

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2010 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 Hughes, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Kearney, Councilman Tanelli and Councilman Yampaglia

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Peter C. Massa, Borough Clerk, Terence M. Wall, Borough Attorney, Greg Randazzo (substitutes for Randy Pearce)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Massa – at this time, I would like to entertain a resolution to suspend the regular order of business so that the governing body may present some proclamations to the South Bergen Boys Travel 6th Grade undefeated championship team.

MOTION TO SUSPEND REGULAR ORDER OR BUSINESS

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli

SECONDED BY: Councilman Hughes

ROLL CALL: all council present vote in the affirmative

PRESENTATION

Mayor Massa – okay at this time the governing body has prepared a resolution, accommodation certificate, for congratulations to the South Bergen Boys Travel 6th Grade undefeated team. Champions 15-0. Okay, let's have a hand. And whereas the South Bergen Boys Travel 6th Grade undefeated champions 15-0 basketball under coaches Mike Costello, Ryan Kearns, and Oberto Velez, it's to be recognized and honored for their outstanding basketball season, and whereas by its extraordinary efforts, this dynamic team had progressed to the championships and ended the season with an amazing record of 15-0. Now therefore be it resolved by the mayor and council of the Borough of North Arlington, honor the South Bergen Boys Travel 6th Grade undefeated champions and I'm pleased to publicly commend them for their display of sportsmanship and leadership. I'd like the members of the team to please rise and identify themselves as I state your name: Michael Paoello, Jeremy Josephs, Brian Kearns, Edmond Sircaera, Brady Marinho, Steven Velez, Cody Paperelli, Peter Barrario, Joe Silva, and Ryan Costello. Now at this time, I have 10 certificates which we're going to hand out to these fine young fellows. Coaches come on up. You guys do all the work. How about a hand for the coaches.

[Mayor Massa hands out certificates]

Mayor Massa – great job guys!

Councilman Bianchi – Mr. Mayor, can I say something please?

Mayor Massa – ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the borough, our recreation director wants to make a presentation, Jimmy Herrmann.

Jimmy Herrmann – one thing North Arlington likes is champions. And we like you to wear it proudly. When I say wear it proudly, yeah yeah, we got championship hoodies for you guys. Excuse me, we got championship hoodies for you guys. Compliments of the mayor and council and the recreation department. I'd like to recognize the three recreation commissioners that I

have hear tonight, Maureen Keegan, James Dombrowski, Glenn Smiley, Tyler Banuls. There are a lot of people that help out the recreation and you know with you guys and the coaches wearing this proudly, it lets people know that there are champions in North Arlington with more to come. I'd like to ask the coaches to come up and present the sweatshirts to the team. The [inaudible] would like to give you a trophy for [inaudible]. These trophies are now proudly displayed down at the rec house. Okay. There's two trophies there already for football, here's one for basketball, and we're in baseball season right. Keep them coming. Display it proudly.

[Coaches hand out sweatshirts to each team member]

[Various discussions continue]

Councilman Bianchi – Mike, don't leave yet a minute. Mr. Mayor, can I say a word please?

Mayor Massa – the chair recognizes councilman Bianchi who wishes to make a comment.

Councilman Bianchi – yeah, we're starting to put out memorial day parade together and Tara, I think it would be nice, if we could get the same group with a little sign saying that they are the champs and keep them together instead of breaking them up, maybe they'll be on different teams them. And also too, in the fall, we had a championship football team too. And if you can get both of them to walk the...the same kids? You know, maybe if you could get them all together and what assigned...

Tara Banuls – what about a float?

Councilman Bianchi – maybe a float too. Well we'll talk about it, but I think it would be nice if we keep this group together cause they did win a football championship and a basketball championship.

Councilman Johnson – championship float.

Councilman Bianchi – hey Tara, championship float. Okay thanks Mike. That's all I wanted to say.

Mayor Massa – thank you councilman. At this time a motion to return to the regular...

[Discussions continue]

Terence – folks, we'll take a two minute break. If your going to be on your way. Thank you very much for attending. Congratulations again.

Mayor Massa – ladies and gentlemen at this time, I'm going to entertain a motion to return to the regular order of business.

MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli

SECONDED BY: Councilman Johnson

ROLL CALL: All council present vote in the affirmative

Mayor Massa – ladies and gentlemen, at this time, I'm going to open the meeting to the hearing of citizens. Anyone wishing to be heard please come forward, state your name and address for the record. Please limit your comments to five minutes so that everyone has an opportunity to be heard. Neither myself nor members of the council will comment on the hearing of citizens until every citizen has had an opportunity to be heard. Mr. Cerone, good evening.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joseph Cerone – 48 Biltmore Street – I noticed hear on the agenda, they have something about this water system investigation. They want to extend, am I to understand that they are actually looking to go even further investigating this.

Mayor Massa – okay is that your question Joseph? Is that it? Do you have any other comments you want because we will answer that at the completion of hearing of citizens. that's the protocol. So if that's your question...

Joseph Cerone – I have another question about the baler situation actually. I observed in the newspaper that I guess the Meadowlands Commission made a decision because I don't remember any kind of a vote here for the mayor and council approving, accepting, or deciding whether this was a good idea for the community or not. But it seems they've made a contract with a company which is allowing us money which is good. \$2.00 a ton I believe it is. Over a thousand tons a day. How many tons were we actually accepting in that landfill when it was operating?

Mayor Massa – okay, is that your question?

Joseph Cerone – is one question. The other question is as far as I can remember as far back as I can remember, the Meadowlands Commission was designed to help the fourteen communities in the Meadowlands district. Is this is how it's supposed to go? I understand Governor Christie has cut their budget and it's for some reason this contract that they seem to have with this person who's taken the baler over seems to make them profit on us instead of them helping us, we're helping them to survive. Another question I had was that it seems that the council, particularly the newer members of the council, sidestepped the mayor completely on this issues which I really feel is insulting to you Mr. Mayor and disgraceful unless you can correct me on this, it doesn't seem that you had any part of this process or any input on the decision of what was, what is transpiring in our community. Is that something you might want to comment on?

Mayor Massa – well I'll comment on that at the conclusion of the hearing.

Joseph Cerone – at the end yeah, particularly Mr. Johnson and Mr. Kearney seem to be the only two council that seem to represented the community and I'm a little confused on what capacity these two people have in representing the entire community in this kind of a process. Another thing is, it seems that the Meadowlands Commission is giving a million dollars over the next three years for this thing. It seems to me that the role has changed feet, the shoes have changed feet here into this role where the Meadowlands Commission is supposed to be assisting and helping the communities. Are we now supporting their high paid appointees? Is that the way this is working now? The roles have changed? Instead of them assisting and helping us to develop the Meadowlands in the best interest of the 14 communities, are we now helping them to survive? And if they're no longer helping us, what's the purpose of the Meadowlands Commission? I don't seem to understand. It seems it's a dumping ground for politicians to make over-inflated salaries that move on to collect over-inflated retirement packages. All on us, the taxpayers, and I don't see this as helping especially this community. At this point, we have an asset here that in the past covered [inaudible] garbage a 100% not where it could be a 1000 pounds which is kind of a catch because if indeed we we're doing about 14 hundred tons a day and we fall below the thousand and nine [inaudible] we only make maybe 900 tons in a day. Does that mean that that day we have to pay for our trash to be dumped? Does this tonnage include our trash or is our trash on the side? Is it included in the thousand tons? Is it not included in the thousand tons? There's a lot of questions here that don't seem to be very clear. And I'm thinking that something could have been done in much better interest of this community than what was kind of done blindsiding and I feel blindsiding the mayor which is absolutely disgraceful. I think the mayor would have had excellent input in this situation. He's done very well for this community. He has decreased the debt that this community has carried from the prior administration by I believe about \$10 million dollars. He's proven himself to be for the people from the day he was made police officer in this community and he probably will be til the day he dies, I know him personally, and he's a very sincere person and I just cant understand why this council would leave this man out of this kind of this situation when he's the one with the most input. He's the one that showed that he cares about this community more than anybody else that sits on this panel, any other elected official. But we seem to be sidestepping like everybody else wants to be the mayor here and the mayor cant be the mayor. It just don't seem to be fair. I do know that prior to this new administration when the, it was 4 and 2 in the other direction, the mayor melted very well with Mr. Bianchi here and Mr. Hughes and there was harmony and things got done but all of a sudden we're king of putting the mayor aside here and not doing the right thing by him, not letting him help the community as he has in the past and I know he will in the future. As far as the two gentlemen that represented us at this Meadowlands Commission, do they have any

