put it in effect for five years. And the League of Municipalities said it should be 5% instead of 2%, which isn't much more money but....

Mayor Bonaccorso: The bottom line is that the League of Municipalities has no right, or the State has no right to tell us how long we have to put an ordinance for. We could make this ordinance this year and abolish it next year. So, we don't need the State of New Jersey telling us how to run our business when that can't even get out the door in the morning to get to the State House the right way. They don't need to tell us what we need to do here in Clark, so that I resent. You are not going to tell me it is for five years, it could be for five years, it could be for fifty-five years, or it could be for five months, we have the right to make those decisions, not the State House. When they get Affordable Housing right, we will let them talk about Marijuana, we will start with the easy one first. So, that is my opinion and we will see where it goes, I think that we are going to hear something within the next couple of months because they can't wait to get their hands on that money to grab it and spend it.

Township Clerk: Council President, can I just jump in for one second? On Friday the League of Municipalities put on a webinar regarding the status of the law and where they would like to see it go and so on and so forth. I mean the Mayor summed it up, but what they said is, as it progresses, they will give us more information. So, when they give us more information, I will pass it on too you.

Council President Smith: Okay.

Mark Dugan: It is currently just a bill and that is why Joe and I concur with him. He does not want to do it now because there is no enabling legislation in place that allows us to do this and we would probably not do it, I am certain almost that we would not do it as a zoning ordinance because a zoning ordinance would entitle the Board of Adjustment to modify that and allow the use under certain circumstances. So, it will be a different kind of an ordinance, not a zoning ordinance. The bill is presently drafted allows you to adopt an ordinance prohibiting that in the town within a year after the passage of the bill. The five-year time period that they are talking about is if you do not do it, you cannot do it for five more years. After that five-year period elapses, maybe your experience would indicate that you want it and so then after that five-year period you then can adopt the ordinance. But if you don't do it within a year as the bill is drafted right now, you would have to wait five-years to do it.

Mayor Bonaccorso: That makes it fine because in five-years they'll know exactly where it is going and where it is not going and what effect that this is really having on people or not.

Mark Dugan: And you can also (inaudible) more than just the sale, the manufacturing, the processing, the growing.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, Joe and I talked about that and we will have that all in the bill.

Mark Dugan: That will all be in there and Joe is going to start on that tomorrow.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well my thought process was that I did not want to wait until it because...

Mark Dugan: No, we will have one ready. We will have one ready so that when that law passes at the next meeting, we could adopt the ordinance.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Perfect, thank you, Mark.

Mark Dugan: You're welcome.

Council President Smith: Chief, do you have anything to add to that or do you concur?

Chief Matos: No.

Council President Smith: You're good? Okay.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Award of Professional Services contracts through a fair and open process for 2019:
Proposals will be opened December 5th

- A. Auditor
- B. Engineering Services
- C. Professional Planner
- D. Labor Attorney
- E. Bond Counsel
- F. Special Counsel

Discussion: None

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Barr Second: Hund

2. Upon Planning Board recommendation after December 6th public hearing:
Designating Lots 4 & 5, Block 58 on Terminal Avenue as an Area in Need of
Redevelopment as a Non-Condensation Redevelopment Area

Discussion:

Councilman Toal: For the point of public information, so that the residents know what we are talking about, it's the vacant lots along Terminal Avenue that are part of the L'Oréal future complex.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes.

Councilman Toal: We are helping them and doing good things for Clark.

Mr. Laezza: It is making 30 Terminal Avenue continuous with 170 total projects to include the entire street.

Councilman Toal: I'm talking basically those vacant lots right now.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well the vacant ones we already did, now we are doing the ones closest to the bridge because they are going to be all together.

Mr. Laezza: We are going to try and make them tied together.

Council President Smith: Makes sense.

