

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING, 315 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, N.J.
February 7, 2011**

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting,
Mazzarella

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

The Special Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Council President Mazzarella. 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 Union County Local Source, NJTODAY.NET and Star Ledger, by posting such Meeting Agenda 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.

ORDINANCES, APPROPRIATIONS AND CLAIMS:

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

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

Ordinance 11-04

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AND COLLECT USER FEES FOR THE COLLECTION AND TREATMENT OF WASTEWATER AND THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCE NUMBERS 06-06, 06-14, 06-22, 09-01, 09-06, AND 10-05

Council President Mazzarella opens the Public Hearing on Ordinance 11-04

Seeing no one coming forward Councilman Kazanowski made a motion to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance 11-04, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Mazzarella directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting, Mazzarella

Motion to adopt Ordinance 11-04 made by Councilwoman Whiting, seconded by Councilman O'Connor.

Discussion:

John Laezza: Mr. President and Members of Council, this is basically just for the record an ordinance changing the fee structure for our sewer utility that we put together in 2006. We believe that this ordinance now accommodates what our needs are to generate sufficient revenue to pay for our sewer treatment and collection system. It sets a minimum for every user at the same rate, there's an additional cost for user that are in excess of four hundred gallons of use annually since that requires additional treatment, it has to accommodate being billed from Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority at the rate of nine hundred and fifteen million gallons of water usage when in fact we only utilize about four hundred and thirty million gallons because on the five year floating average when Gypsum left, we still have to pay for that substantial cost which is probably a million dollars in fees that we are accommodating with this ordinance. I believe the ordinance is structured with regard to the new Executive Director of the RVSA. In the future we will maintain that these rates will be quite constant at least for the next four to five years.

Councilwoman Albanese: I just have one question, so John just to refresh my memory. Approximately what percentage of the users fall within the four hundred thousand gallons?

John Laezza: No not half as much. It's basically everyone will do the minimum gallonage. There are two significant users, L'Oreal and Mastertaste, which will accommodate about we figure about four hundred fifty thousand to five hundred thousand max. We have installed a meter at the Winfield water flow because we were basically charging them on a formula that was put together in 1990 I guess and we are putting in a meter so we can kind of get reading of measure of their flow because we believe we are getting a lot of I and I from the Winfield flow and I will be recommending to those businesses that use in excess of four hundred thousand gallons of water to put meters in there facilities so that we can get a better reading of the sewerage flow because I can honestly say my best estimate is of what the flow readings we are getting from Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority are less than that.

Councilwoman Albanese: And on the residential users which I guess is the bulk of the majority of the people who get the bills...are they for the most part within the seventy-five thousand?

John Laezza: Yes, the majority are within the seventy-five thousand.

Attorney Triarsi: John you have two breaks here right, up to seventy-five at a fixed rate and then over seventy-five but less than four hundred you go to two and then over four hundred there's a third rate.

Councilman Toal: Just for the record, again when this was all presented and created we told the public that it would be reviewed in the next few years. We are doing exactly what

we've said and thank you Mayor and Mr. Laezza; we are following the words of what we have stated and not changing anything nothing overnight. It was directly saying a few years ago that this was going to happen and I want the record to reflect that. Thank you Mr. President.

Council President Mazzarella: I think the key here is that John as you said the rates will be stable because of our five year rolling average coming down and your conversations with the Executive Director there and this is true to be a benefit to the community and to the residents because then they can budget their sewer utility fees over a number of years.

Council President Mazzarella directed roll call:
 Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting, Mazzarella

Ordinance Adopted

INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO FIX MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARIES

WHEREAS said Ordinance reflects a change in salaries to be paid to certain employees of the Township for the year 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark that the proper officer or officers of the Township of Clark be and they are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver checks on Township funds for the purpose of paying the following annual salaries to the employees of the Township of Clark within the range as set forth below opposite each job classification as in such cases made. The Schedule of salaries hereinafter set forth shall be effective as of January 1, 2011.

