Eileen Garcia

From: Victoria Ann Kupsch
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 10:38 AM
To: Eileen Garcia
Subject: FW: OPRA request - Transcript/Minutes from Meeting b/t Mayor James J. Flynn, City Commissioners, and the Puerto Rican Grievance Committee August 3, 1966

-----Original Message-----
From: Matt Hinojosa [mailto:opra+request-34862-fd25ab31@requests.opramachine.com]
Sent: Sunday, August 21, 2022 7:11 PM
To: Victoria Ann Kupsch <victoria@perthamboynj.org>
Subject: OPRA request - Transcript/Minutes from Meeting b/t Mayor James J. Flynn, City Commissioners, and the Puerto Rican Grievance Committee August 3, 1966

Dear Perth Amboy City,

I hope this reaches you well. This is a request for public records made under OPRA and the common law right of access. I am not required to fill out an official form. Please acknowledge receipt of this message.

Records requested:
I need a copy of the minutes or transcript from the meeting that took place on the afternoon of August 3, 1966 between Mayor James J. Flynn, city commissioners, and the Puerto Rican Grievance Committee. This is the meeting where city representatives agreed to scrap the anti-loitering ordinance that led to the uprising in Hall Avenue in late July and early August of 1966.

Thank you for your time.

Yours faithfully,

Matt Hinojosa
matt.hinojosa@princeton.edu
Dept. of History
Princeton University

Please use deliver records electronically via email to the below UNIQUE address for all replies to this request:
opra+request-34862-fd25ab31@requests.opramachine.com

Is victoria@perthamboynj.org the wrong address for OPRA requests to Perth Amboy City? If so, please contact us using this form:
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/973eab4e/zeytGNRYt0C1L87BBTClrg?u=https://opramachine.com/change_request/new?body=perth_amboy_city

Proceedings of the Board of Commissioners

of the City of Perth Amboy, N.J.

August 3rd, 1966

Regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Perth Amboy, New Jersey, held at Commissinners' Chambers, City Hall, Perth Amboy, New Jersey, on Wednesday, August 3rd, 1966, at 11:00 A.M. (Current Time).

Reverend Francis Saflarske, Assistant Pastor of the St. Stephen's Catholic Church, opened the meeting with prayers and asked divine blessings.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor James J. Flynn, Jr. with Commissioners Ernest M. Muska, Donald F. Olsen, Oliver R. Kovacs and Richard M. Budnicki present.

The Minutes of the regular meeting of July 20th, 1966, were approved, as engrossed.

The Deputy State Highway Commissioner approved the action of the City of Perth Amboy in awarding a contract for the construction of North and South Park Drives to Cardell, Inc., in the lowest lump sum bid of $19,230.00.

Communication from the City Engineer certifying that Edward O. Wickberg & Company, Inc., has satisfactorily completed the emergency repair and reconstruction of theCity dock at the foot of High Street.

Petition from the taxpayers and property holders within 200 feet of Lots 11-14 & 21, Block 189B and Lots 38-40, Block 188 on Vincent Place and New Brunswick Avenue, objecting to a major subdivision in this resolution area. The Mayor requested that a copy of this petition be given to the Board of Commissinners and Board of Adjustment.

Communication from Joseph Hrubec filing an objection, in writing, regarding the transfer of License C-34 from 281-283 Hall Avenue to 288 Hall Avenue on the basis that there has been a liquor store at the present location for the past 35 years.

Communication from the Perth Amboy Planning Board advising that they have unanimously voted to accept and adopt the Master Plan for the City of Perth Amboy, as prepared by H. Thomas Carr, Planning Consultant.

The first reading on a person to person transfer of Plenary Retail Consumptinn License C-31 from Julius Magyar t/a The Canteen at 584-586 Amboy Avenue to 584 Amboy Ave., Inc., t/a The Canteen at 584-586 Amboy Avenue, was held and referred to the Director of Public Safety.

A public hearing was held on a place to place transfer of Liquor License C-34 in the name of Egan Sport Spot, Inc., located at 281-283 Hall Avenue to 288 Hall Avenue.

The Mayor asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak either for or against the granting of this transfer. There were none.

Upon motion of Commissioner Budnicki, seconded by Commissioner Muska, transfer was granted the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Budnicki, Muska, Olsen and Flynn. Commissioner Oliver R. Kovacs abstained from voting.

The Planning Board has approved, as submitted, the following Minor Subdivisions:

1. Jefim and Mary Teleshuk - Property to be subdivided at Bl. 297, Lots Nos. 1 & 2, 716-714 Brace Avenue.

2. E. & J. Lichtman Realty - property to be subdivided at Block 74, Lot No. 25, 285 Bertrand Avenue.

3. Estate of Isaac Feldman - property to be subdivided at Block No. 18, Lot No. 15.

4. Joseph V. Landi - property to be subdivided at Block No. 33, Lot No. 22, Southwest corner Gordon St. & Brighton Ave.

5. Alma Olcsvary - property to be subdivided at Block No. 292, Lot Nos. 9, 10, 11 & 12.

Planning Board has approved the Preliminary Plat for a Major Subdivision known as Lindbergh Heights.

