

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, 315 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, N.J.
January 27, 2014

ROLL CALL:

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

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

The Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Council President 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 was made by Councilman Kazanowski, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Mayor Bonaccorso: Good evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to our monthly council meeting. Tonight we are going to be honoring some real special young ladies and young men on some real great achievements. You both did a great job this year, pretty far, how do I know...because two of my basketball players were tied up with cheerleading for a long time. So we were happy for your achievement but I really wished you got to practice quicker. But with that being said, we will always take a very successful year and be very happy with it.

I only have one little bit of disappointing news...but you are here so it doesn't matter to you but maybe you told someone to watch at home tonight. Due to the snow last week we are not live tonight. We are being videotaped but we will be on TV for you to watch to see how pretty you look girls and how tough you guys look. And it will be on throughout the month, so if you want a copy it or whatever you may want to do, please feel free to do that.

Fourteen years ago we started this little tradition when we have great achievements in town being athletics or anything else that you want to celebrate, you let us know and we will bring you before the township council and the town and give you your certificate and brag a little bit about

you. Before we start I'm going to call up the President of Pop Warner, a dear friend, Michael Bruno to hand out the certificates.

Michael Bruno, Pop Warner President: I just want to say thank you to Mayor Sal and the town council for doing this for the boys and girls, it's greatly appreciated. Congratulations to the girls and boys. Your dedication and hard work obviously shows this year. I know for all of you 8th graders, you are going to do great up at ALJ and to the 7th graders I know next year coming back to Pop Warner will be a great season. I can't think a better way to go out and thank you for everything and congratulations to you.

Pop Warner Jr. Midget Football Players were presented with Certificates of Achievement by Mayor Bonaccorso along with Michael Bruno.

Denise Hessler, Cheerleader Head Coach: It was a great pleasure to coach these girls for all these years. The 7th and 8th graders they are just an amazing group of girls. They have accomplished so much in the last few years, they work hard together, they know when they need to get it done, they get out there and they perform their best on that mat. And they should always be proud of what they have done these last few years and they got to go out to Nationals and they competed out there and they did their best and you came home with a trophy each year. We couldn't be more proud of you. And I wish the 8th graders best of luck in the high school and the 7th graders who come back to Pop Warner we wish you luck too.

Midget Cheerleaders were presented with Certificates of Achievement by Mayor Bonaccorso along with Head Coach Denise Hessler.

Motion to Resume the Regular Order of Business was made by Councilman Kazanowski, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Mr. President, Members of Council, ladies and gentlemen and those at home I have a short report tonight.

Snow...I would like to thank the DPW. We had 12 inches a week ago which bumped our meeting. And I thought the men did a very, very good job in handling the storm. We had a few difficulties but things basically worked out on a positive note. We were pre-salting streets prior to the cold weather that we've had is not enabling some of the side streets to melt. Please just be patient and drive with caution and care. We've used a lot of salt this year in the community and hopefully you could see how the main roads got done very early down to blacktop and helped our citizens travel throughout the town.

Last week we had a traffic coordinating committee meeting and it's the first one that we had in a while. And we've addressed some parking concerns on some of the narrower streets in town, three to be exact. And the committee has come up with a few suggestions that we are going to be speaking to council about next month. But on Wednesday night we are going to be meeting with the citizens at 7:00 pm in Room 30 to talk to them and hear their agreement or disagreement on what we are proposing. Everything that we are working on is safety oriented for police, fire and first aid apparatus and of course our DPW to get down those streets safely. Other than that it's been pretty much a quiet month. We are fighting through the snow and the cold weather. I hope everyone is taking caution out there, especially on the nights when we have meltdowns during the day and the black ice at night that becomes quite serious. Our Brewer Center is up and running at full steam in the New Year with all of the rec programs and travel programs and things are moving along nicely. And that concludes my report for this evening thank you.

Meeting Summary by the Business Administrator

John Laezza: Council President and Members of Council the meeting tonight has four separate ordinances for introduction and the public hearing will be at the February regular meeting. The first ordinance is a spending ordinance that we are authorizing a million seven to be spent on fire department equipment and about a million three and four hundred dollars to expand the fire house and other generators for the municipal building. So that when we have a tragedy and we need electricity we have the ability to accommodate. The next ordinance makes a few changes in regards to the operation of the workings of the volunteer fire department under the offices. The third ordinance is an ordinance that was proposed by the Mayor to council and the council agreed. It basically sets the times when solicitors can be wandering through the streets of Clark after having permission so they are only knocking on doors in daylight hours. If the hours are set forth in regard to daylight savings time and regular eastern savings time so that only during the hours of daylight can those solicitors work in our town. And the last ordinance is a logistical thing we do every year for statutory reasons fixing the minimum and maximum salaries for those employees.

The others are various resolutions appointing people to boards; a person to our fire department and some resolutions giving Mayor and Council thoughts as to how the state government should be better operated. That's about it Council President.

Township Clerk: I would like to remind the Mayor that he has an appointment for the Library Board of Trustees.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes... Council beg my pardon please. I'm appointing Donna Roglieri as a Regular Member of the Library Board of Trustees to fill the unexpired term of Joan Szymonifka until December 31, 2016. And I will be asking you for confirmation for that momentarily Council, thank you.

