

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, 315 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, N.J.
October 20, 2014

ROLL CALL:

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

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

The Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Council President Toal. He asked all present to participate in a moment of silence, following the salute to the Flag.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG - MOMENT OF SILENCE

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act as adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the Annual Schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County LocalSource, and NJTODAY.NET, by posting such Annual Meeting Schedule on the bulletin board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements and the filing of said Notice with the Township Clerk of Clark. Formal action may be taken at this meeting.

Motion to Suspend the Regular Order of Business made by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Police Department: 1. Promotion of Detective Antonio Manata to Sergeant
 2. New Officers Tom B. Gucwa and Theodore B. McKeown, IV

Recreation: Ralph Bernardo & Gus Kalikas – Kids Recreation Trust

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Mr. President, Members of Council and good evening ladies and gentlemen. Tonight we have a couple of ceremonial highlights to go over here. We are going to have a promotion of Tony Manata to the rank of Sergeant. We are going to be swearing in two new police officers, Teddy McKeown and Tom Gucwa. I welcome them and their families.

I would also like to welcome all of our police department that's here tonight, thank you for coming out. I would also like to welcome police officers from other agencies throughout the County and State that are here tonight. And I would like to also to my right welcome Chief Anthony Campos from the City of Newark, welcome Chief.

Before we get into the police side of things here I would like to call up my Recreational Director Ralph Bernardo and I would like to call up the Athletic Director of Johnson High School

everyone's favorite Gus Kalikas, come on up gentlemen. I don't know maybe about six months ago Gus came to me and said "look I have a problem; I would like to get some funding to help rebuild the weight room for the boys and girls at our high school facility." So like every good delegator I contacted the guy that helps things happen around here, of course Ralph Bernardo our Recreation Director. And we talked about applying for a County grant through the Union County Freeholder Board which is from the Recreation Trust Fund. The Freeholders have been doing this now for I think about ten years and Clark has got its fair share. So Ralph and Gus communicated, did all the paperwork. Ralph and I went down to the Freeholder meeting last week and again we would like to thank the Union County Freeholders for their generosity. And tonight we would like to present the school district and our Athletic Director with a check of twenty-five thousand dollars from the Union County Freeholder Board.

Coach Kalikas: Thank you Sal. On behalf of Johnson High School and the Clark School District we would just like to thank the Town Council, Mayor Sal and of course our Recreation Director Ralph Bernardo for their continued support of all things education wise but especially Crusader Athletics. Be it the Turf Field which is used from small children all the way up to the high school to the weight room now and to anything we need, the recreation department across the street and the gyms there. They just ask me what do you want Gus anything we can do for the student athletes of Clark. It's a great relationship, we try to reciprocate but we could never give as much as we receive. But we are really thankful for this and our student athletes are thankful and it will go to good use.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Coach Kalikas continue on with all your good work for our children.

Mayor Bonaccorso called up Antonio Manata and his family along with Police Chief Scherb and Public Safety Director John DeSimone

Before I do this I would like to say that Tony came over about seven years ago from Newark PD and it was a pleasure to swear him in then. He has been one of our top producers here at the Clark Police Department. And the thing that I want to mention is not only passing the test is a great thing for our officers to try to achieve rank but Tony ended up #1 in the State on his promotional exam and I think that needs to be recognized.

Mayor Bonaccorso administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Manata

Chief Scherb: First of all I would like to congratulate Sergeant Manata on a job well done. I've always said this before; I believe in my heart that the Sergeant's test is the hardest exam to pass in law enforcement. And the reason why is it's not that the questions are the hardest it's the fact that you are competing amongst a lot of men that are trying to get to that position. As you go up in rank there's less men that compete against you. And on behalf of the members of the Clark Police Department we would like to congratulate you.

Public Safety Director DeSimone: Congratulation Sergeant Manata and congratulations to your beautiful family. I don't know if you noticed, I saw Chief Campos come in and I heard something before that he came up here to kind of lure our good Sergeant back to Newark. That's

what I heard. And also what I heard Sergeant Manata said “no, no, no thank you I’m very, very happy here”. I felt good about that.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Next we are going to bring up Tom Gucwa to be sworn in. Tom has come over from the Union County Police Force to join Clark Township.

Mayor Bonaccorso administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Gucwa

Mayor Bonaccorso: Next to be sworn in is Teddy McKeown. Teddy is a Clark resident and came over from the Union County Sheriff’s Department.

Mayor Bonaccorso administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer McKeown

Mayor Bonaccorso: Again I would like to congratulate Tony Manata and welcome our two new officers for safe tenure here and continue to protect the good citizens of this town. Teddy you grew up here and Tom you are coming over through here, you are going to find that there’s very, very good people in this town to serve. They are appreciative of our department and they really have a lot of praise for our police department as do I. So congratulations, welcome aboard and I’m going to turn it over to the Public Safety Director for a brief conversation.

Public Safety Director DeSimone: Congratulations to both officers and welcome aboard. It’s a fine community.

Motion to Resume the Regular Order of Business made by Councilman O’Connor, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Mr. President, Members of Council, ladies and gentlemen again welcome. As you can see we had a busy night here and a very good night to see a promotion and two new men being hired. I think they are going to do a great job for our community.

