

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, 315 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, N.J.
June 18, 2012**

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, O'Connor, Toal, Mazzarella, Whiting

Also Present: Mayor Sal Bonaccorso, John Laezza, Business Administrator; Howard Lesnik, Acting Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk.

The Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Council President Whiting. She asked all present to participate in a moment of silence, following the salute to the Flag.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG - MOMENT OF SILENCE

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act as adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the Annual Schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County LocalSource, and NJTODAY.NET, by posting such Annual Meeting Schedule on the bulletin board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the filing of said Notice with the Township Clerk of Clark. Formal action may be taken at this meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP

OFFICERS: (Full transcript of the reports is on file in the Clerk's office)

Mayor Bonaccorso:

1. Dump site in Newark where we dump closed without notice. DPW Director and Supervisor are researching a new location; pick-ups will be delayed, hopefully not more than one day.
2. Bulky pick-up: important notice to residents; paint cans must be completely dry and put in your regular garbage, not in the bulky pick up. The township website give a good list of do's and don'ts.
3. Fourth of July
4. Graduation...discussed the consequences of underage drinking
5. Newark Bay lawsuit update
6. Mayor Golf Outing

Township Clerk: police and fire reports filed and open to the public

REPORT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilwoman Albanese:

Library update:

1. Garden in a Glove- Shop Rite Dietitian Lauren Purdy - children ages 8 through 12
2. Monday, June 25th Library Summer Reading Program begins - theme "Dream Big, Read"

- 3. Pirate school program; family style show of mad caps, swashbuckling comedy and vaudeville
 - 4. Summer story time will begin on June 25th through August 9th
 - 5. Pre-school story time at the Clark Municipal Pool
 - 6. Thanked L'Oreal who selected the Clark Library for their employee community project
- Check out the Library Website

Councilman Barr: Thanked Parade Marshals, participants and spectators of the Memorial Day Parade

Councilman Kazanowski: question for the administration. There are signs out for construction for Westfield Avenue; they are going to have delays or something?

John Laezza: It's the bridge by the police station; the parkway bridge is being constructed. They followed our request to do that while the high school is closed.

Councilman Mazarella: Bulky waste pick-up: residents are still throwing out mattresses. We do not have the ability to pick up any mattresses. You will have to make arrangements with your own carter.

Councilman O'Connor: No report

Councilman Toal: No report

Council President Whiting:

Recreation:

- 1. Sports Broadcasting Camp
- 2. Fireworks at ALJ will be at 9:00 pm
- 3. Adult tennis will begin this Thursday, June - brand new tennis courts
- 4. Recreation Summer Camp
- 5. Recreation tennis camp
- 6. Clark Community Pool, memberships available

ORDINANCES, APPROPRIATIONS AND CLAIMS:

INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

**AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 117
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED
"CLOTHING DONATION BINS"**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that Chapter 117 of the Code of the Township of Clark entitled "Clothing Donation Bins" is hereby amended and supplemented in the following particulars:

SECTION 1: Section 117-7 entitled "Limitations on Locations and Numbers of Clothing Bins" is supplemented as follows:

- A. Clothing bins may be located only in those zones designated as Public Districts and Commercial Neighborhood zones as the same are defined in the Land Use and Development Ordinance of the Township of Clark;
- B. No more than *two* clothing bins, *6' x 6' x 5' in size*, regardless of ownership may be placed on any one lot in the Township of Clark and must be placed in such a manner that they abut one another. Said bins shall be located in such a manner as to be visible from the street;
- C. All clothing bins must be located in such a manner that they do not reduce the number of parking spaces required for the property below the minimum number of parking spaces required either by application of the parking requirements under the zoning ordinance, by a previously granted variance, by developer's agreement, or otherwise;
- D. Placement of clothing bins shall be such that they meet the minimum setback requirements for all accessory structures within the zone in which they are being placed, and otherwise meet all other zoning requirements for accessory structures within the zone in which they are being placed. *All such clothing bins shall be painted in earth tone colors of gray, black, green and brown so as to be non-obtrusive to the neighborhood;*
- E. There may be no more than three lots within any one zone upon which clothing bins may be placed, and clothing bins may not be placed upon any lot within 1,000 feet of a lot upon which one or more clothing bins exist;
- F. The Chief of Police or his designee shall refer each application to the Zoning Office, which shall be responsible to confirm compliance with this chapter by each owner of a clothing bin. The owner of any clothing bin shall provide the Chief of Police with an emergency phone number at which the owner can be reached 24 hours a day/seven days a week;
- G. The licensee shall arrange for the pick up and emptying of the contents of all bins permitted herein at least once per week; and
- H. All penalties and remedies set forth in this chapter shall be applicable to any violation of the regulations set forth herein.

**SECTION 2: SECTIONS 117-7, 117-8, 117-9, 117-10
are hereby re-designated as:
117-8, 117-9, 117-10 and 117-11**

SECTION 3: **Effective Date:** This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication according to law and shall be applied prospectively to those entities presently operating clothing donation bins, as each entity’s permit renews on an annual basis.

