

**COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
January 7, 2019
7:30 pm**

ROLL CALL:

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

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.

Regular order of business will be suspended on January 22nd for the Volunteer of the Year Presentation

Township Clerk: Just a side note that at the regular meeting we will have a presentation by our Recreation Director for Volunteer of the Year.

Council President Toal: Outstanding, that will be noted for January 22nd

PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

1. **19-03 ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN LANDS BY THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE WIDENING IMPROVEMENT AND SIGNALIZATION OF WILSON DRIVE AT THE INTERSECTION OF WESTFIELD AVENUE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK**

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: That is for the new police station so that Emerald (Place) could line up with the driveway and not be such a safety hazard there.

Mr. Laezza: We had a discussion with the Board of Education and they will be passing a like resolution to turn the property over too us.

Council President Toal: And this will help with the traffic flow when the kids are getting out of school?

Councilwoman Albanese: Correct.

Councilman Smith: Zero-dollar amount?

Mr. Laezza: Zero.

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

2. 19-04 AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Discussion: None

Township Clerk: We do this every year before we introduce the budget.

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance
Mover: O'Connor Second: Albanese

RESOLUTIONS:

3. Appointing Thomas Buczynski and Giovannina Prisco as Class II Special Law Enforcement Officers effective March 12, 2019

Discussion: None

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Resolution
Mover: Mazzarella Second: Barr

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

4. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2018 taxes in the amount of \$18,638.10

Discussion: None

5. Authorizing the Tax Collector to settle a tax appeal for Block 71 Lot 4 as authorized by the Tax Court of New Jersey in the amount of \$1,580.39

Discussion: None

6. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$1,850.00

Discussion: None

7. Authorizing the Tax Collector to accept and process electronic tax payments and sewer utility payments through utilization of Automatic Clearing House Credits

Discussion: None

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Consent Agenda
Mover: O'Connor Second: Barr

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 Councilman O'Connor made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting, seconded by Councilman Smith

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: You heard about the driveway at the police station. John and I met with the architect, Chief Pedro and the construction managers the other day to finally get a layout done. The Chief is happy with it and we know what the floor plan is going to look like for the court house and the police station. Now they will be going to cost estimating so that we get a cost of it and doing the outside design. So, it is moving along pretty good finally, and it worked out really well.

We met with the Department of Correction on Friday so that they can approve the jail in the building and a lot of that stuff goes on.

We cleaned leave right up to Christmas, and even a little bit after this year, the people were late getting them out, so that is all done.

We are moving well as far as DPW goes, everybody is ready for any kind of snow that we may be getting or not getting, so far so good, let's keep our fingers crossed.

You know that our recreations programs are up and running for the new year, so we are off to a good start. Looking forward to a good year, hopefully there are very few hiccups.

Councilman Smith: Recycling?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Recycling, that is all done. I mean the trauma is over, I think.

Councilman Smith: The reason that I bring that up is because someone in ward one was not picked up on Saturday.

Chief Matos: It was my neighborhood.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You didn't get picked up?

Chief Matos: That whole neighborhood. I am assuming the whole other side of the railroad tracks didn't get picked up, but they came by this morning.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Okay. The only thing guys to make your life easier, whenever there is a recycling problem just have them call Jennifer directly. Get in the habit of calling Jennifer, she handles it, don't go through the middle guy, pick up the phone and make that call. There are no small recycle cans, this is what we bargained for, this is what we got, this is what they do. If people are elderly and they have a problem with the can, then tell them to put it in a clear plastic bag, clear, you have to be able to see through it and they can put it by the curb if they have nine or ten little things are the end of the recycle period. Don't use the pail, you can put it in the clear bag, we

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talked about that today her and I. I got a call from a constituent that was thrilled with this. They can obviously throw everything in one pail they don't have to tie papers, they don't need to do any of that. Again, Council it was a cost savings method that we had to do and this was the best program that was locked in for five years. Who doesn't like the pail but when they get the tax bill, they don't like the tax bill, so you can ask them what would they like to choose. After a while you have to stop entertaining it. I had one lady, Ms. Hofschneider, actually it was Pat Hofschneider aunt that no matter what you do it is never happy. I said, "number one I am not buying what you are saying, number two, throw it in the garbage pail as far as I am concerned. I am not answering anymore, no matter what I said to do, she gave me the "what about that?" Do what you want, I am not interested.

Councilman O'Connor: I think that the Township of Clark posted something that if you had issues or you were missed to call PUMA directly.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Pat, yes, she did, the problem is they didn't know they were getting into a new recycling program, after we sent mail to their house, shows, the TAP. The other thing is also Council, sometimes you just have to have some gumption and just say, if you are not a big tech person, we get it, you are not Facebooking, you are not reading the TAP, then it is your job to go on our website once a month to see if anything new has popped up on there. The home page will tell you if there is anything new that popped up. We can not go and ring every doorbell. Imagine if we had cans that were small, medium and large, how would we know which house got what? Who is going to do that? Think about it.

Councilman O'Connor: I agree.

Mayor Bonaccorso: How do we know if a senior is there? If I senior did not just move his divorced daughter with three kids in? How would we know?

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you. I just want to mention that on February 2nd the Library is having their major golf outing and if some of you are interested you could buy two holes for \$75.00 and one for \$50.00. If you want to join in as a group. You can design your own hole; some people have come up with some really creative things. A lot of the students at ALJ, have come up with some really neat contraptions and it's a very nice fundraising event. The game is putting and that is what is going on over there.

Councilman Barr: No report.

Councilman Mazarella: No Comment.

Councilman O'Connor: Yes, I just want to let Mr. Laezza know, again, and I mentioned it on the Reorganization Day but we are happy with the job that he has done, we are looking forward to the great job that he will do in 2019, and we are fortunate to have him.

Councilman Smith: I have no comments this evening.

Councilman Toal: Just a foot note: I was on council in 1986, in 86' when we brought recycling into the Township of Clark, we receive the same reaction by the taxpayers ten-fold worst because everyone had it for one system. It was crazy, and it took 6 months for things to settle down and for people to get used to the new system. So, it is nothing new, that system stayed in from 1986 to current. You have history repeating itself and it just takes time for people to get to learn and go through the steps. Yes, Mr. Mayor it will all work itself out as it did in the past, history repeats itself.

Mayor Bonaccorso: The only thing good about the recycling can that came out is on Clark Neighbors, it took away the questions about affordable housing.

Mr. Laezza: I am donating a \$50.00 gift certificate to a student at ALJ who designs a new emblem for TV36. So, when that goes on, we have something that will generate what tv36 is. It is out of my pocket.

Council President Toal: That is very nice of you.

Chief Matos: No report tonight.

Township Clerk: Because you like history and you mentioned that this used to be called the Executive Meeting that was an incorrect term corrected by then Council President Albanese, and myself. So, not Al Barr it was Councilwoman Albanese and myself. We corrected that and made it the Workshop Meeting because the Executive Meeting means that the public is not invited, we just corrected it.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

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

ADJOURNMENT

**COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
February 4, 2019
7:30 pm**

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Smith, Toal
Absent: Barr
Albanese arrived: 7:48pm

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

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PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

**1. Redevelopment Plan: Walnut Ave. Area in Need of Noncondemnation
Redevelopment Planning Board Review March 7th**

Township Clerk: We will be receiving a redevelopment plan for the Walnut Avenue Site which is an area in need of noncondemnation redevelopment and that will be reviewed by the Planning Board on March 7th. I spoke to the Planner today and he is preparing it as we speak.

Council President Toal: For the public information that is the Evening Reality Property on the corner of Walnut and Valley Road.

Township Clerk: The Council will introduce it on February 19th, the Planning Board will review it on March 7th, and then it will come back to you.

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance
Motion: Hund Second: Smith

RESOLUTIONS:

2. Authorizing Expanded Area in Need of Noncondemnation Redevelopment Study at the Walnut Ave. Site to include Lot 10

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

3. Appointing Evandro Galli and Andrew Beach as Members of the Clark Volunteer Fire Department

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

4. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2018 taxes in the amount of \$4,246.47

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

Council as the Board of Health:

5. Accepting and Approving the Annual Health Report for 2018

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

Council as the Pool Utility:

6. Authorizing and Directing the Council President to enter into Employment Contracts for the Pool Director and Assistant Managers for the 2019 pool season
7. Adopting the Pool Rules and Regulations
8. Authorizing the Pool Fees to be charged for the 2019 Season

Mr. Laezza: Basically, Brittany Hillier as Assistant Manager is pending.

Township Clerk: I received her resume today and she is amazing.

Councilman Hund: Who is that.

Township Clerk: Very, very well qualified.

Council President Toal: For what position?

Township Clerk: A new candidate for Assistant Manager for the pool. She has all kind of certifications, pool lifeguard, CPR, oxygen administration, first aid. She has worked at pools.

Councilman Smith: She is very well qualified.

Mr. Laezza: Is everybody aware of the of the fee structure? We are going up \$25 on everybody.

Councilman O'Connor: In here is the new schedule.

Council President Toal: So, the Township Pool for 2019, has a new fee schedule, that is what you are saying to us?

Mr. Laezza: Correct.

Council President Toal: And that's included in here and that will be notified to the public of the changes.

Mr. Laezza: Absolutely. Basically, we set up different criteria for grandparents and nanny's, there is a separate pool fee for that kind of structure, we never had that before.

Councilman O'Connor: (tape inaudible) of husband and wife, you made it couple.

Mr. Laezza: Right.

Councilman Smith: Bottom line is that there were families that had nanny's and grandparents, and it was very difficult to keep track, so now basically if you are a grandparent and you want to bring a child or two you get a (inaudible) it is all outlined and it solves everything. And we're still the least expensive in the area.

Council President Toal: And the best pool in town.

Councilman O'Connor: Best pool in town, yes.

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on Resolution #6, #7, and #8

Motion: Smith 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.

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia Street: There was some issues on Clark Neighbors these past couple of days and over the weekend regarding the Ordinance about parking on the streets, 48 hours and all that. Someone had made mention and I never heard it, and you know that I have been in every meeting, is there an ordinance in town regarding vehicles when there is snow?

Mr. Laezza: There has always been, it has been 3 years old.

Delia Collins: How long?

Mr. Laezza: Three years old.

Mayor Bonaccorso: What do you mean with snow Delia? Explain that.

Delia Collins: Move all vehicles off of the street when there is snow.

Chief Matos: On certain streets.

Delia Collins: Oh, certain streets.

Mayor Bonaccorso: What I ask Delia when we get a significant snow storm is if you would please move your car off the street on the non-snow emergency roads so that the DPW can do a better job for everyone. But there are certain roads in this town that are snow emergency roads and they have to get off of the street. Unlike the neighboring town that normally tow people, we don't try to do that in Clark.

Delia Collins: But on the non-emergency street...

Mayor Bonaccorso: We don't tow them, we have the police actually go out of their way to go to peoples houses and bang on the door because they can run it through the (tape inaudible), they have done this before and say, "hey, move the car we don't want to tow you but it has to get off of the street" Because like Alice Lane, Coldevin, those little streets. Some up in the third ward, most of the west side is in pretty good shape. So, yes, we do that. As far as the ordinance goes, you know Delia....

Delia Collins: I don't care about....

Mayor Bonaccorso: I just want to explain to you because you are an aficionado, you come and you are educated on what goes on in the town, you are at the meetings, you listen. See, I mean by now everyone should know us, we have been here long enough. I don't wake up in the morning or any of these guys wake up and come in with a brainstorm that we are going to do this tomorrow. It is because people are calling us complaining, they are saying, "this guy has his car carrier out in the street", "he doesn't move it", "it looks like hell" blah, blah, blah, blah. So, at that point we send our people out to diligently look to see if there is really a problem or it is just a crappy person that you can never make happy. And in this situation, it is the truth, there were problems. You know somebody has a work truck and they drive it home at 5:00 and they leave at 7:30 in the morning that is their work truck, it is here, in and out and it is gone, we understand that. But there are people that have big bucket trucks that leave them out on the street, they move them once every two or three weeks, you know this is a nice town, Clark, and if you want to be a first-class town you have to act like a first-class town. And we're not trying to make things hard on people but we are trying to make them understand that part of being in business is to rent or buy a piece of property and make it your business property, you can't run it out of your home. I had a lady come in the other day on the street in Clark, nice, nice elderly lady, she said, "oh Mayor I have seen your picture but I never met you", so she is not a chronic complainer. She said, "there is a cart carrier out in front of my street, right here in the third ward, a narrow street, blah, blah, blah. So, we sent the police department, well, actually we sent Mike Khoda over and he used some unnecessary not so nice language to Mike. And Mike said that he

was going to have the police department come over, and he used some not so nice language about the police department. And then our traffic sergeant went over and talked to the guy, the guy said, "look, I just come home and I go" Well, if that is the case we are not trying to hurt anybody, hey I make my run, I come home, I get my afternoon run, I have a sandwich, a coffee and I am out of here in an hour, that is fine, I have done that with my own truck years ago when I lived at my mothers. But at this point it is not going to be there overnight, and days on end. So, the police are going to monitor the situation. Well, we didn't wake up that morning and decide to do this, we got bonified complaint from someone.

Delia Collins: Well what I'm trying to say is we don't have an ordinance like Westfield and Cranford do that we have to move your car off of any street.

Chief Matos: The ordinance covers the snow removal which is removing vehicles when the road is snow covered. Covered on smaller roads and where there is parking allowed. So, Raritan Road, most of Raritan Road there is no parking so you are not going to see that sign there because there is no parking.

Delia Collins: It's a County Road, so you have to move.

Chief Matos: There is no parking there anyway.

Delia Collins: Oh yeah, that's right.

Chief Matos: So, you are not going to see that sign there because there is no parking there regardless. This is for the.....where you are going to see the sign that says, "No parking when road is snow covered" Westfield Ave, the smaller roads so that the snow plows can get by.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Delia, if we are getting a big blizzard, twenty, thirty inches by the power of my office I can say yes, I am declaring this a snow emergency and I want every car moved off every road, I can do that. But on some of the bigger, wider roads, and mostly up in the West side of town where they are at, it is not necessary.

Delia Collins: What I am trying to get at is somebody parks their car in our neighborhood, you know we have a good width of street.

Councilman O'Connor: A car or a commercial vehicle?

Delia Collins: A car.

Councilman O'Connor: I know I just wanted to make sure a car.

Delia Collins: And they park their car in front of their home and they don't move it during a snow storm. Can they get a ticket?

Chief Matos: Are there signs on Georgia that say...

Delia Collins: No.

Chief Matos: Then no.

Delia Collins: Okay.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Is Clark neighbors saying that we can?

Delia Collins: Oh, no, no, no.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I was just wondering.

Delia Collin: This was a resident about an ordinance.

Council President Toal: Anything else Delia? Are we all good?

Delia Collins: No.

Council President Toal: Okay.

Delia Collins: No, I want to know because if you have someone over to your home and it snows and they can't....

Mayor Bonaccorso: No.

Chief Matos: The ordinance does not cover....

Delia Collins: The ordinance in Cranford is every street, everywhere.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You know Delia we hope people would make it better, but do you know what I also get Delia, I get roads in Clark that are on the narrow side and maybe they are not on the snow emergency list, and our plow kind of goes down the middle and does the best it can, and then we get people that call me the next day and say, "they didn't plow our street". That is a lie, we go to every street. What you want is now that everybody went to work, you want us to come back and clean up your street, just ask us that and we will be glad to do it, do you know what I mean? The cars leave and it looks like hell so just say, "Mayor everyone left for work can you sent the truck up here to clean up our street a little bit? I would say, "sure, no problem" The next day we go around doing that anyway. The first job is to get everything open, second job at the end of the day, the next day is to go back and tidy everything up. It has been that way for the 19 years that I have been here.

Council President Toal: We are a tidy town.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We try to be Brian.

Delia Collins: I don't like to post anything that is not true.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, no I appreciate you asking, I wish other people would.

Delia Collins: I try to be truthful.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You are, I know.

Delia Collins: And some people aren't.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, I know Delia, I appreciate it, you can ask any question that you want, we are glad to give you the answer if we have it.

Seeing no one coming forward Councilman O'Connor made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting, seconded by Councilman Hund

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: The other thing is that today on New Jersey 101.5, I heard that in Trenton they are going to enact a rain tax. And John and I talked about it today and unfortunately Mr. Triarsi came in before and delivered the bad news that it was passed today by the State of New Jersey. This new law is going to put more burden on municipalities, but I want to read it deeper and see more about it until I go completely out of my mind. But this might be the tax that people in this state should just get the hell out once and for all. Because now the next thing that they are going to do is put a sunshine tax that if the sun is shining you have to pay a tax that day. This is for water that runs off your property. They need sixty billion dollars to try and correct what they seem to feel is an infrastructure problem because water that is running off of your property that you have fertilizer on, dog pee feces on, animal feces on, whatever may be is getting into our streams. First off, I never heard New Jersey American Water Company complain about it, I have never heard that and they sell the water to the State of New Jersey. Number Two, this is a snow flake tax because they want to tax everything in this State. They are going to leave it up to the Municipalities that we are going to be the bad guys again. He will salt Murphy because he will salt anything that doesn't move and the rest of the Democratic Legislature wants to put taxes on you and say, "local government you go and take care of it, you go and explain it in your budget, and we will sit down here in Trenton with a cushy job protected areas because we could never get unelected the way the map is drawn" So, now as I was sitting here because I couldn't believe that Joe was right and Joe, I am sorry for doubting you, nothing personal, no nothing personal....

Council President Toal: Let the record show that Councilwoman Albanese is here, 7:48pm.