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Toal Second: Smith

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

3. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$2,415.00
4. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2018 taxes in the amount of \$2,985.02
5. Authorizing the Tax Collector to make the proper adjustments for 100% property tax exemptions in accordance with the directives of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs:
 - A. Block 96, Lot 14
 - B. Block 110, Lot 3
 - C. Block 127, Lot 22
 - D. Block 151, Lot 3
6. Appointing Special Police Officers effective January 1, 2019
7. Authorizing the Police Chief to issue Clothing Bin Permits for the year 2019
8. Authorizing the Mayor and/or Business Administrator to execute the Risk Management Consultant's Agreement with World Insurance Associates for 2019

Council President Smith asked for a mover and second on this Consent Agenda

Mover: Mazzarella Second: Toal

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Council President opens the meeting to the public

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia Street: Just so that I understand what Brian and the Mayor had to discussed under resolution #2, Block 58, Lots 4 and 5, that is the existing building on Terminal?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, by the bridge.

Councilman Toal: Where the company store is.

Delia Collins: It is not going to be torn down?

Mr. Laezza: It is going to be basically upgraded to tie in with the Research and Development Plant that is going to be next to it.

Delia Collins: Okay.

Mr. Laezza: It will be continuous to what they are going to build on the empty lot.

Delia Collins: Can you tell me, or do you know what is happening on the corner of Terminal Avenue and Central where the bank was?

Councilman Mazarella: Dunkin' Donuts.

Delia Collins: Was the bank going to be torn down? Was that in the plan?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, that is in the plan.

Delia Collins: That was going to be in the plan to be torn down? Okay, I know that one time it was for lease.

Mr. Laezza: Yes, but they opt out. They were going to move in to the new section that was built and they backed out.

Delia Collins: Oh, okay. I have a personal question, maybe the Chief would know, or you (Mayor) would know. In the front of the police station at one time there was a memorial, it was fallen officers and also benches.

Mr. Laezza: Yes.

Delia Collins: That were purchased by residents of the town.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Correct.

Delia Collins: Have they been secured and will they be used?

Chief Matos: The benches, when they were taken out were damaged. But they are down in the DPW and what we plan to do is remove the plaques and return them to the families if they are still around.

Delia Collins: Well one of them was my mother.

Chief Matos: I don't know if your specific bench was there. Some of them were actually removed, if you remember, when that monument was first put in there was an over abundance of benches that were there and then some were removed and were placed in other locations around town. If you go to Picton Park, or Nevargic Park some benches were put there.

Delia Collins: Oh, so they were moved to there?

Chief Matos: Placed there, I don't know....

Delia Collins: But I can check with you or someone?

Chief Matos: I will find out from the DPW. And the monument is in storage until the building is completed.

Delia Collins: Will that be going back?

Chief Matos: It will be put back.

Delia Collins: Thank you.

Council President Smith: Thank you Delia.

A motion to close this portion of the meeting was made by Councilman Hund, second by Councilwoman Albanese

Roll call: All ayes
Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, Toal, Smith

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Council, thank your for attending Breakfast with Santa and the Tree Lighting, and the Menorah Lighting. It was a wonderful, wonder day for the community. Everyone seemed to be very, very pleased.

I have been bantering back and forth this weekend on Facebook with a lot of people about the Affordable Housing and the Walnut Avenue Site in particular, and unfortunately, some of our citizens, not a lot, some of our citizens have a lot of misconception's. I went back to the Planning Board Meeting of April 7, 2017, it was the presentation to the community and Public Hearing on the Affordable Housing Plan, that explains your Affordable Housing Plan from A to Z, in terms that were eloquently put.

All Affordable Housing questions can be answered by watching the Planning Board Meeting on April 7, 2017.

Edie on the meeting of this December, I would like to honor a citizen, Mike Pozyc for his work with the youth of Clark through many, many, many years.

You can see how great the State did salting in November. How about last week they were salting and brining roads with a sign up that says, "storm warning". Dan Zarrow came on the air, it is on 101.5 news that there was not a snowflake over New Jersey.

Our DPW is still cleaning up a lot of leaves, we have a major pile in the back of the building that the contractor is getting rid of, they are out there, they are doing a great job, the town is very, very clean.

