

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, 315 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, N.J.**  
**February 18, 2014**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Also Present: Mayor Sal Bonaccorso, John Laezza, Business Administrator; Howard Lesnik, filling in for Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk; Richard O'Connor, Township Engineer.

The Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Council President Toal. He 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.

Motion to Suspend the Regular Order of Business made by Councilman Kazanowski, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

UNICO Presentation by Ralph Bernardo

Ralph Bernardo, President of UNICO: Good evening, everyone by now knows who I am, Ralph Bernardo, President of the Clark UNICO Chapter. And for those who don't know UNICO is the largest Italian American Service Organization in the United States.

We held our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Italian Feast in October 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> and I'm happy to say it was a huge success. Mother Nature was very kind to us despite the weather forecast of Nor'easters and rain and so on, we had three beautiful days. And after all the monies were tallied and the cost to run the Feast were paid, I'm happy to report we profited \$40,000.00. Many people ask what we do with the proceeds from the Feast and you know this is the 7<sup>th</sup> year now we are doing this, we don't do this to boast or brag just to get accolades on what we do with the money, but it's important for people to know where all this money goes. Being a nonprofit organization, all this money must be given out and because we are a Clark Chapter, the Township as a whole reaps the benefits. So I would like to just give you a brief run down of where just some of the money goes or will be going or has already gone.

Substantial dollar amounts were and are being given to organizations that I have in my hand here: as well as the Clark Benefit Ball, the Winter Tree and Menorah Lighting, the Easter Egg Hunt, Clark Recreation, the Historical Society, Dolan Golf Outing, the Mayor's Golf Outing, the Johnson Touchdown Club, Relay for Life, the Clark Senior Citizens, and \$6,000.00 in the ALJ High School Senior Scholarships. We take ads to help support and sponsor Little League, Girls Softball League, Ladies Softball, Clark Library, Ice Hockey, Travel Basketball, we host a dinner for the UNICO Bowl in the fall and right now I would like to give out some of these checks. So if you are here, please come up and receive them: Clark Police Department, ALJ Booster Club, Clark Library (Dawn Jenkin: Thank you and I just want to let you guys know this is the Library's first iPad) the Robinson Plantation, Clark Fire Department, the Clark Emergency Squad, ALJ Key Club, ALJ Project Graduation, Clark Recreation, the Italian Club, Emergency Management, the ALJ Alumnae Association (Henry Varriano: I accept this on behalf of the Alumnae Association. Our President Art L. wasn't able to attend tonight because he recently had knee surgery. And everyone that's a graduate of ALJ is welcomed to join the Alumnae Association. We've been giving out scholarships the last two years. So we hope to do more in the future.) and the Clark Education Fund.

In addition to the Clark Chapter donations that we give out UNICO Nationals has charities that we also give to like Coolies Anemia, Mental Health and Cancer Research. We also keep a reserve account with dollars set aside for anything that comes up in the months ahead. For example, this fall we gave money to Pop Warner so that they could afford for their cheerleading trip to Florida just to help out a family or two. So you can see by how many organizations, clubs and departments reap the benefits of the Feast along with the enjoyment of the Feast for the residents of Clark. Preparation for the Feast begins months, months before the actual event. I would like to publicly thank my Board, three of the members are here, my Vice President Greg Menza, Henry Varriano, our Treasurer Bob Spinella, our Secretary George Abruzzo and Members on the Board also Vera Abruzzo, Bill Heron, and Sam L.

To pull off an event of this magnitude takes many, many hands. The people of Clark along with the UNICO Members responded as we had over 120 volunteers for the three day event. We'd like to publically thank the Mayor, BA, and Council for their full support. Sal an Honorary Unican as well as Bill Smith and I would like to personally thank Sal for giving us full reign in whatever we need to make it a fun, safe and successful weekend.

We'd like to thank Police Chief Alan Scherb and the policemen who work the Feast, Fire Prevention Inspector Chief Frank Cerasa, the volunteer squad members who were present, Joe Bonaccorso and Public Works for the huge cleanup that is needed afterwards, Norman Murk for putting the inside of the building back together after thousands of people walk through the recreation center and the parking lots. I would like to list every name of people that helped out but time just won't allow it. So I would just like to highlight a few people... Tony Ginesi who single handedly every morning was out there 7:00 am cleaning the grounds by hand all the way from Westfield Avenue to Raritan Road; Scott McCabe who constantly helps in so many ways within the entire township and assembled 30 to 40 parents and Cub Scouts to clean the parking lot the day after the Feast on their day off on Columbus Day; Pete Zambardo my right hand man who is always the first one to help me in the Rec Department and so many organizations. Jerry Fewkes, I can't say enough about Jerry Fewkes, who gives up his entire weekend to make sure

that we are up and running electrically, safe with power, lights and you name it; John Kurek who worked the entire Feast all three days, he was at everyone's disposal for set up, gofer, electrical assistance and we could not have done without John and Jerry. I also would like to give an honorable mention to Dominick for his supervision at the Feast.

Our appreciation and thanks go out to all of these individuals. Each one is an asset to the community and the Township of Clark. In appreciation of all our volunteers, our Chapter held a thank you dinner in November in which we had 97 people come to the dinner. So that's it, again thank you all, it was a successful year and if anyone would be interested in joining UNICO...we are now over 150 strong. We are the largest service organization in Clark and we also give out the most donations in the Township of Clark and that we are very proud of, so I thank you.

Mayor Bonaccorso: First off Ralph thank you, members of the board, gentlemen...thank you very much for your wonderful Feast every year and thank all the people who volunteered and the people who attended. It was about 8 ½ years ago that Henry came into my office one day and said "we would like to have a Feast." It was like July and I said when and he said October and I said "whoa Henry good idea but I think we need a little bit more planning." So they assembled the UNICO group and brought Ralph in it was a success the first one. Everyone seems to enjoy it and now it has become a staple of the community, everyone goes and has a nice time. We have had zero trouble at this Feast. Not one incident that we can you know be embarrassed by. The people come, it's well policed, and the food is great, it's a fun, fun time and I enjoy myself there every year seeing everyone enjoy themselves, and it's another proud day for the community. You guys do a great job in raising the kind of money you do. It's a big, big task, it's a lot of work and it's a lot of headaches. The weather #1 starts freaking Ralph out about two weeks before. But like I told him, Ralph you can't control the weather and whatever you raise you raise. The people who got the donations tonight congratulations, it's great I'm sure you will put it to great use. But anyway again thank you, please continue and continued success and we look forward to being a part of it for a long, long time. So again thank you I appreciate it.

