

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009 AT 7:00 P.M. OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AT BOROUGH HALL

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT.

BOROUGH CLERK: this meeting is being held in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey. Adequate notice of this meeting was provided by forwarding a Sunshine notice which included the time, date and location of this public meeting of the Mayor and Council.

ROLL CALL:

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilman Bianchi, Councilman DiBlasi, Councilman Granell, Councilman Hughes, Councilman Tanelli and Councilman Yampaglia

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Peter C. Massa, Acting Borough Clerk, Terence M. Wall
Borough Attorney, Anthony V. D'Elia

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

BERNICE WOLANSKI- 16 Harding Ave: Regarding problem with town ordinance 1246 parking permit only on Union Pl because no parking on Harding Ave.

PISERCHIA- 16 Harding Ave: Regarding parking unavailability and obtaining permit because wife is disabled. (He provides pictures to council).

JILL GINGERELLI-38 Ridge Road: Doesn't reside in town but has business within town. Regarding problem with Union Pl and lack of parking availability and it's affecting her business. She said she's on waiting list for spot at the 2 municipal parking lots for 2 years now. Her employees can't park. Have to walk 15 blocks to open up.

DOROTHY MACINTYRE- 14 Harding Ave: Regarding lack of parking due to Union Pl. permit parking. She can't park in front of house due to fire hydrant. She has driveway but tenant has a boat, a band, and a car which fills driveway. She doesn't drive but permit parking is affecting her visitors and relatives when they visit her.

JOHN GRACI- 98 Union Pl: He has 3 cars with no driveway. Its difficult to park but also has family living in NA. He has son on Prospect, brother on Devon, cousin lives on Devon. When they come to visit he has to give parking pass so they can park before 5 o'clock when he comes to visit. Thinks everywhere in NA should be permit parking so it doesn't affect the people of NA, it will affect commuters. For people with businesses on Ridge, can make 8 or 10 hour parking, cost 2 bucks. Suggests changing meters.

ANNE MACLURE- 10 Bayliss St: Commends and compliments Officer Larry that took Kevin Wheeler's position. Also compliments youngsters who are present at meeting. Also commends and compliments Cathy Keogan. Commends police department.

GREG KURTZ- 55 Morgan Pl: Regarding Union Pl. ordinance and why it was 7 days rather than 5. Street has many uses. Hours will tend to discourage commuters from New York but allow greater amount of time for residents to park.

SACK-510 Davis Ave, Kearny: Employee at doctor's office at 38 Ridge. She's gotten 3 minutes tickets within last month. Regarding dissatisfaction with meter parking. She's unable to run out to car to fill meter every 2 hours. She doesn't know what to do. She references to the fact that the meter guy knows her car and still issues tickets 10 minutes after meter runs out.

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENTS

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Granell
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

MAYOR MASSA; Ladies and gentlemen, we've heard from you the residence, people in the community. Any many of the people we've heard from with respect to these parking issues are people who have made their complaints and have asked this governing body to do something about the serious parking problem at the south east part of the community. One of the gentlemen had commented about making permit parking something that should be community wide. Well the problem is we don't have a problem community wide, some parts of the community parking is quite ample, it's not congested. Other parts of community such as the south end, southeast corner, we have a tremendous amount of congestion. We have multiple family homes with multiple drivers of cars. We live in state of about 8 million people and I think the last time somebody took some statistics they found that there are just about as many cars registered in NJ as there are people and that's one of the problems we are confronted with today. And that is why we have taken steps to try and alleviate this problem. We can never promise that the problem will go away completely because there's just so much room and so many vehicles and so many homes. In the past, that part of the community was zoned for multiple dwellings and parts of community are zoned for 1 or 2 family dwellings, we really went into that problem, we do so on occasion but not this severely as we run into the problem that we heard about tonight that this particular ordinance be designed to address. Can we make changes? Can we make revisions? Can we make amendments? Absolutely. Can we make everybody happy? I don't think we can do that but we're going to try. My particular concern is from the disabled people and senior citizens who have a difficult time walking. It's one of my concerns, we may have to address that concern specifically with different kinds of legislation that's necessary. The other aspect of this ordinance, I would like to defer to the gentlemen and I would consider the experts, who've done their research, members of the councilmen who were originally delegated with the authority to take a look at this, so if anyone else would like to comment on the situation.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Point of order your honor. The main focus of this was we've had as many people that are here tonight discussing the issues that it's a problem on Union Pl. I've also received a number of calls from most of the residents on Union Pl happy that we made this change. What happened is for the last few years, there's been a lot of abuses with parking with commuters. There is on the books permit parking for businesses that should have the ability to purchase permits but it's never been followed through. So what happened a few months ago, when we formed a parking committee, councilman Bianchi councilman Hughes and myself started looking at areas and the south part of Ridge Road is the beginning of where we started to look. We have 3 municipal parking lots that have been underutilized, Melrays was closed for way too long, that's now reopened. We're sitting in meetings discussing how to address the businesses to make sure our building department starts issuing letters to give the businesses the opportunity to purchase long term permits for the year to alleviate the problem. What happened is most of the Union Pl. residents were not just bothered by commuters but they were bothered by a lot, and I shouldn't say bothered it's the wrong word, but when you have businesses parking a block in on Union Pl. the residents a lot of those residents don't have driveways, don't have the availability of off-street parking so what winds up happening is they can't park in front of their house at least a good portion of it. I know on the corner of Harding and Union a lot of your homes are on Union Pl. so tonight we did have an ordinance on the book to amend the ordinance for adjoining corners which would allow the four corners on Harding to get permits to park on Union Pl. that was the first amendment based on some feedback that I received after we passed the ordinance. So what we're trying to do is, you make a change you have to flush out some of the issues. one of the issues is now we have problems with businesses which in a way we had an idea that was probably going to happen that we're going to have to move swiftly and send out letters to get permits out to the businesses so they have adequate parking on Ridge Road in our municipal lots. We also knew there was going to be issues with a couple of the surrounding streets because whenever you change something and you can't do what your normal return, it becomes an issue. So what we're trying to do is thankfully for you input we'll sit down and see if there's another amendment that may make sense moving forward but this was to solve a hardship for an entire street.

RESIDENT: You do have a municipal lot over there on Ridge Road, but it says parking permit. Had do get a parking permit?

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: That's part of the issue is for a few years, the permits weren't being handed out, weren't being applied for. We're addressing that now as part of this...

RESIDENT: The signs are put up but we wont have any.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: That was before this governing body.

TONY DELIA: I'm the attorney. Could you just do me a favor? We'd been doing that for the last 2 yeas to try to move these meetings along. Is these are times for comments. I would like you to stay and you to stay and if anybody else can stay they'd like. After we break the public session because I think there were some comments that then you could have this give and take. I think there were some comments tonight that might be helpful, you too Mr. Kurtz. So let the commissioners explain what they've been doing and whats going on. And then we'll get through that but hang around because after the public session is over and these guys talk pretty fast tonight I hope, then we can talk a little bit more informally over here.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: So just to summarize, we've made some changes. There's going to be some growing pains with some of the changes and we're going back to revisit things that have not been enforced the last few years. Number 1, the permits are our revenue source for the borough, not a big revenue source, but it's a revenue source. That's been neglected that we need to make sure we get back and solve a hardship on the businesses. If parking lots were a problem, we lost businesses because we lost the parking lots. Lets be honest. The parking lots was a big thing for people to come shop in town by that lot being closed as long as it was, that's why we tried to put as much pressure we could to get it opened as soon as we could since Mayor Massa got put in office. So we're trying to spin the wheel and get things going so that everybody's satisfied. We don't want to have anybody upset, we certainly don't want to have a hardship on any of the residence and that's our main goal is to solve as many hardships as we can.