Mr. Triarsi: That is what I heard.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well, Joe unfortunately you were dead right because I text Assembly Minority Leader John Bramnick and I asked him if the rain tax pass today, and he said yes, it's a nightmare.

And I'm going to tell you something, this has got to be one of the saddest days in New Jersey as far as I am concerned, if the water that runs off of your property is taxed in Trenton. I mean it is time for people to run out of this State, us included by the way.

Councilman Smith: Who is measuring it?

Mr. Laezza: Basically, what happens is, even if it runs out of legally, they want us to change all of our storm sewer systems, which is at our cost, worth 60 billion dollars throughout the State, put them on each side of the street with something to take out the salt all the things before it runs into our reservoir down the stream.

Council President Toal: So, it's going to be like a toll on the sewers?

Mr. Laezza: It is going to be a big capital project so that....

Councilman O'Connor: It is a capital project?

Mayor Bonaccorso: But they want us to start it a utility also.

Mr. Laezza: Start as a utility and then charge them a fee to pay that bill not a tax, but it is a fee.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Now the Democrats in Trenton want to make sure their friends in the engineering business who write big checks to them get millions on top of millions of dollars that they can take from the taxpayer to draw up these projects and everything else.

Councilman O'Connor: So, they have the builders, right?

Mayor Bonaccorso: They got the builders, they got everybody.

Councilman O'Connor: Now they have the engineers.

Mayor Bonaccorso: But I heard something too tonight on the news, let's see if I am Nostradamus I can look into the future, I might be clairvoyant. Colorado wants to pass a magic mushroom law, that you can now eat magic mushrooms and hallucinate, how far are we behind that guys? If Colorado can figure out a way to tax it and make money, we will be right behind it. Because salty in Trenton, he doesn't have enough money. The Legislature in Trenton doesn't have enough money. I am going to tell you something, if the Republican Party can't win the Assembly election in November and the Gubernatorial three years from now, they should all go home. If the people in this State are that dumb and you can quote me that they would keep returning people to the Legislature that do nothing but tax you every single day. But they want to turn it on the municipalities, Mayor and Councils, they want to turn it on the municipalities and they want to be able to say, "Well, your municipality has the storm water utility, we don't know". Oh, you do know because you passed the law. Let me tell you something guys, it is embarrassing at this point. You guys know that I am not a big flag waving party guy, because I think that both parties stink, as far as I am concerned. Okay one kills you and the other is afraid, so that is what we got, one is tax you to the poor house and other is afraid to fight back, I mean this is ridiculous. So, we'll see

where this burden hits the community, how we are going to explain this to the people, and watch Trenton run. But don't forget Camden, Newark, Jersey City, Patterson they will all come out because they get their hand out, they get all of their taxes paid for their schools, their kids go to better places than we do, they will be out voting these people back in Trenton. You don't pay you don't care, remember that. And maybe it is time other than me and Donald Trump, people start talking the truth in this State. When they got their hands out, they are running down there voting for the Democrats because they can't get enough. And if people here in suburbia are getting killed with this stuff. Apartments popping up all over, rain water tax, give me a break. There will be a mushroom tax nest, you watch.

Councilwoman Albanese: No comment.

Councilman Hund: No comment.

Councilman Mazzarella: No comment.

Councilman O'Connor: Thanks to the new members of the Fire Department, it takes a lot to volunteer. I want make sure they know they are recognized and they understand that we thank them very much to help our community in this time.

Councilman Smith: No comments at this moment.

Council President Toal: I have no comments at this time.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Hund

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

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

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
March 4, 2019
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dispensed

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PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

- 1. ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK, COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY ADOPTING THE WALNUT AVENUE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR TH PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 155, LOTS 7 AND 10 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK**

Township Clerk: I don't know who received their email at the end of the day but this was revised

John Laezza: As you know we had a court ruling with regard to what we should do with certain vacant properties or under-utilized properties in the Township of Clark, that ordinance was clarified. We then went through the process, the first-round process of having our Planning Board do a study of certain specific areas of those areas in need of redevelopment. These two properties were part of those studies.

On March 7th is our hope that the Planning Board will accept the studies and accept the redevelopment plan that they are reviewing on Thursday night. Should there be a favorable action on the part of the Planning Board on Thursday night, this ordinance will be introduced by the governing body if they accept the findings of the Planning Board in relationship to what is being built there.

Presently the redevelopment plan that's going to be presented to the Planning Board when you get it basically indicates that the plans for the redevelopment plan conform to our zone that we set aside for that property in the court ruling with regard to housing either accommodates the 177 units of housing that we indicated with 28 affordable housing to accommodate that portion of it. That plan is now a redevelopment plan accepted by the Planning Board recommended to this council and this council adopts it, we have to adopt it by ordinance as what this ordinance would say. So, it's a prejudgment but if that's not happening on for March 18th. Any questions?

Council President Toal: And this will meet our obligation for...

John Laezza: everyone talking at once (tape inaudible).

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance
Motion: Mazzearella Second: Barr

2. DISCUSSION: Chapter 16, Article 1, Municipal Pool Utility Committee

John Laezza: Council President and Members of Council, Councilman Smith did an outstanding job in deciding everything that should be done to try to make it more consistent with what we do. Basically, everything that he has in there is what we've had done statutorily by being a Municipal Pool that was created in 1974. This is only creating the Municipal Pool Utility Committee. That would be to say that we would have something like this for each of the liaison's that we already have for Finance and for DPW and for the Police and for the Fire Department and alike. We don't have any (tape inaudible) on what those liaison's do or not do, we know what they do by our own direction or do individually with them. So just to dissolve Chapter 16 and leave it open for other things would be sufficient, because everything that's in there already is statutorily covered by everything we do in regard to the Pool. If it's the position of the liaison's or our recreation department to want to set forth procedures that he's managers should do, that should be spelled off in their contract and in your standard operated procedures as to how the liaison wants that pool to run. But it only can be run effectively through the Municipal Council sitting in as the Pool Committee, the Treasurer and myself with the advice from the Recreation Director as to what changes he might want or what his needs are.

Councilman Smith: Mr. Laezza said it all. I'll talk to Ralph and we'll put together some type of duties and responsibilities that the managers and assistant managers know.

John Laezza: We should have an ordinance or a resolution to dissolve this ordinance.

Township Clerk: I was just going to ask that question. So, we are just going to do a brief ordinance that just says "Chapter 16, Article 1 is repealed and reserved for future use".

Mark Dugan: So actually, there are several instances where I think it needs to repeal, right, there's more than one that I saw there.

Township Clerk: Okay

John Laezza: You can probably repeal them all.

Councilman Smith: Can you repeal the whole ordinance?

Mark Dugan: You probably would have to create a new one.

Councilwoman Albanese: It's better just to modify, right?

Mark Dugan: Everywhere you see the word dissolve, you'll probably want to repeal that section.

Councilman Smith: But like the duties and responsibilities of Director, should we appeal that to or do you want something in writing in here in the ordinance.

John Laezza: That's not (tape inaudible) your contract with your Director of Recreation.

Councilman Smith: Right, so we don't need a specific area, we are just going to have so...basically we're repealing the whole ordinance.

Councilman O'Connor: And then like John said and you said, let's just (tape inaudible) what job descriptions what job description is his responsibilities because the roles of our government isn't apparently stated by on fact...

Councilman Smith: But back to Edie's point, do we still need to keep Chapter 16 just on the books opened...

John Laezza: Keep it on the books, so we don't have to take it out in case.

Township Clerk: I'll tell you why that's a good thing to do, is because when you ask them to renumber everything, it costs a lot of money. So, if you just reserve that section and then if you never use... (Mark Dugan: tape inaudible) it you are saving a couple thousand dollars.

Councilwoman Albanese: So, reserve 16 even though there's nothing in it.

Councilman Smith: Right.

Township Clerk: So, Chapter 16 has other Boards and Commission, so it's just really Chapter 16, Article 1. And it will be stated repeal or reserved.

Council President Toal asked for a mover and seconded on this Proposed Ordinance
Motion: Smith Second: O'Connor

RESOLUTIONS:

3. Budget Compliance Resolution allowing the Budget to be read by title

Township Clerk: I sent it over to the Library and we have certification from the Director of the Library that she received it, so we can read the Budget by title. I also want to insert the Budget Self-Exam in there in between three and four and then the Public Hearing on the Budget.

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this Resolution and Budget Self-Exam
Mover: O'Connor Second: Albanese

4. Public Hearing and Adoption of the Municipal Budget for Calendar Year 2019

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

5. Designating Lots 7 and 10 in Block 155 as an Area in Need of Non-Condensation Redevelopment

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this Resolution
Mover: Mazzarella Second: Barr

6. Award of Contract for repairs to the Clark Community Pool (Bid opening March 6th)

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

- 6a. Authorizing the Mayor and/or Business Administrator to sign Edison Heating and Cooling Contract

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

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

7. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of 2019 sewer fees in the amount of \$280.00.
8. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$10,627.27.
9. Authorizing tax refund.

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Consent Agenda
Mover: Toal Second: Mazzarella

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 Toal 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 Barr

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes
Albanese, Barr, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Smith, Toal

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Councilwoman Albanese: No comments.

Councilman Barr: I spoke to different people and with the snow that we just had, I have to give kudos to the Department of Public Works. They were out early plowing and they did a very good job.

Councilman Mazzarella: I saw a number of DPW trucks out, they really did a good job.

Councilman O'Connor: I just want to thank Mr. Laezza and his department for the Budget.

Councilman Smith: No comment.

Council President Toal: I just want to reiterate our gratitude to our fire department getting called out on what I call a ridiculous call but it turned out into a lot more, the environmental impact is still unknown. But again, to our fire department, to the police who responded down there for all of the neighborhood and all that. The neighbors were not happy with the smell, it got into their houses. Also, thanks to the quick response with the County and for all that participated with mutual aid. And we will wait for the DEP report which we like to give to the community.

Councilman O'Connor: I just like to say one more thing. Again John, you said there were 24 firemen from Clark there? (John Laezza: correct) These are volunteer, our community is lucky to have them.

Police Chief Matos: The Clark Police Department is joining the Sot Family in their support of the John Elliott Hero Campaign. John Elliott was a New Jersey Naval Academy graduate who lost his life to a drunk driver in 2000. On June 28th there's going to be a Clark Family Day as Somerset Patriots Game in honor of Michael Sot. And portion of the proceeds will benefit the John Elliott Hero Campaign. You are going to start seeing our police cars with a sticker on the back that will basically be a reminder to people to use designated drivers and to avoid drunk driving.

Councilman O'Connor: Is that for Clark or is that going to be statewide campaign.

Police Chief Matos: There's a lot of other departments that do it but this is for Clark.

Township Clerk: No comments.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Albanese, seconded by Councilman Smith

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

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

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
April 1, 2019
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

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

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.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

1. ADOPTING THE WESTFIELD AVENUE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 105, LOTS 2 AND 26.01 AND BLOCK 91 LOT 21

Mr. Laezza: The Planning Board adopted the area in need of redevelopment for the property formally known as the A&P site, Block 105, Lot 2 and Lot 26.01. When you have in front of you is a draft of the complete, the revised ordinance will be sent to you tomorrow. It basically accommodates the draft that you have before you we are going to be adopting this on April 15th. Basically, this is the parameters of the redevelopment plan approved by the Planning Board and it will come back to us on the 15th to adopt it, it is before the Planning Board this Thursday and they should be approving it. This is the once again the culmination of the inactivity of the Downtown Village over the last 18 years. Under the Mayors leadership we have been trying to get it done. We have threatened condemnation and everybody seemed to wake up. So, this plan accommodates and apartment unit with two commercial developments underneath it.

Council President Toal: Has any commercial been identified yet for the sites?

Mr. Laezza: No.

Councilman Smith: So, the bank is staying on the corner that is there now, that is Investors, I believe (Mr. Laezza: The bank is staying on the corner), and Ace Hardware is staying (Mr. Laezza: Ave Hardware is staying), so this is the property between the bank and Ace Hardware. There are a few houses kind of behind and they are staying. The parking for this is going to be behind the Investors and underneath, correct?

Council President Toal: There is an underground garage?

Councilwoman Albanese: Yes. There will be retail in the front?

Councilman Smith: Yes, and probably behind it so it will be ground level and the apartment will be above it. So, the parking is going to be behind the retail in the front on Westfield Avenue.

Mr. Laezza: The parking will be underneath the three levels. Underneath the three level there will be parking. It also includes the lot behind the bank. There will be probably 75 units of apartments and there will be 167 parking spaces, two for every apartment and twenty-three parking spaces available to the public for use in the stores that are down there.

Council President Toal: So, you are telling me that there will be three level construction, you are talking about 2 units per...

Mr. Laezza: The first floor and three levels, is four levels, it's 52 feet.

Councilman O'Connor: And the parking is underneath?

Council President Toal: Similar to what the senior housing complex is, right? You have parking on the first floor and then it goes up and up.

Mr. Laezza: Right.

Council President Toal: And it's one bedroom or two bedrooms?

Mr. Laezza: There will be a number of one bedroom, a number of two bedrooms and ten three bedrooms, that's on Walnut Avenue. On this one it will be nine low income housing, low income apartments, and they will probably be one two and one three bedroom.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Those numbers were dictated by the court we have to have minimums of each.

Council President Toal: Of course. I am just concerned about all of the parking.

Mr. Laezza: We have two parking spaces for each unit.

Council President Toal: I understand that Sir.

Mr. Laezza: And we have visitor parking.

Council President Toal: That's good.

Mr. Laezza: We have more parking down there then Clark has had in years.

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

RESOLUTIONS:

2. Expressing displeasure and opposition to Senate Bill #1073, "The Rain Act," and to the attempt by the State of New Jersey, the Governor and Legislature, to enact yet another tax upon its residents

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, one of my favorite subjects, Rain Tax. I asked Joe to draw this up so that we could sent it out and hopefully get some kind of Ordinance on the record going against this. I believe that this was done kind of quick and without a lot of consideration. We questioned in here a lot of things but mostly from the State of New Jersey. What are they doing with their properties? What are they doing with their highway run offs of Governor salts, over salting and abuse of our State Highways this winter? These are things that we want to address in here. I think, I am going to send this in to 101.5, Bill Spadea and attack this thing over and over again. Now, here is a bill that wants you to charge people for rain water that runs off their property, correct? The same group of legislatures have passed and didn't want to deal with the Affordable Housing and let the courts decide, and supported it, but they didn't want to deal with it. Now, every town in this state is building high density housing with a lot of impervious coverage, the water is going to run off, then they turn around and tax you for it. I mean this is sick you can't make this stuff up if you really think about it. So, like I said, if this township is mandated to do this, we will be the last town in New Jersey to implement it. I will not sign any legislation doing it before being the last town. It is another bill that puts the State Governments hand into the people's pocket and then they want us to go out and collect it and do their dirty work. Do you want this? You collect it, leave us out of it. The fact that we are going to have to sit here and tell residents of this town and try to explain this to them is comical. Because no one is going to get it and no one is going to understand it. So, I am asking you guys tonight to support this and let's go to town and make some noise with it because this is just unbearable to think about another tax. And you know we were playing with some number and talking about it with John, myself and Rich O'Connor, if could be a \$50, a home type of thing, why \$50? Why not nothing? Again, it is governments way of putting their hand in your pocket constantly. Let the State of New Jersey collect it or let the State of New Jersey explain to me that when there was six inches of salt on the Parkway and Turnpike, and State roads this year when snow wasn't even in the forecast, where did that salt run off too? What waterways, what streams, what ponds? But, in Clark it is a problem, in Westfield, in Cranford, Plainfield, Avenel, Warren, wherever else you want to go, it is a problem there. Hypocrisy, stupidity you can add any adjective you want, be my guest, but when you see sponsored by Bob Smith and Senator Bateman, it is just sad, it really is sad. Strong partisan bill, the Democrats passed this 13 to 1, and it is just crazy, it really is crazy. Any questions on it?

Councilman Smith: The only question that I have is, did you reach out to the Mayors of the other Municipalities in Union County and/or the Freeholders to see what their take was and if they would support something like this on a grander scale?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Bill, when we passed this thing that is what we will do next. We will send this out to every town in Union County, the State League of Municipalities, all of our Legislators here, the Governor's Office, right down the line and let's see who wants to stop forward and do this. That is the process that I always use, get something on paper first and go from there. So, like I said

I mean knowing New Jersey, it is probably going to come a reality, I am not going to sit here and lie to anybody, but I think that we have a right to oppose it and argue about it and try to do something about it.

Councilman Smith: This will be the first time we will get loud enough and it changes.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I doubt it because the State Legislature is controlled by the environmentalists, that's why it cost so much money to do everything in this State. The environmentalists are controlling Trenton with their Storm Water Management nonsense and everything else they got going because that is what they think. But again, I haven't heard from New Jersey American Water come out and say that their reservoirs and waterways are polluted and we can't pump the drinking water to you people. I haven't read that in any paper, never have. But we will build high density developments and push that water off into the street also.

Councilman O'Connor: And taxes us for it.

Councilman Mazzarella: I think that we should support our Mayor whole heartily with this, this is an atrocity and I think that it should be by the entire council.

Council President Toal: Absolutely. Thank you very much Mayor for all of your efforts. Are there any other comments from the Council?

