

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, 315 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, N.J.
September 15, 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.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Mr. President, Members of Council and ladies and gentlemen of the community. A brief report tonight...today I attended (presentation) with Councilmen Smith and Mazzarella at Kumpf School. They were honored with a very, very high award; it was really unbelievable to see. It's called "A School to Watch." They were one of five middle schools in the State of New Jersey and one of somewhere between thirty and fourth nationwide. That is an unbelievable achievement in our town to see our school district with that kind of award. And I would like to take a moment to again congratulate Principal Jennifer Feeley and the Assistant Principal Amanda Cloutier. If you know these two ladies they are really, really at it every day working hard for the kids. As I said today I have to feel very good because my two daughters attended there and they felt that Kumpf was just a great experience for them. I would like to also congratulate the Board of Education on what they do because obviously it's working, Mr. Knopps, Mr. Grande and of course all the teachers and support staff; anyone who steps foot in that building every day to make it go, I just want to congratulate you. It was a great hour that we spent today. All the kids had these Kumpf shirts on, "School to Watch," and Congressman Lance was there and others and it was very, very nice. So congratulations, it's a great, great shot in the arm for the school district and also our community.

Secondly, we are in the last month of branch clean-up ladies and gentlemen. Please get your branches out for the last time this year. We need to pick them up on the fourth week of September, get them out on the third week of September, then we need to tub grind and prepare

our facility to start leaf collection at the end of October. So please folks if there is a storm between now and March and like we've done in the past protocol we will always have a special clean-up if we have a major storm of any kind of magnitude. But in the meantime get them out, please adhere to this. We can't send these guys running around town after that date picking up branches, we won't. So please have them out, this is only the fourteenth year we've been doing it this way, so I think we should get the drift by now as they say.

Also I'm going to do a public service announcement for the Clark Police Department. Unfortunately we had a very bad motor vehicle accident Saturday around 2:30/3:00 on Raritan Road. And believe it or not Raritan Road in Clark on a Saturday there were no witnesses. So if anyone witnessed that accident, please call the Clark Police Department at (732) 388-3434 that's the main number and I would say ask for Lieutenant Mike Pollock if you were a witness to it, it was an accident, it was terrible. They'd just like to know if there were another set of eyes on it for their investigation that would help them.

And also I would like to re-appoint Jim Ulrich to the Hyatt Hills Golf Course Commission effective October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2019.

Township Clerk: I have the police, fire and first aid reports for the month of August 2014 filed in my office.

REPORT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you Mr. President, I have a Library report from our Director Dawn Jenkin. The Library has created a mobile lab with eight laptops that's available for teaching and instruction anywhere in the Library. If you are an organization, public or private interested in conducting a training class, the laptops are available for that purpose.

I also want to mention that on Sunday, September 21st at 2:00 pm from 3 to 8 there will be a program "Nancy and the Moss Covered Rock" and it's a play and shop program for children. Also stay on the lookout there are some great arts and craft programs for adults. And coming up on Sunday, October 5th we have the penguin program which will be in honor of Joan Szymonifka one of our trustees who passed away this past year. So hopefully you will come out, that program is for all ages, it's a penguin program and you will have a live penguin there. That concludes my report thank you.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President...the police dispatcher had the Clark Volunteer Fire Department respond to thirty-four calls in August. So winter is approaching and as always happens it starts getting dark earlier and earlier. The Fire Chief asked me to once again remind everyone to go outside of your house when it's dark and see if your house number is easily seen. Folks in an emergency whether it is fire, ambulance or police, finding a specific house quickly can mean the difference between a possible minor incident or a disaster. So everyone go check your house number and make sure it's clearly visible from the street.

Councilman Mazzarella: Yes thank you Council President, I have two reports, from the Clark Police Department and DPW. August 2014 the Clark Police Department saw a total of 2,542 calls of service of which 104 were alarm calls, 58 were motor vehicle accidents and 2, 259 were miscellaneous calls. I would like to continue with this report from the Police Department. Ladies and gentlemen I'm sure you have noticed throughout our community there have been our police cruisers parked at various locations and times, this is a good thing. This is throughout our community mostly through the cut thru streets. This will curtail the excessive speeding and ladies and gentlemen those violators will be ticketed. And this is to keep our community and you our residents safe.

DPW report; The Mayor touched on the branches. That date is September 22nd, mark that down, branches will not be picked up after that. Bulky will continue through October by appointment only, please call DPW to schedule. You must call the Thursday at 3:00 pm before your scheduled area pick up. Electronic drop-off is September 27th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the DPW facility behind 315 Westfield Avenue behind this building, and they will accept fluorescent bulbs, they do not accept compact bulbs at this time. Grass collection will end October 13th. Appliance pick-up ends October 27th, please call DPW to schedule an appointment for pickup. Curbside recycling continues every other Monday. We recycle plastic bottles # 1 thru #7, glass, aluminum, tin, styrofoam, paper, cardboard just to mention a few. Leaf pickup will start the middle to end of October. Please place leaves one foot from your curb, this will help if there's any rain and it won't have any blockage or build up on the catch basins as much.

Our DPW staff is still cleaning catch basins and filling potholes. But ladies and gentlemen if you see anything, if you see a clogged catch basin drain or a pothole, just call DPW and they will be happy to come out and scheduled a repair or a cleaning. The DPW number for your records is (732) 428-8402. Thank you and that's the extent of my report.

Councilman O'Connor: Thank you I have two reports, first the report from the Clark First Aid Squad for August. There were 121 ambulance requests, 110 were from Clark and 11 were mutual aid, the most frequent calls were motor vehicle accidents 24, fall victims 15 and sick persons 11. And from the Finance Committee through the eight months of this year the town continues to meet all of its financial requirements, we are on budget and financially sound. Thank you. That's my report.

Councilman Smith: Thank you Council President Toal...I have the pool and recreation reports this evening. The pool ended a great season and we have plans that are underway for the 2015 season. I want to again thank the staff for doing an outstanding job this year in running the pool.