I had a great kick last week, I was doing a job in Linden and I was waiting for someone to come to do a part and I was sitting in my truck watching Linden clean-up leaves, it was just comical. They take a loader and they go down one side of the street with the bucket and at a certain point they dump them in the middle of the street, then they back up and come down the other side of the street with a loader and they dump them in the middle, and then he turns around and pushes them down the street and the guy comes behind them with a jeep with a plow and he is pushing them down the street until I guess to a certain point then they load them up on the truck, then the street sweeper goes around three times on the same street to get them cleaned up. So maybe I will sell Clark's program to them.

When working in Westfield it was like taking your life in your hands getting out of the truck there. Piles of leaves, cars coming, they don't even look like they were cleaned up once yet. So, our guys are doing a terrific job, we have been through this town a lot, and still going. I think we will probably be putting clean-up leaves right until Christmas because, we are done, we are ready, if they put them out, we will have them up next week. But the fact remains that our people are just getting slow getting them out there. And with all of the rain that we are having, like Sunday was supposed to be a nice day, Scott and I thought that the town would be full of leaves on Monday, but it rained all day yesterday, so that is the problem with that.

We will be having our Holiday Luncheon, you all will be invited to that. I think that is about it. Any questions?

Councilwoman Albanese: Well I have a question on.... just really to go back to what you were saying about the COAH issue and the settlement. Didn't they include in our available land the Reservoir? John had to take it out?

Mayor Bonaccorso: At one time.

Councilwoman Albanese: They even included the Reservoir which is completely not buildable. The high school football field...it is just absurd, what was included in there. They are just not good with their properties.

The streets where we have the bump out for the traffic calming, we had talked about if we could get that line painted, something reflective because a couple of the senior citizens said that they can't see it at night and they don't know where all of those bump outs are.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Once we get done with our leaves, I will have Scott look at it. Maybe there is something that we could tape on to it, or screw in, some kind of reflector type thing.

Councilwoman Albanese: They even said that a line would be fine.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well the line around it, they wouldn't be able to see around it, you have to have something on it. I will see what Scott has.

Councilwoman Albanese: That would be great.

Councilman Hund: Can we have them removed?

Mr. Laezza: No, no 3rd Ward Councilman they will not be removed.

Councilman Hund: Thank you sir.

Councilwoman Albanese: The other item is that I know technically the library is separate but could we add them to our website in a couple of places just like another department?

Mr. Laezza: They are in website as a department but they have their own website.

Councilwoman Albanese: Just a link to it, I mean it is very hard to find I looked today again and I know that someone told be but it is really not that easy and I think with the money that we fund over there why not tell the citizens where it is, what is the big deal?

Mr. Laezza: The citizens know where it is. The police have their own website, the DPW has their own website.

Councilwoman Albanese: I would put them all in, why not make it easy, put the links in. If you are citizen that says "Clark seems like a nice town, let me check out their website and see what is offered in the community" Put the Fire Department, the Police Department link, the Library link, why not? It is just an electron, a little button that you press, why do we have to press so many buttons to get easy information? Just my opinion.

Township Clerk: Angel, if you can send me an email, I will talk to Jennifer.

Councilwoman Albanese: I mean I don't know if anyone else feels like you should be able to get the Fire Department, the Police Department, if you want to find out what this town is about, why not?

Township Clerk: I don't know how complicated the new website is, so Jennifer is the one to talk too.

Councilman Smith: Well there is room on the side that you can just put all of the departments.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, it is not a big deal to do it.

Mr. Laezza: It is already out there, you just have to search for it.

Councilwoman Albanese: I am just saying that it should be a two click thing.

Council President Smith: It should be right on the front page.

Mr. Laezza: It shouldn't be on the front page.

Councilwoman Albanese: I agree, no, I think that it should be.

Mr. Laezza: No, it shouldn't be on the front page. We have to put your pictures on the front page.