Motion to Resume the Regular Order of Business made by Councilman Kazanowski, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS:**

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes Mr. President thank you very much...Members of Council, ladies and gentlemen. I know you want me to talk about snow, why not? That's been a topic for about for the last 2 ½ months, and let me tell you, I am sick of it, it's just enough already.

I have a report from the Business Administrator through Scott McCabe's office that the snow this year and this is for January 1<sup>st</sup> forward. The salaries that were spent on snow were fifty-five thousand including the removing of snow on Westfield Avenue in the business districts two times. We do that a day or two after the storms, cars can park safely, and people can open the

doors and get out and hopefully support our small business district and in some school areas to make it safer for the students. Most of the storms were plowed on regular time meaning during the day. We used over six hundred and fifty tons of salt which amount dollar wise is thirty-three thousand eight hundred dollars. We currently have approximately a hundred and twenty-five tons in our salt dome which is enough to cover the town sparingly. This time of year we don't panic as much because the weather is getting warmer and the snow melts quicker, it's when you get into December and January you really find it to be a problem. We currently have enough to take care of that. Normal road salting takes around a hundred and fifty to two hundred tons plus the salt we supply to the schools. We are a little bit short but again we are not worried because we have an order waiting to come in. Equipment cost for snow plow blades and parts estimates were about seven thousand dollars. So far the winter has cost us in excess of about a hundred and two thousand dollars. This does not reflect our maintenance cost. We do have two hundred and fifty tons of salt waiting for delivery. This has been a crazy, crazy year for snow. I can't believe how much it's been you know one after another after another. It seems like we don't have a break.

Ladies and gentlemen I remove snow as part of my living and it's not an easy job at all. Let's take the thirteen inches we had last week. Our men were called out at 3:00 am and they finished that at 9:00 pm, they went home and went to bed and were called back in at 3 in the morning because we had another three or four inches, they were talking about six to eight. So we had to get back out to salt and getting the school areas opened and the main roads opened. Think about sitting in the dump truck looking straight ahead at snow plowing mile after mile after mile of road, it is not fun, it's very monotonous. During the heavy parts of the storm you get a thing that's called a whiteout where basically your eyes are just seeing white, sometimes you have to pull over, that's how bad it can get. We had two storms that were very wet and very heavy. I have council people from other towns calling me and asking me how do you guys do it so well because our towns are a disaster compared to yours. Sometimes our efficiency can become spoiling to people, because they expect it to be done so quick, so quick. I read and I hear critics out there talking about what's right and what's wrong, trust me folks if it's a good job I know and if it's a bad job I know because I do it. We have people who will call us and say "the plow blocked my driveway in" yeah no kidding, like what would you expect them to do with it when they got to your driveway? We're sorry for it and we wished there was a way it didn't happened but it happens. When it's real bad is when the snow is wet, and then it becomes a real, real burden to try to move from your driveway. We understand that too, we all have driveways. We have to open our own driveways and it's not easy. When the snow is powder you move it very quickly and the rate that we get the community done is quicker than the days that we have the wet heavy snow.

We have a lot of snow emergency roads in town. These are roads under thirty feet (wide) that are snow emergency roads which are supposed to be no parking during snow events anytime we get over three inches in twenty-four hours. We try not to enforce that because we understand sometimes there is a burden. Right now we have enforced that because we have nowhere else to put the snow. If we get two, three or four inches in the next week we can handle it with no problem. If you have an event of ten plus we are going to have a real problem. You see your curb how far out the snow is now from it just filling up and the heavy snow is the real culprit because we can't really push that as far. So we have posted roads for safety reason, #1 safety of motor vehicle drivers, and safety of our plow drivers to remove the cars during snow events. We've had

complaints about that. But then again we have people calling us saying “why don’t you have the people remove the cars off the roads.” We’ve asked people to do that for the past fourteen years that I’ve been here. The police cooperate and try to help us out. Park them on your lawn, it’s frozen it’s not going to be a problem. Before the first snow if you do that real heavy snow, you will have a spot that you can do that throughout the year and move it out in the street when we’re done. You know there are comments of “well they are at Quick Check at coffee break” yes they are and God Bless them and they deserve it. There are laws about after you work so many hours you get a break. Because I know everyone in town just goes to work in the morning and never pops their head up from their desk or their machine and never has a drink of water, cup of coffee, a sandwich or whatever but we like to criticize the guys who are out around the clock. And let me tell you something else, there hasn’t been a Mayor in the history of this town who has been harder on the Public Works than I have. When I first came in it was like a daily occurrence and then they got it and they are doing a good job. During the heavy snows we did have a couple of problem areas absolutely and Scott McCabe reported right to us; Joe Bonaccorso the Director and to me. Again when I’m out working in my own business it’s here in Clark, my accounts are in Clark, so I drive through the community and I see what’s going on. There are many days I will call Scott from my truck and say “hey Scott this street that street, have them push it in more.” And he will say “Mayor we are out there we’re moving, we’re grooving.” We have a lot of work to do on bridges up here by Westfield Avenue for the schools. We have to do the crosswalks for schools. We have to do where the crossing guards are and this is with thirteen men ladies and gentlemen, thirteen men do this providing no one is sick with the flu. Vacations are cancelled during big events and personal days are cancelled during big events.

We’ve asked people to please do not blow the snow in the road and people continually do that. Again if you do it before the plow goes by we really don’t have a problem with that. The problem is, is that it’s after the road is clean when this kind of stuff happens there are ice parts that are out in the street. What happens then is when it freezes, people are calling and saying “there’s ice in front of my house” well yeah no kidding, you put it there. Now when it’s zero out and we’re salting it melts during the day and it freezing at night, throwing more salt on it is not the answer to the problem. We ask people to please shovel sidewalks and hydrants in the area. Some of the businesses that sit on county roads are a real problem. My personal company runs into this and I know a lot of our business people do, that they will have their walkways cleaned and then the county guys come by and will blow the stuff that’s wet and slushy right back onto the sidewalks. Well the problem is if you get to somebody’s business at 5 or 6:00 at night or whenever and you clean the walkway and you think you are done and they come flying through shooting that slush all over and it freezes in the morning, how are you expected to break it up and get rid of it. It’s nearly impossible when it gets to be that temperature. So you have to be cautious walking. If people do not shovel the police go over and warn them and then we’ll ultimately give them a summons if that’s what happens. I know there’s a lot of great ideas about snow plowing, I’m still going to contend that we do a very, very, very good job in Clark, is it without problems...no it’s not without problems, because if you think plowing the town that we have or any town for that reason would go without having problems, you are wrong...it’s mechanics, it’s human, it’s Mother Nature and they do have problems. If something in front of your home isn’t done the way you think it should be done, all we ask you to do is call DPW and as soon as we can get a truck over there we are very, very happy to do that for you and to rectify the problem. I’ve talked in the past that on some of the smaller streets cars are parked on both sides and we

kind of get a path down the middle. And then people call the next day and say “well you forgot our street”.