input about this at all? Do they know anything about it? They just started this job. Do they have any experience at all? I know they had something to do with this water system thing here and that was a lie when they lied to the community that they could do something about this. They obviously cant. And now it looks like they want more, they want to waste more taxpayer's money on such a farce when we could be taking that money and we could be using it for the girls softball to get them playing down there, putting lights up. Maybe we could use the Green Acres money for another project. But we seem to be throwing taxpayers money away and it don't seem to coming from the mayor. I'm just a little confused on how could this all happen. Is the mayor in charge, is the council in charge? Who's the mayor? Is it Mr. Kearney, is it Mr. Johnson, Mr. Hughes? Mr. Bianchi, I don't think he's interested in being Mayor, but it seems like everyone else is but weren't elected to be mayor here.

Mayor Massa – Joe I think your five minutes are up. I appreciate your comments and we will comment on your statements and answer your questions. Anyone else wishing to be heard?

Eileen Tita – 4 Bernice Road – I'm here tonight because I'm concerned as a homeowner and a taxpayer with what I've been reading in the paper, specifically the latest issue is the education budget. With the economy the way it is, why is our Mr. Stringham doing a budget that is way out of line. Corporations are and I use to work in the world of corporate, when they had bad years, they froze salaries. My opinion is, this budget is out of sight. He is claiming that if this budget goes through, the tax payer is going to in this town be taxed at 10% when the state is saying they want to hold it at 4% or 4.5. Where does he get off with this? My opinion you want to save the teachers, then freeze the salaries like the corporations do for a year, maybe it'll be two years until the economy turns around. But nobody will lose their job. At least they'll have a job. In this situation, the townspeople are going to go and vote and they're going to vote this damn thing down. I for one is going to vote it down. I'm all for education but believe me this is ridiculous. Secondly, I think the money being spent for this water contract is out of sight. \$30,000 to look at something that was done how many years ago and we all know it cant be turned around. My opinion this council should sit down with Pete and the Passaic Valley Water Commission and we renegotiate the service fees. That's what's killing the homeowners. Its not the usage. The usage is never wrong. Everybody uses their water whether it's a big family, a single person, or whatever. But it's the fees. At \$59 a quarter, my water bill went from like \$25 up to \$75. Now you want to tack on an education thing and you haven't done the budget for the homeowner's taxes yet. So how high is everything going to go gentlemen and the taxpayer can't do it. The government isn't giving anybody any extra money to pay for all of this. So my opinion, if the attorney general is looking into Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission, why cannot they look into if we feel that that contract was a fraud by Mr. Pitman who did it many years ago, then let the attorney general's office handle it and we can keep the \$30,000 and use it for our EMS, our Department of Public Works, our athletic leagues, wherever else we need it in this town and I think that would be worthwhile instead of throwing it away. Thank you gentlemen.

Mayor Massa – thank you Mrs. Tita. Anyone else wishing to be heard?

Denise Callahan – 63 Canterbury Gardens – I came here tonight because I was unable to make the special meeting regarding the lights for softball and I was wondering if we could find out where we stand on that as a community and since I have to say everything at once I just want to add that the kids lack so much and until you leave North Arlington and see what other communities have for their kids, not just by way of athletics, by way of many different things, you don't realize how sorely we're lacking. I do understand the homeowners in that area's concern but I would assure them personally as a parent of a softball player, we don't want our kids on the field at 10 o'clock at night. There's no reason why any of us should want those lights on late at night. The boys have had lights for decades and decades and decades. We just honored a championship team. Well we'd like to see more of that as Mr. Herrmann said however how can we have championship teams when we don't have places for our kids to practice. This is a problem in North Arlington and has been for years, we don't, we lack facilities and space but something that could be so easily fixed, we could take practice time away from usage on that field, put it just towards games and look for practices elsewhere as opposed to using that field or high school for rec, for travel teams now. Just I hope that the council does keep in mind that there are in girls in this town as well and they deserve the same rights. Thank you.

Mayor Massa – thank you ma'am. Anyone else? At this time, I'll entertain a motion to close hearing of citizens.

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENTS

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli

SECONDED BY: Councilman Bianchi

ROLL CALL: All council present vote in the affirmative

Mayor Massa – any members of the council wish to comment on Mr. Cerone' statements?

Councilman Hughes – yes Mr. Mayor. I'd like to ask you a question. Did not you and I sit down with the Meadowlands Commission back in February with Mr. Cerberio and their professional staff and they explained to us what they thought the market would bear as far as a viable contract for the reopening of the baler? And did we not both agree that we would give him permission to go in that direction and sign a contract if they could get one in place?

Mayor Massa – alls I recall Rich, we did in fact have a meeting with them. We did agree that to take that we would support any steps they would take to get the baler operating but we were really not part of the negotiation process with environmental logistics, I think we can agree to that.

Councilman Hughes – we can agree to that. but it is their facility. It is their baler. It is their property and like any landlord, they have a right to operate without interference from local municipality.

Mayor Massa – that's correct and I would never do anything to violate the statutes that involve the powers and duties of the Meadowlands Commission. However, there are some opinions.

Joe Cerone – [Inaudible].

Councilman Hughes – what's that?

Mayor Massa – Joe, I would ask you not to comment because you would be out of order. If you just listen to, respect the protocols of the council and of course we're going to have another council meeting shortly. Some of the questions that you've raised tonight, I would like to address them also but I want to give the council members the opportunity to respond. Any further comment Rich?

Councilman Hughes – no.

Councilman Bianchi – I do.

Mayor Massa – Councilman Bianchi.