A Bingo application for the Church of Our Lady of Hungary and a Raffle Application for the Perth Amboy Buffalos, Inc., has been received.

On motion of Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Muska, the above applications for licenses were granted by the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Budnicki, Muska, Kovacs, Olsen and Flynn. Nay--none.

The Building Inspector's report for the month of July, 1966, has been received and ordered filed.

The Treasurer's Report for the month of March, 1966, has been received:

TREASURER's MONTHLY STATEMENT

TREASURER'S MONTHLY STATEMENT
March 31st, 1966

REVENUE

	Revenue As Adjusted	Cash Receipts	Unrealized Balance
Surplus Revenue	$ 1,165,000.00	$1,165,000.00	
Miscellaneous Revenues	932,912.00	211,772.59	721,139.41
Miscellaneous Revenues		394,534.37	
Delinquent Taxes and Liens	200,000.00	81,908.55	118,152.58
Amount to be Raised by Taxation			
Local Purpose Tax	3,793,054.00		
Local District School Tax	3,095,087.86		
County Tax	1,169,460.54		
Total	8,057,602.40		
Less: Appropriation Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	607,000.00		
Required Tax Collections	7,450,602.40	1,881,801.80	5,568,800.60
Totals	9,748,514.40	2,570,017.31	6,408,092.59
Add: January 1, Cash Balance		(a)1,390,309.88	
Total Cash Receipts including Beginning Balance		3,960,327.19	
Total Disbursements		2,523,717.48	
Cash Balance as of Date of this Report		(a)1,436,609.71	

(a) Includes $765,000.00 on Time Deposit

/s/ Peter Gadek
City Treasurer

DISBURSEMENTS

Title of Appropriation	Net Appropriations	Cash Disbursements	Unexpended Balance
Operations	3,966,889.00	718,672.15	3,248,216.85
Debt Service	906,086.15	551,371.51	354,714.64
Deferred Charges	519,470.85	18,594.26	500,876.59
Local District School Tax	3,186,607.86	777,216.88	2,409,390.98
County Tax	1,169,460.54	322,155.81	847,304.73
Totals	9,748,514.40	2,388,010.61	7,360,503.79

Disbursements	2,388,010.61
Disbursements for Appropriation Reserve of Prior Year	120,022.07
Other Disbursements	15,684.80
Total Disbursements (To Total Disbursements-Revenue Statement)	$ 2,523,717.48

/s/ Peter Gadek
City Treasurer

A Public Hearing was held on the following Ordinance, which was read in full by the City Clerk:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ELECTRICAL REPAIRS TO THE PERTH AMBOY POLICE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AND PROVIDING THE SUM OF $4,000.00 FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF, AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Mayor Flynn asked if anyone present desired to be heard either for or against the adoption of this Ordinance. There were none.

Commissioner Budnicki offered a motion to adopt this Ordinance on its second and final reading, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Olsen and carried by the following vote: Yea-- Commissioners Budnicki, Muska, Kovacs, Olsen and Flynn. Nay--none.

R E S O L U T I O N S

BY COMMISSIONER ERNEST M. MUSKA:

WHEREAS, Louis P. Booz, CITY ENGINEER, has certified in writing that Edward O. Wickberg & Company, Inc. has completed the emergency repair and reconstruction of the City Dock, located at the foot of High Street, according to the terms of their contract with the City of Perth Amboy, to his satisfaction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED: That the said work be accepted as completed and payment be made as per bill approved by the City Engineer in connection therewith.

Ernest M. Muska

Upon motion of Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Muska, was adopted by the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Budnicki, Muska, Kovacs, Olsen and Flynn. Nay--none.

BY COMMISSIONER RICHARD M. BUDNICKI:

WHEREAS, the Police Department is purchasing a 1966 Honda Motorcycle and is trading in a 1963 Motorcycle, Serial #13541 as part payment thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the proper City Officers are hereby authorized to sign assignment of Bills of Sales.

Richard M. Budnicki

Upon motion of Commissioner Budnicki, seconded by Commissioner Olsen, was adopted by the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Budnicki, Muska, Kovacs, Olsen and Flynn. Nay--none.

BY COMMISSIONER DONALD F. OLSEN:

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

1. That Herbert Meek be employed by the City of Perth Amboy in the Department of Public Works as an auto mechanic at the maximum salary of $5,688.00 effective July 25, 1966.