| | MINIMUM | MAXIMUM |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| Business Administrator | \$ 75,000.00 | \$ 155,000.00 |
| Township Clerk | \$ 55,000.00 | \$ 90,000.00 |
| Township Attorney* | | |
| Mayor's Confidential Secretary | \$ 30,000.00 | \$ 65,000.00 |
| Confidential Assistant/H.R./Affirmative Action | \$ 30,000.00 | \$ 70,000.00 |
| Assessor P/T | \$ 20,000.00 | \$ 50,000.00 |
| Tax Collector P/T | \$ 1,200.00 | \$ 10,000.00 |
| Certified Finance Officer | \$ 50,000.00 | \$ 120,000.00 |
| Construction Code Official | \$ 40,000.00 | \$ 125,000.00 |
| Municipal Court Administrator | \$ 35,000.00 | \$ 70,000.00 |
| Health Officer/Purchasing Asst. | \$ 40,000.00 | \$ 90,000.00 |
| Prosecutor | \$ 8,500.00 | \$ 20,000.00 |
| Judge | \$ 20,000.00 | \$ 50,000.00 |
| Public Defender | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ 10,000.00 |
| Superintendent of Public Works | \$ 15,000.00 | \$ 90,000.00 |
| Public Works Supervisor | \$ 40,000.00 | \$ 85,000.00 |
| Mayor | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ 15,000.00 |

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Council President | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ 10,000.00 |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------|

MINIMUM

MAXIMUM

| | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Council Members | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ 9,800.00 |
| Board of Adjustment Secretary | \$ 1,600.00 | \$ 7,000.00 |
| Planning Board Secretary | \$ 1,600.00 | \$ 7,000.00 |
| Fire Prevention Official | \$ 7,000.00 | \$ 85,000.00 |
| Captain/Fire Prevention Official | \$ 4,200.00 | \$ 6,500.00 |
| Fire Official Secretary | \$ 750.00 | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Director Public Safety | \$ 1,700.00 | \$ 3,500.00 |
| Director Senior Citizen | \$ 1,700.00 | \$ 7,500.00 |
| Director Public Works/Shade Tree | \$ 1,750.00 | \$ 20,000.00 |
| Fire Sub Code Official | \$ 3,000.00 | \$ 8,000.00 |
| Elevator Inspector | \$ 2,500.00 | \$ 12,000.00 |
| Plumbing Sub Code Official | \$ 6,000.00 | \$ 14,000.00 |
| Electrical Inspector | \$ 7,000.00 | \$ 18,000.00 |
| Emergency Management Coordinator | \$ 1,500.00 | \$ 6,000.00 |
| Deputy Emergency Management | \$ 300.00 | \$ 3,000.00 |
| Fire Chief | \$ 3,800.00 | \$ 7,000.00 |
| Assistant Fire Chief | \$ 2,500.00 | \$ 6,000.00 |
| Deputy Chief | \$ 1,100.00 | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Deputy Chief | \$ 1,100.00 | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Deputy Chief | \$ 1,100.00 | \$ 4,000.00 |
| 1 st Fire Captain | \$ 1,900.00 | \$ 4,000.00 |
| 2 nd Fire Captain | \$ 1,900.00 | \$ 4,000.00 |
| 1 st Lieutenant | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 4,000.00 |
| 2 nd Lieutenant | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Public Information Officer | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 5,500.00 |
| Director of Recreation/Facilities Mgr. | \$ 50,000.00 | \$ 80,000.00 |
| Assistant Recreation Supervisor | \$ 9,200.00 | \$ 11,000.00 |
| Director Teen Center | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 14,000.00 |
| Assistant Teen Center | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 10,000.00 |
| Recreation/Senior Fitness P/T Personnel | \$ 500.00 | \$ 25,000.00 |
| Manager – TV 36 | \$ 5,000.00 | \$ 60,000.00 |
| Fire Training Officer | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Bus Driver – Part Time | \$ 15,000.00 | \$ 25,000.00 |

HOURLY

| | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Police Matron – on duty | \$ 40.00 event | \$ 40.00 event |
| Police Matron – on call | \$ 40.00 hour | \$ 40.00 hour |
| Seasonal Employees – Recreation/Sr. Citizen | \$ 6.00 hour | \$ 25.00 hour |