This is the last month for bulk clean-up. Wards 1 and 2 I think are already done and onto 3 and 4. We will suspend that throughout the leaf season. If the weather permits in the winter months we will continue, if there’s snow and ice we will not, for the safety of you and of course our DPW personnel. You can call our DPW department and they will be glad to tell you what the game plan is as the winter progresses. Leaf clean-up will begin Monday, October 27th. All the Wards in the community will be picked up that week. Then the first week of November we will start with Wards 1 and 2 and second week 3 and 4. Council you will be able to see in action in the areas that permit our new roll-off truck; it carries 30 cubic yards of leaves. We will be using that in some of the larger areas in town to make our already fast leaf clean-up even faster if it’s possible. It will be a good time saving for a lot of our trucks running across town. The other

thing I would like to remind everyone to please keep your leaves away from storm catches so the water can get in there on rainy days. We say it all the time and some of you follow it and most of you don't but just try your best, we would appreciate it.

The other things are; folks there are no branches allowed out now for any reason. If we have an event where we have high winds and damage of course we will; then listen to our announcements to continue a branch cleanup. But right now branches are done for this year. Please do not put them in the leaf piles. If our machine picks it up and we don't notice it and they bring it down to the recycle center to the dumps and there's a branch in the truck they load the entire truck and send it back to Clark. That's the rules at the dump site, so please follow it. You know we really want to cooperate with you throughout the year and we do and we would like you to cooperate with us now to have a fast and quick cleanup.

The other thing is to the residents of the Third Ward and those who are concerned with the Rahway Park Turf Field. I'm going to be having a meeting Thursday, October 23rd with the Union County Manager to discuss that issue and several other township issues I have to discuss with him. So I will be able to report back to the Council and the community. As talks progress I've asked anyone who would like to send me a concern to mayor@ourclark.com and I will review your concerns and bring them to the Manager so we can review them and have him go back to talk to his people on what we can do with that situation. That concludes my report tonight Mr. President, thank you for your time.

Township Clerk: I have the police, fire and first aid reports for the month of September on file in my office.

REPORT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you. I'm pleased to bring some information about upcoming Library events. First on Monday, October 27th at 7:00 pm there will be a program on Ghost Hunting in the Garden State. This is always a big draw at the Library. Ghost Hunter L'Aura Hladik Hoffman will detail with sight and sound and history of haunts of New Jersey and the Big Apple. Hear about ghostly encounters of various locations including Hotel Belvidere the Propriety House, Snug Harbor and the Vancourtlin Mansion and much more. On Tuesday, October 28th at 7:00 pm stay tuned for the Legend of Sleepy Hollow. This will be a staged radio play by the Raconteur Radio Company. They will perform the Legend of Sleepy Hollow and during this performance they will be dressed in costume, there will be sound effects and vintage commercials. And for those who do not know the story it's about angered hometown heiress Katrina Van Tassell who's grown fond of recently hired schoolmaster Ichabod Crane. Bron Bones tries to scare off the timorous teacher with local legends of a headless horseman. It all comes to a "head" so to speak, one dark fateful night under a light struck tulip tree. So come out and enjoy a spooky old fashion radio play just in time for Halloween. There will be other programs for Halloween including a Teen Chocolate Making Program at 3:30 on Thursday, October 30th and then a Halloween Hoedown including a costume parade for preschoolers at 10:30 with crafts and games.

I just want to mention a few more other things. One is very exciting. The Library has launched a new program call Mango. It's very similar to Rosetta Stone. The database has sixty-three different languages on the site and you can load it onto your computer or iPad, iPhone, take it with you or you can access on Mango online at the Library's website. So this is really an exciting educational tool for those who want to learn a new language and also for our students at our schools.

Last but not least I want to thank the Friends of the Library who have donated generously for purchasing the movie licenses for all the movies that are shown at the Library. So thank you very much for that. And also if you are interested in helping them to help with their fundraising, they are going to have a vendor day on November 1st which is a Saturday afternoon. They will have different vendors; they will have cash for gold and digital memory media will be on hand, which is a company that will transfer your films media into a digital format, so plenty of gifts for the upcoming holiday season. That concludes my report thank you.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President. The police dispatcher had the fire department respond to 31 calls last month. The Fire Department Chief asked me to convey some very important information to our residents. On many of the calls that we make and I do go to a lot of them, a lot of times the resident said "gee we weren't sure if we should call the fire department because we weren't sure if the smoke detector or whatever it was the battery was bad." And folks no matter what, don't ever delay calling the fire department because whether it's bad smoke or bad battery whatever it is you play it safe and you call the fire department because as I said in many other past meetings it's just a few minutes that can make a difference between a disaster and no problem. So never hesitate to call the fire department whether you think if you smell smoke or you are not sure just do it. And that concludes my report thank you.

Councilman Mazarella: Thank you Council President. I have two reports, one from the police department; September 2014 saw a total of 2,847 calls for service of which 85 alarm calls, 66 motor vehicle accidents and 2,571 were miscellaneous calls. To dovetail on what Councilman Barr had mentioned about the fire department. For the police department if you hear or see anything on your property you know the Mayor has been saying and I have been saying please lock your doors at all times in your vehicles in your driveway but if you hear anything or see anything don't hesitate in the least to call police headquarters, that's what they are here for. They want to come, they want to assist, they want to help and they want to keep a safe environment which we have and we want to continue that. So please don't forget to do that.