Councilwoman Albanese: I don't object to keeping our water clean it is the way that they are doing it. Pushing it down to the Township's and the methodology that followed, that is the problem.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well Angel, we all agree that we want clean drinking water and clean air to breath. I don't think that there is anybody in New Jersey that argues that if that's what you were saying, but when is enough, enough? This to me is enough, it really is, and those who can't stand with this shame on them. You don't tax your people I certainly don't want to do it here. Why did you have the 300-million-dollar problem upgrade at the Rahway Valley Sewerage? Because, two times in like what John, eighty years or something (Mr. Laezza: right), it over spilled into the Author Kill, and a Rutgers Ecology group and another bunch of tree huggers ran and sued them and as John said, it started out to be a 10 million dollar project back in 1970 something, and it ended up to be a 332 million dollar project, 332 million dollars because there was a spill over twice in all of those years. And now they have plenty of room and they still want to raise the rates on us down there, plenty of room.

Councilman Mazzarella: Sal, the bill doesn't that say that if the community implements that we have to fork over at least 5% or up to \$50,000.00?

Mayor Bonaccorso: To the State, right. What they did guys, they were cute because Trenton is very cute, they said that you can keep 5% percent for your budget too. So, a lot of towns that are mismanaged, you know any dollar that they can find they are going to want to throw in their coffers. And I was listening to Deminski and Doyle on 101.5 one day and they said that, they said that all of the mayors and councilman are going to jump on this because they get to put 5% in their budget. And a councilman from Englishtown called in and said, "like hell, we are not doing it, this

is ridiculous and we don't need the 5% that bad". It is the same thing with the Marijuana bill, the county on it is for towns to collect money off of it.

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this Proposed Ordinance

Mover: Entire Council Second: Entire Council

3. Authorizing the Mayor and/or Business Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between Union County and the Township of Clark to participate in the Union County First Alert System

Mr. Laezza: This is a continuation basically of the dispatchers call in the case anyone gets a heart attack.

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this Proposed Ordinance

Mover: Hund Second: Albanese

4. Appointing John Laezza as the Municipal Housing Liaison for the Township's Affordable Housing Program

Discussion: None

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this Proposed Ordinance

Mover: O'Connor Second: Barr

5. Renewing the Professional Services contract with CGP&H as the Administrative Agent for the Township's Affordable Housing Program

Mr. Laezza: This is the group who will determine who are the low, the low-low and moderate-income people that will be pooled into these apartments.

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this Proposed Ordinance

Mover: O'Connor Second: Smith

6. Designating Lots 2 and 26.01 in Block 105 and Lot 21 in Block 91 on Westfield Avenue as an Area in Need of Condemnation Redevelopment

Discussion: None

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this Proposed Ordinance

Mover: Barr Second: Albanese

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

7. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$53,139.35

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 \$4,139.95 for the Body Armor Grant
9. Seeking approval of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the amount of \$8,614.06 for the Recycling Tonnage Grant

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this Consent Agenda
Mover: Hund 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.

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

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes
Aye: Albanese, Barr, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Smith, Toal

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: We are going to have to deal with Byron Place, the Chief was just talking about it and I will let him explain it in his own words to some residents out there as you saw earlier in the meeting. Because the over flow of parking for the sports field down there, it has become a hazard for the neighborhood to try and get any kind of emergency apparatus down the street and too tight to be honest. We did pass an ordinance saying Byron Place and as well intentioned as it is, and it was, I do believe that it includes the entire street. I believe on the residential side it should stay that way, with permit parking for residents only, and on the ballfield side they have a right to park there and drop off kids, etc. and so on. The Chief will tell you later in his comments about a lot of the activities that are going to be up there. I am going to ask the Chief to put police up there every night at dusk and move the softball players along that think that they can sit there and drink beer and urinate in the woods, that is not what it is there for. Do you want to go and play a softball game, go and play a softball game, find a tavern and go there and have your beer there and go use the facilities at the tavern? The problem is that Clark is full of different activities at all different ages, field space is always tight. I am sympathetic with the Byron residents because you know they should be able to back out of their driveway in peace and not worry about cars parking over the mouth of their driveway and this and that, but on the other hand it is a public school. The school was there before the houses were there and I know that everyone likes that nice open space, I am sure at certain time of the year, but people also have a right to access fields, and I think that fairest way to do it is by amending that ordinance and putting the parking restriction on one side and on the field side hold off on it. I think that it would be a little over zealous to ask people to park up at the Kumpf parking lot and walk a quarter of a mile down to that field, especially when it is rainy and muddy and soppy out there. I think a lot of people will be walking in mud up till their ankles, I don't think that people are going to be too enthusiastic about it. So, I think we should get this up

on the change, as Mayor I will restrict half of the ordinance for now and the DPW will be out there this week putting up the signs, Scott was showing me today. We had some resident parking signs but there was a different ordinance number on it so we had to change that, so he is getting stickers to change that. And the people are going to have to come in and register their vehicles and we will give them passes for parties. And also, what we have done in the past, and on the streets, and it hasn't really been a problem at all, is if someone is going to have a Christening at their house, or a birthday party, or whatever, they will have to notify the police department and let them know that they are going to have an activity there and arrangements can be made that way. At the end of the day, we are not trying to hurt anybody, we are trying to help people. I do agree with the people on Byron, but I also agree that there has to be an area for people to be able to drop off their kids or park and wait for their kids to get done with their school activity. I can't shut that side off to the school, I can't its school property, so that is where the problem lies. So, we have to find that line and I hope Council can find that line and we put it together. Hopefully, by clearing the one side of the street Chief you have plenty of room for police, fire and first aid to get down that road. There should be plenty of room, the driveways there are very big, it is not like they are on a 50x100 lot, the lots there are a pretty good size and they should be able to do that.

Council President Toal: I would just like to comment briefly, and I mean briefly, what we went through this past weekend with that entire location Mr. Mayor, you are absolutely right, 100 percent and I agree with you on most of it, the problem is the residents there out of the area are coming in and disobeying the laws. And that is why the police will be there, they got called a couple of times yesterday. I sent photos to the Clerk today, which you all can review of how it just becomes a complete free for all of people not obeying the law. You have permits that were put up temporarily, that wouldn't help because the police put the permits up and I took them down this morning, the permit signage. I didn't want to do that but the police told me that I can go over there and get it down because they didn't want it on the poles this morning. I went and did it because we need to help the residents and let them know that we are working for them. But the Mayor is correct but we have a situation where people come in and they see an open space they are just going to jam the cars in all the way onto Dorset.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Brian, I can't agree with you more, you are not wrong. The thing we are going to have to do like every new thing that goes on in life, the police are going to work with us and I am sure Chief Matos will, he has done nothing but work with us in the beginning since he has taken over. You are going to have to send cars up there, the residents are going to have to learn to call the police department, not Brian Toal the Councilman. I am just saying if there are cars out there and there is a ballgame going on and they have to be moved.

Councilman O'Connor: I was just going to say when we converted Dawn Drive the police did an outstanding job of educating and changing people's behavior. So, they are well versed in it, I have all the confidence that they will do it and there may be some growing pains in the beginning, however, I have no doubt this will work out.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Once word gets out too that they can't park there because the police will come up and chase you out, blah, blah, blah. Parking in that area is going to be a little cognizant on the weekends and after dinner to watch that stuff and again Chief, everybody out of there as soon as

it gets to dusk, the games are over, they have got to get out. I am going to talk to Ed Grande about it also and have him talk to and find out who is using those fields.

Council President Toal: Can I ask Mr. Mayor on the ballfield back stop over on Byron, just to put an update that the fields close at dusk. There used to be a sign out there that stated no parking.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Brian, signs mean nothing. You could put speeding signs up and down the roads, "Children Crossing", "Children at Play", blah, blah, blah, people won't obey it until the police come there and chase people out.

Chief Matos: So, I do think that it is a good idea to put signs up there saying that the field is closed after dark for one reason only, if an officer gets there, it is hard to take an enforcement action when someone says, "There is no sign, I didn't know".

Mayor Bonaccorso: Right, I agree.

Chief Matos: So, it makes our job a little harder. I didn't know about the alcohol problem up there, that there are adults playing softball. I don't understand why, apparently this matter could have been brought up to the Rec. Department or the school, I don't know who is renting out the field. Apparently, they filed a lot of complaints with them already, I don't know why if these people whoever are playing there, if they have to bring alcohol, I don't understand why we are allowing them there. It makes our jobs a lot harder.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I think John that we have an ordinance that says that all of our parks and playgrounds dawn till dusk.

Chief Matos: It is school property; you can't have alcohol.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No alcohol, no tobacco on those fields. We will get a sign, I will have Scott make up a sign saying that the field are open dawn to dusk, and that is that. Chief I am going to have to ask you guys to really step it up.

Chief Matos: Again, I like to think that my officers, you know, make reasonable enforcement actions, but I am going to tell my officers that if they go down there and they find alcohol on anyone, there are no breaks there. They are getting a summons.

Councilman Smith: Can you also put on the sign, "no alcohol, no smoking"?

Chief Matos: I met with a couple of the residents out in the front and they also brought up that when people are there, they do urinate in the woods all the time.

Council President Toal: Yes, they do.

Chief Matos: Because there is no where there to use the bathroom.

Mayor Bonaccorso: True, there is not a Porta Potty.

Chief Matos: Another thing, if we are allowing people to go there to play in either the school or the rec department should at least put up right there in the corner, maybe by the shed, maybe they should put a Porta Potty.

Councilwoman Albanese: How is the Recreation Department involved?

Chief Matos: I am not sure if it is.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I don't think that the Rec. Department is.

Councilwoman Albanese: No.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I think that Pedro is just saying.

Councilman Smith: It is rented through the Board of Education but it is a recreation program.

Councilwoman Albanese: Right, but it is through the Board of Education so we need to communicate with them.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I will talk to Ralph tomorrow, see if there is anything that we are doing there and we will call the Board of Education and tell them to put a Porta Potty up there.

Councilman O'Connor: Excuse me Mayor, I know for Curry we need a permit, is this a permit field as well?

Chief Matos: From what I understand, yes.

Councilman O'Connor: Okay, so if they need a permit then the rules and regulations should be clearly labeled out there as well as the consequences. That will definitely make your job easier and your officers' job easier. If they had a permit, they knew what it was when you signed it, sorry, you are getting a fine, got to go to Townhall.

Chief Matos: We could fine them but we can't pull the permit, that has nothing to do with us, that has to do with whoever issued the permit.

Council President Toal: The people came out tonight and their main concern was that there was an ordinance put up, we didn't have the signage up yet. For whatever reason the signs were not put up. That is why all of this came out and exploded this weekend. The question that they had for me was, and one went a little bit hostile on me, was you are saying two different things, you approved both sides of the street and now you are modifying it to change one side of the street and when do we have a chance to speak on that? I told them if there is a change to the ordinance as it exists, which we approved already, you would have the opportunity to come in and speak at that time. That is how I left it.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Sorry Brian, you know what, life is not easy, every street in this town has a problem to it. And this is what happens when you try to make things better. Why did we pass it? I can say that someone who has sat in this Government for last 23 straight years, maybe it was my fault that I didn't say that eliminate the field side verses the grass side. In my mind when we were passing it, it was the neighbor's side. Technically, they are right, but I didn't finite that in my brain enough to say, "Hey guys, leave the other side this way", I kind of just believed that it was in front of their homes.

Councilman O'Connor: Again Sal, it is a public street, it is not a gated community on Dawn Drive. The public has an opportunity to park on one side of the street one day and one side of the street the other day. It is a public road they should be able to park there. I think that is what you were thinking.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Exactly. I think that we all felt that way that we were doing it to protect the side of the street of the homeowner. But this is what happen when everyone has a problem and we start riding around yelling, "permit parking". Scott is going to end it real soon.

Chief Matos: Can I just add one more thing to this? I know on my officers I went down there several times this weekend and moved the cars along. We are going to shift this problem because these people are going to park on Dorset.

Councilman Toal: Yes, they are.

Chief Matos: So, be ready for the residents on Dorset to come in. They are not going to the lot because that is a lot farther, they just went to Dorset.

Mayor Bonaccorso: So, now what?

Council President Toal: We will have the same situation. I am going to have to deal with it when it hits, it is already starting.

Councilman O'Connor: Well, then we will have to deal with it as well because those are our residents that want to park and watch their children play.

Councilman Mazzarella: I think that what Sal is suggesting, I think that we are accommodating both the residents and the people that use that field. And if they have to park on Dorset or further then they just do it and they walk. I mean we are trying to do everything that we can to make it a good for everyone.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Last time that I checked, as long as you have a valid registration you are allowed to park on public streets. What are we going to do? Maybe someday that property will be developed then they will have nice homes across the street but I am sure that they would not like that either because you loose that open view from your front porch.

Councilwoman Albanese: I think that the one primary consideration should be is can safety vehicles get through? If we get to Dorset and we have parking on both sides of the street and that

impedes safety vehicles getting through, then maybe we have to do one side on that street, or maybe do what we did on Dawn Drive, it alternates back and forth.

Chief Matos: I do have to admit when cars are parked on both sides on Byron you could get a fire truck through there but if there are cars parked down at the cul-de-sac you are not turning the fire truck around.

Councilwoman Albanese: I live on Victoria Drive and when there is a Deutscher Club event, they are parked on both sides and no vehicle is going to get through.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I will say one thing guys; Angel will tell you that on Featherbed and Victoria when the Deutscher Club has a few big bashes every year, they are parked up and down both sides of the street but in defense of Byron that (Deutscher Club event) is only three times a year. The problem is, and I was saying this to the Chief earlier today because we were at Bartell looking at that parking problem, everybody is doing duel seasons. You know years ago, soccer was September, now it is March through summer until September. Softball was in spring, now it is summer ball and fall ball. Same thing with Little League, so everyone has got two or three seasons of sports going and it creates more and more parking. Let's say for example the softball field down there was only used in the spring, you say to people, "look for two months you grin and bite your teeth a little bit, then it goes away and you have ten months of peace" I understand that it is not that way. So, I feel for those people. But again, nobody owns the street and could tell us that no one is allowed to park up there.

Councilwoman Albanese: No comment.

Councilman Barr: I would just like to bring up one thing. When it comes to the apartments, the affordable, I am around town pretty much every day and most people they really don't know what is going on at the meetings and what is happening. So, I go to Shoprite and this one is talking to this one and they listen to each other, and so many of them say, "why do you have to build this year?" and I explained to them that we don't want it, but by law we have too because if we don't do it we could get hit by what is called builders remedy which could destroy a town. So, it is important that we get around and let the people know the true fact that we do not want all of these.

Councilman Hund: No comment.

Councilman Mazzarella: Nothing.

Councilman O'Connor: I am sure that Councilman Barr will cover this at the live meeting but the Fire Department has had a lot of activity recently with some fires.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Actually, it would be because he wasn't able to be at two fires that I was at, one was the kitchen fire on Kenneth Place and the other was the Ulta Store, so I'll be glad to discuss that at the public meeting.

Councilman O'Connor: There was also a dryer fire today as well.

Mayor Bonaccorso: There was a dryer fire today, yes. I guess I will discuss them, I guess I was the Acting Liaison that day to the Fire Department.

Councilman O'Connor: Again, they are volunteers and the Emergency Squad at all the fire events as well.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Ulta had a lot of fire violations in the buildings and Chief Cerasa jumped all over that. And you know it is like everything else, there are laws and there are those who follow them and many that don't.

Councilman O'Connor: The Tap did a nice job writing about some of the issues that they had.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I also would like to congratulate me tonight for appointing Chief Matos as the Police Chief to keep us the 96th safest town in the country.

Councilman Smith: The only comment I have is about the Little League Softball Parade is this Saturday at 9am, Denman Ave, by the Exxon.

Councilwoman Albanese: That is the step off, right?

Councilman Smith: Yes, so be there by 8:45-8:50 am so we can start on time.

Council President Toal: I am just going to finish it up, Mr. Mayor in the sixteen years that I have been in office, thanks for your help and support. This was not an easy meeting with these people.

Councilwoman Albanese: I was just asking John privately if we were going to implement the minimum wage with the camps. I attended a League of Municipalities session because we had an opinion from our attorney that said that minimum wage did not apply. So, during the beginning of the session I asked if it applied and they said, "no, the minimum wage does apply, it must be applied to camps and seasonal help".

Mayor Bonaccorso: Municipal Camps?

Councilwoman Albanese: At the last minute when they had the hearings, they added local government which I think is totally unfair because there was no time to rebut it and everyone has their budget in place. Make a long story short, I knew one of the instructors there and I called her and said that we were supposed to get answers to all of our questions and I have not heard back. She said that the attorney agreed with you. So, I waited for the response and I got back to work today and I didn't hear anything, I wrote to them and they just sent me a response, personally. And I said this is totally misleading, I said that I asked that question at the beginning of the session and I was told that it definitely applies and now I said you are only responding to me? I said, "This is not right". One of our Recreation Directors said that he has had that happen before with the League. So, they are really giving out misinformation, I am very upset about it.

Mr. Laezza: But the League has no authority to change it, just the laws change, I am not paying attention to what the League says.

Councilwoman Albanese: No, what I am saying is that we have a legal opinion from our attorney....

Council President Toal: How many kids do we have working at the camp?

Mayor Bonaccorso: A lot.

Councilwoman Albanese: It is a big budget hit if you didn't budget it which the law passed after the budget was adopted.