MAYOR MASSA: As the attorney said we'd like to hear from you later on. Thank you. I know that every time we have a controversial issue that comes before the mayor and council, people like to have the opportunity to jump in but we do have to follow the rules of procedure here. And as the attorney mentioned, we welcome your comments at the appropriate time with the course of the meeting. Any other councilman wish to comment?

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Point of order. I want you to understand that we didn't just wake up one morning and decide to make Union Ave. permit parking. The complaints were coming in for many years so Steve and myself and Richie walked every house on Union Pl. He rang every doorbell and we asked the people if they wanted permit parking because when they come home from work, there's no place to park the car in front of their own house. So there is a problem, so we decided that we would try to make it permit parking. Now it's going to cause a little bit of a handicap but Steve came up with an idea Tuesday that the four houses on Harding Ave, I think this gentlemen's house over here is a corner house, you're a corner house, that's what you had said, yea. That those four houses being your property runs the length of Union Ave. will have a permit to park alongside your house because your house faces, yours is the green house, yes, your house faces Harding so what happens [inaudible] property is on Union and you'll be able to park there. This gentleman had a good idea. I think 10 to 5 you said, and no Sundays, Saturdays and Sundays. In other words, Saturday and Sunday it would be anybody can park there, there would ne no permit parking on satudays and Sundays because people are basically home and the businesses are closed on Sunday. It's a good idea, 10 to 5 I think that's a good idea too. I think we have now 8 to 5. And as far as when people come home from work at 5 o'clock at night, there is no more permit parking, anybody could park. For this gentleman here, when he comes home and says he has no place to park in front of his apartment building, he could park on Union Pl.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Just one additional thing I failed to mention, on the books right now on the current ordinance, there is a line. You can get visitor passes, its not a problem having anyone come over any time, you just have a pass and you put it in your window, they're available downstairs, that's always been a policy where's there's a time limit to park so there's a little bit of a disconnect downstairs with the police department once the signs went up I got a lot of feedback from people. We cant have permits, what happens with friends and family, so we're going to make sure we have a better line of communication with the police department so that there giving out the correct information. I spoke to the chief about this. A lot of these decisions that were making are with this support and recommendation of the chief because he deals with the ticket, he deals with a lot of people everyday complaining about certain situations, that's when we get put on the, we hear it from you but we also hear from the people that work the streets everyday. So these most of the changes we're making are not just coming from us they're coming from recommendations of the police department. So we're going to do a better job instructing them to communicate what the ordinance is; you know a family visitors pass is not, we had that same issue on Jauncey where they changed the permit parking and the gentleman had the same concern and he was satisfied with the outcomes. So I'm sure its not going to be a problem having visitors.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: This gentleman here that said his son might come over before 5 o'clock and he cant park. Well if we do go to permit parking, he'll have plenty of places to park and he'll have the permit in his glove compartment, throws it in his windshield.

RESIDENT: Of my family, I have the biggest house, [inaudible] at my house and I have all the families over, but its mostly Saturday Sunday, so if the were no permit parking Saturday Sunday, then that would also help.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: You'd have permits for you kids; you'd have enough permits for them to come. The key to it is now, 'cause I walked that street many a times. The way it is now, no one can park there. 2 o'clock in the afternoon if your kid wanted to come visit today he couldn't even park there. He'd have to park in Kearny to get to your house. Once this permit parking is in place, he'll be able to pull up in front of your house and park. 'Cause I rang every doorbell on that street and I made sure that people wanted permit parking and not one person said no. It looked like a ghost town. Now suppose your kid comes parks in front of the house. What happened?

TONY DELIA: What'd I say about the back and forth?

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Oh that's right. All right.

MAYOR MASSA: We understand it's a controversial important issue and there are occasions during the comment by council persons that I do grant a councilman such as councilman Bianchi or councilman Tanelli the opportunity to engage one of the members of the public but as the councilor reminded me, the proper protocol is required that we follow a format.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Maybe a suggestion we could try here tonight, I know we did introduce the permit parking and passed that ordinance. Would it be possible, I'd like to suggest that we maybe issue a directive to the police department to hold off the enforcement at this time of the permit parking until we can more completely and full evaluate the area, the parking situation on these adjoining streets, some of the issues that were raised here tonight and maybe come up with a a little more comprehensive instead of piecemealing, trying to piecemeal this. One amendment after another amendment. But try and fix this thing comprehensibly instead of piecemeal. So the attorney advises that you can direct the police chief to hold off enforcement of this ordinance at the moment and to...

MAYOR MASSA: I would like to poll the council on that and perhaps have it in a form of a resolution.

TONY DELIA: We recourse a [inaudible].

TERENCE: Yes.

TONY DELIA: Is there any objection to that from anybody? No objection.

MAYOR MASSA: For the record, yes councilor.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: I would still like to move the ordinance to first reading of the ordinance.

TONY DELIA: You can. The enforcement is the issue that will be held. You can take action tonight but there will be no enforcement until further action of the mayor and council.

MAYOR MASSA: Enforcement will be suspended at the direction of the council. Any other council wish to comment on these issues? Councilman Hughes, Councilman Tanelli, Councilman Bianchi, thank you. I want to thank you gentlemen very much for the diligence and all the hard work in the personal amount of time that you dedicated to addressing this problem and of course that's our objective. Our objective in this administration at least is to make your concerns our concerns and help you resolve your governmental issues such as this parking problem we're confronted with right now and I do want to thank you for the time and I also want to thank the members of the public for coming here tonight and voicing your concerns. That's part of what we're supposed to do, we want to listen to what your concerns are, we want to take your suggestions, we want to weigh them and evaluate them and as councilman Hughes had mentioned, and the other two councilmen, councilman Tanelli and councilman Bianchi, want an opportunity to find tune anything we have to deal with, with respect to parking. Wasn't that said before? Its a very congested part of town. And a lot of outsiders are taken advantage of the fact that they can come here early in the morning, board the New York buses, have free parking all day long and as councilman Bianchi mentioned he went door to door talking to people and his judgment, the judgment of the rest of us in passing this ordinance was based upon the input we got in the feedback from members of the community. At the time, the ordinance was under consideration. [inaudible] an opportunity here to possibly do some revisions that they be more convenient to the people who live here and work here and that's what were going to do. I want to thank Mrs Maclure just for stopping by and giving our borough administration a little pat on the back and our police department, I want to thank you very much for that, that's very well appreciated and if there's any issues with any members of the police department with respect to they way they are dealing with our youngsters in the community, we certainly will take a look at that and have that resolved. For the most part, I'm very fortunate in being the mayor of this community that I don't get a lot of complaints, in fact my complaints right now for the last 3 months have been zero with regard to the operations of the police department. I got to say that's a pat on the back to our men in blue because they're out there dealing with a lot of complicated problems. On several occasions, we've had firearms taking off, people who had some gun cases, you had an armed robbery take place on River Rd. Just to remind everybody and to compliment what Mrs. Maclure had said, just because we're a small town, doesn't mean we're not susceptible to big city style crime. I want to thank you for those comments. At this time gentlemen, we'll continue with the agenda if there's no further comments by any members of the council.

RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA

R-86-09 RESO RE: AUTHORIZATION TO PAY CLAIMS

R-87-09 RESO RE: NORTH ARLINGTON 2008 RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT

R -88-09 RESO RE: PERSON TO PERSON TRANSFER OF LIQUOR LICENSE
#0239-33-024-007

R-89-09 RESO RE: CLICK IT OR TICKET CAMPAIGN

R-90-09 RESO RE: APPOINTMENT OF CROSSING GUARD TO FULL TIME STATUS

R-91-09 RESO RE: ON PREMISE RAFFLE BPOE #1992 NORTH ARLINGTON LODGE

R-93-09 RESO RE: AMERICAN RECOVERING REINVESTMENT ACT

TERENCE: Briefly, this is a new issue. It's a 2 point million in county community development block grant funds. There's an extremely tight window of opportunity to deliver this application, hand delivered it on Easter Monday by the deadline and this is simply a resolution approving the application that I submitted on your behalf.

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli

SECONDED BY: Councilman Bianchi

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative, Councilman Hughes
recluses himself from claims resolution for fire department purchases

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DECEMBER 24, 2008

DECEMBER 31, 2008

JANUARY 6, 2009

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Point of order you honor, can I make a motion to table these until May so we have the opportunity to review them?

MOTION TO TABLE APPROVAL OF MINUTES

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli

SECONDED BY: Councilman DiBlasi

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

ORDINANCES

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE #2015

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 206.1 "CLOTHING BINS" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON IN ORDER TO REGULATE THE PLACEMENT AND OPERATION OF CLOTHING BINS

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli

SECONDED BY: Councilman Bianchi

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

ORDINANCE #2016

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 252 §252-1 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED "PARKING ON POSTED PROPERTY"

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Hughes

SECONDED BY: Councilman DiBlasi

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Can you just clarify that for me?

TERENCE: If I may mayor, this is an updating of court fines.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Oh okay, alright.

ORDINANCE #2017

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 48 ARTICLE IX §48.43 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED “OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES”

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Yampaglia

SECONDED BY: Councilman Granell

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: I have a discussion on this. I see by this ordinance we want to put some restrictions on the grant application process by getting council approval before any grant applications are submitted. I do have some questions on this because how are we going to handle situations that arose just week when administrator Wall found out about community development block grant that was available at 9 o'clock in the morning and the application had to be in at 5 o'clock that afternoon? We did not have the opportunity to have a meeting. My other question is, is this going to require a resolution be passed by this council or a polling of the council going to be acceptable? What process are we going to put in place for approval of these grant applications before we actually apply for them.

MAYOR MASSA: I'll defer to the council on that.

TONY DELIA: Well under this ordinance, you would need a resolution to approve the application for the grant. So that's the answer to your last question. The question before is how to handle it when it comes up at the last minute. I didn't know what happened on this incident you brought up.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: They found some extra money in the community development block grant program. Terence found out about it in the morning and the application had to be submitted by 5 o'clock that afternoon which he made an application up, drove it up to Hackensack, and submitted it to get us money for paving streets.

TONY DELIA: Under those circumstances, since there would be no time for an emergency meeting, I would suggest the town administrator poll the council members and the mayor, get a response, and then at the very next meeting, act retroactively to approve the action that was taken earlier. It would be the same, many times public entities have to take action on an emergency basis with out having time to meet first.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Understood, so these are the questions I have. Now we are going to grant permission of the application or to seek, or to have somebody even apply?

TONY DELIA: The way it was requested of me is that if there was any entity in the borough of North Arlington, they would have to first come to the mayor and council, explain the grant application, the purposes, and the mayor and council with then by resolution have to say approve it and they would be processes ultimately through the town's administrator's office.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Alright, so there has to be pre-approval before we are taking to apply for any grant.

TONY DELIA: That's the way I understand it. I mean this is a first reading so if you want to change the language in some way, you could make that suggestion now if that's what the purpose of the first reading is. I don't have it in front of me. Do you have a copy?

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: My initial reaction is that this seems a little cumbersome.

TONY DELIA: It says that all applications for grants or similar aid must first be approved by the mayor and council and must be processed through the borough

administrator's office so first it has to be approved before the application is submitted. It creates a level of review by the mayor and council, whether you like it or not that's policy.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: The idea here is that there's no secret that this mayor and council first the last few years has sought out every possible grant we could possibly apply for to balance and stabilize taxes and do as much as we can on state and federal money. But what we don't want to happen is we don't want to get caught with our pants down and have a grant come in and not have the money to fund the grant. There's a lot of these grants now. everybody thinks they're free money, they're matching grants, that we have to come up with the money to match so I would like to personally know when these grants are being applied for. So that we either plan for them in our budget or say we're not going to have that money to do that. I certainly don't want to apply for a grant and get the grant and turn the grant down because obviously that could be the last time we see any money from that organization so this is just a way. I'm sure with the way we cooperate together, I'm sure polling the council to be able to move forward on some things; I don't see it as cumbersome, I just think it's a matter of covering our backs so we're not going to be excused in the future because we're certainly not going to be any less aggressive looking for grants moving forward.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Can it be done with a phone call?

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Well he calls us all the time.

TONY DELIA: But you would definitely need later a public resolution.

MAYOR MASSA: A retroactive resolution which I think is a proper procedure to follow being we're a government agency. And we're responsible to the community for how we spend money. I think a classic example of this could be having a department head get some documentation for a grant for a piece of equipment that may cost a couple 100 thousand dollars and upon his own without notification of the administrator or the mayor and council filling out this grant for a hundred some odd thousand dollars and then encumbering the taxpayers to pay an additional 100 thousand dollars. So that's why essentially this is a purchasing safe guard that we put in place so that any grant application made that's going to have a significant impact on the communities finances would be addressed and would be done with the advice and consent of the council. Any further discussion?

ORDINANCE NO. 2018

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS PARK IMPROVEMENTS IN THE BOROUGH, APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$193,809 BONDS AND/OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FOR PAYING THE COST OF SAID IMPROVEMENTS AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Yampaglia

SECONDED BY: Councilman Granell

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

ORDINANCE NO. 2019

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE BOROUGH, APPROPRIATING \$200,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$190,000 BONDS AND/OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FOR PAYING THE COST OF SAID IMPROVEMENTS AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman DiBlasi
SECONDED BY: Councilman Granell
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

ORDINANCE NO. 2020

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR WILSON PLACE PHASE I IMPROVEMENTS, APPROPRIATING \$75,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$17,400 BONDS AND/OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FOR PAYING THE COST OF SAID IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Bianchi
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

ORDINANCE NO. 2021

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE RESURFACING OF SUNSET AVENUE, APPROPRIATING \$225,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$25,000 BONDS AND/OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FOR PAYING THE COST OF SAID IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman DiBlasi
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

ORDINANCE NO. 2022

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 187 §10.1(A) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Hughes
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

ORDINANCE NO. 2023

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 187 §9(B) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Granell
SECONDED BY: Councilman Bianchi
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES, SECOND and FINAL READING

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE #2007

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 187 §9(B) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman DiBlasi
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Granell
SECONDED BY: Councilman DiBlasi
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE #2008

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 187 §9(B) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC"

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Bianchi
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILMAN TANELLI
SECONDED BY: COUNCILMAN YAMPAGLIA
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE #2009

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR PERFORMING MARRIAGE AND CIVIL UNION CEREMONIES

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Granell
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Is \$50 enough for you mayor, you want to make it more? A hundred, two hundred? Maybe it might deter them. [Laughs].

