

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, 315 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK NJ
May 16, 2016

ROLL CALL:

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

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

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 made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Honoring 5th Grade Girls Basketball Championship Season

Mayor Bonaccorso: Good evening ladies and gentlemen, welcome to our council meeting for the month and I'm glad to see everyone here. Tonight we are going to have a special honor recognizing the 5th Grade Girls Clark Travel Crusader Basketball Team for their accomplishment winning the Central Jersey Championship. And that's one heck of a great accomplishment. So we are very glad to have you.

Mayor Bonaccorso called Jerry Fogle up to the podium. The Mayor presented him with a certificate which reads: Mayor's Certificate of Achievement presented to Coach Jerry Fogle, it is with great pleasure that I, the Mayor of the Township of Clark, recognize you for your outstanding achievement in winning the championship at the 5th Grade Central Jersey Basketball League. Congratulations Jerry.

Coach Fogle: I would just like to say that they did a great job, they worked together, they played well and they played hard and they deserved everything they got.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You know basketball is very exciting, it's a great sport. And myself and Councilman Hund and Councilman Smith we all have been involved in it and are still involved in it. And there's nothing like a good winter day on a Saturday or Sunday to go to Brewer and to watch an exciting team. We watched you guys play a lot this year and you really were exciting and you have a great future. So just keep working hard at it and enjoy it. The most important thing is to enjoy it, it really is. Because it goes very fast and hopefully you will be playing at Kumpf and the high school and you'll have a great time doing it. But you have to have fun that's the most important thing.

Mayor Bonaccorso and Coach Fogle hand out the certificate to the girls

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

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, thank you Mr. President, Members of Council, ladies and gentlemen. I would like to start off to another celebration here in congratulating the ALJ High School Softball Team who won the county championship on Saturday which is a heck of a job to do. And it was the first time in thirty-five years that they won a county championship. So they had a great game and a great season going on. I wish them all the best of luck in the state tournament. Congratulation girls and coaches you did a terrific job. Staying with another congratulations is to the ALJ Boys Baseball Team who won the conference championship this year for the second year in a row. So to Coach Kennedy and all the coaches and the players on the team, congratulations, that was a great job well done.

Moving now I would like to inform the council that later tonight Chief Pedro Matos will get up and talk about a new initiative his department is going to be doing which I'm very excited about and very happy and he will explain it all to you on some community policing. I think it's going to make this town very, very happy to hear. So Chief we'll get to you later in the evening. And speaking about policing, we have graduation and proms coming up. And unfortunately that sometimes relates to drinking and driving. Our policy here in Clark through my office right down to the Chief of Police through his people we have a zero tolerance. We do not want you to be a statistic. We do not want to be on any of the news channels talking about a tragedy. Brian Toal our Councilman, Pat O'Connor and myself and probably even Al Barr who's been here a long time you guys remember back in the seventies and eighties in Clark on how many people went through the doors of Walter Johnson's Funeral Home of young people, we don't want that to happen. Citizens and friends of mine if your child is involved in any kind of underage drinking my policy has been very strict. You can be my best friend, do not call, there's nothing I can do for you. There's nothing I can do for you. I am an advocate against underage drinking. And I'm an advocate against people who think it's okay. If you want to do that in your home God knows I will never tell you how to be a parent or run your home. If it spills out into Clark Township, it

then becomes our business and we will deal with it accordingly. I have lost a couple of friends over the last sixteen years being Mayor and that's okay. If my concern is more for your child than you, oh well.

Moving on I would like to also congratulate, because I think it's a tremendous move from our Police Chief Pedro Matos on putting out a video of the car burglaries that happened over on the west side a couple of weeks ago. They were unlocked cars folks and a video shows a couple of people coming forward in a driveway walking up to cars and opening the door handle and just taking some small objects and moving on. That was a rash that night that not only hit Clark Township but it hit some of the surrounding towns. It could have very well been the same group going in and out of different neighboring communities. I don't know that for sure but it could be. If your car doors are locked they are not smashing windows. They are not jimmying doors. They are just opening the handles. Yes, we are safe. Yes, we all get complaisant at times but I'll tell you a story what happened to me today at the Acme in Clark. I pull my truck in to go in to get a few items after work and I opened my truck door to step out and there's a car, I'm in my pick up so it's higher and there's a pocketbook sitting right on the front seat of the car next to me opened. Now I didn't check to see if the door was open or not but I wasn't about to do that. But if somebody was walking through that lot and wanted to take a chance, you can say well maybe she had her cash with her or credit card with her, but it's your pocketbook with personal belongings in their probably like a license, credit cards or social security numbers. I just can't believe that someone would leave their pocketbook right out in broad daylight like that. So that's something that I was kind of shocked at. So again Chief congratulations on putting that out. I commend you for not trying to hide behind it. I know some people may want to do that in other towns. You are out front telling the citizens what's happening here and asking for their help because we obviously cannot have police officers on every street in Clark as much as we would like but we can't do that. So folks please pay attention out there. Last month we honored a citizen that helped the police department grab a burglar right in the act. We need your help and the police department needs your help. If you see something fishy and suspicious call them. Every Chief that I've served with here in the last sixteen years has said the same thing that Chief Matos is saying; call us we don't mind, our men will come out, if it's nothing it's nothing. And that concludes my report thank you.

Township Clerk: I have the Police, Fire, Emergency Management and First Aid Squad reports for the month of April 2016 received and on file in my office.

REPORT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you, I have updates on what's happening at the Library. I'm please to say that our former Clark PD Captain Bill Duffy, also a Veteran, will be conducting a presentation of the fallen heroes. And he did this several years ago. You may have read about him in the paper or you may have heard him at one of our Memorial Day presentations. But he has gathered through his research of going through all types of archives throughout the country looking for information about these individuals and it's a tremendous presentation. I do not have the date; it will be after Memorial Day. And he is going to also have a display at the Library of various letters and memorabilia from all of these fallen heroes on display at the Clark Library. Currently the display is at the high school and so it will be moved over to the Library. In

addition, all of the pictures that he has and letters, etc. will all be added to the Clark archives and will be available online at any time. We will have a permanent display and I'm so happy to announce that to you. So please look forward to that date and if you can make it it's really worthwhile. It's an amazing story that he tells about each of these individuals, something we can all relate too.

One other happening at the Library, we are currently searching for a part time children's librarian. This individual will enable us to expand our youth services and outreach to the schools. And finally I just want to mention the warmer weather is coming, we have the museum passes for the Intrepid, the Grounds for Sculpture down in Hamilton, New Jersey, the Intrepid Museum is over in New York on the west side. So those are available to you for free from donations and also from the Friends of the Library, so I invite you all to take advantage of that. And that concludes my report, thank you.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President. The police dispatcher had the Clark Volunteer Fire Department respond to 52 calls in April. Most of the calls were carbon monoxide alarms. And the fire department asked me to convey the importance of periodically checking the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. And if you are unsure as to when you changed the batteries last change them again. As I said it's a deadly gas that if your carbon monoxide alarm isn't working you won't know what's happening and it could be bad. So again please check the batteries in your alarm. And that concludes my report.

Councilman Mazarella: Yes, thank you Council President. I have a report from DPW; branches can be placed out in front of your property starting today. DPW will start to pick them up next Monday the 23rd. Please leave the branches one foot from the curb to allow for proper drainage of the water when it rains so it could go into our catch basins and they won't clog up from the branches. Grass pickup for Memorial Day is Saturday May 28th, there will be no pickup on that Monday, Memorial Day May 30th. The next electronic drop off is June 25th at 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. No drop off for May 28th due to DPW being closed for the Memorial Day weekend. And please ladies and gentlemen don't place any of the items out in front of the gate. Bulky pickup continues by appointment, so go online on our web dpw@ourclark.com or call 732-428-8402 to make an appointment. Metal and appliance pickup continues by appointment and it's the same email and phone number for that as well. And we still have free root mulch for township residents. Ladies and gentlemen I've been telling you about this for quite some time. So I figured I would get a small load to see how it is and how it looks, and let me tell you it's really some good mulch, it really looks good and it's very dark and it will dress up your property very nicely if you are incline to use mulch. So don't hesitate to call DPW they will deliver either a small load or large load and it's free of charge. And they will be happy to deliver it to you. Thank you and that is the extent of my report.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you very much. First and foremost, the township continues to be financially solvent, so thank you Mr. Laezza and the crew over there. And from the Emergency Management Office just updates from last month; again they continue to move over the township radio from 1700 am to 590. And there was a quarterly local emergency planning committee meeting on April 24th.

