

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, 315 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK NJ
March 21, 2016

ROLL CALL:

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

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

The Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Council President Hund. 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 (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the Annual Schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark, 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 Mazzarella, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Recognizing Championship Basketball Teams

Mayor Bonaccorso: Good evening everyone and welcome to our council meeting for the month of March. And as the Council President has indicated we are here to celebrate two very, very good basketball teams that won the very prestigious Clark Tournament. For those of you who are home and really don't have an understanding of what the Clark Tournament means in the State right now; right now there's a hundred and seventy teams that participate at our Brewer Gyms, St. Agnes, and the high school from all over the State of New Jersey. It has grown from a modest tournament into one of the biggest in the State. This is in the winter season every year on the president's weekend. And we are very, very proud to host this in Clark and hearing all the wonderful things people have to say about the facilities and the way the tournament is run. With a hundred and seventy teams you can imagine that the competition is very strong. And we are lucky enough this year to have two teams that won it in Clark; one is the sixth grade girls and #2 it's the sixth grade boys which is coached by myself, Steve Hund and John Zamboni who I will call up momentarily.

Sixteen years ago as Mayor I started this with recognizing teams and individuals for accomplishments. For those of you who are at home if you know of any team or any person that is worthy to come up here before the Township Council and be recognized for their accomplishments whether it be athletic, academics, the arts or something civic, we'll also be very happy to have you come up here to highlight what's going on in Clark and especially tonight for the youth of Clark.

I'm very proud to be a part of the executive board of the Travel Basketball League serving as Vice President to Councilman Hund who is the President of the league. What we found over the years is that the group of people that work in the Travel Basketball League are very dedicated people like most volunteer youth programs in Clark and we are very proud to be a part of that. Because they touch us on what they do every day and we feel we are in a great position to be able to get any needs whether it be basketball, little league, soccer, football, etc. and so on done to help the children of Clark. So it makes us very, very proud.

We are going to call up Coach Sam Grosso who I would just like to mention happens to be a very good friend of mine. I think the world of this guy. He is a terrific coach but he is awesome with the girls and I got to know Sam through that tournament of spending about twelve hours a day there working together. And Sam I love you, you are a great guy, come on up and introduce the girls.

Coach Sam Grosso: It's great to be part of the organization like Clark Travel Basketball. I'm involved in softball in another travel program and it's just about everybody getting together and helping out, that's what makes it work. And Clark does a great job in that in running their tournament. And it shows what the teams have been getting and the success of the tournament, not to mention it's great that we are able to put such great teams together and win a championship this year. This is our second year in a row. We won last year's with the fifth grade girls, so it's a great achievement. It's just hard work and they keep going and going and going. And I tell them every year just keep working hard and at the end of the season you'll reap the benefits. And obviously winning this championship is great for us and hopefully we can do it again next year.

Certificates were given out to the girls by Mayor Bonaccorso and Coach Grosso

Mayor Bonaccorso: First off I would like to introduce to my right one of our coaches, John Zamboni and of course Councilman Hund is humbly known as Coach Steve on the court. I want to talk about these two guys for a minute. Two excellent human beings, two excellent coaches and two good friends. I had an immensely great time this year working with them with our boys. To the parents of our team, I would like to thank you all for all you have done and for the way you have worked with us in working with your sons. The boys on our team not only are pretty good players or becoming pretty good players but we still have a lot of practice and a long way to go. But they are really good guys and we have a lot of fun with them. They usually walk in with a smile, they usually leave with a smile but not all the time. They work very, very hard on the court. They went a little different route this year in winning the tournament; they lost the first game which was tough to do and to come back then and then winning the tournament. They played a very, very tough North Plainfield team in the finals and that was a crazy game, they got very rambunctious. Matter of fact I think six Clark Police Officers had to help us end the game with some of the fans from the other town. But all was good no one was in trouble that day. But boys you did a good job this year, you have to work hard, okay, you have to get better because excellence never rests, you want to get better each and every year. And I know myself and John and Steve are going to make sure you

guys get better each and every year. We do have a pleasure and a real honor to coach you guys. You are good young gentlemen which is the most important thing. Young ladies, young gentlemen that's what it's about. Anybody can win a basketball game, anybody can win any kind of game but it's your character that's going to carry you through life, and that's the most important thing. We hope through youth sports you learn how to build character, integrity and hard work. These are the things that you are going to carry with you forever.

Certificates were given out to the boys by Mayor Bonaccorso and Coaches John Zamboni and Steve Hund.

Motion to Resume Regular Order of Business was made by Councilman Toal, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes Mr. President thank you very much, a brief report tonight and I don't want to cut into Councilman Smith's recreation report. Saturday was the Easter Egg Hunt and I want to thank Ralph Bernardo, my wife Geraldine, Pete Zimbaro and all the volunteers from the high school. I know Councilman O'Connor's daughter was there and many, many others who really turned this into another tradition in Clark of greatness and young children having a good time running around collecting eggs and seeing the Easter Bunny. So great job.

Spring lawn and leaf cleanup has started. Put it out into the street. Clean up your yards spring is here, we dodged the snow today so everybody is happy about that. And you are welcomed to do this to the third week of April. Then our final cleanup will be in April and then we will start on our branch cleanup, okay. Which is, you put them out on the third week and we pick them up on the fourth week. Bulk cleanup is in process. We are out still filling up potholes. I think we have our arms pretty much around them pretty well but there's still one or two here and there that pop up and we are on that.

In front of the Brewer Municipal Building the section that the Preschool occupies DPW during the Easter break will be installing a walk right at the front of the parking lot so when the children and the parents go into the Preschool. We have recreational activities there and they won't chew up the lawn, so it will be a new addition to the Brewer Municipal Building. That concludes my report tonight, it's a short one, thank you very much.

Acting Township Clerk: Police, Fire, Emergency Management and First Aid Squad reports for the month of February 2016 have been filed in the Clerk's Office.