From the DPW report; the Mayor had touched on the leaves. I just want to add to that. The mixed branches in your leaves and plastic bags as well; if they are mixed in with the leaves they won't pick up the leaves, so please don't place any plastic bags out there. And also with the leaves place them about one foot from your curb because this will allow the ground water run off to go down into the catch basins easier and they won't fill up the catch basins with leaves. Also with the catch basins, if you see that your catch basins are clogged or potentially clogged in the front of your residence or around your neighborhood, jot down the location and call DPW and they will dispatch a crew to come out to lift the grate to make sure it's free and clear and clean around the catch basin. Appliance pickup will end on Monday, October 27th until the spring of 2015. And electronic drop-off is Saturday, October 25th from 9 to 1:00 pm, which will be the last

one for this year. And recycling continues all year round, please just keep on recycling. And that's the extent of my report thank you.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you very much. I have the report for the month from the Emergency Squad. There were 124 total ambulance requests, 109 were for Clark and 15 were mutual aid. And the most frequent calls types were motor vehicle accidents 19, fall victims 17 and breathing problems 13. From the Finance Committee the town continues to be financially stable and able to meet their financial obligations. Those are my reports for this evening thank you.

Councilman Smith: Thank you Council President Toal. Ralph Bernardo and the Clark UNICO Chapter would like to thank everyone that came out and supported the UNICO Italian Festival that was held on the Brewer Municipal Grounds last weekend. Despite the cool temperatures, especially on Saturday, it was a huge success again this year. Ralph and I would like to thank all the volunteers that worked during the weekend. The Italian Festival would not be successful without these volunteers. UNICO gives back money in the form of grants to many of the youth leagues, town organizations and scholarships to ALJ Seniors. All volunteers will be receiving an invitation to a thank you dinner which will be held in early November.

The Clark Recreation Department has two exciting events coming up. The second Annual Trunk or Treat will be held this Saturday, October 25th in the ALJ parking lot from 1 to 3 pm. All residents are invited to bring their children in costume to receive treats from the trunks of anyone who would like to participate. Prizes will be given out for best individual costume, group costume, and best decorated trunk. If you'd like to participate with your car please contact Ralph at the rec center as soon as possible at (732) 388-3600 Ext 4.

The third Annual Haunted House will be held Saturday, November 1st at the Robinson Plantation on Madison Hill Road from 7:00-9:30 pm. Please come and receive a friendly fright, donuts, cider, pumpkins and a tour thru the Museum. So please come out and attend these two Halloween events. And that concludes my reports for this evening thank you.

Councilwoman Soyka: No committees, no reports.

Council President Toal: For myself again I just want to say thanks to Scott McCabe and Clark Historical for the Four Centuries in a Weekend. Dr. Robinson was one of the 21 municipalities having all the historical sites opened to the public for a tour and for refreshments and other activities. It was a great event. I haven't gotten the full report from Scott but when I get it I will have it for you for the next meeting. But again thanks to all of their efforts on keeping Clark's history alive.

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 \$344,237.51 for the period ending October 15, 2014, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

CITIZEN HEARING ON THE AGENDA:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Council President Toal opened the meeting to the public regarding agenda items only

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

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

RESOLUTIONS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Upon the retirement of my Confidential Secretary Fran Flammia who served me for fourteen terrific years, I wish her well of course in her retirement, I miss her dearly. I am going to appoint tonight Jennifer Kobliska as my new Confidential Secretary and will be asking Council for confirmation.

Resolution 14-135

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey that it hereby confirms Mayor Bonaccorso’s appointment of Jennifer Kobliska as his Confidential Secretary commencing October 21, 2014.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilwoman Soyka

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14-136

WHEREAS the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act (NJSA 40A:65-1et seq.) provides a mechanism through which counties and municipalities may enter into agreements for the provision of joint services; and

WHEREAS Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 provides for substantial federal funds being made to certain urban counties for use therein through the Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) Entitlement Program, HOME Investment Partnerships (“HOME”) Program and Emergency Solutions Grants (“ESG”) Programs; and

WHEREAS a Cooperative Agreement between the County of Union and the Municipality of Clark was authorized previously this year by Resolution 14-91 on June 16, 2014 to establish a legal mechanism through which the County government may apply for, receive and disburse federal funds from federal fiscal year 2015, 2016 and 2017 appropriations; and

WHEREAS it is the desire of the Municipality of Clark to amend the Cooperative Agreement with the County of Union to reflect the following changes:

Page 2, Section E – Add the following language to the very end of the last paragraph, “and that such failure to comply will void the automatic renewal for such qualification period.”

Page 3, Section G – Add the following language in a new item, numbered 4 – “The County and the Municipality are obligated to comply with all other applicable laws.”

Page 3, Section I – In the first paragraph in sentence three, change the word “Subsection (d) to read Section (d):”

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of Clark hereby authorizes the above amendments to the Cooperative Agreement previously authorized and executed between the Township of Clark and the County of Union; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the Resolution shall be forwarded to the County of Union.

Moved by Councilman Barr, seconded by Council President Toal

Discussion:

Council President Toal: Ladies and gentlemen the tax dollars go to the State, County and the Township. We have a sub-committee of the council that we go to these meetings down over at the Cranford Community Center to get as much money from your tax dollars back that go to the senior fitness center and senior programs and other projects throughout the town. Councilman Barr has been chairing that and I second that when I can with my time. But again it’s a very important aspect in getting our tax dollars back from the County to the Township of Clark in allotting all the services that you so deserve.

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Council as Pool Utility

Resolution 14-137

WHEREAS the members of the Pool Advisory Board held a meeting on September 19, 2014; and

WHEREAS the Board discussed amendments to Article III, Membership and Article IV, Officers of the By-Laws, and recommends that the Governing Body adopt the changes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark acting as the Pool Utility that it does hereby authorize the adoption of the Clark Community Pool Advisory Board By-Laws as amended.