Councilwoman Albanese: There's no contact information for the Council.

Township Clerk: You have to click on "Government" you click on "Council" then you find all of the information.

Council President Smith: We are not on the front page we are on the second or third page. Good recommendations Councilwoman Albanese.

Councilwoman Albanese: That is pretty much it.

Mr. Laezza: The reason is that basically it is a pretty thing but the webpage is useless because only half of the people in Clark use it and we have to do everything on paper because that is all that you guys know, that is what happens. It is a double edge sword.

Township Clerk: The new people know that we have the website because I get all of those phone calls.

Councilwoman Albanese: Where to find this and that?

Township Clerk: Yes.

Mr. Laezza: There is a question on the front page "Where to Find" if someone pushes that could find the library.

Councilwoman Albanese: I put in "Library" and it doesn't come up.

Councilman Toal: Mayor, you just briefly mentioned Schieferstein's being connected to low income housing and the fair housing, I just want the residents in this town....

Council President Smith: Affordable Housing.

Councilman Toal: Schieferstein's is not selling anything, they have been there for 115 years, they have been designated as a possible, potential site maybe in the future if the property is sold, 115 years, in one family is not being sold anytime soon. If you talk to those boys over at Schieferstein's, Andrew and Freddie III, I was over there over the Thanksgiving holiday buying cider and those guys are there for another 115 years. So, again, I just don't want the media to pick up on this.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Brian, there's a lot of sites on there that may never get built.

Councilman Toal: That is what I want you to say.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I said it obviously on April 7, 2017, I said it to the Tap into Clark about 47 times. But when people want to listen, and hear it, they will, when they don't then this comes up as a Heavens to Betsy when did this happen?

Councilman Toal: Exactly.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You know what, I can understand if you don't get the newspaper in the morning, but everybody is walking around with an iPhone, everybody is on Facebook, everybody is on Social Media, the Tap into Clark is an electronic newspaper that is constantly, constantly reporting about this town. If you don't see that shame on you, plain and simple. If you don't want to go out and buy the local newspaper on Thursday or buy the fake news Star Ledger, I don't blame them people, I wouldn't either. But the bottom line is they have an iPhone, they have Facebook, the TAP is on their constantly. And if you don't want to be on Facebook, that's okay, the TAP will send it right to your email. So, when these people come up with to this Heavens to Betsey....and I was very kind answering everybody politely this weekend and I said to go and watch the video.

The Union County Mayors are going to have a meeting on December 13th, that I will not be attending I have to meet with Cub Scouts that night and one of the issues is affordable housing and this and that and they want to talk about it again. We talked about that last year when I hosted a couple of meeting here. I don't know where it is going, I don't know what it is going to do, but I mean it should go back to a COAH type agency and sit down with every town and go over it again. But it is what it is, I mean what is built is already built, the damage is already done. But what can I tell you?

Councilman Toal: Thank you Mr. President I just want to reaffirm to the residents that they don't think that they hear that. I want you to let them know it is not like that.

Council President Smith: Thank you.

Councilman Barr: Yes Mr. President, I am glad that Sal said that the leaves will be picked up probably until Christmas because I do my own leaves and the back yard was clean. I did it Thursday and it was clean and Saturday with the wind it looked like I didn't do the leaves, so I am glad that they are going to be picking them up until Christmas.

Councilman Hund: I will save mine comments for the next meeting.

Councilman Mazzarella: I understand what Brian was saying that he wanted to reaffirm with the residents. But I have to tell you our Mayor has mentioned so many times, especially, what about the branches? Every meeting he mentions branches and they still don't understand. Do you know what? He is absolutely right, if people want the information, go on the TAP.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You know Frank, don't get me wrong everyone is busy. Even if you don't know it, you had to hear of it, you had to hear it mentioned once or twice, you know, to say, "yeah, I remember seeing something about that, I really didn't get into it that deep, what is going on?" But people are acting like they never heard of this before. So, it becomes frustrating when you have to hear, "what about the traffic" I told one lady, the court doesn't care about your traffic. Do you get it? They don't care, they don't care about overcrowding the schools, they do not care. So, what do you expect us to do? "Well I hope that they find a way to build new schools" Sure, then we will be the prevailing wage men in at \$100.00, an hour to hand bricks to a mason then the building that could be done for 3 million will cost 19 million and we are going to be in taxes up to our you know what's."