Clark Recreation Department; registration is opened for the 2014/15 classes. Every resident was mailed this color brochure from Ralph Bernardo. He actually won an award last year in the State for last year's brochure. It is a tremendous booklet, it has every class possible listed in here. The registration forms are in it also. If you didn't get one for any reason they are outside Ralph's office in the bins outside his office or outside the two main gyms at Brewer and if you are interested register now because the classes will be closed shortly.

And lastly a public address announcement; Clark UNICO which Ralph is President of will be holding the Italian Festival October 10th thru 12th, that's Friday, Saturday and Sunday of Columbus Day weekend. There will be plenty of food, games, entertainment, vendors and 50/50's. They will need volunteers to help man the Feast. UNICO only has about 100 members and that's not enough volunteers to run the Feast for the three days. So if you are interested in volunteering in a booth selling 50/50's or just helping clean up please contact Ralph in the Rec Department. And that concludes my report this evening.

Councilwoman Soyka: No committees no report but I would like to comment on this book. I think this book is really, really good. This is the first time I've seen it and for all the activities that they have I think it's great. And for our township people they should really enroll and have a good time doing it, thank you.

Council President Toal: I have no official report tonight for committee.

ORDINANCES, APPROPRIATIONS AND CLAIMS:
INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 347, SECTION 22
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK
ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC"**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that the following Section of Chapter 347 of the Code of the Township of Clark entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" is hereby amended in the following particulars:

SECTION 1: Section 347-22 entitled "Parking Restrictions" is amended as follows:

Delete the restrictions set forth in the within ordinance as related to Acorn Drive and replace with the following:

Acorn Drive – both sides, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday from September to June
Location - from the northerly curb line in front of 626 Raritan Road
to 20 Acorn Drive

SECTION 2: **Inconsistent Ordinances:** Any ordinances of the Township of Clark which are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 3: **Effective Date:** This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication, according to law.

Moved by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilwoman Soyka

Discussion:

John Laezza: Basically this is a safety measure that we put with regard to drop-offs by parents and children attending the Hehnlly School. We had it from 2 to 3; we needed another hour to clear out the traffic with the safety of the children involved. So we are amended the ordinance to make it from 2:00/3:00 to 4:00 pm.

Council President Toal: A safety measure to help the children of Clark.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Brian what was happening up in that area I've explained it to you guys at the executive session but for the public record...when you come off of Raritan Road in either direction to go to Hehnlly, on the right side there's Shadow Lane and then it turns into Acorn Drive, cars were parking in front of the houses on Shadow Lane dropping off and cars were also trying to come down Shadow Lane while cars were going up and buses and motor vehicles were actually going on the other side of the road. So before someone got hit head on and with a lot of children in the area we felt it was more than proper to do this on that street. We met with the residents and spoke to each and every one of them at a traffic coordinating meeting and they were all okay with it. And we made sure they were able to continue using in front of their home on the weekends and in the months and different hours when school is not in session. It's basically just a time period to govern the school time drop-offs.

No further discussion

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Public Hearing October 6, 2014

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS: Councilman O'Connor, Chairman of Finance Committee made a motion to approve the payment of claims on current and capital expenditures in the amount of \$209,500.31 for the period ending September 11, 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 Citizen Hearing on the Agenda

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

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 14-125

WHEREAS the Governing Body of the Township of Clark advertised on August 28, 2014 and received one (1) bid for Collection and Disposal of Leaves on September 10, 2014 at 10:30 a.m.; and

WHEREAS the lowest responsible bidder was Riversedge Contracting, LLC, 3092 Hutchinson River Road, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865 in the amount of \$3.43 per cubic yard; and

WHEREAS the Business Administrator has reviewed all the documents required by the bid specifications and recommends award of contract to Riversedge Contracting, LLC; and

WHEREAS the Chief Financial Officer has ascertained funds are available in the 2014 Municipal Budget, Account Number 26-306-223.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that it does hereby award a contract to Riversedge Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$3.43 per cubic yard subject to review of the bid by the Township Attorney who will draw up the contract.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilwoman Soyka

Discussion:

John Laezza: This is a yearly program to remove and dispose of our leaves.

No further discussion

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14-126

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that the Health Officer is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement between the Township of Clark and the Visiting Nurse and Health Service (VNHS) in the amount not to exceed \$4,129.00 for the period commencing January 1, 2015 and terminating on December 31, 2015, pending the approval of the 2015 Municipal Budget.

Moved by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Smith

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14-127

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey that it hereby accepts the Addendum to the Developer's Agreement with Clark Commons, LLC, having its principal office located at 12 Route 17 North, Suite 210, Paramus, New Jersey, 07652 and the County of Union and authorizes the Mayor and Township Clerk to execute same in connection with the Retail Development on the tract of land identified as Block 144, Lots 1 and 2, situated on Raritan Road between Walnut Avenue and Central Avenue, Clark, New Jersey 07066.

Moved by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman Smith

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14-128

WHEREAS the Deutscher Club of Clark, Inc., a non-profit 501c7 organization, located at 787 Featherbed Lane, Clark, New Jersey has requested an exemption from Chapter 195-160.1 entitled "Banners" for their ongoing fundraising events in order to pay their operating expenses; and

WHEREAS the ordinance restricts the organization to two (2) banner permits per year which limits their ability to draw the public to the events; and

WHEREAS the Deutscher Club has requested permission to obtain up to twelve (12) temporary banner permits per year; and

WHEREAS Section 195-160.1C (2) of the Code of the Township authorizes the Mayor and Council to grant such an exemption.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Township of Clark hereby grants an exemption from Chapter 195-160.1 to allow the Deutscher Club to obtain up to twelve temporary sign permits per year.

Moved and seconded by Entire Council

Discussion:

Councilwoman Soyka: What are banner permits? I'm not aware of that.