By the way ladies and gentlemen we have GPS in every single public works truck. So when someone says “well they didn’t come down my street” we can find that out very quickly and that could cost somebody their job if they were so you know ignorant in their duty that they wouldn’t plow somebody’s street. Each section of town is broken up into a zone and one or two trucks have that zone and they go through it. We have to plow the dead ends; we have to plow the police station, the fire department, the first aid squad and the municipal buildings along then with cleaning walks, crossing guard areas and things of that nature. So I will say that a couple of the events there were bumps in the road this year no doubt about it and we’ve taken measure to rectify that. And many other of the events went very quietly. The snow we had last year the thirteen inches went pretty quiet, I didn’t have many complaints or many problems. And I will thank Scott and the department, anytime we get those complaints we shoot them over to Scott and he frees a truck up and gets over to take care of it. I had some Facebook friends where during the one heavy snow saying “they haven’t gotten here yet, they haven’t gotten here yet” and that was true because trucks break down and they were in the shop being repaired. So that’s another thing we fight is mechanics, we have breakdowns, so we have to get back and get our mechanic in there, he starts repairing it and we get the truck back on the road. The one area was up in the Third Ward...I called Scotty and he says you are absolutely correct, we are late. He said but I have two trucks down and I said well okay fix them and get them back out there and that’s what he did. So folks we just ask for a little patience and understanding. We don’t ask for pats on the back and we most certainly don’t ask eggs to be thrown at us either. It is a process that I think we do very, very well overall and there are times that there are bumps in the roads.

The other thing that I would like to mention is March 8<sup>th</sup> is the Winter Benefit Ball. If you are interested in going, tickets I believe are \$80.00 a person at the Gran Centurions. Contact my office, if I’m not there just leave your name and number and I’ll have one of the girls from the committee probably my wife to get back to you and get tickets over to you.

Again I would like to thank the DPW, police, first aid and fire for their work during these storms and taking care of our residents. Again it may not have always been perfect but it went pretty darn good. That concludes my report for this evening thank you.

Township Clerk: I have the police, fire, first aid reports for the month of January as well as the quarterly health report covering the period of October thru December of 2013, received and filed in my office.

### **REPORT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you Mr. President...I just want to mention that I mentioned it at the last meeting but I have more details tonight. This spring the Arthur L. Johnson Drama Department will be presenting the musical “Grease” and there will be three performances at 7:00 pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday March 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. I hope to see you all out there supporting our young drama students.

Our Library Director Dawn Jenkin reminded me that this Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> is “Bring your child to the Library Day” and there will be a program as well as an ice cream sundae bar. So hopefully you can make it on Sunday.

On a sadder note I want to advise those of you that don’t know is that one of our Library Trustees Joan Syzmonifca passed away a few weeks ago. And Joan was a significant contributor to our Library Board as well as a friend to the Library. Joan served on the Library Board for more than eight years and as President of the Board for two terms. She was a leader and confidant to all of us on the Board. Her professional experience as Vice President of Human Resources for L’Oreal USA helped us to deal with many personal, personnel and patient issues than arose as well as the search for two Library Directors and negotiations of two union contracts. Joan was a great advisor on general management and financial issues that needed to be dealt with as well. Most notably Joan worked hard to expand our Library hours so that now the Library is open on Sunday’s during fall, winter and spring and open on Saturdays during the summer months. In fact Sundays and Saturdays have really turned out to be the busiest days at the Library and a great day for family programs. It was a great pleasure to work alongside Joan and we will all miss her at the Library. Joan’s husband Mike and their children Jacqueline, Jillian and Derek have asked those who wish to make a contribution in her honor to make a donation to the Library in particular for the penguin program which she frequented on many occasions with her children each year. So I know that for children and adults it’s a great program and my condolences to Joan’s family. Thank you and that concludes my report.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President...the police dispatcher had the Clark Volunteer Fire Department respond to 54 calls in January. When you think that there’s 31 days in the month it’s a pretty busy fire department. Also when the Mayor was speaking about the snow removal...I would like to elaborate on one item. Many of these calls were during the height of the snowstorms and how important when the Mayor says cars should be off the streets that there is access for emergency vehicles. Can you imagine if there’s at one time a house fire and the fire department is coming down and they couldn’t get by? So please like the Mayor said make sure you have your cars off the streets and the streets are cleared so the plows can make it easy access for any emergency vehicles. And that concludes my report thank you.

Councilman Kazanowski: No report this evening.

Councilman Mazarella: Yes thank you Council President...just to recap on the police department’s monthly report summary; January 2014 saw a total 2,793 calls for service on which 100 were ambulance requests, 8 were fire department requests, 96 alarm calls, 4 were vandalism, 74 motor vehicles accidents and 2,481 were miscellaneous calls.

My report from DPW; electronic and oil drop-off is this Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the DPW yard. We would like to thank all the residents that parked their cars off the roadway allowing the DPW to plow from curb to curb in a safe and efficient manner. And as our Mayor stated the “no parking” signs will be posted on emergency roads when there is snow. They have been installed in some areas and it’s going to be enforced. Please remove your cars and motorcycles from these roadways for proper snow removal. Curbside recycling no longer needs to be separated because we are a single stream recycling community which means that it

all goes in the same truck. You can still separate and bundle as in the past also but please do not leave loose paper and cardboard in the curb, it's just sloppy and it will blow around and it will create problems. Bulky pickup is scheduled to start in March, weather permitting. Do not put bulky items out until the Saturday or Sunday before your pickup to keep the town looking clean, appointments are required for bulky pickup and must be made the Thursday before your pick up by 3:00 pm prior to your Ward's pickup. Please call DPW at town hall to schedule the pickup for your Ward. The first week is Ward 1, second week is Ward 2, third week is Ward 3, and fourth is Ward 4. Please visit the town's website [www.ourclark.com](http://www.ourclark.com) for acceptable items that our DPW will pick up. Appliance pickup will also start in March, weather permitting and an appointment needs to be made by Friday the week before. Mulch is always available through the township for the residents at no charge and it will be delivered. And spring cleanup starts the end of March weather permitting and goes into the last week in April. Please keep all broken tree parts and branches in your yard until that time. Thank you that's the extent of my report.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you very much...I have the report from the first aid squad, there were 130 total ambulance requests, 115 Clark, 15 mutual aid and most frequent calls were fall victim 22, sick persons 12 and motor vehicle accidents 11.