POLICE – Base Pay

| | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Chief (plus longevity and education) | \$ 115,000.00 | \$ 150,000.00 |
| Captains (plus longevity and education) | \$ 100,000.00 | \$ 140,000.00 |

| | MINIMUM | MAXIMUM |
|----------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| MUNICIPAL POOL | | |
| Pool Director/Manager | \$ 8,450.00 | \$ 14,000.00 |
| Pool Facilities Manager | \$ 5,000.00 | \$ 15,000.00 |
| Assistant Manager(s) | \$ 4,100.00 | \$ 10,000.00 |
| Water Safety Instructor(s) | \$ 3,300.00 | \$ 10,000.00 |
| Lifeguard(s) | \$ 2,700.00 | \$ 6,000.00 |
| Maintenance Worker(s) | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 6,000.00 |
| Gate Control Person(s) | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Activities Director | \$ 1,050.00 | \$ 3,750.00 |

*Annual Professional Services Contract

Any ordinance inconsistent with the provisions contained herein are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication according to law.

Moved by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilman Barr

Discussion:

John Laezza: Basically this is a minimal change and if you compared it to prior year ordinances we have a part time bus driver in there, we have a fire cleaning officer in there, we have a recreation senior fitness part time personnel in there ranges, and we have hourly ranges for seasonal employees. Otherwise all the other salaries that were there, the last ranges that were there in prior years are remaining.

Council President Mazzarella directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting, Barr

Public Hearing on February 22, 2011

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 11-31

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR AUTHORIZING
AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION
IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20
CURRENT FUND**

WHEREAS an emergent condition has arisen due to the anticipated delay in the adoption

of the 2011 Budget, and adequate provision has not been made in the 2011 Temporary Budget for the appropriations specified on the attached page; and

WHEREAS the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in fiscal year 2011 pursuant to the provision of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$7,248,263.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE, AND IT IS, HEREBY, RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey, (not less than two thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A 40A:4-20:

1. Emergency temporary appropriations be and the same are hereby made as specified on the attached page in the amount of \$7,248,263.00; and
2. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided in the 2011 budget under the headings as specified on the attached page.
3. That one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

John Laezza: Let me explain this to you Council President and Members of Council. Basically as you know each year at the organization meetings we introduce a temporary budget which is a budget that is suppose to accommodate our needs until we adopt a final budget. The Governor has extended the time of the adoption of the final budget. The earliest introduction that Faulkner Act governments can give to the council use to be January 15th, they now extended it to February 25th. That then indicates that we have another probably three weeks to officially introduce it. Knowing the Governor's budget and the legislature, that budget will not be adopted until June 30th, and we will never know what revenue or state aid we will be receiving. (tape inaudible) Governor or the legislators, this temporary emergency appropriation will accommodate the running of the Township till June 30th.

Moved by Councilman O'Connor, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Discussion: None

Council President Mazzarella directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting, Barr

Resolution 11-32

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR AUTHORIZING
AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION
IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20
SEWER UTILITY**

WHEREAS an emergent condition has arisen due to the anticipated delay in the Adoption of the 2011 Budget, and adequate provision has not been made in the 2011 Temporary Budget for the appropriations specified on the attached page; and

WHEREAS the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in fiscal year 2011 pursuant to the provision of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$3,325,080.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE, AND IT IS, HEREBY, RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey, (not less than two thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A 40A:4-20:

- 4. Emergency temporary appropriations be and the same are hereby made as specified on the attached page in the amount of \$3,325,080.00; and
- 5. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided in the 2011 budget under the headings as specified on the attached page.
- 6. That one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

**Township of Clark
Emergency Temporary – 2011**

2011 Budget

Sewer Utility

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Other Expenses: | |
| Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority | \$3,300,000.00 |
| Capital Outlay | <u>\$ 25,080.00</u> |
| | \$3,325,080.00 |

John Laezza: Council President and Members of Council, basically it's interesting to know that the temporary budget appropriation that you do is about 26.5 % of your prior year budget, 26.5 % of your prior year budget does not generate sufficient money in the sewer utility to pay Rahway Valley's first payment that's due on April 1st. So this temporary budget will be able to accommodate the needs to pay the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority.