Moved by Councilwoman Soyka, seconded by Councilman Smith

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14-138

Resolution: Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the 2015 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program, project identified as MA-2015-Lexington Boulevard and Broadway-00463.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Clark, formally approves the grant application for the above stated project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Business Administrator, Township Engineer and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2015-Lexington Boulevard and Broadway-00463 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Clark; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and/or Business Administrator and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Clark and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14-139

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that it does hereby appoint Jennifer Kobliska as Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics for the Township of Clark to fill the vacancy created by Laura Caliguire effective this 20th day of October 2014 for

the unexpired portion of the three (3) year term ending December 31, 2014, pursuant and subject to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 26:8-11 et seq.

Moved by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman O’Connor

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 14-140

WHEREAS in accordance with a request from the Tax Collector for authorization to refund and/or transfer overpayment of 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) and/or transfer(s) in accordance with the attached schedule:

Resolution 14-141

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

WHEREAS the Business Administrator has reviewed and approved the sewer fee adjustments.

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

REF	#	Acct #	Name	#	Address	Reason	Original	Revised	Credit
12	55	27-0	James & Maria Sbarro	357	Willow Way	prior owner	798.12	511.56	286.56

Resolution 14-142

WHEREAS in accordance with a request from the Treasurer/CFO for authorization to refund overpayment of 2014 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	#	Acct #	Name	#	Address	Reason	Refund
14	18R	196-0	JUAN & JILL GUZMAN	416	OAK RIDGE ROAD	OVERPAYMENT	\$13.00
14	19R	5252-0	AIDAN DELANEY	6	CHARLOTTE DRIVE	OVERPAYMENT	\$112.50
14	20R	2568-0	RAYMOND MEIGS	191	WESTFIELD AVENUE	OVERPAYMENT	\$99.64
					TOTAL REFUNDS		\$225.14

A motion to adopt the Consent Agenda was made by Councilman O’Connor, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

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

NEW BUSINESS ON THE CALENDAR: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give his/her name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Council President Toal opened the public portion of the meeting

Jerry Fogle, 9 Pine St.: I just want to bring up the matter of the Rahway Park. The residents I was speaking to were disappointed that they had no knowledge of this. And when they did find out and bring it up nobody else had any knowledge of it. Myself and Councilwoman Soyka and a couple of residents went to the Freeholder meeting early in October and found that it’s actually in the preliminary stages. There’s a memorandum of understanding and they are looking into how much it’s going to cost and they said they would keep the Clark residents advised and in the loop. But I would ask that on behalf of myself and other residents that have asked me that Councilwoman Soyka, I’m sure she was asked as well, to attend the meeting that the Mayor is attending on the 23rd to have a voice in there as well.

Dario Valdivia, 9 Terry Lane: I was walking around down at the end of Ginesi Court and I was talking with some of the residents down there and I understand that they have been having a little bit of a problem with the Gran Centurions. And they have asked me to come and sort of address that about the garbage problem and I think the noise problem.

Mayor Bonaccorso: They have addressed that sir. They have addressed it with the township.

Dario Valdivia: Okay and they were just wondering what has you know come from that. I understand that they went ahead and they sited them for some health problems and they went ahead and got fined for fifteen dollars or something like that. But other than that they said that the smell is still bad and the noise still hasn't stopped. So they just asked me if I could go ahead and find out what exactly is going to be done about that or how is it going to be handled there and what are we doing about that.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It has been handled. It's being handled.

Dario Valdivia: Okay because I just spoke to them today and they told me it wasn't so that's why I figured I go ahead...all right. Okay the other thing is I was down at the Pond Cove (Pondview) Condominium's Estate also and I was...they made me aware that the Polish Club back there, is that no longer part (Council President Toal: the Hungarian Club) it's the Hungarian Club or the Polish Club.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It's the Hungarian Club.

Dario Valdivia: It's the Hungarian Club okay. Is that now no longer part of our township or something or does that belong to the County or something?

Mayor Bonaccorso: That has belonged to the County for some time.

Dario Valdivia: Okay it has belonged to them. Okay because that's part of Green Acres back there and everything else right. Now that place is I don't know I just happened to be walking back there and I just took a look. When was the last time the County went ahead and cleaned that place up a little bit? I mean is it up to us to go ahead and maybe address that to let them know to go back there and cut down the grass and everything else.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I would probably refer your questions to the Union County Department of Public Works if you want to know exact dates and times or you know maybe when you are with someone at a political function you can ask them then since you have the same party and they might be able to get your question answered a little bit quicker.

Dario Valdivia: Okay well I was just wondering because it is a part of Clark so you know I figured...

Mayor Bonaccorso: We do understand that but you see if you understood government you would understand that there's a certain protocol on how you go about things.

Dario Valdivia: Well I do know that if I'm a resident of Clark and there is something...

Mayor Bonaccorso: And we would also refer that over to Union County sir.

Dario Valdivia: Okay.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We have done that, we thank you for your diligence on that matter and we will continue to govern the town.

Dario Valdivia: Okay I appreciate that Mayor Sal.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you.

Dario Valdivia: The other thing is what's this about the Hyatt Hills. Are they going under bankruptcy or something like that? Is that something...is that a rumor that I'm hearing.

Mayor Bonaccorso: It's a rumor that you are hearing.

Dario Valdivia: Okay, so there's no truth to that at all.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, bankruptcy absolutely no.

Dario Valdivia: Okay, so we are not going to be...are we getting any ratables from them or anything like that.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No we're not.

