

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, 315 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ
February 19, 2013

ROLL CALL:

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

Also Present: Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Howard Lesnik, Acting 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 O'Connor. She asked all present to participate in a moment of silence, following the salute to the Flag.

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

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

Police Department Promotion: Patrick Grady to Lieutenant

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Mr. President, Members of Council, ladies and gentlemen. Good evening and welcome to our monthly meeting. Tonight our first order of business is going to be a promotion of Pat Grady from Sergeant to Police Lieutenant. We congratulate him and welcome all of his family, his friends, police officers from agencies throughout Union County, Chief Grady from Kenilworth, retired Chief and Director of the Police Academy still Danco and retired Captain Jim Zizza, New Jersey PBA Vice President Keith Dunn and all the members of our Police Department, welcome.

It's a good night; it's a happy night when someone gets promoted. Its years of hard work, studying, test taking that pay off, and I'm very, very delighted tonight to promote Pat. He has been a top quality officer since he has arrived here in Clark; he works a lot of hours over the Police Academy training new recruits. And I know Chief that's a big help to you over at the Academy with his excellent skill set and reputation. Before we get to swearing Pat in I would like to call Chief Scherb up to say a few words.

Chief Scherb: Thank you and welcome for Lieutenant Grady's ceremony. Pat joined up in 2006, he came over from the Union County Sheriff's Department and he was assigned to the patrol division. In 2011 Lt. Grady was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, where he continued to work in the patrol division. And I'm honored to welcome him and to move him up in the ranks to Lieutenant.

Mayor Bonaccorso: When Chief Scherb came to me with the test results and asked me if I would like to promote Pat and knowing Pat as well as I do I said we better do it in February because Little League starts in March and he may schedule a practice and miss his own promotion. I didn't want to take a chance Patrick (Pat Grady's son), you know, we wanted Dad to be here and there so that's why we did this tonight, okay, my man Patrick up front there one of our stars in Little League. He is always working hard at it and the beautiful daughters that you have, it's always a pleasure.

Mayor Bonaccorso administered the Oath of Office

Chief Scherb presented Pat Grady with a plaque from the members of the Police Department congratulating him on his promotion.

Mayor's Proclamation: Acknowledging Franklin Stebbins service on the Library Board of Trustees

Mayor Bonaccorso: Tonight we are going to give a Proclamation to our good friend and educator in town Franklin Stebbins who has served as a Library Board of Trustee who is retiring from that position. Obviously you live in town and probably many people know Frank. Frank is a real leader in our school district. He has been an educator there now for quite some time and does a tremendous job on behalf of all our children in the community. And he has done a great job for on the Library Board of Trustees. I know he is always available to the community and tonight we want to present you with this Proclamation.

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS Franklin Stebbins has served the Township of Clark Public Library as a Library Trustee from January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2012 and as President of the Board from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010.

WHEREAS the Mayor of the Township of Clark wishes to publicly acknowledge and commend Trustee Stebbins for his efforts and dedication to the residents of Clark over the past six years.

WHEREAS Franklin Stebbins has exhibited exemplary leadership and service and has generously donated substantial volunteer hours to the library, which has been instrumental in ensuring that the library's mission of service to the citizens of Clark Township may continue.

WHEREAS Franklin Stebbins initiated the Annual Clark School District new teacher orientation at the library, the LEGO club, encouraged the development of programs for special needs children and Chaired and served on numerous committees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I Sal Bonaccorso, Mayor of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey, acknowledge Franklin Stebbins for his exemplary leadership and service on this 19th day of February, 2013.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Certificate of Appreciation is hereby presented to Trustee Franklin Stebbins this 19th Day of February 2013 as a lasting memento of his years as Library Trustee.

Franklin Stebbins: I would like to thank Mayor Bonaccorso and the Town Council for this recognition and their continued support of the Library. It's a place that I always use to go every Thursday with my Grandfather and I'm really proud of the advances that we were able to make since that time. And I hope the Town Council continues to support the Library's efforts and being an educational component of our community, thank you.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Before we close this portion of the meeting and go on to the business side of the town, would anyone like to say any words on behalf of Frank or Lieutenant Grady.

Chief Grady, Kenilworth Police Department: Good evening everybody...first of all I would like to congratulate Pat, I'm very proud of you, I would also like to introduce some more Grady's in law enforcement. My son Ken Grady; Ken as you see is with me in Kenilworth and I have Officer Kevin McDonough and his brother Joseph, we have one other one in Elizabeth too whose name is Brian. I have seven police officers in my family and I'm very proud of all of them. Congratulations again Pat.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I would like too again welcome everyone who was here tonight. It was a great evening and we are going to turn it over to the business side of the meeting back to the Council President. All our members of law enforcement stay safe out there and continue to serve our great township and other townships throughout the County. I can tell you we here in Clark are pro-police officers community and I know the Mayor and Council here are very much pro police.And again God Bless you all for all the hard work you do every day, stay safe thank you.