MAYOR MASSA: Councilman Bianchi I was reading in the newspaper that the borough of Rutherford charges \$100. I don't know how many marriages they did in Rutherford, we don't do a lot of them here in North Arlington but the newspaper article also said that some mayors in small communities, in shore communities, earn as much as \$50,000 by doing marriages. I guess its for a lot of young people who wind up down the shore fall in love and decide to get the married. I don't know what the divorce rate is for those ceremonies but in any event we established \$50, it goes directly into the general fund. Its not paid to this mayor and that's the policy. Essentially is done so that the municipality can at least have some compensation for the having to turn the electric on to keep the building opened because we do do these things mostly on evenings before council meetings. Just this evening as the mayor I had the honor to perform two such ceremonies and they will probably be the last ceremony after the adoption of this ordinance that will be done free of charge.

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Hughes

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE #2011

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 187 §187-2 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED “VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES”

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Granell
SECONDED BY: Councilman DiBlasi
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Granell
SECONDED BY: Councilman Yampaglia
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE #2012

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 187 §187-12 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED “VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES”

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Yampaglia
ROLL CALL:

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Granell
SECONDED BY: Councilman Bianchi
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE #2014

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 187 §9(B) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Granell
SECONDED BY: Councilman DiBlasi
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Bianchi
SECONDED BY: Councilman Yampaglia
ROLL CALL:

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: One thing. This is the handicap parking that we looked at last month and again our police department did not recommend it because the person has a driveway, had the capability of bringing the vehicle off street parking, so my opinion is I think we need to stand behind our police departments recommendation. We've charged him, we've sent him the guidelines, we've charged him with enforcing the guidelines, and when they give us the recommendation that something should not be approved, I don't think we should be approving it so that's all I have to say on that.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Just point of order, your honor. I agree with Councilman Hughes. Last month in regards to this ordinance, I had further conversation with the police department and they're more concerned with the spot wouldn't be a traditional size handicap spot. It would be reduced and it would have to meet the guidelines. I was told the guidelines would have to be changed based on the size of the parking lot.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: That wasn't clarified in their letter. Okay.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: I mean that was more of the objection than the off-street parking.

MAYOR MASSA: Apparently there was an extenuating circumstance that surfaced here in the course of this matter?

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Just based on size for a handicap spot versus what a traditional spot is.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Well I thought that reason of rejection was the fact that they did have a driveway and off-street parking that was available to them that did not, wouldn't engage the need for a handicap parking space in front of their house.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Well I had asked the borough administrator to provide me with the report and all the report told me was that there were issues with the signs of parking spot I can definitely show that to you, give you a copy of that, I have one in my files.

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: Point of order mayor. Well I'm sure there are many reasons why the police department goes through their mechanism and surveys this process and does this evaluation, there's a reason why it comes back to the mayor and council for approval because its our responsibility to do just that to say yea or nay. I'm sure this is not the first nor the last time that we'll get an ordinance like this with a homeowner and its up to us to figure out and decide. So I'm certain that whether we approve or disapprove, its not the first one that we've done like this where the police department made a recommendation on why as a governing body we've looked at other extenuating circumstances and address this and actually approve of the application itself. Thank you.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: I hate to bring this up but in listening to the conversation from this gentleman, I think he has a one family house but his parents are living in the basement and the garage, they use the garage as living area too I think because they have a because the garage is underneath the house and I think they converted it into an apartment. This is a hairy one. This is what I picked up in the conversation from the gentleman. I don't know what to do here. Do we table this or what or do we get more information about it, I don't know because...

MAYOR MASSA: Well if you wish to have it tabled pending further review, you can make that motion.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: I don't know.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: I think its two separate issues. What we're here to either issue a handicap spot or not a handicap spot...

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: But I mean what it takes, the point I'm getting to is not that his parents are in the basement. The point I'm getting to is that his garage is in other words he would have two parking places, in the garage and one in the driveway. With the garage being used, now he only has one, he only has the driveway. And that's the point I'm getting to.

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: Point of order mayor. This is completely two separate issues as far as I'm concerned. You're talking about one approving for a driveway for handicap spot and the other issue that I think you're trying to talk about is whether or not it's an illegal housing or its being used out of its purpose or out of the scope, so one process is to address the parking spot, the other issue is that there's an issue with the way the home is and its not being used to the conformity of our zoning and standards. We simply should enforce that with our zoning officers and our construction officials to verify what the story is, there two completely separate issues.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: I understand that, but the issue of the garage being used as a living area instead of a parking area, that's his problem. His problem is that he doesn't have enough room to park his car, he has to park one way down the street and he has the handicap child I think it is but if the garage was used to park one car and his other car in the driveway, and I'm not talking about no zoning issue, I'm talking about a parking issue now.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: I think what councilman Bianchi is trying to bring is a hardship of his own creation. And I think that's what we're trying to look at here.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: I didn't want to bring this up at this meeting because...

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: But it's a self [inaudible] that was created and now he's looking for the town for remedy on it. Like I said, the report I read the police department looked at it and because of the fact that he had a driveway that was accessible for this handicap vehicle and handicap child he did not meet the qualifications of on street handicap reserved parking.

MAYOR MASSA: I think after listening to the members of the council on this issue, you've clarified a couple of issues for me also, if this is a situation created by a possible zoning issue then I believe that we should vote against the passing of this ordinance at this time and have any further other issues resolved.

TONY DELIA: Here's what I say. It sounds like there's some people that want to vote on the second reading of the ordinances, sounds like there's some that want to table it. Do I here a motion to table? Take a vote on the motion to table this. If you vote in favor of the table, this will be held in abeyance until you get whatever information you need to bring it back for a [inaudible]. If the motion to table fails, then you'll have a vote on the resolution.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Now if I'm wrong and the garage isn't being used as a living quarter.

TONY DELIA: You'll have a vote on the second reading.

TERENCE: Do you want to carry the public hearing to a future meeting, Tony?

TONY DELIA: Well is there any discussion on the motion to table?

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: Point of order. We already know this individual is using the garage as sleeping quarters for his parents, we're not questioning that. We know that. Am I wrong?

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: I don't know it as a fact, I just overheard it. You know, I overheard him say that but I had no one in North Arlington went there and checked it out. This is what I overheard, did anyone else on the board hear him say that?

TERENCE: Just to be clear mayor, I went to look at the situation and he did ask me to come in and he did show me the premises and there are beds in the garage.

MAYOR MASSA: Do we have a land use issue here?

TONY DELIA: Well you can refer that to your zoning official whose sitting somewhere in the back of the room. So on the vote to the motion, on the motion to table, that's what's up now.

MOTION TO TABLE

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman DiBlasi

SECONDED BY: Councilman Hughes

ROLL CALL: AYES: Councilman Bianchi, Councilman DiBlasi, Councilman Hughes, Councilman Yampaglia

NAY: Councilman Granell, Councilman Tanelli

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Point of order your honor. If there's no objection from the council, could we take a 10 minute recess?