Dario Valdivia: No we're not.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Just as I said back in 1996 when one of your party members, former Mayor Ellenport, told people that we were going to make so much money off of Hyatt Hills that he was going to reduce the taxes and rents for senior citizens in Clark. And I had to direct, to point out to him that that is called special legislation of the State Legislature and it's illegal under our current Constitution of the United States. And other than it being a very nice clean and green facility that people enjoy, as I predicted there will be no real influx of cash to the community.

Dario Valdivia: Right so that's why I'm asking. Now I understand that's still in...we're sort of like in it with Cranford right.

Mayor Bonaccorso: There's a joint commission.

Dario Valdivia: A joint commission exactly. Cranford I understand is going to go ahead and sell part of their property or something like that that belongs to them.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I have to tell you Dario to be honest with you the last two times you got up at this microphone I've heard more rumors than I've heard probably in the last twelve months in Clark. I don't know who is pedaling this information to you but they are not correct.

Dario Valdivia: Well then set me straight, that's why I'm here, I'm here asking questions and if you are saying then it's not true then I want you to tell me that's it's not true.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Not to my knowledge.

Dario Valdivia: Okay well that's very good. I'm just asking questions. The only way I'm going to find out the answers if you tell me yes or no or did you know anything about it, if you don't know anything about it that's fine. That's about it, thank you for your time.

Ed Ruth, 8 Brentwood Rd.; Mayor and Members of Council... I just want to take an opportunity to publicly thank Councilwoman Albanese and the Library Director Dawn Jenkin and Maryann Riley the Librarian for allowing me to put together the display honoring 9/11 and Jim and the other three thousand victims. So thank you very much I appreciate it and I hope to do this again next year and I offer if anyone wants to contact me my email address is edwruth@yahoo.com , thank you Mr. Mayor.

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia St.: Good evening Council and Mayor. I did have some dental work done today so I just want to say I may have to stop during my speech because I had dental work done today but I just have a few comments about the workshop meeting that I attended on October 6th. I personally felt a little bit taken back the way that I was treated. And I still don't understand why the public can't be told what animal control facilities are being considered for the Township of Clark. The township residents should know and be concerned where their pets will be taken after December 31st. I have spoken before several townships in Union County and cities and have been treated with more respect by them and have received more of a response in their townships with the concerns of animal welfare in the County more than what I have in my own township.

As the Mayor had brought up at the last meeting, not the public meeting, but the workshop meeting about passions and I just want to read the statement. We all have our passions as the Mayor brought up in his closing comments at the last workshop meeting. Whether your passion is the environment, sports, education or the welfare of animals and pets, passion is a wonderful and productive when it is pursued and achieved for the greater good of the citizens of our community and also for the humane treatment of their owned pets that we are entrusted by the township and we are entrusted by our citizens in their care when they are lost or found. I am hoping that when you decide where these family pets will be held, please take into consideration that quoting Mahatma Gandhi the greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated. Let's bring this to a local level in Clark and hope that this moral enlighten will be considered in your decision of the animal control facility. We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals quoted from Emanuel Kent, thank you.

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

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes thank you Mr. President. First off I would like to also congratulate Ralph and the Unicans for a great UNICO Italian Festival. Not only is it a lot of fun every year it's now become a Township of Clark tradition. Ralph I know you work very, very hard and diligently and I would like to again salute you publicly. The money goes back to the community in different grants and activities and organizations. So to you and all of the Unicans who work so hard and all of the volunteers I thank you very, very much. It was a great time had by all.

I would also like to remind the citizens that we're coming up on Halloween shortly. And there's going to be a lot of tikes running around our streets crossing, please drive very, very carefully. If anybody sees any shenanigans please report them to the Clark Police Department immediately. We want to keep all the children very safe and have a happy trick or treat.

I would like also to the camera-man to flash the camera over here to our Special Officer Bob Janus. I would like to congratulate Bob on a lifesaving that he did as a citizen at the San Diego Airport. Bob has been a longtime Class II Special here for us and does a great job. He was going through the airport and some lady who was under a cancer treatment, her throat was kind of dry and she wasn't drinking anything and she was eating a bagel. And it got lodged into her and she began to choke. Bob did some Heimlich maneuver I guess and other airway clearing techniques that he has learned and he saved a life. So whether he is here or out of state he's on the job and I would like to congratulate you Bob for that.

As far as the request from the Third Ward resident about the Rahway Park meeting with the County Manager. It's a very nice request to have Councilwoman Soyka join in and eventually she may, I'm sure with other council people who have spoken to me about also wanting to come to this meeting. But in our form of government I'm the administrative branch and they are the legislative branch. And not only does my meeting that day have the conversation about the Rahway Park Turf Field and the quality of life issues that we're trying to tackle down there, there will be other items that I will be speaking with the County Manager on that are not privy to Council at this time. So I will be denying that request for all councilmen, the three at-large and Third Ward. What I will say to the four of you and one of you would have to sit out eventually because four is a quorum as you know. This is going to be a meeting for me to discuss with the County Manager the quality of life concerns we have with that project up to including noise, lights, traffic, etc. and so on. I also have that email for mayor@ourclark.com receiving and I asked the people up in that neighborhood to send me or email me their concerns or drop them off in writing and I will present the County Manager and discuss some of those concerns with him. I will tell you as I said it to you at the executive session I have a working relationship and know the Mayor of Rahway, Mayor Sam Steinman. I spoke to him on this issue already and he has said to me that as much as he wants the turf field for his community he has no intention of wanting to hurt our community and the quality of life issues. He said he would be glad to try to work with me and meet reasonable requests to do that. I spoke to a friend Freeholder Al Mirabella who also told me that he is going to meet eventually with me after I'm done with the County Manager to discuss again the quality of life concerns for our township and the Third Ward residents. So we are on it folks. The gentleman was correct earlier this evening in saying there is an agreement drawn up and they seemed like they are going to go ahead. When I was at the Freeholders'