Councilwoman Albanese: Just quickly I know that the Mayor said Frank you are too young to retire but Frank just started a new family, third generation in Clark, so they have their baby here tonight. I am glad that his family came along. So congratulations on that and I hope to see you in other activities in the community. Frank was one of those people, 7 years ago I met him and he was always involved in all types of activities in the schools and I asked him if he was interested in being a trustee and he without hesitation said yes. And he said you know every Thursday as he mentioned I had in my notes, his Grandfather use to take him by the hand to the Library every week. So I'm hoping to see you and Lila and Katie at the Library and continue that, thanks.

Council President O'Connor: On behalf of the entire council we would like to congratulate Lieutenant Grady on your promotion and thank Mr. Stebbins for all his contributions to not only the school system but the Library as well. And also I would like to say that Lieutenant Grady that I received a call from our Director of Public Safety John DeSimone who apologizes for him not being here tonight but he did ask me to congratulate you on his behalf. So again congratulations, thank you.

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

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Madame Clerk...Mr. President and Members of Council, I do have a very brief report tonight. First of all I would like to remind the community once we hit March that our annual monthly bulky clean-up begins again and this of course is weather permitting. Hopefully we will not have any March storms to throw a monkey wrench into the (tape inaudible-coughing) of spring. But in March our regular monthly bulk clean-up will continue. All I do ask ladies and gentlemen is please go to ourclark.com... www.ourclark.com please be very familiar with the materials that you are allowed to throw away. Most of the things that you cannot throw away are not the decision of myself or this council, it's certain regulations and laws and also what is permitted at the dumpsite. We would love to take your mattresses but they do not allow mattresses where we dump. So when you purchase a new mattress make arrangements with your store who you purchased it off and have them take it away, where they get rid of it I have no idea. But where we dump ours as a town we are not allowed to have that, so please folks familiarize yourself with our website. Everything you need to know is on the website and it would be very much appreciated for doing that. Last year someone threw paint cans into a hefty bag and when the Department of Public Works threw them back into the back of the trash truck, when they went to compact it on site as you know how they do that, the blade cut the bag and cut the can and one of our employees was covered with a paint and a chemical and had to be rushed to an area hospital to have his eyes treated and his respiratory to get it back to normal. So you could be hurting someone or jeopardizing someone by saying "well I'll throw it in here and they won't see it". Please folks it's a service that myself and the council is happy to give to you, we are proud to give to you, so please adhere to what you can and cannot throw out.

Also on or about March 15th and once again weather permitting is the beginning of our spring lawn and leaf clean-up. If the weather breaks and there isn't any snow on or about the 15th please feel free to begin to clean your yards and put them at the curbs for the DPW. You can mix the branches and the leaves and the debris that you have. And folks not to sound sarcastic but this doesn't mean it starts tomorrow, it starts on March 15th we'll say weather permitting. If there's snow obviously that goes without saying, you are not going to be able to rake your lawn anyhow.

I know every year I go through the same thing and I'm going to say it again and I'll say it again next month. Please folks adhere to the laws and the rules that we have as far as putting debris out in the street especially the branches and things in that nature. We want to make sure that it's safe for motor vehicles and pedestrians and bicycle traffic out there. We do not want someone to be injured or have their life jeopardized because of something that's been laying out into the street. We do not like to summons the citizens that live in this town but it can and will happen if it continues. Last year we got to the point where it was like free period, remember when we were in school, free period you get to do whatever you want, well this is like free period in Clark; you get to throw whatever you want into the street. It doesn't work that way. Again we are happy to give you the service but please just play within the rules and we will be glad to continue to provide that service.

Also I would like to congratulate the Department of Public Works for a great job in that 12 inch blizzard we had a couple of weeks ago. I thought the guys did a tremendous job. I thank God we didn't have any real power outages and trees down, because the way we were going I said "this is what we need now." So thank you to Mother Nature and to the Lord above for taking care of us on that. And again to our men for a great job and that concludes my report for tonight Mr. President.

Council President O'Connor: Now we are going to move over to the Business Administrator who is going to give us an overview of the business to be conducted during the meeting today.

John Laezza: Thank you Council President...this is a new part of our program instituted by our President of the Council to try to alert the citizens that come to the meetings and those that listen. Sometimes you hear resolutions being passed and you have no idea what it's about. We give an overview of the agenda of what we will be discussing, so you will have an understanding of where we are going.

The first part of the agenda is ordinances. We will be introducing an ordinance to fix the salaries of the Department of Public Works. They have been out without a contract since January 1, 2010. We finally resolved their contract and tonight we will be introducing an ordinance so they can get paid through the new contract. The new contract goes thru 2017; we will be asking Council to ratify that contract also tonight.

We will also be introducing an ordinance to give the council and the township the flexibility to exceed the Cap should an emergency arise. It gives us sufficient capabilities to meet any emergencies; however, we've been under the Cap since the last 13 years that we've been in office. So it's just a safety measure on behalf of the council.

We will pay our usual monthly bills and have the approval of the council or ratification by the council.

We will be introducing our 2013 Municipal Budget. The budget will have its Public Hearing on April 15th. So there will be sufficient time, the budget document as introduced tonight will be put on our website tomorrow. The Budget as its shown is within the 2% levy by state government and it's a 4 ½ point tax increase. So on a hundred thousand dollar assessed valuation it's a \$45.00 increase for municipal purposes and municipal purposes only. Because the Budget will not be adopted until April 15th, there are a number of bills we have to pay. We are asking the council on items 4, 5 and 6 to allow us to have a temporary budget by resolution so that we can do the business of the township until the budget is finally adopted. The items in the temporary budget are naturally below the items that the final budget has.