Moved by Councilman Barr, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Discussion: None

Council President Mazzarella directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting, Mazzarella

Resolution 11-33

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR AUTHORIZING
AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION
IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20
SWIM POOL UTILITY**

WHEREAS an emergent condition has arisen due to the anticipated delay in the Adoption of the 2011 Budget, and adequate provision has not been made in the 2011 Temporary Budget for the appropriations specified on the attached page; and

WHEREAS the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in fiscal year 2011 pursuant to the provision of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$162,923.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE, AND IT IS, HEREBY, RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey, (not less than two thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A 40A:4-20:

- 7. Emergency temporary appropriations be and the same are hereby made as specified on the attached page in the amount of \$162,923.00; and
- 8. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided in the 2011 budget under the headings as specified on the attached page.
- 9. That one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

**Township of Clark
Emergency Temporary – 2011**

2011 Budget

Swim Pool Utility

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Other Expenses: | \$80,000.00 |
| Capital Outlay | 27,000.00 |
| Bond Anticipation Note | 50,000.00 |
| Interest – BAN | <u>5,923.00</u> |
| | \$162,923.00 |

John Laezza: I didn't want the pool to feel like it was a stepchild and the pool will be opening up on Memorial Day so we would have to have sufficient money in the pool to accommodate the opening.

Moved by Councilwoman Whiting, seconded by Councilman Toal

Discussion: None

Council President Mazzarella directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting, Mazzarella

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.

Tom Dutkiewicz, 13 Hillside Ave.: First of all I would like to thank you all for doing a job for us in Clark, appreciate that. We all got a letter on Hillside Avenue from the Clark Police Department about snow removal and it designated our street as a snow emergency street. First of all the letter says two inches and we have to move our cars into a driveway. Why? There's never any snow plowing done when there's two inches of snow.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Tom snow plowing starts at two inches. So when it's above two inches the plows do go out and that's the point we all have. This has been an ordinance that has been on the books for several years since 1992 which has been on the ordinance. Now prior to us I can't tell you why, what or where, but for the last two years we've had a big increase of snow. I mean in several followings not even like you have one in December, one at the end of January that kind of melt down. We have nowhere to put the snow and it's hard. The problem is the roads are too narrow. This is for roads that are under thirty feet and also emergency snow roads which are certain roads. Now the problem is where our conversation between township officials, police department and DPW we had several accidents with plows hitting cars this year, nothing real bad but

scrapes because they are going down a hill and the road is icy, they are sliding a little bit and they are pushing a lot of snow and basically in researching other communities, other towns have (tape inaudible) ordinances whether you are under thirty feet or not everything comes off the road. And we are considering that too I will be very honest with you.

Tom Dutkiewicz: Ok well I'll let my neighbors say what they want to say but it creates a problem for me personally, I have five cars in my household. I have one driveway for one car, I have great neighbors, I'm talking with them now and I'll be able to get it off the street but if I wanted to park around the corner say I couldn't get a driveway to go into, how do I know that that street is not a snow emergency?

Mayor Bonaccorso: You would just have to check with us and we will be glad to tell you, that's not a hard thing. Now the other thing Tom I want you to understand. You are talking probably somewhere between eight hours as a minimum and twenty-four hours as a maximum to be off the street. Once the street is completely plowed then you can park back on the street.

Tom Dutkiewicz: That was one of my next questions.

Mayor Bonaccorso: We don't have a problem with that.

Tom Dutkiewicz: Because the letter says twenty-four hours.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well we're saying twenty-four hours because you know then you are going to get into the plow going down the road one time and somebody saying oh it's plowed and then the plows coming back and you know there have been streets in the community that have lived under this though, some of the smaller streets on the other side of town has, surprised yours hasn't, because I know the width is very narrow and that's the reason why. The other thing is unfortunately our beloved citizens the neighbors that we all do respect so much, let me tell you they have some good profanity when they call the girls in our office and I think that's completely unfair that a lady who's hired to do a job has words that begin with a multitude of letters being thrown at her because what we have is, well you missed our road and that's an impossibility that does not happen. But what we find is when we send DPW back is that they will call back and say to John or myself or the Director everybody went to work and now they need the road plowed again. And we said that's ok. If you have a lot of cars out in your street in prior years and now everybody goes to work and the streets kind of shabby, call up and say hey guys there's a lot of cars that left and it looks shabby can you send a plow down, we would be glad to do that for you but we just need you to at least tell us that, don't start that you know you *#&*# and so and so has missed our street. I have ladies in here that are appalled by the way they are being spoken to and the other problem is its even creating motor vehicles accidents because the road is a little bit icy. They are trying to get around cars...I know even like up on Councilwoman Whiting's street Orchard Terrace, I was going to one of my accounts that I have and I saw an accident almost happen because a car was out in the street parked legally and the other car was trying to go through, it's not a very wide road,

and she almost slid right into that parked car. So this is why it's being done. We are not trying to complicate anybody's life; we are not trying to make anybody miserable. What we say is you can do what you just say right now to find out what's around you and you can park there. Another thing not everybody has a lot of cars, maybe some of your neighbors would be willing for only that short period of time to work with this.