SECTION 4: **Inconsistent Ordinances:** Any ordinances of the Township of Clark which are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman Barr

Discussion:

Council President Whiting: Just so everyone knows what this ordinance means. We are limiting the amount of clothing bins that can be on each site. We are trying to alleviate them being on too many areas at one time. We would like them to be earth colors instead of red and white stripes so they don’t stick out like sore thumbs. We are just trying to make our community a little bit more aesthetically nice.

Council President Whiting directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, Mazzarella, O’Connor, Toal, Whiting

Public Hearing will be July 16th

**AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 279, ARTICLE II
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK
ENTITLED “SEWERS”**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that Chapter 279, Article II of the Code of the Township of Clark, is hereby supplemented as follows:

SECTION 1: Chapter 279, Section 25 entitled “Control of Business Sewers, Inspection,” is enacted as follows:

Grease Traps:

- (1) Grease traps shall be installed by owners of all retail food establishments, commercial food processors, meat processors, or similar food preparers. The traps will be necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease or other harmful ingredients, except that such grease traps shall not be required for private dwellings. Existing grease traps must conform to current plumbing code. Any new installations must apply for a permit through the Building Department of the Township of Clark.
- (2) The aforesaid establishments shall be required to *treat* their discharge with an approved bacteriological product which contains bacterial

culture/enzymes to degrade organic materials and protect the environmental discharges into the sewer system and eliminate the control of grease in the sewer system.

- (3) The grease trap shall be located so that they are readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection, and each establishment will be required to train and have personnel available who are able to open said traps for inspection by an authorized representative of the Township.
- (4) The grease traps shall be continuously maintained in order to provide satisfactory and effective operation by the owner, at the owner's expense, and shall be of the size and type necessary for the efficient operation of the requirements of this ordinance.
- (5) There shall be no bypass of the grease trap facilities which would allow the entry of untreated or partially treated waste to the public sewer system.
- (6) The bacteriological products utilized must be free of wilting agents, additives and reducing agents, solvents or chemical degreasers.
- (7) The bacteria shall be introduced in accordance with the manufacturers instructions and introduced into the system after closing or during the period of time with the least amount of business activity, once during every twenty-four (24) hour period, or as directed by the Township designee.
- (8) The *operator of the affected establishment* shall provide a *quarterly Certificate of Disposal* as provided by the Township and shall include the bacterial agent purchased and utilized at the prescribed time; how much cooking oil purchased and how much disposed of. Required reports will commence September 2012 and subsequently December 2012, March 2013, June 2013 and every three (3) months thereafter.
- (9) The Board of Health shall be designated to oversee, inspect and enforce the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 2: **Violations:**

- (1) Minimal penalty for violation of this ordinance shall upon first conviction be One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars.
- (2) Repeat offenders shall pay a fine of not less than One Thousand Five Hundred (\$1,500.00) Dollars and shall be subject to imprisonment in the County Jail for up to thirty (30) days and a period of community service not exceeding sixty (60) days.
- (3) *In addition to the foregoing, any repeat offender shall be responsible for reimbursement to the Township of the cost of cleaning the affected area of the sewer system of any blockage.*

SECTION 3: **Inconsistent Ordinances:** Any ordinances of the Township of Clark which are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 4: **Effective Date:** This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and upon publication according to law.

Moved by Councilman Toal, seconded by Councilman Barr

Discussion:

John Laezza: Council President and Members of Council...this is an ordinance basically to enhance the inspection process of grease traps in restaurants. Grease traps have tendencies to clog our sewer systems; all the restaurants have grease traps, however the maintenance of those grease traps is less than effective. Our ordinances have been lax in that role so this ordinance with an introduction and an education program to our restaurants will alleviate the problem for having grease traps.

Council President Whiting directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, Mazzaella, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting

Public Hearing will be on July 16th

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS: Councilman O'Connor, Chairman of Finance Committee made a motion to approve the payment of claims on current and capital expenditures in the amount of \$199,497.24 for the period ending June 14, 2012, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Whiting directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, Mazzaella, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting

CITIZEN HEARING ON THE AGENDA:

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 Whiting opened the Citizen Hearing on the Agenda

Seeing no one coming forward Councilman Kazanowski made a motion to close the Citizen Hearing on the Agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Whiting directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, O'Connor, Toal, Mazzaella, Whiting

RESOLUTIONS:

Council as ABC Board

Resolution 12-85

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that the following licenses are approved for their annual renewal: Plenary Retail Consumption Licenses in the sum of \$2,500.00; Plenary Retail Distribution Licenses in the sum of \$1,728.00; Club Licenses in the sum of \$188.00, be renewed for the Year 2012-2013, effective as of July 1, 2012.