Donald F. Olsen

Upon motion of Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Kovacs, was adopted by the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Budnicki, Muska, Kovacs, Olsen and Flynn. Nay--none.

BY MAYOR JAMES J. FLYNN, JR.:

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the proper City Officers are authorized and directed to issue a warrant payable to the Perth Amboy Postmaster in the sum of Fifty ($50.00) Dollars for stamps for the Public Assistance Department.

James J. Flynn, Jr.

Upon motion of Commissioner Kovacs, seconded by Commissioner Olsen, was adopted by the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Budnicki, Muska, Kovacs, Olsen and Flynn. Nay--none.

BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License #C-34 in the name of Egan's Sport Spot, Inc., located at 281-283 Hall Avenue, Perth Amboy, N.J., to 288 Hall Avenue, Perth Amboy, N.J., is hereby granted.

James J. Flynn, Jr.
Richard M. Budnicki
Ernest M. Muska
Donald F. Olsen

Upon motion of Commissioner Muska, seconded by Commissioner Budnicki, was adopted by the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Budnicki, Muska, Olsen and Flynn. Commissioner Kovacs abstained from voting.

BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the following items be and the same are hereby ordered paid to the persons named on annexed certified lists, being the bills and claims of the various departments of the City of Perth Amboy:

Parks and Public Property	31,567.17
1965 Reserve	58.00
Public Affairs	11,169.39
1965 Reserve	70.77
Water Department	13,376.95
Public Safety	52,084.29
Public Works	38,009.04
1965 Reserve	1,966.92
Trust Account	20.00
Revenue and Finance	231,602.80
Dog License Account	87.48
	380,012.81

James J. Flynn, Jr.
Ernest M. Muska
Richard M. Budnicki
Donald F. Olsen
Oliver R. Kovacs

Upon motion of Commissioner Kovacs, seconded by Commissioner Olsen, was adopted by the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Budnicki, Muska, Kovacs, Olsen and Flynn. Nay--none.

Mayor James J. Flynn, Jr. read the following statement and asked that the statement be incorporated with the Minutes of today's meeting:

"The City of Perth Amboy and all of its Citizens have been experiencing a regretable and disturbing situation during the last several days. At the outset, let me make it crystal clear that this Board of Commissioners are convinced that this situation was not created by our resident Spanish speaking families in our City nor did they participate in the disturbances of the last several days. These disturbances were primarily due to the actions of teenagers and trouble makers intent on breeding bitterness, hatred and animosities among our Citizens. We deeply regret the fact that persons were injured, whether innocent by-standers or not, and we especially want to express our regrets to the families of our police officers who worked so courageously to uphold the Law and maintain order in our Community.

We would like you to know that we have the utmost faith in our police officers who conducted themselves with courage.

We hope, at the meeting we are to have this afternoon with the recently appointed Committee, to resolve whatever differences may actually or apparently exist to the end that the City of Perth Amboy will continue to be a place where people of all Nationalties, Creeds and Faiths can continue to live, work, worship and relax in harmony and understanding."

Ronald Spevack questioned the payment to Louis P. Booz, of $12,000.00 by resolution at the meeting of July 20th, 1966. Mr. Spevack said that he could not understand why it was necessary to pay Mr. Booz the extra $12,000.00 besides his $10,000 salary and his 6% that he receives on all work that he supervised.

Mr. Booz answered that he has never received any money for traveling expenses, nor has he taken a vacation. He said the money that he receives from the City of Perth Amboy is barely enough to cover the expenses of the employees and his office.

Mr. Spevack read the duties of Louis P. Booz from the ordinance and said he still felt that this was a duplicate payment to the City Engineer.

Mr. Cegelski asked Commissioner Kovacs why the City Assessors were not used instead of the Realty Appraisal Company for the recent assessment of some property. Mr. Cegelski notes that the Realty Appraisal Company was paida fee of $1,995.00.

Mr. Clawans said the lack and failure of the Board of Commissioners to look into the future planning in the economics of our City is one of the causes of the of the recent riots with the Puerto Rican people on Hall Avenue. He said our Board of Commissioners would not initiate the meeting that was called the following day, but was initiated by the Middlesex County Economic Opportunities Corporation.

Mr. George Pucci said he protests the statements of Mr. Spevack and Mr. Clawans and he said: "If both of you have the least community spirit at all, you would remain calm and give some constructive criticism of what should be done and what could be done, and not criticize at this dark time, the past actions of the Board of Commissioners."

Mr. Yencik, Chairman of the Planning Board, said: "I concur with the statement of Mr. Pucci. I think the Board of Commissioners have been fair and just with the Puerto Ricans of our community..They have given them a decent place to live and gave them good wholesome community service. I subscribe that the Board of Commissioners are doing an excellent job under the present conditions."