With regard to the Emergency Squad; the festivities for the squad's diamond anniversary have started during the National EMS Week, May 15th to the 21st, 2016. The squad hosted an open house on May 15th and will have demonstrations and classes for the rest of the week. I have a flyer here which they have as well. So the open house was from 12 to 4 obviously on Sunday but for the rest of the week it's 7 pm to 9 pm. Today Monday is the first aid demo; Tuesday pediatrics CPR; Wednesday what happens when you call 911; Thursday compression only CPR and Friday kids night how to call 911 and how to help a choking victim. So again celebrating EMS week this week.

When it comes to the call volume, the Clark Emergency Squad responded to 95 calls during April and year to date a total of calls of 430. Of these monthly calls 84 were in Clark and the squad provided mutual aid for the neighboring eleven towns. The town that receives the most was Rahway with eight mutual aids and twenty-three to date.

Member accomplishments; Overlook Hospital will be honoring Daniel Sheldon as Clark's Outstanding EMS Volunteer at Robert Wood Johnson and Rahway Hospital will be honoring Lance Keho as their Outstanding EMS Provider from Clark. Congratulations to members Karen Moya and Cynthia Perez on successfully completing their Emergency Medical Technician's Program at Union County College, Laurie Sheldon; now you've heard me talk about Danny Sheldon, it's really a family affair over there. Laurie is the mother of Danny so they are in their second generation at the emergency squad. So that's what we like to promote here in town, so that's outstanding thank you very much for your service. Laurie Sheldon has been tapped by the National Association of EMS Educator's to teach at their National EMS Level I Instructor Program. Laurie currently serves on the membership and nominee committees.

Supporting the community; the Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad has also shared it's building to provide service and support as follows; the monthly blood drive Monday, May 16th, Eagle Scout Court of Honor for two members of the Boy Scout Troop 145. And again there's multiple levels of membership, if you are interested please email membership@clarkems.org and that is my report for this evening thank you.

Councilman Smith: Thank you Council President Hund. This past Saturday we had a very successful open house at the Clark Community Pool. Applications for membership can be picked up at the recreation office or visit our website at www.ourclark.com under departments and swim pool utility. There have been many exciting upgrades to the facility over the past year.

Registration forms for the popular summer recreation programs are available at the recreation office. Please sign up now before this program fills to capacity. The program begins on Tuesday, July 5 and runs for 6 consecutive weeks.

If you have any questions regarding the pool or summer recreation program, please contact our recreation direction Ralph Bernardo at 732-388-3600 Ext 4. And that's all I have for this evening.

Councilman Toal: Thank you Mr. President. From the Environmental Commission; I have an add on from Joe Seebode who conducted the Rahway River Cleanup on Saturday, April 23th.

Joe just wanted to let everyone know what the final results of that cleanup and how the impact is to our township. We do the Rahway River Cleanup in the spring time and then the Reservoir Cleanup in the fall. But 115 participants came out. They counted over a hundred bags of trash. They go up from the Winfield Park Dam and they work their way all the way down into Rahway. So they went through Clark and they cut through Rahway River Park. And Joe just wanted me to say thank you again to all of the participants of the 115 and a special thank you to their sponsors who brought refreshments and food for the kids and participants. Especially to Vaccaro's Bakery, Pinho Bakery, Suzanne at United Water who supplied water for the children and then helped out, Union County Parks and Recreation who came out and did the cleanup, they leave the bags out Union County and they come out and pick up the debris, Bartell's on Central Avenue in Clark always gives out and helps out the environmental issues of Clark and Shop Rite of Clark. Again special thanks to Joe Seebode and to his family who take the time to organize this event and to let the Township of Clark always know we're there to help in the keeping it green.

Also on May 12th the Environmental Commission held its annual meeting and the final dates have been selected for the fall cleanup or the reservoir cleanup, that will be Saturday, October 15th the reservoir right behind this building, they will be giving a tour as well as a cleanup of debris. So on the 15th of October will be the reservoir cleanup, rain date will be Sunday, October 16th and we hope to have everybody out and participate. More information will be pending on that through the summer months.

This from the Historical Society from Scott McCabe and the Dr. Robinson Plantation; Dr. Robinson's Museum was opened on April 10th with about twenty-five volunteer adults and youths from the Kiwanis, ALJ Key Club, Boy Scout Troop 145 and Cub Scout Pack 145 participating in the cleaning event of the museum. They cleaned up the herb garden, removed vines, and general cleanup of the grounds and a great job was done by all. The Department of Public Works took three truckloads of dead trees, dead vines and leaves out from the site. Again special thanks to the Clark Public Works Department for their assistance on this. They just had a reenactment group at the site this past Sunday the 15th and again the attendance and participation was enjoyed by all.

Now, coming events let's go back in time folks. On June 11th and the 12th Dr. Robinson will be opened and hosting a Pirate Encampment, a little prior of Clark's history. So come on out for a pirate encampment featuring bloody historical and demonstrations of pirate life. Sale mending, cooking, cannons and weapons from that time period will be available to be displayed. Come out for this special weekend. All visitors will be welcome at the Dr. William Robinson Plantation. Any other contacts will be through the Clerk's Office and town hall. Pirates in Clark, please come out and enjoy that one. That's all I have for now thank you.

Council President Hund: My report is the Clark Police Department Monthly Report for April 2016; saw a total of 2,939 calls for service of which 88 were ambulance request, 10 were fire department requests, 2 were vandalism, 19 were motor vehicle and resident lockouts, 109 were alarm calls, 87 were motor vehicle accidents, and 2,596 were miscellaneous calls. There were a total of 22 adults arrested included 3 for theft, 3 for simple assault, 1 for weapon possession, 1 for fraud, 5 for drug abuse, 1 for hindering apprehension and 8 warrants, there were a total of 9

juvenile arrests including 2 for harassment, 1 for criminal mischief, 1 for possession and consumption of alcohol and 2 offenses against the family, of these one was formally charged and 8 were in house dispositions. And that concludes my report.

ORDINANCES, APPROPRIATIONS AND CLAIMS:

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

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

AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 195 SECTION 131 ENTITLED “DOWNTOWN VILLAGE DISTRICT” OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK CREATING A SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY AND ESTABLISHING A DISTRICT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION TO PROVIDE SERVICES WITHIN THE DISTRICT

WHEREAS the Mayor and Municipal Council regard the Downtown Village District (DTV) an integral and vital economic and social force in the Township of Clark; and

WHEREAS the Mayor set up a task force, subsequent to a meeting being held, inviting all the property owners within the “DTV” to discuss the future as to the economic viability of the area, and such task force decided upon developing a plan to enhance the Downtown Village District’s commercial viability and attractiveness; to help the “DTV” attract new businesses and residential development in the Downtown Village District; and

WHEREAS the Mayor and Council desires to implement conceptually an Improvement Plan and Design for the Downtown Village District; and

WHEREAS pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:56-65 et. Seq., (the “ACT”), the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clark, (the Township) hereby determines that the area hereinafter designated as a Special Improvement District (the District) is in the best interest of the Township and its residents for promoting economic growth and employment within the District and the general welfare of the Township of Clark and for the purpose of improving municipal tax rates for the properties located within the District; and

WHEREAS a District Director would provide administrative and other services to benefit businesses, employees, residents and consumers within the District; and

WHEREAS a special assessment shall be imposed and collected by the Township with the regular property tax payment or payment in lieu of taxes or otherwise, and as hereinafter or hereafter designated by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clark all or a portion of those costs shall be transferred to the District to effectuate the purpose given to it by this ordinance and the Act; and

WHEREAS such special assessment shall fall within the range of three quarters of a tax point (.75) not to exceed one tax point (1.00). Should the District require additional funds, it will be necessary to amend this ordinance with the prior approval of the District Management Corporation and concurrence of the Mayor and Council; and

WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the Township and the general public to create the District hereinafter specifically outlined and designated and to establish a District Management Corporation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Municipal Council of the Township of Clark:

Section 1. There is hereby created and designated within the Township of Clark the “Clark Special Improvement District” (the District) hereinafter designated by street address and tax lot and block number set forth in section 3 hereof. The “District” shall be subject to a special assessment on all property within the “District” which shall be imposed by the Township of Clark for the purpose of promoting the economic and general welfare of the “District” and the Municipality.