- 2002-33-001-003 Brinker New Jersey Inc.
t/a Chili's Grill & Bar
225 Central Ave., Clark, NJ 07066

- 2002-44-002-003 Clark Circle Liquors & Lounge Inc.
t/a Wine Anthology
77 Central Ave., Clark, NJ 07066

- 2002-33-003-003 Aliperti's Restaurant, Inc.
1189 Raritan Road, Clark, NJ 07066

- 2002-33-004-006 KCSM Corp.
1199 Raritan Road, Clark, NJ 07066
Pocketed – Special Ruling granted 2011

- 2002-33-005-009 Clark BBQ Inc.
1419 Raritan Road, Clark, NJ 07066

- 2002-36-006-009 Largo Clark SPE LLC
t/a Crowne Plaza Hotel/Holiday Inn
36 Valley Road, Clark, NJ 07066

- 2002-33-007-004 Steak and Ale of New Jersey Inc.
1139 Raritan Road, Clark, NJ 07066
Pocketed – In Bankruptcy

- 2002-44-008-005 Rotondo's Oak Ridge Liquors Inc.
t/a Rotondo's Liquors Deli and Fine Foods Inc.
1040 Lake Avenue, Clark, NJ 07066

- 2002-33-009-004 1085 Central Ave. Restaurant Corp.
t/a Molly Maguire's Irish Pub & Restaurant
1085 Central Avenue, Clark, NJ 07066

- 2002-33-010-006 Windsor Diner Beverage Corp.
t/a Windsor Diner
1030 Raritan Road, Clark, NJ 07066

- 2002-33-011-006 1199 Corp.
t/a Tarantella's Ristorante
1199 Raritan Road, Clark, NJ 07066

- 2002-31-012-001 Clark Post #328 The American Legion
t/a American Legion Clark Post 328
78 Westfield Avenue, Clark, NJ 07066

2002-31-013-002 Deutscher Club Clark Inc.
787 Featherbed Lane, Clark, NJ 07066

2002-31-015-001 Gran Centurions The
440 Madison Hill Road, Clark, NJ 07066

2002-33-018-011 Central Blue – Maria Bridgman
77 Central Ave., Clark, NJ 07066

2002-31-019-001 Columbian Club of Clark Inc.
27 Westfield Ave., Clark, NJ 07066

2002-31-020-001 Polish Cultural Foundation Inc.
177 Broadway, Clark, NJ 07066

Moved by Councilwoman Albanese, seconded by Councilman Mazzarella

Council President Whiting directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, Mazzarella, O’Connor, Toal, Whiting

Resolution 12-86

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that the following individuals are hereby appointed as Members of the Clark Volunteer Fire Department effective this 18th day of June 2012.

John L. Kurek
3 Hillside Avenue
Clark, NJ 07066

Michael Vaccaro
38 Thomas Drive
Clark, NJ 07066

Anthony S. Giarrizzo
50 James Avenue
Clark, NJ 07066

Moved by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilman Mazzarella

Council President Whiting directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, Mazzarella, O’Connor, Toal, Whiting

Resolution 12-87

WHEREAS Kimberly Cagle, owner of Westfield Wellness LLC d/b/a Hand and Stone Massage and Facial Spa, 77 Central Avenue, Clark, New Jersey 07066 has paid the \$100.00 application fee for each massage therapist she employs in accordance with the 2002 Code of the Township; and

Resolutions 12-89

WHEREAS in accordance with a request from the Treasurer/CFO for authorization to refund overpayment of 2012 sewer fees; the Mayor has recommended to Council that such authorization be granted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, that the Treasurer/CFO is hereby authorized and directed to make the following refunds as per the attached schedule.

**CLARK TOWNSHIP
SEWER REFUNDS – 2012**

REF	#	Account #	Name	#	Address	Reason	Refund
12	17R	2243-0	Anthony Araneo	1142	Raritan Road	overpayment	627.50
12	18R	4540-0	Paul Drejai	29	Sycamore Rd	overpayment	93.86
12	19R	1921-0	Emergency Squad	875	Raritan Road	overpayment	252.50
12	20R	5112-0	Raymond Donahue	43	Alice Lane	overpayment	125.00
Total Refunds							\$1,098.86

Resolutions 12-90

WHEREAS the Treasurer/CFO has certified that sewer utility accounts require balance adjustments; and

WHEREAS the Business Administrator has reviewed the attached list and approved the sewer fee adjustments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey, that the Treasurer/CFO be authorized to apply the sewer account balance adjustments according to the attached schedule:

SEWER BILLING ADJUSTMENT 2012

REF	#	Account #	Name	#	Address	Reason	Original	Revised	Credit	
12	50	696-0	Miele Greenhouse	982	Lake Ave	vacant	225.00	105.55	119.45	2011
12	51	696-0	Miele Greenhouse	982	Lake Ave	vacant	225.00	-	225.00	2012
12	52	695-0	Miele Greenhouse	982	Lake Ave	vacant	8,846.30	-	8,846.30	2011
12	53	695-0	Miele Greenhouse	982	Lake Ave	vacant	5,465.00	-	5,465.00	
12	54	1921-0	Clark Vol Emerg	875	Raritan Rd Madison	exempt	505.00	-	505.00	
12	55	1618-0	Count of Union	675	Hill Rd	irrigation	12,474.10	225.00	12,249.10	
12	56	2861-0	Richard Jakubowski	928	Madison	leak		225.00		

					Hill Rd		425.00		200.00
12	57	2851-0	Henry Varriano	10	Bradley Rd	leak	2,533.48	225.00	2,308.48
12	58	5112-0	Raymond Donahue	43	Alice Lane	SCD	225.00	100.00	125.00
									<u>30,043.33</u>