Township Clerk: In addition I have the police, fire and first aid reports in my office for anyone who would like to view them as well as the Clerk's quarterly report.

REPORT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you Mr. President, I have the Library report. There's a lot happening over at the Library. Most are behind the scenes and to our infrastructure. First I'm pleased to welcome our new Administrator Charlene Hayden to our staff; we look forward to having her on board which will be a great addition to the team. Behind the scenes our Library Director Dawn Jenkin is working hard to restore our technology infrastructure and although this project is invisible to the public, it will make a big difference in our communication services and our technological capabilities at the Library. I'm pleased to say that the fence has been repaired and the (tape inaudible) has been repaired so that will make it easier for the public to access the Library.

And finally on Sunday, February 23rd we will have a daylong family festival celebrating "Bring Your Child to the Library Day." And we will have performers, crafts and special treats, so check out the Library calendar and sign up and attend. That concludes my report thank you.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President...last month in December the police dispatcher had the fire department respond to 44 calls. And luckily most of the calls were that something was wrong with the detectors but there were actually eight working fires on various sources like cooking, etc. etc. And in 2013 there were a total of 479 calls for the fire department. There were actually 54 working fires, 5 vehicle extrications and 67 of those calls were between midnight and 6 am. And just think because they are volunteers they go to those calls and then they come home and go to work. And besides the calls last year there were 829 man hours of various kinds of training. And one last thing the fire department asked me to extend an important message. If you have a chimney fireplace in your house or a wood burning fireplace or anything like that that burns something it's so important that you make sure that you have chimney cleaners check it out because we did have a few calls where they even actually had the chimney cleaned or it wasn't done properly and there were fires that started in the chimney and sometimes they extend. So if you have a working fireplace, please have a reputable chimney cleaning service.

Councilman Kazanowski: No report this evening.

Councilman Mazarella: Yes thank you Council President, I have two brief reports, one from the police department; December 2013 saw a total of 2,320 for service of which 81 were ambulance requests, 13 were fire department requests, 78 were alarm calls, 4 for vandalism, 76 were motor vehicle accidents and 2,018 were miscellaneous calls. Again thank you to our police department personnel for keeping our community safe.

A small report from the DPW relating to snow; I think the Mayor mentioned what he did but additionally on that please help DPW with our snow removal efforts. There are various streets throughout the community that are considered emergency roadways that require by ordinance removal of parked vehicles along the roadways. Please when we have a snow event relocate your vehicles so the DPW can clean the roadway from curb to curb. There's a listing of those streets on our webpage www.ourclark.com. And additionally it would also be helpful if all the vehicles were removed from the roadways so DPW can do additional work along those non-emergency

roadways and keep it clean from curb to curb. So if you can move those vehicles, please try to get them off the road.

Lastly those residents that have sidewalks in the front of their homes, after the snow event has stopped you have 24 hours by ordinance to clean those sidewalks, please do so, and if you fail to do so there is a potential for getting a summons. We have to keep those walkways cleaned for the people that are walking along them. And finally when you do snow blow, don't throw the snow in the road. It only hampers the DPW's efforts, thank you that's the extent of my report.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you very much...just to piggyback on Councilman Mazzarella's, when you have a fire hydrant in front of your house, why don't you help the fire department out and dig them out for them too.

I have the first aid report for the month of December; 108 ambulance requests, 90 for Clark, 18 mutual aid. The most frequent calls were falls 18, breathing problems 15 and motor vehicle accidents 13. Again I would like to thank all of the volunteers of the town keeping it safe. And when the people are injured, they are transported expediently to the hospital.

Council President Toal: I have a report from Councilman Smith from the recreation department. The winter recreation programs are in full swing. If you are still interested in participating in any activities and functions, please contact Ralph Bernardo in the recreation department office. Clark Skate Night was held on Saturday, January 18th at Warianco Park and it was another huge success. Over 300 Clark families came out and took advantage of this event. The facility was opened up to only Clark residents and their friends and families and another great evening program was presented by Ralph and the Clark Recreation Department. Again we thank them from the bottom of our hearts for continuing to do a great, great job.

ORDINANCES, APPROPRIATIONS AND CLAIMS:
INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

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

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Clark, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The Township of Clark, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey (the "Township") is hereby authorized to undertake various public improvements and to acquire new rescue pumper fire engines, including original apparatus and equipment, in, by and for said Township, as more particularly described in Section 4 hereof. Said improvements shall include all work, materials and appurtenances necessary and suitable therefor.

Section 2. There is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of making the improvements described in Sections 1 and 4 hereof (hereinafter referred to as "purposes"), the respective amounts of money hereinafter stated as the appropriation for said respective purposes. Said appropriation shall be met from the proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized and the down payment appropriated by this ordinance. Said improvements shall be made as general improvements and no part of the cost thereof shall be assessed against property specially benefited.

Section 3. It is hereby determined and stated that the making of such improvements is not a current expense of said Township.