meeting the other night to accept a check for the high school weight room with Ralph Bernardo the County Manager Mr. Faella told me he was looking forward to our meeting and he would be glad to work with our concerns to make sure the Township of Clark isn't affected in any way. So again taking people on face value and I have no reason not to, I look forward to that conversation. I will report back to Councilwoman Soyka, my three at-large members and of course the entire council. Because even though there's wards and this that it affects the community and everyone has a vote and a say in that. And hopefully as we progress in the process I don't think anything is going to be resolved in one day in one meeting, because I'm sure the County Manager will have to take the concerns back to his people and the Freeholder Board to discuss it with them. Then I would like to get a meeting with Mayor Steinman from Rahway and at that point when I have more to bring back to this council I will be very glad to hear your concerns and then to see if we can set a joint meeting to try to keep this thing going. So that's that on the Third Ward turf field issues tonight. And I thank everyone for their time and have a great evening.

Councilwoman Soyka: First off I got a call from a veterinarian in Clark telling me that there are deer on the Valley Road School property that come into the street or very close to the street around 11:30 or 12:00 at night and he asked me if we could address that issue. I truly don't know what we could do but he said he wanted us to know about it because it could be dangerous.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We have it all over Marie.

Councilwoman Soyka: He says he is worried about someone hitting them.

Mayor Bonaccorso: There were two hit already on Madison Hill Road this year. But they are all over town but tell him thank you very much. I don't know what we can do anyway but we appreciate it.

Councilman O'Connor: Actually I spoke to him as well and he wanted to know if we can get a deer crossing sign put up on Valley Road, that's what he's kind of looking for.

Mayor Bonaccorso: I'm sure we can but you know we are going to have to probably put them on every major road in Clark right now they are all over.

Councilwoman Soyka: As to the Rahway Park issue I have gotten numerous calls about this project. A lot of people have been asking why there wasn't a public meeting to discuss this. I have no answer. And when I went to the Freeholders' meeting I mentioned something about it and was told that it was back...it was a project they talked back in January. I had no record of it or anything that I could say I even knew about it. We know about Warianco Park and we know about Oak Ridge but no one seemed to know about Rahway. And Rahway's impact on the Clark residents it's going to be big. I brought a map of the Rahway Park that I took off the internet and I would say better than a third is Clark and the Clark residents are affected. Also at the Freeholder's meeting there was a Rahway resident who also was against this project. I think the people had a right to speak and they listened to what was going on. It's not against the children in Rahway; it has nothing to do with that but the impact on the properties on the people, the families, their homes. The project proposes seating for five thousand people. That's a lot of

people in that park. Right now I believe there's parking for a little over two hundred cars. So when you have bleachers that can hold five thousand people you are talking about a major influx of traffic and parking for this proposal right now. When I spoke to the Business Administrator in the City of Rahway she told me that parking is not going to be addressed for a while, its part of an ongoing project. She also said that they were going to propose space for vendors and concession stands and a restroom or two. When we talk about this project again it's not something small, it's something that's going to impact a lot of residents. I got calls from people who do not even live near the park but use the park and they want to know how come nothing was in the paper, how come nobody knew about it until about a month ago.

Councilman Barr: About what Councilwoman Soyka is talking about...Mayor you actually answered a question I was going to ask you because I happen to live in the Third Ward and I hear a lot of things that go on there but I also am at-large and you know I'm with the entire town jurisdiction over that. And from what I understand though everything is just not definite yet. I mean we are going over all these things with parking and with this and that but from what I understand...

Councilwoman Soyka: They tell me that it's been surveyed already.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You know Marie first I don't want to interrupt you but thank you for your comments and I know you were at the Freeholder meeting representing the Third Ward and the community well and I thank you for that. But that's again why we picked you so remember that you are experienced. Marie I know you a long time and you were there doing the right thing and we do appreciate that, I do and I know the people do too, they were very happy you were there. Look folks there are a lot of questions and I'm going to have answers for you. I hope they are answers we all like. I hear seating is an admiration it may not be nowhere near that much, I don't know. I've talked to a lot of different people so far. And I don't want to run around and say "oh five thousand no way it's going to be less than that" and then it is five thousand. I want to be able to again convey the concerns that we have as a governing body as the residents who are emailing me, who talked to me and who have called me just like the esteemed Councilwoman. This is how we have to do it, we have to sit down and talk with them and convey the concerns and get their reaction. One day I woke up and all of a sudden there's going to be a Union County College Soccer Stadium at Oak Ridge Park and it's going all over. I forgot where I read it and that day and I called the County Manager and I said to him you know I'm the host Mayor we don't know anything about this. And he goes Sal there's nothing on paper. He goes, we were in Cranford at a meeting, the citizens raised some concern about it and they were going to cut down like seven hundred shade trees which would change a fragile water table already in the Township of Cranford. And somebody said what about Oak Ridge Park and we said yeah great idea we will look at it and he assured me to this day there's nothing on paper about it. And even when I called to request a meeting he says "oh and by the way there's nothing going on at Oak Ridge" so I said thank you Al because they were going to put the ice rink down there a couple of years ago and I think that's still in the long term plan. But these are the questions we are going to have folks. We're all shocked and surprised by this. I did hear Mayor Steinman's...I read it in one of the papers that he was looking to do that for his children and hey why not, any good Mayor would. But the thing is that we will have answers to these questions, I hope they are answers that we all can accept and like. I'm in constant contact with a couple of residents right along St. Germain on

this project. I'm getting emails on it and I just say look Marie what you are saying is 100% correct no arguments and I thank you for that and just allow me to do what I need to do and we will hopefully get this thing worked out in a palpable manner.