Councilman Bianchi – last meeting and this meeting we've been hearing about this water, investigating the water, okay Mrs. Tita, you and Joe brought it up tonight. In 1983 and 1984, the town of North Arlington got involved with Encap. Then we sold the water. Two blunders. We have two men on this council that were against and Joe let me talk, don't shake your head, there's two men on this council that fought Encap. The Mayor and Steve. They went against their own party and fought Encap. It cost us millions of dollars and different attorneys to fight Encap. Nothing was ever said. We switched lawyers, we brought in different lawyers. Richie and I were on the board. We got along, all the democrats and republicans, we were united. Republicans and Democrats united against Encap. Okay. It took a lot of time and a lot of dollars to fight Encap and we won. But these are our brothers, Democrats or Republicans; we're still living in North Arlington so we united with the mayor. We've never given them any trouble. They wanted to bring in different attorneys, no problem, bring in different attorneys. It cost us millions in tax dollars and millions of dollars in lost revenue and also millions of dollars in expenses to attorneys, attorney fees. Nothing was ever said. We won. Thank god we won. Okay. Second step. The water. When we can't pay the North Arlington, Democrats and Republicans, it don't make any difference, ringing doorbells, people weren't even concerned about the taxes. All we heard is "do something about my water. The rates are too high". This is the year 2009, 2010. If we don't do something and find out if we were bull winkled, we don't know. As I say, I'm a barber. I'm not a professional lawyer or nothing like that. So now listen Joe, if we don't try and put a stop to

it now and these fees, what's going to happen in 20 years from today. When we're all gone and new kids are here. What are the bills going to be then, \$150 for service charge, \$200 for service charge, which that's the way its heading. We're complaining about \$59 or \$60 now for service charges but what about 20 years from today. We are being taken advantage of in the town of North Arlington because other towns that Passaic Valley Water has do not pay the rates we pay. And another thing I read in the paper by one of our esteemed councilman that's not here no more, said that our water system was only worth \$250,000. Well on the internet the other day I was going browsing through the internet and some lady said 'well if our water system was only worth \$250,000, why would a company give us \$4 million for it. That's like going to buy a car that's \$25,000 but you like it so much you give them a \$100,000 for the Chevy. You no what I'm saying? There's something wrong here. In other words I think our water system was worth 20 million and we got 4 million. The same thing happened in Elmwood Park and Elmwood Park, they wanted to give Elmwood Park, I think it was Elmwood Park, \$4 million for their water system when they had estimated before the sale, it was 20 million. So what's the difference between Elmwood Park and North Arlington? Just before we sold that water system, we put thousands and thousands of dollars into that water system. Millions into that water system all Porete Avenue alone because Porete Avenue was in a redeveloping area. Now we put millions of dollars into that. That's one of the reasons why our, what do you call it, our debt was so high. I'm getting upset now, you got to pardon me a little bit. And nothing was ever said. So now that we want to investigate the water system for \$15,000 for the attorneys and \$15,000 for the engineering firm, all of a sudden there's big stink. I wanted us to be united in this fight, but no it became a political thing, Republican/Democrat which empowers the water company. They love to see us fight. Oh good their split, so we'll just stay back and let them fight. We should all stick together. We stuck together when it was Encap. The first question I was asked and Steve will tell you and I sat at this table the first day we had our very first meeting, 'are you guys in favor of Encap or against Encap?' and Richie and I both said we're against Encap and we all got together for three years and fought them and we won. Now we're split over water, over \$30,000 when we spent millions on Encap. Answer that question to me.

Joe Cerone- [inaudible].

Mayor Massa – okay, excuse me.

Joe Cerone – [inaudible] he just threw something at me, I've got to answer them now.

Mayor Massa – Joe.

Joe Cerone – I can't pick them up ...

Councilman Bianchi – no you can answer me, go ahead answer me.

Joe Cerone – I can't pick them up on the mic.

Councilman Bianchi – answer me. I don't want to be mayor, you just said it, answer me.

Joe Cerone – [inaudible] for the interest of the entire community. With the little [inaudible] affected that, would have raised our taxes, even ten times more than the Chris Christie funding was going to do. The water department....

Terence – Mr. Cerone, we can't...

Mayor Massa – Joe, we can't record you unless you...

Councilman Bianchi – alright, I said what I had to say but we should all be united whether or not we as the republicans and the, in the last meeting Joe someone said 'why now do you bring it up?' because we only reason took the power for council in January where we could pass the vote to get these attorneys. Two years ago, if we Richie and I would have brought it up when we wanted to bring it up, we would have got shot down because certain people on the council and that's good, like that sale. The mayor was in favor of the sale. I was against the mayor's sale but that doesn't make us bad people, he had his view I had my view.

Joe Cerone – well your beaten down doors.

Councilman Bianchi – how do you know that?

Mayor Massa – Joe. I don't like to say it but you're breaching the protocols of the meeting. This is not an adversarial proceeding, it's a council meeting.

Councilman Bianchi – I'm sorry Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Massa – we will have our opportunities for adversarial proceedings down the road or we can set up issues where the base can held but right now we have to follow protocol for this meeting. Any other councilman...

Councilman Bianchi – I'm sorry Mr. Mayor, I'm sorry.

Mayor Massa – its okay Joe. You don't have to be sorry at all.

Councilman Hughes – I'll make a few comments on the water sale Mr. Mayor. A lot of questions have been raised on why we didn't negotiate. We did try and negotiate with Passaic Valley and they told us its our system, we're going to do what we want. We ask for the last two years actually before that but the last two years I've been on the council, we've asked for a completed contract. There is no completed contract that we can find. Nobody can seem to find a completed contract that governs and regulates the sale of the water system. We've asked for an evaluation of the water system value up, nobody can seem to find it. We've asked numerous other questions as to the basis and evaluations of the sale of the water system. Nothing has been produced so we have to go through the due diligence now that should have been done five years ago or six years ago when this thing was sold to find out if one we were taken advantage of and if we were what redress we can receive from Passaic Valley. You say Encap would have affected everybody in town; it didn't, except for the fact that we had to pay them back \$3 million and that's cutting out of everybody taxes. Everybody's water bill has gone up 3 and 4 and 500% in the last five years every quarter. They're paying exorbitant water rates compared to what was charged before. Nobody to this day has been able to explain what the service charge is for. We've asked Passaic Valley. That's the way it is. So until we get decent answers to answer and respond to the people of North Arlington, who have continually asked us, here it is six years later and they're still complaining about something that happened six years ago. And until we get the answers that we can bring back to the people of North Arlington, that is the reason we are doing the investigation of the water sale, so we have the answers because frankly nobody else seems to have them. So we have to do the investigation to find out what the answers are.

Councilman Bianchi – can I say something too, mayor?

Mayor Massa – councilman Bianchi.

Councilman Bianchi – Joe and Mrs. Tita, maybe this water sale was the greatest thing that ever happened to North Arlington. Maybe it is. Okay. But maybe its not. We don't really know. We really don't know. I'm not worrying about today, I can afford the \$59 every quarter for my use on the water but what happens as every year it goes up another two dollars another three dollars another four dollars. By the end of 2015, it could be \$100, \$110 for just a service charge. So that's what we have to find out. But we can't get any, you know even the governor of the state was furious with this company. You know what I mean? What did the governor call this Passaic...

Mayor Massa – it was the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioner.

Councilman Bianchi – don't they run like, no, okay. I thought that they ran like this. You know what I mean? But you know Joe, we have to find out. It could be the greatest thing that ever happened to North Arlington, could be, but the people, the people that I talk to everyday are not even concerned about the taxes as much they are about the water. And that's it. So we have to do something. Let's find out. Maybe we're wrong. And if we're wrong we'll put it in the front page of the Leader, best thing to ever happen to North Arlington. But if its not, maybe we can stop them where they are now with their service charges. You know what I'm saying? You understand?

Joe Cerone – [inaudible].

Mayor Massa – okay.

Councilman Bianchi – alright, end of conversation.

Mayor Massa – any other members of the council wish to comment on Mr. Cerone's statements?

Councilman Johnson – yes.

Mayor Massa – Johnson.

Councilman Johnson – Mr. Cerone, you had mentioned the \$500,000 that goes to the Meadowlands Commission. The \$500,000 just doesn't go to offset salaries; the \$500,000 goes into a revenue sharing program that's used by the 14 communities within the Meadowlands district. So there's a point of clarification that money's just not going to waste.

Mayor Massa – Councilman Tanelli.