And from the Finance Committee...tonight we heard the Mayor talk about the cost of these storms. You heard about over thirty-three thousand dollars in salt, and you heard about the additional man-hours. Storms like this and costs like this can financially devastate a town, fortunately for us we have a great administration that's able to provide these extra dollars for the services that we need and still stay financially sound. So on behalf of the Finance Committee I would like to thank the Mayor and Business Administrator for keeping the township not only safe but also keeping it financially sound and always being prepared for the unexpected, thank you very much.

Councilman Smith: I have a brief recreation report tonight...Ralph Bernardo is in the audience so thank you for the UNICO presentation earlier. The Recreation Spring Programs, classes and sports listings will be out next week. Flyers will be sent home through the schools and are available throughout town hall or you can find the information on the Clark Website or Channel 36. And on a warmer note the Clark Pool will be turning 40 years old this year. We will be offering many special events throughout the summer celebrating this milestone. You won't want to miss out on all the exciting activities and events that we have planned. I've been at a couple of the meetings so far so I'm looking forward to it. We will be mailing out the registration for the Clark Pool the first week of March. So please register early. And that concludes my report thank you.

Council President Toal: The only report I have is to the residents of the Fourth Ward. As you know I've gotten a few phone calls about the newsletter I usually drop off, the exact words are that, drop them off personally walking to your door handle. And as you can see I've been delayed a little bit because of what's outside called white snow. Normally you can just run across somebody's lawn and drop it into the door handle and run over to the next property but this is a little bit difficult. But I have nothing but complete understanding of what a mailman goes through. This is difficult stuff to deliver in a situation like this. Normally I will have the Ward done by Valentine's Day, guess what, I'm just starting the Cornell and the northern half of the

Fourth Ward. So it's going to take a little bit longer so please be patient and as they said your town recycling information and all that is on the town website or at the Clark Library. But I will be getting these out and I will be starting Cornell later this week, so please have patience and that's all I have on that issue.

**ORDINANCES, APPROPRIATIONS AND CLAIMS:**  
**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCES:**

(No written objections were received in connection with the following Ordinance.)

**Ordinance 14-01**

**BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW RESCUE PUMPER FIRE ENGINES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,700,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS**

Council President Toal opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 14-01

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

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 14-01 was made by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilman Mazzarella

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Ordinance Adopted

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**Ordinance 14-02**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 8, SECTION 3-30 OF TH CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED "VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT"**

Council President Toal opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 14-02

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

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 14-02 was made by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilman Mazzarella

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Ordinance Adopted

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**Ordinance 14-03**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 248, SECTION 248-20 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED "PROHIBITED ACTS"**

Council President Toal opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 14-03

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

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 14-03 was moved and seconded by the Entire Council

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: I just want to make sure the more people hear it the better off we are. We have amended the door to door soliciting between April 15<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am in the morning to 7:00 pm at night, October 16<sup>th</sup> to April 14<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am to 5:00 pm because it gets darker. What we are trying to do ladies and gentlemen and we've been alerted that there's people going out soliciting different services or goods in the evening hours when it's dark out. #1 we find that to be a little suspicious, #2 we'd rather someone not answer their door after it gets dark and mainly young people and senior citizens who really don't know the person on the other side of the door. Chief Scherb, I ask you to please make sure every member of your department knows of these new times because we are going to be very strict on this. We've had people ringing door bells in November at 7:00 at night asking if you want your leaves cleaned and they

look out and there's not a truck. the person is gone, selling siding and things of this nature. We find that to be suspicious. So we want to be able to amend the ordinances so our police have a little bit of teeth chasing these people if they are legitimate and if they are not we will be able to know that to take proper public safety actions then, so that's it thank you.

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Ordinance Adopted

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**Ordinance 14-04**

**AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO FIX MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARIES**

Council President Toal opened the Public Hearing

Seeing no one coming forward Councilman Kazanowski made a motion to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance 14-04, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 14-04 was made by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Barr

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Ordinance Adopted

**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 \$263,594.16 period ending February 12, 2014, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

**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 Toal opened the Citizen Hearing on the Agenda

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

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

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution 14-33**

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR AUTHORIZING  
AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20  
CURRENT FUND**

**WHEREAS** an emergent condition has arisen due to the anticipated delay in the adoption of the 2014 Budget, and adequate provision has not been made in the 2014 Temporary Budget for the appropriations specified on the attached page; and

**WHEREAS** the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in fiscal year 2014 pursuant to the provision of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$5,078,256.00

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE, AND IT IS, HEREBY, RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey, (not less than two thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A 40A:4-20:

1. Emergency temporary appropriations be and the same are hereby made as specified on the attached page in the amount of \$5,078,256.00; and
2. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided in the 2014 budget under the headings as specified on the attached page.
3. That one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

Moved by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Smith

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

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**Resolution 14-34**

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR AUTHORIZING  
AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20  
SEWER UTILITY**

**WHEREAS** an emergent condition has arisen due to the anticipated delay in the adoption of the 2014 Budget, and adequate provision has not been made in the 2014 Temporary Budget for the appropriations specified on the attached page; and

**WHEREAS** the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in fiscal year 2014 pursuant to the provision of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$2,221,965.00

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE, AND IT IS, HEREBY, RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey, (not less than two thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A 40A:4-20:

1. Emergency temporary appropriations be and the same are hereby made:  
Other Expenses \$2,221,965.00; and
2. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided in the 2014 budget under the headings as specified on the attached page.
3. That one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman Kazanowski

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

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**Resolution 14-35**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by Governing Body as the Clark Swimming Pool Utility that the 2014 Municipal Swimming Pool rates and fees be set as follows:

<b>MEMBERSHIPS</b>	<b>CLARK</b>	
	<b>RESIDENT</b>	<b>NON-RESIDENT</b>
FAMILY	360.00	525.00
GARWOOD RESIDENT FAMILY (Must show proof of affiliation with Clark Recreation and/or Clark Public Schools)		460.00