Mrs. Cegelski asked what the Board of Commissioners had in mind with regard to recreational facilities for teenagers at night?

Commissioner Muska asked her for suggestions, but she offered none.

Mrs. Catherine Onuska answered Mrs. Cegelski by saying: "I have seven teenage daughters and I do not have a problem with them, because I know it is my duty to bring them up right and know where they are at night. If the parents do a good job, the children will be alright. It is false to believe that because of the lack of teenage recreation programs, that the teenagers hang around the town until late hours at night. There place is home with their parents."

There being no further business, Mayor Flynn asked for a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Muska and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 12:14 P.M.

James J. Flynne Jr.
JAMES J. FLYNN, JR.

Ernest M. Muska
ERNEST M.MUSKA

Donald F. Olsen
DONALD F. OLSEN

OLIVER R. KOVACS

R M Budnicki
RICHARD M. BUDNICKI

ATTEST:

Harold Augustine
Harold E. Augustine,
City Clerk

Disbursements	$ 469,125.50
Disbursements for Appropriation Reserves of Prior Year	70,159.42
Other Disbursements	345.04
	539,629.96
Total Disbursements (To Total Disbursements-Revenue Statement)	$ 539,629.96

/s/ Peter Gadek,
City Treasurer

The following entitled Ordinance was offered by the Board of Commissioners:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ELECTRICAL REPAIRS TO THE PERTH AMBOY POLICE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AND PROVIDING THE SUM OF $4,000.00 FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF, AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES IN CONNECTIØN THEREWITH, FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Commissioner Budnicki offered a motion to adopt this ordinance on its first reading, which was seconded by Commissioner Olsen and public hearing and second and final passage of same was set down for the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, to be held on Wednesday, August 3, 1966, at 11:00 A.M. (Current Time), which motion was carried by the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Budnicki, Olsen and Kovacs. Nay--none.

A public hearing was held upon the following Ordinance, which was read in full by the Clerk:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT LOITERING ANDLOUNGING IN THE STREETS, PARKS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY.

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY DOES ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. No person who is unable to give a satisfactory explanation of his presence shall, in the City of Perth Amboy, loiter or lounge in, at or upon:

(a) Any street, sidewalk, entrance to any business establishment or entrance to any public building;

(b) Any park, playground, athletic field, school or schoolyard;

(C) Any lot used primarily for the parking of automobiles or any vacant lot.

SECTION 2. Any person violating the provisions of this Ordinance shall upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not exceeding two hundred ($200.00) dollars or by imprisonment not exceeding ninety (90) days or both, unless otherwise provided by State Law.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage and publication as required by law.

James J. Flynn, Jr.
Richard M. Budnicki
Oliver R. Kovacs
Ernest M. Muska
Donald F. Olsen

Acting Mayor Kovacs asked if anyone present desired to be heard either for or against the adoption of this Ordinance. There were none.

Commissioner Budnicki offered a motion to adopt this Ordinance, as read, on its second and final passage, which was seconded by Commissioner Olsen and carried by the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Olsen, Budnicki and Kovacs. Nay--none.

R E S O L U T I O N S

BY COMMISSIONER ERNEST M. MUSKA:

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that Mary Stevenson, Principal Clerk Stenographer in the Recreation Department, be and is hereby granted an extension of her sick leave with pay for three months, effective July 27th, 1966.

Oliver R. Kovacs,
Acting Mayor

Upon motion of Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Budnicki, was adopted by the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Budnicki, Olsen and Kovacs. Nay--none.

BY COMMISSIONER RICHARD M. BUDNICKI:

WHEREAS, the Police Department is purchasing a 1967 Mercury (4) door, a 1967 Mercury (2) door and a 1967 Chevrolet (2) door and is trading in a 1965 Mercury (4) door, serial #5W44Y515820, a 1965 Mercury (2) door, serial #08660 and a 1964 Chevrolet (2) door, serial #41211T271847, as part payment thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the proper City Officers are hereby authorized to sign assignment of Bills of Sales.

Richard M. Budnicki

Upon motion of Commissioner Budnicki, seconded by Commissioner Olsen, was adopted by the following vote: Yea--Commissioners Budnicki, Olsen and Kovacs. Nay--none.

BY COMMISSIONER DONALD F. OLSEN:

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED: That the proper City Officials be and are hereby authorized and directed to pay to Louis P. Booz, City Engineer, the sum of $12,000.00 for engineering services, consultations, meetings, plans, fees paid to his employees, material and supplies for the following improvements, Route 287 (Route 440); Lehigh Valley Railroad right of way; County industrial road connection; Garretson Avenue underpass; proposed capital improvement plan; adjustment of storm damage to City boat basin and City dock; general coordination of state and federal aid projects; representation at planning board meeting; which services are not covered by his official duties as City Engineer and which services