Councilman Tanelli – but in the past, we got a million dollars for hosting the site and now we get no guaranteed money and that money goes to the Meadowlands Commission to be shared with the community [inaudible] supporting the Meadowlands. We get no guaranteed money. Thank you.

Mayor Massa – thank you. Joe with respect to your comment, any other members want make comments on it.

Councilman Kearney – I was going to say to Mr. Cerone...Jon Kearney for the record.

Mayor Massa – Councilman Kearney recognized.

Councilman Kearney – I'm not asking on behalf of the mayor whenever I go to a public meeting which you yourself are entitled to go to Mr. Cerone and I didn't see you at the Meadowland's Commission on the day that everybody was happy about this baler being reopened and there being a contract. I went on behalf of the people, on behalf of myself, I didn't go on behalf of the mayor, but I think that as a council person in North Arlington, I would like to think that I'm doing something for the people and I was there for the people of North Arlington and you know, whether we're in bad economic times which I think that we are, that's what the market bore is what some of the prices which you read in the newspaper about the baler, the tonnage the offset that North Arlington's people get for having their garbage brought to the site for no costs to North Arlington which is a [inaudible]. And it seems I think relatively something being positive. I understand your argument that well you know we which we're 1 of 14 communities should you know try to basically hate the Meadowlands Commission down. I mean I can understand your argument but where we are today and our economy and for our community today, I think the baler was something positive that hopefully will deflate taxes in our community at least for the time being and we did the best that we could I think and that's what the market bore; it was hardly anybody interested in the baler...

Councilman Bianchi – one.

Councilman Kearney – right one.

Councilman Hughes – but not for garbage.

Councilman Kearney – and we did the best that we could. And I certainly would never, the mayor could speak for himself, and if that should be obvious to everybody, and I would never try to speak for the mayor. I have all the respect for him as the governing mayor of our community but I appeared there, Mr. Johnson appeared there, and we just appeared there on behalf of North Arlington. Anybody could have, any council person. It wasn't something that was relatively coordinated amongst us, I just felt like I had the opportunity to and the privilege to be there and I went there. So that's all I wanted to say about that.

Councilman Bianchi – Mr. Mayor, can I say something?

Mayor Massa – Mr. Bianchi.

Councilman Bianchi – Mr. Cerone, I know that you seen that picture in the paper and it looked kind of funny that the mayor wasn't there but I wasn't there, Richie wasn't there, Steve wasn't, we're working. I couldn't leave my store. So I'm saying these two guys had the opportunity, I would have loved to been there, get my picture in the paper but I had to work. Okay. These two guys were there. The mayor had something to do too that day or else he would have been there. you know what I'm saying. The thing is because you look at that picture and seen two republicans in there on the thing, that was that picture, I had to work, I don't know about Steve. He might have been down the shore or something swimming. That's the reason why I wasn't in the picture. I had to work.

Mayor Massa – anyone else?

Councilman Johnson – yeah.

Mayor Massa – Mr. Johnson.

Councilman Johnson – I think the...

Councilman Bianchi – no I know where you were going with your comment.

Mayor Massa – the chair recognizes Mr. Johnson.

Councilman Johnson – I think the opening of the baler is something that should be celebrated in this community. It's the new, it's the first new source of revenue in North Arlington in six years. So instead of turning it into a political ...

Councilman Bianchi – two years.

Councilman Tanelli – [inaudible].

Councilman Johnson – Mr. Tanelli, the baler closed in 2008, you had more than a year and a half to open to the baler. It's my turn to speak. You weren't recognized. You had over a year and a half to open the baler and you did not open the baler. The people voted in November. They chose a new administration. Within three months we have an agreement on the table to open the baler.

Mayor Massa – I'd like to make a comment. The borough of North Arlington does not control the opening or closing of the baler. I'm going to recognized Councilman Tanelli but then I have some comments on my own to make regarding the closing of the baler and how it tied into the Encap debacle. It was definitely a part of the Encap debacle. And if anybody doesn't believe that, don't take my word for it because right now there's the United States attorney's office investigation into this whole process. And sooner or later, the people of this community and the people of New Jersey will find out why they were defrauded out of \$50 million. And that administration went forward when it wasn't fashionable to challenge a development in this community was going to put 40% of the revenues in the pockets of the developer that was going to be an \$800 million development that would have cost \$70 million in infrastructure impacts in this community. We went forward, not only challenged them in court, we went forward and requested United States attorney Christopher Christie to conduct a federal investigation the night that the contract was signed and the closing of that baler was tied right into the Encap debacle. I think that that is a matter of record. The Borough of North Arlington did not negotiate that, had no control. Chair recognized Councilman Tanelli.

Councilman Tanelli – you said exactly what I was going to say mayor. We had to wait for Encap to get settled before we could do anything with that. The Meadowlands control whether they're opened or not. Then they controlled when it closed.

Mayor Massa – anyone wish to comment on Mrs. Tita's statements? Mrs. Tita, you made a comment about the board of education. Well of course, you all know that the board of education budget is not controlled by the municipal council and by myself and of course the voters will

have the opportunity on April the 20th to make a decision as to whether they're going to support that spending. The people of North Arlington voted last November overwhelmingly to put Governor Christie in the statehouse and now as a result, Governor Christie is faced with a lot of major problems. And the message coming out of Trenton is to local government hold the line. It's not only to me, it's the five hundred and sixty six other municipalities in this state. It's to over 600 school districts in the state hold the line. I have made it clear in my conversations with the board of education that I expect that they will do everything in their power to hold the line on their spending. I have no problem with asking or seeking public employees to take a salary freeze. You made a profound comment Mrs. Tita and I agree with you. I've been a public employee for a little while about four decades, still running and I can agree that nowadays public employees who have the benefit of a job, a good job, a job with benefits, a job with pension rights, have to realize that the private sector is hurting. It's not hurting a little bit, it's hurting badly. And I talk to the same people in this community that the other council members do. I talk to them and they tell me how difficult it is to pay their taxes, the senior citizens to buy medicine that are on fixed incomes. So we hear those complaints and we want to address them as good as we can. We will be losing hundreds of thousands of dollars in state aid. The board of education will be losing I think \$800,000 in state aid, possibly closer to a million dollars and all is said and done, if the state budget as it's being discussed in Trenton passes in its present context. Of course there are expectations that maybe the legislature will allow the governor to loosen the purse strings but that's not something that we can't predict. I can only say to the people of this community, if they're concerned about the spending at the board of education on April the 20th, they have the right in this great democracy to vote that budget to support or to not support it. If that budget fails then it will come before the mayor and council and we will have to take the appropriate action to deal with that budget. With respect to the water situation, this council's majority has made a decision to investigate the water sale from all of the back and forth that I've had with the water utilities and with elected officials. It's my understanding that the borough right now pays market rates, statutory rates, whatever you want to call them, are paid by non-ownership municipalities to the utility. The utility is owned by several municipalities in Passaic County, it's been owned for a number of decades so their rates are less than ours are. Would we like to see a possibility of making some changes, renegotiating contracts? That's always on the table as far as we're concerned. So does anybody else have any other comments to make before we return to regular course of business? I want to thank Mr. Cerone for a very kind comment you made about me and my career with the community. I appreciate that very much Joe. And we will look to make sure that as a municipality we're able to obtain as much revenue from the baler operation as we can. With respect to your comments about the Meadowlands Commission, that's of course a matter of your opinion and I respect that tremendously and you're right to make those comments. But I also do want to say that we're not going to be relying on money from the baler operation exclusively; we shouldn't. We have to rely upon the resources that we have, the members of this governing body to develop Porete Avenue with light, industrial, commercial development that's going to bring a reasonable rateables into the community with a minimum amount of impact; No schools, no additional police. I know Jimmy would like to have some more help down at DPW but I can't promise him that right now. So that's our objective to have a viable development so we can wean ourselves away from the addiction of dipping fees. Thank you very much for your kind comments.