Councilwoman Soyka: I would just like to mention that I did speak to the County Manager and he told me that when he meets with you that there are other issues which you just hit on. But he said he would set up another meeting and I look forward to that.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes...Marie I know Councilman Barr, Smith and Albanese have already asked me for the same thing and I told them that I wouldn't have a meeting without you as the Third Ward rep and that would be four that would be a quorum.

Councilwoman Soyka: I appreciate that.

Mayor Bonaccorso: So if somebody is going to have to stay home that's the protocol I would like to...

Councilwoman Soyka: And it's not going to be me.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No, no, no Marie it wouldn't be you because you know who's ever side of town it is the Ward person would absolutely have to have jurisdiction to be there, so absolutely so. Yeah that's the plan. I mean this is more of a hey this is what we got and here's the concerns and here's what the people are writing me on, hear what they have to say and then build off of that from there because Mayor Steinman wants to meet with me also. And eventually I probably would like to get him, myself and the County Manager together and then have the council people in tow to keep working on this thing.

Councilwoman Soyka: One of the things that did disturb me maybe it shouldn't have but it did; the Rahway Athletic Director sits on our Board of Education.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes I know him very well.

Councilwoman Soyka: And I was quite surprised because being that he's the Rahway Athletic Director and he knows about this project because he was at the Freeholder meeting the same one I was at. I was surprised that there was no interaction that we didn't know anything about.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Marie when I first heard about it truth be told I called Tom and I said Tom what's going on with this thing and he said "it's like two years away there's nothing in concrete yet." They are trying to put in a field absolutely he told me and he said but I think it's probably two years away. Then he made some calls and he called me back and said "no it's on a fast track they are looking to move with this thing." And that was simultaneously when I got the first calls from two residents down there. I called him because that's a good hook to have to find out what do you know and his first reaction was two years away. He knows they were going to do the green field project which a lot of people from Clark were happy about. It's a dangerous soccer field in Rahway right across from Rita's Ice and the hospital. That was supposed to be priority one the way he explained it to me and then the park would be down the road, so we find out

differently and we are all on it as well as the residents of the Third Ward. I think you can hear that there's a lot of concern from all of us up here tonight and you're sitting Third Ward Councilwoman. So bear with us and wish us luck and we are going in there and do the best job we can on behalf of everyone so thank you.

Councilman Smith: Thank you. Friday night is the UNICO Bowl. Hillside is coming to ALJ for a 7:00 pm football game, so I appreciate whoever can come out. Come on out and enjoy the game and cheer on the football team. Again I want to congratulate Ralph and the Mayor and congrats to Gus Kalikas as the AD for getting that grant for the weight room. Hopefully within the year or so the new weight room ought to be refurbished and the kids can enjoy it. And as the Mayor said earlier, Halloween is around the corner so please drive safely. That's it for me this evening.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you very much. I had the opportunity to represent the Mayor and Council at the William Robinson Plantation Museum at a celebration of the 150th Anniversary and participate in the Union County Four Centuries in a Weekend. It was a great event. If you haven't been there I suggest you go. I know Brian alluded to it earlier tonight. But there are a lot of volunteers there. Scott McCabe is the Director. There are a lot of volunteers that put a lot of time in there; they were there Saturday and Sunday. Not just people from our town but people from all over to celebrate our anniversary and the Four Centuries Weekend but more importantly these are people you know, taking time away from their families but some of them had their families there as well and it was a great family event. There was cooking by Scott McCabe some old style, it was a really good event. So I want to thank the volunteers and thank Scott and his crew for really keeping that place up to speed with regard to landscaping and keeping the house standing.

With regard to Clark Commons...I know last time when we spoke we had talked about and instructed to the Mayor and the Business Administrator Whole Foods looks like it's going up pretty quick and their expected opening date is late spring 2015. Am I correct? (Mayor Bonaccorso: yes) And then they will open first and then the rest of the stores will open later on when they are all complete. Am I correct with that?

John Laezza: No I think what the developer said that he would like to have the whole project done by July 2015.

Councilman O'Connor: Okay but Whole Foods would be able to open up first correct?

John Laezza: I think everyone is going to be opened around the same time.

Councilman O'Connor: Okay thank you very much. I would like to congratulate the officer that was promoted tonight as well as the new officers in town. And I wish everyone a Happy Halloween, thank you and those are my comments for this evening.

Councilman Mazarella: Yes thank you Council President, I have a brief comment. You know Halloween is coming; mischief night is the day before so ladies and gentlemen if you see anything or hear anything don't hesitate to call the police, that is what they are here for, they will come down and they will investigate the area. They want to keep you safe. And if you are

driving around as the Mayor had said please be careful it's getting dark early, the leaves are out it's getting slippery. So please be careful as you are traveling through, we don't want to have anybody injured. And until next month be safe, stay well and don't forget to recycle, it's very, very important for our future and our children's future. Thank you very much and until next month take care.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President. Before I was talking about the fire department and the Mayor spoke about leaves. Folks there are going to be leaves in the curb, don't park over the leaves because I will be getting a lot more fire calls. Think about that because it's actually very, very dangerous. And Marie you were talking about deer...approximately two weeks ago I woke up and looked out my bedroom window in the backyard and I looked and I went "wow" there was this huge buck, a doe and two fawns sleeping in my backyard and I have pictures. So they are all over and once they heard my camera click they took off. And that concludes my report.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you Mr. President. Mayor I look forward to the report on the County Park, I'm sure you would do well with that and it is as you said fastly developing, I just don't want to repeat what everyone else said but great UNICO Feast, Ralph again thank you. Four Centuries in a Weekend, great job Scott McCabe. Congratulations on the Grant from the County, I always look forward to working with the County. Congratulations to the officers. To Ed Ruth thank you for your 9/11 presentation, I look forward to repeating that and to add on to the ceremony that we have.