TONY DELIA: And why?

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: There's a few people, I'm sure these people want to get home while its still light out, they were gracious enough to come out to share their concerns. I'd like to spend five minutes with them, give them any additional information they may need and then let them leave. I'm sure they don't want to sit through this meeting; we got a lot on the agenda, it's taken some time so a ten minute recess I could address their concerns.

MOTION TO TAKE A 10 MINUTE RECESS

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli

SECONDED BY: Councilman Granell

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR BUSINESS

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli

SECONDED BY: Councilman DiBlasi

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: I'd like to thank the council for their patience. You know, I wanted to give them the opportunity to leave. So thank you.

MAYOR MASSA: Thank you councilman.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

TERENCE: On administrator's report, 4 items of update, just to advise you the library renovations are moving along very well. They're ahead of schedule. Vinnie Macaluso park new park program is underway. Its on track and moving very well. The archiving program that the folks of the library staff is helping with is working fantastically. We're, like I mentioned at a prior meeting, we're going through a nearly hundred years of archives that had been located in the basement of borough hall. We're making great progress. And lastly the extraordinary aid application has been submitted on time and as soon as we have an update on that, we will advise. Thank you.

ENGINEERS REPORT

NICK (ENGINEER): Mayor I wanted to have a, his name is Butch, he goes by Butch Galore [inaudible], I wanted to introduce him to you. I do have a conflict with this meeting. [inaudible]. It always feels like I have to rush out, you know, try to get [inaudible] in the meeting. So I want to introduce Butch to help me cover the town of

North Arlington and help me with serving you better. Butch is amazing, he's certainly been doing municipal engineering

MAYOR MASSA: Will he be presenting the report?

NICK (ENGINEER): I'm going to allow him to see if you like the way he presents it then we'll give him a...

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: This is an audition in other words.

MAYOR MASSA: He can get his baptism of fire tonight in the North Arlington.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Tonight was the first night we heard Nick now he's leaving.

BUTCH (ENGINEER): Mayor and council, thank you very much. I appreciate this opportunity and I look forward to getting to know all of you better.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: You're already in. Goodbye Nick. [laughter].

BUTCH (ENGINEER): It's my intention to serve the borough to whatever it needs. [Inaudible]. At the end, I will hand out my business card everyone has to take to contact me and anytime during the weekend and any hour of the night. When it comes to this month's engineering report, some of the bigger items I wanted to touch base on. First off is number 7, the firehouse improvements. At the time I prepared the report, I had not had contact with the Stanziale Construction over at construction meeting. At this time I anticipate that needing to be at the end of next week, Thursday or Friday.

TERENCE: It's been set for Friday. Done.

BUTCH (ENGINEER): Okay, they have not confirmed as of yet so if they've confirmed with you, hey that's great.

TERENCE: Joe Crifasi had emailed me and so I just confirmed it.

BUTCH (ENGINEER): Okay fantastic. I'm glad its good to work together and get these things done.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Point of order, can I ask a quick question regarding...that's for the apron at firehouse?

TERENCE: Correct.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: That's been a project one of those projects with no dates, no times. Based on the preconstruction meeting do we have a time table when that's going to be completed?

BUTCH (ENGINEER): They have not presented the comprehensive timetable at this time. Fridays meeting we expect to have all dates, times, and I'll have to forward that to the administrator and the council.

TERENCE: And councilman Tanelli, we'll fully update for you at the May 14th meeting then following engineer's report. I could also let you know by phone.

BUTCH (ENGINEER): Absolutely. Some of the other I guess figure items we've closed out [inaudible] of the road contracts. Some of the newer ones, Sunset Avenue and Wilson, I expect the survey crew to be onsite either tomorrow or Monday. We will get those base maps generated and get the projects signed as quickly as possible and try to get them under construction during this summer season so there's no holdup with that. there will be other jobs we'll close out. I know we've been in contact with the borough administrator, trying to meet with the DOT; I don't know if that had been confirmed with you.

TERENCE: Waiting for a confirmation.

BUTCH (ENGINEER): Yeah, they've been tough I know.

TERENCE: Its on fiscal relief for the Belleville and Schuyler intersection.

BUTCH (ENGINEER): Okay. Once we have that confirmation from the DOT and I appreciate the administrator's assistance with that; we'll get that thing [inaudible] and hopefully we'll get that. The tax map provisions, I have been informed, I had already updated the council the plans have been maps hadn't been updated. They did come back with one more, they did come back with one more small adjustment which we've already completed and resent to the state; we anticipate no further [inaudible] to be necessary for that and once we do receive their written confirmation, I'll provide that to the borough. And the last issue and its not in the report, this was just brought to my attention. The storm water management reports new to the state NJDEP, are due May 4th. Last year we prepared, I think with the administrator's assistance, the reports that were submitted, was done as a separate proposal contract and I wanted to poll the mayor and council, administrator for your feedback in, do you want us to start it this year?

TERENCE: Is that the Tier A permitting?

BUTCH (ENGINEER): Yes.

TERENCE: Yea we have, I was chatting with the borough attorney earlier for the model ordinances as well fits to management guidelines. And so we did...

NICK (ENGINEER): You did adopt all the ordinances. You have the resolutions have been put into the place, but every year they require you to do a reporting of refile. You know, how many tons of this you took out. It's pretty, it's basically...

TONY DELIA: We don't need to do the ordinances...

NICK (ENGINEER): No, no. [Inaudible]. There's a check said do you have this and then every year, we ask you you've adopted that particular ordinance. But what this does, it gives me a reporting.

TERENCE: So if you can send to me and I can forward to the mayor and council, a not to exceed fee to complete that, we can...

NICK (ENGINEER): I think we can use last year's, about \$3,000 somewhere and I'll give you an exact number. I'll forward that.

BUTCH (ENGINEER): You'll have that either tomorrow or Monday.

TERENCE: And I'll submit it to mayor and council, I'll reach out.

NICK (ENGINEER): And there's another thing I wanted to mention. We got notice from the DOT that there's going to be, their basically asking for what kind of roads you want to put on for the stimulus; they sort of have their own stimulus plan. Well which of the roads are..

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: North Arlington.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: The one's that haven't been done yet.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: All of district 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: You have to map yourself. District 7, district 3, district 6, 5, 4, all districts that are in heavy need.

COUNCILMAN DIBLASI: Hendel Avenue. [laughter]. My street.

TERENCE: Is milling and repaving eligible?

NICK (ENGINEER): Yes.

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: We'll compile that list and get it back to you. We've talked about that before.

NICK & BUTCH (ENGINEER): Okay.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: For this May 5th deadline, should we tonight introduce a resolution not to exceed \$5,000 even though we know that's...

NICK (ENGINEER): Its less than that.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: \$4,000 so we have the resolution approved by the mayor and council rather than having to run around polling; maybe the attorney could read into resolution not to exceed, so you're comfortable with \$3,500?

NICK (ENGINEER): I think I remember it was somewhere around \$3500.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Not to exceed.

TERENCE: 2800.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Can we make a resolution not to exceed so that...

TERENCE: Whichever your pleasure. You can handle it administratively, its under your, you have the authorization. \$3,000 and under would be handled administratively.