Section 2. It is the intention and purpose of this Ordinance to encourage and endeavor to have the exteriors of all structures in the “District” which are or become used, whether all or in part, for non-residential use, as defined in the Township of Clark Land Use and Development Regulations, as adopted and amended from time to time.

Section 3. All costs of development, construction and acquisition relating to providing public improvements for the “District” not borne by Federal, State, County or Local governments shall be financed and assessed to properties specially benefitted by such improvements. The properties specially benefitted by the creation of the “District” as described by lot and block number and street address as listed in Appendix A.

Section 4. It is hereby determined that the improvements in the “District” may involve annual costs, in addition to the initial cost of constructing and making improvements within the “District”. Such annual costs relate to the maintenance services peculiar to the “District”, and are distinguished from maintenance services normally provided by the Township outside of the “District” and will provide benefits primarily to the property included in the “District”, rather than to the Township as a whole. The improvements and the facilities thereof shall be maintained and operated pursuant to the provisions of this ordinance, and to N.J.S.A. 40:56-65 et.seq. and the costs thereof shall be assessed or taxed to the benefitted properties or businesses pursuant to this ordinance or to N.J.S.A. 40:56-80 (or N.J.S.A. 40:56-85). The properties to be assessed or taxed to provide the payment of such annual costs are described in Section 3, hereof.

Section 5. Concurrently with the submission of the Improvement Plan for the Special Improvement District, and annually thereafter, the Business Administrator of the Township of Clark, with the assistance of the Director of the District Management Corporation, shall report to the Mayor an estimate of the cost of operating, maintaining, and improving the district for the next fiscal year to be incurred under the Plan including an estimate of changes in the amount of said costs ,which would follow upon the adoption of any addition or amendment to the Plan recommended to or under consideration by the Township Council. Such estimate shall be reasonably itemized and shall include a summary of categories of cost, properly chargeable in accordance with N.J. S. A 40:56-80. The Business

Administrator shall submit a detailed annual budget for approval by resolution of the Municipal Council

Section 6. There is hereby created the “Township of Clark District Management Corporation”, (the Corporation) which shall exercise the following powers:

- (1) Adopt Bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business and to prescribe rules, regulations and policies in connection with the performance of its functions and duties;
- (2) Subject to Mayor’s approval, the Corporation may employ such persons, as may be required, to fix and pay their compensation from funds available to the Corporation;
- (3) Apply for, accept, administer and comply with the requirements respecting an appropriation of funds or a gift, grant or donation of property or money;
- (4) Subject to Mayor’s approval, Corporation may make and execute agreements which may be necessary or convenient to exercise the powers and functions of the Corporation, including contracts with any person, firm, corporation, governmental agency or other entity;
- (5) Subject to approval of Mayor and Municipal Council approval, Corporation may request to borrow money from private lenders for periods not to exceed 180 days and from governmental entities for that or a longer period of time;
- (6) Fund the improvement of the exterior appearance of properties in the “District” through grants or loans, subject to prior Administration approval;
- (7) Fund the rehabilitation of properties in the “District” subject to prior Administration approval;
- (8) Subject to prior Mayor and Municipal approval, the Corporation may accept, purchase, rehabilitate, sell, lease or manage property in the “District”;
- (9) Enforce the conditions of any loan, grant, sale or lease made by the Corporation;
- (10) Provide security, sanitation and other services to the “District” supplemental to those provided normally by the Township”;
- (11) Undertake improvements designed to increase safety or attractiveness of the “District” to businesses which may desire to locate there, or to visitors to the “District”, including, but not limited to, litter cleanup and control, landscaping, parking areas and facilities, recreational and rest areas and facilities and those improvements generally permitted for pedestrian malls under section of P/L/1972, C.134, Section 2 (N.J.S.A. 40:56-66) pursuant to pertinent regulations of the governing body;
- (12) Publicize the “District” and the businesses included within the “District” boundaries;
- (13) Recruit new business to fill vacancies in, and to balance the business mix of, the “District”;
- (14) Organize and coordinate special events in the “District” pursuant to pertinent regulations of the Mayor and Municipal Council;
- (15) Provide special parking arrangements for the “District” subject to prior approval from the Administration;

Section 7.

A. the Corporation shall be governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of seven (7) members appointed by the Mayor and Municipal Council as follows:

- (1) A member of the Municipal governing body, appointed by the Mayor;
- (2) Two (2) residents of the Township of Clark, who are neither an owner or tenant of property in the “District”, nor conduct a business therein, nor is a stockholder, officer, employee or director of any business conducted in the “District”;
- (3) Two (2) persons who are either owners of real estate located within the “District”, or officials of a corporation or entity owning real estate within the “District”;
- (4) Two (2) persons who are either proprietors or employees of businesses conducted within the “District”

B. the appointment of Members to the Board of Trustees shall initially be as follows:

- (1) Two members for a one (1) year term; (2) Two Members for a two (2) year term; (3) two Members for a three-year term. Thereafter, appointments will be for a three-year term. Terms shall expire on December 31st.

C. Vacancies on the Board of Trustees are appointed by the Mayor and Municipal Council and will be filled for the expiration of the term.

D. the Member of the Municipal Council shall be appointed by the Mayor for a one-year term ending December 31st.

E. the Chairman of the Board of Trustees shall be appointed by the Mayor annually.

Section 8. If any provisions of this ordinance should be held invalid, or contrary to law, then such provision of the Ordinance shall be deemed separable from the remaining provisions of this ordinance and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of the ordinance.

Section 9. This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption as required by the laws of the governing body.

Moved by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Abstain: Toal

Discussion:

John Laezza: Council President and Members of Council. This is an introduction of a detailed ordinance with a number of variations in it and the affect it would have on some seventy-seven property owners on Westfield Avenue. It’s an ordinance that creates a special district

management group who will be made up of the citizens of Clark. The majority of an organization of seven people with a Chair and the Chair is appointed by the Mayor. The people that would be part of this group are either owners of properties on Westfield Avenue, merchants on Westfield Avenue that don't own the property but rent the property, two citizens throughout the entire community that have no direct relationship to the property and they would run the operation and advise council as to its future needs at each time. It basically predicated that they'll be a special assessment determined by the assessed value of their properties. In developing this ordinance, we have also sent the copies of the ordinance as it is in your hands tonight to all the property owners on Westfield Avenue. It's our intention to have a hearing with them on June 6th in these Chambers at 7:30. The rest of the public are naturally invited because it's a public meeting and we would like to hear what the residents of those specific properties concerns are as it relates to it, their pros and cons. We are here to answer their questions. The township will be spending in excess of a million two hundred thousand dollars on improving the sidewalks in the area. We are looking to do street lamps to make it decorative and maintain the area with some special services, trying to create a downtown that Clark has never really had. Subsequent to the adoption of this ordinance if it's adopted and it's put in place there are other activities that we will be taking to attract more businesses to that area. We believe that will increase the values of the properties in that area hopefully tenfold and make downtown what we thought the last sixteen years would be done privately but obviously it needs a little boost. So this is not the night for a public hearing but this is the night for the introduction of it. We'll have meetings before and the final hearing will be on June 20th, thank you.

Councilman Toal: Mr. President may I. Thank you Mr. Laezza for your comments and the Mayor for their hard work. We all know you live in this town and we all know Westfield Avenue needs a lot of help. It's an aged strip of this town from Rahway line down to Grant Avenue that has basically decayed in the last thirty years plus. I walked Westfield Avenue yesterday and I had a couple of people honking their horns. I walked to see for myself because usually I'm out there on campaign time or if I just want to go out and just walk it myself to see what the residents what they are living in and whether the properties are being maintained. And yes Mr. Laezza I have seventy-six property owners that are involved in this or are affected by this. Seven are residential homes that have been grandfathered in where the other ones are commercial/multiple use business etc. but there are seven residents, older senior citizens that are in this zone that I'm extremely concerned about. But I'm not saying "no" but I'm saying is we have a lot of unanswered issues we have to address and that's where a forum will allow those questions be answered. I do not like government, government is the problem. I follow the Ronald Reagan policy less government is best, let the people run the decisions. But in this case we do need to do something absolutely a hundred percent. That street is a mess in certain areas, properties have been neglected. The one store which is the anchor what I call Foodtown has been left to decay from 1999 to 2006 when it was used as the A & P. Everyone one calls it the A & P but it's not, it's Merit Foodtown. A & P used it until they got the new building up and moved back. Merit Foodtown has become an eyesore and an obstacle to this township which I know you have been working very diligently Mr. Mayor and I know you will have good words in time. The Jack's Tavern site is another fiasco. Since 1999 the place was torn down, the building is down and it's a fiasco. The gateway to Clark, we need to act. But is government the answer? We need to find those solutions to those problems. And taxing the businesses is that the answer especially those seven residents, there has to be an exemption to them. You can't go to a senior citizen on