Joe Cerone – thank you very much your honor for your hard work.

Councilman Bianchi – Mr. Mayor, I want to say something.

Mayor Massa – Okay.

Councilman Bianchi – Another thing to you Joe, Joe this is, you Cerone. In your little speech that you made, you made it feel as though we on this council disrespect the mayor. That's the way you made it sound and that's...

Joe Cerone – [inaudible].

Councilman Bianchi – well that's the way you think.

Mayor Massa – okay Joe.

Councilman Bianchi – that's the way you think but that's not the way it is. I've known this man longer than you know him. He's a good mayor and he's a good man and there's no one on this

council that ever disrespected him. I'm him 2 ½ years now and no one ever disrespected him. And the way you spoke, it made it sound like the four republicans were disrespecting him. That's the way you made it sound. You are 100% wrong because I'm telling you I got to straighten you out Joe because I got to straighten you out. You have to understand something, when I say that I respect a man, I respect him. I respect him for his position, and I respect him for the man that he is. And don't you ever come up here again and make me feel as though I'm disrespecting him. 'Cause I'll see you tomorrow.

Joe Cerone – Joe, you're the only person I didn't [inaudible]...

Mayor Massa – Joe.

Councilman Bianchi – I now you didn't and I'm speaking for everyone on this council.

Mayor Massa – once again, this is not an adversarial proceeding. Thank you councilman Bianchi.

Councilman Bianchi – but choose your words wisely when you speak.

Joe Cerone – I will and continue to do so.

Councilman Bianchi – yeah speak, but watch when your speaking.

Mayor Massa – I would like to say I've had a difficult time playing referee; for a minute I felt like...

Councilman Bianchi – I need a cold shower. [laughter]. I'm sweating.

Mayor Massa – for minutes I felt like Ruby Goldstein, the old fight referee from the 19...

Councilman Bianchi – Jesus, what's going on here? Tonight I said to Kathy I'll be home by 7:30 and Joe came.

Mayor Massa – I do want to say that I have a viable working relationship with the members of this council. We will disagree sometimes mildly, sometimes we will disagree in a more spirited fashion, but however I think the heart of everybody sitting at this table is with the people of this community and I want to thank you and everybody that sits here tonight for coming here and being part of this process because there was a time when people wouldn't come to council meetings because they were afraid, afraid to challenge the mayor. There was fear. There were times when I was the only citizen in this audience at council meetings and a couple of times Joseph would be with me side by side because I don't think he's afraid of anything either or anybody; I know him since he was a little guy.

Councilman Bianchi – I know him too.

Mayor Massa – and I knew his father, God rest his soul, was a great mayor in this town earlier. So at any event I just want to rap that up and go along with the regular course of business.

Terence - yes Mayor, next on the agenda would be a property listed as...

Resident – no, no, no a granting of the lights. That's what the deal is.

Mayor Massa – oh I'm sorry, oh we forgot to...okay that matter Mrs. Callahan, we got so carried away, I apologize to you. That matter was discussed at a public meeting last week, two weeks ago, time really flies, on the 25th, and we heard from people in the leagues, we heard from the children themselves, which is unprecedented that we would have children making public comments at a council meeting regarding a matter of public policy. That's unprecedented as far as I can tell, my remembrance. But in any event, that is an issue that's under consideration so I would ask you indulgence and your patience so that the council has the opportunity to unravel a host of issues surrounding that whole [inaudible].

Terence – yes and mayor and council, just as a technical note, the challenge with the very important comments from the public when they're out off the dais is that its nearly impossible to have them as a matter of record if they're not picked up by the microphones. So that's just a technical issue. Unless they can get picked up and noted accordingly, they're listed as unintelligible for the official record. And that's the reason I'm just mentioning as municipal clerk, is the comments are extremely important and as a important that they're actually into the recording device so we can make sure that they're part of the record. I just wanted to point why that is an important issue. The next items are Resolutions that should be actually listed as *on* consent, the general reference is not on consent, they should be listed as *on* consent. I'll read them through and any items you wish to pull and vote as stand alone then please as you do in the past, kindly indicate such.

R-102-10 RESO RE: AUTHORIZATION TO PAY CLAIMS

R-103-10 RESO RE: APPROVAL OF PURCHASES OVER \$3,000.00

R-104-10 RESO RE: NORTH ARLINGTON 2009 RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT

R-105-10 RESO RE: REFUND OF MONIES DUE TO DUPLICATE PAYMENTS

R-106-10 RESO RE: MEMBERSHIP INTO THE NOTH ARLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

R-107-10 RESO RE: INACTIVE FIREFIGHTER

R-108-10 RESO RE: AWARD OF CONTRACT TO CORBY ASSOCIATES, INC
INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT- This would refer to the Middle School
playground equipment install

R-109-10 RESO RE: APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES FOR THE YEAR 2010

R-110-10 RESO RE: ON PREMISE RAFFLE EAGLE TRUCK CO. #3

R- 111-10 RESOLUTION TO AWARD PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT FOR TAX
APPEALS

R-112 -10 RESOLUTION TO EXTEND TIME FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE
THE SALE OF WATER SYSTEM

R- 113 -10 RESOLUTION TO EXTEND TIME FOR THE BOROUGH CONSULTING
ENGINEER TO INVESTIGATE THE SALE OF THE WATER SYSTEM

R-114 -10 RESOLUTION TO EXTEND TIME FOR THE BOROUGH PLANNER TO
REVIEW AND UPDATE PORTIONS OF THE 1999 AMENDED PORETE AVE.
REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

R-115 -10 RESO RE: RATIFICATION OF NORTH ARLINGTON/ LYNDHURST JOINT
SEWER ACTION

Mayor Massa – Motion introduced resolutions on consent by...

Councilman Tanelli – point of order mayor, I'd like to pull a few...

Mayor Massa – Councilman Tanelli requests change.

Councilman Tanelli – we need to pull 11, 12, and 13.

Mayor Massa – 11, 12, and 13. Councilman Tanelli requests that R-11, 12, and 13 be removed from consent. Any other councilmen? Okay, a vote on the consent agenda with the exception of those specified resolutions.

Terence – motion and a second.

Mayor Massa – motion to second by councilman Kearney, is that a motion to introduce by councilman Tanelli and seconded by councilman Kearney. Any discussion?

Councilman Tanelli- I vote yes on the consent agenda except on line item 225000 for the fee of \$3,482.63 Scandariato and [inaudible].

Mayor Massa – Thank you. Councilman Yampaglia.

Councilman Yampaglia – Mr. Mayor again, I will vote everything on the consent agenda except for 225000 to the Scandariato.

Mayor Massa – okay. Call the roll.

Terence – these are for the resolutions excepting resolutions 111, 112, and 113. Councilman Bianchi?

Councilman Bianchi – yes.

Terence – Councilman Hughes?

Councilman Hughes – yes with the exception of the claims reso for fire department purchases and resolution 106, 107, and 110, that’s because of my involvement with the fire department, I refuse myself, but I vote yes for everything else.

Randy Pearce – thank you Councilman.

Terence – Councilman Kearney?

Councilman Kearney – yes.

Terence – Councilman Tanelli?