BUTCH (ENGINEER): Fantastic. I think that covers the valuable points. Any questions, comments, [inaudible]?

TERENCE: Canterbury, any punch list items on Canterbury with the sidewalk issue with the paint and some of the other, I believe there was also some signage that the contractor of the Canterbury had not yet...

NICK (ENGINEER): I believe he put that up, the 2 signs approaching the bump.

TERENCE: The speed table.

NICK (ENGINEER): There's a couple more things that they have to come back...

BUTCH (ENGINEER): A little bit of painting on it for sure. I thought the [Inaudible] was installed as well. [Inaudible].

TERENCE: Just ask Councilman Tanelli on Canterbury, are the signs up appropriately? That road down there, you're familiar with. Is there outstanding signage that the contractor hadn't put up yet by the speedtables?

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Honestly, I haven't noticed.

TERENCE: Okay.

MAYOR MASSA: Lets check on that and lets get an answer.

BUTCH (ENGINEER): I will confirm that.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: I have a question mayor. The report on the sanitary. Where do we stand?

BUTCH (ENGINEER): I believe we're still awaiting the on the certification of funds for the completion of our project. We can forward at a [inaudible]. Recently updated the spec and the plans were finalized as of the last update based on the [inaudible] that we have received. So, I guess we're just really awaiting to hear from the finance officer just to confirm that funds are available. That being the case, there's nothing holding us up.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Did we ever establish how much funding was appropriated 'cause I know this things been going on almost ten years.

NICK (ENGINEER): I remember 250 was the original number. Again, [inaudible].

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Mr. Wall, do we know if those funds are still available?

TERENCE: Based on the compensate; I'll very funding with the financial staff and if everything is in order for the mayor and council's consideration, we could list it for May 14th.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Okay.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: I'm starting to think that I'm going to be put into that cemetery before this project is completed, mayor.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Nick, I have something for you. It's been brought to my attention that there's five parking meters missing up at Ridge Road. Do you know about it?

NICK (ENGINEER): No, I'm not aware of it.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Okay. Could you pull out the specs and find out where those parking meters belong because the, our gentlemen who gives out the tickets was telling me that there's 5 meters missing. I know there's one missing in the, underneath the building, there's one missing there. I think we're going to have to purchase five meters, but we have to know where they have to go. With the streetscape there's 4 missing on Ridge Road from the pike down to Harding Avenue.

NICK (ENGINEER): We'll look into that.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Yea please do that, okay?

TERENCE: Now are the higher street lamps supposed to come down in light of the decorated lighting that's now there?

NICK (ENGINEER): Yes.

TERENCE: Because you still have the goose neck lighting on the telephone poles.

NICK (ENGINEER): Right. Once the lights are activated, then they take those down...

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: I have an answer to that because I checked with public service; they will remain up until we request that they be removed. So we have to introduce some kind of I guess motion or resolution here to have them removed before they all take them down.

TERENCE: Direct me administratively and I'll take care of it for you.

MAYOR MASSA: We can handle that administratively I would believe.

TONY DELIA: if they want a resolution, we could always follow up.

TERENCE: Well I could just affirm that with you. I could call the roll if you'd like for that particular item.

MOTION TO REQUEST PUBLIC SERVICE TO REMOVE HIGHER LIGHTS

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman DiBlasi

SECONDED BY: Councilman Hughes

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

TERENCE: I'll take care of that for you.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Butch is going to come back with that report next month about the meters that are missing and where they belong.

BUTCH (ENGINEER): Absolutely.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Nick, is there a schematic that shows where they were prior to the project?

NICK (ENGINEER): There should be.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Because that's the issue. The issue is maybe the spots are a little larger now and we have less meters. That's the concern.

NICK (ENGINEER): I don't think we lost any but let me look and check.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: And there was also a concern councilman correct me if I'm wrong that there's a meter missing in the parking lot.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Underneath the garage. Yea there's one meter missing in the back part of the lot.

COUNCILMAN DIBLASI: That's the total of the five you're talking, 4 on the street...

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: 4 on the street, 1 inside underneath the building.

COUNCILMAN DIBLASI: Alright Dominick, 4 on the street and 1 underneath the garage. That's the total of 5.

BUTCH: Alright, gentlemen.

MAYOR MASSA: Thank you gentlemen. Pleasure.

TERENCE: Give me cards and I'll distribute them. Thank you very much. Nice to meet you.

COUNCIL REPORTS

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Senior citizen bus is up and running. Al, is there any reports on the money for the new senior citizen...

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: I actually talked to Tim O'Donnelly today asking what the status of the check is. And he's going to get back to us on that and he actually put your name and my name on the list to notify, so I gave him your email address.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Very good. Did we design a bus yet? Did we pick a bus company yet to build this bus? We haven't done that yet, not until we get the check. Okay. That's my report for tonight.

COUNCILMAN DI BLASI: Report on the department of public works. 5 sewer backups were taken care of Mr. Mayor. They also compiled a tree list for trimming and removals. Pot hole repairs are beginning soon since the weather is getting better. They helped remove everything from the library for the construction of the library. They helped move file boxes from the borough basement to the second floor for the library staff. They started removing the old playground equipment from Macaluso Park, they're preparing for the installation of the new equipment, the new toys that we're going to be getting. And also their maintaining the soccer and baseball field for the spring use and that's all I have Mr. Mayor.