Westfield Avenue and say “hey we are going to hit you with an additional tax” who are on fixed incomes and say “it’s going to improve your property value.” They might not understand that; we have to get those questions answered for them. I’m in favor of creating something to help this zone out. This is where I grew up along Westfield Avenue. I’ve played as a kid, trick or treated, it’s my home, we need to do something. But is the solution to additional tax, we have to find a common ground here and that’s what I want to say at this time there’s going to be more comments and I want to hear what the people have to say. And that’s what I’m trying to feel, I really feel we are putting the cart before the horse tonight. We are creating an ordinance that is going to be modified, yes, are we creating this is going to be the final law, is there salaries involved with these positions or benefits which was an issue in the last political cycles. So we have questions to ask and to answer and I would like to know what the people have to say before rendering any decision on this one. Thank you Mr. President.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well first off Brian I think when you were walking the street yesterday if anybody was waving anything at you they were telling you that you are #1 in the Fourth Ward that’s what I have to believe. Not to debate you because we are not debating but we had some questions at the last executive meeting and unfortunately the esteemed Councilman wasn’t able to be there which he usually always is, so it’s one of the rare times. Basically we are going to have the meeting on June 6th, we are going to have a workshop here and hear from the people. The reason this is up here tonight for introduction and as you full well know introduction technically means nothing because it gets introduced then you have to have a public hearing on it so there’s two votes. With that being said the urgency is very simple, we want any construction to start in the summer months where we lose fifty percent of the traffic out of Clark Township. You saw what happened when the water company was digging there a large part of the winter how traffic was snarled and there were problems. I agree with the Councilman that we never ever want to tax because we’ve been the lowest taxes in the county for the past sixteen years and we’re proud of that. This is a business zone that the people of this town have asked me for sixteen years to want to have it developed. Unfortunately, we shouldn’t be having to do this job. Our forefathers who created this town should have had some hindsight into looking for a real downtown. Years ago we created a downtown village, I said back then it’s going to take ten or fifteen years to develop because we are not throwing anybody out of their homes or businesses by way of condemnation to try to stick something down anybody’s throat. A very little activity has happened but there has been some activity down there. Some people who are actually here tonight have put some nice money into their buildings down there and brought some nice professional corporations and stores in there which is somewhat exciting. I see work being done today on the old Clark Fish Market which is exciting. We are looking to do some changing in development with some zoning down there so the people can get the most out of their properties. It is a business district. This question ladies and gentlemen for those of you who are watching at home and I know a lot of the committee I’ve met with and Mr. Laezza has met with seem like they want to go forward. The question is, how do you fund it? Now the township government is willing to make an investment into paving Westfield Avenue and installing new sidewalks like we do throughout town in other neighborhoods, correct, residential homes, so that is our contribution. When we talk about having lanterns, flowers hanging from them and other things that are in the future, we’re talking about having the Department of Public Works person down there watering those flowers, sweeping up, we might need some special equipment to do the sweeping, we are obviously not going to send a guy down there with a backpack blower, it’s going to have to be some kind of

small walk behind street sweeper type of thing to keep the area up. Because if there's going to be an investment from the government and an investment from the business people down there we obviously want it to hold up and become something that we all can be very proud of. Clark Commons shows a lot of people throughout this county what happens when you bring something nice, people come. Although you know maybe it will never be on the lines of a Summit or a Westfield because of the gas stations and some of the residential homes that are still there. I'm very up front when I say about it, it sure can be something a heck of a lot nicer and something that we all can be proud of going forward. I always understand about senior citizens and have done our darndest to keep taxes down. You live there and if this works and it goes through your property values are going to skyrocket. Because now you are going to have people wanted to come in there. There's no more selling it for a home, that zoning is already in there. When those houses sell they have to be sold to a business or a professional to come in there and then they would have to redo that home into an office building. That zone is already there which will add value. We can talk in the future about doing some things like Garwood or Cranford has done where you can have a store or an office with an apartment upstairs to help pay for this. That's very, very acceptable in my thought process and that's something we will discuss here in the next few months I'm sure. The bottom line though becomes very simple and I've always believed in that we are little people and I think I followed it for twenty years in government. This is up to the people. Two, three or four are not going to sway my opinion one way or the other. It has to be the majority of the people, I don't want a 51/49, I wouldn't like that. But if the majority says go forward, I would urge this council to do so in your vote because the government can't pay for everything. The investment we're making in the road and in the sidewalks is our investment that we make in every street. No differently than to be hypothetical if tomorrow a street came down and said "hey we want little lanterns along our street" is it right for the rest of the community to pay for that, the answer in my mind is "no". So we're here and if these folks want to go through with it, I will be glad to sign it into law to do it. If they come out and they don't, then we won't. We're still going to do the sidewalks and the street but that's up to them. John has literally I mean...I have to tell you something he's ran through many different financial scenarios to see what is the cheapest. Some that we started with were actually much, much, much higher. There's a three quarters of a tax point in cap to never to be able to go over one tax point, that's in the legislation. That's something that if it ever has to change has to be voted on by a council down the road. So Brian I think the reason we've gotten this far and I hope I answered your question on to why now. Look if we have every property owner on that street come out and say we don't want this, well we are going to rip it up and throw it in the garbage pail, no big deal. If the majority, a good majority of them say we want to, I would urge council to do this because this is what they want, it's the voice and the will of the people. Unfortunately, through our state constitution local government cannot exempt taxation from one group of citizens to another. Years ago when the Hyatt Hills Golf Course was being built the flaw at the time through the township government was we are going to make so much money off the Hyatt Hills Golf Course that we are going to take that money and we're going to lower the rent and property taxes for all senior citizens throughout Clark. And at the time it didn't sound right to me but I was new in government so I had to find out. And I went to then Senate President DiFrancesco who had his office research it and through the constitution you can't exempt, the state can, we can't. So either everyone pays or no one pays. So that's basically I don't want to go to deep tonight, the Councilman had a couple of questions and I hope some of that might have helped clear it up. But we are going to have the hearing because tonight really isn't the night, it's an introduction. June

6th we are going to want to hear from all the residents and tenants on Westfield Avenue first and then if there's any public or community comments from throughout the town we'll be always too glad to hear them. Then I think the 20th of June would be if the council choses to go that far the night we would adopt this legislation and go out for bid and get this thing rolling because it's going to be a big job down there and we want to try to get it into the summer or some of the summer if we can, as soon as we absolutely can. So that concludes that comment for this evening, thank you Mr. President, Members of Council.

Councilman Toal: One last thought Mr. President. I just feel that we have two weeks till the 6th, if we could wait on it I would make a motion to table it till after and then you have at the executive to listen to the people and then you vote on it. That's just the way I look at it, it won't hurt anybody.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It's not about two weeks Brian. It's going to push the project...look if the people don't want it you don't vote on it, it dies. But if the people want it and I know you are the true voice of the people you would support it. But I also know that once school starts and there's traffic you are going to be in John's office or my office complaining about it. And then I'm going to tell you that it was your two weeks that did it. So we do Brian try to plan some of this stuff to try to get it done when there's fifty percent less traffic in this town in the summer months and you know that you've been here forever. So that's why I would urge council to support doing this tonight if you want to get this project going if that's what the residents and businesses want there, if that's what they want. The indication to me and I met with groups are they do but we'll let them tell us that for sure. But like I said if you do it tonight there's no harm, if the winds change out there and they come in here on the 6th and say "we don't want it", no problem, then you just take it off and that's the end of it. So that's it, it's just a matter of timing to make it more convenient for the community no other reason.

Councilwoman Albanese: No I mean I think it's been said. But we have the meeting on the 6th Brian and then the vote will be on the 20th, the hearing, so you still have plenty of time and that was a thought process that was discussed.

Councilman Toal: I understand.

Councilman Barr: Basically this is just introducing it.

Councilman Mazzarella: And whether this goes through or not the Mayor's committed to doing the road work and the sidewalk work there as well. So if this dies the roads will be better and the sidewalks will be better.

No further discussion

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Abstain: Toal

Public Hearing will be June 20th

Township Clerk: For the record the Supplemental Debt Statement for the Bond Ordinance has been properly filed with the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services by the Chief Financial Officer.