HUSBAND & WIFE	310.00	450.00
DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP (as defined by Ch. 246 P.L.2003)	310.00	450.00
ONE PARENT & ONE CHILD	310.00	450.00
INDIVIDUAL	210.00	310.00
SENIOR CITIZEN (62 by June 1 <sup>st</sup> )	100.00	150.00
LATE FEE - SENIOR CITIZEN (after June 1 <sup>st</sup> )	20.00	20.00
LATE FEE (after June 1 <sup>st</sup> )	25.00	25.00
RETURNED CHECK FEE	35.00	35.00
LOST ID CARDS	15.00	15.00

**FEES - ALL MEMBERS**

SWIM LESSONS	50.00 First child
	25.00 Second child
SWIM TEAM	25.00
GUEST FEES:	
WEEKDAYS (All ages)	7.00
HOLIDAYS AND WEEKENDS (Adults)	10.00

Moved by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Kazanowski

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

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**Resolution 14-36**

**WHEREAS** the Township of Clark has resolved to join the New Jersey Municipal Self Insurers' Joint Insurance Fund ("NJMSIJIF") following a detailed analysis; and

**WHEREAS** the Bylaws of NJMSIJIF require that each entity designate a Risk Management Consultant to perform various professional services as detailed in the Bylaws and Risk Management Plan; and

**WHEREAS** the Bylaws indicate that NJMSIJIF shall pay each Risk Management Consultant a fee to be established annually by the Executive Committee.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township of Clark does hereby appoint Amalgamated General Agencies as its Risk Management Consultant in accordance with the Fund's Bylaws; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and/or Business Administrator and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Risk Management

Consultant’s Agreement effective 01/01/14 to 12/31/14 annexed hereto and to cause a notice of this decision to be published according to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i).

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman Barr

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

**CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution 14-37**

**WHEREAS** in accordance with the New Jersey Administrative Code, Title 8, Chapter 52 entitled “Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local Boards of Health” the Clark Township Health Department hereby submits the Quarterly Health Status Report for acceptance and approval by the Governing Body; and

**WHEREAS** the Governing Body sitting as the Board of Health has reviewed the report for the fourth quarter from October – December 2013 and is in agreement with its contents.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey that it hereby accepts and approves the Quarterly Health Status Report for presentation to the residents of Clark in compliance with the New Jersey Administrative Code; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of said report are available online at [www.ourclark.com](http://www.ourclark.com) and in the Clerk’s office, at no charge.

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**Resolution 14-38**

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

**WHEREAS** the Business Administrator has reviewed 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 following schedule.

Sewer Billing Adjustments:

REF	#	Acct #	Name	#	Address	Reason	Original	Revised	Credit
13	76	5174-0	Rosa Williams	39	Coldevin Road	prior owners	2,345.00	225.00	2,120.00

14	1	1672-0	J&M Giordano	551	Madison Hill Rd	Sandy Issue	865.00	640.00	225.00
14	2	1420-0	Carlos Oliveira	445	Madison Hill Rd	Frozen hose	1,185.00	225.00	960.00

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**Resolution 14-39**

**WHEREAS** in accordance with a request from the Tax Collector for authorization to refund overpayment of 2013 and 2014 taxes; 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 Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to make refunds in accordance with the following schedule:

<b>CLARK TOWNSHIP</b>							
<b>TAX REFUNDS- 2014</b>							
<b>BLOCK</b>	<b>LOT</b>	<b>QUAL.</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>REFUND</b>	<b>YEAR/QTR</b>
31.02	14		Pietro Cardogna	27	Evans Terrace	\$1,173.67	2013/4
20	16		John Stadimiller	6	Briarheath Lane	\$484.64	2013/4
118	64		Marek & Ewa Dudzinski	49	Nassau Street	389.29	2013/4
50	26		Rose Marie Sardo, Esq	27	Kenneth Place	2299.09	2014/1

Motion to adopt Consent Agenda made by Councilman O’Connor, seconded by Councilman Kazanowski

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

**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 Toal opened the public portion of the meeting

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia St.: Good evening, I was wondering if the police department has looked into a similar item that Scotch Plains/Fanwood has as a “No Knock Registry” towards this solicitation. From what I can understand people can have their name at the police station and if they do get a knock they can call. I’m going to further look into it but there is a registry similar I guess to like the phone calls that you get but they have instituted that into Scotch Plains because they have had a lot of issues with builders and solicitations after the hours.

Also I was wondering on TV 36, since I'm a customer of FIOS I don't get any township announcements or anything like that. I was wondering if there was any way that Clark can set up any type of Facebook page...Cranford TV 35 has a Facebook page for their community access channel, if it could be posted on ourclark, because we don't get many. We get our information through Cranford when there's you know like the snowstorms and things like that. I've seen the Mayor last year on Cranford but us as Verizon...

Mayor Bonaccorso: We do post our announcements also on ourclark.com our website.

Delia Collins: Okay because I've checked some...I mean like even Public Service announcements or things that are going on in town.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No that we do not do. We wouldn't be able to post any on Facebook. We just don't have a full time Facebook person to post everything that's on TV 36.

Delia Collins: Okay...we just don't get any of the announcements.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You see what happens is once we commit to doing that and then there's a day we can't because we are swamped, it's tax time or whatever, and then it becomes an issue. I use my Facebook page during storms, we have the Nixel (Delia Collins: right but we have to be your friend to get that.) you can be my friend. I mean especially during storms, it's not an issue, I accept anyone because we want the word to get out. There's also a sign-up with Nixel through Chief Scherb's office that will let you know of public safety happenings that are out there.

Delia Collins: Okay thank you.

John Laezza: Ms. Collins what I would like to say is one of the reasons that FIOS is not into our community is because FIOS refused to put TV 36 on their FIOS items.

Delia Collins: I get it because I'm connected to Westfield.

John Laezza: Well what they did for Cranford, they did for Westfield, and they would not do it for Clark. So that's why FIOS is not on TV 36.

Delia Collins: Oh okay.

John Laezza: They wanted to get paid for it from us but not from Westfield or Cranford.

Delia Collins: Okay, alright because I get like Milburn, I get Short Hills...okay thank you.

Joe Kilburg, 118 Lexington Blvd: John I would like to add to your FIOS thing, even if you were willing to pay for it, I work for Verizon and they have no intention of coming into Clark or Rahway or anybody served out of Rahway...I'm just letting you know. I've been fighting for years because I want it but they won't come here.