Resolution 12-91

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND MUNICIPAL CLERK OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CLARK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF UNION TO MODIFY THE INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT DATED JUNE 2011

WHEREAS, certain Federal funds are potentially available to the County of Union under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Block Grant Act of 1974, as amended, commonly known as the Community Development Block Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, certain Federal funds are potentially available to the County of Union under Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, commonly known as the HOME Investment Partnership program; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Shelter Grants program (“ESG”) provided through Subtitle B of Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act permits for substantial federal funds allocated to prevent homelessness and to enable homeless individuals and families to move toward independent living; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend an existing Interlocal Services Agreement for the County of Union and its people to benefit from this program; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Municipality of Clark and the County of Union in cooperation with each other to enter into a modification of the Interlocal Services Agreement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:8A-1.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Governing Body of the Municipality of Clark that the agreement entitled “**COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF UNION AND CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES FOR CONDUCTING CERTAIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES,**” dated June 2011, for the Purpose of Inserting a Description of Activities for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 of the Union County Community Development Block Grant program, the HOME Investment Partnership program, and the Emergency Shelter Grant program (ESG), a copy of which is attached hereto; be executed by the Mayor and Municipal Clerk in accordance with the provisions of law;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Motion to adopt Consent Agenda made by Councilman Toal, seconded by Councilman Kazanowski

Council President Whiting directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, Mazzarella, O’Connor, Toal, Whiting

NEW BUSINESS ON THE CALENDAR: None

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 Whiting opened the public portion of the meeting

Doug Ritter, 40 Tudor Dr.: Question regarding refunding the fees to the massage therapist.

Mayor Bonaccorso: The State of New Jersey has laws on massage therapist and local law cannot supersede a state law.

Doug Ritter: Oh okay. How come every week or every month there’s repayments of overpayments of taxes and sewer fees?

John Laezza: It’s an administrative matter. Basically what happens is people sell their houses and the mortgage company paying, they have a closing, the attorneys pay and they pay their taxes twice. So we refund their taxes because they’ve overpaid them.

Maryann Disporto, 955 Lake Ave.: Question regarding the fee for Today in America \$19,800.00, that’s correct? (Mayor Bonaccorso: that’s correct) Does such an expense need to be voted on and approved by the council? (Mayor Bonaccorso: no) And if not where do the funds come from? (Mayor Bonaccorso: from our budget) How come it doesn’t need to be voted by Council?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Because Council voted on the budget and gave me the legal right to spend the money as we see fit. You may not like the law but it is the law.

Maryann Disporto: So I’m just questioning what is the tangible benefit to spending our money on this project?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well we will give you that answer Mrs. Disporto. The tangible benefit is that there are costs related to do this obviously. We the Township of Clark have been selected as one of a few towns throughout New Jersey who has this great distinction. #2 we own the complete rights at that point so we can use that in marketing our community in anyway need possible. You may not know or you may not understand but when the Villa properties were sold on Terminal Avenue along with Rite Aid and the Suburban News and that whole area of Central Avenue, I

had to sit down with a developer, a real estate land owner to tell him why he should spend a hundred million dollars of their hard earned dollars in Clark Township. And I was able to do that. It's nicer when you have different tools like we've accumulated over the last few years of being New Jersey's most affordable suburban community top 24 places to live of all in New Jersey in New Jersey Monthly Magazine. So this is another tool that the town will have to be able to use to sell market and promote our community for many, many different reasons now and in the next few years going forward.

Maryann Disporto: So it's marketing?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes for our community. We are kind of proud like when people say good things, we are kind of proud of that. I know some may not like everything that goes on and look to find fault but I personally as the Mayor of this community am very proud of this community and the people in it and what we have done. Right now we have a major undertaking going to go on Westfield Avenue which is downtown Clark. This Council will be getting an ordinance in September hopefully to form a committee that's going to be able to sit down and work...I gave the downtown businesses eight years now to try to do some things to enhance our downtown. Now we are going to put some real teeth into that to help make our downtown into a real downtown. I think that's the only thing that we are missing right now in Clark is to have a downtown like some other towns do.

Maryann Disporto: I think we need to fill some of those empty stores.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well you see that's the thing I want to talk a little bit later in the meeting about. But you see when you say we, we do not own those properties, they are owned by private people. Although I agree with you we do...when I'm done with the ordinances that we are going to put in place and the committee that's going to be formed then it's going to be to the point where they are going to have to do something or we are going to have a real strong option in the future. See the Jack's Tavern property we've been on that since you know it's ridiculous it's been so long. But it is a privately owned property, like your home is privately owned. We can't come up there tomorrow and say Mrs. Disporto you have to do this. The only thing we can do is what an ordinance allows us to do. The A&P Property we've talked about that till we were blue in the face, we all agree, I mean it's something that I think everybody in Clark agrees upon. We've had conversations but we can only do so much without proper ordinances in place to do stuff like that. Down the road someday the Gypsum Property is going to be sold. I don't know what's going to be going there. Hopefully it's going to be something that's going to be tasteful for our community and positive to our community unlike some of the other properties that you had some concern over. That's going to be going before probably a zoning board because it's zoned for only industry. So then if anything other than industry goes there the people will have a lot more to say than perhaps on the Miele Property, so there's ways to do this. But again when someone is going to spend twenty million odd dollars on that site and want to do x, y or z I can almost guarantee my phone is going to ring and they are going to say Mr. Mayor what's your town about, why should we do this? You know even though we are a small wonderful suburban community my job is to sell this community daily and we had to do that. When the Villa and L'Oreal were talking about vacating Terminal Avenue...again which was a personal choice but back in 2008 I remember a flyer saying it was my fault. When I had to sit down with those

people and sell them on Clark, we like to have tools and be proud. And the other thing is our budget is able to afford it because we haven't cut any services, jobs, and furlough days, so we are in very good fiscal view right now to run this community.