John Laezza: A few years ago we had an array of banners that the Township of Clark was looking like Coney Island, so we kind of put a ban on banners. We have an ordinance that basically says they can be put up twice a year. However, we've given the right of any municipal facility or any not for profit facilities to ask for permission for something to help them get along and it takes action of the council to accommodate their needs. The Deutscher Club would like to put a banner for their fundraisers each month for various seasons and they are asking for that permission.

Councilwoman Soyka: Okay thank you.

No further discussion

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

Resolution 14-129

WHEREAS the Governing Body of the Township of Clark and the Board of Chosen Freeholder of the County of Union, on Friday, September 19, 2014, call on all Union County residents to gather in front of the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth, New Jersey, to remember and honor the men and women who have given so much to make and keep us free and secure in this country; and

WHEREAS Friday, September 19, 2014 has been declared "POW/MIA Remembrance Day" in the County of Union, a recognition day to give thanks and to remember the sacrifices rendered to us by all of our POW/MIA Veterans; and

WHEREAS in honor of this special day, a ceremony will be held in front of the Union County Courthouse, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey, beginning at 11:15 a.m. All residents of Union County are urged to make a special effort to give thanks and remember the sacrifices made.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark in conjunction with the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union that Friday,

September 19, 2014 be declared **“POW/MIA REMEMBRANCE DAY”** in the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution, suitably prepared, be forwarded to the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Clark American Legion and John L. Ruddy Post #7363 VFW.

Moved and seconded by Entire Council

Discussion: None

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 14-130

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:

BLOCK	LOT	Q U A L	NAME	#	ADDRESS	REFUND	AMT TRNS	TRANS FROM	TRANS TO
13	7		Michael & Diane Smith	11	Orchard Terrace		\$2,568.07	2014-3	2014-4
180	12		Janice Minarchenko	44	Colonial Drive		\$2,014.64	2014-3	2014-4
					Total		\$4,582.71		

Resolution 14- 131

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 attached schedule.

SEWER BILLING ADJUSTMENT 2014									
CLARK TOWNSHIP									
REF	#	Account #	Name	#	Address	Reason	Original	Revised	Credit
14	53	1807-0	Rudy Sorrentino	68	Lefferts Lane	leak	\$ 985.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 760.00
14	54	4764-0	Linda Frame	2340	Colonial Drive	well adj	\$ 500.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 275.00
							Total		\$1,035.00

Resolution 14-132

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.

SEWER REFUNDS 2014							
REF	#	Acct #	Name	#	Address	Reason	Refund
14	17R	4764-0	Linda Frame	2340	Colonial Drive	Overpayment	\$25.00

A motion to adopt Consent Agenda 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:

Township Clerk: We have one item of new business that Mr. Triarsi has requested to be added to the agenda.

Attorney Triarsi: As the Members of Council are aware the development that Clark Commons includes a provision for the widening of the intersection of Raritan Road and Central Avenue. In order to affect that widening we need to obtain rights-of-way from four different properties. We have endeavored to contact those property owners to enlist them informally and we've been unsuccessful in that regard. So I prepared this resolution for the (so) Council will know what we're doing. We are about ready to start condemnation proceedings. We can't widen the road without the taking; the taking involves only a percentage of (the property). It's not going to impair the use of the properties by the people. It's going to essentially set their properties back a little further and allow that roadway to be able to turn both ways left and right. Under our condemnation law we have to gain services of an appraiser which we've already done, we are going to be meeting with them in a week or two and with the property owners in the hope that we still can resolve this informally. But this authorizes us to proceed formally if and when it becomes necessary. And for the record the properties are; Lot 1 Block 71, Lot 2, Block 71, Lot 3, Block 71, Lot 4, Block 142; the street addresses are; 162, 152 and 142 Central Avenue and 136 Central Avenue.

Resolution 14-133

WHEREAS, the Land Use Board of the Township of Clark, having appropriate jurisdiction, has approved the re-development of certain properties in the Township of Clark, commonly known as the U.S. Gypsum Lands, located on Central Avenue within the Township of Clark; and

WHEREAS, as part of the re-development of the aforesaid lands, the Township Planning Board, Township Engineer, and Governing Body of the Township of Clark have concluded that it would be necessary and appropriate, in light of the proposed re-development, to redesign the traffic intersection at the corner of Raritan Road and Central Avenue in the Township of Clark; and

WHEREAS, to that end, it will be necessary for the Township to acquire several rights of way from the present property owners; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has previously authorized the Township Attorney to initiate negotiations with the property owners for the acquisition of the rights of way, and, in this regard, to obtain fair market value appraisals; and

WHEREAS, the Township Attorney for the Township of Clark has recommended that formal condemnation proceedings be commenced against the aforesaid properties in order that the Township acquire the necessary rights of way.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that it does hereby authorize the commencement of condemnation proceedings against the owners of Lot 1, Block 71; Lot 2, Block 71; Lot 3, Block 71 and Lot 4, Block 142, each of which is known respectively as 162 Central Avenue; 152 Central Avenue; 136 Central Avenue and 142 Central Avenue, in order that the necessary rights of way be obtained.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that the Township authorizes the Township Attorney and Business Administrator to incur such expenses as may be necessary and incidental to the foregoing prior to the commencement of formal condemnation proceedings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that it does authorize the Business Administrator to obtain the services of Appraisal Associates, Inc. of Cranford, New Jersey to conduct Fair Market Value Appraisals in accord with the proposal submitted with the foregoing appraisal company.

Motion to add made by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

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

Discussion:

Councilwoman Soyka: Once this resolution is done and then you need to proceed to widen the road, what happens if someone decides to contact you after the fact?