Councilman Mazzarella: You know, really maybe those few people that are doing that are just malcontents and they just want to create an issue.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, it is not political, I don't take it as political Frank. It is just frustrating, you get tired of it after a while. Do you know what bothered me the most this weekend was that when I told you on Saturday to go to the video, go to the video, stop asking me and go to the video.

Council President Smith: Councilman Mazzarella, my neighbor came up to me this weekend and said, "Oh I hear that there are 1000 apartments going over at the Evening Reality lot" and I said, "Doc", Doctor Mark and his wife, I said, "I spoke to you about this since we introduced it two years ago and you know that it is only 100 and something, so don't listen to these people." It hasn't changed, so to your point, they only want to hear what they....

Councilman Toal: It is what is told through the grapevine.

Two things very quickly, the tree lighting again was a long day with Christmas and the kids. The future of Clark is in good hands if you meet some of these kids. These kids and their parents are just a wonderful bunch of people.

I was briefly talking to Councilman Barr early before the meeting, I just want again, to our Emergency Services and our Police Department.... I was coming home from work late at night and on Terhune Road, one of our longtime residents Peg Phelan, who is from Saint Agnes was in good health but there was the squad. I pull in because that is what I do to go and see if she is okay. She was in a wheelchair in the living room with her nurse's assistant and all that, very quick story, I am going to condense it, she had a Brian Toal pen in her hand and she was writing my name, Councilman Toal. She was basically saying that she didn't know anybody, she was afraid of everybody around her. Until we go an officer on site, I don't know who the officer was, but a really nice man. We basically calmed her down because she was pulling the things off of her. And the

County EMT came in and said to me, “who are you?” We were able to get Father Dennis from Saint Agnes over because he told me that it was two hours.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Did she pass?

Councilman Toal: Yes. I just want to say to Chief Matos that your men who were there that night, to our squad, to the EMT’s, this is a lady who has been in this town for a billions years (Mayor Bonaccorso: right) quote that, a billion years, but when you see the professionalism and the caring and loving of our officers who come into a lady who is in there with a healthcare worker who really doesn’t know the town, does not know anybody, you have a bunch of strangers standing over her, someone grabbed my hand and said, “time to go” that was heartwarming. The professionalism of our officers, our squad just sent home that even in her last moments, the family was there. the County EMT’s came in first then our officers....

Chief Matos: The County EMT’s?

Councilman Toal: The County EMT’s came in first because the health care worker called them, so they came in. So, our officers, our people got there, but then when she saw Clark is was warm and fuzzy, it was nice. I just want to say again, when you see it up close and you know one of our residents for a long time, I talk about it at the meetings but when you are actually there, at the end of their time, it is that special knowing that we were there to provide services to the family, the daughter showed up two hours later, I didn’t get out of there until two in the morning with the father. So, thank you to our Department. That’s all I have, thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. Laezza: Yes. On December 17th, the new carts will be delivered to each home for recycling that starts January 1, 2019. The Mayor and I will be taping a show some time next week to have run on the television daily until January 1, 2019 and the people still do not know that we have a new recycling program starting in January.

Councilwoman Albanese: We should put it on the front page of our website.

Mr. Laezza: It will be on the front page. It will be so simple that all you have to do is look at your recycling can and it will tell you when they are going to pick up in your neighborhood.

Council President Smith: Every other Saturday.

Mr. Laezza: We are going to try and make it easy, but it is difficult.

Councilman Hund: So, how long do you think it will take for the carts to be delivered?

Mr. Laezza: Before the 21st. The can belongs to the property and not the homeowner, when they move it stays there.