Tom Dutkiewicz: Well I think so but I'm just a little concerned with the two inch part because you say you start plowing when you have two inches of snow. First of all I would like to thank whoever guys did the job plowing, you are never going to hear me complain because that's for sure. Like I said when I first came up you guys do a wonderful job I think...so but I'm just a little because it says fines and towing and all that.

Mayor Bonaccorso: Well the first thing that we do Tom and Chief Connell is sitting right behind you, the Chief will tell you the first thing that we absolutely do is complaints. We try to seek compliance of the law first before we ticket anyone. And the thing is what we like to do is if a police car goes down the road, they will run the plate and knock on the door and say "sir you are going to have to put your car somewhere" or go on the loudspeaker and try to get it to move and the police were not just looking to ticket and two cars, it's part of the option that we can but first we seek compliance. The other problem we are having is people are blowing snow out into the street. And then I go down a road that is blacktop for five houses, for two houses it's ice, or another eight houses it's blacktop, well it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that that's the guy that's blowing the snow out with the snow blower and we will even say this to you, if the wind is blowing that way and you want to blow out it's fine by me when the plow goes by the second time at least take your blower and lower the shoot and blow it back into the curb. I've done that myself in my life so I mean we're trying to understand and work with everyone. We do not want to be a police community. If you go to Garwood, you go to Cranford for what we are talking about they will summons you, there will be no compliance, we do not want to be that way, because I personally understand that we're all human and we all make errors from time to time. But that's what we're looking to try to make it safer for everybody.

Tom Dutkiewicz: Because I know for myself because of the five cars in the household...as soon as the plow comes through I shovel from my curb all the way across the other side. And I have a driveway that comes down, I shovel the whole thing. My neighbors...my father parks next to my neighbors and I shovel his from curb to curb and you know two houses curb to curb, so I mean I clear the whole street...I'm talking about the whole street you know after the plow comes through. Because I have to get my cars out and so there's a way that we do things on our street but now you know and it's...well ok.

Mayor Bonaccorso: And like I said once it's plowed you will be able to park right back out on the street.

Tom Dutkiewicz: That's good to hear.

Councilwoman Whiting: If you think about it you won't be able to shovel from curb to curb because if they can get to the curb it would be plowed by the plows and it will save you all that work.

Tom Dutkiewicz: I know...I've talked to my neighbors over the years and saying do you think I can park in your driveway, they would say yes you know and you would try to get kind of half heartily get a plan together to get all of our cars kind of off the street.

Mayor Bonaccorso: And remember too Tom with a two, three, four inches of snow the DPW (tape inaudible) that's not a big deal so you are going to be out on someone's driveway from a minimal amount of time. It's what we have in this twenty-four, thirty inches, and nineteen inches. I mean they are murder but you know here's the problem. Okay it starts at nine inches, well I thought it was seven/eight inches, you don't know what we hear here. I'm being honest with you.

Councilman Barr: I don't know how your property is laid out, my property I have the big lawn and my driveway and then a smaller one, and to make room I put my car onto the lawn it's frozen it doesn't do anything.

Councilman Kazanowski: He doesn't have a lawn.

Councilman Barr: Well I don't know how your property is but if you can.

Tom Dutkiewicz: My garage is underneath my house and the driveway goes down.

Council President Mazzarella: It certainly is a matter of safety for our community, not only for the residents but for the motor vehicles traveling along the road and for emergency access.

Tom Dutkiewicz: We do have a narrow street.

Seeing no one else coming forward Councilman Kazanowski closed the public portion of the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Albanese

Council President Mazzarella directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting, Mazzarella

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso: Yes Mr. President thank you and I thank the residents who came out tonight with their questions, we appreciate that. And I'm going to go over a list of discussions that we've had at the Traffic Coordinating Committee meeting. These are requests made by residents and council people and others to have issues in to let the citizens know to let issues on certain things on their street. And this meeting was quite large; there were eighteen items, so that's a large, large meeting. I'm going to go over them quickly.