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: I just like to make a brief statement about an article that was in one of the local papers this week which was very disturbing. With the economy still in the state that it's in, I'm very proud of the work that this governing body has done in constructing this actual budget, municipal budget itself. It's my goal as a finance chair to continue to work on this budget so per cuts and expenditures through fight tax relief for this community. I'm going to continue contact with our district 36 representatives in Trenton who assure me of their complete support. Hopefully, I'll be able to comment on the status of our aid and talking to commissioner next month at next May's meeting. I was taken back by the contacts of school trustees Tony Blanco and Karen Pallatella accusing this governing body of looking to cut educational programs in place should the school budget be defeated next week. Well I was singled out. It takes 4 members of this body to cut anything. The remark was inaccurate and quite frankly a detriment to the good relations between elected officials. Mr. Blanco tried to manipulate my prior public comments on the state of the economy for political gain. That's disappointing and unworthy of any further detail. Instead of providing voters with reliable information as to one would vote yes for the school budget, Mr. Blanco has resorted to scare tactics for the fear that the budget may not receive voter approval. The only thing that Mr. Blanco said that was true is that I would seek expenditure reduction in the budget if it is defeated by the voting public. In my mind, that would be the responsible thing to do. Listening to what the voters want is good government. Elected officials should be a reflection of those they represent. That's why we work so hard to keep taxes stable, our streets safe, and North Arlington suburban. Listening to the voters stopped the threat of Encap, eminent domain seizure, and the construction of low income housing here in North Arlington. What's irresponsible is when Mr. Blanco makes blanket accusations that if the school budget is defeated somehow public education will come to a grinding halt. That is simply untrue. Quite frankly, Mr. Blanco should know better. He's a retired school teacher, principal, and school superintendent. I cannot remember the last time the district has laid off a single employee due to a budget that the mayor and council reviewed. I challenge Mr. Blanco to demonstrate when in the last decade a school employee was terminated due to defeat of the school budget. Why the scare tactic? It has not happened. As a councilman I take no public formal position on the school referendum. My wife, Sharon, serves on that board and I have a daughter that attends the high school. My son graduated from NA. My credentials and support of publication are in order. It seems to me Mr. Blanco wants and is in fact promoting gridlock between the two boxes. I would urge superintendent Stringham to remind Mr. Blanco that his comments are his own and do not reflect the entire membership of that board. Instead of attacking myself and Mayor Massa, maybe Mr. Blanco can explain to voters why the North Arlington foundation which has amassed 100 of thousands of dollars in tuition from parents and does not pay the district any rent. Just how much of the hundreds of thousands of dollars collected annually comes back in the form of scholarships or financial assistance? Should this body be faced with dealing with the defeated school budget? I will ask administrator Terence Wall for a copy of that budget and have our CFO Judy Tutela examine the document from top to bottom. We would do exactly the same thing we did the last time the budget failed as a governing body. We will work with them and put a plan that makes sense and in place. That will be the process; that's my objective. Transparent and if we can have any preconceived notions on how things are run over at 212 Ridge Road. I wish Mr. Blanco would give this body the same courtesy we give the board of education before he pens any future letter to the meeting. They do little to promote harmony between both the board and the mayor and council. It would be wise not to marry his politics and his responsibilities as a school trustee; it's a combination that does not mix. Thank you for you time mayor.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: I'm pretty happy to report tonight that I have received a report from Passaic Valley Sewer Commission that they have completed their remediation work at the North Arlington High School football field. Putting in the riff raff in the places of erosion behind the field, hope in attempt to stay the erosion that's been happening over the years to tidal action of the river. Mr. Devita from Passaic Valley Sewer Commission reported to me that the area behind the field house has been completed and the area further south along the river bank behind the bleachers has been completed. So hopefully that will solve the problem there of erosion in that area. And I think they're going to continue working on, doing some of the work that we asked for Daniel Morris Park. The other thing I have to report is a sad note. I'd like to report on the passing of one of our former fire chiefs, one of our former borough employees, ex-chief Don Christie passed away last week after a battle with cancer. He served as fire chief back in the early 1980s was a long term member of the fire department and actually served as one of our borough fire officials for 10 years before chief Kairys took that position, so sad loss.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Before I begin my report, your honor, I'd like to maybe ask Mr. Hughes if everybody's in agreement that we ask Mr. Devita to come up and be recognized by this governing body for taken on something that's been a problem plaguing the North Arlington High School for some time, so that we can recognize their efforts for helping us.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Can we hold off on that. He's not done with the work but yes, I've already considered it.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: I'm happy to announce opening day for both girl's softball and little league will take place this Saturday. That means the warm waters coming. Girl's softball will begin at 11:00, little league will begin at 2. Both will meet behind borough hall at 3 to their newly renovated fields following our volunteer fire department that's always lending a hand with in our parade. Also mayor, thank you for the time this evening to speak on a subject of mutual concern. The situation with PSE&G that's taken place along the high tension wires, where they're clearing some of the easements where a lot of the property owners in that area have grown accustomed to having as part of their property with a mutual agreement with public service that they could coexist and they can use it together without impeding on each other's privacies. Well the situation with PSE&G is very disturbing in that no correspondence that I'm aware of that notified this governing body to their intent, which has many long time homeowners of the borough clearly upset. For many years, these residents spent many a summer planting fruit and vegetables as well as flowers for their summer salads and personal enjoyment. This was a real benefit to living near the high tension wires and we've had a strong off between utility and the homeowner, but the actions of the utility this week having forced us as a municipality to rethink this relationship. I agree with the mayor that a meeting should be held with interested homeowners as to why this happened and what middle ground could be reached so that all are satisfied. In addition, I'm asking that a resolution be drawn by the borough attorney, calling upon PSE&G to rescind this action and a copy of this resolution be sent to senator Sarlo as well as assemblymen Scalera and Schaer and the board of public utilities which is located in Newark. We need to keep our feet to the fire on this issue to ensure that these homeowners be given an option that we could all live with. Thank you mayor.

COUNCILMAN YAMPAGLIA: Just a quick note, there will be an autism fundraiser on April, scheduled April 25th Saturday. The title is Putting the Pieces Together in Special Angels, it's a hearts for autism walk. Again it's for April 25th which is a Saturday, rain day is the 26th. Registration will be at 10 o'clock from 10 to 12 at borough hall. The walk starts at 12pm and it's a walk from the borough hall to the RIP Collins athletic field. And of course there will be food, games, and lots of stuff for the different families to enjoy. And also on a very early note, in June, there's going to be another fundraiser. Motorcycle run in Paramus, again for autism that's June 7th and the rain date is June 14th. That's all I have.

MAYOR MASSA: For mayoral report tonight, I do have to echo some of the comments of councilman Granell with respect to the public comments that were made by school

trustee Tony Blanco in a recent newspaper article. I served as a member of the board of education 1990-1996 and while I served on that board, we passed a building referendum, it was the first one ever passed in the history of this community as I can recall to renovate school buildings which were in dire need of repairs, renovation. At the time I assumed membership of the board of education, our children in Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Wilson were being educated in trailers that were not approved by the County Superintendent and that shook when wind blew and leaked when it rained. Mr. Blanco was the superintendent of schools at the time. Mr. Blanco to make disparagingly comments about my commitment to education is prejudicial and totally unfair. Being myself, a professional educator for over three decades and a member of this community for all my life and trustee of the school board who was responsible for passing budgets, voting on budgets, hiring superintendents, and doing the things that we have to do to provide effective education is just upsetting to me to see him attack myself and councilman Granell, who I think has distinguished himself as a true protector of the public till since his assumption of a council position here in this community. Councilman Granell did make reference to this North Arlington Education Association which for some reason seemed to be shrouded in secrecy which obtains the use of small facilities as no charge. I tried to get some information on my own from the superintendents of schools several months ago and it seems like even school board doesn't know very much about this association. So I'm going to challenge Mr. Blanco as a trustee to obtain full disclosure regarding the financial arrangements and agreements that are in place between this association and the North Arlington Board of Education and make that disclosure public. If Mr. Blanco or any other trustee of the board of education so sees fit to attack myself or any other member of this governing body, irrespective of what their political party affiliations are, I think he should be willing to do his share and come up with some solutions rather than just take shots at us. We're living in a time, a recession, the worse recession since the history of the great depression. And this is time for everyone in public employment to sacrifice a little bit. People in public employment, especially in this community, I think are probably fortunate. We provide a good working environment, steady income, pension benefits, medical coverage. If we can save the taxpayers some money then let's do it. I do that here in this administration, I do it with the help of these gentlemen sitting here. And I think the board should be looking to do the same thing. To make comments that we would irresponsibly cut the board of education budget, if it happens to be [inaudible] it was wrong and counterproductive. With respect to the comments made by Councilman Hughes about Don Christie, Rich I have to echo on your comments about Don. He was certainly a credit to this community, a real gentlemen, a very responsible employee, a role model for firemen. His presence in the community is going to be missed. He was very professional, dedicated firemen, and a real gentleman. With respect to the problems we're having with public service, I inspected some of those problems myself today on behind Bergen Avenue and I was very upset with what I saw. We will be reaching out with public service to find out why there in this mood of clearing all of these properties behind the residences of our communities that have been intact for so long. They come in here with a piece of equipment that looked like an army tank; just ripped up everything they could find 25 or 40 feet behind the some of the dwelling and without formal notice and without showing any considerations to the homeowners. It was like an invasion. So we will get to the bottom of that, address that with the utility and the board of public utilities. I want to thank the councilman for bringing that to our attention tonight. I have nothing further to report on my report. At this time, I will expect a resolution for executive session.