We have an authorization to execute a litigation agreement between New Jersey DEP and Occidental Chemical Corporation. Those of you that have been attending the meetings know that this has been going on in excess of a year and a half to two years. This is a civil matter that has to be brought before a Judge. The entire council will be taking care of that activity.

We had some escrow monies that were put up fixing a local driveway problem. The owners of the property failed to complete the project properly, so we're taking their escrow money and putting it into the township council coffers so that we can fix the driveway with their money.

Our recycling company sold its business to Giordano Company; they will continue the same services as they have been. We are giving them the right to do that as our contract indicates that.

We will be opposing a piece of legislation that the legislators have put up that would probably be in excess of four hundred million dollar costs to all of the municipalities in the State of New Jersey. It's a piece of legislation attempting to protect our First Responders, both our Volunteer Fire and our Volunteer First Aid personnel. But it's so broad that if any one of them ever got cancer they would automatically be on workman's compensation, not something that might be actively be related to their business. So we are asking them to come up with the same concept to protect volunteers but to kind of make it a little bit more finite and less expensive for the world to consume.

And lastly we will be setting forth a resolution to increase the pool fees. There have been no pool fee increases for over three years. And we'd rather do them gradually so that we can accommodate the cost to run the pool. That's it Council President.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you Mr. President...I just want to mention a few things that are happening at the Library. The Friends of the Library will be sponsoring a local author this Thursday evening at 7:00 pm February 21st. His name is Mike Cupo. And he will be speaking about his self-help book, It's Monday Only in Your Mind. He will talk about his own emotional and personal experiences with addiction, so hopefully you will come out and support our local author Mike Cupo.

The director asked me to mention, we have a new media, well actually we've had it for a while, it's called a "play-away". It looks like a book here (Councilwoman shows the public the unit) but when you go to the Library you get it and if you don't want to bother with downloading books, you can just take this unit and plug in your headset. It's very easy and you don't have to download anything and you don't need an MP3 Player. So these books are available. We have a few hundred on hand and you can search for a play-away book and get that at the Library. So we would like to see if residents are interested in those in that particular media.

It is tax season and people have been coming over to the Library looking for their tax forms. We do have some of the tax forms in but the instruction booklets have not come in yet. So hoping that the federal government steps up to the plate and sends those instructions over, the phones have been ringing off the hook with people wanting to file their tax returns.

I want to send out a big thank you for a generous contribution to our capital campaign at the Library which started with the initiation with our 50th Anniversary there. A generous donation from Ms. Patty Drago and her husband Mr. Weissman, \$5,000.00 put us over the half way mark.

So thank you very much for that and you know any contribution, \$10.00/\$5.00 goes a long way to getting to our goal. So hopefully you will support that effort.

I also just want to mention about this brochure, 2013 election dates from the County Clerk. And over recent years you use to get an Absentee Ballot because you were out of town or you sick but in the past several years there's been a lot of changes in the election law and now you have greater options. You can, if you want, fill out this application and you can have all of your general election ballots sent to you by mail. So if you are interested in that you can get it from me, any of the council people or at town hall. Just making voting easier, Knowing or having had some experience in talking to people in other areas, Union County is pretty sophisticated even in the State of New Jersey with respect to various voting options that are available and also the process that's performed.

One last item that I have is to just mentioned again the play "Godspell". The musical "Godspell" will be held at ALJ on March 14th, 15th, and 16th, that's Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Please come out and support the kids. They do a lot of work and it's usually a great performance and it's nice when the audience is filled up with our residents who come out and enjoy the performance, thank you very much.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President...just a quick reminder from our Clark Volunteer Fire Department. Once again they always tell you to do this, make sure your house numbers are readily visible. In an emergency lost minutes do make a big difference. And I do notice that we have some Clark Volunteer First Aid Squad members here and I'm sure they agree, thank you that's all.

Councilman Kazanowski: Yes thank you...since I do not chair a council committee I have no report this evening.

Councilman Mazzarella: Thank you Council President...I have three small reports. One for the police department, as the residents know the police department is out to protect our community. January of this year there were a total of 3,331 calls for service, 93 of them were ambulance requests, 10 were fire department requests, 91 were alarm calls, 4 were vandalism, 58 were motor vehicle accidents and 3048 were miscellaneous calls.

Our DPW...the Mayor had touched on two items as far as the spring clean-up in mid-March weather permitting and bulky pick up begins in March weather permitting of course as well. The DPW right now will resume stump grinding as the weather permits. Appliance pick-up has started, please call DPW for an appointment and that's weather permitting as well. Tree trimming has resume targeting hanging or broken branches on township trees, if you have any township tree issues call DPW. Electronic drop off is February 23rd at the public works yard between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. They are taking 4 and 8 foot florescent and U shape bulbs but no compact bulbs, they can be recycled at Home Depot or Lowes.