We had an issue up on Parkway Drive about parking and unfortunately that is out of our jurisdiction because it's a county road. So we are directing those folks to Union County. We had a question from a resident on Kennedy Drive about increased traffic and we basically are going to be out because that is one of our trouble children streets to enforcement, there's nothing we can do about it because people drive through Clark. There is another request on Dorset Drive for a request for child safety sign and that has been ok'd not a problem. Liberty Street we were talking about once again another problem street for speeding, someone wants to know if we could close that street off, we cannot. Colonial Drive also a secondary street, a gentleman called about speeding problems and we are directing that to traffic enforcement. A request for parking on Walter Drive that has been denied, Benjamin and King street three way stop signs that will be introduced and that is ok'd and that will happen in the spring. Lincoln Blvd, Broadway stop on request that has been ok'd and that will be done. On street commercial vehicles parking we are in conversation about that, as far as we are going to be looking at weight and size of vehicle meaning we do understand there's a lot of self owned business people that live in town, a van a small dump something like that we are really not having too much problems but when people are bringing home bucket trucks and tractor trailers that's the stuff that we are looking at right now. So the traffic department will be back to us on that. Re-programming certain traffic light that's under Sgt. Pollock, he is working with an electric company for that. Here's what we talked about snow (?), snow storm removal of vehicles from street and that was what we just spoke to this gentleman about, you heard that. Orchard and Lake striping that don't park in the box that will be done in the spring, the county forgot about it, which is understood. Orchard Terrace replacement of signs at curb that will be done in the spring. There is a request about dedicating reserved handicap spots in Lexington Village apartments, which is a private matter; we have no jurisdiction over that. Campbell Place signage no parking that will be done. Delineators damaged replace with snow removal on certain areas they will be replaced in the spring and the police department requested an officer roadway sign at Madison Hill Road at the church so that people know that there is someone out there directing traffic and that has been ok'd.

So that is what our traffic meeting was about. We do have streets available that are going to be under the thirty inches, you can come to administration and we will give you a copy of that if you want to know what's going on not a problem. Maybe we can get that posted John on our website...we did mail it I know but I'm just saying for if anybody has a question on another street it might not be a bad idea to do that. So that was a very progressive meeting, there was a lot to talk about and as I said to our two gentlemen here on Hillside, we are and Chief Connell will agree and actually it was his statement, that we were here to try to request compliance of the law first and we will kind of do that and then for those who become belligerent or non cooperative then the police department has several venues on which they can handle the problem with ticketing and towing and we hope it doesn't come to that. We will try to work quickly on those streets to get them all plowed. As you heard me say earlier we are having a lot of problems...it's funny because as I move throughout town I'll hear a lot of compliments from the snow removal this year and I happen to agree with it. When you plow thirty inches and we talked about this last

month it's not easy. I mean it is not easy and those who think they are should come out and give us a hand and see for themselves. When you are pushing four, five, six, seven, eight, nine inches, it's a puppy and it's no big deal whether it's in a lot or in a street and the guys have done a good job. The other thing that people don't understand we are plowing Clark Township usually with eight or ten people and that is not easy and not to sound like Mayor Bloomberg but like he said if you want you know in New York a thousand more trucks and a thousand more men we can do that but your tax bill reflects that. So try to live within a 2% cap now and tax in the past and cap levys, we are doing the best we can with it. We had put down a tremendous amount of salt this year. We were pre-salting roads. We have salted side streets that prior to ten years ago were never done and the main drags were done. So we are working with everyone to try to make things as pleasant as possible, we were removing snow at a downtown Clark which we consider the village area on our Master Plan. On Westfield Avenue those poor people out by the jewelry store and the fish market and Merchants of Venice they didn't even have a place to park when the county plowed that. And again I didn't call the county screaming at them because it's been a tremendous amount of snow and there's only so much they can do with it. So we're hauling snow out of there. I went down to...now here's another issue that I saw and we're going to now look into harder because there's been a tremendous amount of snow. I went to go down Fan Street last night and you know Brian no one ever calls on something like this so you know unless you are driving every road in Clark how do you know. And I picked my daughter up and backed out of her girlfriend's driveway and hit the snow bank behind me. So they had to send the loader down there to clean that up for the people. These are the things...those are issues I need to know about, you know what I mean you guys. I mean you know Mrs. Jones calls because there's ice in front of her house, well there's ice in front of a lot of houses, we are out there salting...give us that we'll try to do it but those are issues that we need to know about because you know you can't get in and out of a driveway that's tough. And you know we might say well there's a lot of snow and we'll send a loader down and stack it up a little bit because it's at a dead end and (tape inaudible) into anybodies home where they can stack it (tape inaudible).