Mayor Bonaccorso: The problem is guys, it is very simple, we have the most premier camp in the State, \$35.00 a kid for what we give is unheard of. So, now you either raise the price or you cut counselors. Again, I would like to thank the legislature's in Trenton for another job well done. By worrying about paying people working in McDonalds and Burger King \$15 an hour, which will be replaced by robotics very shortly, and lose jobs, they are again catering to their voting base, and inner cities and trying to have all of us pay for it out here. So, that is the mantra in Trenton. Tonight, you learned a few things. They are going to raise the minimum wage which is going to.....and by the way, by the way, I have been the biggest advocate against raising prices at that camp than any Mayor could possibly be, although, for a long time and it should probably triple what it is right now and that would still be a fair deal because to me it is a silent tax. I won't tax you but I will charge you the fee, I won't tax you but I will charge you the fee, do you understand what I am saying? So, that is what is going on here, same thing. So, they run up the fifteen dollar minimum wage, why to camp counselors out of high school need to be paid fifteen dollars an hour? It is a summer job that they are having fun at. I can see a full-time job and fifteen dollars an hour is not a lot of money, but you say okay some of these full-time jobs they have to get paid at least that. This is a summer program but again Trenton can't think past their last hour of what they thought, it is just sad, it is really sad guys, I am going to tell you something, you are looking at the beginning of the end.

Councilwoman Albanese: Well I did say to them, I said you know it's just people are going to eliminate jobs, if you don't have the budgeted funds, that is what is going to happen. It just wasn't done correctly. But I do want to say that I didn't call, we tried to call the New Jersey Department of Labor, I know one CFO in Berkley Heights that got though and they said that it does not apply.

Councilman Mazzarella: Who is that attorney that gave you that information? Was it from the League?

Councilwoman Albanese: No, no, we had a personal opinion because we couldn't wait, we are doing our budget, we have huge camps.

Councilman Mazzarella: Before we even ever entertained something like that, I would like to get a legal opinion from our Counsel.

Councilwoman Albanese: Like John said any legal opinion that you get why not get a legal opinion it is going to be just private for our situation, but the New Jersey Department of Labor, they should know the answer.

Mayor Bonaccorso: What did they say?

Councilwoman Albanese: They said that it does not apply.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You ask for that in writing.

Councilwoman Albanese: We are going ahead with what we are going ahead with. We have our legal opinion; we are going to stand on that.

Councilman O'Connor: I just don't want the public to be confused, what Angel is saying "we" or what "I'm doing" she is not speaking about the Township of Clark, she is speaking about where she works. I don't want any confusion. With Clark here, John has us all buttoned up the budget is done, it has been adopted, we are good, solid. She is speaking about another township that she works for.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, she is the CFO in East Brunswick.

Council President Toal: All of the kids are hired for this calendar year?

Councilwoman Albanese: No. We are going to have to hire people.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Let me just say something for one second. The playground out front "Where Angels Play" as you can see has had some big, big work done to it, we took about 900 cubic yards of soil out of it, next week we will probably be closing down the front horseshoe here. Chief, I will let you know, I am going to need a Special to work the entrance. We have to bring in 8 inches of stone, 6 inches of concrete to have on the playground, then they could put the 3 inched of rubber underneath the playground set, so that is going to be another thing. I would like to again apologize for upsetting so many people when the mailbox was moved from the circle. I know that it created an inconvenience for me also but the postal service said that we had to put a concrete pad under it. Figure it out, they own the mailbox, it's their mandate but we had to do it.

Council President Toal: Where is the mailbox now?

Mayor Bonaccorso: It is there but they anchored it in, I guess. They put a new mailbox in which was nice because people were stealing the mail.

Chief Matos: They put a mailbox here and a mailbox over at the post office.

Councilman O'Connor: If you went on a Sunday night to Vaccaro's Bakery you can see the mail what people put in the mailbox that someone could just come and take it out.

Chief Matos: If you had a stack of bill it would just get stuck at the top and someone could just reach in and just take your bills out.

Township Clerk: I just want to add to the Byron Place, I got my first call, complaint that the sign at 4:15, today that the sign that was installed is right next to this lady's driveway and she is not happy because it doesn't look nice.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well I'm going to tell you right now there's going to be a sign in front of every home because how else are we going to know.

Chief Matos: The signs there are going to be 75 feet apart from the starting of the curb at Dorset all the way down to the cul-de-sac up until the last house.

Council President Toal: Mr. Mayor, on that issue are we going to send a notice or something to these residents when we finally have a final proposal on what we are doing over there?

Mayor Bonaccorso: As far as what?

Council President Toal: Because you changed it now....

Councilman Smith: Come to the Public Meeting when we revise the ordinance.

Mayor Bonaccorso: The signs will be out last week. We change the ordinance; it gets advertised like every other ordinance. If you want to know what is going on in Clark, pay attention on what is going on in Clark. We are transparent as any town could possibly be and this lady here (Liz from The Tap) covers it. I don't want to hear that they are not computer literate, guess what, it is 2019, get computer literate. If my mother can do it at 80 years old, so can you.

Township Clerk: Can I just also add, Liz if you wouldn't mind, anyone who wants the agenda on a regular basis can just send me their email address, I just got an email tonight from a couple and they are going to get the agenda on a regular basis.

Councilwoman Albanese: It is also available on the website.

Township Clerk: The documents are on the website the Friday before the meeting.

Chief Matos: You might have seen on Facebook that we had the foot pursuit of the car burglar up on Suburban, two of the officers got hurt. Officer Brandon Pitts as he was running through the woods to a branch to the eye, he is okay, he just scratched his cornea, but he is going to be out of work for about a week. And the other officer fell, they actually both fell to the mud and he twisted his knee but he is fine, he is back to work.

We did have a motor vehicle pursuit the other day, Saturday night with a stolen motor vehicle that went into Rahway and the people crashed on the front lawn of a residence in Rahway around a bend. It was stolen from Maplewood, it cost some extensive landscaping damage to the home and the suspect disappeared into the woods. I watched the video, so the car goes around the bend and

the officer goes right by the house and doesn't even see that the vehicle went off because it was dark. By the time they realized that they were looking for the vehicle and by the time they found out that they had gone into a ravine on the side of the house, by the time they found the vehicle the suspect was gone.

Councilman O'Connor: Was that our chase or did Rahway join.

Chief Matos: No, it was our chase, it started here in Clark. Other than that, the two recruits at the academy are doing wonderful. I have been speaking to the Director on a weekly basis, and they are going great and they are scheduled to graduate on June 11th. We promoted this morning Officer Henriques to Sergeant, we will do the formal promotion at the Public Council Meeting.

Mayor Bonaccorso: and the Police Awards, right?

Chief Matos: and the Police Awards, yes.

Council President Toal: We have two guests in the audience from the Deutscher Club if would like to stand up we would like to recognize you. It is a pleasure meeting both of you and welcome to the Clark Municipal Council Meeting.

Council President Toal 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, Mazarella, O'Connor, Smith, Toal

ADJOURNMENT

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

May 6, 2019

7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

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

Regular order of business will be suspended on May 20th:

Recognizing Anthony Bogash for receiving the Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship
(Resolution) EMS week proclamation

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Opposing all efforts by Governor Murphy to create sanctuary cities or towns in New Jersey and urging the Congress and the President to enact Comprehensive Compassionate Immigration Reform

Mayor Bonaccorso: I asked for this to be put on the agenda, I think that it is pretty black and white what he is trying to do and what we are trying to fight out against. I hate to get involved in politics, I like government, I don't like politics. But you know everything that is being done in the State House is politically motivated. There is always that air, there is always that air no matter who is in charge. But it just seems recently more so than ever, if you look at this affordable housing debacle that is happening to our communities, followed by the Rain Tax that is happening to the communities, and the Sanctuary State. You had a couple of Union boys here before that are looking for a piece, I mean I am sorry that their checks to Murphy and Menendez and Booker and Malinowski and the rest of those people down there didn't pan out. But if the State was being run correctly there would be enough for all. There is the biggest economic boom and our great leader President Trump is putting out there right now, I don't know what they are looking for but I can understand concerns with Sanctuary Cities and the illegals and safe places and then we are going to have to budget money. We just can't do that. And you know what is coming out now that I think we the people are getting to the point where I don't suffer from this normally, so I have to exclude the present company, "me", that we are afraid to say what we want to say because we are going to be labeled. I don't really care what you label me, those who know me, those who trust me, know who I am, I am a fair person. But it is time that the people of this State stop sitting back and taking this bologna out of Trenton and out of Murphy and out of these people that are down there, people who are supposed to be representing the good people of this State and Country. It seems like that are representing people from out of the Country. And that's why I am asking Council to pass this.

We have to stand up and we have to be put on the record that we are not going to tolerate this anymore. And if they want to label Clark, they can label Clark. The good citizen that live here know that this is a fair and balanced community and if you are a good person you are always met with open arms and love from everybody regardless of height, weight, race, creed, color, ethnic background, religion, blond hair, blue hair, redhead it doesn't matter, the people of this town embrace good people and that is what we are going to continue to do. So, I thank Council for putting this up and anticipating your support on it.

No further discussion

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this Resolution.

Mover: Smith Second: Mazzarella

2. Award of Contract for the 2019 Capital Road Improvements (Bid opening May 9th)

Discussion: None

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this Resolution.

Mover: Barr Second: Mazzarella

3. Authorizing the Mayor and/or Business Administrator to execute a Shared Services v Agreement with the Plainfield Municipal Utilities Authority for an additional one-year term for Bulky Waste Type – 13 and Construction and Demolition Waste – Type 13C

Discussion: None

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this Resolution.

Mover: Mazzarella Second: Albanese

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

- 4. Recognizing the agencies who contributed to the success of the annual Health and Wellness Fair**
- 5. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of 2019 sewer fees in the amount of \$2,746.25**
- 6. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$13,090.00**
- 7. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2019 taxes in the amount of \$3,070.51**

Council President Toal asked for a motion and second on this 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.

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia Street: I am reading an article in the Westfield TAP, the upgrades would include the installation of a new power station at 750 Walnut Avenue the location proposed for apartment complex in Cranford. Under PSE&G's proposal aging electric and the substation in Clark will be taken out of service and replaced by the new one in Cranford. They don't have to tell you that?

Mr. Laezza: No.

Mayor Bonaccorso: If the water company closed off a well station in town to open one up down the road, we don't have no say. There is nothing adverse that is going to happen to us by taking the substation out.

Delia Collins: Right. But now the Mayor of Fanwood said that she was going to be in touch with everyone because she is involved in the...

Councilwoman Albanese: League of Municipalities.

Delia Collins: Right. And Clark was not mentioned in her.....

Mayor Bonaccorso: Delia, I am going to be honest with you and you know me a long time and maybe you agree with me and maybe you don't, it doesn't matter. Some of these Mayors want to put on a Superman cape and fly around and tell everybody in town what they are going to be doing because they think that they can do it. I have always kind of lived on the premise of what I know that we can do, we will do, and try to do. And I know what is out of bounds like these Union guys that were here earlier we had a very spirited conversation outside earlier, you know demanding work. And I said to them that they are private buildings, what do you want me to do? Some of them were political mayors would said, "oh, I will look into that, and I will talk to them" I am going to tell you upfront that there is nothing I can do about it and what do you want me to tell you? I mean, you know, I wish them success, I think that anybody that goes to work every day should have success, but you know that's what I'm trying to say. So, if they shut a substation down in our town and they are going to put an adequate one up on track that is going to a job that could handle it. I know during Hurricane Sandy, the biggest problem for you guys in your neighborhood was that Cranford substation.

Delia Collins: No, it was the pole at the end...

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, with all due respect I was there, I worked with PSE&G (Mr. Laezza: all of the poles were down), forget the poles, yes, they were all down. One of the biggest problems was that substation couldn't get up.

Councilwoman Albanese: The one in Clark, right?

Councilman O'Connor: The one in Clark.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, the one in Cranford. Clark was fine, they started in Clark. And you were getting heat Pat from the people on Carolina about the blackout, because you came on line I think right before election day on Monday, you finally got your power back. And Pat was calling me and I was calling them and I was out in the field with them and the one problem why you didn't get lit up and the rest of Clark was lit up, they had a substandard power station out in the Cranford area.

Delia Collins: I didn't have any access to electricity so I didn't know what was going on.

Mayor Bonaccorso: The other thing that you have to watch is Tap into Westfield, I don't know if they are as good as Tap into Clark.

Delia Collins: What I don't understand is the day after the last power outage PSE&G was behind our houses looking at the wires behind our house because they think that...and I told Pat that I think that it is a conspiracy that the electricity went out in our area because, this is just me, because big government....

Mayor Bonaccorso: The electricity went out Delia, that day, we heard that it was a car that hit a pole that went onto the train tracks and Clark, Roselle Park, Cranford and Westfield was out of power. Last week is what you are talking about?

Delia Collins: Two weeks ago. They were out there the next day or so putting something up by L'Oréal, right by the tracks, they had men there putting in another pole or something like that. I know that they are building, and building, and they are building all along Westfield, Cranford and Roselle Park, Fanwood and Plainfield, and it just seems that the power grid is going to explode.

Mr. Laezza: Well basically, the whole State will have six to nine-foot poles throughout. If you run down US Highway 1, (Delia Collins: on Route 22 they have them) they are taking all of those out and putting these big poles up and that is going to be the new power grid and that is going to be in every town. People want 5g and people want power and that is what is going to happen, so, people are getting what they are asking for.

Delia Collins: It just seems a shame because all of this crowding...I mean you can't do anything about the building because that is above and beyond....

Mayor Bonaccorso: Delia, you know you are avid follower of this council and town, we are not happy with any of this stuff, we're really not.

Delia Collins: Yeah.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I mean it's an overcrowding of our community. You know, it is funny because, and I was going to say this later to Council but now we are on the subject, we urge the Turnpike Authority to put that Parkway Circle in some years back. And I remember being with John and we went down to Woodbridge to the Authorities Office and they put our circle into a simulator, and they literally had cars moving throughout, like they took all of the data and everything. This machine was just out. And they did three different models and John and I looked at them and they said okay what model do you guys vote for and we said, "B, we like that one the best" and they said that was the one were using and that they were glad we liked it. And one of my biggest fight was that someone is going to die on the Parkway because the ramps are backing up onto the Parkway. Well, they put the circle in, you know you had some people driving the opposite way and I saw that the other day by the way, some guy driving the opposite way. What I am noticing now is that we know have traffic backing up onto the Parkway again.

Council President Toal: Yes, big time.

Mayor Bonaccorso: And why I think Delia to your point is that we are getting overcrowded again. Meaning that circle in this town outlived its life expectancy, and that is a problem. They spent five-million dollars that time fixing that circle and none of the cars were backing up on the Parkway, it was safe, and right now we have backed up on the Parkway. I know that Sergeant Lott was having some problems up on the circle and he and I were talking and we finally came down the same

opinion that there are problems up there. When we have all of these new buildings being built, not only in Clark but every town in Union County, I said it, we are going to have gridlock. If anyone should ask me how the State Legislature could punt on the Affordable Housing issue and not address it and let a court do it, and then they turn around a year later, or a year and a half later, two years later and they are now putting a rain tax in, where some of these areas could have been of open space but now they are going to be impervious coverage, black top and cement which is going to cause run off. So, I mean I don't know, your guess is as good mine, I guess I am not that smart, but I just can't figure out what the logic is coming out of Trenton. And it's not political. You know I said to someone the other day that this is what Democrats do, I said, "one thing about the Republicans in Trenton, they may not help you but they certainly won't hurt you." And what is going on here is a power grab to empty the inner cities into suburbia so that they can grab each town, every vote, control everything, and absolute power corrupts. We might be a Republican Mayor and Council here but the citizens out there, and I told every single one of you guys when you joined this team, are not stupid, the day you fail them is the day they are going to throw you out of here, because Clark is not the stupid community. But they want to just infiltrate their voters when these poor, God bless these children with special needs moves into these apartments, you are not going to have a lot of school age children in apartments, you normally don't, but you may have special needs kids coming from the cities trying to get into a good program like Clark, or Cranford and Westfield has. So now you get two, three or four of them in a building, they are costing you know 80 to 100, 120 thousand dollars a kid to educate and people are going to say, "Mr. Mayor, you have all of these beautiful buildings being built why haven't my taxes gone down?". Well, that is one of the reasons right there.

Councilwoman Albanese: And that's per year.

Mayor Bonaccorso: And that's per year because that's what we get. But anyway, I don't want to beat that horse. So, I hope I answered your questions.

Delia Collins: You did in a way but I am out a lot during the day and I see what traffic is and it is out everywhere.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It's outrageous Delia; it is going to be gridlock.

Delia Collins: You can't even get onto Central Avenue from my neighborhood.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I know, I know.

Delia Collins: I go through Cranford because I can't get on.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I know, I agree with you.

Delia Collins: On Saturday morning you can't get on.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Do you know what the problem is? People say that they are going to move and I always say, "okay, to what town because every town is going to go through what we are going through." And actually, we are probably better off than most towns in our development program, you know not to blow our horn but I mean still, we sat at the Chamber of Commerce and this town is putting in 1,200 units, that town is putting in 800 units, it is all around us. So, even the few hundred that are going in here is just going to add to that congestion.

Council President Toal ask for a motion and second to close the public portion of the meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Albanese, second by Councilman Barr

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes
 Aye: Albanese, Barr, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Smith, Toal

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Brian, Danny Chin, thank you for coming out tonight. We all know you and support your family and get something good going buddy and we will help you through it. We are here to see our good citizens always succeed. Westfield Avenue is rock and roll a little bit, John has two boxes in his office of two buildings that are being sold, one is CVS and the other is the Eye Care Center on the corner of Fulton. They are looking to put a new building with a business or department stores on the bottom and apartment buildings on top. This coming on the heels of the Rice Bowl, coming on the heels of the A&P. Things might start shaping up down there a little bit. I was kind of happy to see that because not only is the A&P eventually getting here, that is all in the process as you know, but there will be others to join them and hopefully we will start turning that little bit of an eyesore down there into something that is a little bit nicer I hope.