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF THE 2016 CAPITAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (PHASE II) IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,470,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE STATE GRANTS, 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, New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The Township of Clark, in the County of Union, New Jersey (the "Township"), is hereby authorized to undertake the 2016 Capital Road Improvement Program (Phase II) (including roadway reconstruction and resurfacing and the undertaking of the following, where necessary: repair of the storm drainage system, reconstruction of curbs, sidewalks and driveway aprons and the making of landscaping improvements) at the following locations in the Township:

- Lexington Boulevard (Sections 1 and 2 - from Raritan Road to Garden State Parkway)
- Colonial Drive (entire length)

Depending upon the contract price and other exigent circumstances, and upon approval by the Township Council, there may be additions to or deletions from the aforesaid list. It is

hereby determined and stated that said roads being improved are of "Class B" or equivalent construction as defined in Section 22 of the Local Bond Law (Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, as amended; the "Local Bond Law").

Section 2. The sum of \$1,470,000 is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of making the improvements described in Section 1 hereof (hereinafter referred to as "purpose"). Said appropriation shall be met from the proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized, and the down payment and the State grants 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 benefitted.

Section 3. It is hereby determined and stated that (1) said purpose is not a current expense of said Township, and (2) it is necessary to finance said purpose by the issuance of obligations of said Township pursuant to the Local Bond Law, and (3) the estimated cost of said purpose is \$1,470,000, and (4) \$360,000 of said sum is to be provided by the State grants hereinafter appropriated, and (5) \$53,000 of said sum is to be provided by the down payment hereinafter appropriated to finance said purpose, and (6) the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes necessary to be issued for said purpose is \$1,057,000, and (7) the cost of such purpose, as hereinbefore stated, includes the aggregate amount of \$150,000, which is estimated to be

necessary to finance the cost of such purpose, 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.

Section 4. It is hereby determined and stated that the aggregate sum of \$360,000 received or to be received as grants from the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of the improvement of Lexington Boulevard set forth in Section 1 hereof.

Section 5. It is hereby determined and stated that moneys exceeding \$53,000, appropriated for down payments on capital improvements or for the capital improvement fund in budgets heretofore adopted for the Township, are now available to finance said purpose. The sum of \$53,000 is hereby appropriated from such moneys to the payment of the cost of said purpose.

Section 6. To finance said purpose, bonds of the Township of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$1,057,000 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 7. To finance said purpose, bond anticipation notes of the Township of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$1,057,000 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 8. Each bond anticipation note issued pursuant to this ordinance shall be dated on or about the date of its issuance, 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 the 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 9. It is hereby determined and declared that the period of usefulness of said purpose, according to its reasonable life, is a period of ten years computed from the date of said bonds.

Section 10. 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 the Township, and that such statement so filed shows that the gross debt of the Township, as defined in Section 43 of the Local Bond Law, is increased by this ordinance by \$1,057,000 and that the issuance of the bonds and notes authorized by this ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 11. 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 said purpose (other than the State grants hereinbefore appropriated, which shall be applied to the cost of said purpose but shall not be applied to the payment of outstanding bond anticipation notes and the reduction of the amount of bonds authorized), shall be applied to the payment of the cost of said purpose, or, if bond anticipation notes have been issued, to the payment of the bond anticipation notes, and the amount of bonds authorized for said purpose shall be reduced accordingly.

Section 12. The Township intends to issue bonds or notes to finance the cost of the improvements described in Section 1 of this bond ordinance. If the Township incurs such costs prior to the issuance of such 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 13. The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and 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 14. 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 15. This ordinance shall take effect twenty days after the first publication thereof after final passage.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman Barr

Discussion:

John Laezza: Council President and Members of Council this is a final ordinance to create the monies to complete the Lexington Blvd Phases I and II along with the sewer ordinance that you approved last month and Colonial Drive the entire length.

No further discussion

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

Public Hearing June 6th (7:00 pm 315 Westfield Avenue)

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 \$186,428.91 for the period ending May 10, 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 over Councilman O’Connor made a motion to close the citizens hearing on the agenda, seconded Councilman Smith

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 16-61

WHEREAS the Township solicited quotes seeking proposals from Garden State Fireworks, International Fireworks Mfg. Co. and Schaefer Fireworks Inc. for a Fireworks Display to be presented on July 4, 2016; and

WHEREAS Garden State Fireworks expressed an interest but did not submit a proposal; International Fireworks Mfg. Co. is under contract with another community for July 4th and is therefore unavailable; and

WHEREAS Schaefer Fireworks Inc., 370 Hartman Bridge Road, Ronks, PA 17572, submitted a responsible, responsive proposal in the amount of \$15,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that they hereby commit to a fireworks display presented by Schaefer Fireworks Inc., to be held on Monday, July 4, 2016 with a rain date of Tuesday, July 5, 2016;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and/or appropriate officials of the Township of Clark are hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Schaefer Fireworks Inc. for 2016 as sufficient funds have been appropriated in the 2016 Municipal Budget under Celebration Events Account #30-420-223; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that when the contract is signed by Schaefer Fireworks Inc. they must include the proper insurance certificate endorsing the Township of Clark and the Clark Board of Education as “additional insured” on the policy.

Moved by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Discussion:

Councilman Toal: Garden State has always been doing our fireworks, they didn’t come up with a bid this year?

John Laezza: No they didn’t.

Councilman Toal: Wow that’s unusual.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No they didn’t. Plus, we hired this company last year because we were unsatisfied with Garden State because they were shorting us on our fireworks.

Councilman Toal: So we used this company before and we are going to a second year.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We used them last year and they seem to like the show.

Councilman Toal: Okay. It’s always a good turnout and we always have a good time. Thank you.

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Resolution 16-62

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey that the following individuals are hereby appointed as Members of the Clark Volunteer Fire Department effective this 16th day of May, 2016.

Brian McCabe
44 Roberts Road
Clark, NJ 07066

Tyler Klutkowski
317 Retford Avenue
Cranford, NJ 07016

Fritzner Midy
1585 Raritan Road
Clark, NJ 07066

Moved by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilman O’Connor

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Resolution 16-63

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK TO SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE IN THE VOLUNTEER TUITION CREDIT PROGRAM (P. L. 1998, C. 145)

WHEREAS the Governing Body of the Township of Clark deems it appropriate to enhance the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters and emergency medical volunteers in the Township of Clark; and

WHEREAS the State of New Jersey has enacted P. L. 1998, c. 145 which permits municipal governments to allow their firefighting and emergency medical volunteers to take advantage of the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program at no cost to the municipal government.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, in the County of Union that the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program as set forth in P. L. 1998, c. 145 is herewith adopted for the volunteer firefighters and emergency medical volunteers in the municipality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Administrator is authorized to enter into all agreements and the Municipal Clerk is herewith delegated the responsibility to administer the program and to maintain files of all documents as may be required under the P. L. 1998, c. 145, a copy of which is herewith made part of this resolution.

Moved by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Resolution 16-64

WHEREAS the Governing Body of the Township of Clark desires to retain the services of a third party administrator on behalf of the Township to administer the Township's Self Insured Retention (SIR); and

WHEREAS Inservco Insurance Services, Inc. has submitted a proposal in the amount of \$14,280.00 to provide for the claims administration of Worker's Compensation, Automobile Liability, General Liability, including Police Professional Liability and Workers' Compensation – Lost time and medical only submitted against the Township to the SIR; and

WHEREAS the Governing Body desires to retain Inservco Insurance Services, Inc. as the Township's third party administrator for claims administration made to the SIR for one (1) year beginning August 1, 2016 through July 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS said claims servicing organization's services constitute extraordinary unspecified services in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et. seq., authorizing the services without competitive bids, and

WHEREAS there are funds available in the 2016 budget as evidenced by the Finance Officer's Certification of Availability of Funds in Current Account 23-210-223 for said contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes the Business Administrator to enter into a contract with Inservco Insurance Services, Inc. as the claims servicing organization on behalf of the Township of Clark for a period of one (1) year commencing August 1, 2016 at an annual fee of \$14,280.00 for the SIR.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman Smith

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Resolution 16-65

WHEREAS the NJFMBA Local 99 (FMBA), a Non-profit benevolent organization, has requested permission to sell merchandise including collectible challenge coins, T-shirts and tank tops at the Ride to Rescue Motorcycle Run to be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016 at Oak Ridge Park; and

WHEREAS the goal of the event is to raise funds to benefit the local FMBA and the Friends of the Linden Animal Shelter; and

WHEREAS the FMBA qualifies for an exemption with prior written approval by Council in accordance with Chapter 248 Section 21A(7) of the Code of the Township of Clark.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey that it hereby waives the permit fee and grants permission to sell the above mentioned merchandise at the event to be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be provided to the President of the NJFMBA Local 99 to serve as the permit as hereinabove mentioned.