REPORT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you, I have a Library report. Next week when the children are off from school there are some fun activities happening. I'll just mention a few; the first one is Story-gami, as you can imagine it's stories combined with origami and the parents are welcomed to participate in this

program. It's for grades one through three and that will be held on Monday, March 28th, one week from today, from 2:00 to 3:00 pm. Next program is "March of the Stuffed Animals." You can dress in your pajamas and bring a stuffed animal for the "March of the Stuffed Animals." Listen to a story and then the children, this is for ages three through five years old, will work through some simple counting, sorting and comparing size games. That one is in the evening on Tuesday from 7:00 to 7:30 pm on March 29th. And then we have a program on Thursday, this is for children grades K through five and it's gardening with Miss Nina. Miss Nina is a master gardener. Children will fold newspapers into little biodegradable pots, plant their seeds and then hopefully they'll sprout and the children will be able to plant the plants in their garden. And that's on Thursday, March 31st from 1:30 to 2:15 pm. And just a reminder we do have the pass for the Intrepid Museum if you want to have a day trip over to New York you can take the ferry over from Weehawken or the bus or the train over to the city and that pass is good for six people. Also we have the museum pass for the Hamilton Grounds for Sculpture. So just a couple of ideas on what to do with the kids during their time off. That concludes my report thank you.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President. The police dispatcher had the Clark Volunteer Fire Department respond to 46 calls this past month. And I'm going to be deviating a little bit from my normal report. If you recall some weeks ago a senior couple had someone come to their door and they said they were from the water company, they had a badge on. And the couple let them in and they went to the basement and the person who was there said he had to go check something and he robbed them. So everybody was talking "Wow what do you do about this? How do you know if it's real? How do you know if it's the right number, who do you call?" And even my wife said to me "Al, I don't know all our utility numbers and what will we do?" So I spoke to the Mayor and he had me make up something which I handed out to all the people who were here earlier. I have extras and they will be in town hall. And basically what it is it's all the important phone numbers. #1 you have of course emergency 911 and then the Clark Police. Now all of these things I've called up like for instance Comcast, New Jersey American Water, Verizon, PSE&G and all of the other utilities that work in Clark. And I spoke with them and you know if you call the telephone company sometimes you'll get "would you want to speak about your telephone or do you want to speak about your mobile phone" etc., etc., and when I finally got somebody I said "this is the situation and I want a number that when somebody calls they will get somebody to speak to immediately and then they can tell them "do you have somebody here" etc., etc. And so I have all these numbers like I said which I will be putting some in town hall and I don't know it may be on some other situations. But #1 folks if you have somebody come and they say they are from a company and you know you didn't order any work or you know they can say to you "well we are having problems on the block, so that's why we are here, that's why you don't see a truck." But if you feel any apprehension whatsoever call the Clark Police Department immediately. Believe me when I tell you they would much rather send somebody right down there and find out that it's a legitimate call rather than you not call and something happens. So as I said it's really important because again showing all the numbers of just about all the utilities that we have and you should be able to get directly through. But of course also like Verizon told me they never really send anybody without being called or something like that. But somebody could come and say they are from the water company and we're having a problem on the street, so that's why they are there. So anyway, see if you can get yourself a copy from town hall or I think maybe they will be on different various areas. And it's important to have them and put it someplace where in an emergency you don't have to worry, you just say here it is, you call up, and you find out. And that concludes my report thank you.

Councilman Mazzarella: Yes, thank you Council President, I have a small report. First I would like to say Al very good, that's tremendous. It will help our community and the residents very much. My DPW report for this month; there will be no electronic drop off for this month because of the holiday weekend. The next electronic drop off will be April 30th at the DPW yard from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Spring cleanup is on its way as the Mayor had mentioned earlier. Put the debris one foot from the curb please. We don't want to have it close to the curbs because if it rains that debris will go to the catch basins and clog up the top of the catch basins and we can have flooding problems. Bulky and appliance pickup have started again for 2016, appointments are required. Please call town hall at the public works department or go onto dpw@ourclark.com to make an appointment. Mulch is available to township residents, it's free of charge, and they are ground up tree parts, they are not like weeds or anything like that. I know a lot of the residents were concerned about that but they are ground up branches and stumps. A small truck is two yards; a large truck is four yards. And we will be happy to deliver it to your driveway. And lastly the recycle date for this month is March 28th. And remember we are a single stream recycling which means materials can go in one can, paper, cardboard, bottles, cans and etc. and we also take Styrofoam. So put it all in one can and put it out and we will be happy to take it. And that's the extent of my report thank you.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you very much, I have two reports tonight. The first is from the Office of Emergency Management. During the month they continue to work on the change over from the township radio station from 1700 am to 590 am. They will eventually put up more information on this station than what they could possibly do before due to the increase recording capacity of the new system. They put information on 590 am with regard to the construction work being done on Madison Hill Road Bridge. Additionally, the Emergency Management is now registered on "Mailchimp" which will allow them to directly send out messages to Clark email subscribers and others which will show up as coming from Emergency Management rather than through Clark Recreation.

From the Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad; they are celebrating their 75th Anniversary this year. The festivities for the Squad's Diamond Anniversary will start during the National EMS Week May 15-21, 2016. The Squad will host various activities and classes at our building as well as reaching out to the community. The call volume for the month was 96 calls. So year to date calls is 207. Of these calls 88 were in Clark and the rest were mutual aid. Looking at Rahway, Linden, Garwood, Scotch Plains, Westfield and Winfield Park, in reviewing the response times provided by the county dispatch center, the Squad's average response time from time of dispatch to arrival on the scene is under 6 minutes. Of total calls, 90% of the calls had an ambulance on scene in under 10 minutes. And remember these people are volunteers.

Supporting the Community: The Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad has also shared its building to provide service and support as follows; monthly blood drives, as well as Eagle Scout Court of Honor for 2 members of the Boy Scout Troop 145 in Clark. Additionally, Clark was on standby at the Basketball Tournament at ALJ.

Membership: The Squad has multiple levels of membership available to those interested in joining. Cadets – Individuals under the age of 18, Regular Members at least 18 years of age and of course we need Drivers which of course are at least 18 years of age. All training is provided free by the Squad. If anybody is interested they can email the Squad at membership@clarkems.org. Please like us on Facebook and visit our webpage at www.clarkems.org. That concludes my report for this evening thank you.

Councilman Smith: Thank you Council President. Applications for membership to the Clark Community Pool are now available. You can go to our website at www.ourclark.com under departments and then swim pool utility and then you will find the applications there or you are more than welcome to stop in the recreation office and meet with Ralph. He has the applications there and they are out throughout the building.