Section 4. The several purposes hereby authorized for the financing of which said obligations are to be issued are set forth in the following "Schedule of Improvements, Purposes and Amounts" which schedule also shows (1) the amount of the appropriation and the estimated cost of each such purpose, and (2) the amount of each sum which is to be provided by the down payment hereinafter appropriated to finance such purposes, and (3) the estimated maximum amount of bonds and notes to be issued for each such purpose, and (4) the period of usefulness of each such purpose, according to its reasonable life, computed from the date of said bonds:

SCHEDULE OF IMPROVEMENTS, PURPOSES AND AMOUNTS

A. Acquisition of two new rescue pumper fire engines, including original apparatus and equipment.

Appropriation and Estimated Cost

\$1,300,000

Down Payment Appropriated	\$ 65,000
Bonds and Notes Authorized	\$1,235,000
Period of Usefulness	10 years

B. Undertaking of various improvements to municipal facilities, including, but not limited to, (i) expansion of Firehouse No. 2 (located on Raritan Road) and (ii) installation of generators at various public buildings.

Appropriation and Estimated Cost	\$ 400,000
Down Payment Appropriated	\$ 20,000
Bonds and Notes Authorized	\$ 380,000
Period of Usefulness	15 years

Aggregate Appropriation and Estimated Cost	\$1,700,000
Aggregate Down Payment Appropriated	\$ 85,000
Aggregate Amount of Bonds and Notes Authorized	\$1,615,000

Section 5. The cost of such purposes, as hereinbefore stated, includes the aggregate amount of \$82,000 which is estimated to be necessary to finance the cost of such purposes, including architect's fees, accounting, engineering and inspection costs, legal expenses and other expenses, including interest on such obligations to the extent permitted by Section 20 of the Local Bond Law (Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, as amended; the "Local Bond Law").

Section 6. It is hereby determined and stated that moneys exceeding \$85,000, appropriated for down payments on capital improvements or for the capital improvement fund in budgets heretofore adopted for said Township, are now available to finance said purposes. The sum of \$85,000 is hereby appropriated from such moneys to the payment of the cost of said purposes.

Section 7. To finance said purposes, bonds of said Township of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$1,615,000 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the

Local Bond Law. Said bonds shall bear interest at a rate per annum as may be hereafter determined within the limitations prescribed by law. All matters with respect to said bonds not determined by this ordinance shall be determined by resolutions to be hereafter adopted.

Section 8. To finance said purposes, bond anticipation notes of said Township of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$1,615,000 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Local Bond Law in anticipation of the issuance of said bonds. In the event that bonds are issued pursuant to this ordinance, the aggregate amount of notes hereby authorized to be issued shall be reduced by an amount equal to the principal amount of the bonds so issued. If the aggregate amount of outstanding bonds and notes issued pursuant to this ordinance shall at any time exceed the sum first mentioned in this section, the moneys raised by the issuance of said bonds shall, to not less than the amount of such excess, be applied to the payment of such notes then outstanding.

Section 9. Each bond anticipation note issued pursuant to this ordinance shall be dated on or about the date of its issuance and shall be payable not more than one year from its date, shall bear interest at a rate per annum as may be hereafter determined within the limitations prescribed by law and may be renewed from time to time pursuant to and within limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law. Each of said bond anticipation notes shall be signed by the Mayor and by a financial officer and shall be under the seal of said Township and attested by the Township Clerk or Deputy Township Clerk. Said officers are hereby authorized to execute said notes in such form as they may adopt in conformity with law. The power to determine any matters with respect to said notes not determined by this ordinance and also the power to sell said notes is hereby delegated to the Director of Revenue and Finance who is hereby authorized to sell said notes either at one time or from time to time in the manner provided by law.

Section 10. It is hereby determined and declared that the average period of usefulness of said purposes, according to their reasonable lives, taking into consideration the

respective amounts of bonds or notes authorized for said purposes, is a period of 11.17 years computed from the date of said bonds.

Section 11. It is hereby determined and stated that the Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly made and filed in the office of the Township Clerk of said Township, and that such statement so filed shows that the gross debt of said Township, as defined in Section 43 of the Local Bond Law, is increased by this ordinance by \$1,615,000 and that the issuance of the bonds and notes authorized by this ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

Section 12. Any funds received from private parties, the County of Union, the State of New Jersey or any of their agencies or any funds received from the United States of America or any of its agencies in aid of such purposes, shall be applied to the payment of the cost of such purposes, or, if bond anticipation notes have been issued, to the payment of the bond anticipation notes, and the amount of bonds authorized for such purposes shall be reduced accordingly.

Section 13. The capital budget is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency therewith and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, is on file with the Township Clerk and is available for public inspection.

Section 14. The Township intends to issue the bonds or notes to finance the cost of the improvements described in Sections 1 and 4 of this bond ordinance. If the Township incurs such costs prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes, the Township hereby states its reasonable expectation to reimburse itself for such expenditures with the proceeds of such bonds or notes in the maximum principal amount of bonds or notes authorized by this bond ordinance.