Maryann Disporito: Thank you. Now let me just get this straight though. So in your mind the primary benefit that we are going to get from this infomercial isn't really the airings that it's going to have on CNBC or whatever station they are going to put it on. You're thinking that it is more (that) you are going to use this because you have the rights to it to market the town to developers. Was there ever consideration to making it less expensively on our own?

Mayor Bonaccorso: I beg your pardon...first off I never said the word developers, okay, you said developers. Marketing Clark Township starts right at the core level of homeownership. You can go to our Library and right now to Patty Anderson and ask her how many people have come to this community because they go on websites, they read about most affordable suburban towns in New Jersey 10th in the United States top place to live etc. and so on. Miss Anderson came to me one day and said Mayor this is unbelievable that we had people from Pennsylvania come down here and they go to the Library they ask for realtors and she of course refers them to multiple realtors to see the area. So we're first going to start Mrs. Disporito with homeownership that's my first concern for when people sell their homes to market this community to a broad base of people to have desirability to this town from safety and education right on through the awards we win and the way this town is right now to fill those houses first. There's not much development left to do in Clark.

I'm going to tell you a little story that you probably don't know. And I think Mr. Kazanowski is a long sitting Councilman and will agree to this. Back when I became Mayor, Rich and we sat on Council together, correct me if you didn't hear this, but Clark was 99% developed then. So we are not looking to go out to developers, that was the last Administration, they had there shoe in every developers pocket, not me. I do my job as a Mayor and when people come to me with a hundred million dollars and say "why should we spend it in your town, in your community, in your tax base" well then it's my job to give them the reasons. I'd like to first start with homeownership making sure the people in this town who sell their homes have a great return on their value which I think they do. Bad real estate markets well we all have to go through them that's a nationwide problem. Clark always seems to come back first or with some of the elite towns in Union County. We are looking to develop a downtown Clark and within developing a real downtown there's going to be possibly hopefully stores that are going to come in and say "why your town Mr. Mayor" ? So we feel very comfortable on having those tools and honors and distinctions to be able to provide our community with a great name and a great reputation out there. It was only twelve years ago that we were almost bankrupt and a complete embarrassment in all of Union County and most of New Jersey.

Maryann Disporito: I've never felt like we were an embarrassment. I beg to differ with you on that. I've been here 18 years and I've never been embarrassed to say that I live in Clark.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I haven't either because I was proud of my neighbors but across the newspapers and channels of Union County we were an embarrassment especially when we were under the brinks of bankruptcy. And those are all facts.

Maryann Disporto: Well the fact that we were an embarrassment is not a fact that would be an opinion I believe which you are entitled too.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We all have like you.

Doug Ritter, 40 Tudor Dr.: I was wondering... what are the benefits of somebody coming into our town and spending a hundred million dollars? What does it do for our town?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well let's see... why don't we start with taxes, why don't we start with enhancement on the tax dollar, you take a building that's maybe paying eight thousand dollars in taxes and somebody comes in and renovates it and makes it a little bit bigger and a little bit better and now maybe they are paying eighteen thousand dollars in taxes. Such has happened when we had these quote unquote McMansions boom back in the early 2000's when people were buying homes and had maybe eight or ten thousand dollars in property taxes... they blew up these beautiful homes and made beautiful big homes and now they are paying twenty thousand or twenty-four thousand dollars in property taxes. It helps our government with permit fees, our construction office with permit fees, it brings jobs into the community, it brings more money into our school district and every time something new goes up or improves on the tax dollar, the youth of this community which is a major focus of mine and always has been, receives approximately two thirds of that tax increase to run our schools in a better and more efficient educational sound way. You know when you bring new building and new jobs into town the existing restaurants and gas stations and stores around that sell different goods people patronize them and it brings money into our local economy. Anything else?

Doug Ritter: No that's good enough for now.

Councilwoman Albanese: If I could just add to that. You know for many years the A & P was closed down and it really was a sore eye for our community and so many people who work in the Clarkton Shopping Mall had to work every day looking at that closed business. That's not the type of thing you want to see in a community and it can happen one by one just like we talked earlier about the businesses of Westfield Avenue, those closed businesses. It doesn't look good, that's why we want to have more development in the town or replenishment of buildings that are not in use.

Doug Ritter: Okay. I just wanted to try to get the picture, thank you.