There have been some upgrades to the facility this past year. We will have open house on Saturday, May 14th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. If you do sign up early you will receive two free guest passes. There's also opportunities still to sign up for spring programs and classes. There are still openings but they are closing out soon. The summer rec program applications are also available in the recreation office. You can call Ralph or stop by. Ralph's number is 732-428-8400. The summer rec program does usually fill to capacity, so the earlier you sign up the better.

And lastly, Ralph Bernardo and the Recreation Department won the agency showcase award for outstanding achievement for a newsletter production for Clark Savvy Senior Publication. This is the second year in a row and third of the last four years that Ralph and the Recreation Department have received an award at the NJRPA Conference which is held at Atlantic City. So I congratulate Ralph for all of his hard work in another outstanding job. And that concludes my report for this evening.

Councilman Toal: Thank you Mr. President. The Clark Environmental Commission; the Commission was supposed to meet the 24th of the month. The Chairman Mr. Kevin Koch has cancelled that meeting due to work commitments. And he is now asking that the next meeting to be held on April 14, 2016, there was no February meeting because of lack of a quorum and we are basically going to go back into a full discussion on subject matters of the town. Also Joe Seebode's earth day environmental cleanup of the Rahway River is going to be held, so look out for those notices.

I've been getting some calls in the last twenty-four hours or so from residents along Gertrude Street. During our executive meeting I had talked to the Mayor and the Administrator about the issue of the American Water Company and the trenches they are digging up to redo the infrastructure. And I just need to get an update for the residents on Gertrude and Kathryn. If I can ask the Mayor or the Administrator to give us an update on what's going on with American Water Company. I have one irate resident which I tried to calm him down and I explained to him that it has nothing to do with the township. The township is not digging up the streets, it's the water company that's doing their improvement, their capital improvements. I just need to get an update what their time frame is and if the Administrator can give us some update for the residents I would greatly, greatly appreciate it.

John Laezza: I will at the proper time.

Councilman Toal: Alright I appreciate that. So basically that's what we are dealing with folks. If you have any complaints you can call me, I'm always there for you. Mr. President that's all I have.

Council President Hund: My report is the Clark Police Report for February. We saw a total of 3,267 calls service of which 83 were ambulance request, 5 were fire department requests, 1 was for vandalism, 19 were motor vehicle and residential lockouts, 123 were alarm calls and 2,943 were miscellaneous calls. There were a total of 39 adult arrests including 3 for theft, 1 for burglary, 1 for receiving stolen property, 5 for drug abuse, 6 for DUI and 23 warrants. There were a total of 10 juvenile arrests including 1 for

harassment, 2 incorrigibles, 1 for hindering, 1 for truancy and 2 offenses against the family. And that concludes the police report for February.

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

(No objections have been received in connection with the proposed Ordinance)

Ordinance 16-04

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE REPLACEMENT OF SANITARY SEWER LINES AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN, BY AND FOR THE SEWER UTILITY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$800,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO APPROPRIATE MONEYS FROM SEWER CAPITAL OUTLAY, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS

Council President Hund opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 16-04

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

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Motion to adopt the Ordinance was made by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman O’Connor

Discussion:

Councilman Mazzarella: I would just like to say that to the ladies and gentlemen who are listening to this particular ordinance; this ordinance is certainly a benefit to our community by repairing the broken and degraded sanitary sewer system throughout our community. By doing that we’re lessening the ground water going into the sewer system thus lessening our costs going to the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority. The end result is it’s going to benefit our community, we’ll pay less, and it’s truly a step in the right direction for us, thank you.

Council President Hund: When I was campaigning 1 ½ years ago on Colonial Drive most of the residents complained about the lack of sewers on their road. So this ordinance is partially in part to that. When walking there, there was ponding water in front of people’s houses and I told them I would look into it and see what we can do to have the road corrected. And with the Town Council and the Mayor and the Business Administrator were able to push this one through. So the work on Colonial Drive will begin sometime in the summer. I will keep you up-to-date on that but that will solve your water issues on your road and the ponding. And for the one house that had tons of mosquitos hopefully all the mosquitos will be gone.

Council President Hund directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Mazzarella, O’Connor, Smith, Toal, Hund
Ordinance Adopted

INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 16-23 AND 16-25
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK
ENTITLED “COMPOSITION; TERMS OF OFFICE, REMOVAL; VACANCIES”**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that Chapter 16, Article III, entitled “Hyatt Hills Golf Club Commission,” Sub-Sections 16-23 and 16-25, are hereby amended and supplemented, as follows:

SECTION 1: Sections 16-23 and 16-25 of the Code of the Township of Clark are hereby rescinded in its entirety.

SECTION 2: Section 16-23 entitled “Composition; Terms of Office; Removal; Vacancies” is hereby restated as follows:

“The Commission shall consist of two (2) Commissioners, each of whom shall be the sitting Mayor of each of the Townships of Clark and Cranford. The individuals holding the foregoing named offices shall be the sole members of the Commission. The Commissioners as identified herein may only be removed if they no longer serve in the position of Mayor of their respective Townships and in such event they shall be succeeded by the then elected Mayor of each of the Townships.”

SECTION 3: Section 16-25(B) entitled “Agreement Authorized” is supplemented as follows:

“The Commission shall have the power to enter into an Operating Agreement with the owner of the golf course to authorize the owner to enter into contracts with various entities engaged in the business of operating a golf course in order to direct the day-to-day operations of the golf course, its restaurant, lounge, and other ancillary facilities. Said authority shall be evidenced by a Resolution of the Commissioners.”

SECTION 4: **Inconsistent Ordinances:** Any ordinances of the Township of Clark which are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency. The Commissioners have the power to enter into an operating agreement with Racer Trust to contract with various entities to handle the day-to-day operations subject to the approval of the Commissioners with the approval of those actions by resolution of their respective governing bodies.

SECTION 5: **Effective Date:** This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication, according to law.

Moved by Councilman Mazarella, seconded by Councilman Barr

Discussion:

John Laezza: This ordinance is being put together to accommodate the restructuring of the Hyatt Hills Commission and the responsibilities there are. The public hearing will be in April.