Mulch is available free of charge and it's delivered on Fridays, call DPW office. And final reminder from DPW, if you live on a snow emergency street, there is a no parking ordinance. Please check the website for the list of streets. Also when using a snow blower do not blow the

snow into the street, our public works is doing a monstrous job out there cleaning the streets and unfortunately a couple of streets they had to return back to those streets because people were snow-blowing the snow back into the roadway. So if you can please turn it around to put it on your property. It would be a benefit to public works and it's a benefit to your lawn.

My last report as your representative at the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority I am happy to pass on to my colleagues on council and to the residents that for the third consecutive year Clark will see a reduction in our sewer use charges for this year. This year the reduction is one hundred and ninety-six thousand dollars, which is the highest reduction of all of member communities at the Sewerage Authority this year. I believe this is quite significant and I wanted to pass this on to my colleagues and to the residents, thank you.

Councilman Smith: Thank you Mr. President...I have a brief recreation and pool report this evening. Recreation department; the list of programs for the spring will be coming out shortly through the schools, so your children will be bringing them home and also there will be pamphlets available in the recreation department, so you can visit Ralph Bernardo to pick them up.

The Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, March 23rd from 12 to 3 at the Brewer (Municipal Building) rain or shine.

And regarding the pool, even though there is snow on the ground, we are meeting and getting ready for the summer season for the pool. And at the end of March there will be membership applications available for the residents, and that concludes my report this evening.

Councilman Toal: Thank you Mr. President...I have no report tonight.

Council President O'Connor: As you heard from the Business Administrator Mr. Laezza, we will be introducing the Budget tonight for 2013. And from the Volunteer Emergency Squad I had the opportunity to attend one of their meetings last week. They talked to me about a concern they have which I will be discussing with the other members of this committee and ask the Mayor and Mr. Laezza for some time aside to kind of talk about it as well. So thank you for the invite, I appreciate it and I will to continue to work on it, thank you.

ORDINANCES, APPROPRIATIONS AND CLAIMS:
INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

**AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARIES OF DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES (BLUE COLLAR EMPLOYEES)
FOR THE YEARS 2010 THROUGH 2017**

BE IT ORDAINED Union Council No. 8, I.F.P.T.E., AFL-CIO representing our Blue Collar Employees have completed their salary negotiations for the years 2010 through December 31, 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED it is necessary to adopt an ordinance to implement said contract for the term of the contract; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED such salaries shall be based upon the following:

Effective retroactive to January 1, 2010 each bargaining unit member employed, shall receive a salary based on the following compensation schedule:

COMPENSATION SCHEDULE 2010-2017

GUIDE EFFECTIVE UPON RATIFICATION AND EXECUTION OF THE COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AGREEMENT

Title	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
Laborer	40,900	41,900	42,900	43,900	44,900	45,900	46,900	47,900	48,900	49,900
Public Works Repairer	52,900	54,200	55,300	56,400	57,500	58,600	59,700	60,900	62,900	64,400
Omnibus Driver	49,000	50,500	52,000	53,500	55,500	57,500	59,500	61,500	62,730	63,552
PT Omnibus Driver (Hourly)	15.00 to 20.00 per hour based on qualifications.									

All employees hired after January 1, 2010 shall start as Laborers and shall be placed in the step as it relates to their prior work qualifications upon the recommendations of the appointing authority under the rules of the New Jersey Civil Service Commission.

To qualify for promotion to the next category, a Laborer must be working in step 8; a Public Works Repairer must be in step 8 to qualify for a promotional exam for Senior Public Works Repairer.

Omnibus Driver salary schedule reflects a full time bus driver. At the present time this is a part time position compensated at 60% of the above salary schedule. The present driver is at step 10. Effective in 2011, the percentage increase for Omnibus Driver is 1.5% in each year.

Title	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Senior Public Works Repairer	63,552	63,552	63,552	64,823	66,120	67,442	68,791	70,167
Mechanic/Senior Public Works Repairer	67,472	67,472	67,472	68,821	70,197	71,601	73,033	74,494

Effective January 1, 2011, a \$900 clothing allowance has been added to base pay.

Pay Periods The Township shall pay its employees on a bi-weekly payroll schedule of twenty-six (26) times annually. Each payroll period shall consist of ten (10) working days, so that the bi-weekly rate of pay of each employee shall be 1/26th of the employee’s annual salary. In a year in which twenty-seven (27) pay periods shall occur, the bi-weekly rate of pay of each employee shall be 1/27th of the annual salary.

Any employee hired after January 1, 1991, shall not be eligible for the longevity program.

Each employee completing five (5) years of continuous uninterrupted service shall become eligible for longevity payment computed as follows:

a) For each five (5) year period of service as outlined above each employee of the Township shall receive the following in addition to the current annual salary:

After 5 continuous years	\$ 500.00
After 10 continuous years	1,000.00
After 15 continuous years	1,500.00
After 20 continuous years	2,000.00
After 25 continuous years	2,500.00

b) The effective date as to eligibility for longevity shall be the anniversary date of the individuals' employment by the Township of Clark, and the amount shall be as set forth above.

All Ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed as to such inconsistencies only.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication according to law.

Motion to introduction made by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Discussion:

John Laezza: This ordinance is basically 10, 11 and 12; there was a zero percent increase. In 2013 forward we had 2% increases for each of those years; we also created the position of laborers so that we can hire some new personnel to assist the DPW.