Last week when we had that rain and real freezing temperatures at night we hired Eddie Wray from Eddie Wray Construction here on Westfield Avenue with a backhoe because again we only have eight guys and you can't be everywhere when we are doing a lot of things. And he was opening up some storm catchers for us because where water was making a puddle we had the police department go out and give us a list and he went around opening those puddle areas so they wouldn't freeze and become hazardous to the residents in town. So they did a great job. He came in about 11:30 and worked till 4:00 for us. So you know we're trying to do everything we can to make this palatable for everyone concerned and the real issues we need to know about. Like I told you guys the other day when there's nineteen inches on the ground and we are just beginning to plow I really don't want to hear any issues until we take care of that first, then we will go back and do what we have to do. At that point our first obligation is to get streets opened for safety. I also talked to Chief Connell the other day and we're kicking this idea around. We're looking at going to some SUV's for the police department because not only do they need them in the snow, we have a couple...the Crown Vic's are coming to an end

and instead of putting somebody in these little midget race cars, we rather put some of our officers into an SUV which through storm emergencies for snow, rain, and flooding it's more palatable. And I said to the Chief, I said you might want to look on down the road is picking up an SUV one for each side of town with a plow on it. And I said we're not going have policeman plowing the streets but what I did notice in the heavy snow is if they got called to a heart attack or an emergency at someone's home, they would not be able to get into the driveway and we normally would call a DPW truck but if the DPW is you know down on the other side of the Ward and that police officers and our response time is tremendous for our police department gets to someone's home, the officers are going to have to run up a driveway with snow up to his upper thighs or waist and on the meantime if the truck isn't able to get down there we can plow two quick lines into the driveway for himself and the squad to get there and get somebody out versus the squad carrying somebody out walking through snow again knee high and waist high or what have you. Again I said to the Chief we're not going to put plows on cars and trucks and ride them around for three/four inches. This will be if we're getting you know hammered like we did this year with the nineteen and thirty inches...safety for the officer, safety for the squad and better service to the people coming out. Things that we are talking about all week, again we didn't talk about this five, six, or eight years ago because we didn't have this kind of snow, so us too always relook at the plan to see if we could do it better.

Councilwoman Albanese: Thank you...I just want to thank the Chief, the past few meetings seems like we've spent a lot of time talking about snow, snow removal and what laws are on the books. I would just like to thank you for sending out letters to the citizens telling them what to expect so they can prepare. As the Mayor said you know you read in the papers that other towns like Garwood gave out ninety-six tickets. We've had a very friendly approach and would like to keep it that way and that's what makes Clark different so thank you for that.

Councilman Barr: Just one item when we're talking about the big snow, there's another safety issue involved. There is actually an ordinance on it but people should realize this, if there's a fire hydrant in front of your house you should clean it, you have to really it's by ordinance, it should be cleaned because when we had snow that was covering it if there's an emergency people the fire department has to start trying to dig out anything when it was freezing. So try to keep that in mind that if there is a fire hydrant in front of your house clean the snow away from it.

Councilman Kazanowski: Yes thank you...Council my Grandson belongs to Cub Scout Den 6 Pack 145 and they are doing their citizenship badges and I asked Council President Mazzarella if next workshop session we could have the seven of them come in and sit down with us by side and they can get their badges and then they can learn about citizenship in session. Council President said it's ok and I just want to pass it to Council if it's alright for next workshop session in March.

Council President Mazzarella: You are going to have enough for the Mayor and John Laezza too?

Councilman Kazanowski: I don't know, I think there's only seven or eight of them in the whole Den. And there are going to be Webelos too so they are going to have to get the citizenship badge because the blue and gold I believe you got our invitation in February and then our Webelos too are graduated to Boy Scouts and then my Grandson's group will be stepping in.