Section 15. The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this ordinance. Said obligations shall be direct, unlimited and general obligations of the Township, and the Township shall levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Township for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds and notes, without limitation as to rate or amount.

Section 16. This ordinance shall take effect twenty days after the first publication thereof after final passage.

Effective Date: March 13, 2014

Moved by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilman Mazzarella

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes Mr. President...as it was explained to council at the executive session. These were the first two vehicles the fire department, fire apparatus that they are getting in about 13 years. The other engines became old, became very costly in repair and weren't up to some of the OSHA standards. So that's why we asked you at the executive session if you would support this and we thank you for doing that on behalf of Chief Cerasa and the fire department.

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Public Hearing February 18, 2014

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

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that Article 8, Sub-Section 30 of the Code of the Township of Clark entitled "Volunteer Fire Department" is hereby amended and supplemented, as follows:

SECTION 1: Sub-Section G is supplemented as follows:
Deputy Chiefs authorized by this Section shall be elected by the members of the Department who have been previously elected and served as Chiefs of the Fire Department.

SECTION 2: Sub-Section H(1) is hereby supplemented so as to provide that the Fire Chief shall have the power of appointing an officer at any time in the event an officer position becomes vacant.

SECTION 3: Sub-Section N (2) is hereby amended to read "Any rule or regulation shall be issued by the Chief of the Department and posted. The Standard Operating Guidelines of the Fire Department heretofore adopted are hereby continued."

SECTION 4: Any trained firefighter that lives two miles outside the jurisdiction limits of the Township of Clark may complete an application to join the Clark Volunteer Fire Department. Trained firefighter requirements include successful completion of the State of New Jersey requirements for Firefighter One and Two Programs. Any application will be reviewed by the Senior Officers of the Fire Department and approved or denied for membership pending final approval of the Chief of the Fire Department. Once an

application has been approved, the application will be placed on a wait list pending the need for additional members, or the application will be sent to the Administration for the applicant to be approved for a position within the Fire Department. Any members joining the Clark Volunteer Fire Department that reside outside the jurisdiction limits of the Township of Clark shall not hold a position of Fire Officer.

SECTION 5: **Inconsistent Ordinances:** Any ordinances of the Township of Clark which are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 6: **Effective Date:** This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication, according to law.

Effective Date: March 12, 2014

Moved by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilman Mazzarella

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

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

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that Chapter 248, Section 248-20 of the Code of the Township of Clark entitled “Prohibited Acts” is hereby amended in the following particulars:

SECTION 1: Section 248-20(B) is amended as follows:
All persons and business entities, irrespective of whether the same are public interest, non-profit, commercial or for profit, are prohibited from polling, surveying, soliciting, calling from house to house for monies and donation, in all residential zones, except during the following periods:

- April 15 to October 15: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- October 16 to April 14: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

SECTION 2: Section 1 as stated hereinabove is to be read and interpreted in *pari materia* with and to the present provisions of Section 248-20(B).

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

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

Effective Date: March 12, 2014

Moved and seconded by Entire Council

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes thank you Mr. President...folks this is a safety issue for the Township of Clark in going soliciting door to door. Unfortunately throughout the year and I'm not going to tell you that there's been a negative occasion every time this has happened. We have solicitors going door to door sometime in the evening hours when it's dark. People saying would you like your leaves raked right down to other items. We are now setting a time according to date that people can solicit door to door in Clark. April 15th to October 15th you can start at 10:00 am and you must conclude by 7:00 pm. That's because it's pretty much daylight and if someone is coming to your door during the daylight hours it's a lot different than you opening your door which you shouldn't at night to a stranger. From October 16th to April 14th it's going to be from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, again because of the daylight hours. I certainly hope that the township will please pay attention to this. We have senior citizens have their door bells rung and going out there at night in the dark with people trying to solicit. Whether they are ill intentioned or well intentioned is not the issue, we are going to take the safety of our citizens and first concern. We want to make sure that if you are answering to your door to someone who is trying to solicit you for anything, that you are going to be able to see who they are, you are going to be able to see what kind of vehicle is out in the street, and if there's anything ever suspicious folks, please call the Clark Police Department. Councilman Smith and I were...I believe it was sometime in September we were out somewhere and a citizen came up and said that somebody was knocking on their door in the dark hours around 8:30 at night trying to solicit something or other and when they looked up the car was gone. You know it wasn't like they were truly going door to door. So we believe that this is a good time to put an end to that. Ladies and gentlemen of the town you have to help yourself though. If people are out ringing your doorbells after hours even now before this ordinance becomes law, call the Clark Police Department and have them checked out. Because it's only a little bit of common sense will tell you if you are out trying to sell something, you certainly don't want to bang on anyone's door at 8:30 or 8:45 at night when it's dark out on a night like tonight. So sometimes there's something up. So please get on the phone with the police department and let them know what's going on in your neighborhood. Let one of our cars come down and check out the person, if it's no harm no foul, no problem. If there's someone that

has the wrong intentions we will be able to stop them before it starts. But that’s what this ordinance is about and it’s total safety for our community. So thank you council for introducing this by the entire council, thank you.