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

Public Hearing will be March 4th

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

WHEREAS the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.0% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and

the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

WHEREAS the Governing Body of the Township of Clark in the County of Union finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2013 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year’s final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and

WHEREAS the Governing Body hereby determines that a 1.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$231,740.69 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and

WHEREAS the Governing Body hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, in the County of Union, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that in the CY 2013 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Clark shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$540,728.27 and that the CY 2013 municipal budget for the Township of Clark be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Motion to introduce made by Council President O’Connor, seconded by Councilman Smith

Discussion: None

Council President O’Connor directed roll call:

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

Public Hearing will be March 4th

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS: Council President O’Connor, Chairman of Finance Committee made a motion to approve the payment of claims on current and capital expenditures in the amount of \$228,529.23 for the period ending February 14, 2013, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

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

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 O'Connor opened the Citizen Hearing on the Agenda

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

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

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 13-52

Municipal Budget of the Township of Clark County of Union for Calendar Year 2013

BE IT RESOLVED that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2013:

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

SUMMARY OF CURRENT FUND SECTION OF APPROVED BUDGET YEAR 2013

General Appropriation For:

1. Appropriations within "CAPS":
 - (a) Municipal Purposes (Item H-1, Sheet 19) (N.J.S.40A:4-45.2) 15,530,339.67
2. Appropriations excluded from "CAPS"
 - (a) Municipal Purposes (Item H-2, Sheet 28) (N.J.S.40A:4-45.3 as amended) 4,407,754.61
 - (b) Local District School Purposes in Municipal Budget (Item K, Sheet 29) -
 - Total General Appropriations excluded from "CAP" (Item O, Sheet 29) 4,407,754.61
3. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes (Item M, Sheet 29) – Based on Estimated 98.49 850,000.00
 Percent of Tax Collections
4. Total General Appropriations (Item 9, Sheet 29) Building Aid Allowance 2013 \$ _____
 for Schools –State Aid 2012 \$ _____ 20,788,094.28
5. Less: Anticipated Revenues Other Than Current Property Tax (Item 5, Sheet 11)
 (i.e. Surplus, Miscellaneous Revenues and Receipts from Delinquent Taxes) 5,593,245.28
6. Difference: Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget (as follows)
 - (a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes Including Reserve for Uncollected Taxes
 (Item 6(a), Sheet 11) 14,391,206.67
 - (b) Addition to Local District School Tax (Item 6(b), Sheet 11) -

(c) Minimum Library Tax 803,642.33

BE IT RESOLVED that notice is hereby given that the Budget and Tax Resolution was introduced by the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark, County of Union on February 19, 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Budget be published in summary in the Union County LocalSource in the issue of March 28, 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Regular Meeting for the hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held at the Municipal Council Chambers, 315 Westfield Avenue, on April 15, 2013 at 7:30 pm at which time and place objections to said Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2013 may be presented by the taxpayers or other interested persons.

Moved by Council President O'Connor, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

Resolution 13-53

**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 2013 Budget, and adequate provision has not been made in the 2013 Temporary Budget for the appropriations specified on the attached page; and

WHEREAS the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in fiscal year 2013 pursuant to the provision of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$5,031,405.00.

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 \$5,031,405.00; and
2. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided in the 2013 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 Council President O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Mazzarella

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

Resolution 13-54

**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 2013 Budget, and adequate provision has not been made in the 2013 Temporary Budget for the appropriations specified on the attached page; and

WHEREAS the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in fiscal year 2013 pursuant to the provision of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$2,545,581.00.

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 \$2,545,581.00; and
2. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided in the 2013 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 Councilwoman Albanese

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

Resolution 13-55

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

WHEREAS an emergent condition has arisen due to the anticipated delay in the adoption of the 2013 Budget, and adequate provision has not been made in the 2013 Temporary Budget for the appropriations specified on the attached page; and

WHEREAS the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in fiscal year 2013 pursuant to the provision of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$130,000.00.

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:

Salaries and Wages	\$50,000
Capital Outlay	\$30,000
Debt Service	\$50,000; and
2. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided in the 2013 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 Smith, seconded by Councilman Kazanowski

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

Resolution 13-56

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE CONSENT JUDGMENT FOR THE SETTLEMENT WITH THE STATE PLAINTIFF'S IN THE CIVIL ACTION ENTITLED NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION V. OCCIDENTAL CHEMICAL CORPORATION, ET AL.

WHEREAS the Township of Clark has been involved in an extensive litigation in the matter of the NJDEP v. Occidental Chemical Corporation, et al., Docket Number ESX-L-9868-05 (PASR); and

WHEREAS certain Third-Party Defendant municipalities, and municipal utilities authorities, including the Township of Clark, are members of a group known as the Municipal Joint Defense Group in the Litigation; and

WHEREAS the Municipal Joint Defense Group on behalf of its members engaged in settlement negotiations with the State of New Jersey ("State Plaintiffs") towards the resolution of the Litigation through the entry of a Consent Judgment; and

WHEREAS the parties have substantially settled the Litigation, and are presently submitting the Consent Judgment for the Court's approval; and

WHEREAS the terms of the settlement require the Township of Clark to execute the Consent Judgment prior to the Consent Judgment being published in the New Jersey Register in accordance with the terms of the proposed Order; and

WHEREAS the terms of the settlement require the Township of Clark to adopt a resolution authorizing its participation in the settlement and authorizing the payment of the sum of \$95,000 representing the Settlement Funds as that term is defined by the Consent Judgment on or before March 23, 2013;

WHEREAS a copy of the Consent Judgment is on file in the Clerk's office and is incorporated by reference hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, that is hereby authorized and directed to sign the signature pages of the Consent Judgment, and authorizes the payment of \$95,000 settlement amount, when due, in the manner prescribed for in the Consent Judgment.