Mayor Bonaccorso: In recent years back we had them at a meeting one night; it was a regular meeting, so we can do that too.

Councilman Kazanowski: Well I think that the workshop session would be a lot easier.

Councilman O'Connor: No comment this evening.

Councilman Toal: The Mayor mentioned delineator signs and I hope you are talking about Mildred Terrace and Liberty Street. I have two in my garage, one is crushed and the other one I found a resident called me up down by Kumpf School. I will let them know but thank you Mayor for the replacements. If you can look into maybe not the orange color but something different because these people keep on crushing them, but there's a different kind of style I have talked to Sgt. Pollock about because I see the ones up in Springfield passed Echo Lake Country Club when you go over 22 there's these really cool yellow ones and they are not as thick and they must be less expensive. So if people run them over it's cost effective. I'm thinking financially, thank you.

Councilwoman Whiting: Actually Brian I was at the traffic meeting and they did speak about looking into different materials and different things that were available because we couldn't understand how these delineator's are in cement and people are taking them but if you have two in your garage that explains two out of the four we're missing. But thank you Mayor for putting the traffic committee together, it's a good way to represent the people and gives council a venue to get some of our questions and requests, thank you.

Council President Mazarella: All of the dialogue and the correspondence that you've received it's all a matter of safety, safety for you as a homeowner and a resident of our community and safety for pedestrians in the vehicles traveling along our roads. As the Mayor had said we only have eight public works employees doing a real darn good job and your patience and your cooperation would help us out a lot.

Mayor Bonaccorso: You know what John on that forum somebody said to me that there's a rumor that we are not picking up grass this year. No one has ever said that here. What we said we are relooking at ways to possibly do it, several towns (tape inaudible – someone coughing) to mulching blades. It's a very luxurious item to give in this kind of economy but we're trying to do it, if you look right here I know a contract for the collection and disposal of grass clippings. When we bought our township garbage truck to keep the bulky clean-up going we wanted also to do the grass and we still do want to do the grass, the pride I think we have as Mayor and Council have not cut one service to this town and I think we are one of the few towns that can say that in the State since all this stuff is come down. We haven't furloughed one employee, we haven't laid off one

employee and we haven't cut one service. We did our housekeeping starting in 2000 forward with different attrition ways of different things, employees I should say that we felt where we were overstaffed and we could do more with less and we did do that. We you know I've had all kinds of suggestions and the one problem is we would like to go back to the private vendor because that would free up our DPW. The problem is when you go to a house and on the west side of town there's eight, ten and twelve garbage pails even though they say we're only supposed to pick up three that are allowed and each one weights fifty, sixty, eighty, ninety pounds depending on how wet it is in the time of year, it takes a lot of time for these guys to get rid of it which this means we have to fill pot holes, trim trees, grinding stumps, repair roads, playgrounds, parks, etc. etc and so on that we do here. One of the suggestions that I had from DPW Supervisor Scott McCabe was to get those brown biodegradable bags and you can go down the road with a loader with the claw and pick them up and throw them in the back of the truck instead of having three, four, five guys on the street you may have two, one driving the truck and one with the loader. I said to me I was worried when you went to pick them up he would scissor the bag and everything would fall out. He said no they did it with the leaves and it works out very well. We're going to look to see what the bid is if we could afford it, if we can afford it we'll go back to that, if we can't we are going to look at these different things. But I don't know where people get this stuff from, that's what I'm trying to figure out. I don't know we've ever talked here or even mentioned that we may have cut it out, so just to alleviate that rumor.

John Laezza: I think maybe we did get it...the rumor mills are created by the rumors' because I did get a few emails from citizens who say cut out services, cut out grass...it never came from us. I have nothing else to report.

Attorney Triarsi: Nothing for this meeting.

Township Clerk: Nothing thank you.

Police Chief Connell: Nothing thank you.

Richard O'Connor: Nothing.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Kazanowski, seconded by Councilman O'Connor

Council President Mazzarella directed roll call:

Aye: Albanese, Barr, Kazanowski, O'Connor, Toal, Whiting, Mazzarella

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVED

FRANK G. MAZZARELLA
Council President

ATTEST:

EDITH L. MERKEL, RMC
Township Clerk