On Saturday, it is supposed to be the grand opening of that beautiful playground out there at 11 o'clock, Where Angels Play, there has been a lot of work going on out their guys, this has been a bigger bite into the apple that we ever expected. John and Jennifer Kobliska, and Scott McCabe and our DPW guys are out there really busting it trying to get this thing going and you know following all these things that we have to conform to, to make sure the playground is first and foremost safe for the children that play there. You can see the pieces that are out there. Where the Angels Play the piece that they did is right in the middle (of the playground), the swings and the other piece in the back is us, the township. I think that you know that but I will just say it for the record. They are going to put the rubber down and the DPW is out there they are working hard. A lot of people came and donated their time. If you looked out here last week, I thought it was a carnival, I swear to God, there was music, the Port Authority PBA came down and they brought a food truck, there was a hot buffet under our awning out front. There must have been 200 people here at one time down to 100, and the people from Where Angels Play really have a lot of passion for it. So, it is great. It is going to be in memory of two great citizens of ours, Caitlin Nelson and Jimmy Nelson. Roseanne was here and Ann Nelson was here, so it was just crazy, I mean the amount of people.

Everything is moving along, the services are up and running, grass, bulky clean-up, branch clean-up. It is all working out pretty well. The DPW can't wait to get out of here and get back to getting everything running.

The other thing that we have started to do is permanent pothole repairs in town. And we're going to get better at this as each month goes by, but with the help of the Council and your appropriations on a Bobcat with a million wheel, a hotbox for ash vault, a roller, we have now had guys go out. One was done on Mildred Terrace where we milled that out and cut it, and squared it, and sealed it. What we are trying to do is John and I made a decision a couple of years ago, is we are trying to get roads that may need to be paved in five or eight years from now to twelve or fourteen years from now by fixing some areas that if we fix that we can stop the road from deteriorating. Unfortunately, I am very disappointed in the road repair program, not on anyone's fault, other than the quarries, I think because of all of the environmentalists and the oils in the ash vault and this and that. I personally don't think their giving out the kind of ash vault that they did thirty years ago.

Councilman O'Connor: Roads are cracking soon.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It's enough that we have already done Pat, I mean I know that we are here nineteen year, it is not yesterday, but stuff that we even did ten or twelve years ago is already starting to like...and we are not through the first list. You know we're spending money on roads, we do it every year, we try to be fair and spread it throughout the town. And it's just crazy. So I think it's the environmentalist again that are so worried about you know saving the bugs and birds and the trees and in the meantime the tax payers will pay for roads instead of doing them every thirty or forty years we are now going to be doing them every fifteen years the way it seems to me. So, we are trying our hardest. DPW will expand that program as they get better at it. Like everything else that they are doing they have got to get their mojo going the right way which I suspect that they will. There are a lot of good company guys that care about working in DPW. We are trying to do everything that we can to hold on guys to do the best we can for everybody. I know that we get calls, we try to explain it, we try to do it scientifically and be fair about it but it seems like everyone's road could be paved at one time or another. And other than that, I think that's about it.

Councilwoman Albanese: I just want to thank Mayor and Council for the support on the per capita increase for the library. It is one of those things where ten years ago you got a dollar and now it is equivalent to fifty cents. Because everything else went up let's say 2% per year, but that per capita slashed literally in half. So, that will be a big help.

Councilman Barr: I just want to say that we have two fire fighters going on that are well needed for the fire department because we are pretty low on men.

Council President Toal: We got that new monument for you in front of the Broadway Firehouse honoring those men who have served and who have left us.

Councilman Mazzearella: I'm sure that the Mayor and John knows this but to the rest of the Council, Woodbridge is putting up that traffic light at the corner of Lake and Skyline. I have been getting calls from some of the residence saying, "well now with the traffic light, what about the cars going up Lake? Are there going to be signage to slow them down?" So, I told them, "listen, let's get the traffic light up first, let's see how everything is, if it needs signage, I am sure...."

Mr. Laezza: What kind of signage?

Councilman Mazzearella: As far as speeding.

Mr. Laezza: They speed down Skyline now at 25mph.

Councilman Mazzearella: Now they are saying that going up the hill on Lake Avenue people are going to speed, they want signage to slow them down.

Mr. Laezza: We had calls today from those citizens that said that they weren't notified by Woodbridge, we told them that it is a safety matter and that we are supporting it.

Mayor Bonaccorso: For year's they complained that they couldn't get out of that block and now they are getting a light.

Councilman Mazzearella: It is going to be a good thing. You don't want to have a fatality and that intersection is prime for having that.

Council President Toal: It is a perfect example of what the Mayor has been talking about overbuilding on the Colonia side.

Councilman O'Connor: Yes, Mayor I want to say thank you for supporting the Emergency Squad.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Good people, why not?

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you for that. And also, I know we talked about the 999 (Raritan Road) the Dr. Wexler building. The new owner actually let the Fire Department go in to the building and do some self-extricating exercises that is something that they normally don't get to do. They got to do it because of kind people like this giving back to the community and allowing them to practice some life saving techniques that they wouldn't have the opportunity to do, having they had not one.

Mayor Bonaccorso: The owner also mentioned to me that he would like to donate a sign to our new police station when it opens.

Councilman O'Connor: That's great.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I told him once we get closer to figuring out what we are doing, and we are working on that, I forgot to add that onto my report. We have 60% drawings and so it's being worked on, and hopefully it's going be a beautiful monument. We're going to be introducing the ordinance next week for a bond ordinance.

Councilman Smith: I have nothing for this evening.

Councilman Toal: No report.

Mr. Laezza: No comment.

Township Clerk: Spring brings out solicitors, so we can't stop them so people need to use their "No Soliciting" stickers, there is nothing....

Mayor Bonaccorso: We have done our job Madam Clerk, right?

Township Clerk: And when they call, we just say don't answer your door.

Councilman O'Connor: So, what is interesting is the Police Department did a great job, "Hey these people are in town, they have a permit to do it, it's okay". But they knock on your door and the first thing that they say is that they have a permit and they went through the police department. But you don't know, anybody could say that, right? So, you have to be careful.

Councilwoman Albanese: You should say, "let me see the permit", if you are inclined to talk to them.

Township Clerk: They are supposed to have, hanging from their neck, their picture that says who they are. Unless it is a matter of free speech, then anybody could knock on your door at any time of day or evening. So, we have people inquiring.

Councilman O'Connor: So, what does someone do if someone knocks on their door and they have a "No Soliciting" sign on their door?

Township Clerk: Call the police and say they have a trespasser on their property.

Councilman O'Connor: Okay.

Township Clerk: At that point they are trespassing, if you have a “No Soliciting” sticker on your door.

Mayor Bonaccorso: And the police are on it.

Township Clerk: There is someone else that just asked about if they could just put a flyer.

Mr. Triarsi: That is the same thing.

Township Clerk: The same thing but we actually have conflicting ordinances on it.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

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

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
June 3, 2019
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

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

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

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 2019 NJDOT Road Improvements to Meadow Road (Bid opening 6/12)

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: We are trying to go as quickly as we can because we are trying to get Meadow Road done during school closing.

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

2. **Council as the ABC Board:** Authorizing the annual renewal of Alcoholic Beverage Licenses for the 2019-2020 Term

Discussion:

Township Clerk: Most of the licenses are in compliance, there are two that I am still waiting for, if those two do not comply by the next meeting they will be taken off the list.

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Resolution
Mover: Hund Second: Smith

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

3. 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 2019 through June 2020
4. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of 2018 and 2019 sewer fees in the amount of \$7,386.69
5. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$16,596.80
6. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2019 taxes in the amount of \$3,920.67
7. Authorizing the Tax Collector to settle a tax appeal for Block 142 Lot 3 as authorized by the Tax Court of New Jersey in the amount of \$30,715.50
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 \$31,351.97 for the Clean Communities Grant.

Mr. Laezza: I want to add a #9, authorizing the Mayor or myself to sign an agreement with New Jersey Transportation for the bus stops on Raritan Road.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It's the shelter in front of Clark Commons.

Council President Toal ask for a mover and second on the Consent Agenda

Mover: Albanese 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

Council President Toal opened the public portion of the meeting

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia St.: I just have an amendment to my question regarding new development. I guess you are aware of the Board of Education of Edison suing, they brought a case against the Zoning Board for redevelopment and adding homes and children. I haven't read the whole article regarding that but they brought a suit against the Zoning Board for allowing certain development in the Township of Edison.

Mr. Laezza: That is a matter of the Governing Body and the Zoning and Planning Board not working together. That's just a dysfunctional community.

Delia Collins: Can I direct my question to the Mayor at this time? At the last opened public meeting I had brought up the issue about PSE&G along the railroad tracks, Conrail. And you had said that you were not going to make any type of comment or statement until you looked into the issue completely. I wonder if you reached out to.....

Mayor Bonaccorso: We have reached out and we are still working on it, Delia. They are going to put powerlines, I'm going to be very honest, they are going down the railroad.

Delia Collins: Well, there has been some reporting about different issues with Conrail, I forget what they used in their report with the Cranford Township and Westfield about, something to do with finding the appropriate places to put these poles and if they are going to replace the poles and whatever, I understand that, but I feel that the people on Georgia Street, Carolina Street, Picton, Dakota Street are not aware of what is happening.

Mr. Laezza: We have not been notified by PSE&G that they are doing anything....

Delia Collins: How come?

Mr. Laezza: I guess they are just trying to work town by town. They notified Cranford and Westfield they have not notified Clark of anything. I have a call into our contact and we are waiting for notification.

Delia Collins: Because the gentleman who reported it into the TAP into Westfield stated that Westfield would not be affected by the powerlines along the railroad so I wrote back to him and I said, "you have a soccer/recreational field right along the railroad, you have two schools, you have Saint Helen's Church, you have all of the houses that boarder the tracks along Westfield and part of Clark".

Mayor Bonaccorso: Right.

Delia Collins: They said, "thank you we did not know that". Now tell me that they did not look at a map.

Mayor Bonaccorso: They do know it Delia, look you know, you are a smart lady that has been around, once it is not in my back or front yard it's fine.

Delia Collins: Oh, I know.

Mayor Bonaccorso: And the fellow in Westfield, I don't know the article, I don't know the gentleman but I could just imagine. The minute it wasn't going to affect his neighborhood he is all good with it.

Delia Collins: Well, he was a reporter so he was basing his facts on what was going to be coming down South Avenue.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Right.

Delia Collins: It still was coming through Westfield and there are two schools, and there are....

Mayor Bonaccorso: I don't know the legality they have from the State, if they could just go and do this and we really have nothing to say, I don't know if it is a State issue or what is getting involved with that.

Delia Collins: Because Cranford is waiting from Conrail.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Right. They have two Legislators there that are both leaders in the House that should be able to find this information out. But Cranford also likes to complain about anything. If you turn around tomorrow and say that you are going to lay outside and you snore a lot, there are signs on everybody's law "Stop the Snoring".

Delia Collins: It's on the news.

Mayor Bonaccorso: They are overreacting. Do you know what Delia? The one thing that I have never done in lie and fight stupid battles. I am not going to lie to the citizens of this town, if they are going to put powerlines down the railroad track, they are going to put them down the railroad track. And you know if I say to you, "Delia, we can stop it and we are going to fight it", I will do that from the bottom of my heart. If I know that you can't stop it, I am not going to run around and bang the drum and get everybody emotional to say, "oh, look what I did"

Delia Collins: Don't you think that it would be a good thing to let the citizens of the second ward know?

Mayor Bonaccorso: When we know enough information then yes Delia. I won't put information out without knowing enough about it.

Delia Collins: Well, there is the potential.

Mayor Bonaccorso: But Delia, we don't know. John just told you.

Delia Collins: But you see it in black and white in the Tap.

Mayor Bonaccorso: The Tap is real news; I don't believe a lot of the fake newspapers. So, you know but it doesn't mean that they are not going to change. I mean my question is to New Jersey, are they allowed to do this as a public utility? We may have no say in the matter.

Councilman Mazzarella: But they have at the BPU has an informational section, you as a concerned resident can call the BPU and ask them if they have anything slated to do that in your area.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We are still trying to find out what's real.

Delia Collins: You didn't know that they were going to dismantle the power station.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No.

Delia Collins: You didn't know that they were going to build a new power station.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Delia, they don't come to us and tell us everything. It goes back to the Jack's Tavern property. One of our esteem Councilman said to me people are asking, ask all you want, it's out of our hands. The Planning Board voted on it, that man has two years to build that property. People think that the town has the right to say and do and get in everybody's business. We don't. There are certain things that we could govern and there are certain things that we just can't. So, if they are going to go and put a power station in Clark, they don't come to me and say, "Mayor Bonaccorso, do you mind", they just go and do it, it is their power station. If they violate any township ordinances that's where we get involved, or Zoning Ordinances, you know anything of nature that should go in front of the Planning and Zoning, this Municipal Council, we get involved. But if they want to just go and do something at a power station, they don't come to us.

Mr. Laezza: They didn't ask us to build it.

Mayor Bonaccorso: They didn't ask us to build it.

Delia Collins: I know and all of a sudden it appeared.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Right. Sometimes like I said, I am sorry to say, but sometimes are hands are tied, we don't know until it happens.

Delia Collins: I am trying to develop some interest in our neighborhood about this and no one seems to know or care.

Mayor Bonaccorso: When we have the proper information, we will alert everyone, if there is a reason that we can get people out and get it stopped, we will do it. You know it's like you said Cranford has all of the signs up already and they are fighting tomorrow night 750 Walnut, the cell towers, the gas station and convenience store on North Avenue. They fight to fight over that.

Police Chief Matos: I have a quick question Delia, aren't there power lines there now?

Delia Collins: Yes, and they were fought and they were lost. That was when Hayden and all that whole group were....

Police Chief Matos: What do you mean they were lost?

Delia Collins: They were fought by attorneys and they lost.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Clark lost.

Councilman O'Connor: Clark lost so they were able to put the power lines up.

Police Chief Matos: So, the power lines are there. Are they just putting up new power lines?

Delia Collins: They are taller ones.

Councilman O'Connor: So, they are going to be further away from you?

Delia Collins: What?

Councilman O'Connor: They are going to be higher up, right?

Mr. Triarsi: Yes, they are taller poles.

Councilman O'Connor: Right, but that is what I am saying is....

Councilman Smith: They will be more visible.

Councilman O'Connor: They will be more visible but they will be higher from you.

Delia Collins: I can see them right out of my kitchen window.

Councilman O'Connor: No what I'm saying is, I'm not verbalizing it properly, it will be the height will be higher so it will be more distance from your house to the top of the powerlines.

Delia Collins: Right. They said that they are going to be bigger and higher. Well, this is what I read.

Mayor Bonaccorso: They are doing this because of all of the housing.

Mr. Laezza: They are doing this for 5G, coming from China, that's why they are doing it.

Delia Collins: From what Mr. Laezza says the last time at the meeting, he said that they may be putting in more, (Councilman O'Connor: Right) and we know bigger, they are going to be as tall as the Holiday Inn, okay, and they are going to look taller than the ones that you can see from Hyatt Hills, probably as tall as the cell tower.

Councilman O'Connor: But Clark isn't the only town that it's going to happen to.

Delia Collins: I know, I travel a lot.

Mayor Bonaccorso: That's why Pat, I don't know that until we get the information and Council looks at it, I don't know how we are going to stop it. If they are doing the whole State, they obviously have Board of Public Utility approval. And they just can't go out and do this without Board approval from the Board of Public Utilities.

Councilman Smith: Now they have to do it to keep up with the growth of housing construction.

Delia Collins: What I don't understand is they proposed it all along South Avenue in Scotch Plains, Westfield and Cranford and that had to be approved by the BPU, I'm sure.

Councilman O'Connor: Delia we have those high-power lines there already?

Delia Collins: They have them down in Fanwood, on the boarder of Plainfield.

Mr. Laezza: They have them all along the river, they are all over everywhere.

Delia Collins: Even out on Route 22. I don't understand that if Westfield and Cranford are fighting PSE&G, but PSE&G already have their approval from BPU, how come they could be successful?

Mr. Laezza: Well they are not successful yet.

Councilman Smith: Well, is the town Governing Body in those town's fighting it, or is it just those people on Walnut Avenue?

Delia Collins: The town.

Mr. Laezza: They town is letting them run the meetings, the town is doing absolutely nothing.

Delia Collins: They have the meeting....

Mayor Bonaccorso: Guys sometimes it's like a Planning Board Meeting. When a building is before the Planning Board it's basically approved, it is a done deal, because it fits the zoning. Let's take our friends on the Miele property. I tried to drum it into some thick heads there, this is a done deal. In 1992, the town approved the zoning, Mr. Sangiuliano is following the zoning to the letter of the law. We cannot say no without going to court and lose.

Delia Collins: Against the Zoning Board?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Against the Planning Board, zoning is different, you are asking to change the zone, so that is a whole different ballgame. If tomorrow there is a building going up and the Zoning Board has the matter they are asking for relief from that zone. Your voice is important at that meeting because you are letting the Zoning Board know whether you are in favor or you're not. At the Planning Board level, it's already been approved for that zone. So, when they built the Miele farm, the townhouses, the only thing that Sangiuliano asked for was a signed variance. He fit the criteria, so I told Mrs. Disporto who sued that time and cost township money, I said you are going to go to court, you are going to get embarrassed, you are going to lose instantaneously, you are going to cost your neighbors money, you are going to cost the township money because the plan fits. Tell us what you want there, that is what the Planning Board if for to make it more appealing to your neighborhood. Do you want trees? Do you want buffers? Do you want to talk about the egression to the property? Things of that nature. So, when you are coming to the Planning Board, "we don't want this!", blow it out of your nose, you are getting it.

Delia Collins: Because the Zoning Board has approved it?

Mayor Bonaccorso: The Zoning Board has nothing to do with this.