Moved and Seconded by the Entire Council

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

Resolution 13-57

WHEREAS a Municipal Right of Way Permit for driveway repairs was issued to the prior owner of 302 Valley Road on May 4, 2011; and

WHEREAS a Performance Bond in the amount of \$250.00 was deposited with the Township by the prior owner; and

WHEREAS the driveway was inspected twice in May of 2011 and failed to comply with Township Standards in both instances; and

WHEREAS to avoid obstructing the sale of the residence, the Township required the previous owner to deposit an additional Bond in the amount of \$1,000.00 to ensure the issuance of a Continuing Certificate of Occupancy and in the event that repairs were not completed the bond could be utilized for the Township to correct the deficiency.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that authorization is hereby granted to forfeit the \$250.00 deposit and the additional bond in the amount of \$1,000.00 from the Escrow Fund to the General Trust Fund for the repair of said driveway located at 302 Valley Road.

Moved by Councilwoman Albanese, seconded by Councilman Barr

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

Resolution 13-58

WHEREAS effective January 1, 2013 all of the assets of Great Northern Recycling, Inc. including all trucks, containers and support vehicles merged into Giordano Company, Inc., a licensed solid waste hauler collector holding license #SW-470; and

WHEREAS Great Northern Recycling, Inc. holds a contract in effect until December 31, 2013 with the Township of Clark to service the recycling needs of the community; and

WHEREAS Giordano Company, Inc. agrees to be bound by all the terms and conditions of the contract and seeks a formal assignment of the contract from Great Northern Recycling, Inc. to Giordano Company, Inc.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey that it hereby assigns the current recycling contract to Giordano Company, Inc.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman Smith

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

Resolution 13-59

WHEREAS Union Council No. 8, I.F.P.T.E., AFL-CIO, representing Blue Collar Employees have completed their salary negotiations for the years 2010 through December 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS the Township entered into an agreement with Union Council No. 8 on January 30, 2013 for the period beginning January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that it hereby ratifies the agreement between the Township and Union Council No. 8 representing Blue Collar Employees and directs the Administration to implement the new salary schedule retroactive to January 1, 2013.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman Toal

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

Resolution 13-60

RESOLUTION OPPOSING A-1196

WHEREAS Public safety employees and volunteers should be adequately compensated for on-duty accidents and illnesses; and

WHEREAS New Jersey's current Workers' Compensation law is already one of the broadest in the country; and

WHEREAS A-1196 as currently written will make it almost impossible to contest claims from injuries and illnesses caused off-the-job; and

WHEREAS This bill places the burden of proof on governmental employers to establish that an injury or illness, such as cancer, heart attack or hyper tension did not occur on the job; and

WHEREAS The actuary for the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund (MEL) has estimated that A-1196 could easily double municipal Workers' Compensation expense of \$400 million per year; and

WHEREAS The MEL has offered to sit down with the supporters of this legislation to develop less expensive ways of improving the compensation to first responders.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that the legislature be urged to reject A-1196 and urges the supporters of this legislation to work with the MEL and representatives of other units of government to develop less expensive ways to improve compensation to first responders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk shall send copies of this resolution to the Senate President, Assembly Speaker, members of the legislative delegation representing the municipality, and the Governor.

Moved and seconded by the Entire Council

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

**Resolution 13-61
Council as Pool Utility**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Clark Swimming Pool Utility that the 2013 Municipal Swimming Pool Utility rates and fees be set as follows:

MEMBERSHIPS	CLARK RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
FAMILY	360.00	525.00
GARWOOD RESIDENT FAMILY		460.00
(Must show proof of affiliation with Clark Recreation and/or Clark Public Schools)		
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 st)	100.00	150.00
LATE FEE - SENIOR CITIZEN (after June 1 st)	20.00	20.00
LATE FEE (after June 1 st)	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 O'Connor directed roll call:

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

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 O'Connor opened the meeting to the public

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

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes Mr. President thank you very much...tonight the council passed a resolution in a part settlement with Occidental Company in a lawsuit and I think you guys have heard me talk about this a time ago. This was a lawsuit that the township along with other...I think it was 80 municipal towns and counties were dragged into when the State of New Jersey under Governor Corzine wanted to sue the Occidental Chemical Company and a few other companies to clean the Newark Bay. They made a decision that the Newark Bay should not be cleaned by taxpayers' money. They should go after the polluters who polluted the Bay and have them pay for it. And somewhere on the way to the private sector check book came the citizens of Clark and many other communities. What had happened was on the state level again when Governor Corzine instituted this lawsuit our State Attorney General's office got out lawyered. And what they did was they decided that they were going to drag municipalities into this and also sewer utilities that (tape inaudible) had to come from our towns too, even inland communities like Clark Township which we found to be completely outrageous and ridiculous.