R-92-09 RESO RE: EXECUTIVE SESSION

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECOND BY: Councilman DiBlasi
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR BUSINESS

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Granell
ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

R-94-09 RESO RE: CVS TAX SETTLEMENT ON TAX APPEAL

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Granell

SECONDED BY: Councilman DiBlasi

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

MAYOR MASSA: Any further business?

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Yes, the resolution to send down for the PSE&G or we're not going to do that?

TONY DELIA: I'll do it if you want, just give me some facts and I'll read something into the record.

MAYOR MASSA: Yeah I think what we got to do before we do this is get all the information.

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: Can I make that recommendation?

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Because there's been court cases on this already throughout the state and apparently PSE&G has been helped held because of safety concerns.

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: Your right on target with that, but my recommendation is that we reach out to [inaudible] wire Dwyer of PSE&G and have them actually come into the borough and then Terence Wall could take them down to the citizens and back. We could figure out what's actually going on with PSE&G. These are public affairs of community representation data so we should engage and find out what the story is.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Bring them to the next meeting if necessary.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: We did it already. I did this already. I was in a residents yard with Terence with the resident with this guy, with Dwyer, cut and dry, they gave out all these explanation that this was going to happen. Nothings happened. How long has it been Terence? 8 months?

TERENCE: Nearly a year.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Now all of a sudden they're in town with a tank blowing properties up.

COUNCILMAN DIBLASI: No what we should do, we should have the residents say that the electrical wire are giving them cancer, this and that, and say fucking rip the wire down, teach them a good lesson. There's some towns that do that.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: [Inaudible].

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Take action to the newspaper. A year ago I had gotten a phone call from [inaudible]. They tore out all the shrubs that were out that were outside his fence. [Inaudible]. He had an agreement with PSE&G. You brought out in the agreement that they ensure people that they were okay and they weren't high grown shrubs, they were 4 or 5 foot shrubs. He said that they made a motion to move all of the growth [inaudible] of the high tension wires to remove it all, all of the state of New Jersey through the outages because there's no trees going aside his high tension wires. What he asked me, he asked me so that was what he told us then and we said well are you going to notify our residents before you do this. He told me that because this was a random act, he did one house on the whole block, they did Peter Murphy's house and they didn't do anyone else's house in the entire town, right? So today they didn't do anything since then, it's been a year, now you go on Veteran Pl., start whacking people with tanks and start ripping up their background. And that's my problem. My problem is if you're going to do it, set a timetable, let us know you're going to do it and we can alert the whole block that you're doing it. People don't all of sudden come and see their house falling apart.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Have they taken down the trees in the park across by Ridge Road there?

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Well he threatened me with that day. He basically told me that, that basically if we gave a hard time, he goes 'you those trees over there have to go too'. I said well those trees are protecting the cell phone power boxes that have to put the cellar...

MAYOR MASSA: Joe made an excellent fact to me before that they're getting a lot of revenue from that because...

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: We made them put those bushes up around there because there ugly, there like just block houses and we didn't want them and the cell phone companies, when they were here presenting their case said were going to put up these little concrete but were going to landscape so you don't see them. They're underneath their building their on their property but they get big money.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Well we can get big money out of there.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: PSE&G gets big money.

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: Well, PSE&G in here and they got to back and they're really breaking down for the borough the impact of all this work they're looking to do. Fisher Field is a prime candidate, its right over the by the, so are we going to lose our park now? Or we're going to talk about renovating that as the next park like the Macaluso Park [inaudible].

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: It's basically underneath the wires.

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: So we need to understand the impact. What are the things were on the [inaudible] from the seniors they're talking about developing a community garden here and one of the things about community garden, we were looking for a place in the borough to do it. They were thinking those properties [inaudible] where other residents have done that. So we need PSE&G to come in here, tell us what's going on and if it's ruining the case that they're going to be doing this, then we have homework to do as [inaudible] spokesperson to get the message out there. This is what's happening; this is what PSE&G is doing. So its not mayor and council that are doing this, they know what's going on.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: They're butchering every tree in town that's anywhere near a power line.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Well that's part of this. He told me from now on you are not allowed to plant any trees on the power line side. It has to be on the opposite side of the street. There's no more trees allowed to be, the funny thing is he gave me a booklet that basically explain the kind of trees that don't grow pass a certain height and that don't destroy property so that we would know what trees to plant under the wires but you can't plant tress under the wires. He gave me a book to tell me what [inaudible] tree we can plant but...

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Most of the trees are like [inaudible] that after 15-18 years they fall down.

MAYOR MASSA: Steve, what I think we got to do is go over this guy's head. We got to go to somebody else so we can get some satisfaction.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: You won't get anywhere with him. He's a Jersey City guy and you're not getting [inaudible].

MAYOR MASSA: You're talking about Dwyer?

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Yeah, I don't know if you had any conversation but I had multiple conversations, it's not easy to deal with.

TERENCE: Would you like a representative here at the next borough meeting if we can get that scheduled?

MAYOR MASSA: Absolutely.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Is that the guy that was here when we were planning the Ridge Road redevelopment? Big tall guy?

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Yes.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Big tall guy...blockhead, big guy and he came up and his word is the law.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Well that's the deal with so there's no reason to bring him in here and he's not going to be rational. We're not going to be...

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: You're not going to get through to this guy.

COUNCILMAN DIBLASI: I'll make him an offer he cant refuse. Bring him in.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: He's bigger than you.

COUNCILMAN DIBLASI: I don't care, the bigger they are the harder they fall.

TERENCE: Okay, so based on what I just heard, I'm going to seek that representation for PSE&G at the highest level I can obtain on the next meeting.

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: I'm not waiting to next council meeting because they're going to start tearing people's properties up. I mean we got to reach out to them right away and find out what's going on.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES: When are they, did they start?

COUNCILMAN GRANELL: They have tanks down there and they're just tearing it up...

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: That's what I mean, they're

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Get out of here, [inaudible]. In back of Nunola's house?

COUNCILMEN: [Inaudible] (all talking at once)

TERENCE: Well then I think you're talking about legal action. Tony, I think there some type of junction to stop them from ceasing the system until they can. It's not about timing issue, then it's a legal issue about us having a legal injunction of some sort against them doing further work.

MAYOR MASSA: I don't want, I would hate to have to go to court over something like that.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI: Point of order. Why don't the three of us just meet with these guys as a committee and then we can meet anytime they're available.

MAYOR MASSA: Give them a call, tell them we'll come have a sit down with them, a meeting.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: No it's a meeting, not a sit down.

MAYOR MASSA: [Laughs] I stand corrected.

TONY DELIA: There's a restaurant, we'll put the gun behind it.

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Behind the toilet. Its one of those old fashioned toilets with the chain.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION TO ADJOURN

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Hughes

SECONDED BY: Councilman Tanelli

ROLL CALL: All Council present vote in the affirmative

(*AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS A RESULT OF THE MATTERS NOT KNOWN AT THE TIME OF PRINTING)