Attorney Triarsi: The process is a little bit more complicated than that. It's all laid out in the statute. The first thing we need to do is to meet with the property owners and the appraiser which we have arranged to do on the 23rd of this month. Within ten days after that meeting we need to make them an offer of dollars for their property. That's why the appraiser is with us to establish fair market value. So then once this is complete, we will make them an offer in writing and they will have a period of time within to accept it, if they choose not to accept I will file a complaint in condemnation. I will post with the court the funds that we have offered to them. The property will immediately become ours and the only issue then becomes how much we will pay them at a later date. It's a whole process that has to be gone through but the process doesn't impair our opportunity to take the property right away. I just don't want it...to this point Councilwoman, we've tried it informally several times, and we aren't getting anywhere. So I think I need a little more...(Councilwoman Soyka: a little more power, a little more punch)

Council President Toal: Okay I'm just going to make a comment on this. Back in 1975/76 when Union County and the State and Clark widen Central Avenue and the Raritan Road intersection, the same procedures were done. So it's not a new procedure or a new way of doing business.

Motion to adopt made by Councilman Mazzarella, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

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

Dario Valdivia, 9 Terry Lane: A little question about this resolution that you just went ahead and passed. Listening to Mr. Triarsi here...you are going to make an offer to the owners of this area of this property that's going to be widened, should they decide not to take it then you are going to take them to court.

Attorney Triarsi: That's correct.

Dario Valdivia: And then you are going to go ahead and decide then you are going to take the property and then you are going to go ahead and probably give them more money than what you are already offering.

Attorney Triarsi: No that's not quite the way it works. If they do not accept the offer...first of all the offer is not what Mr. Laezza or I say it should be, we hire an appraiser who establishes fair

market value and that's the offer that we extend in writing. If they choose to accept it we don't go any further, we exchange the cash for a deed and we are finished. If they reject it because they feel the property is worth more than we are offering, they are entitled to reject it and in which case I will file a complaint for the condemnation of that property, it's called eminent domain, because we are acquiring for a valid municipal purpose, the street widening. The statutes require me to post with the court the sum of money that we have offered them. That money is deposited with the court, the court then appoints a panel, a condemnation panel, citizens who hear testimony from both sides and they make a recommendation to the court as to whether the offer is fair or not fair and what it should be and then the court confirms or modifies the offer. So it's a full process that we have to go through. These are relatively small condemnations, ranging from a few hundred feet to a couple of thousand feet, there's no big taking. And as I indicated previously on the record it doesn't impair the use of the property by any of the owners. Basically what we're doing is moving their sidewalks back on their property a little bit so we can make that curve look better. So that's the process.

Dario Valdivia: Thank you for explaining that. I sort of gathered all that before but I'm glad that you were able to go ahead and do that just for the public. But again what you are saying is depending on the panel what they decide if it's worth more or it's not worth more they are still going to get paid.

Attorney Triarsi: Sure they are going to get paid. We can't take it without paying it.

Dario Valdivia: That's correct. Now where is that money going to come from?

Attorney Triarsi: The money is probably going to be raise by a bond issue I would think.

Dario Valdivia: Okay so the bond issue basically means that it's going to be our responsibility to pay for it.

Attorney Triarsi: Well it's going to be your responsibility in concert with the developer's responsibility because this is an offsite improvement and I'm sure the Developer's Agreement that we referred to earlier requires the developer to share in the cost of the offsite improvements because it is largely for his benefit. (Dario Valdivia: okay) Unfortunately we can't push the whole cost of it on him because there are other parties namely yourself and other residents of the town who are probably going to benefit from this re-designation of the intersection.

Dario Valdivia: Well we could only hope because I mean...

Attorney Triarsi: We hope that's the case but he is going to pay a large portion of it.

Dario Valdivia: Well I hope so because I understand that he was supposed to pay for the traffic impact study also and that hasn't happened.

Attorney Triarsi: He did.

Dario Valdivia: I heard it hasn't happened.

John Laezza: You heard incorrect.

Dario Valdivia: Okay do you have...

Mayor Bonaccorso: Who did you hear this from sir?

Dario Valdivia: Well I'm just hearing it.

Mayor Bonaccorso: From who, we would like to know, you know if you are going to come before council and...

Dario Valdivia: As I travel...as you know that I am going and knocking on doors because I'm the Councilman 2nd Ward Candidate for the Democratic Party. So I've been going around and getting information from various people and you know of course they are all going to start talking because they are not too happy about what's going on in this township especially with the developing problem and everything else. You know and the other thing is too I was riding around and I saw that they took the fence down a couple weeks back and they never put it back because I understand it was due to the widening of the streets and everything else. But now they are also putting up all these walls up on Walnut Avenue that the residents there are going to have to be looking at when I thought from looking at the plans they were going to be looking at a beautiful park with a fountain and everything.

John Laezza: They are.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You probably didn't look at the plans correctly.

Dario Valdivia: Well then the Walnut Street people aren't going to see because the stores are going to be in the way.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well the Walnut Avenue people were at the meeting that I attended as a Planning Board member.

Dario Valdivia: And they never said anything.

Mayor Bonaccorso: No. They were sat down and showed the plan and they heard it through the Planning Board testimony by exactly what was going to be put there, the shrubbery that was going to be there and actually when it was approved a couple of the people who live on Walnut had a private conversation with the developer on any other concerns or comments and he was working with those people. And actually he gave them his card, I don't know if they told you that.

Dario Valdivia: Well I was here when that happened, I was present. As a matter of fact I was one of the first guys that got up and spoke about it because I remember you were saying something about you were going down to Georgia and seeing this beautiful thing and you got this vision to come and bring it to Clark. And that's why I was wondering how many neighborhood houses were around that vision that you saw down in Atlanta compared to what we have here.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well first off I would like to correct you in your statement. We didn't bring it to Clark, it came to Clark. There's a difference. #2 you had an eighteen acre site, I'm sorry a twenty-seven acre site that was vacant and was going to be sold for a variety of different reasons from shopping to possible offices to possible homes. And when we took the courtesy at the time to mail a letter, first time in Clark's history, to the residents on what they would like to see there, the majority of this community came back and it was in writing and documented that they would like to have seen shopping there. So when the area became designated for shopping which you are confusing my vision with, my vision is to make sure it was done with the best taste for this community and didn't look like something that was found on Route 22 or Routes 1 and 9. So those are the words I think you comprehended that evening.