No further discussion

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Pubic Hearing February 18, 2014

AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO FIX MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARIES

WHEREAS said Ordinance reflects a change in salaries to be paid to certain employees of the Township for the year 2014 and forward.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that the proper officer or officers of the Township of Clark be and they are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver checks on Township funds for the purpose of paying the following annual salaries to the employees of the Township of Clark within the range as set forth below opposite each job classification as in such cases made. The Schedule of salaries hereinafter set forth shall be effective as of January 1, 2014 and may be amended for those who may exceed the maximum.

	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
Business Administrator	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
Township Clerk	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Township Attorney*		
Mayor’s Confidential Secretary	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 65,000.00
Confidential Assistant/H.R./Affirmative Action	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Assessor P/T	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Tax Collector	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 75,000.00
Certified Finance Officer	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
Construction Code Official	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 140,000.00
Municipal Court Administrator	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Health Officer/Purchasing Asst.	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Prosecutor P/T	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 25,000.00
Judge	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Public Defender P/T	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Superintendent of Public Works	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Public Works Supervisor	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Mayor	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Council President	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 10,000.00

	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
Council Members	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Board of Adjustment Secretary	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 10,000.00
Planning Board Secretary	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 10,000.00
Fire Prevention Official	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 95,000.00
Captain/Fire Prevention Official	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 7,500.00
Fire Official Secretary	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,000.00
Director Public Safety	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 3,500.00
Director Senior Citizen	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 7,500.00
Director Public Works/Shade Tree	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 20,000.00
Fire Sub Code Official P/T	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Elevator Inspector P/T	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 12,000.00
Plumbing Sub Code Official P/T	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
Electrical Inspector P/T	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
Emergency Management Coordinator	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 6,000.00
Deputy Emergency Management	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,000.00
Fire Chief	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 7,000.00
Assistant Fire Chief	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 6,000.00
Deputy Chief	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 4,000.00
Deputy Chief	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 4,000.00
Deputy Chief	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 4,000.00
1 st Fire Captain	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 4,000.00
2 nd Fire Captain	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 4,000.00
1 st Lieutenant	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
2 nd Lieutenant	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Public Information Officer	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 5,500.00
Director of Recreation/Facilities Mgr.	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Assistant Recreation Supervisor	\$ 9,200.00	\$ 15,000.00
Director Teen Center	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Assistant Teen Center	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Recreation/Senior Fitness P/T Personnel	\$ 500.00	\$ 25,000.00
Manager – TV 36	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
Fire Training Officer	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Bus Driver – Part Time	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Property Maintenance P/T	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 7,500.00
HOURLY		
Police Matron – on duty	\$ 40.00 event	\$ 40.00 event
Police Matron – on call	\$ 40.00 hour	\$ 40.00 hour
Seasonal Employees – Recreation/Sr. Citizen	\$ 6.00 hour	\$ 25.00 hour
POLICE – Base Pay		
Chief (plus longevity and education)	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
Captains (plus longevity and education)	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 180,000.00

	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
MUNICIPAL POOL		
Pool Director/Manager	\$ 8,450.00	\$ 14,000.00
Pool Facilities Manager	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Assistant Manager(s)	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 10,000.00
Water Safety Instructor(s)	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 10,000.00
Lifeguard(s)	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 6,000.00
Maintenance Worker(s)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Gate Control Person(s)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Activities Director	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 3,750.00

*Annual Professional Services Contract

Any ordinance inconsistent with the provisions contained herein is hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

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

Moved by Councilman O’Connor, seconded by Councilman Barr

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Pubic Hearing February 18, 2014

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 \$314,347.84 for the period ending January 17, 2014, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Toal directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, Mazzarella, O’Connor, 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 Councilman Kazanowski made a motion to close the Citizen Hearing on the Agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 14-26

WHEREAS Mayor Sal Bonaccorso has appointed the following individual as a Member of the Library Board of Trustees.

Donna Roglieri Regular Member Term ending 12/31/16
(Filling the unexpired
term of Joan Szymonifka
(1/3/12 – 12/31/16)

WHEREAS this appointment requires the advice and consent of the Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey that it hereby confirms the above mentioned appointment to the Library Board of Trustees.

Moved by Councilwoman Albanese, seconded by Councilman Kazanowski

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14-27

WHEREAS in an effort to reduce New Jersey’s reliance on institutional care, the Task Force on The Closure of State Developmental Centers was created by the State Legislature and charged with reviewing certain criteria of each of the state-operated facilities including but not limited to the local economic impact of losing a center; the ability of a community to provide or develop services for those leaving who wanted to leave or didn’t oppose moving outside the region; the state’s ability to maintain operations, and projected repair and maintenance of each center; and

WHEREAS among the seven state-operated facilities is the Woodbridge Developmental Center (hereafter referred to as WDC), a residential facility, established in 1965 for persons with developmental disabilities and located in the Avenel section of Woodbridge Township; and

WHEREAS in July 2012, the Task Force recommended WDC and North Jersey Developmental Center (hereafter referred to as NJDC) in Passaic County be shuttered by 2017; and