Council President Hund directed roll call:
Aye: Albanese, Barr, Mazzarella, O’Connor, Smith, Toal, Hund

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 \$202,829.50 for the period ending March 15, 2016, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Hund directed roll call:
Aye: Albanese, Barr, Mazzarella, O’Connor, Smith, Toal, Hund

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 Hund opened the Citizen Hearing on the Agenda

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

Council President Hund directed roll call:
Aye: Albanese, Barr, Mazzarella, O’Connor, Smith, Toal, Hund

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 16-41

WHEREAS at least one (1) week prior to the date of the hearing a complete copy of the approved budget was delivered to the free public library and made available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS an Affidavit of Receipt of the Budget as attached hereto and made a part hereof has been obtained from the library pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-8; and

WHEREAS copies of the budget have been made available to each person requesting one at no charge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey that upon passage of this resolution by a majority of the full membership that the law has been met allowing the budget to be read by title.

Moved by Councilman O’Connor, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Hund directed roll call:
Aye: Albanese, Barr, Mazzarella, O’Connor, Smith, Toal, Hund

Public Hearing on the 2016 Municipal Budget

Resolution 16-42

Adoption of the Municipal Budget of the Township of Clark for Calendar Year 2016

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Clark, County of Union, that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of:

\$15,514,919.00 (Item 2 below) for municipal purposes, and
\$ 826,014.00 Minimum Library Levy

SUMMARY OF REVENUES

General Revenues	
Surplus Anticipated	\$ 1,600,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated	\$ 3,738,818.43
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	\$ 430,000.00
AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES (Item 6(a), Sheet 11)	<u>\$ 15,514,919.00</u>
AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION MINIMUM LIBRARY LEVY	<u>\$ 826,014.00</u>
 Total Revenues	 \$ 22,109,751.43 =====

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS

General Appropriations:	
Within "CAPS"	
Operations Including Contingent	\$14,644,531.00
Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures – Municipal	\$ 1,986,192.00
Excluded from "CAPS"	
Operations – Total Operations Excluded from "CAPS"	\$ 1,628,957.43
Capital Improvements	\$ 45,000.00
Municipal Debt Service	\$ 3,005,071.00
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes (Include Other Reserves, if Any)	\$ 800,000.00
 Total Appropriations	 \$22,109,751.43 =====

It is hereby certified that the within budget is a true copy of the budget finally adopted by resolution of the Governing Body on the 21st day of March, 2016. It is further certified that each item of revenue and appropriation is set forth in the same amount and by the same title as appeared in the 2016 approved budget and all amendments thereto, if any, which have been previously approved by the Director of Local Government Services.

Council President Hund opened the Public Hearing on the Resolution 16-42

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

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: This budget accommodates all the needs of the municipality. Everything from safety on down and recreation on up if you like. We are very proud to present this budget this year because we had made some very deep cuts in it. And with the state allowed 2% cap we are at 1.2%, not taking advantage of the extra room we have to move the budget up to the 2% cap, because in doing that we would be raising your taxes. Some school districts in municipalities have the mentality that if there's a 2% cap than all those items that are in cap we're going to automatically move it up to cap because next year we'll start with extra money in the budget and more of a surplus. We do not do that here in town, what we need is what we ask you for. The increase this year is 1.2% and we have had to make some very deep cuts. John you are the, what's the nice word to put it when it comes to cuts, "you're the butcher of the group." But anyway I think in many areas if I'm correct in going over this with you as we did as you really put the nice plan together, we are at two 2001 levels in our town when we first took office in the areas that we can control which is very little of the budget. I think what we control about 14% to 16% of the budget. (John Laezza: yes) Okay, so there's areas that we are now in 2016 that we are working at 2001 numbers. And guess what, it's working pretty good. So thank you council for your support on this budget. Your input on this budget and your support of each of your favorite departments that I know you all have. We appreciate that thank you.

No further discussion

Motion to adopt Resolution made by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Resolution 16-43

WHEREAS N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Township of Clark has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2016 budget year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a and 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the Governing Body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:

- a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
- b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
- c. Cash deficit of preceding year
- d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
- e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
- f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes

2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).

3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.

4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:

- a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated
- b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
- c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality

5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.

6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

John Laezza: This budget has been in total compliance with the statues of the State of New Jersey as your input and procedures and we've been approved.

Moved by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

John Laezza: Something new on the agenda for this year. The next two items resolutions; we have a LOSAP Program in New Jersey. The State of New Jersey now indicates that council has to approve the criteria set forth by each of those agencies before they are entitled to LOSAP rewards.

Resolution 16-44

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CERTIFICATION LIST OF VOLUNTEER MEMBERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK FIRE DEPARTMENT QUALIFYING FOR CREDIT UNDER THE LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM (LOSAP) FOR 2015

WHEREAS the Township of Clark adopted Ordinance No. 99-15 which created the Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP); and

WHEREAS N.J.S.A. 40A:14-191 requires that the Township of Clark Fire Department furnish the Township Council with an annual certification list of all volunteer members who have qualified for credit under the award program for the previous year.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey that it hereby approves the list of the volunteer members of the Township of Clark Fire Department certified by the Fire Chief for the year 2015, a copy of which list is attached hereto; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this list has been posted for at least thirty (30) days in both Fire Houses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after the thirty (30) day posting period the Township Treasurer will issue a check to cover volunteers on the attached list to Lincoln Financial.

Moved by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilman Mazzarella

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Resolution 16-45

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CERTIFICATION LIST OF VOLUNTEER MEMBERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SQUAD QUALIFYING FOR CREDIT UNDER THE LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM (LOSAP) FOR 2015

WHEREAS the Township of Clark adopted Ordinance No. 99-15 which created the Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP); and

WHEREAS N.J.S.A. 40A:14-191 requires that the Township of Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad furnish the Township Council with an annual certification list of all volunteer members who have qualified for credit under the award program for the previous year.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey that it hereby approves the list of the volunteer members of the Township

of Clark Emergency Squad certified by the Squad President for the year 2015, a copy of which list is attached hereto; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this list has been posted for at least thirty (30) days in the Emergency Squad Building; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after the thirty (30) day posting period the Township Treasurer will issue a check to cover volunteers on the attached list to Lincoln Financial.