Dario Valdivia: Well I was here present when they went ahead and they changed the zoning right here in front of us and I asked...

Mayor Bonaccorso: You were here?

Dario Valdivia: Well it wasn't at this...it was at a different location.

Mayor Bonaccorso: When we changed the zoning?

Dario Valdivia: When you changed the zoning. As a matter of fact I even asked and said this sounds like it's a done deal and you were like "no it's not a done deal" and all of sudden you voted on a zoning change right there. But in any case there are a lot of little things too. I mean what I'm questioning is who is going to be responsible for all this monies that is going to be spent.

John Laezza: Maybe I can answer that question for you. Basically when it was the US Gypsum property we got a tax rate of about two hundred and fifty thousand dollars a year, maybe 298, and they appealed that all the time. When this facility is completed we will get in excess of a million two hundred thousand dollars. So that will be one part of it that will pay for some of your services that you get in the Township of Clark #1; #2 we've already introduced and adopted an ordinance with regard to our fair share of the intersections. That was brought about because the developer wanted to pay it in its entirety and the Shop Rite decided to file a lawsuit. And so this was the settlement of that lawsuit that we had to pay our fair share, we minimized it to five hundred thousand dollars. And that money basically will accommodate the payment of any of these bills not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars as our fair share of that. And the project (the roadway) will take about 2.3 million dollars to complete, so that the developer will be widening it at his cost not at our cost other than five hundred thousand dollars. And if you want to get into the finances, I will be happy to debate it with you any time sir.

Dario Valdivia: Well I don't need to debate it. If everything is done in black and white I would like to have a copy of it and I would like to know where I can get a copy of that. I would like to get a copy of the traffic impact study.

John Laezza: They are all on file in the Planning Board office; you can get it anytime you want.

Dario Valdivia: Okay that will be great. Now as far as the settlement going with Shop Rite, I understand that we were liable for like 2 ½ million, is that true, am I talking nonsense here.

John Laezza: You are talking nonsense, yes sir.

Dario Valdivia: Okay then I'll have to go ahead and check my facts on that. The other thing is we were talking also about maybe violations (traffic violations) and how we are going to go ahead and have people ticketed for speeding and stuff like that. What are we going to do about that circle where everybody goes ahead and merges over and just cuts everybody off instead of going around going back to the parkway, they want to go ahead and go down Central and they just like cut everybody off. Is there a solid line there somewhere that they are not supposed to do that, isn't that against the law?

John Laezza: The Parkway Circle is the County's and we enforce it as much as we can. We just convinced the County that the yield sign that they put on that circle will now be another stop street coming from Brant Avenue going North on the Parkway. We will be having that ordinance introduced at the October meeting.

Dario Valdivia: Very good I'll be here for that. Now I just want to have one last question. As far as the budget goes for repaving neighborhoods and stuff, how do we work that? I guess we don't have any money to go ahead and do anymore neighborhoods. Is that correct?

John Laezza: Each year the Township of Clark spends approximately one million dollars on repaving roads. We have done a study fourteen years ago studying all of our roads. We go along with each road, we get the complaints of people when we see which are the most damaged and we spend about a million dollars out of capital bonding that is paid for over the life of the road improvements.

Dario Valdivia: I live in my neighborhood for the last five years now and we just got it done last October and I thank you guys very much. I mean it took a lot of pushing from us writing, phone calls and everything else. We finally got under the wire there with the budget because when I saw my neighborhood you know being like one of the last neighborhoods to be done I was like I'm going to see what happens and it did.

John Laezza: There are seventy miles of roads in Clark.

Dario Valdivia: Yes I understand but I was over there hitting the pavement on James and Alice, that place hasn't been paved in like fifteen/twenty years and that was even worse than ours.

Mayor Bonaccorso: There are probably streets in town that haven't been paved longer than that. But it's the worse the best scenario as dollars allow.

Dario Valdivia: Okay I just wanted to know.

John Laezza: We do have plans. We have an organized operation for the last fourteen years as to how we do roads.

Dario Valdivia: That's good. Thank you for your time.

Delia Collins, Georgia St.: Good evening...I would like to know if there's any progress on any type of contract with an animal control facility.

John Laezza: We have received three proposals and we will be coming up with a new contract for the 2015 year.

Delia Collins: Are you at liberty to say who they're with?

John Laezza: Not right now. I haven't even given them to the council yet, I just got them.

Delia Collins: Okay. I would like to know this is just a question of who I would ask. On the corner of Picton Street and Boynton Avenue it says "dead end." It is not a dead end; it does go out to the side road that butts Central Avenue. And I would like to know how come that is written as a dead end at the corner of Picton and Boynton.

John Laezza: I guess if you go all the way back to Boynton, if you go straight through it, it's a dead end at the end of that road.

Delia Collins: It's a dead end but you can make a right turn to get onto Central.

John Laezza: I'll check with traffic.

Delia Collins: Okay. Last meeting I had mentioned about the corner of Georgia Street and Boynton being a problem with near accidents. And I know the Chief had said that you would have to get state approval for any type of signage on that area there to have people avoid parking on that corner. I was wondering if yellow markings on the curbing would require state approval.

John Laezza: Basically if you are going to put any kind of restrictions on corners, it requires approval.

Delia Collins: Okay because there was another near accident the other day and with the Park being so close to the corner of Boynton and Georgia. I just have a feeling that one day there's going to be a tragedy there. Because there are people that back out from the Park onto to Georgia Street and there's people coming down Boynton and there's people coming down Georgia.

John Laezza: I'll have Lieutenant Pollock look at it, thank you.