The issue I'm bringing up...I want to first off thank Scott for being on top of things. I made a phone call to him and to Pat (O'Connor) I don't know if you made more than one phone call Pat, you know the issue I'm talking about. And Sal I didn't call you with this because I do know that you are very busy this time of year with your personal business and with the township business. And Chief I didn't call you because I got tired of the officers yelling at me. And the reason I'm here is regarding a couple of ordinances in the town regarding parking. We have a gentlemen in a red Mercury Sable for four years has been parking his car up and down Lexington Blvd from anywhere to five days to three weeks at a clip. I usually have nothing to say about it spring, summer, or fall. Winter time I have some pictures here and you can get a slight idea of what he does. It makes it impossible for guys like Scott to do their jobs because this guy parks there and three days after the storm he moves his car and now there's a mess. Now I have single moms and a senior citizen living by me and it's me out there getting all this crap out of the street that he threw in the middle of the street because we know that the township is busy getting back to work the day before the storm.

Mayor Bonaccorso: He is a resident on the street?

Joe Kilburg: No he is a resident on Emerald Place.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Oh so he parks on Lexington.

Joe Kilburg: And he parks on Lexington and I put this together for you, I have some signatures of people who he has offended.

John Laezza: I might answer you...I did discuss with the police department and I'm surprised if he was on that corner this weekend because if he was, I told the police to tow him away.

Joe Kilburg: He's, right now, he left my neighbor's house at 122 Lexington and he is parked in front of 104 Lexington.

John Laezza: They are on the lookout for him. I told them to tow his car if there's any snow incident going on.

Joe Kilburg: Well he must have gotten tipped off last night because he came and was gone within twenty seconds last night.

John Laezza: That's because the cops were after him.

Joe Kilburg: And the other address is...I didn't want to call you Chief but I felt disrespected and lied to when I was told that there was no such ordinances about parking in town and I'm going to bring this up and I'm not going to tell you who the officer was because I'm good friends with him and I think he raised his voice because we are friends. When he told me that there is no ordinance in town and I said well excuse me but two summers ago when my son was selling his car Officer Merfert knocked on my door and said "Joe please move your car because I've been told to give you a summons for leaving the car there," so my car which is in front of my house to try to sell it cause I understand that but I was told if I see it past today I'm going to have to give

you a summons. I'm telling you as a friend please move your car so I don't have to give you a summons. And I was told by several officers and the dispatcher that there is no such law. Unfortunately I left the other folder at home, I printed it and highlighted it and highlighted the snow removal one which I see you guys have addressed. All I ask is you know treat all the citizens the same, Sal see to it. Just because Joe Kilburg complains about the speeding up down his street, don't ignore him when he is complaining about something else. I'm not doing it for me; I'm doing it for me and my fellow citizens in the neighborhood. And I will look out for my neighbors and anyone of my neighbors can tell you that this guys is out there. And I was out there for fourteen hours on Thursday clearing my driveway, helping her brothers clear her driveway, Dan across the street who has health issue, Bill next to me who has health issues and the two police officers that couldn't get off who have young children I cleared out their driveways while they were at work. And when they came home they helped me do all the driveways again. I just ask for it to be addressed, please address it (Mayor Bonaccorso: with that car Joe?) with that car that's my main concern. Sal like I said spring, summer, fall it's great but winter time when the snow falls it really... you know it's taking a toll on me because I'm the guy out there looking out for senior citizens taking all that snow off the street. And I think Scott can tell you that when he goes past those three houses by me, there's not a speck of snow or ice in front of them.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Joe you have my number (Joe Kilburg: yes) if it happens again call me directly.

Joe Kilburg: Okay like I said I know you have other issues and I tried to keep you out of it.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, no I do appreciate it and thank you for thinking of me but I wouldn't you know walk into Macy's at Christmas time and want to bother a manager about something, I get it you know, and I thank you for being considerate, that's a very nice thing Joe. But you have my number and you call me and I will call the Chief or the dispatcher and have him moved. You see Joe we are trying to be you know it's a tough thing to enforce because we are trying to be nice about the snow, understanding that sometimes people do not have enough room in their driveways and we're saying "okay you know what do you do," well maybe you can park it up on your lawn and kind of angle a little off your driveway. But then again if you have Belgium block curbing that could be a problem. The other thing is you know you and your wife bought your house and now your kids are driving and now two cars become three or four, we get all that. So we try to be decent about it because we don't want to summons our residents or be a nuisance to our residents. I don't want to be a police town where every time you do something there's a cop behind you telling him you can't do it because there's an ordinance and no offense to Chief Scherb's guys, I'm just saying that there's an ordinance and they are telling you. You know if people want to park on streets when it snows and they are smaller streets then what you should do is shovel your space back to the face of the curb like its March or June or September. Because although we are not plowing in those months, it's still better than the snow starts coming out from the curb because it's wet, now your car is parked 2 1/2 feet away from the curb and that much further out into the middle of the street. We are trying to work with people and it's not easy, but we do have some people that just want aggravate the situation like you are bringing forward here tonight and we are trying to be on top of that the best way we can. So Joe if that occurs again you call me directly. (Joe Kilburg: okay) Because most of the times when it's

snowing I'm out, and I'm up in this area a lot, you know I do a lot up on Westfield Avenue, so it's not like it's far out of my way for even for me to swing there in between stops.

Joe Kilburg: I appreciate that.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No and anytime and thank you for being considerate, I do appreciate that a lot.

Joe Kilburg: Like I said I know what you are going through.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Oh no it's very nice of you Joe, I appreciate that.

Joe Kilburg: Handed out copies of what he had to the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Joe and we're sorry about all of that.

Patricia Alfano, 99 Emerald Pl.: I live next to Joe but I'm the corner property of Lexington and Emerald. Now in reference to the gentleman's car, he also parks in front of my house, okay it's a corner spot and he parks there, you can park there and the other half you can't because it's highlighted in yellow for fire reasons or whatever emergency. The one issue is that I put my leaves and stuff out there, he parks on top of my leaves and on top of the branches. So when the town comes to try to clean up, my stuff is covered, so then it leaves my area a mess and then he is gone. And the same issue with the car with the snow, I had called the police and actually I got a very nasty woman on the phone from traffic I think but I don't even know what her name was, I don't know Joe if you remember what her name was, but she was very nasty and she wasn't very helpful but she sent a police officer because on the same day that I called a bunch of other neighbors had called as well about this car. The officer was very nice, I didn't get his name, but I had a case number and I think it's on that sheet that's inside there. And he did tell me that there was no reason why he can't park on the street, he can park as long as it's registered and insured. He can park wherever he wants to park. And he said he was going to go to the guy's house, the guy moved his car that night but then two days later he parked there again and doesn't even have any regards to you know his neighbors that he is parking in front of our houses and leaving a mess. You know so then he just goes and takes his car out and then mean while there's snow all over the place.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I meant to ask Joe too...have you guys ever talked to him personally.