This past month we attended the penguin program at the Library. I hope it becomes a tradition and it is fully funded for next year in honor of Joan Syzmonifca one of our Trustees who passed away. So if anyone is interested in contributing to that program going forward, we welcome that. And finally Election Day is coming up November 4th I ask the folks to get educated and make an informed decision about what you are doing when you use that right and every vote does count. So thank you, have a good evening.

Council President Toal: I'm kind of just going to comment about what Councilman Soyka talked about with the County projects that the Mayor briefly talked about it. In 2000 the County came up with the Open Space Trust Fund. I was Clark's Liaison to that. We worked with the Mayor and myself and other members to get the Esposito Farm which was just going into Pete's passing which was in May 2001. Through the Mayor's efforts and other people the Esposito Farm was preserved as Open Space. It's a beautiful Park now on Madison Hill Road. I just want to give you an insight of what the County's mentality is sometimes, I'm not putting anything against them but this is some things that do happen. About two years after the Park was picked up and acquired by the County, a Freeholder came up with the idea to build a children's museum there. The Esposito Park is thirteen acres, the children's museum footprint would be eight acres and the rest would be parking. Ladies and gentlemen the County comes up with these projects because the efforts of the people and because the County looked at the entire project of the pluses and the minuses and worked with the people, there's still a beautiful park there and not a children's museum. The children's museum was moved to the County Kean University. So again projects are brought up, discussed or thrown out there into the public rumor mills but listen to the facts and let the people who are involved make the decision to come to a solution what's best for all of the citizens. The Mayor and I always say keep it as open farm or working farm to feed the needy

and homeless but then it was a great project that came to a solution and finality with a beautiful Park that the citizens are using every day in the memory of Pete Esposito our last farmer in Clark. Just again things that do get out there don't listen to the rumors get the facts.

Its election season and I'm not supposed to talk about politics and I'm not going to. I'm on the ballot this year but don't worry about that, if you are out campaigning and if anybody in this town ever wants to run for public offices do not leave home without dog treats. Again November 4th is coming up please get out and vote, vote your conscious, vote what is right to you that's all that matters.

Those we've lost recently; Edith Pryll, Miss Pryll was 100 years old a lifetime resident of Clark; Mr. Richard Martin, Mr. Martin was a constituent of St. Agnes Church and Thomas Mercadante. Tommy Mercadante was the custodian of St. Agnes Church for many years; and George Churn father of Father Jim Churn out of St. Agnes, our deepest sympathies to those families.

That's all I have. Go out and vote. Be careful of the kids who are going to be out Trick or Treating and we will see you next month.

Attorney Triarsi: No report.

Township Clerk: Just one thing. When Delia Collins was up she said she didn't understand why she couldn't yet have the information of who the township is considering for animal control and I just wanted to explain. Under the Open Public Records Act there's a very specific definition of what an open public record is. And there's some material before it goes to council it is deliberative or interoffice and it is not yet a public record, so the council doesn't even know yet who the Health Officer is considering. Once she brings it to one of the councilmen to present and put it on the agenda then it will become a public record. So it's not that we don't want you to have it it's just not yet a public record.

John Laezza: Yes I would like to talk about Clark Commons Development. Government is a business and the assets of government are the land and vacant land. The State of New Jersey would have us put affordable housing on every piece of vacant land in the Township of Clark and no one would have any say as to what they would do with it because it's a court mandate. The development of Clark Commons was looked at very closely in relationship to the benefits of the community and relationship to the traffic. Some people seem to think that what is there presently in Clark is a bad situation and it would be a further situation. When the Planning Board reviewed the Clark Commons Development they did take traffic into consideration. When Councilman O'Connor asked me when it's going to be done and when the stores will open, they will not open until the traffic configuration is completed. So that as fast as they are going on the project within perimeter of the twenty-eight acres until the exterior and traffic is done to alleviate traffic conditions that will not open. When you look at a facility of twenty-eight acres and what it can bring back to the community. It's going to bring back substantially more investment than it would cost the community to get that done. The same thing was done in relationship to the apartment complex at the end of Terminal Avenue which is now called Woodcrest and Westfield Avenue. There will be a traffic configuration done at that corner to alleviate the traffic. They will have a better flow of traffic coming from Westfield Avenue going toward Westfield and Rahway

out of Rahway Avenue. The right turn will be a continual right turn. There are right-of-ways we are getting from Retro Fitness and Kerry Industries to reconfigure that corner so that each of those developments if you will, will bring in substantial ratables, no schools, a minimal amount of police services and maybe some more health services since we will have more people close together. But it will be well taken care of with regard to the revenue we put in. So we believe that the Township of Clark has been doing the business well and I think you as council should be proud of that process and be for it and not condemning it, thank you.

Police Chief Scherb: No comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

APPROVED

BRIAN P. TOAL
Council President

ATTEST:

EDITH L. MERKEL, RMC
Township Clerk