Councilman Tanelli – yes with my noted exception.

Terence – Councilman Yampaglia?

Councilman Yampaglia – yes along with my noted exception.

Terence – thank you. Now resolution 111-10

Councilman Johnson – vote, Terence.

Terence – I’m sorry. I apologize. Councilman Johnson?

Councilman Johnson – I vote yes.

Terence – thank you very much, I apologize. Next resolution is resolution -111-10, a RESOLUTION TO AWARD PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT FOR TAX APPEALS

Mayor Massa – motion introduced?

Councilman Hughes – I’ll introduce that.

Mayor Massa – introduced by Council president Hughes, second?

Councilman Bianchi – I’ll second.

Mayor Massa – by Councilman Bianchi. Discussion? Call the roll.

Terence – Councilman Bianchi?

Councilman Bianchi – yes.

Terence – Councilman Hughes?

Councilman Hughes – yes.

Terence – Councilman Johnson?

Councilman Johnson – yes.

Terence – Councilman Kearney?

Councilman Kearney – yes.

Terence – Councilman Tanelli?

Councilman Tanelli – I abstain.

Terence – Councilman Yampaglia?

Councilman Yampaglia – no.

Terence – Resolution 112-10 is RESOLUTION TO EXTEND TIME FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE THE SALE OF WATER SYSTEM

Mayor Massa – motion introduced?

Councilman Hughes – I'll introduce that.

Mayor Massa – Councilman Hughes. Second?

Councilman Kearney – I'll second.

Mayor Massa – second by Councilman Kearney. Discussion? Call the roll.

Terence – Councilman Bianchi?

Councilman Bianchi – yes.

Terence – Councilman Hughes?

Councilman Hughes – yes and also the explanation for Mr. Cerrone. This does include any additional costs. This is only an extension of time. So, sorry Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Massa – it's quite alright councilman. Thank you for the explanation.

Terence – Councilman Johnson?

Councilman Johnson – yes.

Terence – Councilman Kearney?

Councilman Kearney – yes.

Terence – Councilman Tanelli?

Councilman Tanelli – no.

Terence – Councilman Yampaglia?

Councilman Yampaglia – no.

Terence – next resolution is resolution 113-10, this is RESOLUTION TO EXTEND TIME FOR THE BOROUGH CONSULTING ENGINEER TO INVESTIGATE THE SALE OF THE WATER SYSTEM

Mayor Massa – motion introduced?

Councilman Hughes – I'll introduce that Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Massa – introduced by Councilman Hughes.

Councilman Kearney – I'll second it.

Mayor Massa – seconded by Councilman Kearney. Discussion? Call the roll.

Terence – Councilman Bianchi?

Councilman Bianchi – yes.

Terence – Councilman Hughes?

Councilman Hughes – yes.

Terence – Councilman Johnson?

Councilman Johnson – yes.

Terence – Councilman Kearney?

Councilman Kearney – yes.

Terence – Councilman Tanelli?

Councilman Tanelli – no.

Terence – Councilman Yampaglia?

Councilman Yampaglia – no.

Terence – mayor and council, next are ordinances.

ORDINANCES

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2048

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 187 §2(C)(1) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Bianchi

SECONDED BY: Councilman Tanelli

ROLL CALL: All council present vote in the affirmative

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2042

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 83 §15(D) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED “ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2042 TO THE PUBLIC

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

Mayor Massa – anyone who is wishing to be heard on this ordinance, please come forward. State your name and address for the record. Just to comment specifically on ordinance 2042. There be no one here indicating interest to be heard, I'll entertain a motion to close the public hearing and pass the ordinance.

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2043

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 30 §1(C) (3) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED "FIRE DEPARTMENT"

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2043 TO THE PUBLIC

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

Mayor Massa – anyone who wishes to be heard on 2043 please come forward. State your name and address for the record and please make your comments specifically on 2043. There be no one here wishing to be heard, I'll entertain a motion to close hearing and adopt.

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Yampaglia
ROLL CALL: AYES: Councilman Bianchi, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Kearney, Councilman Tanelli, Councilman Yampaglia
ABSTAIN: Councilman Hughes because of involvement with the fire department

ORDINANCE NO. 2044

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 30 §5(G) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED "FIRE DEPARTMENT"

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2044 TO THE PUBLIC

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Kearney
ROLL CALL: All council present vote in the affirmative

Mayor Massa – anyone who wishes to be heard on ordinance on 2044 please come forward, state your name and address for the record. There be no one wishing to be heard on this ordinance, I'll entertain a motion to close the hearing and adopt.

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Kearney
ROLL CALL: AYES: Councilman Bianchi, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Kearney, Councilman Tanelli, Councilman Yampaglia
ABSTAIN: Councilman Hughes for the same reason

ORDINANCE NO. 2045

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 30 §17 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED "FIRE DEPARTMENT"

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2045 TO THE PUBLIC

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Yampaglia
SECONDED BY: Councilman Hughes
ROLL CALL: All council present vote in the affirmative

Mayor Massa – anyone who wishes to be heard on this ordinance, please come forward, state your name and address for the record and please restrict your comments to this particular ordinance. There be no one wishing to be heard on this issue, I will entertain a motion to close the hearing as citizens and adopt.

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Yampaglia
ROLL CALL: AYES: Councilman Bianchi, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Kearney, Councilman Tanelli, Councilman Yampaglia
ABSTAIN: Councilman Hughes

ORDINANCE NO. 2046

AN ORDINANCE TO SET GUIDELINES WITH REGARD TO POLICE OVERTIME BILLING

Mr. Wall- This is simply putting it into ordinance form the SOP regarding outside, this is not related to overtime within our own system during our own workday.

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2046 TO THE PUBLIC

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli
SECONDED BY: Councilman Yampaglia

Mayor Massa – I just want to comment briefly. As the administrator made mention, this ordinance regulates the manner in which police will be paid over time for special details that they do when they are not paid by the taxpayers, such as traffic, other enforcement operations and special licenses and premises and so forth. This ordinance has no impact on the taxpayer.

ROLL CALL: All council present vote in the affirmative

Mayor Massa – anyone wishing to be heard on ordinance 2046, please come forward, state your name and address for the record. And limit your comments to this ordinance. There be no one wishing to be heard, I'll entertain a motion to close the hearing.

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2047

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 83 §20(B) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON ENTITLED "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES"

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2047 TO THE PUBLIC

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Yampaglia
SECONDED BY: Councilman Kearney
ROLL CALL: All council present vote in the affirmative

Mayor Massa – anyone who wishes to be heard on ordinance 2047, please come forward, state your name and address for the record and please confine your comments to ordinance 2047. There be no one wishing to be heard, I'll entertain a motion to close hearing and adopt.

MOTION TO CLOSE HEARING AND ADOPT

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Yampaglia
SECONDED BY: Councilman Kearney
ROLL CALL: All council present vote in the affirmative

Mayor Massa – administrator's report.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Terence – just briefly mayor and council, there will be some comments I'm sure from the dais from our elected officials but we're very proud of the police department and recent actions show that'd be brought up under your comments. Finance, DPW, recreation, court, administration, all the departments are working very aggressively to keep expenses to a minimum. We will have budget documentation to you shortly and we do have tentatively scheduled April 22nd as the day for a budget introduction so I wanted to bring that to your attention as well as we have also applied for New Jersey Transit grant that was brought to our attention by Council-president Hughes regarding a transport vehicle so we did also apply for that particular grant and so we're hopeful that we may receive some positive news in that regard. That has been processed as well and that would conclude my report at this time unless you have any other particular questions for me.