The State was out lawyered, they were successful (tape inaudible) so we entered into a settlement with them, it was for ninety five thousand dollars per municipality, county...(correct John it's the same number for the county)...okay, that's very interesting that a township like Clark has to pay ninety five thousand dollars when the City of Newark and Passaic who is dumping it into the Bay has to pay ninety five thousand dollars. And eighty million dollars will be collected to go to the State of New Jersey towards this fight. I was down in Trenton at the Department of Environmental Protection when they had a Mayor's conference on this and I voiced my opinion that this was outrageous and ridiculous, I still stand on that. We had to make a business decision. It was costing Clark somewhere over twenty four hundred dollars every month to continue on with this and it was going to go higher in different months when different engineering work had to be done and legal work had to be done, so the business decision for our community along with every other community was to pay the ninety-five thousand and get out. So the State of New Jersey has ninety-five thousand dollars more of Clark Township money as we speak. I found it to be again ridiculous. The State will win this lawsuit. People I've talked to down at the DEP prior members that are very knowledgeable in this, think that this could be anywhere

over four to six billion dollars and I would just hope at the time when this thing is settled, the excess money that is not used to clean the Bay gets returned to the municipalities. But that, Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny coming to my front door would probably have the same chance. It's a shame that this is how things happen to us the taxpayers of our State but this is just another reality of living in this State and how Trenton is continuously hamstringing local governments. You know I've talked here for twelve years about and again not to push blame, I'll take blame where you think you should be from the township side of it. But you know I made a comment last year and I don't know if it was during the election or after the election. When you run for public office and you think you are going to work to help you and your neighbors and your neighborhoods have nicer things and get things done better, and one year you are fighting you know for years you are fighting over the boggle down at the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority when that went from seventy million to over three hundred million dollars. Although Councilman Mazzarella gave us some good news obviously with the decrease in our user fees, so you know that means less is going down there from Clark and I'm sure that that has something to do with US Gypsum property along with other savings, but hey we'll take the savings, it's better news than hearing it's going up again.

That and then all of a sudden I'm in a meeting in Trenton listening about the Newark Bay and the environmental hazards that are going on up there and how we are in the middle of a lawsuit like that along with Rahway Valley Sewerage. It's just you never know in local government when you walk into your office what's going to be waiting there this year or this month or this week to change your direction and to go into an area that you never thought of. Bad enough you have to put up with storms like Sandy and Irene and all that, that's Mother Nature, I mean that's always a possibility. But some of these other things seem to be a little bit ridiculous on how they crop up.

I'd like to thank the council tonight for introducing our Municipal Budget. If any citizen has any questions on it to our 4 ½ point tax increase, you can feel free to call myself or John Laezza at town hall and we will be glad to answer your questions. Our basic increase this year just to give you a thumbnail on a quick sketch and I know we will get into it more next month when we actually bring it up for adoption. It's basically money and debt. The Administrator had come to me and made a very conscious decision and I agreed with him, that we had some temporary bond money that we borrowed for 1 % or less coming due and we can either roll that into a long term bond and pay three or so percent in interest on it or we can do a very responsible thing in paying it off and getting it off our books. And I took our Administrator's recommendation and I thought it was a smart recommendation he had made to clear up some debt. No one likes to pay more but why do we want to pay maybe six hundred thousand dollars for that four hundred thousand in fifteen years from now. Municipal debt is a way of functioning in government, when we pave your roads, buy fire, police, first aid, DPW different equipment for and of course recreation for our community, it's not used to operate the day to day budget, it's for capital improvements. Every town has debt. We are nowhere near our ceiling that we would be allowed to borrow but we've kept it manageable. It goes back to my belief in Hurricane Sandy, we have some money in there too I think, right John, it won't be covered or to be replace...yes through Hurricane Sandy. The storm the other day the Administrator let me know it cost roughly around a half a million dollars to the community. Hopefully we will get back over maybe three hundred thousand or so from FEMA, but that's not done this month, that will be done later in the year or early next year.

In the meantime we had to have money to pay the bills when we were making decisions in the street to get this community up and running again. We had talked about that in the past and you know I know myself and the members of council had thanked John for his prudence and diligence over the years and working with myself and the council to push us in the right direction. You know it's not a secret when you run for township office, if anyone runs telling you they know it all, they probably know nothing. It's the person that is willing to learn and understand the process, you know to understand a budget up on the council, and it's a good three or four year process for most. But you know these are the things that we have made decisions on in this community the past twelve years. A budget document includes a lot of things that help make the town run very well and I know as a member of council I wasn't always thrilled with every line item of that budget but it's a greater good budget, and it's a solid budget and its more important, and it's a very, very responsible budget. All our services are going to remain intact and he pays down some unnecessary debt that we would like to get rid of and not roll into the future, it takes care of portions of Hurricane Sandy and so if anybody out there has questions, please feel free to contact myself or John Laezza at town hall or send us an email even probably now-a-days everybody sends emails. So send us an email or give us a call and we will hopefully answer those questions to your satisfaction. So ladies and gentlemen and council members thank you very much for your time this evening.