Moved by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Barr

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Resolution 16-66

WHEREAS S. Brothers Inc. has completed work on the 2015 Capital Road Improvement Program and has requested Final Payment; and

WHEREAS the Township Engineer recommends payment in the sum of Thirty-Six Thousand, Nine Hundred Four Dollars and Thirty-One Cents (\$36,904.31) including final quantities change order which increases the adjusted contract amount by Eight Thousand, Six Hundred Seventy-One Dollars and Twenty-Eight Cents (\$8,671.28); and

WHEREAS the Chief Financial Officer has determined sufficient funds are available in Ordinance 15-03 as evidenced by the Certification of Availability of funds attached.

WHEREAS Section 195-84 of the Code of the Township of Clark requires the posting of a Maintenance Guarantee in an amount to be determined by the Township Engineer prior to the release of the Performance Bond and Final Payment; and

WHEREAS the Township Engineer has determined the amount of the Maintenance Guarantee required to be posted by S. Brothers Inc. to be Sixty-Nine Thousand, Six Hundred Eighty-Five Dollars and Fourteen Cents (\$69,685.14); and

WHEREAS S. Brothers Inc. has submitted a Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$69,685.14.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey that it does hereby authorize Final Payment to S. Brothers Inc., 16 Sobechko Road, Manalapan, New Jersey 07726 in the amount of \$36,904.31 including final quantities change order and release of the Performance Guarantee.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman Smith

Council President Hund directed roll call:

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

Council as ABC Board: Approving the Person to Person /Place to Place Transfer of ABC License #2002-33-011-007 from 1199 Corporation to MCP REST CORP.

Council President Hund: Yes, Madam Clerk the license will not be transferred, so the resolution is removed from the agenda. So we have no action and no vote required.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 16-67

WHEREAS NJSA 54:5-19.1 authorizes electronic tax sales pursuant to rules and regulations to be promulgated by the Director of the Division of Government Services; and

WHEREAS the Director of the Division of Local Government Services has promulgated rules and regulation for pilot programs; and

WHEREAS the Director of the Division of Local Government Services has approved NJ Tax Lien Investors/RealAuction.com to conduct pilot programs; and

WHEREAS the rules and regulations authorize a municipality to submit an application for participation in the pilot program for an electronic tax sale; and

WHEREAS an electronic tax sale is innovative and provides a greater pool of potential lien buyers, thus creating the environment for a more complete tax sale process; and

WHEREAS the Township of Clark wishes to participate in the pilot program for an electronic tax sale.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to complete an application to participate in electronic tax sale program and submit same to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

Resolution 16-68

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
139	4		Walter & Gladys Avena	376	Carolina Street	\$ 2,899.04
33.01	12		Jose & Maria Goncalves	167	Acorn Drive	\$ 884.15
123	10		Sara Kother	143	Broadway	\$ 1,654.98
28.01	14		Sangiuliano Group	960	Lake Avenue	\$ 8,522.68
28.01	13		Sangiuliano Group	982	Lake Avenue	\$ 24,350.50
88.01	39	C01	Anthony Ginesi	37	Harrison Street	\$ 2,648.50
					Total Refunds	\$ 40,959.85

Resolution 16-69

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.

SEWER BILLING ADJUSTMENT 2016										
CLARK TOWNSHIP										
REF	#	Account #	Name	#	Address	Reason	Original	Revised	Credit	Add'l
16	49	4875-0	Louis Benevento	3	Durham Dr.	leaky toilet	\$ 665.00	\$309.00	\$ 56.00	
16	50	130-0	Salvatore Fioravante	33	Limoli Lane	leak	\$ 905.00	\$225.00	\$ 680.00	
16	51	1174-0	Andrew Messina	71 6	Raritan Road	meter issue	\$ 887.88	\$225.00	\$ 662.88	
16	52	3451-0	Virginia Zyra	41	Fulton Street	water co issue	\$3,905.00	\$225.00	\$3,680.00	
						Totals	\$6,362.88	\$984.00	\$5,378.88	

Resolution 16-79

WHEREAS in accordance with a request from the Treasurer/CFO for authorization to refund overpayment of 2016 sewer fees; the Mayor has recommended to Council that such authorization be granted.

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

REF	#	Account #	Name	#	Address	Reason	Refund
16	7R	4971-0	Osceola Presby Church	1685	Raritan Road	overpayment	\$607.49
					Total Refunds		607.49

Resolution 16-71

WHEREAS the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L.1987, c.102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grants may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS it is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS the recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS a resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for the 2015 Recycling Tonnage Grant will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the assent of the Clark Township Council to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that they hereby endorse the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designate Recycling Coordinator, Jennifer Kobliska to ensure that the application is properly filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

Resolution 16-72

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark in accordance with the provisions of the Special Law Enforcement Officer’s Act (N.J.S.A. 40A:14-146.8 et seq.) and Pursuant to P.L. 1985 and Chapter 3, Section 3-29N of the Code of the Township of Clark, that it does hereby duly appoint Antonio U. Tolentino as Class II Special Law Enforcement Officer to serve for the period commencing May 16, 2016 and concluding December 31, 2016.

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

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia St.: I’m up here again about the railroad ties. I know the Mayor will not be happy with that. I did get your letter today and I was appreciative of your time and energy to go out and take a look. But I don’t know how far you went down the tracks and where the end

of the piles is affecting the water or the area near the water behind the Hyatt Hills Golf Course and into the area of the brook that runs into the Reservoir. And I would like to see somebody from the Environmental Department come out and test the dirt back there because that is affecting the water that goes into the Reservoir, if that can be possible. And I see that on the front of the Hyatt Hills gate towards the back of Rite-Aid there is a sign saying that there is an environmental study being done on that property. And when Hyatt Hills was being built we tried to protect that property, it was deemed wetlands, and we had the remediation of that area to keep the water pristine. And I doubt with all the rains that we've had it just appears to me as a commoner that this might affect the waterway that goes between the area all the way from Garwood into the Reservoir. Also I was back there and I had taken some pictures and in 1975 they had put in a drainage system all along Carolina Street between Georgia Street and underneath the railroad. And that was all done...I have proof of that by the top of the sewer, it says Township of Clark 1975, and I was wondering if that area was ever...does that need to be inspected to make sure that there's no damage to the underneath sewers that go through because we've had flooding over there in past years. And one of the sewer caps is off meaning being if anybody goes back there they can fall in to the sewer.

Mayor Bonaccorso: And that's the back of where exactly?

Delia Collins: Between 72 Georgia Street and I would have to get my neighbors exact address.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Okay by 72 Georgia.

Delia Collins: Behind between the back of our fence and the railroad. And that was put in according to the sewer cap 1975. And I had come up here previously about the sewer cap.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Okay I'll have someone get there tomorrow and install it.

Delia Collins: Yeah and some of the sewer cement drains that spread out from there are cracked.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Cracking is fine; we will take a look at that.

Delia Collins: Yeah okay. The smell is still there and I know you said that the smell is really not one of the important things in there. But we've had my neighbor who is ninety-four years old doesn't even get to go out sometimes into her yard because of the smell. And you know with the rain and the very hot weather it hasn't been as bad but once it gets hot it's going to smell. And in your letter you said that they are going to do a certain amount mileage per day. Did the gentlemen you spoke with ever tell you when they were going to start for sure?

Mayor Bonaccorso: It should be beginning of July.

Delia Collins: July (Mayor Bonaccorso: yes) all right. And you know I just feel that you've been back there and Councilman O'Connor came to my property and looked and saw what was back there. I mean there are mountains of the railroad ties and I mean it's not attractive to anyone that puts their house on the market on our street. And people like I said the last time from Cranford come by and they say "what is that smell?" And you are bringing children into you know the

park past our homes. But that's the main thing, people want to know when it's going to start because people have pools and they want to invite their families over and you know you really can't have people sit outside with that smell. Also I don't know if I can direct something about Clark Commons.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You may.