Moved by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Mazzarella

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Council as Municipal Pool Utility

Resolution 16-46

WHEREAS the Governing Body of the Township of Clark advertised on March 3, 2016 and received one (1) bid for Specifications and Obligations for the Pool Maintenance for the 2016 and 2017 Seasons on March 15, 2016 at 10:00 am; and

WHEREAS Aquatic Service, Inc., 170 Burlington Ave., Spotswood, NJ 08884 was the sole bidder in the amount of \$28,043.75 for 2016 and \$28,885.05 for 2017; and

WHEREAS the Business Administrator has reviewed all the documents required by the bid specifications and recommends award of contract to Aquatic Service, Inc. in the amount of \$28,043.75 for 2016 and \$28,885.05 for 2017; and

WHEREAS the Chief Financial Officer has ascertained funds will be available subject to the adoption of the 2016 and 2017 Municipal Budgets.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that it does hereby award a contract to Aquatic Service, Inc. in the amount of \$28,043.75 for 2016 and \$28,885.05 for 2017 subject to review of the bid by the Township Attorney who will draw up the contract.

Resolution 16-47

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Pool Utility (Township Council) that the following appointments are made for the Clark Community Pool 2016 season, ending December 31, 2016.

Mike Kozlowski
31 Wall Street
Cranford, NJ 07016

Director

Robert Cahill
648 Trenton Avenue
Kenilworth, NJ 07033
Assistant Manager

Jessica Heulitt
25 Heyers Mill Road
Colts Neck, NJ 07722
Assistant Manager

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council President is hereby authorized and directed to enter into an employment contract with each of the above mentioned employees.

Resolution 16-48

BE IT RESOLVED by Governing Body as the Clark Swimming Pool Utility that the 2016 Municipal Swimming Pool rates and fees be set as follows:

MEMBERSHIPS	CLARK RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
FAMILY	360.00	525.00
GARWOOD RESIDENT FAMILY (Must show proof of affiliation with Clark Recreation and/or Clark Public Schools)		460.00
HUSBAND & WIFE	310.00	450.00
DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP (as defined by Ch. 246 P.L.2003)	310.00	450.00
ONE PARENT & ONE CHILD	310.00	450.00
INDIVIDUAL	210.00	310.00
SENIOR CITIZEN (62 by June 1 st)	100.00	150.00
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

Motion to adopt Pool Utility Resolutions made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

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

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 16-49

WHEREAS in accordance with a request from the Tax Collector for authorization to refund overpayment of 2016 taxes; the Mayor has recommended to Council that such authorization be granted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to make refund(s) in accordance with the following schedule:

CLARK TOWNSHIP						
TAX REFUNDS- 2016						
BLOCK	LOT	QUAL.	NAME	#	ADDRESS	REFUND
28.01	13.01	C01	Joseph Schulman	1	Harvey Court	\$ 2,349.03
69	28		Anthony Botro	39	School Street	\$ 9.00
195	48		Roy George	14	Peter Circle	\$ 3,193.55
60	6		CCC 89 LLC	89	Terminal Avenue	\$ 7,923.70
176	35		Gaetano Rafulo	275	Valley Road	\$ 1,703.10
196	13		Robert Harrison	30	Coldevin Road	\$ 184.56
						\$ 15,362.94

Resolution 16-50

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey that it does hereby authorize the Tax Collector to settle Tax Appeal(s) and Issue Refund(s) and or Credit in the amounts indicated as authorized by the Tax Court of New Jersey in accordance with the attached schedule.

<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>Reduction</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Refund</u>	<u>Credit</u>
30.01/26	68 Hall Drive	15,500	7,750	2015		\$ 621.86
				Principal		\$621.86
				5% interest		waived
				Total		\$621.86

Resolution 16-51

WHEREAS the Treasurer/CFO has certified that sewer utility account(s) require balance adjustments; and

WHEREAS the Business Administrator has reviewed and approved the sewer fee adjustment(s).

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

CLARK TOWNSHIP										
RE F	#	Acct #	Name	#	Address	Reason	Original	Revised	Credit	Additional
16	1	3824-0	Lisa Marinez	14	Lexington Blvd	Error in processing	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 2.58	
16	2	1505-0	Mirosław Mierzejewski	95	Dorset Drive	SCD Disallowed	\$ 100.00	\$ 225.00	\$ -	\$125.00
16	3	1967-0	Jamie Jankauskas	907	Raritan Road	water error	\$1,625.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 1,400.00	
16	4	2244-0	Anthony Araneo	114 6	Raritan Road	water co. credit	\$ 1,505.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 1,280.00	
16	5	3991-0	Nelli Stolarz	312	New York Ave	irratic water bills	\$ 785.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 560.00	
16	6	2999-0	Keith Knorowski	11	Kathryn Street	water errors	\$ 1,546.12	\$ 225.00	\$ 1,321.12	
16	7	4300-0	Louis Ferdinandi	218	East Lane	incorrect bills	\$1,007.56	\$ 225.00	\$ 782.56	
16	8	1804-0	Panagiotts Pellardis	59	Wendell Place	house vacant	\$ 225.00	\$ -	\$ 225.00	
16	9	5249-1	Century Court Condo	7	Cellar Avenue	inactive Account	\$ 6,967.90	\$ -	\$ 6,967.90	
16	10	3730-0	Edward Hamilton	22	Prospect St	new homeowner	\$ 865.00	\$ 255.00	\$ 640.00	
16	11	4483-0	DeMarzo Development	21	Autumn Street	vacant	\$ 225.00	\$ -	\$ 225.00	
16	12	1631-0	Danny Aviram	95	Hayes Avenue	silent leak	\$ 768.04	\$ 225.00	\$ 543.04	
16	13	1232-0	Robert Tatarynw	353	Madison Hill Rd	well	\$ 500.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 275.00	
16	14	5229-0	Vincent Renda	2	Acken Drive	water co error	\$ 947.72	\$ 225.00	\$ 722.72	
16	15	5252-0	Shalva Pirtskhalava	6	Charlotte Drive	new homeowner	\$ 905.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 680.00	
16	17	1249-0	James & Nancy Ulrich	117	Thomas Drive	leaky toilet	\$ 425.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 200.00	
16	18	673-0	Jean Cartwright	76	Armstrong Dr	leaky toilet	\$ 648.52	\$ 225.00	\$ 423.52	
16	19	2660-0	Donna Miller	139	Gertrude St.	pool leak	\$ 745.00	\$ 265.00	\$ 480.00	
							\$20,015.86	\$3,445.00	\$16,728.44	\$125.00