Councilwoman Albanese: I would just like to say again congratulations to our new Lieutenant Pat Grady and congratulations to his lovely family, thank you.

Councilman Barr: Same congratulations...that's all.

Councilman Kazanowski: Ditto.

Councilman Mazzearella: Just to the resident don't forget to recycle, it's very important and until next month be safe.

Councilman Smith: Just a brief comment...if you notice the Brewer facility this past weekend was overflowing with cars. The Clark Travel Basketball League is holding a tournament over three weekends, 130 teams with 200 + games, towns from all over the state. So it's a great event for our children and the town. We get to show off our town to all of the out of town residents that come and they love our facility. And it's a glowing endorsement of what the council and the town has done over the past few years. So I thank the council for that because I've been involved with the travel basketball for the past eight years, and that's the end of my comments tonight.

Councilman Toal: Thank you Mr. President...again congratulations to Pat Grady. Pat Grady is not just the Clark Police Lieutenant; he is my next door neighbor. So great job Pat and again we on Dorset Drive feel really, really safe having him only a couple houses away from us. But again the Clark Police Department is getting not just a regular cop but one of our best. And again that's Al Scherb, Chief Scherb.

A strange thing happened to me. I got a phone call from a resident, not even a resident from Clark, but I get this lady that called me and says "you guys are doing a wonderful job, your Mayor is wonderful". She said, "you guys are so entertaining and I like the way your town is

run". And I asked her where is she from and she said Cranford. And I said oh okay, you must watch it through TV35 and she said "yes we do" and I said what do you mean yes we do. Well I'm over at the Cranford Senior Center. And she calls and says I watch the Clark meetings all the time and it's a great, great show and I enjoy watching Clark and with you your hands and all that, and I'm like...okay. I just want to send best wishes to Frances Levitz, Mrs. Levitz calls me up to say she enjoys watching us on TV. Well we appreciate that and we want to ask you to please move to Clark, we will be getting a senior citizen center really soon to have you move in if there's an opening. And we just want to say thank you that there are people that are watching this and to the taxpayers we will keep it low.

We had a passing recently in the township; Angie Maulbeck, she was a wonderful lady. I knew Mr. Maulbeck, Jeanine, Lesley, Tony, little Angie and Stevie; to your entire family we are so sorry. She was a great lady and gave so much of her time to this community and to many, many charities that helped enhance the education as well as the social events for the high school as well as the Kumpf School. She put in over 20 some odd years just giving back to those kids at a better time at school and after school activities, and again what a dear loss for this community.

That's all I have now. As you can hear my voice is really bad, I have a cold because it's going around, what crazy weather, one day it's 60 degrees and the next day is 20 and we have snow. So that's all I have to say Mr. President, I will see you next month.

John Laezza: Council President and Members of Council thank you very much...Councilman Mazzarella talked about the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority decrease in our user fees. The budget document that we are presenting to the township tonight and for the public hearing in April has 150 thousand transferred over from the sewer utility to the township so that that is a reduction of 2 tax points, so rather than 6 ½ point tax increase it will be a 4 ½ point tax increase. It's about a \$25.00 rebate on your taxes from the shortage that we don't have to pay the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority. We thought it was better to reimburse the citizens through their property taxes, we have not changed the sewer fees for the last three years and we feel that we are generating sufficient revenues to meet our obligations to the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority.

Secondly and importantly, on February 7th the Planning Board reviewed and heard from our Planner the first draft of the Master Plan Re-examination regarding the entire community but specifically the US Gypsum property and the property adjacent thereto. On March 7th the Planning Board will be continuing to listen to input from the Board to the Planner, any changes the Planner might make from what he got out of the discussion from the Board any other comments that would be coming from the citizens at the Planning Board meeting. Then on March 19th there will be a public hearing at ALJ Auditorium so that any citizen that has any thoughts in relationship to that Master Plan Re-examination can present their views. We are having it in the high school so that in case we have a big crowd, we hope we get the crowd, so that everyone is aware and can give their input.

We are doing something a little different although not required on a Master Plan Re-examination or on the Master Plan itself. The only notification you are required is in the Master Plan itself is just the Ad in the local newspaper. We are notifying all people within 200 feet of the areas that

will be changing zones in, so that they will get an opportunity to present their case to the Planning Board so we have an idea of their thoughts and processes in relationship to this re-examination. We are being as transparent as we can over and above the norm so that we hope that everyone has the opportunity to review it. The first draft document is on file in the Clerk's Office if anyone wants to see it, the second draft will be reviewed once again by the Planning Board, that will then be available and then we will be doing our notification on that draft and then a public hearing, that's all I have to say. Thank you Council President, enjoy your evening.

Police Chief Scherb: No comment.

Mr. Ron, First Aid Squad: No comment.

Rich O'Connor, Township Engineer: No report.

Township Clerk: No thank you.

Council President O'Connor: Okay again I would just like to congratulate Lt. Pat Grady and congratulate Mr. Stebbins on his accomplishments and thank him for all his work again.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion for adjournment made by Councilman Kazanowski, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President O'Connor directed roll call:

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

APPROVED

PATRICK O'CONNOR
Council President

ATTEST:

EDITH L. MERKEL, RMC
Township Clerk