WHEREAS while indicating that no one piece of information or experience was a determining factor in which of the seven state-operated facilities would be recommended for closure, there are other factors that should have been considered before making their decision; and

WHEREAS factors that were not considered include the rights (federal law requires government to meet the needs of the individual) of the clients at WDC and NJDC to have treating professionals make judgments about how their needs are best met and that transferring clients from long-term institutional care to community housing has its own set of problems including higher rates of mortality and an increased likelihood of abuse in a community; and

WHEREAS the Governing Body of the Township of Clark is deeply concerned by not only the recommendation by the Task Force to displace WDC and NJDC clients but the wide-reaching economic effect with the loss of approximately 1,600 jobs in the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS the Task Force opinion that the relatively strong economies of the effected cities are more able to absorb closures is wrong and should not be a factor in the Task Force’s decision.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey that it hereby expresses its disagreement with the finding and conclusion of the Task Force on the closure of developmental centers; opposes the closing of the WDC and NJDC as vital and valuable resources and avers that all seven state-operated developmental centers should be kept in operation for the benefit of its residents, its employees and the state in which they provide services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be sent to Governor Chris Christie, 22nd District Senator Nicholas Scutari, Assemblyman Jerry Green, Assemblywoman Linda Stender and the surrounding communities of Clark Township.

Moved and seconded by Entire Council

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14-28

WHEREAS, The Township of Clark was recently served with a Summons and Complaint in the matter of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection v. LWS Spector-Woodbridge Co, LLC et al; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Clark is an added party to the above litigation as a consequence of being named a third party defendant by the direct Defendant, J. Fletcher Creamer & Son; and

WHEREAS, the claims against the Township of Clark are for the statutory and common law contribution should the named defendant be found culpable of dumping hazardous materials at a certain landfill known as the LWS Spector-Woodbridge Company, LLC site and located on Penvale Road in Woodbridge, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the named Defendant who has joined the Township of Clark as a third party defendant is a company which was engaged by the Township of Clark for the purpose of supplying various services to the Township of Clark; and

WHEREAS, this litigation is of similar nature to a certain litigation filed by the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, against the Occidental Chemical Corporation, et al, in connection with the pollution of the Passaic River, the defense of which was costly to the Township of Clark and the Municipal Defendants and which Municipal Entities were required as a consequence of financial considerations to participate in the settlement of the State's claims by agreeing to provide various financial contributions despite the fact that it bore no responsibility for the acts complained of; and

WHEREAS, the environmental litigation filed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection invariably imposes both direct and indirect financial obligations and burdens on the Municipalities and public entities which are named as additional defendants; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township does not believe that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is exercising good sound judgment by initiating these litigations which inexorably imposes defense and contribution costs upon the municipal and

public bodies without serious consideration as to the effect that the same has on the interested municipalities and public entities; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey does not have a policy of protecting Municipalities and Public Bodies from and against the claims for contribution for indemnification or otherwise which are associated with and usually arise out of the environmental litigation it files; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in this regard acts in absolute disregard or ignorance of the financial burdens that these litigations impose upon the affected municipalities and public entities ultimately to all taxpayers of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township wishes to record its opposition and concerns with respect to the action of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in initiating these litigations without first establishing a method or means of protecting the financial interests of the municipalities and public entities which, in the end, become named defendants and are asked to share the financial burdens of defense and environmental remediations which they had no part in creating; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of Clark wishes to go on record as opposing these ill-conceived and poorly considered litigations.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Township of Clark does hereby seek to enlist the aid and assistance of Governor Chris Christie and both Houses of the Legislature of the State of New Jersey to consider the development and adoption of legislation which would afford the municipalities of the State of New Jersey and other Public Bodies protection from the financial abuses inherent in the filing of these environmental litigations by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, without the State of New Jersey or Department of Environmental

Protection having in place a means and policy to indemnify and hold harmless the municipalities from the cost of defense and contribution inherent in these actions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township of Clark that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, and members of the New Jersey Senate and Assembly within the State of New Jersey, all named third party defendants, and municipalities.

Moved and seconded by the Entire Council

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes Mr. President, Members of Council, ladies and gentlemen...we are going into the second snag with the State in their lawsuits against entities that are dragging municipalities and counties in. If you heard me talk about this in the last few years regarding the Newark Bay lawsuit where an Occidental Chemical Company dumped chemicals into the waterways up there and polluted the waterways and the State was looking for a way to clean that mess and clean the Newark Bay without burdening the taxpayers. So under the Corzine administration they had a great idea, they said “well why should we bond to clean the Bay, we’ll sue the perpetrators”...it sounds pretty good wouldn’t you think. Well the one part they forgot is the perpetrators dragged our town and 80 other communities and counties into that lawsuit as third party defendants. We turned around and had to spend money on litigation month by month to see where this was at. Finally I was down in Trenton at the DEP, we had a meeting up here and a lot of us Mayor’s and Council Members were getting quite annoyed on what was going on to our citizens and they were starting to ask for a lot of things which really, really add up quickly. Finally the State of New Jersey decided that they would have a settlement with the townships that do not touch the waterways, okay, us being one of them. And they were very gracious to have us settle the case for \$95,000.00. And advice from our counsel was that we would be much better off settling for this kind of money, because this is a lawsuit with many tentacles and it would take years to finally settle and it would cost a heck a lot more money than the \$95,000.00, so we took the advice. And then the State of New Jersey took the \$95,000.00 from those communities and I think it was somewhere around 57 million dollars if I remember correctly and they put it in their budget to offset taxes this year. So the taxpayers paid to offset their own taxes this year.