Patricia Alfano: We don't even know who he is. We know where he lives but I've never seen him. Now mind you we know where he lives, he has two like small SUV's in his driveway which you can see that's all he can fit in his driveway. But I believe he has small children because I see him pull behind the car, get out in his SUV and put a car seat inside his red car and then leaves. So if you don't have room for three vehicles, you shouldn't have three vehicles that's my thinking. If you are going to use one maybe for traveling or whatever that's fine but if you are just going to have a third car and then just leave it on the street and don't even care about where you are parking it or in front of your neighbor's house or whatever, it becomes a nuisance for snow and for our leaf pickup and everything else.

Mayor Bonaccorso: And he lives on Emerald, correct?

Patricia Alfano: He lives right on Emerald.

Mayor Bonaccorso: But he won't park in front of his house.

Patricia Alfano: No he can't because of the ordinance.

Joe Kilburg: I think there's an ordinance "no parking 7:00 to 9:00 and 2:00 to 4:00 on weekdays.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Oh okay that's for the school traffic.

Patricia Alfano: Right...so you know that's why. And that's my issue about that. So my other issue is about what you are saying about the plowing. Because I live on that corner I always hear the plows, but I hear the plows and you may have it on radar that they are driving down the streets but they are actually not plowing the streets.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well why then would they drive down the street.

Patricia Alfano: I don't know. Today this past storm...I don't know if somebody called or somebody complained...

Mayor Bonaccorso: They might have been salting.

Patricia Alfano: No they are not even doing that. I never complain this is my first town meeting ever since I owned houses. And this past week there must have been five plows and even that big tractor thing (the front end loader) came down our street for the first...I've been there three years, it's my third year at this house...now mind you they do plow eventually but not like and I realize that other roads are more important but when I have to go to work, I work for a bank in town, and I have to work and I can't #1 can't get out of my driveway and #2 the roads are so icy and they are not plowed and mind you the plows are going down the street and I'm like "why are they going down the street and they aren't even plowing the street", that I don't get. And that has happened on several occasions and I'm not standing up here lying, I'm standing up here telling the truth, but eventually they do it but when you are driving down the street to plow you know like you said the dead ends have to be plowed, now the dead ends you have plowed because there's no cross roads to them, that's why, cause I did see the one little small truck plow the dead end street but yet the big plow came right behind him and didn't plow. And there was somebody stuck on the street because they couldn't get through. And the guy in the little white truck who was plowing the dead end street actually got out and helped that person move. So I understand everybody is doing their job...

Mayor Bonaccorso: Look I can't imagine why someone would drive down a road with snow on it with a plow up just doesn't make any sense.

Patricia Alfano: They do, they do. It's not all the time, like I said then eventually it does get down and I would think that because the cops and the plows and the trucks...I see them because

I'm on a corner property so I have my windows opened all the time, that's like a crossroad because you do see exactly where the streets go. So I would think that that street would be the one that's cleared the most because you guys are utilizing it, the police officers, the town trucks and you know everybody.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I mean the only thing I can think of and I'm only thinking of it is that you are on Lexington and maybe if they are going down to another area of the town to begin their plowing, that's why the plow wasn't down, but that doesn't make sense either and I will talk to Scott McCabe about this. If you are driving to get to another area whether it's your area or not, drop the plow and push some snow as you are going, it's doesn't make any sense to me whatsoever.

Patricia Alfano: I've seen it. I'm not standing here lying.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I never have, I have to be honest with you, so I have no reason not to take your word, so I'm going to take your word.

Patricia Alfano: I did and I wouldn't be standing up here complaining for no reason so. And you know like I said it eventually gets done. And especially Lexington that road because the sun does not hit that street at all, it's very icy, very icy.

Mayor Bonaccorso: That's the only thing I can think of is if they are going somewhere else.

Patricia Alfano: Well they are coming down Lexington making a right on Emerald and going down to this area back here or they are coming from Westfield Avenue down Emerald and going down Lexington or straight down Emerald but I don't see them pushing the snow.

Mayor Bonaccorso: They might be just going...I mean I don't know I'm only thinking, maybe they are using that because that's an area they use to get to another area of town. But you know the guy in its sector is going to plow because he is going to plow it eventually.

Patricia Alfano: Right...I mean my brothers work for the town of Union so I know they are all out busy doing their thing too but I do understand that everybody is busy and stuff.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I will look into it.

Patricia Alfano: Okay that's it 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 Toal directed roll call:

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

**MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:**

Mayor Bonaccorso: I thank Joe and his neighbor tonight for coming out and shedding some light on what's going on. I will look into this for you, you have my word. Folks look you heard a couple of discussions tonight about you know being neighborly. You know when it snows and there are leaves and people are working hard to keep their properties clean, just use a little common sense and have a little consideration for your neighbors. Snow is a monumental task to clean and get rid of and the last thing you want to do is park or you know I love the guy who shovels out his spot in front of his house for his car and then the neighbor comes and parks when the guys goes to the A & P for a gallon of milk, that's real neighborly like too. You know I mean I don't understand how people think but please try to be considerate to one another and from the township public standpoint we will look into it and see what we can do for you guys. And Joe I think it's very nice of you and the neighbors the way you help each other out. I know you are that kind of guy anyway, I know you for a long time. And Patricia tries to be considerate because it's tough out there and it's going to help everything.

Now this is going to be kind of funny. I'm going to tell you this but you know our next meeting will be the third Monday in March. But if the weather clears up and we melt this snow, on about the weekend of the 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> of March we will begin our spring lawn and leaf cleanup. So if the spring has sprung and the weather has broken and everything is clear you will be able to start putting your leaves and some branches and things of that nature out into your street for the spring lawn and leaf cleanup and we will probably begin again weather permitting on St. Patrick's Day cleaning up the town and goes through the month of April and then we get into our regular grass pickup that we've been doing for a long time. So let's hope that by next time we meet I can say we are doing our spring lawn and leaf cleanup and old man winter has blown out of Clark. So be safe folks, drive cautiously and see you next month thank you.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you Mr. President...to Ralph I remember standing next to you I guess it was maybe ten years ago and Henry recruited you I think to UNICO and now I think you remember what the organization was like at that time, just a small group. Who would have ever imagined how great and significant the Clark Chapter would turn out to be, so kudos to you and Henry and Bob and Greg for all of your hard work and all of the other board members. And it's just a great event to go to and be a part of and you know get everyone involved in the community will all of the volunteers that come out who aren't members of UNICO. So thank you all that you do.