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda made by Councilman Toal, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

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 Hund opened the public portion of the meeting

William Caruso, 7 School St.: First I would like to thank the Council and the Mayor and all the people from the various organizations who supported us. We did raise the money for the monument and we are looking forward to a wonderful dedication ceremony on April 30th at 11:00. We hope that we can have our council members and the Mayor and whomever they designate to be there along with the VFW, the American Legion, and UNICO. We are hoping to have a woman officer coming in from either Washington or from the State as our guest speaker and hopefully the Mayor would be kind enough to give us some kind words. So I really want to thank you for all the efforts that everybody came together to help us do this. And we think it's going to be really a nice ceremony and something really nice for Clark.

The other thing I would like to talk about tonight is that this has been a terrible month. I've lost one of my closest friends, Joe Bonaccorso. A lot of you fellows sitting up there, some of you know, that Joe really was the patriarch of reorganizing your party and creating the atmosphere to bring Clark out of the ashes during the 90's when this town was headed in the wrong direction. Many people moved into Clark and they see it as it is right now. But if they were here years ago they would have not seen all the things that we have now. All the parks, and all of the programs, and all the activities. And they come into Clark and they think that this is the way it always was, well it wasn't. It was people like Joe Bonaccorso and myself in a way to help to try to reorganize the party. And the beauty of it was, is that I was a Democrat and he was a Republican and we didn't care about that because we were neighbors and friends and we knew what we did would affect the town in the years to come. This town is a beautiful town and it's won many awards for people wanting to move here. And I attributed a lot to Joe's work. Joe was a very caring man and he did enormous amount of things that are good for the Township of Clark. Between refurbishing the parks and his work with the Public Works, he was tireless and he loved the town. Many times we had lunch together and we thought about all the good things that would happen. And through the administration over the years and the people of Clark should be very thankful for what they have today; a safe, clean and green town, it's really amazing. So what I would like to request that the council that we don't forget Joe Bonaccorso. I would like to see a plaque placed somewhere probably maybe in public works where the main garage is with a picture and a little nice saying so people don't forget Joe and the work that he did. Or if there is another place that's even better I wish that you guys could come together with the Mayor and find a place to do that. I don't think anybody in this town should forget Joe. I know I won't because Joe was very near and dear to me. Thank you very much.

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

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes Mr. President. I would just like to mention a couple of things. First off to talk about Mr. Caruso here. Bill when you got up and talked about the monument honoring the female officers of our Armed Forces and you thanked myself and the council for participating, that was very nice of you. But truth be told we have to thank you and UNICO and all the good people who helped you. You know I know Bill it seems like a hundred years, right Bill forever. And I could always say one thing, when Bill birddog's something he never stops until it's done right. And he was out there beating the bushes to make sure we raise that money for that Frank Sinatra fellow who came in at the Gran Centurions on Valentine's Day. And you know you say wow Valentine's Day, and you know I know people want to maybe go and do other things but we had a pretty packed house that night and we enjoyed ourselves and the Gran Centurions did a very nice job. But it's people like you Bill who has always helped. You were a Councilman for eleven years and you always have been an advocate for a lot of great things.

Tonight you brought up a lot of nice things about my Dad and I do appreciate it. And I know you and him were very close. And you know along with him, it was you and Pete Nevargic and guys like that were the resurgence to rebuild the Republican Party in this town and getting us guys elected and lady of course to work. I remember Bill when you called my house to recruit me to run for the township council and I met with you and Pete and different people. You said to me if you guys come in and do it right, you guys are going to be here a long, long time and we have been. And I just remember you constantly telling me just do it for the citizens of the town, just do what they need and get it done for what they need. Don't get involved in all of the other malarkey and your words were right. And I've always appreciated what you did and what you said and I do appreciate today that you are advocating for female military people. It's a wonderful thing to have people like you here so thank you very much. I appreciate it Bill and your kind words for my Dad.

Before I go any further, tonight you noticed that a trusty friend and Administrator sitting across the room, he's not here in his usual spot to the left of me. That is because he just became a Great Grandfather for the third time. Because our Township Clerk Edie Merkel has become a Grandmother for the first time with a baby boy. So congratulations John to you and to Edie and everybody involved.

At the council meeting I was talking to the township council along with Mr. Triarsi on writing a letter to the bankruptcy company that handles the Hyatt Hills Golf Course. As you know, you might not know, John and I were in a meeting with RACER Trust who is the court appointed trustees from the bankruptcy Judge to try to sell the Hyatt Hills Golf Course. And we always imagined it to be sold and kept as a golf course. They brought us in a developer from New York that wanted to develop every square inch of it with apartments, townhouses, and retail shopping. The meeting lasted about seven minutes as I was thumbing through their book after I told them to please leave, we have zero interest in this, this would never happen as long as we are in charge here. In the meantime, I have talked with Cranford and their Mayor knows what I am doing. I went to the Union County Freeholder Board and basically begged them to please buy the golf course and make it a part of the Union County Park System and they are pretty interested in doing it. When they reached out to RACER they have a tax appeal right now up and they basically said they don't want to talk to the county until we resolve the tax appeal. Joe and I after talking at our executive meeting we strategized our position. And what we did was write the first letter to RACER Trust and we'll see what their response is. Then the second letter will go to the Judge from the

bankruptcy court. We were going to do that opposite but when Joe and I discussed it if you remember I said I was going to send it to the Judge, we figured let's give them a written notice that we are looking to see some action up here, if they don't then we'll take the next step further. I don't know how far this fight is if it's going to be over quickly or not, we're going to stand beside keeping Hyatt as a green facility and not with townhomes and apartments and more shopping. The shopping center at the Commons worked out great but I don't think we need to push our luck with another one to say the least. That concludes my report for this evening, thank you, and we'll see you next month.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you Bill for coming tonight and sharing that great news with us. This happens to be Women's History Month. And tonight we had our two basketball team's, women's and men's basketball and sometimes today our children or young women take for granted the fact that women had equal rights. As a matter of fact, we do not legally have equal rights. The equal rights amendment has not been passed. That's not an agenda item for here in our township but it is a fact of life. And probably many women don't realize that women haven't even had the right to vote for a hundred years. We are a young country but still women did not have the right to vote until the 1920's through the efforts of some very courageous women who dedicated their life to that. You know people say to me you know the Veteran monuments that we have support women and men, that is true, but just recently women were permitted to go into active duty, so it is again an equal rights issue. So for those women who want to do that and serve in other ways to our country I don't see why they shouldn't have the right to do that.