Now we have another situation down in Carteret with a landfill that the people that we hire to bring our grass clippings down there to dump. The State is suing the owner of the facility and now he is bringing the townships into another third party lawsuit...saying well maybe some of the stuff I brought from your town helped pollute that site. We are also here following state law and the State of New Jersey deemed that dumpsite as a state approved dumpsite. So when now

there's a problem, they are going down and suing these people. When we give out contracts to grass collectors for other various things we do...one of the things that it says in the contract law is you must hire a provider who will dump at a state approved facility. So we are following the law and again this just doesn't involve Clark Township because there are many other towns. We are following state law hiring an approved contractor to dump at an approved state dumpsite. There is a pollution problem down there and the State of New Jersey DEP now comes back and sues the site and they sue the townships hoping that everyone gets their insurance policy out and the checkbook and helps throw into the lawsuit. This has to stop. The state legislature and our legislators and our Governor have to get their arms around this. This is unfair to the taxpayers of this State. They must pass legislation that when we are brought into these third party claims and it's a legal strategy and I know Mr. Triarsi will agree to that, it's a legal strategy what they are doing. Because the more people you get involved, the more insurance policies are involved, the more checks that are involved which will help come to a settlement much quicker. The legislators must get their arms around this and save taxpayers' dollars. We've heard a lot over the past four or five years out of Trenton about tool boxes and saving money and doing this and fixing pensions and fixing everything else, this is something they need to get their arms around, because this is unfair to the taxpayers of our municipalities and mainly the one that we care more about, Clark Township. This will be something that although we know we are not responsible but it takes money to prove that and that's the part we're looking to do. So council I mean I hope that Trenton wakes up and sees what's going on down here. When I made that argument to the Commissioner down in Trenton last time it fell on deaf ears. So hopefully this time maybe our legislators can do something and hopefully we will hear something real soon out of them, thank you very much.

No further discussion

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14-29

WHEREAS the Clark Police Department was instrumental in completing the fraud investigation at the Chase Bank; and

WHEREAS the Clark Police Department recovered various items in connection with this investigation; and

WHEREAS Chase Bank has offered to donate the recovered items to the Clark Police Department for their distribution, use or disposal; and

WHEREAS the Clark Police Department is willing to accept the items as a donation for use, distribution or disposal.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey that it hereby accepts and authorizes the Clark Police Department to accept various items as a donation for distribution, use, or disposal.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman Kazanowski

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14- 30

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that the proper officer or officers are hereby authorized and directed to effect transfers of 2013 Appropriation Reserves.

**CLARK TOWNSHIP
RESERVE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS**

		<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Current			
26-290-100	Roads S & W	20,000.00	
20-165-224	Engineering OE		10,000.00
25-266-224	Fire OE	<u> </u>	<u>10,000.00</u>
Total		<u>\$20,000.00</u>	<u>\$20,000.00</u>

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that it does hereby authorize the creation of “The Clark Township 150th Anniversary Committee” to be appointed by the Mayor of the Township of Clark which Committee shall be nonpartisan and nonprofit and is hereby created and intended to prepare and plan the various celebrations within the Township of Clark in order to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Township of Clark.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the sum of \$1,000.00 be allocated to the budgetary line item, Celebration of Public Events, Anniversaries and Holidays, in order to defray the expenses of the Committee in planning the various official functions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a special trust fund be created with the Chief Financial Officer as signatory to said account, which account shall receive all funds generated from the activities of the Celebrations Committee and all expenses in connection therewith to be discharged therefrom upon submission by the Committee of vouchers and in proper form.

Moved by Councilman O’Connor, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14-31

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that it does hereby authorize the creation of “The Clark Township 150th Anniversary Committee” to be appointed by the Mayor of the Township of Clark which Committee shall be nonpartisan and nonprofit and is hereby created and intended to prepare and plan the various celebrations within the Township of Clark in order to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Township of Clark.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the sum of \$1,000.00 be allocated to the budgetary line item, Celebration of Public Events, Anniversaries and Holidays, in order to defray the expenses of the Committee in planning the various official functions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a special trust fund be created with the Chief Financial Officer as signatory to said account, which account shall receive all funds generated from the activities of the Celebrations Committee and all expenses in connection therewith to be discharged therefrom upon submission by the Committee of vouchers and in proper form.

Moved and seconded by the Entire Council

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolutin 14-32

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that the following individual is hereby appointed as a Member of the Clark Volunteer Fire Department effective this 27th day of January, 2014.