Mr. Laezza: It was written that says that you could build townhouses in that neighborhood. We didn't change the zone; the zone was changed in 1992.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I told Mrs. Disporto that when she came here. You have no clue what you are talking about, you are 110% wrong, and she went to court and the judge said something like this, "Are you kidding me, dismissed" And it cost the town over \$7,000.00, for that. Because we had to defend the Planning Boards actions that night.

Delia Collins: I am going to have to come and see you and ask you another question because my time is probably up.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, that is okay. Unless that President has a problem with that.

Delia Collins: On Madison Hill Road, the County owned property it's zoned for recreation, next to Saint Agnes.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes.

Delia Collins: That has not been developed.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, it won't.

Delia Collins: Because?

Mayor Bonaccorso: It was bought with trust money for open space preservation. It was bought with recreation trust money which means that it could only be there for recreation and open space.

Councilwoman Albanese: Is that Esposito's?

Council President Toal: No, Saint Agnes Church property, 7 acres.

Delia Collins: The Catholic Church owns some property there.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No more, they sold it all to the County. They got 11 million dollars for it. That land Delia, will never ever be developed.

Delia Collins: Only for recreation.

Mayor Bonaccorso: If that, but it is open space and recreation.

Delia Collins: Okay.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It's like Bartell Park. Bartell Park was built with Green Acres money; it will never be developed.

Delia Collins: Like Picton Park will never be developed.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Unless Affordable Housing gets a hold of it.

Councilwoman Albanese: It is just like earlier you asked about L'Oréal, that is industrial. Isn't it better to have research and development like the Mayor said instead of industry with manufacturing, sounds, smells, etc.?

Delia Collins: I understand the difference between Planning and Zoning, I understand what Zoning is.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It is not a permitted use.

Delia Collins: But is it the chicken before the egg, or the egg before the chicken?

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, it depends Delia. The whole town is zoned.

Mr. Laezza: There is a big book with all of the Zoning Ordinances in it, every section of the town and what it is zoned for. They have a zoning map and they have it all spelled out. If you look at those zones that's what you can put in there. All you have to do is go to the Planning Board.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Now, if you find something that fits that zone you go to the Planning Board. If it doesn't fit that zone, you go the Zoning Board because you are asking for relief from the zone.

Delia Collins: They did it in Cranford with 750 Walnut they want to change it from a manufacturing and...

Mr. Laezza: The people that own the property want to change it to housing. The Planning Board is going to say yes that they can change it but not the housing tomorrow night.

Delia Collins: About TD Bank, just one question, Cranford and some other towns YouTube their town meetings, since we in certain areas of Clark do not get TV 36. Is there any way possible that our town meeting can be....?

Councilwoman Albanese: Just go right onto the website. It is not live but it is right after.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Zoning Board and the Planning Board are all on there.

Councilman Smith: When we move over to the new building eventually, will that be streamed live?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes. Well, no, it won't be streamed live but it will be streamed.

Councilman Smith: But it will be streamed, right. Just TV36.

Councilwoman Albanese: But we will still have the 36 live. You get both here.

Councilman Smith: Computer and TV36.

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

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Next Monday is our Golf Outing at Echo Lake. Council you are invited to the dinner, I say get up there around 4:30pm, and for those of you who are not playing in it are welcome. Liz you are welcomed to come to cover it if you like.

Elizabeth Clee: What time does it start Mayor?

Mayor Bonaccorso: We start at 11:00 am.

Mr. Laezza: 11 am to 4:30 pm.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Breakfast is at 9:30 am, so you are welcome to come.

I would just like to thank the Temple, yesterday, Beth O'r in town, for inviting Chief Matos and myself for their 60th anniversary, it was very nice. They gave us both a certificate of leadership and it was a nice event, it was nice that they thought of us. And we went there to recognize them but they ended up doing something for us.

Councilwoman Albanese: No comment.

Councilman Barr: No comment.

Councilman Hund: No comment.

Councilman Mazzarella: No comment.

Councilman O'Connor: Al, I am guessing you are going to talk about the Memorial Day Parade at the next meeting, since you didn't mention it just now.

Councilman Smith: Great job as always Al. That is all I have this evening.

Council President Toal: I have nothing.

Mr. Triarsi: I have no report.

Chief Matos: I want to thank you for your votes today on the new building and of course for the new Special Officer. Thank you very much.

Township Clerk: Election Day is tomorrow, Polls open at 6am and close at 8pm.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn

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

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

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

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
315 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
July 15, 2019
7:00 pm

ROLL CALL:

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

Also, Present: John Laezza, Business Administrator; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk
Absent: Mayor Bonaccorso, Mr. Triarsi; Township Attorney

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 the date and time change of this meeting has been provided by sending written advanced notice of at least 48 hours to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark by posting such meeting agenda on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the proper filing of said notice.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

1. **AN ORDINANCE TO DESIGNATE A CERTAIN PORTION OF LOT 1.01 IN BLOCK 198 AS A PUBLIC STREET TO BE NAMED WATERSON DRIVE**

Discussion: None

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance
Mover: Hund Second: Albanese

RESOLUTIONS:

2. Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to Execute an Agreement with Union County to Modify the Cooperative Agreement for the Community Development Block Grant program dated June 16, 2014

Discussion: None

Mr. Laezza: We do this one every year, it allows you to do an Interlocal Service Agreement with the County to get Federal funds.

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Resolution
Mover: Smith Second: Albanese

3. Authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with Union County for Leaf Composting at a rate of \$2.00 per yard, not to exceed \$32,000.00

Discussion: None

Councilman Smith: Is it the same price as last year?

Mr. Laezza: Same price as last year.

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

Mover: O'Connor Second: Hund

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

4. Authorizing UNICO to conduct the Italian Feast on the Municipal Building property from October 10th thru October 13th, 2019

Discussion: None

5. Authorizing a refund of \$1,535.00 to the Estate of Angelina Brattole for a fee collected in error

Discussion: None

6. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$1,150.00

Discussion: None

Council President Toal asked for a mover 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.

Council President opens the meeting to the public

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

Motion: Smith Second: Barr

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mr. Laezza: We will wait until the Public Meeting.

Councilwoman Albanese: No comment

Councilman Barr: No comment

Councilman Hund: No comment

Councilman O'Connor: No comment

Councilman Smith: No comment

Council President Toal: No comment

Township Clerk: No comment

Chief Matos: No comment

Mr. Laezza: No comment

Council President Toal asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Albanese, second by Councilman Smith

ROLL CALL: All AYES

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

August 5, 2019

7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members, Barr, Hund, Mazzaella, O'Connor, Smith, Toal
Albanese (arrived 7:31)

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 ORDINANCE:

- 1. 19-18 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 84
ARTICLE IV OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED
"VICIOUS DOGS"**

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: Basically, this is an amendment to our code on vicious dogs to accommodate the new change in the State Laws regarding vicious dogs.

No further discussion

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance
Mover: Hund Second: Mazzaella

RESOLUTIONS:

- 2. Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Bonds in October**

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: Basically, down through the years we do Bond Anticipation Notes. We are now coming to a time where the market is going into our favor, so we're going to take those Bond Anticipation Notes and pay them off October 4th, so we are doing a bond sale.

No further discussion

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second this Resolution
Mover: O'Connor Second: Albanese

3. Certifying to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that the members of the Governing Body have reviewed as a minimum, sections of the 2018 Annual Audit entitled General Comments and Recommendations

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: Basically, this is an Audit Report that has been done since June. However, since the Governor hadn't adopted his budget till the end of June, it was withheld because information that had to be supplied by the State of New Jersey and all the auditors were told to hold their audits until they got that information. They finally got the information and the audit report will be distributed this week to you, so you will be able to act on it the 19th.

No further discussion

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second this Resolution
Mover: O'Connor Second: Albanese

4. Approving the 2018 Annual Audit Corrective Action Plan and Authorizing the filing of said plan with the Division of Local Government Services

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: There will be one minimal recommendation that has been there before and we'll be able to accommodate corrective action.

No further discussion

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second this Resolution
Mover: O'Connor Second: Albanese

5. Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Wilson Drive and Waterson Drive Road and Traffic Signal Improvement Project

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: Basically, this is being done because Waterson Drive was only really a paver street and wasn't a driveway. Because of the work that we're doing around the new police department that has to be constructed and the traffic light that will be put in on that corner and with the configuration we'll be able to get state aid for that project in its entirety.

No further discussion

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second this Resolution
Mover: Entire Council Second: Entire Council

6. Authorizing a one-year Extension of the Contract for the Collection and Disposal of Leaves to Messercola Excavating in the amount of \$3.98 per cubic yard

Discussion:

Mr. Laezza: This is a renewal of our contract with the same price, it's only used for fuel costs.

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second this Resolution
Mover: Mazzarella Second: Hund

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

7. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of 2019 sewer fees in the amount of \$185.00

Discussion: None

8. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$9,549.90

Discussion: None

9. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of \$74,862.99 and transfer overpayment of \$29,314.06 of 2019 taxes

Discussion: None

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on the 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.

Council President Toal opened the public portion of the meeting.

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia St.: had a question on the proposed ordinance regarding vicious dogs. Wanted to know if it was written somewhere on what vicious dogs are.

Ms. Collins questioned was answered by the Township Clerk.

William Caruso, 7 School St.: Questioned regarding security at Clark Commons. Talked about property maintenance on School Street.

John Victor Jacobson, 1 Melvin Ct.: Had concerns about Union County property. Showed video of County property.

Mayor Bonaccorso: responded that the property in question is owned by Union County.

Scott McCabe, DPW Supervisor: Explained the results looking at the pipeline.

Mayor Bonaccorso responded as well as Mr. Caruso interjected.

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

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: We will go into private for 10 or 15 minutes on a few matters.

Mr. Laezza: Nothing

Councilwoman Albanese: Yes, I just want to say regarding the comments that were made with regard to the reservoir. Number one, the Mayor has kept us totally informed about the goal to have the reservoir dredged to keep it healthy. We appreciate the update and all of his efforts and that is the number one priority. Anyone who lives on the reservoir, which my family does, is very familiar with the fact that there are inspectors that come by once in a blue moon, every two years advising you of all the items that the Mayor outlined. It is not a beautification of your lawn or the reservoir, it is to make it a wildlife habitat. If a tree grows through a pipe, a tree grows through a pipe, that is how it is. Very satisfied in reading the letter that was provided regarding inspection of the lining of the pipe and it seems fine to me. I was a little taken back and upset about....and it sounded like threats were going to all of these different agencies, please go to the agencies. Those are the ones, as the Mayor outlined that are responsible.

Councilman Barr: I pretty much agree that everything that had to be said has been said, thank you.

Councilman Hund: I will reserve my comments until the next meeting.

Councilman Mazzarella: I want to thank Scott for taking time out to inspect that pipe. After viewing those pictures, it is spotless, it is clean.

Councilman O'Connor: We read on here comments about the audit report that we are going to be getting in. Mr. Laezza did mention that there may just be one comment. Again, great job by Mr. Laezza his team and the Mayor as well, making sure that the Township continues to run in accordance with all of the guidelines that were set forth. Thank you.

Councilman Smith: No comments this evening.

Council President Toal: I am going to finish out with a couple of comments. Mr. Jacobson, I have known you for a long time, I consider you a friend. You called me the one morning when there was a horrible stench coming from behind your house, in the reservoir, in the falls. I got out there in the morning, went out with you and we found a dead deer that had been hit on the Parkway and flooded all the way down to the falls.

Mr. Jacobson: I was the one that dragged it out.

Council President Toal: Yes, you did. That is why I am trying to bring that to attention. The efforts that you have done on behalf of this community, you brought it to my attention, we got the police, we got the County in, they came in and took the thing away. It was a stench and a health issue. Your efforts on behalf of the reservoir and the Township is notable and honorable. We thank you for everything that you for everything that you have done. There is a process with government and having to get it done. I see that you are trying to get things moved along quicker but government moves slow, I got what you are doing John, I understand what you are trying to do, but we are

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going to work on what we have to do because as the Mayor said and it very true we don't own it, the County owns it, the County runs a whole lot different, they wont even let me in the building, and that is the truth.

Mr. Jacobson: I am dealing with the County too.

Council President Toal: Okay. I am just trying to work with you, and said yes, work with us and we will get it done. Let the County handle it, it is their property. We will get things done; I want a beautiful reservoir too.

Mr. Jacobson: (inaudible) hear about a pipeline and I don't think that you guys....

Council President Toal: Again, the pipeline will be taken care of by the law and by the ownership. We will get it done John. We are not letting things go, okay?

Motion to go into private was made by Councilman Smith, second by Councilman O'Connor.

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

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

Any Opposed: Nay.

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION 19-104

WHEREAS N.J.S. 10:4-12 permits the exclusion of the Public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS this public body is of the opinion that circumstances presently exist; and

WHEREAS the Mayor and Council wish to discuss:

1. A matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion, or disciplining of a specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body; and

2. Tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, provided that their disclosure could impair that protection, or investigations of violations or possible violations of the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting at 8:07 pm and invited back to resume the regular order of business at 8:22 p.m.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the subject matter of this meeting will be released when the reasons for discussion and action on it in closed session no longer exists.

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes

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

Motion to resume Workshop Meeting made by Councilman Mazzaella, second by Councilman O'Connor

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes

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

Council President Toal asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Albanese, second Councilman Mazzarella

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes

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

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
September 3, 2019
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

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

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: Award of Contract for New Police Headquarters – Bid opening September 10th

Township Clerk: The Business Administrator would like to discuss the New Police Headquarters.

Mr. Laezza: The bid opening date was changed from September 10th to September 13th. We are not going to award on September 16th. We will probably have a Special Meeting on the September 23rd.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It will be a quick meeting, there will be one thing on the agenda, that's it.

Mr. Laezza: We can do the meeting in the afternoon so that you don't have to come back at night.

Councilwoman Albanese: What time in the afternoon, can Pat call in?

Council Vice President: I'll be in Philadelphia.

Township Clerk: I know that others do that type of thing but I have never heard it allowed with Council.

Mark Dugan: Off of the top of my head I am unaware of any prescription against that, I would need to check it, it is rather unusual because the public is not going to be as available during the workday as it is for the evening.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Why don't we just do it in the evening, make it 7pm.

Township Clerk: Do it in Room 30, right?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, do it here.

Council Vice President: Any additional comments?

Mr. Laezza: No, not right now.

Mr. Laezza: Basically, when I talked to them today when they wanted the extension, they said that they are getting a lot of requests for information from the contractors.

Mayor Bonaccorso: There is going to be some detail work in the Council Chambers, the Court House and some things like that. We made it abundantly clear that they better read their plans and know what you are doing or you are eating it. We are not change ordering that stuff, so make sure that you understand what you are taking on because if you don't you are going to eat it. Then they grab me at that meeting that we had, the pre-bid, and they were saying that they needed an extra two weeks on that. So, I talked to John and the architect and they said, "yes, why not". So now they are asking for three more days because there is a lot of detail on that Council Chambers.

Councilman Smith: Does it look like a lot of bidders?

Mr. Laezza: About eight or ten.

Council Vice President O'Connor: Thank you for the update Mr. Laezza. We are going to move onto resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Authorizing the Health Officer to enter into an Agreement with the Visiting Nurse and Health Service for the year 2020 in the amount of \$7,986.00

Township Clerk: The price stayed the same as last year.

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

Township Clerk: Before we get to Consent, I received a notification today that we are going to enter into an agreement for new cooperative pricing. And we should have that ready by September 16th, to go ahead with that. It is the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission.

Mr. Laezza: Put it on the Consent Agenda.

Township Clerk: Do you care if is on Consent?

Councilwoman Albanese: Consent is fine.

Mr. Laezza: Put it on Consent Agenda #5.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

2. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of 2019 sewer fees in the amount of \$585.17

3. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2019 taxes in the amount of \$17,161.32

Discussion: None

4. Approving the Council Meeting Calendar for 2020

Discussion: None

5. Approving the 2020 Holiday Schedule

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Did anyone have a problem with the Council Meeting schedule? (Council response: no)

Mayor Bonaccorso: What about December 21st? Is that good? (Council response: yes)

Mr. Laezza: Election Day is a holiday, that gives us 13 holidays, we only give them 12 and a floating day, now we are giving them 13 and a floating day. Do you want to give your employees 14 days?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Probably not.

Councilwoman Albanese: No? Why not?

Mr. Laezza: Take away Columbus Day?

Chief Matos: Election Day is now a holiday.

Mr. Laezza: When we elect the Mayor and the President, we close.

Councilman Smith: Have we all those years?

Councilwoman Albanese: Yes.

Council Vice President O'Connor: Okay, so if I am understanding this correctly, what we are talking about is we are either going to give our employees an extra day or take away Columbus Day.

Councilman Smith: Why can't we just give them election day on Presidential Election Day every four years.

Mr. Laezza: We could do that. But if the Mayor wants the leaves removed then it is double time for the DPW.

Mayor Bonaccorso: When is that?

Mayor Bonaccorso: True, I mean we are coming up on that day.

Councilwoman Albanese: The leaves never fall down by then anyhow, so we might just wait.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I don't care, it doesn't matter to me.

Councilwoman Albanese: I say give it.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You know what guys; look I have got to be honest with you and nobody was tougher on the employees then me when I first got here. They are all good people, they are all working hard, they are all doing their job. So, you know if we give them a bone, we are not hurting anybody. They are all team players; they all go out of their way to do the right thing.

Councilwoman Albanese: Yes.

Council Vice President O'Connor: Does anyone have any objections to what the Mayor proposes?

Councilman Smith: All of this is permanent?