Moving on to a couple of other items. I attended the musical at ALJ this past weekend and it was called "Spelling Bee." Everyone did a great job. So again kudos to the team over there for their arts and for all those that came out to appreciate it. Thank you very much for that.

I do want to mention an award that was given to one of our young citizens here, Ryan Kowalenko, who attained the rank of Eagle Scout. And he was honored at a very special ceremony, it's called the Court of Honor. It's the highest rank that a Boy Scout can achieve and it is a rare achievement. There's a long list of very famous people that have achieved that honor and I'm sure that Ryan will go far in life. In addition, I just want to mention and thank Ryan for his leadership service project. He improved the parking area right outside the building where we are right now and worked on storage sheds for the Office of Emergency Management. And it should be noted that the history of his family...you know they all served involvement in emergency management issues. So he's carrying on the Kowalenko tradition.

And I just want to move on to the fact that I just want to say that of course my family and I are very sad about the loss of our beloved neighbor and friend, Joe Bonaccorso. There's so much to be said about Joe but I think what I admired most about him was his dedication to his family and it was a great role model for all of us. Of course he was a township employee and had a great love for our town not only as an employee but also for everything that he did in town as Bill mentioned and has been mentioned. So we will miss him and our prayers are with him and his family. Thank you.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President. Listening to Bill speak on what he said before about how Clark use to be and I've been in Clark now forty-six years and I do remember how it use to be. And what made me feel so good...at one of our meetings I told you how I thought Clark is just a great town. I was at a social event not too long ago and we were talking about different things and different people said "oh where are you from?" and about four people came up to me and said "you're from Clark?" I said "yeah"

and they said “boy we heard that that is one great town.” It really made me feel good. And that concludes my report.

Councilman Mazzarella: Yes, Council President thank you. I would like to thank Mr. Caruso for coming up and saying his kind words about Joe Bonaccorso. Joe was a good friend to me. I looked up to him and I will truly miss him. And you are right Mr. Caruso he did help shape Clark on what it is today. We are a safe and clean community. And we are going to continue to build on that and build on Joe’s memory of what he looked at Clark on what it is about.

And ladies and gentlemen, please don’t forget to recycle it’s very important for us and for our future and our children’s future. Until next month be safe, thank you.

Councilman O’Connor: Thank you very much, a couple of things I want to touch on. First off construction continues at Westfield Avenue and Terminal Avenue which is now Woodcrest at Clark. The construction is being done to align the intersection, it was a little bit off, as well as to add a right turn lane. That construction overall is going to take about two months from the time it began. But the police are doing a nice job mitigated the traffic through that area, I live right by there, and it’s been a nice job so thank you very much for doing that.

Secondly, with regards to Curry Field, we’re continuing the revitalization project. At the time we are in the process of dismantling the lacrosse building if you will, not the pop warner building but there’s another building there, that building will come down. The holdup is that building houses the panel for all of the electrical work that goes on there, all the lights. So when that building comes down there will be a shed installed where the electrical panel will be and that will be the next step of the project.

Mr. Caruso with your comments about Mr. Bonaccorso with regard to the plaque. My Dad was a fireman, he died in “93.” His picture is on the wall of the firehouse. I go into the firehouse now and there’s people who probably weren’t even born who know who he is just based on what he gave to the fire department and what they gave back to him. So it’s important and it means a lot to the family and I think it means a lot to the brotherhood of just humanity to remember those who do great things, so thank you.

Councilman Smith: Thank you Council President. Mr. Caruso thank you for coming tonight and like you said it is a great town, we have a lot to offer. I oversee the recreation department so I have a book in here of probably over a hundred programs we offer. And as I mention at every meeting we have lots of programs for pre-kindergarten, kindergarten all the way up through high school and even senior citizens and adults. So we do offer a lot to the residents of Clark.

On Mr. Bonaccorso, Sal you know how much he meant to me and my family. And all of the laughter he also gave to me especially sitting on the bench over in the recreation building, so I will never forget that. But I love the idea of a plaque and I’m sure we will consider that and find the appropriate place. So that’s all I have this evening thank you.

Councilman Toal: Thank you Mr. President. From Angel’s comments...we had two other residents in the last couple weeks who their sons went onto the Court of Honor. We have two other Eagle Scouts, Brandon Mulvihill and Andrew Giamella. Andrew Giamella (is a) Fourth Ward residents along Westfield Avenue; to their families, congratulations. And also congratulations to Ryan Kowalenko.

When you say Joe Bonaccorso. When I heard it, I got the phone call about it the only words I can say is the memory came back. There are so many good stories and you can talk all night and I'm not going to do that. But I've known Mr. B. my whole life and Sal the one memory came back to me was when your Dad was my little league coach and we had a kid that was on the opposite team, his name was John Murphy. And John Murphy can throw in the high nineties when we were teenagers. And John Murphy would scare the heck out of you by throwing fast balls or a curve ball that would actually come up and you would hear it "*whish*" past your ear. Now if you know Mr. B. and the way he acted...I'm a little Irish kid trying to hold onto to a bat that was too heavy for me and I'm getting this kid throwing ninety mile an hour fast balls at the age of twelve. I'm bailing out of the batter's box and Mr. B. is right at the fence yelling at me "stick in there, hang in there, don't let the fear take over you" and I'm like "are you kidding me, this kid is throwing ninety mile fast balls at my ears." I'm stepping out of the box and he called me over to the fence and said it to me very simple, "don't let fear win, only winners win, don't let the fear win." So what he said to me is go back into the batter's box, stare him down, and take the bat and just let it drop a little bit, just a little. So he throws me a curve ball coming at me and I'm hearing the thing coming out of my head and sure enough the thing broke, we had a runner on first, and what happens next, it hits the bat goes down to third base, the third baseman took an easy grounder, double play right? The kid throws it and he throws it wild, man goes to second and I'm on first base. And the next kid behind me single up the middle and we won the game. Simple things from Mr. B and to your Dad...don't let the fear win. Overcome your adversities and go for your goals. Mr. B you are always looking down on this community, we loved you and we will never ever forget you. A plaque is wonderful. For each generation yet to come he will always be in our hearts, thank you.