Delia Collins: Yeah because the other day people were parked at each corner, so there was only one car and one car out on the street. Also on the site plans for the Clark Commons where it abuts the back of Shop Rite, I went to all of the meetings and I cannot recall if there's going to be

a fence around the back by the catch basin there that’s an open pond like area where the two catch basins...

John Laezza: There will be a wall.

Delia Collins: There will be a wall, okay, thank you.

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

Council President Toal directed roll call:

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

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Thank you Mr. President...I would just like to go back since we brought up the parking on Shadow Lane by Hehny. I’d like to remind the people who are dropping off at Valley Road in the morning, so far our commentary from our citizens is very positive, they see a change. They have pointed out a couple of minor situations that we are looking into. But we would really like to ask the folks when you are dropping off your children I know the first weeks of school are also heavier because parents are concerned with the little ones especially getting into the right area of the building and to the right classroom. That’s kind of gone now, so please use the parking lot at Valley Road. There’s plenty of room. And I know there have been a couple of employees that are still parking on Blake and I’m working right now to rectify that area to make sure that doesn’t happen. There shouldn’t be any employees parking out there because there’s plenty of parking inside the Valley Road School area now.

Also I would like to remind Council and any seniors out there that this Wednesday is our Senior BBQ at the Deutscher Club from 12 to 2:30. It is for Clark Senior Citizens only.

Also I would like to make mention of last month, I apologize for not being at the meeting. I was taken ill and like every good citizen does I sat home and watched the township council meeting. And I was watching a little commentary at the end of the evening from Councilwoman Soyka on a comment about “no committee and no reports” about Councilman Kazanowski not being appointed to chair a committee. He was on certain committees I do believe. It’s a council process but of course read the agenda each January when they come out. I would like to make a little comment and I know Councilman Barr was recollecting back to the fact that when Councilwoman Soyka was the Council President when her team was the majority of the Township Council that there were Republicans chairing committees and that’s absolutely not true and nor should that have been. See folks I’m not going to sit here and lie. I’m not going to sit here and try to make an issue out of something that doesn’t really exist. First off it’s the pleasure of the majority party to which they appoint their members and other members to certain committees as the Council President. It’s like saying “well there’s never been a Republican during the Democratic majority as to President and vice versa and that also is true, because that is the pleasure of the majority party. Unfortunately in government that’s the way it works sometimes. If you check our Congress right now right down to the State House in Trenton, in the

counties, and probably every municipality in New Jersey. I can't say every with certainty but I can only imagine if there's more than one or two I would be surprised that have the minority party chairing committees. The Council committees folk since I've been on Council and that was starting in January of 1997, if they meet one committee once a year it's probably a lot. I don't want the impression to be taken that these are committees that are running the township each and every day.

The way we do our business up here is myself and the Administrator lay out proposals and we've also brought the best one that we believe is beneficial to the town to the council for their vote. I think there was one time on one ordinance the legislative committee had met maybe twice in all the years. So it's not a thing that you know they are in city hall every day running this operation. And Marie knows that and she also knows that I didn't Chair a committee, I've never complained about it because that's the way it is. If you guys (Democrats) take this council back some day you'd need a hole in your head to put a Republican in charge of a committee. Why would you? And to Councilman Kazanowski's credit we believe was a true gentleman because he understood that. His needs as a council member were always met through the Council President or my office each and every day. He didn't want to come here and be Mr. No. He didn't come up to the microphone and bring up innuendos of what he may have heard out in the street, he checked his facts to know if it was true or not true and if he didn't agree with it he questioned it, and God Bless he should have, that was his job.

So I listened to the debate the other night and it was kind of like a retro 1990's back in the township government. We use to have those debates quite frequently and Marie you know better. And that's why every recommendation I can give to you to fill Rich's seat was because of your experience and how you would be able to hit the ground running for the residents of the Third Ward and the council went along with that. And I certainly don't want to relive the past and go through what was done up here in the 90's. I mean I remember a time when Democrats on council were nice people, it was Marie and Bill Kuchar and Rich Kazanowski and Marty Ferrara in his day, and they are all nice people. And it was a shame to have that tension because I remember when a certain somebody was in the room we couldn't even talk like friends and when he left the room we were all talking like friends. I remember one night the infamous night we went out for pizza together after a meeting and we joked about that on who would get upset for us doing that. So like I said it is the pleasure of the majority party, it is what it is folks. If that's an issue be my guest run with it good luck to you and best of wishes. But you know better than that. You know the game and you know how the rules are played. This is government, the majority party takes the Council Presidency and they take the chairmanship of the committees; they are the head liaisons to police, fire, first aid, DPW and recreation, that's how it's been and it's always been that way. You might want to say well why should it be that way change it, yeah that's an argument too if you like but it is what it is.

Also the one gentleman got up and made some comments tonight about you know he's walking around and he is talking to people and he is hearing a lot of things. And I would also like to caution the community to that because now you know its approaching election season. What you hear, what's real or what's not please check on it because anything we are doing in this meeting can be found out very, very simply by going to the Clerk's Office or the Planning Board. You don't need to walk around and talk to people on whether what they are telling you is true or not

in this whole big hoopla that's going on. I know by a very democratic process with a small "d" we took the initiative to ask the people of this town what they wanted. And again we follow the will of the people. Again we also understand that nothing is one hundred percent no matter what you do there's always going to be friendly concern or if you will opposition to it.