Council Vice President O'Connor: No, we are just doing just for this election, we are not going forward, just this one.

John Laezza: Just for the Presidential election.

Council Vice President O'Connor asked for motion and second on this Consent Agenda
Mover: Hund 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.

Seeing no one coming forward Councilman Smith made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting, seconded by Councilman Hund

Council Vice President O'Connor directed roll call: All Ayes
Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzarella, Smith, O'Connor

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Mr. President. Two things, one is that we brought you up to date on the Police Station bid, so that is going to be exciting to see what happens there.

We are getting down to Fall now obviously and that means the end of grass is coming, bulk clean-up is ending, branches will be ending. We start picking up leaves the last Monday of October. So that will be going on right on schedule.

9/11 Ceremony, on September 11th obviously. We might be short three or four people this year because it is not an election year so the Democrats won't show up. That burns me more than

Workshop Council Meeting September 3, 2019..... 5
anything in this town. Don't use that holiday for politics. And look around to our people. It is just a fraud and it just annoys me and I can't stomach it. So, that is going to go on.

You know that we had some graffiti out here in the playground the Police Department is following up. If you don't mind Chief, they thought that they had a suspect but that doesn't seem like that panned out. But they are working on it and looking at it.

The Italian Feast is coming, UNICO, that is always big at the building, then we shoot right into Election Day and Veterans Day, which of course is always a ceremony on Veterans Day, at 11:00 am on the 11th day.

Basically, the summer was pretty quiet here and everything worked out well. We are getting things done. I talked to Frank earlier about the light at Lake and Skyline. And a neighbor had called me and said, that is was going to create traffic one in a while. So, I guess he has a crystal ball to see what happens.

The roads are being paved, for this year it seems as if it is going a little slower, like up at Meadow Road, but it seems like they did a nice job. There is no overflow parking at the library this year. I mentioned that at the last meeting, Liz followed up with it. If you get calls, we are in this construction zone, period. They are welcome to park down at the tennis courts, we have no problem with that, if they can fit, they are more than welcome, we don't really care. We don't want anybody on the circle and really in front of the building, that is really more the school there, but there are a few spots to be had out there, but down by the tennis courts we are able to let them park there, we will be happy to let them park there.

Council Vice President O'Connor: Did you speak with the principal at the high school.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, Sarnecki and I talked and he is going work with all that and everything to get that done. We are going to use half of that library back lot as a zone for our set up, for our staging. We are going to need an area when tractor trailer's come in with equipment to be able to swing around, we are very tight back there, we are very, very tight back there. It is going to be fenced off and Jersey walled and all the safety precautions are going to be taken. I am not going to have people walking around back there, it is not going to be a playground.

Other than that, everything is moving along very well. Edie, the police and fire are having the cook-off on October the 19th. It is going to be out here (the Municipal Building), they pushed it back which is smart because last year it was about 600 degrees outside, it was brutal. Thank God for this place with air conditioning. So that should be fun. We are going to try and get some celebrities to come, I was trying to get some guys from 101.5 radio to come down and everything, so it should be fun if we could get them, if we can't, we can't. So, that is the 19th.

We have the Senior BBQ coming up next Wednesday, September 11th. And there will be a Birthday Breakfast coming up too I believe in September, I have to check the dates. If you not, just email Jen, she has it all written down. She keeps me pointed in the right direction.

And that's it. Everything else is good. Any questions?

Councilman Hund: One of our residents suggested that we put a motion detector out here. So, that every time something moves at night it gets automatically sent to Central Station and then police can come over and see and stop the graffiti, that was their suggestion.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Pete that doesn't go to the Police Station, right, these cameras?

Police Chief Matos: Not these new ones but those cameras record the moments. They are motion cameras, so the moment it detects motion it records, it is not always recorded the moment it detects motion and records it. I don't know how you could, in that system, send an automated message to the police department.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You would have to have that screen up and on all the time at night. And basically, when someone goes in there it is going to flash....10 o'clock at night they are going to have to call a radio car and have them go over there and chase them out. I was a little disappointed in the camera because when we zoomed in to get a closer look it blurred out. Like if anyone of you guys were standing out there, the Chief will tell you, we would recognize you and that is no problem because we know the people obviously. When we zoomed on them it wasn't that good; I was not happy with it at all. I don't know maybe we could find out if you have any room on your dispatch to put a screen?

Police Chief Matos: I believe they are on the same system as the high school. I will check and confirm with Merlo, from DDS Tech, but I am certain that those cameras can be added into our dispatch. It will just be a multitude of cameras, because we get the high school, and of course at night the schools will be closed, so that camera could be up.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, if we could just put that up from 9:00 pm till early morning hours and anytime the dispatch sees somebody in there they will just have to call.

The other thing this year for the Italian Festival I want police officers stationed in there 24/7, the whole day because I am not going through this again. These kids have everything to do on that side of the building and there are 300 kids on this side of this building where the playground is, you know I can't have another problem over there, it's ridiculous, that playground cost way too much money to do it. If they could do that and have it monitored to your police station at night that would be perfect. Now the cameras at the high school that they have on the turf field, it is on top of the building where the gym is, let me tell you something, I was in his dispatch room when they first went up, someone could be standing in that endzone and I could read their lips, that's how great that thing was. I was sitting there on day watching the football team workout, if I count it, I'm like the five/ten-yard line, I felt they were right in front of me, that's how great it was. But you know what it doesn't matter, if it goes to the police desk and the minute, we have a problem, they have to send a car.

Police Chief Matos: I believe they reset the lighting hours to go later into the night now.

Councilman Barr: Chief, but you can have it sent to the police department, as you know they have the RING on your doorbell, if somebody comes here, not only does it send a message but it videos it.

Police Chief Matos: I know that DVS Tech software and it's.... I don't know if they have that capability, I do not believe that they have that capability. It is not like the RING doorbell, it may be, but I don't think so.

Councilman Barr: It takes movement and it videos it. I have it, I could be in a Florida and it is going to let me know that somebody is at the door.

Councilwoman Albanese: But they have the security cameras too.

Police Chief Matos: It might, but I don't believe it does.

Council Vice President O'Connor: You guys can talk about this, right? We are good?

Police Chief Matos: I am good, I know what I have to do.

Councilwoman Albanese: No comment.

Councilman Barr: No comment.

Councilman Hund: No comment.

Councilman Mazzearella: Just one really quick thing. I got this today, and we talked before the meeting, an email about this lady that lives on Raritan Road in Clark. John, do you want to elaborate on that?

Mayor Bonaccorso: She says that with 5G, we are all going to die?

Councilman Mazzearella: Yes. John, you read it today.

Mr. Laezza: I read it.

Mr. Dugan: We should not mention the name.

Township Clerk: It seems as though there is a group behind this and we may get more because it seems like a resident could not have written this.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Do you know what? Maybe she should be told to go to the State of New Jersey, the State of New Jersey are the people that should be doing that. We are not even making (inaudible), it is not about that here in town. If the State of New Jersey thinks that 5G is bad, they should be the ones outlawing it. Respectfully, just like I said with Cranford outlawing plastic straws and plastic forks and all of that. Sorry, that is a state issue. We are not going to get that (inaudible) as long as I am here. That we are going to start monitoring forks and spoon and knives. Whether it is the environment or not that is one thing, but the State should be doing that stuff.

Councilman Smith: No comment.

Mr. Laezza: The county is going to be doing Brant Avenue from the Parkway Circle to Westfield Avenue, and Central Avenue from Wendy to the Garden State Parkway circle, and Valley Road from Central Avenue to Walnut Avenue. They are going to do it at night, unless you want them to do it in the day.

Council Vice President O'Connor: That was my question, do they have an alternative plan for traffic. In 2019?

Mr. Laezza: 2020.

Mr. Laezza: Yes, the road is finished.

Township Clerk: The County Board of Elections will start demonstrations of the new voting machines beginning this Thursday, at our Senior Citizen Meeting. They will be here in this room (Room 30), on the 24th of September. Before all of these dates they are supposed to send a postcard to every resident explaining all of the dates.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Edie, could we get any at the feast?

Township Clerk: They are going to be at the feast on Saturday.

Council President O'Connor: I suggested to people to really try it because they are going to get confused.

Township Clerk: They are also going to come to our October meeting and be just in that outside area. So, it will be listed but September 5th is for the seniors the first time.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Edie, could we do something on TV36?

Township Clerk: We could.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Where we just get a video of you going in to make your vote, or have a Board of Election explain it.

Township Clerk: I am sure that Nicole, the Board Administrator would do it. She had a basic video which we put up on our website, but it is not detailed at all. The other thing we could do maybe is to get Ed Davenport over here when they are here in this room (Room 30) all day on the 24th of September and just film them.

Councilwoman Albanese: Film the demonstration and put it on TV36.

Township Clerk: Yes. They also have a paper trail so that....and I can't even imagine that they have a bag with wheels.... the poll workers have trouble lifting things now, and now they are going to have a bag and this thing on wheels to bring all of this paper in.

Mayor Bonaccorso: If you know of any people that want to work the poles, you should see John DeSimone or Edie. We are losing a lot of Clark people.

Township Clerk: We have very few Clark residents.

Council President O'Connor: What does it pay?

Township Clerk: It's \$200.

Police Chief Matos: September 20th, the police department will be hosting our movie night if you would like to join us.

Mayor Bonaccorso: What night is that Pete?

Police Chief Matos: Friday.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Football is away.

Police Chief Matos: Yes. We cleared it with the high school.

Council Vice President O'Connor: The movie is what?

Police Chief Matos: Goose Bumps II.

I don't know if you heard but on Friday a pedestrian got struck on Lake Avenue and Oak Ridge Road. It was a 63-year-old man. Initially it appeared he had non-life threatening injuries, he did fall back and it appears that he tried to beat the light across traffic, he got bumped by a pick-up truck going by. It was not at a high rate of speed, the guy saw him and tried to stop, hit him, he fell back and hit the back of his head. He didn't have any broken bones or anything like that, he was conscious and was transported to University Hospital as a precaution. Sometime after getting there he went unconscious, he had a brain bleed, and that is when he passed away.

Council Vice President O'Connor: Clark resident?

Police Chief Matos: Scotch Plains resident. That is our second fatality this year.

Mayor Bonaccorso: What time is the movie?

Police Chief Matos: 7:30 pm, I believe.

Council Vice President O'Connor: I have no comment for this meeting.

Council Vice President O'Connor asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

ROLL CALL: All Ayes

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

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
October 7, 2019
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

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

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.

Nicole DiRado, Administrator, Union County Board of Elections has requested time at the beginning of the October 21st meeting to demonstrate the new voting machine

PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

**1. 19-22 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 195, ARTICLE XXII OF THE
CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED "GENERAL
REGULATIONS, EXCEPTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS"**

Discussion:

Township Clerk: These two ordinances are zoning changes, and so they are a little bit different in that, you'll introduce on October 21st, then it has to go to the Planning Board to make sure it's consistent with the Master Plan and then it will come back to you for public hearing and adoption.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Does anybody have any questions on this? We've been getting a lot of inquiries about massage and spa type places. So, the only change we've made is that it has to be licensed by the State of New Jersey to make sure there's no shenanigans going on. And I don't think there would be in these types of places that are franchised typed. There's a lot of these around, so the State calls for licensing to make sure everything is on the up and up.

No further discussion

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

Mover: Smith

Second: Barr

2. 19-23 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 195 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED “LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS”

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: This is a good ordinance. We had a (tape inaudible) proposed Planning Board level on Joseph Street, the old CVS down there. And the Planning Board knocked it down because it wasn't sufficient parking. It was a very pretty building, I voted “no”, I would have liked to voted “yes” because I thought it would be a great addition to the Downtown and a kickoff of a new Downtown. But because of the size and the boundaries and the height and the lack there of parking and proper spaces for dumpsters. We voted “no”. Frank was there, he voted “no”, it was unanimous. The thing we did by doing this, is hopefully now buildings that are proposed on Westfield Avenue, there's going to be side yard restrictions along with the height restrictions. So, if you don't have the proper side yard, you can't go up to 45 feet, you have to stay at 35 feet. And by doing this you won't be putting ten pounds into a five-pound bag. So, we want to continue in growing Westfield Avenue, we're anxiously waiting the A&P site, it will begin probably sometime next year. From what we're hearing the owners of that have been building in every town in New Jersey with our new Democratically driven affordable housing (tape inaudible) but they should all be thrown out of Trenton for this year. So, this is going to be able to make it and you know we are trying hard to stay within our agreement with the Court on Affordable Housing to make this happen. But on the other hand, we're not going to sell out this community for big buildings to satisfy some Court who has no right to tell us what to do in our communities. It's a shame of what's going on in New Jersey and you all know how I feel (tape inaudible) and all of you feel the same way. But this is a way that we can do it and I think it's going to work out well, so what we have should fit.

No further discussion

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

RESOLUTIONS:

- 3. PUBLIC HEARING:** Authorizing the submission of an application for funding for the Year 46 Community Development Block Grant Program

Discussion: None

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second this Resolution
Mover: Albanese Second: Barr

- 4. Appointing Julian Hilongos as a Class II Special Law Enforcement Officer**

Discussion: None

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second this Resolution
Mover: Hund Second: Smith

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

5. Authorizing the Clark Special Events Committee and the Department of Recreation to conduct a Community Bonfire on November 27th.
6. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$22,378.50.
7. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of 2019 sewer fees in the amount of \$299.67.
8. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2019 taxes in the amount of \$10,353.85
9. Authorizing the Tax Collector to settle a tax appeal for Block 63 Lot 58 as authorized by the Tax Court of New Jersey in the amount of \$6,994.86.
10. Authorizing the Tax Collector to settle a tax appeal for Block 71 Lot 7 as authorized by the Tax Court of New Jersey in the amount of \$8,634.79.

No discussion on items 5 through 10

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on the Consent Agenda
Mover: Albanese Second: Barr

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 Toal opened the public portion of the meeting.

Seeing no one coming forward Councilman O'Connor made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting, seconded by Councilman Hund

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes
Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazarella, O'Connor, Smith, Toal

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: First off, this week we start our UNICO Italian Festival, which is Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and cleanup on Monday. Sunday at 12:00 pm there's the essay reading

whoever can make it. I know we usually have a few Freeholders here and stuff, so it's nice to see.

We are going to be having a Special Officer stationed in this playground when the Feast is opened. We cannot take any chance of damaged to this brand-new playground. We got away with it one time already and we're not looking for it twice. My feelings are very simple; I don't even want the kids in the playground, the Feast is on the other side, if you are here for the Feast, go to the Feast, you know what I mean. I don't care if a parent shows up with a little two or three-year-old in the afternoon, but for kids that are you know 10/12 there is no reason for them to be there. So, we are going to take care of that this year. It's going to be a great time as always, UNICO always puts on a great show, it's fun, I'll be attending.

We have the Trunk or Treat coming up at the end of the month. I'll talk to you guys about that, about setting something up. That should be very good and very nice. I'll happy about that.

Election Day will be coming up this year. We have nothing local. We have an Assembly election and Freeholders and Board of Education with four members that are vying for three seats on the Board of Education.

We are getting ready for leaf cleanup for the town. We're looking around, there's some piles already, the leaves are coming down. This is end of appliance and bulky cleanup this month. Scott is starting to get all of our equipment ready for the leaf cleanup. We've had a busy month, you saw that main break for the sewer up on Parkway that took up some manpower, because even with an outside contractor we're trying to assist to keep the price down and get the job done quicker and it turned out to be pretty good. We've been starting to enforce a little heavier big shrubbery on the corners of property blocking cars, we're trying to do that and keep it going. I think the best thing that came out of this even tonight by far is the new zoning that we have to get passed for the building up on Westfield Avenue. Any questions?

Councilwoman Albanese: no comment.

Councilman Barr: no comment.

Councilman Hund: no comment.

Councilman Mazzarella: no comment.

Councilman O'Connor: Just a reminder for the people regarding last grass pickup and leaves and grass.

Mayor Bonaccorso: They can throw the grass out into the street, they are starting to get some leaves in it, so it's no big deal we're going to pick it up. I had an argument last year with a resident who's telling me that it never happened before and I said for the eighteen years that I have been Mayor it's always happened. So, I mean if I'm telling you it's happening, just do it, mixed them together, no branches. They know the routine but you know there will be branches.

If there's branches DPW will throw them back on the lawn. Because once leaves come in, we have nowhere to store branches, so that's the deal there, okay.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you.

Councilman Smith: nothing this evening.

Council President Toal: I have two things. I'm going to ask that the Administration let us know what's going on Surrey, so I can get a letter or something out to the residents to give them an update because the guys did the curbing and looks great but now, I just want to give them a time table on when they are going to go back to actually mill and pave.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well Brian they are milling and paving all these streets at once. It's probably going to be a couple of weeks.

Council President Toal: I just need to give them a head's up because they are calling, I appreciate whatever you can give me on that. And on Rolling Hill Way, a starting time for that.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well, I'm going to talk to engineering for the future because I don't like this program this one contractor is doing. I want a street done and then moved on to the next, I don't like when jobs hang around.

Council President Toal: Exactly, I just want to give them a response to their questions, they are simple questions.

Township Clerk: There's going to be a voting machine demonstration at the Feast on Saturday, October 12th.

Councilman O'Connor: I think it's also important to know, the Clerk and I were speaking about this, that if you did for the last election sign up for a mail in ballot, you will get another mail in ballot, you need to physically go on and fill out a form to say I don't want the mail in ballot.

Township Clerk: Right, you have to do it in writing, you have to opt out in writing. The Governor decided that whoever voted by mail in 2016, automatically gets a vote by mail. Which bogs down the County because they have sent out forty thousand vote by mail ballots.