Delia Collins: Okay. When you enter Clark Commons from the main entrance across from Hyatt Hills you come to that first intersection, there use to be the four way stop sign there and it said all ways, that's gone. Is that something that would have to be brought up to the owner?

Mayor Bonaccorso: I don't know we'll take a look at it.

Delia Collins: Yeah and people are coming in the out sometimes over by Walnut Avenue. It's really interesting to see the way people drive in that mall. Who's the Third Ward Councilman? (Council President Hund: I am) There was a dog reported in your area, it's been running loose for seven weeks from South Plainfield all the way to Linden and it was spotted in your area this morning by St. John's and on Douglas in that area. (Council President Hund: okay) I did inform the police of this today (Council President Hund: you did or did not) I did. And we also informed that we would be riding around so that we wouldn't be stopped as possible robbers. (Council President Hund: okay) We notified Union County Police because it went into Rahway Park.

Council President Hund: What type of dog is it because I can't tell from the picture?

Delia Collins: It's a wire hair short hair something. It traveled from Westfield all the way to South Plainfield and then back over to Linden and it's been seven weeks.

Council President Hund: I will keep an eye out for it.

Councilman Barr: Did anybody notice if he has a collar or anything?

Delia Collins: Nope no collar. So you know we are trying to find him but if anybody finds him you can update on the Union County Lost Pet's page. And we recommend that you don't go after him because he'll keep running. He's a runner, he's in flight mode right now. Alright thank you. And I have photographs if anyone would like to see the new mountains in my backyard. And there's five piles of them all along our backyards. Thank you have a good night.

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

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, in regards to the railroad ties behind the Georgia Street homes. I think my letter has expressed the concerns of the people and what we did in trying to find out what happened. For those who are listening at home and are wondering, the railroad company is going to be replacing sixty thousand ties along the railroad. They do about a mile a day. After last meeting I went down to find out why are they're there so early. They come up in containers of six hundred at a time, so if you start doing the math six hundred at a time sixty thousand ties it's a lot. I asked why the Georgia Street corridor first staging because it is a staging area like there are multi areas up and down the track. I asked for material data safety sheet which I received. The ties have five percent creosote in them. They're ninety percent wood, five percent creosote, water, and another product. There are very safe and Stella Jones Company makes them. And of course on that paper they have warnings like they do on any bottle chemical you would buy in any grocery store tomorrow. We discussed this odor and unfortunately he said to me that they are going to continue to smell even when they go under the tracks because that's creosote and until they weather down a little bit you might have an odor back there from time to time. The engineer from the railroad seemed to be a very logical decent guy who understood the concerns of the people. He also understands the concerns of the railroad and how it needs to operate and as so far as going that if you don't replace ties you can have a derailment someday back there or along any stretch of the track which I don't think anybody would want. As far as runoff and everything goes, Delia you can call any department in the State that you would like to have go down there but my question is what's the difference if they are piled up or they are laying under the tracks. If there's going to be water runoff whether they are in a pile and on the tracks, you would have to think the runoff is going to be about the same. If the water runoff was getting polluted one would have to wonder, why would the federal government allow these ties to be made and put throughout railroads throughout the US. They sell twenty-five percent of their product to all railways throughout the country. So I mean I did what I could do, I went as far as I could go, I sent everybody a letter. Obviously there's concerns and obviously there might be a smell that's something I didn't put there and that's something you didn't put there., It's an operation of a railroad. Unfortunately, that's a staging area, I did not deem it a staging area and you did not deem it a staging area, it just is a staging area. And there are multiple areas throughout the rail line that runs through our county. So that's basically the scoop on that.

I was in contact with the County DEP, it went right down the line, there's not much more I can do for you at this point with this issue. If there's an open manhole, we'll send DPW back there tomorrow looking for it to close that. I thank you for that Delia that's a safety concern. I wouldn't want to see anybody go walk along there and fall into a manhole and get hurt, so thank you for that. That's about as far as we can go. If anyone would like to go further as far as any citizen calling the State DEP or anything you can be my guest. I have no problem with anybody doing that but at this time this is about as far as this can go.

Again on June 13th is the Annual Mayor's Golf Outing. If anyone is interested in playing, please contact my office. There are a few foursomes still open. It does get sold out every year, it's a great day, it's charitable, it's not a political fundraiser it's charitable. It goes right back into the town, it funds our fireworks, things of that nature and a nature of certain celebrations and it's a

good time by a lot of people that are living here in Clark. So that concludes my report, thank you very much and have a wonderful evening.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you. It was mentioned earlier that there was going to be some learning about pirate language. I just want to remind everyone that the Library does have a software package that you can access from your home, it's called "Mango" and one of the languages that they have on it is pirate. So you can learn what all the pirate lingo means. That concludes my report thank you.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President. Monday May 30th is Memorial Day and I'm sure that you are all aware that this day is put aside to pay tribute to all those who have paid the ultimate price with their lives so we can live in freedom. It is also the day that we have a parade and right after the parade the American Legion and the VFW will have a ceremony. So I'm asking everyone if you are in town and if you are not a participant please be a spectator. And this year's parade so far is shaping up to possible be the biggest one we've had yet. And that ends my report.

Councilman Mazzarella: Yes, thank you Council President. Ladies and gentlemen I don't know if you are aware of this or not but this week is National Police Week. And with that if you have a couple of moments please try to take your time to reflect about all those who have laid down their lives to protect us. May their souls rest in eternal peace. And to you Chief Matos and all of our law enforcement personnel that are here to protect and serve, thank you for all you do for our community, residents, and those who travel throughout our community, thank you. And ladies and gentlemen please try to recycle, it's very important for our future and our children's future. And until next month be well and stay safe, thank you.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you very much. First off I would like to thank the Mayor for putting out the letter to the homes that were impacted by the railroad ties in the Second Ward. And thank you for his follow up. Additionally, you heard the Mayor talking about graduations, be careful, as well as prom. But I would also like to tell everyone to be careful obviously to look for motorcycles and pedestrians but most importantly children on bicycles. Years ago while I was on council my daughter was hit by a car while she was riding her bicycle. So it's this time of year where not only you know there are a lot more children at play but there's also a lot more young drivers out. You know January 1st came people turned seventeen, so this is the first spring and summer that they are going to have their licenses. So drive slow, be cautious, and be aware. Until next month thank you very much.

Councilman Smith: Thank you Council President Hund. Today I was doing my civic duty serving Jury Duty in Union County at the courthouse. And while I was sitting there waiting and I don't know how you guys do this (referring to attorney) it's a long process waiting for trials to get going. But anyhow while I was sitting there, there was a gentleman next to me about my age from Fanwood and when he found out I was from Clark the first thing he said was the Clark Commons, he said that's an unbelievable development, shopping plaza, restaurants etc. that you guys developed down there. He said he was very concerned, he lives in Fanwood and drives to the parkway every day, and he said he goes there three or four times a week with his family. He has two children and obviously his wife. So he says "how did you guys do it." I said proper

planning, diligence let the experts do all the planning. So the reason I'm saying this is I know the Mayor and the Business Administrator have done their diligence and have had some meetings with some of the owners on Westfield Avenue corridor and I know there's a lot of pre-planning going in that, you've been working on that for sixteen years basically. But I know in the last year or so it's been a hot topic for all of us to really make that one of our targets and priorities. So I do appreciate all the work Mr. Laezza did and the planning. And I'm sure when we discuss and have our meeting next month with the business owners down there that we will come up with a decision that's right for Clark. So that's all I have to say this evening, thank you.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Council I would just like to say I'm glad the resident from Fanwood who cuts through our town to go to the parkway isn't inconvenienced by any traffic. I'm very happy to hear that. (Councilman Smith: exactly what he said)

Councilman Toal: To the residents you've heard it, come on out to that meeting if you are affected by Westfield Avenue not to just those who are not but just come out and be heard, communication is the key to this community's success.