We had the US Gypsum property negotiated out to where the builder was going to pay one hundred percent of the road improvements and I think Council you remember that when we talked about it back then Shop Rite (Wakefern) sued and as everything was thrown out of court we had our legal counsel, we had the Planning Board legal counsel, and the developer's legal counsel sit down and talk about the last charge which was the fair share of the road improvement. And of course my response was "well why are we even debating about this, he said he'd pay." And I know Mr. Triarsi and the Planning Board Attorney both explained it that we would lose in court if it was objected to and it was objected too. Because what the courts are afraid of is that Planning Boards would hold developers hostage, making them do unnecessary things in a community to get something passed. So even though the Township of Clark and the Krame Development had an agreement on that when it was challenged it's something the Judge would have done. Mr. Laezza said we have up to five hundred thousand dollars and on the road condemnation we are not talking about very, very big strips of land, we are talking about enough to move some curbs and sidewalks over to create more safe and more efficient movement up in that area which was agreed to by three different traffic experts. The thing is that Mr. Laezza tonight gave the math of the US Gypsum should be bringing in approximately 1.2 million dollars a year. That's early workups on it on everything the Tax Assessor is working off paper on. And we know roughly over a half of a million dollars a year of clean cash will be going into the Clark School Districts, half a million dollars of clean cash right into the school districts of this town to help continue on the road there on to buy computers, text books, athletic equipment and anything else they use to run a school smart boards and etc. and so on. A million two a year and as we know we live in New Jersey which means taxes go up every year regardless of who is here or there or anywhere. The key trick is to keep them going up on a slow, slow level, we would be paying more. The municipal services we're giving are zero. We don't have to plow it; we don't have to cut it, we have to police it. Chief Scherb and his men already have said they are very comfortable with the number of men that we have to police that area, a very safe community.

So if you take a million two that's going to be coming in probably for longer than we are sitting here, a lot longer, and you subtract the five hundred thousand off the first year, the township and the county who gets a piece and the school district we're still at plus seven hundred thousand dollars and that's an only one time up to five hundred thousand dollar thing. Now if tomorrow I can go and make a deal where I can spend five hundred thousand dollars one time to pick up a million two for a very, very long time. I guess you can say forever I don't know what's forever but I've never been to forever so I'm not sure what that means. And my first year of my initial investment I'm going to put up a half a million and myself and my partners if you will because we'll say the school board and the county are tax collecting partners can walk away with seven hundred thousand dollars with no service, I'll make the deal every day and twice on Sunday and three times on Christmas and New Year's. It's a no brainer. Now people can talk about well you know maybe we should have put office buildings up there; well yeah sure of course great idea we all looked at that. Through the County Planning Board twenty-six percent of the office space in Union County is vacant and I didn't hear that at the door, I did my homework and researched

it through professionals. Ball fields would have been great. I'm a big jock. I love ball fields you guys all know that. So we would have paid seventeen million dollars of taxpayers' money to put up a ball field. And we would have probably spent I don't know (I should say park with ball fields) seventeen million dollars to purchase. I'll be conservative and say fifteen million dollars to build, okay, so we're up to thirty-two million dollars there, the two hundred and fifty-nine thousand dollars that we now collect will be gone because you can't tax township property especially when the township owns it, so we get nothing there to pay the Bonds, then I'm going to probably have to pay three DPW men. We're going to say about with salary, benefits, union contract obligations and clothing allowance and things is probably going to cost around to start a new man in DPW about sixty-five or seventy thousand dollars for the year. So I'm going to pay three guys that money so that's two hundred and ten thousand. Now let's forget I took the two fifty-nine and just threw that away because the township can't bill themselves for taxes and I didn't hear that at the door I know that for a fact. And I turn around and I now need equipment, more equipment to cut that grass because it's twenty-five times bigger than any park we have in Clark that we're responsible for. And then we have to send guys through there picking up trash cans and then we are going to have police be able to get up there and police that area at night to be able to drive through there. So one of the biggest sports guys in town is telling you if I made that move for this community you should have shot me probably because it would have been safer for my brain. Because that's a deal that this town would have paid through the nose and we would have found nothing in return. Even if we wanted to rent the fields and we're not going to rent them to our hometown teams because that's a silent tax because we own the property and the people pay taxes to buy that property, so why would we do that? If we put housing in there what would that have done to the community, school, plowing, road repairs, sewer repairs? I mean that's ridiculous that would be the last (thing) you would ever want, leaving it vacant would make more sense.

So we are going to sit down and you know, see a state of the art shopping area with a lot of new stores in the town. And I know, because people tell me, that they are pretty excited about it. I know there's always an apprehension about traffic and everything sure why not. And I will lay it this way to you, that in the morning rush hour those stores will not be opened, stores open at 9:00 or 10:00. It's evening on the way home and we're hoping that the traffic experts are correct in saying that that area should not add or that be any worse than it is right now. That was the statement at the Planning Board meeting. Adding all that it will not be any worse than it is right now and those are traffic experts, not me or Mr. Laezza not you but traffic experts. I hope they are right I really do. Now as I said at the Planning Board meeting that Christmas time we are all going to be cussing under our breath sitting there because we do that on every street (major streets) at Christmas time, let's be honest. So that is a bad period of the year I'm sure, and that's the God's honest truth that's the way I feel about it. But if you do the mathematics and you work through the benefits of what we have to do there, this was the best solution for an area that had a smoke stack that looked like something out in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

So again folks anything you'd like to see, you are more than welcomed to come to town hall and talk to Edie or construction or whatever appropriate office has that information. Don't listen to anyone. Come check the facts for yourself, because in a few short months all the conversations are gone, no one is asking those questions and no one is hearing things in the street. We all hear a lot of things every day. I know a lot of things I hear are not true and I know there are some things

that are true. So please just ask the question, you will be then welcomed to have the opportunity to view any documents that we have in town hall. And that concludes my report for this evening thank you.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you. The Mayor had mentioned that the Kumpf School was awarded “Schools to Watch” award and I just want to congratulate the Board of Education, the Administration of the schools and the Principal of Kumpf. I had an opportunity on various occasions to stop by and see some of the innovative programs they have there with extended school hours for English and Math. Some of the programs they have are interactive with Math and it’s really a pleasure to see how the school has changed and really grown and it’s an outstanding award.