Brian Willey
150-A Westfield Ave
Clark, New Jersey 07066

Moved by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilman Mazzarella

Discussion: None

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Just very quick Mr. President...the first ordinance that we introduced tonight, the Administrator talked about various generators at public buildings. And Brewer Municipal will be one of the areas that are recipient of that generator. And we are very happy about this. God forbid under Hurricane Sandy conditions ever again, it may be a long time, but we will be able to confidently offer our site out as a heating, cooling shelter. Because if we go out although you can come there, we are going to be under portable generators to try to keep it lit and that's as much fun as probably being home without any electricity. But at least this way because of the size of the gyms and the cafeteria, we will be able to offer a lot of residents a clean, safe place to stay during God forbid of evacuation of their home. So I'm really happy about that part of the ordinance tonight also. And that concludes my comments for this evening, thank you very much.

Councilwoman Albanese: I had the pleasure in November of attending the high school drama play which they usually do in the fall. It was a fantastic production. The only problem was there were too many empty seats. So I would really like to encourage everyone and announce that this spring they will be performing the musical "Grease" and it's a great opportunity to bring your children to see a great show. The drama department has really grown in the past few years. So I

really encourage you to all get out there and see the show. And next month I will mention what the dates are, it will be held in March.

Congratulations to all the Pop Warner Cheerleaders and the football players. You have obviously a tremendous coaching program and a great history here in the town, it's really exciting. And that concludes my report.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President...I just want to thank everyone that's being congratulating tonight and to say a special thanks to the Volunteer Fire Department, Police Department, the Volunteer Emergency Squad and the Department of Public Works who are really doing such a great job that they have been doing in making Clark a great township that it is. And that concludes my report.

Councilman Kazanowski: Yes thank you...I would also like to congratulate our Pop Warner team and our cheerleaders on a very outstanding season. And also to remind everyone that the Polar Vortex is on its way down here again. So please look out for your seniors, your neighbors and please be safe out there, thank you.

Councilman Mazzarella: Yes thank you, I too would like to congratulate Pop Warner and the cheerleaders for an outstanding year this year. And lastly to the residents, it's going to be very slippery out there again, please be careful walking around and stay safe.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you very much; I too would like to congratulate all the people that have been congratulated. Being down here on the end sometimes a lot of things are talked about and I'm not a big repeater, so congratulation specifically Pop Warner Cheerleaders and football. My children were both involved in those organizations and I helped coach a while ago and I know the hours the teams put in. And I know the hours the coaches put in, more than the kids. So it's a great achievement for the kids but it's very rewarding for the parents to see their children's efforts really be rewarded with this type of achievement as State Champions...it's really great, congratulations everyone.

Council President Toal: I'm just going quickly go through a couple of comments. Again congratulations to the Pop Warner. A couple of these coaches are my neighbors and you only get to see them when we get snow because Ralph comes over and cleans off my driveway which I really appreciate. But again you are building the future of Clark right there by that leadership you are showing on the field and showing the kids how to go towards the future and do things properly and thank you to the parents and to the coaches.

To those we just lost; Joe Wanko, Mr. Wanko was the Clark Public Works Director for a number of years back in the early 80's late 70's. And Coach Hogan, Mr. Hogan was an umpire for the Clark Little League for years. Mr. Hogan was an incredible person and he did not let you go by, he always played fair. If there is anybody that grew up in Clark back in the day in the 60's or 70's and early 80's he umpired for a long time for the Township of Clark and we will miss him dearly.

As I said from the beginning the Township of Clark is celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year. And there are four significant dates and the first one is coming up on us on February 15th. Abraham Clark the township’s namesake was born on February 15, 1726. He died September 15, 1794. But the Township of Clark was named in his honor after we were originally a part of Rahway. We broke from Rahway because the farmers felt they weren’t getting the proper fair taxation. They felt that their tax dollars were going down to the City of Rahway. They didn’t like it, so they said we are going to create our own town. So the residents of Clark, 354 residents petitioned the State of New Jersey to create their own town to name it after Abraham Clark a patriot of Elizabeth early Union County. So what happened was, I’m showing you a photo of Clark’s first meeting house, if you ever saw the show Little House on the Prairie where it had a one room school house and a mill...that’s what Clark was, it was all farm fields. Rahway had the upper industry but Clark was nothing but farms, we were a rural farm community. We had one mill which was called the “Bloodgood Mill” and we had a one room schoolhouse which was located on the intersection of Raritan Road and Central Avenue, it was called the road to Westfield. It was a little one room schoolhouse (Council President Toal displaying picture) was where Clark’s first meeting occurred which was the township election on April 11, 1864. If you look at this photo and the camera zooms in on it, you will see the graduating class of 1864 of Clark. The kids were from one to eight and they went to school all in one room and then they would be sent over to Rahway for a continued education. I will do an historical footnote at each meeting.

John Laezza: No comments.

Police Chief Scherb: No comments.

Fire Chief Cerasa: No comments.

Township Clerk: No thank you.

Attorney Triarsi: No report.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Councilman Kazanowski, seconded Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

APPROVED

BRIAN P. TOAL
Council President

ATTEST:

EDITH L. MERKEL, RMC
Township Clerk