Michele Novak, 560 Oak Ridge Rd.: I just have a question with regards to the comments that were just made speaking about development. We are specifically referring to industrial or commercial development not necessarily residential development because I think the residential overdevelopment can have a significant impact just as we bring more revenue into the township with commercial and industrial real estate. If we overdevelop from a residential perspective, I think that would almost have a negative impact on our school system because we would have to take into account overcrowding, significantly more students per teacher, not enough attention for on a teacher to student ratio.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Ms. Novak you are correct in your assumption of that. The fact remains though there is not much residential development around to increase. I know the work that is on the books that this Mayor and Council has done we have not increased, not increased any areas to multifamily townhouse condominium development. As a matter of fact in 2000 there was a Master Plan Draft that was out there, I don't know if you remember that.

Michele Novak: I'm sorry I've only been in town for 1 ½, I just moved here.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well you know who can help you with this is the...you are on the Democratic ticket and a good person for you to go over this draft and I have a copy in my office, is your Chairwoman Mrs. Sheridan because when she sat on the Master Plan committee she was adding not only when we talk about the Miele Property, that's a part of a COAH...

Michele Novak: I wasn't even going to bring that up...that's not why I'm discussing this.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I'm going to get to it. I got your drift but I'm going to answer you. If you know right across from Hehnlly where the new houses that were built that came off of Thomas Drive there...well at the time she was proposing to do the same thing at the Miele Property right there to add strip malls down Raritan Road to bring in more condominium townhouse development. And it was myself who appointed a Citizen Master Plan committee that shot that proposal down and changed that draft into some real zoning that we are not looking to build those type of things. When I say residential real estate, we are talking about the resale's that are here in town that we want to see getting sold and getting sold at a premium value. No I...I think I mentioned at a meeting maybe you were here. One of my first acts when you talk about I know this whole overdevelopment thing is cute but the truth of the matter is at the time one of my first, acts as Mayor again you weren't here that long ago was to ask Mr. Triarsi to put a ban on all apartments, townhouses and condominiums in this community put a moratorium on it and unfortunately his legal research came back to me that it was unconstitutional to do that. We would have to do that through Master Plan and Rezoning and that's what we did do, so some of the stuff that was out there such as the Miele Property was a part of a COAH Plan of 30 years ago. So you see how that works.

Michele Novak: Yes I see how that works.

Mayor Bonaccorso: In a nutshell we haven't added anything to it.

Michele Novak: I was here to support him on the development of commercial real estate...I'm not...

Mayor Bonaccorso: I want you to understand where it's coming from that we're not trying to bring that in, we're trying to maintain it.

Michele Novak: I understand and I also understand that none of us can control what happened 30 years ago, I wasn't even...was I out of college 30 years ago, probably not, so I was studying organic chemistry. But anyway I do want to say that I do support you. I think it's very important that we get store fronts in and drum up business for Clark. Yes I absolutely do. I just wanted to

make the stipulation because you mentioned that the revenue would improve or benefit our schools system. I just wanted to keep in mind and state it for the record that if we over develop from a residential prospective we would have to really keep on top of overcrowding classes. Because I would hate to...Clark has an outstanding reputation, our school system has an amazing reputation which is part of the reason why I wanted to move my family here. I just want to protect that and I don't want to see that suffer. And this was not an attack. I just want to say I do support you; I do want to see people in the downtown area. My families are small business owners so I'm all for it even though I'm a Democrat ...

Mayor Bonaccorso: Look Ms. Novak...thank you very much...that's okay. Listen I didn't take this as an attack. I want you to understand that we too understand the differences and we are not trying to add that other stuff. You know I'd rather see and this is a true matter where the property up on Lake Avenue had been one family, I would much rather see that, like it was off of Thomas Drive facing Hehnly School. I was more in favor of one family than...but what was done then was something that we couldn't undo. So we are on the same page. I want it to be understood that we are not trying to add that into the community whatsoever.

Michele Novak: But I thank you for your time, I appreciated everyone's attention, thank you.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you...I appreciate your nice mannerism.

Doug Ritter, 40 Tudor Dr.: I am too concerned about the development downtown. Is there a Master Plan for that? Is there something that I can look at?

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes we've created Doug a downtown village where we redid the Master Plan. And the nuts and bolts are in place to try to develop something nice down there. You see Doug I guess sometimes because of my aggressive nature it could be perceived as a positive or a negative. I perceive it as a positive. What I didn't want to do back when we put this downtown into our Master Plan to put the nuts and bolts there, I didn't want to go out and start condemning and using combination of properties because that could be heavy handed. It could be bully actions and I don't want to do that to anyone. I don't want to displace anyone etc. and so on. So I said at the time if you read back in the minutes and in the newspaper articles this could take ten or fifteen years before we start to see the fruits of that ordinance. The problem is when we look at Jack's Tavern and the A & P as two spots that I hear the most about in this community; these are prime areas of us taking a more aggressive action. Because we went to those people and we didn't ask them, we came short of begging them, to do some positive developing up on those sites. I saw three different renderings at Jack's Tavern that I thought was tremendous and I even said to one of them we will do everything within the law to expedite that plan if you could do something like that there because I think it would be just a beautiful thing into the gateway of Clark when you come off of that. And I got yeah, yeah, yeah, and yeah, yeah, yeah and that's six, seven, eight, nine years ago. We had a week till the building was almost deplorable so we could tell them that they had to knock it down or get fined every day. We've sat with the owner of the A & P and he was very happy when the A & P kept paying the lease every month without a tenant being in the building until the A & P declared bankruptcy. You know and again it's a privately owned business. So without the proper tools in place all we could do is ask, encourage and try to create a little fire under someone's feet to help that happen but we're unsuccessful at it

right now. And I'm sure that the economy might have had a little play in that too to be fair to everyone, I like to be fair. But the thing is it's now time to fix it, get it constructed or we are going to have the tools in place to help you along.