Mayor Massa – engineer's report.

ENGINEERS REPORT

Thanks mayor and council. Engineer, Michael Neglia, couldn't make it tonight, so I'm filling in for him on the report. The 2009 DOT Municipal aid project, Sunset Ave, we had the preconstruction meeting last week and the project is scheduled to start somewhere around the week of April 26th. Proper notifications will be given out to the residents, police will be notified, no parking and such will be done in advance. Ridge Road streetscape phase 3, the advertisements for bid are out according to DOT regulations, they have to be out for three weeks in the Record and the Star-Ledger. Your receipt of bids will be on April 22nd. The Holy Cross cemetery landscaping just today and actually before I came to the meeting, we typed up a recommendation for a landscaper who will provide the planting of appropriate bushes along the fence line. I could pass out a copy for everyone for you to discuss in close session and if you come up with a decision, they can move forward with the planting as soon as possible. It does [inaudible] in the budget that we prepared or did not hit in the regular job so we are covered. 309 River Road, the Green Acres grant application, I spoke with the company today, their report is final and they'll be sending it to us tomorrow. So I will forward that to the borough administrator for your review and action at next months meeting. The NARDA soccer field sanitation sewer repairs; our office responded to a sewer break complaint that was located at the westerly portion of the parking lot and the necessary repairs were made. A report of the findings was issued to the administrator and the mayor and council on March 26th.

Mayor Massa – thank you sir. Council reports, Councilman Bianchi.

COUNCIL REPORTS

COUNCILMAN BIANCHI – I'm going to report on the fire department this month, your honor. Your honor, yeah, Pete.

Mayor Massa – thank you councilor.

Councilman Bianchi – it's like I'm talking to the judge. We had 37 alarms.

Mayor Massa – that title applies to mayors also.

Councilman Bianchi – your honor.

Mayor Massa – so some day when you're the mayor we'll call you it.

Councilman Bianchi – no I don't want... Joe said I don't want to be the mayor. We had in the fire department, 37 alarms for the month of March. North Arlington Fire department also responded to a large mulch fire on top of the landfill on the Belleville Turnpike. Because of the large volume of fire in the close proximity to methane gas fence, because it borders hundreds of acres of dry brush, the fire department was forced to prevent it to spread and put out the fire. Unfortunately the nearest fire hydrant was 5400 feet away and a task force was called to establish a water supply. Let me see here. 7 pumpers, 1 aerial, 2 ladder trucks, a reserve pumper at the scene, 1 rapid intervention team [inaudible]. Just to abbreviate this, it was a large mutual aid of I think 7 towns. When the fire chief wrote this report for me, I thought he was writing the bible. A meeting is scheduled tentatively with the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission to discuss possibilities of placing a hydrant, a fire hydrant at the top of the land fill so should it ever go on fire again, then we wont have to call in seven or eight towns to stretch hose all the way up the top of the hill. Also, too your honor, see what I said Joe, your honor, we hope to introduce the budget April 22nd. That's all I have.

Mayor Massa – thank you councilor.

COUNCILMAN HUGHES – thank you Mr. Mayor. The first thing, I understand the Passaic Valley Sewer Commission which has been providing a lot of work for the borough of North Arlington at no charge has completed the work behind the little league field in clearing out some of the brush, the trees, the vine and everything that has seem to every year take over the little league field and the work that we authorize last month is going forward to kind of keep that stuff in check over the years. So Passaic Valley has completed that work and now we're moving on and I think they're going to be opened this Saturday and we should be able to see at least some of the renovations that have been authorized. As far as the health department, the only thing good is they just completed a very successful rabies clinic and they're just continuing ahead with their normal programs which are posted on the website, if you just link to the health department you could see all of the health related programs that they have scheduled throughout the course of the year and check it frequently because they keep adding all the time. Thank you.

Mayor Massa – thank you councilman.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON – it was a busy transition from winter into spring. We went with a couple of big snow storms and the DPW performed well. Then we went into big rain storms and we had the flooding. North Arlington was lucky in comparison to other towns such as Nutley and Rutherford. 11 trees in all were removed. Nobody was injured, thank god. The DPW had to shut down River Road on two different occasions. So overall, we came out of the storm relatively well. For the last week, I've been working closely with the DPW, specifically Steve Higgins. We've been going over the different properties in town. We want to make sure that they irrigation systems are working, want to make sure that with our landscapers say they are providing, they are providing. We don't have a lot of money in the town, but I want to make sure that what the taxpayers are paying for, they are getting. So if they tell me that they are providing pesticides and weed killer and I see weeds on the fields and I see weeds on the properties, then I have a good idea that we're probably getting fleeced and we're paying for something that we're not getting. It's a tough economy for everybody and there's always a good chance that people are trying to make a buck and they're not going to make a buck off of North Arlington. It's very important that we keep the town looking as best as we can so in the next couple of weeks, I'm going to stay on top of that. I received a call from a resident on the corner of Ridge Road and Stover. Passaic Valley had fixed a fire hydrant, I believe a car had run it over, so they installed a new fire hydrant has become common with Passaic Valley, they did the repair with asphalt. So you had a cement sidewalk, and then you had an asphalt patch. I'm not sure, I contacted Donald Carter from Passaic Valley, listened to his protocol, kind of made an issue about it, and within a couple of a days they repaired it with cement so now the sidewalk looks good. That was a problem on Sunset Avenue also with the cement street and they would do sewer repairs and they

would leave it with asphalt. So you have a white street and then you have black asphalt; it doesn't make North Arlington look good. So the bottom line, I'm trying to stay on top of things with the DPW, again they work with a reduced staff and they been busy in recent weeks getting the fields for opening day. I think they're doing a terrific job. If Jimmy has anything else to say or comment. On a lighter note, there was a bird that was trapped about where Mr. Kairys is sitting and the DPW workers drilled through the wall and they freed the bird. So, a little humanitarian effort for the DPW.

Mayor Massa – thank you councilor. Councilman Kearney.

COUNCILMAN KEARNEY – basically, through the efforts of our REC director, we have been plotting sizing of other fields for our girls and boys to play on, specifically to play softball or little league baseball. Hopefully, the ends of the needs of the girls and boys will be met by those efforts. I know on Saturday, we have the opening day there and that's all I have to report.

Mayor Massa – thank you councilor. Councilman Tanelli.

COUNCILMAN TANELLI – first, as many of you know, the Bank of New York was robbed two weeks ago. I'm actually very proud to say that a diligent police worker [inaudible] responsible for custody this morning. I would like to thank Chief Ghione, Lieutenant Walton, Sergeant Prinzo, and Detective Ballantyne and Officer Horton for their hard work. Also we have individual spotted on the southeast side of town brandishing a shot gun last week, causing the chief to activate a lock down procedure for all of our schools. I'm pleased to announce that the lock down procedure were viewed by the superintendent of schools as well as P.D. and I was told that is was executed quite well. And the investigation by the detective bureau resulted in identifying the actor and he was charged allegedly the story was he was taken a shot gun to the bullet hole in Belleville to shoot in the rink but he wasn't transporting it properly allegedly. Also, lastly mayor, the last two, last week the bureau finished a four month investigation worth 300,000 worth of clothes that had been stolen for being stored on Porete Avenue, in a Porete Avenue warehouse. Detective Ballantyne was able to identify the actor involved and was able to trace the monies that were generated from the sale as well as defending operation in New York. So, through his hard work, it led to the arrest that [inaudible]. Thank you.

Mayor Massa – thank you councilman. Councilman Yampaglia.