Chief Matos: Actually, I was just wondering if anyone had a chance to read the article, obviously it was the slanted use of force expose that the Star Ledger put out there.

It's so obvious what they did. It's just ridiculous, I don't believe half of the statistics that they have about Clark. The problem is that they are looking at a piece of paper, they are not actually looking at the incident and what it was about. I don't know where they get, for instance, that we put 21 people in the hospital during that time period.

Councilwoman Albanese: Have you called them?

Chief Matos: No, I haven't. If the individual suffered a scratch, well then that is an injury, on the paperwork we would just document it as an injury. Or if a person gets "jailitis", if they are under arrest, at that point everybody wants to go to the hospital, they go down to Rahway Hospital and two hours later they come back, well, that is an injury. But to make it seen like we put twenty-one people in the hospital, they just say that we injured twenty-one people. Well, any reader would read that and say, well, obviously, they are reading it as, "you put twenty-one people in the hospital". And there is no way, there is no way. Then they get into the African American statistics per capital which it's if the Clark Police Department arrests two African Americans in one year, we just blew that statistic out of the water because of the population per capita. And to sit here and say that you have a 2,046% more chance for an African American to be assaulted by forced used against you as a police officer in Clark is absolutely ridiculous.

Councilwoman Albanese: Who is the author?

Chief Matos: I know that the Chiefs Association has rebutted the reporting and has sent letters to the Star Ledger but I also find it disheartening that that the Attorney General jumped on the bandwagon.

Council President Smith: I did read that as well. I did watch, and I was not going to bring this up, but I watched a very disturbing Youtube video that my daughter sent me about the car accident in Ewing with the students and what the first responders had to go through, the police, the medics, the fire and what they had to do at that scene to extract the people, I give my hats off to them. I don't know how you all do it, I would not be able to. It is a sad, sad incident, hopefully everyone will be okay from it. I understand that there is some, obviously some very severe injuries, it does not look too good for some, but again, I watched the whole video and I was almost brought to tears, it was rough video to watch. Again, my hats off to you Chief, and your Fire Department Al.

Chief Matos: I don't know if you guys are aware but the other drive, of the other car, was charged today.

Council President Smith: I figured at two in the morning something had to be wrong.

Chief Matos: Assault by auto. The other driver that hit (Council President Smith: hit them head on).

Mayor Bonaccorso: I don't think that he is doing well.

Chief Matos: There were six people and two in the other.

Council President Smith: For those of you who don't know it was a resident of town, Mike Sot, who graduated two years ago. He was in a severe accident with other students.

Councilman Mazzarella: He is pretty critical.

Council President Smith: Yes, he is.

Mr. Laezza: He was the designated driver and he did not drink.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Correct.

Council President Smith: So, another innocent victim.

Chief Matos: From what I understand he was ferrying party goers back and forth.

Mr. Laezza: Right, he was the designated driver, he was not a drinker.

Council President Smith: The reason I brought it up was that you mentioned before about the lady and the medics and the police and stuff. I don't know how you (police) do all of this stuff.

Councilman Hund: Just say a prayer for the Sot family for Michael's recovery.

Council President Smith: Anyhow on a lighter note, or a better note, was the whole Sunday after Thanksgiving, the Breakfast with Santa, the tree lighting, and the holiday festival here was a very large turnout. The weather was great and it was another fun day for the citizens. We do things right here so hopefully we will continue to that. That is all I have this evening.

Township Clerk: I forgot to add this one resolution. There will be another resolution on the agenda on the 17th, and it just our elevator company for the Police Department, they are just increasing their monthly fee by \$10.00, a month.

Council President Smith: Good thing that we are not going to have an elevator in the new building. So that could just be added?

Township Clerk: I will add it to the Consent unless anybody has an objection.

Councilwoman Albanese: Consent is fine.

Council President Smith: Mark do you have anything to add?

Mark Dugan: I have nothing.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Albanese, second by Councilman Hund

Roll call: All ayes

Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, Toal, Smith