Doug Ritter: Is there is someplace where I can see what the Master Plan looks like.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Sure.

Township Clerk: Doug I will email it to you tomorrow.

Councilman Barr: Being that we are on this whole subject of improvements of Clark, bettering it etc. and so on...I would like to kind of put things in perspective a little bit. When we were talking about the Today in America with the nineteen thousand eight hundred dollars, taking in account with all of the positive items that the Mayor explained to us... I think everybody in town is delighted with the fireworks, it's great and you are looking forward to next year...that's fifteen thousand dollars for 30 minutes of fireworks plus maybe eight thousand or more for police and nobody kind of even gives it a thought but putting in perspective this other thing with Today in America is going to be a definite positive for Clark and with that amount of money and as I said nobody even gives it a second thought about the amount of thirty minutes of fireworks, thank you.

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

Council President Whiting directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: It's a long one today but I think it's informative and I believe in informing. So let me first start with this bit of information. I know myself and a few council members have gotten calls about when are you striping Featherbed Lane, Westfield Avenue and Raritan Road on the other side of the TD Bank. We use to use Union County to do that, it was cheaper, but through their layoffs they've been diminished to stripe, so we are hiring out to a private company we believe to do that. It's going to be done as quickly as we can. We haven't forgotten it or decided not to do it. It's just been a little bit of a snag at this point, so I just want to bring the community up to speed on that. I forgot that in my earlier reports.

You know tonight we had some great dialogue here. And I thank you folks for asking questions, I have no problem with that. I think dialogue is fun, and I think it's informative. We all can learn from each other. I mean hey I will be the first one to admit I don't know everything, I do not. I know my job and I know it well but why not listen because you never know. That was taught to me many, many moons ago. With that we are coming to the summer and as I always say Clark empties out because everyone is down the shore having a good time and God Bless you for that. It gets quiet around here and it kind of reminds me of the calm before the storm and every other year we have those storms and its called election year. And you know I've been working with

Rich up here for many years now together and I think we've probably agreed a lot more than we've disagreed and we've had moments and we've had good moments and I do appreciate that. And when Rich and I spoke about the upcoming campaign this year we both said that we're going to keep it clean and away from mud and I appreciate that folks, I really do. In the last two campaigns myself and my family, my business and my home were slandered, short of slander. These people who run their mouth it's so funny, after the election results come out they are saying hello to you and they want to be your friend. But during the campaign it's all out slander. We haven't run campaigns like that and we are not going to run campaigns like that. I don't prey on voters; I work to have voters support myself and my team, that's what we do when we run for election.

Tonight we had some great dialogue and I believe that the voters should be very informed when he or she goes to the polls. Not through lies or innuendo or half-truths or stretching things, I like to have people know the facts. I know myself and my team is going to run on our twelve years of accomplishments and we're proud to do that. And I'm sure Rich and his team is going to run on their vision of Clark. And hey at the end of the day if you win congratulations and if we win congratulations let's move on and work for the town. That's the bottom line at the end of the day because we all still live here. With that being said I know there are some new people involved and there are some veterans involved. Rich I would like to offer this to you publicly tonight that I'm challenging you to, at your leisure when you want, a series or a debate right here in council chambers. If you would like to bring your team to debate with you, I am clear every night in September and October at your convenience whether you would like to do one, five or ten and I would like to talk about these issues of development and hidden fees and senior housing and some of the things that I've read this weekend. I'm very interested to do that, I'm very proud to stand on what we've done and where we've gone and I hope...you don't have to answer me obviously tonight...check your schedule, give me a call, give me your answer next month whatever you want to do. We have a few months before this starts but I will be willing to set right here in chambers, we have a live TV camera, we have podiums, we can set up and we can talk about the township visions and what was and voting records and you know Master Plan Drafts and who said one thing then and who's doing one thing now, there's a lot of interesting stuff when you get in government. So I hope you would take me up on that. It's going to be I think again a clean, spirited and fun election. Elections can be fun when you go at it the right way. And you don't try to leave scares on people. We are certainly not going to do that and according to the head of the Democratic Party; Rich said to me one day in back of town hall that he was getting out of his car and I was coming in with my truck and I tried to run him over and he said "what are you doing" I said "running against me" but all in good fun because we have that kind of opinion. Rich asked me a question tonight before the meeting...he had a candid honest answer on and I appreciated him doing that kind of business and that's what we want to do. I know Rich and his family a lot of years and like I said I have no animosity against anyone, we just want to put the facts out here and then let the voters decide. So you know in the meantime congratulations to the graduates, get back to me on that, have a fun summer, we will still be in session doing business like we always do, government doesn't get a break. But enjoy the beautiful weather, it's going to get hot, pay attention to the elderly and the young out there and don't leave your dog in the car when you are going into Shop Rite in a 100 degree day it's not nice. So God Bless all, thank you, and I appreciate this evening.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you...I would just like to say congratulations to the graduating class of 2012, good luck and best wishes in whatever your future plans are, thank you.