The Mayor brought up a very valid point and I'll just throw a little historical footnotes to it. From 1976 to 1983 six ALJ students went home went out with their friends and didn't come home. They went to Walter Johnson Funeral Home there was no Krowicki Gorny till later, they went to Walter Johnson's in a body bag. We are not here to scare you but it's surreal that we had to live through that. Five days before my high school graduation in June of 1980 this building over here, we were running back to get to our graduation practice and two of the students my classmates crashed on Denman and Westfield right down the street from the high school. We didn't wear seatbelts back in 1980, they went through the windshield into the pillar of the car they got pushed back by the telephone pole, injuries were fatal. The one who was driving just passed away recently too and he never recovered from it. Another life that never recovered from a tragedy that should have never happened. Yes, the mind sets were different back then but Mayor you are absolutely right it doesn't matter what time frame it is, what year it is, they are still children and when you mix alcohol and drugs the results are always the same. I can walk anyone in this town to St. Mary's Cemetery on Madison Hill Road and show you the graves of our ALJ Alumnae's, Hazelwood Cemetery on Lake Avenue or St. Gertrude's, it's surreal to even talk about. When we knew these kids they were friends and classmates and the Mayor played with one of our players. They went out after graduation which was in June and in August 13, 1977 went on a joy ride up Route 78 high on drugs, they ran off the road hit a guard rail and the car they were driving a 1976 Ford Pontiac Formula got airborne and went between the guardrails of two bridge abutments and went down and crashed into a pillar came back on to the tracks and they were both Clarkites and incinerated with nothing left to identify them. Do I want to scare people? No. But it's the reality of that type of outcome. And Mr. Mayor you are absolutely right for saying by bringing this horrible stuff up again but the facts are facts from 1976 to 1983 six from that time period on to the present has been other ones but a lot less because of awareness. (Mayor Bonaccorso: Project Graduation also) Mr. Mayor absolutely correct. See I don't have kids so I'm not totally in to the day to day, you of course are blessed.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Brian I just want to interrupt for a minute because you and I have also been on the same page with this. If you lived in Clark at that time especially for those who are

younger back then, it was almost like each graduation you would kind of look around and say okay who is it going to be this year. And that's what we want to prevent by talking about this, go ahead thank you.

Councilman Toal: Again just to finish out, I just want to recognize who we have lost in the last month in the town; Eleanor Peason, Nina Reynolds and Frank Rogers.

And again we communicate our issues, we communicate our subjects and we talk to the residents especially along Westfield Avenue and our neighbors who are out in the back to say thanks for coming out and being a part of this, this is our community and we have to work together for a better Clark. Thank you Mr. President.

John Laezza: No comments.

Township Clerk: No comments.

Police Chief Matos: Good evening everyone, good evening residents. I would like to start off by saying unfortunately I monitor some of the Clark Facebook pages that people have put together to talk about Clark issues. And I just want to put to bed a rumor, no there was no carjacking last night at Applebee's, no one threatened anyone with a handgun. I can't help where those rumors come from but no that did not happen.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Chief.

Police Chief Matos: To touch on the burglaries, the motor vehicle burglaries which we put out to video. Obviously that video was meant hopefully that we can generate some leads in the case. But also I did that to show people just how easily these things are done. By monitoring these Facebook pages, I saw some crazy theories out there and one which sticks out to me is "I leave my car purposely unlocked so that when somebody tries to break in they don't break the window", that's silly talk. If you speak to any officer, I cannot remember the last time somebody physically broke into a car. And if that happens it's because someone like the Mayor mentioned left a pocketbook out in the open and there was an opportunity where yeah they could break the window to get that valuable item. People don't go around breaking into cars unless you leave something of valuable where it can be seen. Lock your car doors, hide your valuables, don't leave them in the car. This will do two things; when these groups conspire to come out and do these kind of crimes and if they come to Clark and all the car doors are locked, the next time they talk about this they are going to say I'm not going there because it's not worth it, it's not worth driving around and risk being arrested pulling on car doors and all the doors are locked. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. It's a lot easier to prevent it then try to investigate it and it takes a lot of man hours. And also what I'm trying to prevent is God forbid there's a confrontation between a resident and someone who is outside their home trying to pull their car door, that could become violent and someone could get hurt. So please don't leave valuables out in your cars where they can be seen and lock your car doors. I will continue saying that because this has been a constant problem last year. In 2014 we had roughly about 47 motor vehicle burglaries in town, last year we were just a touch over 80. And all of them, all 130 of them for the last two years were unlocked vehicles. If we lock the vehicles they won't come back.

This will lead me into this security survey initiative that we have put together at the department. Several weeks ago Lt. Daniel Pitts attended a community policing orientation and seminar. And one of the programs he approached me about and bringing it to Clark is a residential security survey. This service is being provided to residents free of charge. And basically what we will do is we would come out to your home, of course this officer has been specifically trained in this area, and he will provide to you the tips of things that you can do to your home so that when that person comes around hopefully to commit a burglary that they would bypass your home. We all know that they are selective about the homes they choose. There are certain criteria that they look for that makes one home more susceptible for them that they are going to want to burglarize and others that they don't because of certain things that present themselves in the home. So what we we'll do is we will come out survey your home and tell you that the things you can do so that when someone comes around to commit these property crimes they are going to look at your home and go I'll keep moving I'll go somewhere else. Like I said an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure. I'm looking to try to prevent these issues. Residential burglaries and car burglaries have been a big topic over the last year. So hopefully we can prevent these even from happening.

So any resident that wants to take advantage of this program, you can call the front desk at police headquarters and we will direct you to the correct person which is Lt. Daniel Pitts. You can also email him at dpitts@clarkpolice.org and he will schedule an appointment with you but give him a couple of days to get back to you just in case he's on his days off. He will get back to you. You'll set up an appointment that's convenient for you. He will come out to your home and survey your home and provide you with a written report of things that you can do to lessen your susceptibility becoming a victim of a property crime.

I'm very excited about this program. I think it's a valuable thing that we can offer the residents. So please you have nothing to lose, just a little bit of your time. When you receive that report if you don't want to use it to your advantage you can throw it out. But we are really hoping that residents follow our advice that these are little things you can do that will protect you and protect your property. So thank you very much. There's some flyers out here that if anyone wants to grab one. Also this information is up on our Facebook page. Please share it to your Facebook pages. I'm trying to get the word out there for this, thank you very much.

Council President Hund: Chief hold on one second Councilman O'Connor would like to say something.

Councilman O'Connor: Thanks for the report. And just to go back to the car break-ins. If I'm not mistaken the video was taken at 7:00 am when the break-ins occurred. (Chief Matos: yes) Most people think break-ins are going to occur between you know the hours of one or five in the morning but this actually took place after 7:00 am. So it's not only important to lock them at night but it's important to lock them throughout the day anytime you are not in it.

Police Chief Matos: The first burglary on that specific day started at 5:30 am. We don't know if these individuals were in Clark the whole time, they could have been in and out because it did happen in three different little neighborhoods in Clark. But the point is if you lock your door

especially on the overnight hours in your home, I think we can lessen the amount of this taking place.

Also just touching on the underage drinking issue. I completely support the Mayor on this. We will not tolerate underage drinking. If you have a child who is at that age getting into those teenage years you need to ask where they are going. And if you suspect that they might be going to a situation like this, protect your child, get them out of there and don't let them go. And also it is the summer months and there's going to be a lot more children out there playing, please drive safe.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Chief. It's exciting to have this survey being done. We hope the residents take full advantage of it. Next year council in your Report to the People there will be something that you could include in there. And I said to the Chief I think we have intelligent residents in our town, I truly always believe that. And I think if they take advantage of this you may have to send two or three more guys to get trained to handle it which he's willing to do. It's community policing and it's a great opportunity, so folks take advantage of it. Councilman Barr I know the Chief would like to touch base with you on the next senior meeting. He would like to come and maybe talk about that. So let him know and we'll get to it, okay, thank you.

Council President Hund: And for my final remarks, Councilman Mazzarella brought up bulky pickup starting. One thing I've noticed driving around town that there have been a few mattresses out there. Mattresses are not an article that can be picked up. So if you do have a mattress outside, please bring it to the side of your house or inside your garage and call your garbage company to see if they will take it away. But we will not take it away as part of bulky pick up.

Second for the residents of Colonial Drive, when I was walking during my campaign you had asked me about sewers being put on your street because there were no sewers there and the road was in poor shape as you know since you live there. That construction has begun and the sewers are being put in and the road will be repaved once the sewers are there.

And thirdly I would like to present the Mayor with a plaque. Councilman Barr and I attended the 5K Polonia Run that Chief Matos setup the boundaries for. So they gave us a plaque for you saying thank you for all your efforts and for the police department's efforts for making their run safe. It was an interesting few hours spent there and it was a good time. But they asked for more of our residents to be involved next year when they hold it again because it was just more of their community and they want to expand it into our community. So I just wanted to say that tonight and I'll give you this plaque to put it up at town hall.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Mr. President. It will proudly be hung there.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion for adjournment was made by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

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