Police Chief Matos: Good evening. A couple weeks ago I had the opportunity to attend a presentation by an organization called Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. They are participating in a smart campaign. This campaign promotes responsible gun ownership and presents adults certain steps in certain ways we can talk to each other about making sure that our firearms do not unintentionally fall into the hands of a child. So I attended this presentation and I asked this organization if they would be interested in coming to Clark to do that here. And they have agreed and on Thursday, May 5th at 7:00 pm at the Clark Library. They will be here to do their presentation. The invitation is open to all Clark residents, adults only though.

To Mayor Bonaccorso, on behalf on the entire police department I extend my condolences and my prayers to you and your family. Joe, we will never forget Joe, he was always a great face to see at town hall. Mr. Laezza congratulations on your great grandchild. And as a veteran, Mr. Caruso thank you for all of your hard work to get the memorial for the women veterans to put in front of town hall. Thank you have a good night. Oh also Councilman Barr I'll post the emergency numbers on our Facebook page so people have them.

Howard Lesnik: Nothing tonight.

John Laezza: Yes, Council President. First of all, Bill we've had a number of citizens come to see me during the past week regarding placing a tree in front of town hall and putting a plaque in for Joe. And so it's well under way. We have an outpouring from the community which is a good thing. Second, basically the last week has been tough, now we celebrate Joe's life. And I met Joe sixteen years ago with his son Sal when I got appointed. And it was very interesting that Joe and I kind of were here listening to Sal's

program as to what he wanted for the Township of Clark. And one of Sal's biggest problems in the Township of Clark as a Councilman was the part time favoritism that was reflected in past administrations on the services that were rendered to the citizens. And he had a big complaint with regard to public works. In fact, his first role to me was we need more people in public works because we are not providing sufficient service. And I said to Sal at least give me a week before I find out what's happening in town before we decide to hire people and we didn't hire people. Joe and I sat down with Sal and we worked out a public works program. And we had an individual in Joe Bonaccorso who gave full time for a Shade Tree Director's job. Then the part time Director of Public Works passed away and he took it over as a full time job for no money at all and he made the Public Works Department work. You know down to the last sixteen years I've been humbly receiving accolades from the township as to how well I do here and how well the town does there. The town doesn't do well unless you have people that can work for you. I have a great Chief of Police, I have a great DPW guy, Joe Bonaccorso set that foundation according to the Mayor. And yes sometimes Joe and I got a little testy with citizens but we always did what they wanted because Sal's said we're here to serve whether we like them or not. And so that's why this town of Clark came from the dregs of the earth I will tell you because it was broken sixteen years ago. And it's a great town and Joe was very instrumental, thank you.

Council President Hund: I won't reiterate everyone's comments Mr. Caruso but thank you very much. Sal, you know you have our deepest condolences as the council and as a personal friend. And to your entire family our prayers are still with you and will miss your father tremendously. I don't want to get you upset but he was a great man. I met him sitting at the baseball field with you when we were coaching the little ones. So I think we all have stories that we can tell regarding him and he'll never be forgotten.

One last piece of business I would like to say is that the Clark Kiwanis Club is holding its Fourth Annual Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast on Saturday, April 16th from 8:00 am to 10:00 am at Applebee's in Clark. The ticket costs are \$10.00 for adults, \$7.00 for children 12 and younger. You can call Anna Elecko at 732-381-4821 or Ron Pask at 732-574-9182. So that's just a fundraiser for the Kiwanis Club.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Mr. President if I may. I want to thank everybody for their kind words, it's tough. But as he always did for me my father, tough as he was, he made me laugh. That guy can put me on ground and make me laugh. Not because he was a funny person, I thought when he told a joke and I'm going to get a little happy now, that he wasn't a good joke teller and I would tell him that and he would get very annoyed but I'm going to give you a story about what he did in the hospital one day.

When my Dad first got sick and I will tell the community that his ten months in the hospital mentally he was sharp as usual asking about a lot of things, Board of Education and election, talking about DPW on what they are doing, asking about many of you and very happy to hear a lot of the good things. And you know part of being in the hospital is boring, so you want to go in and try to keep him happy and active. One day he was a little off, not a lot, but a little bit. And unfortunately he was on dialysis at that point. Something that he dreaded and hated and was really very upset about until I kind of talked to him one day in the hospital. But one day he was irritated and I went up to the hospital and the nurse said to me "oh he's being very, very tough in there" and I said "what's the matter?" she said "he's really, really annoyed at the dialysis technician." And like I said for someone who is very, very mentally sharp at 86 years old he was just having one of those little off days. And I walked into the room and I said "Dad what are you doing?" and he said "let me tell you something" and I mean he was hot, he said "they are trying to give me dialysis today" and I said "yeah" he said "I told them the Mayor said there is no dialysis, Laezza wrote

a memo and I read it.” And I have to tell you guys I just fell on the floor because just listening to him and town hall that I gave an order and John wrote it up on a memo and he’s not going to have it. And I said to him “Dad look let me talk to you” and I finally got him in the right frame of mind and he was fine. But that was a true story and you know that’s how my last ten months was, it’s been a lot of sorrow and a lot of difficulty but there were some laughs in there. And you know on what you all said, thank you, he did love the community and he did love the job and we’ll go on. So I’m going to stop because I can’t go any further, so thank you all, God Bless you for your friendship.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman O’Connor, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

APPROVED

STEVEN M. HUND
Council President

ATTEST:

EDITH L. MERKEL, RMC
Township Clerk