**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING, 430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK NJ**
**September 8, 2020**

## ROLL CALL:

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

Also Present: Mayor Bonaccorso; John Laezza, Business Administrator; Mark Dugan, Township Attorney; Edith Merkel, Township Clerk

The Special Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Council President O'Connor. 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 sending written advanced notice of at least 48 hours to the Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark, by posting such Meeting Agenda on the Bulletin Board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements as well as the Official Website of the Township, and the proper filing of said Notice. Formal action may be taken at this meeting.

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

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

**Ordinance 20-18**

**BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF THE 2020 CAPITAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (PHASE II) IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF $750,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE A STATE GRANT, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS**

Council President opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 20-18

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

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

Motion to adopt was made by Councilwoman Albanese, seconded Councilman Smith

Discussion:

John Laezza: This is our State DOT money, which we will be building a traffic light on Waterson near Wilson and Westfield Avenue, the roads going into the new police station, the paving of the parking lot behind the Library, the paving of Emerald Place and Emerald Court from the 2020 State Aid Program.

No further discussion

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

Ordinance Adopted

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution 20-110**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR "KIDS RECREATION TRUST FUND" GRANT FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK**

**WHEREAS** the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has established the Kids Recreation Trust Fund to allocate grant funds for the creation, enhancement and/or replacement of recreational facilities; and

**WHEREAS** the Township of Clark desires to submit a grant application to seek funding in the amount of $16,029.04 for needed improvements to the Nelson and Dolan Girls Softball Fields and facilities including the replacement of scoreboards, plumbing and flooding remediation, establishment of safer walking paths, concession stand suppression system and interior and exterior paint as well as replacement of the flooring in the Senior Fitness Center in accordance with the established guidelines of the grant, including accepting the award and executing an agreement with Union County; and

**WHEREAS** the Chief Financial Officer has ascertained that matching funds are available in the 2020 Municipal Budget, Account Number 0-01-28-370-218, in the amount of $16,029.04.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey formally approves the submission of a grant application for the above stated Grant Program and authorizes the Mayor and/or Business Administrator to execute a grant agreement.

Moved by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Hund

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Every year we try to help a youth league in Clark. This year it's going to be the Girls Softball League, there's still things that they want. Also, we are going to be replacing the rubber flooring in the Senior Fitness Center. Those are like blocks that are kind of together, and what we are noticing now after close to twenty years, probably about nineteen years, water is getting in there when we clean it and it's smelling a little bit. So, we want to have that up and running for our seniors.

No further discussion

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

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**Resolution 20-111**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey that Resolution 20-106; Adopted August 17, 2020 is hereby amended to decrease the purchase price of Surveillance Equipment, installation, and maintenance services for the New Police Headquarters from $235,626.17 to $196,501.14 with all other details of the purchase remaining unchanged.

Moved by Councilman Hund, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Discussion:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Guys this is basically with the funds to put the best building we can together. Sometimes the ticket on stuff like that runs a little over. What we are trying to do is, we want to keep the class of the building in line, which I think we have so far. The other thing is as I said to John, from the outside I don't want to be penny wise and dollar short to have to replace stuff in two to three years from now because we are trying to save a little bit of money. So, it's fine to get the best equipment that we possible can, it's going to last us a decent amount of years until obviously it becomes obsolete. But that's what we are trying to accomplish with the building.

No further discussion

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

**Resolution 20-112**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey that Sean Rekatsinas, John Kurek and Joseph Plechy are hereby appointed as Members of the Clark Volunteer Fire Department effective this 8th day of September 2020.

Moved by Councilman Barr, seconded by Council President O'Connor

Discussion:

Council President O'Connor: I would just like to say thank you to people who still come forward and volunteer. The Fire Department is very important and it takes up a lot of time and I thank them and their families.

No further discussion

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

**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 O'Connor opened the public portion of the meeting

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

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

**MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:**

Mayor Bonaccorso: no comment.

Councilwoman Albanese: Ditto on your comments about the volunteers, I'm very happy to see that.

Councilman Barr: When it comes to volunteers of the fire department, it's very great that we see this.

Councilman Hund: no comment.

Councilman Mazzarella: no comment.

Councilman Smith: no comment.

Councilman Toal: no comment.

John Laezza: I would just like to say that effective as of last week eighty-three percent of our citizens have filled out their census forms.

Council President O'Connor: Is that ahead of what we thought or behind?

John Laezza: They are a little bit behind. Ten years ago, it was eighty-four percent at this time.

Township Clerk: no comment.

Attorney Dugan: no comment.

Councilman Hund: To John's statement; could we put together something on Facebook regarding the census?

Township Clerk: About the census (Councilman Hund: yes) I can get you information that you can put out there, sure.

Councilman Hund: thank you.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Toal, seconded by Councilman Hund

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

APPROVED

PATRICK J. O'CONNOR
Council President

ATTEST:

EDITH L. MERKEL, RMC
Township Clerk