I just want to thank the Mayor for his thorough report on the cleanup in the township. And thanks to all of the DPW's folks who are working under Scott and Joe. You know it is difficult and I think people are just sick and tired of snow, you just can't take it anymore. You know your boss expects you there on time and as you said you work at a bank and they expect you there on time, you have to get out of your driveway and if the plow comes just before you go or your wheels are stuck...it has happened to me the other day and I live right near work. You know it can take fifteen or twenty minutes longer to get out and people are wondering you know where the heck are you, why aren't you at work on time. Joe thanks to you for coming out and being a good neighbor and sharing your stories with us. You know it's important to hear and I'm sure that Mr. Laezza got a lot of calls and you know complaints but overall I can say that I'm proud to

be a citizen of Clark, you know if you hear of what goes on in other towns, so I am proud about that. So thank you Scott and your team and that conclude my report.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President...well we've been talking all about snow, snow, snow and one more item just popped in my head. If you have a fire hydrant in front of your property...Mr. Laezza I believe it's the obligation of the homeowner to clean off the snow from it. (John Laezza: we suggest, we suggest.) Okay we suggest, for safety reasons also. So if you do have a fire hydrant in front of your house, it would be a good idea to also clean the snow away from that. And that concludes my report thank you.

Councilman Kazanowski: Yes...kudos to Ralph and the UNICO for a job well done and I'm sure that all of the people that are receiving your cash bonuses or whatever that they are going to put them to good use. Also the third ward calendar I had some production difficulties and they will be out shortly. And also instead of thinking about snow, snow, snow, let's think about the Clark Pool, let's go Clark Pool.

Councilman Mazarella: Yes thank you Council President...just be safe out there, there's a lot of snow, it's slippery and be careful shoveling. And to the residents if you know of any elderly or shut-ins, just keep an eye on them, just check in on them, either go to their door and see how they are doing or give them a call and till next month be safe.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you...tonight the Mayor talked about his Facebook page and I'm friends with the Mayor so I can get to see what the people's comments are. And there were some comments, "hey Sal this area could have been done, not done better" but there were a lot more saying the town is doing a great job. I know we mostly tend to hear more about when things don't go as well as we would like versus the way things go when they are supposed to go that way and they go that way. You know we don't have a big Department of Public Works but the job they do is a lot more than the people are actually doing it. They work hard and most of them are people from town and a lot are. And I think you know we've all come to expect great things from Clark because over the past years as the Mayor and Business Administrator are here great things have been done. When things don't go well I'm proud to say people like Joe come out and they aren't afraid to come up and say "hey this isn't going right". That's what this town is about, it's about expecting great things and knowing they are going to be done but if things are way out of line that you come here and you talk it out. And I think it says a lot for the Mayor, the Administration and the Council that you guys feel that you can do it and I thank you for that. That concludes my report thank you.

Councilman Smith: Yes thank you Brian...Ralph again a great job with the Feast and the board members and all of the members UNICO and all of the volunteers. I know you had a couple of hundred people volunteering for that back in October and I'm sure we'll do it again this upcoming October. Obviously that's a big undertaking with the regular job and programs you put together at the Rec Department, so kudos to you. Also as Rich mentioned hopefully next month we'll be talking more about the pool and membership and our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. And that's all I have this evening thank you.

Council President Toal: Henry Varriano again I'm going to say this to you sir, George Washington was known for greatness and father of our country, you will always be known as the founder of the Feast. So along with Ralph's great, great work...Henry we will always remember you for that and all the great work that UNICO does and all the wonderful members there.

I have a couple things, for those we've lost in the last month; Frank Ginesi, Mr. Ginesi lived in Clark for 91 years. We only hope to get to that age and to get to be a part of this wonderful township. Mrs. June Lambert, Mrs. Lambert has known me for my entire life. I was a neighbor of the Lambert's and that's going to be for Shirley, Barbara, Chris, Adam (with our public works department, does a great job) and Mrs. Lambert passed away recently and our condolences to the Lambert Family. Brianna Mahoney Koch and to Hilda Moses, Mrs. Moses was the mother of Linda Axelrod who is a dear neighbor of mine and to the Axelrod Family my deepest condolences at this time as you are sitting Shiva.

History was made today in the Township of Clark. And if you didn't notice it on Raritan Road the old Gypsum Property; Gypsum was developed in the late 1940's, and it was done in two phases and Clark back in the last 50 to 60 years always had two smoke stacks. The smoke stacks were those large brick cylinders that came out of the ground and they were usually for exhaust from the plants that they were a part of. We had the Hyatt Rolling Baring Plant that was across the street and that was there from 1939 up to about 1987, demolition occurred around 90 to 94, they took that down in sections. And then Gypsum had just started within the last three or four months and they moved quickly on that building because there really isn't anything really left inside of it, they moved all the hardware out a few years ago. But today on February 18, 2014 the Gypsum stack as we called it or the smoke stack was demolished. They knocked it over which they said they were going to do. So a part of our township landscape the things you see every day going by is no longer there and this is what they call change. I hate change but it's a part of Clark and we always have to just take note of these special days that go by and something that's not there anymore. We will have new progress which is a good thing, new ratables which is a great thing, but again a part of Clark that always was a part of us that was always there in our line of sight is no longer there. It was a part of our landscape and what we saw every day is no longer there are we welcome progress.

John Laezza: Yes...the administration has given the Council the management's budget. It's the responsibility of Council to have a budget meeting and a budget introduction. I would suggest that we have it sometime maybe the first Monday in March at a special meeting. I would suggest that the Council either send me questions so that we can respond to each of you individually or the Council set up a meeting between now and introduction. I would like it on March 3<sup>rd</sup> I believe is our first Executive Session. You have the documents available for any questions you have in any phase of that document.

Council President Toal: And again anybody of the public who wants to comment with their thoughts, you will have your opportunity to do so.

John Laezza: They will have their opportunity at the Public Hearing in April.

Township Clerk: I have nothing tonight.

Rich O'Connor: No report thank you.

Police Chief Scherb: No report thank you.

Fire Chief Cerasa: No report thank you.

John Laezza: The budget that we gave you is under the two percent levy increase.

Council President Toal: So we are only looking at two point increase for the 2014 budget.

John Laezza: We are looking at a four point increase under the two percent.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVED

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BRIAN P. TOAL  
Council President

ATTEST:

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EDITH L. MERKEL, RMC  
Township Clerk