Councilman Mazzarella: But if you get that vote by mail, are you required to use that.

Township Clerk: If you don't use it, you are throwing your vote away because you cannot vote on the machine as soon as that ballot goes out.

Mayor Bonaccorso: But can't you fill out a paper ballot at the polls.

Township Clerk: Yes, you can vote by Provisional Ballot and then it goes back to the County and they determine to make sure you are only voting once.

Councilman O'Connor: I think it's important that the public understands this because on Election Day there's always a few people who get in a heated debate with one of the poll workers that say's it's there right to vote because they don't understand the rules.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well, you now Pat, I think and I don't want to speak for Edie because she's in charge. I would more or less tell the people "that listen they say you had a ballot and you didn't fill it out, here go vote", because if you vote twice, they are going to kick your paper ballot out".

Township Clerk: Yeah, the County frowns on that but they also...

Mayor Bonaccorso: (tape inaudible) should stop making rules for the cities for the demo's come pouring out on Election Day and understand most people see Board of Election mail and say it's junk and they throw it away, I'm a registered voter, what am I reading here.

Township Clerk: The poll worker would lose his or her job if they have done that. Rule #1 that if it says mail-in, there's no way you are supposed to let the person vote on the machine.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well, that and once again is to make sure again for the record that the Democrat's come pouring out in the County's. So, if you get a rainy cold wintery day, they say we have our vote coming through mail, don't worry about it. They want to make sure that they can control the State, ruin this State, and continue to run all kinds of laws helping as Affordable Housing their party.

Township Clerk: There's been a big advertising campaign on Facebook for vote by mail ballots as well. I don't know if any of you have seen it.

Council President Toal: I have a question. (tape inaudible) mail in ballots done from 2016 Election, those people are now passed away. Do they still get their ballots?

Township Clerk: They are supposed to write the word deceased and mail it back. I can't speak for the Board of Elections or the County Clerk's Office.

Mark Dugan: I have no comments.

Police Chief Matos: no comment.

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn

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

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes

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

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
November 4, 2019
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

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

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

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. Granting Consent to Cross River Fiber for non-exclusive use of the Public Rights-of-Way for the operation of a telecommunications system and authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute the Rights-of-Way Use Agreement.

Discussion:

John Laezza: The Board of Public Utilities say these people have the right to come into our town, it gives our citizens the opportunity to get cheaper service or better service.

Council President Toal: And they'll use our pole lines across the...

John Laezza: Or use the regular rights-of-way that we have.

No further discussion

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Resolution
Mover: Smith Second: Barr

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:

John Laezza: This is a continuation of the contract that we've had with Elizabeth on the year-to-year basis for STD diseases that service by Elizabeth on behalf of (tape inaudible) Clark requires. Contract is the same as it was.

No further discussion

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second this Resolution

Mover: O'Connor Second: Hund

3. Calling for a Study Commission to review the Open Public Records Act which is in need of Comprehensive review and reform.

Discussion:

Township Clerk: It is important for people to be able to get documents. It has turned into the Clerk's offices throughout the State of doing the work of the real estate, attorneys, and environmental groups. The State is asking all of the Clerk's to pass this and then pass it on to the Attorney General.

Council President Toal: And how do you feel about it?

Township Clerk: I think it needs to be reviewed. It's been in review supposedly by the Senator who created it for two years.

Mayor Bonaccorso: What I would like to see your Clerk's Association do, is really get a law passed that...look we have an open window here, if you want something, you'll get it and by law we have to, prior to OPRA we were able to get it. I worked as a Councilman for administration that we asked to see certain bills, we got a run around for three months, versus saying yeah go down (tape inaudible) and you'll get them, go see Terry, go see John, no problem, that's a true statement, okay, I sat right there where Al is. So anyway, I don't think that's proper, I don't think it's right. If a citizen comes in and wants to see a contract on something, they should have a right, it's their money, we're voting on it. What I have a great offense to, is in the political season, when you have people sending emails to the Clerk, I want to see this and it's clarkresident123@gmail.com, put your name, address, your email number and your phone number on it. If you do that you can have whatever you want. But there's always that side that wants to try to find that hidden finding that no one is telling anybody about, which isn't fair as you know with these bogus emails. So, if you something put your name, put your address, put your phone number on it or your email address. I have a real problem because our Clerk and our girls are running around doing work for no reason for some person who got beaten in three elections and finally is digging up something on somebody.

Councilman O'Connor: And just to follow that point Sal, I noticed in the Clerk's notes that approximately four hours each day are spent satisfying OPRA requests.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Actually Pat, to be honest Council and Edie probably can concur with this. John and I will talk to the Mayor's meeting, Berkeley Heights last year hired someone just to do

OPRA. So, as we do with the prevailing wage, the blue machine in Trenton, they love cranking out laws and we the local government have to fund them. Do we really need to have a full-time position down the road someday to chase OPRA requests around? It's ridiculous.

No further discussion

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second this Resolution

Mover: Smith Seconded:

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

1. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$650.00.
2. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of 2019 sewer fees in the amount of \$4,353.96.

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

Mover: Toal Second: Mazzarella

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 Councilman O'Connor made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting, seconded by Councilman Hund

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes, a couple quick things. On Ross Street, our blinking 25 mph was run over by a drunk driver the other night. I think he was coming from Clark going out. It has to be either repaired or replaced.

Councilman Hund: I'm sure the residents are not happy about that.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well, we're going to get another one out there because you know that was a big problem out on Ross Street for you.

Councilman Hund: Yes.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Trunk or Treat, I just want to congratulate everyone who participated. We had to have what about 25,000 people there. It was crazy, crazy and it was great. Vinny and the police

department also were there. What I do want to make is a special note to the Captain, I'm very proud of this police department. On Halloween they went out, they were given candy out of their cars to the kids. We do not live in a town by any stretch that meets better community relations between the police and citizens. It's probably been A+ since I can ever remember like it is. But to see the police going out of their way to get to know the citizens better and being on that personal level not only on a professional level, is a great feeling that I see that this town has never had before. I thank Chief Matos, I thank Captain Concina, he was a Trunk or Treat dressed up and always out there and all the men for really putting time into this community, it's a nice thing to see, I'm very proud of them for doing that. And they weren't asked to do, they did this all on their own. Just like the movie night on the football field back in the beginning of September when they had that night, a lot of nice things going on.

Breakfast with Santa opened today and sold-out hours later. So that's the Sunday after Thanksgiving. There's an 8:00 seating at the Gran Centurions, I think 9:30 and then in think it's 11:15 or something like that. Of course, the 8:00 seating was the slowest to sell out. If you guys have any complaints or problems let me know. And also, the tree lighting will be taken place that weekend.

Tomorrow is Election Day, please go out and vote. It's not a great race in the world to look at but we have one Assembly candidate versus two on the other side, we have a couple of Freeholders candidates running and I think the biggest need to eat is in the Board of Education election, four people vying for three seats. So, I think that's really what we have to talk about. But we are going to blink and Thanksgiving is going to be here and then we will be talking about Christmas. So, see everybody at the upcoming...and you guys already have the invitation to the Senior Holiday Party, try to attend if you can. That's it, thank you guys.

Councilman Barr: Basically, I just want to compliment the Mayor and the Business Administrator for all the work they are doing on the new police department, fine job.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thanks, Al.

Councilman Hund: Just to iterate with what my counterpart just said regarding the police department and the new building, and that's all I have.

Councilman Mazzarella: On behalf of my family and myself we want to wish Captain Concina and his family our sincere sympathy of the loss of his Mother.

Councilman O'Connor: I just want to dovetail off what the Mayor had said about the community relationship with the police. So, Jimmy Rapp used to be Captain, I also went to high school with him and graduated with Jimmy. And when I lived over on Fulton Street, I went to vote at Valley Road and I saw Jimmy in uniform and I said "Kyle see that police officer, I said if you do something bad, he's going to come and get you". And Jimmy scolded me, he said "you don't say that to your kid, that makes kids afraid of the police". He said you bring them up to us and you say this is Officer Rapp, if you are ever in trouble, come see him, he'll take care of you. So that's the kind of community that the police department has had in this for a long time. It's more our police officers are here to help you; they are your friends and they are your friends as to supposed to they

are going to come and get you when they catch you do something wrong. So, Vinny I know that you and the Chief and the rest of the men still have that as demonstrated by the example of the Mayor gave tonight with Trunk or Treat and driving around with the police cars, so thank you.

Councilman Smith: (speaking to Captain Concina) Just thank all of your officers for all that they do for us, please, I know you hear all the accolades here and so does Chief Matos. But let them know down at the front lines there. And condolences to you family. That's all I have this evening.

Council President Toal: I'm just going into something with Administration. I need to get an update for Rolling Hill Road. Those ladies don't want to stop because they have a toilet in front of their house, so I'll talk to you about this also.

John Laezza: They are going to get their road done by November 15th.

Council President Toal: That's all I need to know. Thank you very much, but now you give me a date and I can give them something.

John Laezza: Well, you better hope it doesn't rain or snow.

Council President Toal: Captain Concina, I'm just going to say this, campaign 2018 we finished and we were out there all day long and a resident comes up to me and says there is a weird smell coming out the end of Wendall. You know Wendall Place is right on the Resi, the high point next to the parkway, and I have three residents not one or two but three residents telling me there's a weird smell coming from the Resi. So, what I do, I leave the polls and the Mayor calls me and says "where are you". We went over to Wendall with Captain Concina and we looked everywhere and we were smelling something but it wasn't strong enough. I went back and stood at the polls and I got a call later from Captain Concina saying we found it. It was a dead deer. It's just the things happen in Clark with these stories. That's why I call him the deer hunter every time I see him. Because he went out beyond the call of duty in my crazy world.

Township Clerk: I just want to say that Ralph Bernardo has asked that on the November 18th meeting to suspend the regular order of business for David Toma. He has received, I think he said to me the Four Chaplains' Gold Medal Awards, which is the most prestigious award given to a civilian.

ADJOURNMENT

Council President Toal asked for a motion to adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Barr, seconded by Council President Toal

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes

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

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
December 2, 2019
7:30 pm

ROLL CALL:

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

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.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Award of Professional Services contracts through a fair and open process for 2020:
Proposals will be opened December 4th
 - A. Auditor
 - B. Engineering Services
 - C. Professional Planner
 - D. Labor Attorney
 - E. Bond Counsel
 - F. Special Counsel

Discussion:

Township Clerk: Regarding the first resolution, there will be several resolutions with one vote and it is the Award of Professional Services Contracts through fair and open process for 2020. These proposals will be opened this Wednesday for the positions of Auditor, Engineering Services, Professional Planner, Labor Attorney, Bond Counsel and Special Counsel.

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Resolution
Mover: Mazzarella Second: Barr

2. MOVED TO THE SPECIAL MEETING - Appointment of Firefighter James Marciano

Township Clerk: #2 we removed from this agenda and put it on the Special Meeting.

3. Authorizing the Mayor and/or Business Administrator to execute the Risk Management Consultant's Agreement with World Insurance Associates for 2020

Discussion: none

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on this Resolution
Mover: Smith Second: Mazzarella

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

4. Appointing Special Police Officers effective January 1, 2020
5. Authorizing the Police Chief to issue Clothing Bin Permits for the year 2020
6. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayment of 2019 sewer fees in the amount of \$15,910.86
7. Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$3,650.00
8. Authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayment of 2019 taxes in the amount of \$11,079.47

Council President Toal asked for a mover and second on the Consent Agenda.
Mover: Hund 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 attended the Westfield Town Council Meeting on November 26th, they were going to introduce a proposal to have a cross bow hunt in the area of Maryland, Delaware and Grandview Avenue in Westfield, which borders the backyards of Carolina Street of Clark and also, there are taxpayers that live on Grandview Avenue. Several of us that attended that meeting are awaiting confirmation from Westfield as to any questions that the public had regarding the deer management and that will be on December 10th. My concern is not...I mean I am (tape inaudible) deer hunt but my concern is safety because many people use this area as a loft from the Georgia Street up until Massachusetts in Westfield and they come down Boyton and then they go up Fairfield which encompasses the eight acres of this area where they want to have the bow hunt. The County has deemed it a park, it is not a park, it is a wooded area that is on the borders of Cranford, Westfield and Clark. From the tax records in Clark, I see that there are three houses that

pay taxes to Clark on Grandview Avenue, which continues into Westfield all the way up almost into Grove Street. It is blocked off by different wooded areas but these three houses pay Clark their taxes. It is an eight-acre site. The bow hunt are managed by the Union County of Deer Management, and we don't know if they deemed it to be an area that has to have a hunt or Westfield has gone to them asking them to have the County come in and do this on private (tape inaudible) Westfield's land. The County does what they call a spot light town, which means they go over the areas that they have concerns about and they count the deer and those wooded areas are open areas, they are planning on doing this hunt on Georgia Street, Carolina, Picton and Grandview. And they want to also do a deer kill in the Conservation Center, which is down the road in Westfield. The deer that come through our neighborhood travel down to that Conservation Center along the tracks, they come from the wooded area behind Carolina Street, travel down on Georgia, go through the park and then head on through Westfield on the back of Dakota Street. One of the things that we were concerned about and this wasn't just me these were residents of Westfield; I don't think that anybody was there from Cranford. You may not know that a bow hunt requires that the deer to have significant amount of blood loss to become expired. If they don't expire, they can either be shot in the head or they can have their neck sliced. One of the women in the meeting brought up who will do the shooting? I guess you just can't shoot something in the middle of the woods in Union County, except by police officers and other people that are deemed that. Their cross-bow arrows have razor sharp blades that if they miss the deer they go into the ground where if they go through the deer they go into the ground. We are asking that they account for every arrow because it can be left in the area and it could become dangerous to people, animals, and domesticated animals. It is a very populated area, we brought that up, there are houses that border it on both sides of Clark, Cranford and Westfield. We asked if they have notified any of the other towns, they didn't say if they did or not, that bordered this area, so we are waiting to see if they notified Clark.

Council President Toal: Has the Administration been notified of anything coming our way?

Mr. Laezza: No.

Council President: If we hear anything, we will let you know.

Delia Collins: We asked the Mayor and the Town Manager to reach out to the towns.

Council President Toal: We appreciate that.

Delia Collins: It wasn't just me; it was the people that were at the meeting.

Council President Toal: We appreciate your help and your efforts.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Other people from Clark?

Delia Collins: No.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You were the only one.

Delia Collins: Yes.

Council President Toal: We appreciate your efforts.

Delia Collins: There were people from Westfield that live in the area on Grandview and Maryland. This is recorded in the Tap into Westfield on Sunday. Some of the Council weren't even aware of this resolution proposal in Westfield. So, they tabled the resolution until December 10th.

Council President Toal: Okay thank you so much Delia, we appreciate that you brought that to our attention.

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

Motion to close this portion was made by Councilwoman Albanese, seconded by Councilman Hund

ROLL CALL: All Ayes:

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Today we received a letter from the State of New Jersey that we would be receiving \$329,000.00, in a transportation grant for the police station project Wilson and Waterson, the light and all of that work we were doing there, so that is a really nice grant. We were brining the Parkway on Friday and the rain washed it away before the snow came. We just can't get it right in New Jersey, they are having a little problem with the brine process. I do thank him for that. I don't wait to think that it is because of our charm, charisma and excellent good looks, it is probably because it abuts a school. So, it worked out fine, we will take it, we don't care how we get it.

So, Breakfast with Santa was a hit, outstanding, very nice, Santa does a great job. A lot of nice young parents and young children were there, it was fun.

The Tree Lighting was a wet one as you know, but Ralph and his staff continued to do just a wonderful, wonderful job for us all. I felt bad for Ralph, I know he worked very hard and he really looks forward to entertaining everybody.

Basically, we are winding down for our year coming. We will just keep the agenda moving along until the new year.

Mr. Laezza: Nothing.

Councilwoman Albanese: No comments for this meeting.

Councilman Barr: I just think that all of the people that asked questions today were answered very positively.

Councilman Hund: No comment.

Councilman Mazzaella: Just want to thank Mayor Sal and Joe for making it clear to the residents. I am sure they had a whole list of misconceptions. So, thank you Sal.

Councilman O'Connor: No comment this evening.

Councilman Smith: Did you speak to Ralph about the weather?

Mayor Bonaccorso: When I was talking to Ralph, I did say to him that if he is going to take this so hard, he's going to have to start planning these events on Saturday with a rain date on Sunday, because you cannot control the weather. You guys talked about Trunk or Treat, which I thought went off fine inside anyway. Also, the Tree Lighting, I told him to make it on Saturday and let's move along.

Councilman Smith: The weather since you have been doing the tree lighting has been for the most part spectacular.

Council President Toal: I have nothing other than it was a great time yesterday. Seeing the kids was the most important thing. We were at the Breakfast with Santa and all their faces were lit up. It was a good time.

Mr. Triarsi: I would like a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a pending legal issue.

Motion to go into private was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Hund

Council President directed roll call: All Ayes

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

TOWNSHIP OF CLARK
Resolution 19-153
December 2, 2019

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS N.J.S. 10:4-12 permits the exclusion of the Public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS this public body is of the opinion that circumstances presently exist; and

WHEREAS the Mayor and Council wish to discuss:

Pending Litigation

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting at 8:23 pm, and invited back to resume the regular order of business at 9:09 pm; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the subject matter of this meeting will be released when the reasons for discussion and action on it in closed session no longer exists.

Motion to resume Workshop Meeting made by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Smith

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

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

Council President Toal directed roll call: All Ayes
Aye: Albanese, Barr, Hund, Mazzaella, O'Connor, Smith, Toal

ADJOURNMENT