This night we passed a resolution to remember our POW’s and MIA’s on Friday, September 19th. I just want to remind everyone that the Library has the museum pass for the Intrepid that was bought as a gift from the Friends of the Library. And it’s really a terrific place to go. You get six free tickets to go to the Intrepid Museum; it’s still nice weather, and a great way to honor POW’s and MIA’s. Just a reminder again about the penguins on Sunday, October 5th, so if you can make that event that would be great. And also I just want to mention that this past Monday we had the 9/11 ceremony honoring Jim Nelson and those that passed on 9/11. And this year Ed Ruth put together a display at the Library and it’s really well put together so if you have a chance to go over and visit that display please do so. I want to thank Ed Ruth and Roseanne Nelson for their contributions to that display. And also hoping for good weather for the UNICO Feast October 10th, 11th, and 12th, hope to see you all there. That concludes my report thank you.

Councilman Barr: Thank you Mr. President. Actually I think the Mayor pretty much covered most of the things that I have been thinking and if you have questions come find out what the true answers are. Thank you.

Councilman Mazarella: Yes thank you Council President. As the Mayor said ladies and gentlemen I and Councilman Smith accompanied the Mayor at the “School to Watch” banner ceremony. It was phenomenal, it was a great event and it was a very prestigious award that they had received.

I would like to make a comment; that I was out walking throughout my Ward and last week when I was going on Thomas Drive there was a smell of natural gas. And as I walked up to the residence it got a little bit more vivid. I rang the doorbell and there was no response, and I continued walking and came back and rang the doorbell again and no one came to the door. I went back for the third time and finally I called the police department. The police department came down and confirmed that I wasn’t imagining it and called the fire department; the fire department gained access to the home went into the basement and it was a leaking valve. That would have been a potential explosion not only for that house but the surrounding area. So why I’m mentioning this is please if you are out and about and if you see something or if you smell something and you know no one is home call the police department, it doesn’t hurt, they will come right down. They will confirm what you see, what you hear and what you smell and they will take the appropriate action. I might add that the fire department called the gas company and when I saw the technician out there he said “boy it was good that we were called because that

could have been a disaster.” Other than that be safe, walk around our community safely and until next month take care.

Councilman O’Connor: Thank you very much, just one comment on the Clark Commons; Obviously the Mayor did a phenomenal job explaining it on the financial end. But let’s not forget the residents of the town voted shopping. So at the end of the day they made the right decision for what was right for the township and the Mayor explained to you why it’s the right choice financially, so thank you for that.

Again I would like to congratulate the Board of Education as well with the “School to Watch” program and again Sunday, October 5th the penguins at the Clark Library. That’s my report for this evening thank you.

Councilman Smith: Thank you President Toal. Not to beat a dead horse but again Frank, myself and Sal were at the Kumpf School today. And think about it folks there are fifty states in the US and only forty states had winners and five of them were in New Jersey. So that is astronomical odds to get that distinction. So again to Ms. Feeley and Ms. Cloutier, the staff and faculty over at Kumpf, that’s a tremendous job that just helps out the community, the children etc. in this area. So again thank you for that. And that’s it for this evening Brian.

Councilwoman Soyka: Before I comment on the Mayor’s speech I would like to first thank Samuel Guskind from Boy Scout Troop 145. He had prepared a memorial for the 9/11 people at our Clark Fire Department on Broadway. It’s a piece of metal from the Twin Towers and there’s kind of like a monument of sorts and he did a really good job, so I wanted to comment on that.

Secondly I wanted to thank the Mayor for looking into some of the problems on Blake Drive. I’ve been getting calls about the parking situation and people not being able to get out of their driveway because of the traffic. I know it’s new and I believe in this new parking area. I think it’s really good.

Now to get down to the nitty gritty, council seat, okay... first of all I don’t really recall what happened back in the 90’s and truthfully I don’t care. However Angel said it best at the end, it’s the Council President’s prerogative to seat the council members on committees. My question was why Rich was not on, not that he chaired a committee that he was only on one committee that was my question to Brian. And obviously it escalated from there. Two wrongs don’t make a right. I don’t care what we did back when. When you do something when everybody is working for the same cause which I believe we all are, am I correct, then we should all share in what needs to be done, that’s my point. I’m not looking for an argument; I’m not looking to say who’s right who’s wrong. What I’m saying is that I wanted to know why Rich wasn’t on a committee and I found out, thank you.

Council President Toal: Again school is open please, like everyone has said, please be careful. We had the incident on Saturday. It just re-enforces that Clark is a busy town at times and we have to be careful all ages and we don’t want another tragedy and our prayers go out to the victim of the Raritan Road incident and a speedy recovery.

In the last month who we lost, I bring this up every month; Ed Martin, Mr. Martin was a long time member of the American Legion Post 328 in Clark. Arlene Ferrara, former Councilman Marty Ferrara’s sister passed away and to the Ferrara family our deepest condolences. Norma Lynch, Mrs. Lynch longtime resident of Kathryn Street, our deepest condolences to the Lynch family. David Candelmo and to Edward Banasiak an ALJ Alumni recently a young man who just passed away, our condolences to his family.

Again the Township of Clark is our home, election season has started, hear the facts and get the information correct. Again you will see strange people and new people and people that you know at your door, make your own determination. Again till next month we are here to serve you, this is why we are here.

John Laezza: No comments.

Township Clerk: I do have a comment, just a point of reference. If anyone needs any information all requests come through my office through the Open Public Records Act which Governor McGreevy put in, in 2002. So you can go on the Clark website which is www.ourclark.com or my email address is up there which is just simply clerk@ourclark.com. You can fill out the OPRA form and send it to me. But you don’t have to do it on a form as long as (the State Law requires) you say that you are requesting it under the Open Public Records Act. The law allows seven business days for me to give you the information. What I do is, I request it in writing from whichever department has that information or planning or zoning board whoever has it. Then I contact you when I have it in my office. It’s open for everyone but use the website that’s your best bet thank you.

Attorney Triarsi: No I have no report.

Police Chief Scherb: No comment.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn 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

APPROVED

BRIAN P. TOAL
Council President

ATTEST:

EDITH L. MERKEL, RMC
Township Clerk