COUNCILMAN YAMPAGLIA – Thank you Mr. Mayor. Mr. Mayor, regarding the EMS, as you know, there's some issues with the vehicles; the age of them and breaking down, particularly the first responder transport vehicle. I just would like to mention that we have a type of grants to Rothman's office and New Jersey Transit for these vehicles. [Inaudible].

Mayor Massa – thank you.

Councilman Bianchi – Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Massa – with respect to my own report, I'm going to keep...

Councilman Bianchi – can I say one thing?

Mayor Massa – point of order recognizes Councilman Bianchi.

Councilman Bianchi – point of order. I just want to add something to Jon Kearney's report. If Jim, could you come up please and tell us about the permits that you got down at the field that we couldn't get and also to about Roosevelt school, what they said about their field?

James Herrmann – recreation department has been able to secure additional fields down at County Park for the use of all the Spring sports both I should say football, I mean baseball and softball. They're field #3 down at County Park. Additional nightmare every Friday night we have. Field #4 which is the newest field down at County Park on the Lyndhurst side; when you enter from the Lyndhurst side, you go to the right, that field was not use at all last year by North Arlington. It's ours exclusively. Monday through Sunday every night 6 to 8. Saturday 12 to 5 and Sunday night as well. Field 3 is used by North Arlington which has been cultivated over this last week. It's really game prep ready. We've also attained the ability to utilize Roosevelt school.

Roosevelt School is the place that is highly underutilized during normal operating hours. We've been able to utilize that so there's more grass space for the younger smaller kids to participate in any athletics.

Councilman Bianchi – can I ask you a question, Jim?

James Herrmann – sure.

Councilman Bianchi – we're talking about what has been a sore subject in town for the last couple weeks with the lights and the softball, girl's softball. One of the problems that we have with that field down there is that the senior girls varsity softball plays on that field with junior varsity and in varsity softball, girls have to finish their games and they have to stay there until 6:30, 7 o'clock at night to finish their games if the other team gets their late. And I spoke with a few people saying that maybe we can build a field if you could check into it, a field behind Roosevelt School because there's a big piece of property back there that maybe we can build a girls varsity softball team so the varsity could play on their own property and their own school.

Councilman Johnson – behind where?

Councilman Tanelli – just quickly, there was a high school team that utilized Roosevelt for soccer in the fall. And a couple residents had come up to a council meeting. They had documentation from previous administrations where that field is being abused by the soccer program where they were instead of the kids using it, the adults were using it on some days doing things that they shouldn't have been doing; throwing litter on the thing, using their fences as restrooms, and they have a written agreement from that mayor and council at the time that that field was not going to be used anymore. So that's the kind of reason why that field has been underutilized for this time being because as soon as anyone goes on that field, they show up at council meetings telling us they don't want soccer goals there. Baseball might be a little bit different because it's the people that are on the east side of Roosevelt are the ones that come up to the meeting, not the people on the west side, you know up the hill a little bit. They don't seem to come to complaints normally when baseball plays because of the drainage. They play [inaudible]. And one another thing, I spoke to Lyndhurst at a meeting to set up fortunately we got to him a little bit [inaudible] where he gave the field to Queen of Peace but he said that he also [inaudible].

James Herrmann- where'd you hear it?

Councilman Tanelli – I thought you said you could use it for any fields he can give you but he gave up some field space at Queen of Peace Varsity...

James Herrmann – not in County Park right?

Councilman Tanelli – yeah, he was looking to try and get to you field times and he's still working on trying to fit us in to give us more time [inaudible].

James Herrmann- yup, I'm in communication with them when we're trying to work together, two communities working together.

Councilman Bianchi – is there anything we can do as a mayor and council, maybe have a special meeting one night along with Terence and the attorney?

Mayor Massa – what I'd like to do in light of the fact that you raise this issue with Joe is we could maybe put it on for discussion at the next special meeting that we have with the approval of the council president.

James Herrmann – I will say this, I mean we have been using the field has been utilized for the last three weeks, and you know tonight is a council meeting to [inaudible] here. so hopefully its this [inaudible] a little bit and we are in extraordinary times where we're trying to utilize every little bit that we can and hopefully they'll be a little understanding. We're trying to keep it minimized to the youngest group of athletes that we have so that there isn't an eighth grader pounding the ball over the fence or something. Or trying to keep it to the lower grade athletes that could utilize the space fully without impeding on any of the neighbors there.

Councilman Johnson – Jimmy, I think you deserve a special accommodation for...

Mayor Massa – councilman, just request a point of order if you want to make a comment.

Councilman Johnson – yeah sure. Point of order.

Mayor Massa – recognized.

Councilman Johnson – Mr. Herrmann, I think you did an excellent job, you deserve a special accommodation. In a tough situation in acting quickly in securing these fields for our girls and taken care of our girls and providing a temporary fix to the problem. So thank you.

Jimmy Herrmann – thank you.

Councilman Bianchi – thank you, good work done. Point of order.

Mayor Massa – recognized.

Councilman Bianchi – and if you work on that problem to see if we can build a field for the senior softball girls and that would alleviate the problem down at Allen Park and the light issue would go away. If we put the lights down there, the people are up in arms. We don't put the lights, the children's parents are up in arms. So its [inaudible] but if we could build a field behind Roosevelt School, and I'll leave that in your court, to see what you could do...

Jimmy Herrmann – sure.

Councilman Bianchi – and talk to Mr. Stringham or whatever. Maybe we could do something but as we said before, it might be a tough time but.

Jimmy Herrmann – well I think with a small community, we want to have shared services between the borough and the board of ed and I think that could be that could be service that we can look at together. Yes, it's board of Ed property but it's also borough property some of it as well. So, that's a classic case of both entities working together. So I think if we work, we can start investigating, we can try to find some solutions.

Councilman Bianchi – okay.

Mayor Massa – Councilman Hughes.

Councilman Hughes – Mr. Mayor, thank you. I think maybe we're a little premature in scheduling another special meeting at this point only because right now we have a lot of people working in a lot of different directions to come to a solution. And I think everyone here is fully vested into coming to a solution. A solution that is agreeable to everybody involved as much as we can do that. so but let everybody do their job. Maybe we can research the resolution that Mr. Tanelli referenced by a previous mayor and council and we can look into that and see what...

Jimmy Herrmann – I can get a copy of it...

Councilman Hughes – okay, if you could get a copy to all the council people. Then we can see and review that and then maybe we need to have a special meeting with the people in that neighborhood and see if we can come to some kind of agreement. I think the problem then was adult soccer leagues that were coming into the town. But I don't think you have that same problem with a ball field but lets look into it. So, let's let everybody do their job now before we start scheduling a meeting to explore this right up.

Mayor Massa – agreed. I think we'll let everybody do their due diligence and then we'll discuss it further. Thank you council president.

MAYOR MASSA – with respect to my report, I just want to thank the departments for all the hard work they've done. As you see more and more we are experiencing not only violent crimes but residential burglaries. When the times are bad, the statistics will show that crime goes

through the roof. We are putting more and more strains and stresses on our police department and with that, community relations is a very important aspect of you the people. Call the cops when something is wrong. Be observant. Protect one another. Help the police department protect you. Help the fire department protect you and I want to give another pat on the back. I know you got a couple tonight for the great work you did with those storms, the snow storms, and the rain storms, the DPW and I want to say that you guys did a nice job. I want to thank everybody. Motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION TO ADJOURN

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Tanelli

SECONDED BY: Councilman Yampaglia

ROLL CALL: All council present vote in the affirmative