Councilman Barr: I guess what everyone else said, thank you.

Councilman Kazanowski: Also the same thing. Also I would like to mention graduating class of Mother Seton, Kumpf School, Hehnlly, Valley Road, and ALJ and let's not forget anybody. And Sal I will get back to you on that.

Councilman Mazarella: Yes thank you...just want to mention to everyone to please be safe this summer, talk to your children and tell them to be safe as far as knowing their surroundings when they walk around the area and just have an enjoyable summer thank you.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you...Mr. Mayor I'm glad you cleared up the fact that you are running for Mayor because I heard rumors that you weren't. Also I would like to announce that on Sunday, July 29th Clark PBA Local 125 will be hosing their 4th Annual Waterson/Dunham Valor Ride rain or shine. The ride begins and ends at the Deutscher Club, 787 Featherbed Lane in Clark. Registration is from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and the ride leaves at 12:00 pm. This is a police escorted ride, with a continental breakfast, vendors, bbq, music and beverages. Riders are \$25.00, passengers are \$15.00 and walk-ups are \$15.00 donation. Checks can be made payable to Clark PBA 125, PO Box 950, Clark, NJ 07066. You can download and print a copy of this registration form at www.njspba.com and scroll down to the bottom of the page, click on the Valor Ride, when you click on the link it will bring you right to the registration and you can print it out. And if you have any questions, please call Danny at (732) 259-3513 or you can reach him at hoot0311@yahoo.com. I went on it last year and it was a great ride and it's a good time and it's for a great cause, so hopefully we will see you guys there thank you.

Councilman Toal: Thank you Madame President...campaign 2012 has started, welcome to Clark. To all those have a wonderful summer, to the soon to be graduates follow your dreams and always remember there's no place like home. You go away to the high school graduates going off to college there's always a place called home, it's called Clark, NJ. And as you get further up through your years then you start to understand how a great town it is and how much more you appreciate it when you are away at school or you are meeting new friends and other new activities in your life as you are growing older, you will always appreciate your hometown.

Those we have just lost in the last month; Joseph Villa Sr.; Dorothy Tyrell who use to be the Court Administrator for the Township of Clark Courts Violation Bureau; Frances Bristol, 103 years old; Margaret Foti; Jean Griffin mother of Clark Police Officer Glen Griffin; and Maryann Atkinson, Maryann was a classmate of the Mayor and a 1978 ALJ Graduate.

To all those have a wonderful summer, it goes by quickly please enjoy. And as I always say please be safe out there with the kids being out of school, just watch your cars when you are driving and stuff and watch the kids. And remember we are always working here, we are here working for you, that's our goal to make a better Clark. And on July 4th in the morning Clark PBA 125 has a memorial service for Billy Waterson. Billy Waterson was the officer killed in the line of duty on July 4, 1971. If you are available please come out. They will have the memorial

service right in front of this building (police department) and it is important to never forget one of our own that didn't make it home that day. Please remember him and have a good summer, we will see you next month.

Council President Whiting: For myself Relay for Life was last week and I would like to thank all of the planning committee, the township employees and the board of education employees that helped make this such a wonderful event. This event is five years old and this is the first year that I was unable to attend. I understand it was packed and they had a great time. I believe there were probably about 2,000 people here and it was a wonderful, wonderful event. They raised money for cancer awareness, so if you missed it this year, please feel free to join them next year. In July and August we go down to our summer hours which mean we only have one meeting per month. So we will not have a workshop meeting but our public meetings start a half hour sooner so we can talk about things, so you can be here and listen to us all work and talk about ideas. Another thing I want to tell you about summer is that there are terrible rip tides in our oceans. We've lost a few children already this season and there have been many, many warnings. So if you go to the beach, you have a house at the shore or you just visit for the day please don't take your eyes off your children. There are pictures and articles all over the place regarding rip tides. You know the first thing we had to do is to teach our children how to swim like guppies and we had to teach them how to swim in a pool. Now it's very important that you teach them how to get out of a rip tide and it is a very important lesson. The ocean has become a very dangerous place for our children. So I beg all of you anyone that's going on vacation or a day trip please watch your children, teach them how to swim out of a rip tide, it's very important because they are very dangerous down the shore.

With that Mr. Mayor you know sometimes it's very hard to keep elections and politics after the summer out of this meeting. So I personally think that a debate would be a nice idea. Because a lot of times this forum becomes a political debate during election time and we are really here to conduct business not for anybody's posturing and talking about what they are going to do for election. So if you decide to do the debate it would probably be easier on this sitting council so we can just conduct business as usual. With that, because it's amazing you think you could do a lot of things but when you get up in these seats it's a whole new story. So it's nice to know what you are getting in to before you get there.

John Laezza: No comments thank you.

Township Clerk: No thank you.

Acting Township Attorney: No comments thank you.

Chief Scherb: Nothing thank you.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Council President Whiting directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting

