

BOROUGH OF NORTH ARLINGTON  
Senior Center  
Special Meeting  
Mayor and Council Meeting  
North Arlington, New Jersey

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In the Matter of:

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES  
and Presentation of ALLAN PARK

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Thursday, March 25, 2010  
Commencing 7:00 p.m.

B E F O R E:

PETER C. MASSA, MAYOR  
JOSEPH P. BIANCHI, COUNCILMAN  
RICHARD T. HUGHES, COUNCILMAN  
CHRIS JOHNSON, COUNCILMAN  
JON KEARNEY, COUNCILMAN  
MARK YAMPAGLIA, COUNCILMAN  
TERENCE WALL, ACTING BOROUGH CLERK  
RANDY T. PEARCE, ESQ., BOROUGH ATTORNEY

Reported by:

Karen Gagliardotto Kocsis, C.C.R.

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1                   MR. WALL: Good evening ladies and  
2 gentlemen, on behalf of the Mayor and Council,  
3 especially for the future of North Arlington, all  
4 the young ladies and gentlemen who are here, your  
5 presence is most appreciated.

6                   This is a Special Meeting of the  
7 Mayor and Council regarding Allan Park. There is a  
8 presentation to be made regarding Allan Park.

9                   We do have some very simple and quick  
10 business to conduct on behalf of the Borough of  
11 North Arlington but it will only take a short while.

12                   So we appreciate your patience as we  
13 conduct the brief business.

14                   We do have a court stenographer here  
15 today so your invited comments will be made a matter  
16 of record just so you are aware. And we do want to  
17 hear from all the folks who have a stake in this or  
18 issue, that's all part of a transparent, open  
19 government process.

20                   So I just wanted to the make that  
21 comment on behalf of the Mayor and Council.

22                   I'm Terence Wall, the Borough  
23 Administrator and Borough Clerk.

24                   So then we will now, with the  
25 permission of the Mayor and Council, call this

1 meeting to order.

2 This is a Special Meeting, Thursday,  
3 March 25, 2010, at seven p.m., or thereafter.

4 This Special Meeting is being held in  
5 accordance with rules and regulations of the Open  
6 Public Meetings Act of the state of New Jersey.

7 Adequate notice of this meeting was  
8 provided by forwarding a Sunshine Notice which  
9 included the time, date and location of this public  
10 meeting of the Mayor and Council.

11 MAYOR MASSA: Call the roll.

12 MR. WALL: Councilman Bianchi?

13 COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Here.

14 MR. WALL: Councilman Hughes?

15 COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Here.

16 MR. WALL: Councilman Johnson?

17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Here.

18 MR. WALL: Councilman Kearney?

19 COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: Here.

20 MR. WALL: Councilman Tanelli is excused.

21 Councilman Yampaglia?

22 COUNCILMAN YAMPAGLIA: Here.

23 MR. WALL: Also present Mayor Peter C.

24 Massa. Borough Clerk, Terrance Wall. Borough

25 attorney, Randy Pearce.

1 Ladies and gentleman, at this time, I  
2 would respectfully request that you shut off all of  
3 your cell phones, pagers and anything that would  
4 cause a disruption for the meeting tonight.

5 We are having a recorded stenographic  
6 record made of tonight's meeting so, and anyone  
7 later on who is going to be heard, your comments  
8 will be put on the record.

9 At this time I would like to ask  
10 everyone to please rise for the Pledge of  
11 Allegiance.

12 (Whereupon the Pledge of Allegiance  
13 is recited.)

14 MR. WALL: Thank you, Mayor and Council.

15 The next item of business are  
16 resolutions on the consent agenda.

17 Resolution 94-10 is a resolution  
18 regarding authorization of paid claims.

19 Resolution 95-10 is a resolution  
20 regarding approval of purchases over 3,000.

21 Resolution 96-10 is a resolution to  
22 award professional service contract for tax appeals.

23 Resolution 97-10 is a resolution  
24 regarding a resolution relative to the property  
25 coverage afforded to Carlos San Post, 4697 Veterans

1 of Foreign Wars by the Borough of North Arlington  
2 through its membership in the South Bergen Municipal  
3 Joint Insurance Fund.

4 Resolution 98-10 is a resolution  
5 appointing per diem back-up supervisor for the youth  
6 center.

7 Resolution 99-10 is a resolution  
8 regarding the transfer of appropriation reserves and  
9 an added item that was copied to the Council. It's  
10 Resolution 101-10, which was also a resolution  
11 regarding transfer of appropriation reserves.

12 MAYOR MASSA: On the consent agenda,  
13 motion introduced.

14 COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Mayor, point of order.

15 I'd like to have Resolution 101 dealt  
16 with separately because I'd like to make a comment  
17 on it.

18 MAYOR MASSA: Resolution 101, Councilman  
19 Hughes requested it be voted on separately.

20 With respect to the balance of the  
21 Resolutions on the consent agenda, motion  
22 introduced.

23 COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: I'll make that  
24 motion.

25 MAYOR MASSA: Made by Councilman Bianchi.

1 COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: Second.

2 MAYOR MASSA: Seconded by Councilman

3 Kearney.

4 Any discussion?

5 Call the roll.

6 MR. WALL: Councilman Bianchi?

7 COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Yes.

8 MR. WALL: Councilman Hughes?

9 COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Yes.

10 MR. WALL: Councilman Johnson?

11 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Yes.

12 MR. WALL: Councilman Kearney?

13 COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: Yes.

14 MR. WALL: Councilamn Tanelli, excused.

15 Councilman Yampaglia?

16 COUNCILMAN YAMPAGLIA: Yes.

17 MR. WALL: Next item is Resolution 101-10

18 is a resolution regarding transfer of appropriation

19 reserves voted on separately.

20 MAYOR MASSA: Motion introduced.

21 COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Mr. Mayor, I'd like to

22 introduce this motion, but I'd like to explain what

23 it is.

24 This Resolution is canceling

25 appropriations from our 2009 budget to cover

1 expenditures that were made with the joint sewer  
2 meeting last year to cover repairs and expenses that  
3 were never covered in a budget or appropriations, so  
4 we're trying to make whole a lot of our contractors  
5 who have not been paid, some of them as much as a  
6 year later.

7           So we are trying to make some of our  
8 contractors whole, who diligently come out all hours  
9 of the day and night to repair the facility and they  
10 just haven't been paid in over a year.

11           So by taking these appropriations  
12 from last year's budget, we're going to try and make  
13 these people whole.

14           Lyndhurst is also doing the same  
15 thing on their end to match this amount. And the  
16 only thing is, this is something that going to  
17 deplete our surplus for next year. So it's  
18 something we have to do to make our contractors  
19 whole though.

20           MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, Councilman.

21           Second on the Resolution.

22           COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: Second.

23           MAYOR MASSA: Seconded by Councilman  
24 Kearney.

25           Any further discussion?

1                   Call the roll.

2                   MR. WALL: Councilman Bianchi?

3                   COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Yes.

4                   MR. WALL: Councilman Hughes?

5                   COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Yes.

6                   MR. WALL: Councilman Johnson?

7                   COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Yes.

8                   MR. WALL: Councilman Kearney?

9                   COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: Yes.

10                  MR. WALL: Councilman Tanelli is excused.

11                   Councilman Yampaglia?

12                  COUNCILMAN YAMPAGLIA: Yes.

13                  MR. WALL: Thank you.

14                  MAYOR MASSA: Ordinances.

15                  MR. WALL: Yes, Mayor.

16                   This is the First reading of  
17 Ordinance No. 2047. This is an ordinance to amend  
18 Chapter 83-20B of the Code of the Borough of North  
19 Arlington entitled "Alcoholic Beverages."

20                  MAYOR MASSA: Motion to introduce?

21                  COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: I'll introduce that.

22                  MAYOR MASSA: Introduction by Councilman  
23 Bianchi.

24                   Second?

25                  COUNCILMAN HUGHES: I'll second it.

1                   MAYOR MASSA:   Seconded by Councilman  
2   Hughes.

3                   Any discussion?

4                   Call the roll.

5                   MR. WALL:   Councilman Bianchi?

6                   COUNCILMAN BIANCHI:   Yes.

7                   MR. WALL:   Councilman Hughes?

8                   COUNCILMAN HUGHES:   Yes.

9                   MR. WALL:   Councilman Johnson?

10                  COUNCILMAN JOHNSON:   Yes.

11                  MR. WALL:   Councilman Kearney?

12                  COUNCILMAN KEARNEY:   Yes.

13                  MR. WALL:   Councilman Tanelli is excused.

14                  Councilman Yampaglia?

15                  COUNCILMAN YAMPAGLIA:   Yes.

16                  MR. WALL:   Thank you.

17                  The next two first readings of  
18   Ordinance No. 2048 and 2049 have been withdrawn at  
19   the request of Council for further background  
20   information and they will be set for potential  
21   introduction at a later meeting.

22                  And Mayor and Council, it is now in  
23   order to begin the presentation of Allan Park,  
24   according to your wishes.

25                  MAYOR MASSA:   With respect to the

1 presentation from Allan Park, I understand a  
2 representative is here from the recreation  
3 commission who can effectively introduce the  
4 presentation. Or is the company here that is doing  
5 it without Mike?

6 PUBLIC SPEAKER: He's here.

7 MAYOR MASSA: Mike, for the record, please  
8 state your name and your official position in the  
9 municipal administration for the record.

10 MR. TETTO: Mike Tetto, 12 Grecco Terrace,  
11 North Arlington; North Arlington Girls Softball  
12 President.

13 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you.

14 MR. TETTO: For those who don't know me,  
15 you can tell the ones who do know me because they  
16 are in uniforms as well. I'm the president of the  
17 league and we have big issue here we asked our Mayor  
18 and Council for help for. That is, we don't have  
19 enough field time.

20 I know your main concern is lights on  
21 this ball field. You're afraid of what it is going  
22 to look like and what it's going to cost.

23 I have a guy here, Matt Sterner, a  
24 technical lighting assistant that says it is not  
25 going to affect your house. You're not going to get

1 any light on your property, and it is good for the  
2 world, for the environment, LED. He'll be able to  
3 explain it more.

4 My thing is, is you might not want  
5 the lights, but these kids need the lights. Girls  
6 are the future, kids are the future, that's what I  
7 think. Whether you have grandchildren in town, a  
8 kid in town or you don't have it in town.

9 It's a park, if we fixed it up, these  
10 girls deserve to play. We don't have enough space  
11 in this town. So I'm asking you guys for your  
12 acceptance of it because these kids really need help  
13 and they have the right, as well as I do as a  
14 taxpayer, like you guys have, to play down at that  
15 field.

16 So hopefully you'll listen to Matt  
17 and you'll like his presentation. There's a lot to  
18 learn because I learned a lot once I saw this. And  
19 if there any other questions, I'll be happy to  
20 answer them.

21 And the other thing is, The Bergenite  
22 is like The National Inquirer. Don't believe  
23 everything you read. The cost of the lights are not  
24 \$120,000.

25 MR. STERNER: Good evening. My name is

1 Matt Sterner from Musco Sports Lighting. I am going  
2 to give you a quick, brief presentation about our  
3 lighting system.

4 PUBLIC SPEAKER: Could you please speak  
5 up?

6 MR. STERNER: Start off, I'll talk a  
7 little bit about our company.

8 We've been in business over 35 years.  
9 We're a global company. We're regarded as a leader  
10 in the sports lighting industry.

11 We've done a number of high profile  
12 jobs, including New York Stadium, the Yankee  
13 Stadium, the Met Stadium, City Field. We finished  
14 up the Redbulls arena in Harrison and the Prudential  
15 Center as well.

16 So we're regarded as the leader in  
17 the sports lighting industry and we are considered  
18 experts. That is at the high profile stage. This  
19 is what we strive for. This is our mission in every  
20 project from the little league field all the way up  
21 to a stadium.

22 After being in business 35 years,  
23 Musco prides itself of providing smooth uniform  
24 field lighting that's maximizes playability while at  
25 the same time minimizes the spill light onto the

1 neighboring community.

2 MR. STERNER: This is tonight's agenda.

3 We have six topics.

4 First off, I briefly will run through  
5 our evolution of our Musco technology, then our  
6 lighting proposal. Three major nuances with sports  
7 lighting.

8 Our solution to those nuances,  
9 setting curfews and then a list of project  
10 references in Bergen County.

11 Here's quick overview of how we came  
12 about to where we are today:

13 Sports lighting started with the  
14 traditional aluminum symmetrical dish. It's  
15 basically like a salad bowl with a lamp in the  
16 middle. It had no light control. It reflected  
17 light everywhere and it was hard to produce.

18 So as we started making  
19 modifications, we added six mirror inserts to help  
20 get rid of the hot spots down below that reflect  
21 light straight up.

22 We added some visor modifications  
23 that helped reduced the up light. Then we had the  
24 full exterior visor. Then we came at the light  
25 structure green in 2005. It is a very sleek system.

1 It reduces the exposure of the lamp to the naked  
2 eye. It's very aerodynamic with a low EPA.

3 COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: And what does "EPA"  
4 stand for?

5 MR. STERNER: EPA basically is how  
6 aerodynamic it is. So, in reference to the wind  
7 loading on the top of the pole, so it's a very sleek  
8 design that is able to reduce the amount of stress  
9 on the pole foundation.

10 So here's some brief features of our  
11 system that I will briefly touch on. I don't want  
12 get into it, because that's not why we are here.

13 We are the only green technology in  
14 the sports lighting industry, and the reason we're  
15 green is because we can light your ball fields with  
16 40 percent less fixtures than all of our  
17 competition.

18 We have a industry leading 25-year  
19 warranty, that includes parts and labor. So this  
20 system is going to be hundred percent maintenance  
21 free for the North Arlington organization.

22 We guarantee our light levels on the  
23 field and off the field as well. And we have  
24 wireless monitoring system that I'll touch on  
25 briefly towards the end of the presentation.

1                   So here is our lighting proposal.  
2     It's going to be a four-pole system. Each pole is  
3     going to be 60-foot tall and it's going to exist of  
4     16 total fixtures.

5                   Three on the infields and five on  
6     outfields. In terms of photo metrics, you're going  
7     to get an average of 50 footcandles in the infield  
8     and an average of 30 in the outfield.

9                   The reason we like it brighter in the  
10    infield is so the kids have less time to react to  
11    the ball so naturally it should be brighter so they  
12    can see everything.

13                  Now, this lighting design correlates  
14    with Little League, ASA and Babe Ruth. We are  
15    official partners with all three.

16                  Basically any lighting standards that  
17    they put forth through their code of conduct book  
18    was written by us. So we fully abide by that. And  
19    we understand it's the value and the player safety  
20    awareness.

21                  So this is the dimensions on the  
22    side. You have a 50 footcandle lighting in the  
23    infield, 30 in the outfield. The infield, the max  
24    ratio, that's your uniformity, is 1.6. We usually  
25    like to get under two.

1                   And what that means is that no point  
2   on the field is going to be doubled to the next  
3   point. So what that means it's going to be a smooth  
4   transition of light throughout the entire field.

5                   Is there any questions on this? Feel  
6   free.

7                   PUBLIC SPEAKER: Tell me about the poles.

8                   MR. WALL: I'm sorry. Just in general,  
9   because all your comments are extremely important,  
10   and we want to make sure the stenographer is able to  
11   do that. So if you can hold your comments so we can  
12   have them on the record for you.

13                  PUBLIC SPEAKER: He asked for questions.

14                  MR. WALL: Yes. You need to wait until  
15   the end. We want to make sure that everything is on  
16   the record. Thank you.

17                  MR. STERNER: Okay. So these are the  
18   three major nuances with sports lighting. You have  
19   spill light, you have glare, and you have sky glow.  
20   And I'm going to get into all three.

21                         Spill light is defined as light  
22   shining beyond the intended playing area.

23                         You can see in this picture, this is  
24   what you're concerned with, lighting up your houses,  
25   your living room window, everything like that. It's

1     quantifiable; meaning I can measure it with a light  
2     meter and it's measured in the footcandles. That's  
3     the unit of light.

4                     Glare is the quality factor in sports  
5     lighting that's caused annoyance, discomfort and  
6     loss of visual performance. This is very similar to  
7     driving against somebody's high beams at the  
8     nighttime. It's visually -- very discomfort.

9                     And this would be associated with a  
10    luminaire source. This means it's directly  
11    correlated with the lamp itself.

12                    And sky glow is the bright area in  
13    the night sky which results from the light that is  
14    reflected upward into the atmosphere.

15                    Here is an example of an older system  
16    on the left and you can see the sky glow protrudes  
17    from these light systems. It's very bright,  
18    produces a lot of glare.

19                    Now on the right side, this is our  
20    light structure green. It's very minimal sky glow,  
21    very minimal glare visually.

22                    And this is our solution. This is  
23    our light structure green on the standard. This  
24    would be very typical to what you would see in the  
25    infield, three fixtures.

1                   You can see with the mounting angle,  
2   the visor will redirect any up light back onto the  
3   playing field. This is how we are able to reduce  
4   our glare. This is how we're able to cut off our  
5   spill light onto your property.

6                   With sports lighting, it's very  
7   visual, so I have a couple of pictures of before and  
8   after shots to show you what the differences are  
9   that light structure green does.

10                  Here's a traditional system.  
11   Traditional bulb all the way to the left that I  
12   talked about in the beginning.

13                  You can see now a couple things.  
14   One, the bank of lights is very bright. It  
15   illuminates the entire tree line and you also see  
16   dark spots on the field; okay.

17                  Now, with these dark spots, it  
18   creates a strobe effect. So if there is a ball that  
19   goes through there and a child is trying to field  
20   it, it will be dark and then it will be bright real  
21   quickly. And that's a safety hazard.

22                  Now, with the light structure green,  
23   we can see very minimal glare and the field is very  
24   bright and crisp. It's just a quick before or  
25   after. It's very visual.

1                   If you concentrate on the bank of  
2 lights, you can see how we're able to redirect that  
3 light and reduce the amount of glare. And you can  
4 see how much brighter that field is.

5                   Here's another before and after.  
6 This is our prior system. Lights up all these  
7 school buses, the street, very visually blinding.

8                   The light structure green, the school  
9 bus is all dark. Very minimal spill light onto this  
10 road here and the light source is concentrated onto  
11 that playing field.

12                   Here's one more before shot. Lights  
13 up this entire field back here. The after shot is  
14 completely dark, light is concentrated on that  
15 playing field.

16                   So this is our solution. So this is  
17 our spill scans, we call them, and what it is a  
18 blanket grid all the way out to zero. And these are  
19 all footcandles at a 15-by-15 grid.

20                   So what you can see is, so at 15, 30,  
21 45 feet, you're getting 0.9 footcandles, 2.3  
22 footcandles and 1.7 footcandles. That's dimmer than  
23 your average street lamp. And that's about 45 feet  
24 off the property. Then beyond that 60 feet, it's  
25 all zero, 0.5, which is equivalent to moonlight.

1                   Now, one thing to take into  
2                   consideration, when we designed this, our engineers  
3                   back in our corporate office in Iowa, we don't take  
4                   into count any blockage. So we're designing this  
5                   field as if it is in the middle of a wide open  
6                   space.

7                   Now, at that location there is plenty  
8                   of shrubbery, there's plenty of trees, there's  
9                   fences that will help minimize these light levels  
10                  even further.

11                  And here is an aerial shot over the  
12                  light structure green on these fields. You can see  
13                  how the lights really concentrate on the playing  
14                  field. It's very dark in its surrounding.

15                  And even between the fields there may  
16                  be 30 to 60 feet, and you can also see how it starts  
17                  getting dark in between.

18                  This is our control link system and  
19                  this will allow North Arlington to control and  
20                  monitor the system. What this is, is they will get  
21                  a user name and password. They can go on and log in  
22                  weeks in advance when they want the lights turned on  
23                  and when they want them turned off.

24                  It's great for setting curfews. So  
25                  if you don't want any lights on past 8:30, nine

1 o'clock, they will set their schedule and this will  
2 come off every night on time.

3           It's controlled wirelessly through a  
4 digital connection. We program it from our home  
5 base in Iowa. We cover all communications cost. So  
6 they can do it on-line, you can e-mail it, you can  
7 fax it, or we have an 800 hotline number that's  
8 staffed 24/7. So they are always within reach this  
9 control system.

10           They can simply call up on the roof,  
11 give their user name and password and access the  
12 lights wherever they are at; okay? So this is a  
13 great tool to assure you that no lights will be left  
14 on later than the intended play.

15           Here's a map with 2008 of all the  
16 control link installations across the country. You  
17 can see the northeast part of our country is a big  
18 user of Control Link.

19           The last slide. This is our project  
20 references in Bergen County with our light structure  
21 green.

22           Now, down in North Arlington, the  
23 Little League, they have our prior technology, but  
24 these are all the light structure green technology.  
25 So there's plenty of fields around that you can go

1 visit.

2 Like I said before, lighting is more  
3 visual than anything, so you need to see it with  
4 your own eyes and see our spill where it cut offs.

5 MAYOR MASSA: At this point I'm going to  
6 open the floor to questions from the members of the  
7 governing body.

8 So Councilman Bianchi is recognized  
9 at this time.

10 COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: I just have one  
11 question. The list, I can't see it from here. I'm  
12 on the side. But do you have a written list of  
13 those towns that have it in the area, because I  
14 would like to visually see it myself? Slides are  
15 one thing, but visual is better.

16 MR. STERNER: I can easily provide you  
17 with a list for that.

18 COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Okay. Thank you.

19 MAYOR MASSA: Any other Councilmen at this  
20 time?

21 COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: Yes.

22 MAYOR MASSA: Councilman Kearney.

23 COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: What was listed as  
24 number four, you had a grid, and you had mentioned  
25 that 40 feet from where the lights were situated

1 going back it would be approximately 1.7, 2.3 or 0.9  
2 candle power.

3 MR. STERNER: Correct. I believe that's  
4 45 because it's in 15 feet intervals, the grid  
5 spacing was.

6 COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: At 60 feet it would  
7 be zero?

8 MR. STERNER: Roughly 0.3, 0.4  
9 footcandles, which is equivalent, again, to  
10 moonlight. It's very dark.

11 COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: That's all I have.

12 Thank you.

13 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, Council.

14 Any other members of the governing body have any  
15 questions?

16 Now, ladies and gentlemen, at this  
17 time I'm going to open up the floor to questions  
18 from the general public. What we will do is,  
19 Mr. Wall will have the portable microphone and  
20 anyone who has a question, please raise your hand.

21 Mr. Wall will approach you. Just  
22 state your name and address for the record. This is  
23 a government function and we must run the meeting  
24 according to Council protocols.

25 MR. WALL: Thank you very much, Mayor.

1           Bear in mind, the folks next to you  
2 would also probably like to speak, so to the extent  
3 you can keep the comments short. They are all very  
4 important as well.

5           If anyone has a letter that you would  
6 like to be made a part of the official record, you  
7 can read it or in the alternative, if you wish, I  
8 will accept it as clerk and it will be part of the  
9 official record if you choose to do that as well.

10           Thank you very much.

11           MR. FLUKEY: David Flukey, 10 Vanderbilt  
12 Place, North Arlington, New Jersey. I am a resident  
13 down there.

14           And to the kids, I lived in this town  
15 all my life, I played sports in this town, I  
16 understand your issue.

17           But, first of all, Mr. Mayor and  
18 members of the Council, a promise was made to the  
19 residents of that area that there would be no lights  
20 put on that field ever.

21           That was done by Mayor Martone when  
22 that field was done. Richie and Joey were firemen  
23 back then and you were a police officer.

24           So why is this meeting being held  
25 now? I don't know.

1                   Second off, you have never dealt with  
2 the parking issue down there. That is a major  
3 problem. We have a problem when the games are being  
4 played on the weekends. We have it when the leaders  
5 are practicing in the August. You haven't done  
6 nothing about that.

7                   You haven't done nothing about the  
8 noise, the PA system in that field. They play  
9 music. They are loud. And that is in addition to  
10 the lighting problem.

11                   We have unruly kids. We live in the  
12 neighborhood; we like our lawns. We'd like the  
13 parents to park their cars properly and not blocking  
14 driveways and blocking fire hydrants.

15                   The police department does not do  
16 their job down there. You call, they don't come.

17                   I haven't heard any options about  
18 using of Queen of Peace field, which is down the  
19 road, and I think Monsignor could use some money. I  
20 haven't heard any other tax issues here.

21                   This town is broke. I'll quote  
22 Richie Hughes, "We don't have money."

23                   I'd love to see the kids get a field.  
24 We have the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission. We  
25 have a lot of land behind the cliffs. We have a

1 high school field that has broken field seats.

2 We could use a new high school field  
3 there, too. Get the Meadowlands Commission to build  
4 fields down in the meadows like they did for  
5 Lyndhurst. Thank you.

6 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, sir.

7 MR. FLYNN: Michael Flynn, 16 Stratford  
8 Place.

9 My wife, Chris, and I, we bought our  
10 home on Stratford Place 1997. We have a beautiful  
11 six-year-old daughter, Veronica.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to  
13 implore you not to put up these lights.

14 If you'll indulge me for a minute, I  
15 passed over some pictures I want you guys to look  
16 at. They are pictures I took from my daughter's  
17 bedroom window. And you can see the field from  
18 there. It's about 50 feet from her window, from our  
19 house.

20 You can see on the other side of our  
21 garage. You can see the American flag. You can see  
22 the back of the scoreboard. Just to give you a  
23 perspective of how close we are.

24 As things are now, we hear the PA,  
25 the music, the cheering, regularly, but we have

1 learned to live with it. That's the price you pay  
2 living next to a softball field.

3 We try not to leave our dogs in the  
4 yard when people are on the other side of the fence  
5 watching the game. And there are many times, many,  
6 many times; I'm sure you guys can relate to this  
7 tonight, when we want to put our daughter to bed,  
8 but we wait because there's a game or practice going  
9 on around eight o'clock at night.

10 The people are yelling and cheering,  
11 music and going and we say, all right, it's going to  
12 be over soon, let's wait for the game to be over,  
13 we'll put her to bed and she'll be able to sleep.  
14 Because you can hear the yelling and the screaming  
15 from her bed.

16 Believe me, it's hard enough to get  
17 her to bed as it is. Needless to say, putting up  
18 the lights at Allan Park would seriously harm our  
19 quality of life, for our backyard and the back of  
20 our house and Veronica's room are about 50 feet  
21 away. And for all intents and purposes, our house  
22 is part of that field. And, again, Jackie, our dog,  
23 will bark.

24 But, secondly, the noise that we now  
25 look forward to ending around eight at night, that

1 is going to be going on for hours.

2 So basically this field is surrounded  
3 by people's homes. They are not a block away, they  
4 are in the outfield, they are in the center field,  
5 they're in the bleachers.

6 And I'm just asking each of you each  
7 on the council to honestly ask yourself, if you were  
8 living in my house or your daughter or your  
9 granddaughter, would you be putting these lights up?

10 I think if you're honest with  
11 yourself, you would say of course not. I would ask  
12 you to extend the same respect, the same that you  
13 would want for your family to my family.

14 I'm asking you as a father and  
15 appealing to your sense of decency and honor to do  
16 the right thing and not put these lights up by our  
17 house. Thank you.

18 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, sir.

19 MR. WALL: The gentleman is delivering a  
20 letter. We'll make it a part of the original  
21 record.

22 The next speaker. Raise your hands.

23 THE REPORTER: I have to get you on the  
24 record.

25 MAYOR MASSA: For the record, Mr. Wall, I

1 would just like to have the gentleman who is passing  
2 out the pictures identify himself for the  
3 stenographer.

4 MR. FAGA: Michael Faga, F-A-G-A, 14  
5 Stratford Place.

6 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, Michael.

7 MR. FAGA: My name is Michael Faga. I'm  
8 sure most of you all recognize me from the Pizzeria,  
9 Arlington Pizza.

10 I first want to say to all the  
11 parents of softball, I'm definitely not against  
12 softball. You all know that with my father and my  
13 family's business contributions to every league, to  
14 every sport, to every kid in this town. We go above  
15 and beyond. We love to do it.

16 The problem with these lights are, is  
17 that, all the gentleman stated, 45 feet, there is a  
18 first floor addition on my house and my bedroom. My  
19 bedroom is 35 feet away from center field, I  
20 measured.

21 So right there it shows that the  
22 lights will be in my yard. I'm going to give the  
23 Council the pictures right now with my baby, who  
24 will be sleeping. My wife is giving birth in two  
25 weeks, our first child.

1                   And I feel that these lights -- and  
2     it's not even the lights so much, but the noise, how  
3     am I going to put a baby to bed with the girls  
4     playing all night? You said the children are our  
5     future. My kid has to count, too.

6                   MR. TETTO: I understand that.

7                   MR. FAGA: You said The Bergenite is like  
8     The Inquirer. I'm not worried about the \$120,000.  
9     If you solicited me for more money to raise for the  
10    field, I would be more than glad to give it to you.

11                  MR. TETTO: What if you had a daughter and  
12    she had no field to play on?

13                  MAYOR MASSA: The gentleman has the floor.  
14    I'm going to ask that no one make any comments while  
15    the gentleman is a making his comments.

16                  If anyone wants to make any rebuttal  
17    comments, you will have that opportunity later, but  
18    this meeting will be held in according to proper  
19    protocols.

20                  Thank you.

21                  MR. FAGA: Thank you, Mayor.

22                  My problem with The Bergenite and The  
23    Inquirer, is that you said, you told the Council  
24    that you only have 50 residents to worry about. I  
25    have 200 kids. We count too, just like the girls.

1 So they do have to worry about us.

2 See these pictures?

3 THE REPORTER: I can't hear you, for the  
4 record.

5 MR. FLYNN: I also have in this picture,  
6 last year when the fence was redone, they cut down  
7 the trees that ran from my property along the fence.  
8 So I have no buffer, no visual screen, nothing.  
9 Just a clear view of center field in my backyard,  
10 they touch.

11 So, again, this goes against what the  
12 gentleman said about trees being all around the  
13 area. Not the case. The town sent the DPW to cut  
14 those trees down to make room for the fence.

15 Again, I offered to you another  
16 solution, 3F, the soccer field down on the hill or  
17 ask the Council to solicit the County Freeholders to  
18 clean up county park.

19 And if you need more money and more  
20 funds to go to donations, you can come to the  
21 pizzeria and ask any time. As the record shows, we  
22 always give it and I will continue to do so.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. WALL: Thank you, Michael.

25 Next speaker.

1                   MR. VASQUEZ: My name is Aldedo Vasquez.  
2 I live at 57 Street and I'm a parent of the softball  
3 league and great supporter of this league, and we  
4 have been playing at Allan ever since my small  
5 daughter was young. And I do respect the residents  
6 and I do respect their concerns.

7                   I just want to say that I feel that  
8 it's too black and white now. I'm sure that we can  
9 come up to some compromise.

10                  I know you have a concern, sir, about  
11 your baby and lights, and, I mean, it sounds like a  
12 good time to get together for the community.

13                  I know Mike for seven years. He's a  
14 great guy. If you have concerns about the  
15 fluorescent lights, I'm sure we can find some way to  
16 come up with some trees and find some way to reduce  
17 that.

18                  I'm sure that if we talk to each  
19 other and I think stop talking at each other, we can  
20 come to a very nice compromise.

21                  For example, you were talking about  
22 the girls playing all night, I'm sure we can come up  
23 with some agreement where there's a curfew, maybe  
24 nine o'clock during weekdays, ten o'clock on  
25 weekends, or some kind of compromise.

1                   But I'm sure there is a way to come  
2 together because this game and this sport is  
3 extremely important to us, and not for the kids  
4 alone, but for the parents and for the community.

5                   It's a sport that I've met quite a  
6 lot of people that unless we are playing softball  
7 with the girls, I'd never meet. I've become friends  
8 with some of these people.

9                   And as your children grow up, I'm  
10 sure you'll join the softball league, basketball  
11 league, but it's a sport that's going to bring us  
12 together more as a community.

13                   And try to find a way to see if we  
14 can come to some good compromise and see if we can  
15 keep pushing this together and keep pushing it  
16 forward.

17                   And I'm just concerned that all the  
18 comments that I've heard are just flapping in the  
19 wind. And I hope we can come to a better compromise  
20 there.

21                   MR. WALL: Next speaker.

22                   If you would be kind enough to raise  
23 your hand. I'll bring the microphone.

24                   And, by the way, just for all the  
25 children, Mayor and Council, believe your voice is

1 very important, too. If any of the children that  
2 are here would like to speak as well, the Mayor and  
3 Council would love to hear from you, too.

4 Mr. Tetto.

5 MR. TETTO: Mike Tetto, North Arlington.

6 Guys, I understand your concern. I  
7 understand your concern. I have over 200 kids and  
8 we have 16 teams. We have a lot of towns that come  
9 in and out. We have Parsippany, Livingston.

10 These towns come in for a game and  
11 you have the high school on the field. They are  
12 supposed to be done at six o'clock. They are not  
13 done at six o'clock. They're done at seven o'clock.

14 Now you have a town that just came in  
15 from Livingston 45, 50 minutes away. The girls were  
16 supposed to play at six o'clock. They get two  
17 innings in.

18 I'm not looking to put the lights on  
19 every night. That's not what I'm doing. We didn't  
20 do it for years. Right now we have over 200 kids,  
21 16 teams, one field.

22 What I'm looking for is if we need  
23 the lights on, we'll put them on, just for the game.  
24 If you guys don't want the sound system on after  
25 eight o'clock, I'm happy with it. I can unplug that

1     thing very easy. I live down there. It's just a  
2     matter of giving the girls fair playing time.

3                     I mean, for other towns that come in,  
4     if you had to drive to Parsippany and you went there  
5     and you were there for two innings and they call the  
6     game because of darkness, now you've got to drive  
7     all the way back.

8                     The kids don't have enough playing  
9     time. The lights are not going to be on seven days  
10    a week. We're not going to be playing games until  
11    eleven o'clock at night. I'm not going to have  
12    music blasting. I have that respect.

13                    Opening day, yes, we have the music  
14    on, it's the girls' day. The Memorial Day parade,  
15    4th of July, the kids want to go to sleep, we hear  
16    fireworks.

17                    April 10, that's the girls' day.  
18    It's just like someone getting married, that's their  
19    day. They get one day a year. I don't think that's  
20    a lot to ask. But I will work with all the  
21    residents. Any concerns you guys want.

22                    Like you said, you guys donate and  
23    help out all the time. I'm very easy to work with.  
24    If you want to give me a time limit, you want to say  
25    ten o'clock, boom, ten o'clock. I'm not going to

1 schedule -- we haven't used lights every night for  
2 years, but now, like you said, there was a promise  
3 made. Well, back then we also different style cars,  
4 now have more kids in this town.

5 PUBLIC SPEAKER: No, we don't.

6 MR. TETTO: Yes, we do. This league last  
7 year had 152 kids in it. This year I have 210. So  
8 each year I'm moving up and up and up and up. So we  
9 have lot of girls in the league this year.

10 So what do I do? You signed up your  
11 daughter, \$65 if you want to play a sport, but then  
12 you come down, you go, this is ridiculous. She's  
13 playing three innings. How come my daughter's only  
14 practicing one day a week?

15 How is my kid going to get better? I  
16 have no fields.

17 So like I said, I feel your pain and  
18 I understand everything.

19 What Matt was saying about the four  
20 poles, center field, you're not going to see  
21 nothing. You're not going to see nothing out there.

22 The light reflects coming back from  
23 where the pole was set, that is that candle light  
24 that Matt was saying. So dead center field, you're  
25 going to see nothing but darkness. Nothing but

1 darkness.

2 Left field line, all on that side,  
3 you're going to see nothing but darkness. The  
4 people right behind first base dugout, right field,  
5 nothing, because the pole is facing opposite of you.  
6 There's no glare that's going to go back.

7 I can understand your concerns; I  
8 appreciate it. I'm just looking out for the kids  
9 and I just want to answer some of the questions I  
10 heard you guys talk about.

11 MAYOR MASSA: That's it.

12 MR. WALL: Thank you, Michael.

13 MR. TETTO: Thank you very much.

14 MR. WALL: Yes. By the way, show your  
15 hands.

16 Our youth center director, Mike  
17 Kraft, is here.

18 Just show your hands so folks know  
19 you're here.

20 Recreation director, James Hermann,  
21 Jimmy Hermann is there. As well as the assistant  
22 recreation director Tower is out here as well, in  
23 the event there are any issues recreational oriented  
24 if you want to ask them too.

25 MS. PODANOWITZ: Hi. I'm Beth Podanowitz

1 from 13 Stratford Place.

2 I am an old-timer here, too. I was  
3 here when the field was built, and someone telling  
4 me 200 kids, 16 teams, I feel your pain, that tells  
5 me you don't belong in this field.

6 It's the same argument we had back  
7 then. This isn't a place for a field. There is no  
8 parking. They're on Stratford; they are in my  
9 driveway. They open the gate down at the end of the  
10 street and they got cars pulling down and backing  
11 up. We got kids on our street, too.

12 It's not a place for a field, and it  
13 definitely is not a place for a field with 200 kids.  
14 Someone needs to find an alternative. It's a real  
15 big quality of life issue for us.

16 We hear the PA -- I'm on the other  
17 side of Stratford. I'm across the street, and when  
18 I'm in my backyard, I hear the announcement, I hear  
19 the music. We know the cars are coming. We hear  
20 the kids screaming.

21 I really want the kids to play  
22 softball, just not 60 feet away from me. And I  
23 think that the point is it's not the place for a  
24 field. It never should have been put there.

25 MR. WALL: Thank you, ma'am.

1                   Thank you very much.  If other folks  
2 would like to raise their hand that would like to  
3 speak.

4                   MR. GIORDANO:  My name is Tommy Giordano,  
5 31 8th Street.

6                   I can understand everybody's concern  
7 with having lights in your backyard and, yes, you  
8 are correct, there are 200 kids in the softball that  
9 shouldn't be down in one field.

10                  Unfortunately, there is not enough  
11 fields in this town to facilitate all the children  
12 that we have.

13                  The problem that we have here that I  
14 want to bring up, besides not just lights on the  
15 field, is a safety and health issue.  Safety first,  
16 is you have girls playing a sport that is played,  
17 they call it softball, but it is hard.

18                  Without practice, these girls are  
19 going to be hurt.  We've already had girls get hit  
20 in the mouth, nose and the teeth, because they don't  
21 have enough time to practice to learn how to catch  
22 the ball the right way.

23                  Now, Mayor and Council, I understand  
24 the residents' concern.  You have to also understand  
25 one thing also, you're going to have kids getting

1 hurt playing this game.

2 Also, health issues. Everyone says  
3 go to County Park. I tried. I've been in this  
4 softball league now for seven years with my kids. I  
5 try to go to County Park every day to practice. It  
6 is impossible.

7 The goose droppings in the County  
8 Park are such a health issue that last year my  
9 parents told me if I practice down at County Park  
10 one more time they are quitting and taking their  
11 kids off the team.

12 I cannot have this anymore because if  
13 the one of the kids get sick or one of the kids get  
14 hurt, I'm not being held responsible for this. I'm  
15 refer them to the Mayor and the Council.

16 And to the residents, which I  
17 understand that these lights might be a problem, and  
18 I agree that there should be other fields in this  
19 town. I feel that this town is actually taking a  
20 step back from all the neighboring towns that have  
21 new rec fields.

22 The list that he put up there, we  
23 should be there, because we are one of the oldest  
24 towns in Bergen County, we should have been there  
25 before other towns.

1                   Unfortunately, for a quick fix, this  
2                   is the only solution that this town has at the  
3                   moment.

4                   So besides just lights on the field,  
5                   I just want to tell the Mayor and Council that this  
6                   is a safety and health issue for these kids to be  
7                   playing with one field, no practice, and to play  
8                   someplace where there's goose droppings sometimes a  
9                   foot high.

10                   (Applause.)

11                   MR. WALL: Thank you, Thomas.

12                   MAYOR MASSA: At this time I've been  
13                   advised by the Council President that Mr. Hermann is  
14                   able to identify some alternative issues. I'd like  
15                   to invite him to present those issues.

16                   MR. HERMANN: Some of the things that  
17                   we've done fairly recently is try to use alternative  
18                   fields so the residents understand.

19                   THE REPORTER: Your name for the record.

20                   MR. HERMANN: Jim Hermann, 51 Park Avenue,  
21                   recreational director.

22                   One of the things that we tried to do  
23                   in a quick manner to accommodate all athletes that  
24                   we have is to use alternative sites. We've tried  
25                   and we've been successful with locating and

1 utilizing Roosevelt School, as an example.

2 For those that haven't been here for  
3 a long time, a very, very brief history, that was  
4 one of those folk lores. Can't use the field,  
5 neighbors are the upset.

6 Talk to Ms. Green, the building  
7 principal, Ms. Green, we'd like to use the field  
8 during this time.

9 Jimmy, no problem, whatever the kids  
10 need.

11 And there hasn't been any complaints.  
12 Now, we are not talking about pitching and batting  
13 the ball over the field. We're talking about the  
14 young athletes that want to go out and find a place  
15 to practice. So that's been one alternative.

16 We have been able to obtain permits  
17 for the use of indoor facilities, buildings.  
18 Washington School was obtained in the process of  
19 also trying to obtain the indoors of Roosevelt's  
20 School. After those permits run out, I'll be  
21 writing new permits.

22 So as a group, as an athletic group,  
23 we are trying to find alternatives for everyone.  
24 It's difficult. The groundswell of athletes, female  
25 athletes in particular, is a good thing. It does

1 create other issues, which we're all trying to  
2 accommodate.

3 So for everyone's edification here in  
4 the room, we are trying to find as many alternatives  
5 as we can with those alternatives; there's still  
6 some challenges that we face, and particularly in  
7 outdoors.

8 County Park, as Tommy referred to,  
9 Diamond II is the diamond that we've always used in  
10 the past and it is condemned. So that eliminates a  
11 field.

12 The goose droppings and other issues  
13 and challenges that the county faces by preparing  
14 the fields for play have also caused issues.

15 We are on a waiting list for the  
16 Diamond IV, which is the newest diamond down in  
17 County Park on the Lyndhurst side. We're on the  
18 waiting list there.

19 Diamond V is taken by the Meadowlands  
20 YMCA. They have leagues that they have, teams that  
21 play on that field. So we're eliminated from that  
22 field.

23 Again, we're trying every alternative  
24 we can, pressing the county government to help us in  
25 any manner that they can and we have not received

1 other answers yet with regards to that. But, again,  
2 we're making small headway.

3 But even in the small headways for  
4 these female athletes, it becomes difficult, and  
5 challenging to find places for them, again, as Tommy  
6 referred to, to get prepared to play the game.

7 Practice, getting the understanding  
8 and getting the fundamentals and finding a place  
9 conducive to do that.

10 Thank you.

11 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, Jimmy.

12 MR. WALL: Next speaker, please.

13 Raise your hand. Thank you very  
14 much.

15 MR. DOMBROWSKI: James Dombrowski, 404  
16 Riverview Avenue, North Arlington, New Jersey.

17 I think it's very good we're having  
18 this meeting tonight, and I think if we look around,  
19 we have a beautiful field that is called "the soccer  
20 field." It's very under-used.

21 Now, having lights there could  
22 alleviate all the issues right now that we're  
23 addressing. Why there is no lights there? That is  
24 a good question.

25 So I think coming together today to

1 address lighting is very good for the town. Because  
2 we definitely need more recreation and we have  
3 Skyland Park, which is named after Chief LaSorda's  
4 son who died in 9/11 -- or not died in 9/11, but got  
5 sick helping over there at the World Trade Center.

6           It's a very large field. And if I'm  
7 not mistake, under the original plans, I think there  
8 was supposed to be a softball field built in the far  
9 south corner of the field. So I know that we won't  
10 play there this year, but we could practice down  
11 there.

12           And if I'm not mistaken, as a member  
13 of the rec commission, I think one of the main  
14 issues was that the softball league needed more time  
15 to practice, and that was an issue that we tried to  
16 address. So if lighting was put there at the soccer  
17 field, which is not only used for soccer, it's not  
18 their field, it's a town field that everyone should  
19 be able to use.

20           And, unfortunately, it seems that  
21 that field has become almost a like a featum to  
22 people that only want to play soccer there. Now,  
23 people don't want to hear that, but I'm here because  
24 I think it's important that we do more sharing.

25           I think our new rec director made a

1 very good point already, because he seems to be  
2 going in the direction to have more coordination,  
3 more sharing and if that's done, I think we could  
4 find more time for not only the softball league to  
5 practice, but basically whoever needs a place.

6           Because the bottom line in a small  
7 town like North Arlington is sharing. And maybe  
8 this meeting could start an effort to light the  
9 soccer field. And then I know I read about grants  
10 and stuff and I don't know about grants and stuff,  
11 but maybe we can somehow get a grant to put the turf  
12 down there on the soccer field. Then we have a  
13 multi-use field because in North Arlington, we have  
14 no turf.

15           Now, I know there's budget crunches.  
16 Obviously, we can't pay for it out of our tax  
17 dollars, but sometimes something comes up that maybe  
18 we can find a way to get money through grants. And  
19 also maybe we can find a way to get some lighting  
20 donated, because there's about 20 poles in Lyndhurst  
21 that are just standing there not being used because  
22 of the end cap going bankrupt. And those lights  
23 aren't being used.

24           So maybe the Council through some  
25 efforts with the HMDC; I think that's the same name

1 now, but it's the same board, could make efforts to  
2 get that lighting and put it down in the soccer  
3 field. And then we have a lot of places for a lot  
4 of people to practice.

5 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, Mr. Dombrowski.

6 MR. WALL: Thank you very much.

7 Any other folks or children that  
8 would like to speak?

9 Yes. I'll go right here and then to  
10 you; okay?

11 MR. MITTENZWEI: Mike Mittenzwei, 5474  
12 Riverview Avenue.

13 It's wonderful now we have this open  
14 forum here. Everybody has something to say.  
15 Unfortunately, we're hearing misrepresentations.

16 It's wonderful to have a pipe dream to say, we need  
17 to share. There is nothing to share in this town.

18 My daughter's eight years old and  
19 that's great we have a permit to practice inside at  
20 a school at eight at night to nine at night for  
21 softball inside. That's insane. And how can  
22 somebody possible say --

23 PUBLIC SPEAKER: Well --

24 MR. MITTENZWEI: Let me have my time.

25 I'll give you the microphone next.

1                   That park has been there a long time.  
2   Many of you have moved into the neighborhood.  It's  
3   a park to be shared by all taxpaying citizens.

4                   There is just not enough money and  
5   enough space to have a pipe dream to build another  
6   field right now.  Hopefully the Mayor and Council  
7   will address that.

8                   What the real facts are, we have a  
9   limited budget.  This will take limited funds to put  
10  lights up to alleviate a lot of these issues that  
11  we're facing.

12                   We're not asking for the lights to be  
13  on until midnight or eleven at night.  I'm sure the  
14  rec commission can work with the citizens.  This  
15  will not be Mike Tetto, the president, deciding what  
16  time the lights go on and what time they go off.

17                   Everybody can work together.  Maybe  
18  extending the day an hour, an hour and a half,  
19  that's it.  We can unplug the music.  That's not an  
20  issue.

21                   But the reality is, as the gentleman  
22  said, I tried to take our girls to that  
23  dysfunctional field that Bergen County owns to walk  
24  in goose droppings and mud, only to get kicked off  
25  the field by Queen of Peace.

1                   They practice down there and they  
2 pull permits before we're able to pull permits.

3                   So broke as Queen of Peace may be,  
4 Monsignor Padrowski, we are not allowed to go on  
5 their fields. They are their fields and they are  
6 very clear about that. They actually come onto our  
7 fields.

8                   Just asking you to keep an open mind  
9 and realize there's really no space in this town.  
10 To rip up that soccer field to make a softball  
11 field, you'd have to destroy the entire field. And  
12 it is used, what, seven days a week? We have people  
13 from the soccer association here. They can't get  
14 their soccer teams on now, how are we supposed to  
15 have people playing soccer and softball at the same  
16 time?

17                   It's just not feasible. Thank you.

18                   MR. WALL: Thank you, sir.

19                   (Applause.)

20                   MR. FAGA: Michael Faga again.

21                   First with the time, you have an  
22 eight-year-old daughter, what time does she go to  
23 bed? I don't want to put my newborn baby to bed at  
24 ten, so even ten o'clock is too late. Even nine is  
25 too late.

1                   My wife is a teacher, she gets up at  
2 five in the morning. She likes to go to bed at 8:30  
3 at night, so I'm supposed to stay up one night a  
4 week, two nights a week, three nights a week, maybe  
5 just one. Maybe one is too much.

6                   I am being open-minded and I know  
7 everyone, you cannot refute that I'm not open-minded  
8 and that I do not support the town sports.

9                   But everyone here clapping in favor  
10 of the softball, some of you I know personally and I  
11 remember when your kids were born, and I don't think  
12 any of you kept your kids up until ten at night.

13                   I don't think Bell or Tyler -- I  
14 don't think Tyler ever stayed up that late when they  
15 were born. I've known them since they were born.

16                   So you can clap and I understand  
17 where your point is, but you're not hearing my  
18 point.

19                   And as far as the PA system, it's not  
20 one day a week, Mr. Tetto, it's every Sunday. I  
21 work 15 hours a day 85, 90 hours a week, believe me,  
22 I'm woken up every Sunday.

23                   But you know what, I bought the house  
24 behind the field, I knew it was there and I'm happy  
25 to deal with it and I'm happy to deal with it and

1 I'm happy to be woken up because I hear the girls  
2 having fun. But now you're asking me to ask my  
3 family to stay up late, which is not acceptable.

4 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, sir.

5 MR. WALL: Thank you very much.

6 Anyone else?

7 This gentleman and then you, sir.

8 Thank you.

9 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry. State your name  
10 for the record, please.

11 MR. FLUKEY: David Flukey, 10 Vanderbilt  
12 Place.

13 You think the issue is just the  
14 lights. It's the lights, the parking, the unruly  
15 kids. I'm telling you you're not listening. You  
16 haven't come up with any solutions. All right.

17 There is not a solution to the  
18 parking problem down here. The Mayor and Council  
19 has to do something. There's nothing to do with the  
20 unruly kids.

21 The parents, I'm sorry, they're loud,  
22 unruly; when they're let go, they are running all  
23 over the neighborhood.

24 You're not paying attention. You  
25 don't live there. We do. So for the parents, start

1 babysitting your kids.

2                   And for his guy right here, I loved  
3 your article. You didn't care about the 50 people  
4 in the neighborhood caring about too many kids, you  
5 got to care about the 50 people in the neighborhood  
6 because we do not want the lights.

7                   That was the promise made when that  
8 place was built. You're forgetting that. And  
9 that's why a lot of people live down there, because  
10 we do not have it.

11                   MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, sir.

12                   MR. WALL: Mr. Flynn.

13                   MR. FLYNN: Mike Flynn, 16 Stratford  
14 Place.

15                   You guys mentioned the idea of  
16 sharing resources. We are sharing them now. You  
17 guys are down there a lot. You're there until eight  
18 o'clock at night. Nobody complains about it.

19                   I even watch the field, you know, I  
20 see some kids hanging out there ten, eleven at night  
21 by the rec field, I will call the cops, because I  
22 know -- you know, you guys take care of the place  
23 and you want to keep it up.

24                   So we are not against you guys.  
25 We're all for sharing. But we're sharing now, okay.

1                   As far as the goose droppings go, you  
2 know, Holy Cross Cemetery, they use those fake dogs,  
3 we can put those up, that will take care of it.

4                   And then when you get down to it,  
5 they were talking about options and who can do what.  
6 We can't move. You know, we're in our homes. There  
7 is nothing we can do.

8                   There are options that people are  
9 discussing here and some people are just close  
10 minded here.

11                   Why can't people practice on a soccer  
12 field? What's the big deal? I mean, that is an  
13 option that someone presented and it seems  
14 reasonable. It beats, you know, having lights and  
15 noise in my house until eleven at night.

16                   Thank you.

17                   MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, sir.

18                   MR. WALL: One moment. I'm sorry.

19                   MISS CALLAHAN: Ashley Callahan, 63  
20 Canterbury Gardens.

21                   I understand -- and I go to Roosevelt  
22 School and that is not a field; it's a school, and  
23 we have a perfectly fine field at Allan field where  
24 we play softball.

25                   My favorite sport is softball and

1 you're saying that we should use a soccer field.  
2 The soccer field is for soccer players and their  
3 favorite sport is soccer.

4 (Applause.)

5 MISS CALLAHAN: What about the kids whose  
6 favorite sport is soccer, and now we're taking their  
7 field, that is not favor.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. FLYNN: Christine Flynn, 16 Stratford  
10 Place.

11 I'm a life-long resident of North  
12 Arlington. I also was with the girls softball in  
13 the eighties and I know half of the kids here from  
14 being a teacher at Queen of Peace Grammar School.

15 However, what I'm hearing from a lot  
16 of parents is that as long as it's not in your  
17 backyard, you really don't care.

18 Not all of you -- I can't tell what  
19 all of you are thinking, but I would just like you  
20 to please look into your own conscious and say, you  
21 know, if it was my house, is this what I would want?

22 Thank you.

23 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, ma'am.

24 MR. TETTO: We're going to bounce back and  
25 forth all night.

1 Mike Tetto, 12 Grecco Terrace.

2 Just to answer real quick.

3 The soccer field, yes. Director -- I  
4 don't know where he went.

5 Yes, great idea, it's opened for  
6 lights, but me, myself, being a coach in soccer with  
7 my younger daughter, they practice down there seven  
8 days a week, and, again, it's grass. There's not an  
9 infield.

10 I teach, and a lot of these coaches  
11 teach these kids, you got to know your real estate.  
12 You can throw bases on the grass. You can say  
13 that's shortstop, that's third, that's short, that's  
14 second, first base, but it's not the proper thing to  
15 do.

16 And getting back, we feel, like I  
17 said, you're paying with the noise and the sound  
18 system is on seven days a week. Six o'clock at  
19 night, yes, if there's a parent they want to  
20 announce, they announce it for the kids.

21 Saturday they do it. Sunday they do  
22 it. I was saying that we can shut it off at eight  
23 o'clock at night. I don't care.

24 PUBLIC SPEAKER: Can I ask you a question?

25 MAYOR MASSA: Please, sir, you will have

1 your opportunity. Mr. Tetto has the floor.

2 MR. TETTO: When you mentioned about  
3 practice, we practice -- our high school -- and you  
4 have to remember one thing, our high school JV has  
5 that field until six o'clock at night.

6 You guys said you're woken up.  
7 You're not woken up by recreation. We do not get  
8 that field until one in the afternoon on Saturdays.  
9 And I don't get on that field, because I give  
10 respect, until twelve on Sundays.

11 It is true. I run a league. I have  
12 a schedule. So it's twelve on Sundays, one o'clock  
13 on Saturdays. High school has a permit from eight  
14 until noon. That's it.

15 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, sir.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. HAMILTON: My name is Bob Hamilton.  
18 617 Stratford Place, North Arlington.

19 Where do you guys practice now with  
20 16 teams?

21 MR. TETTO: That's our problem.

22 MR. HAMILTON: So you can't play; right?  
23 You can't practice any where. You're doing nothing  
24 without these lights, the season is over; right?  
25 Because you have nowhere to practice.

1 PUBLIC SPEAKER: What did you do last  
2 year?

3 MAYOR MASSA: I think that issue has been  
4 addressed already. We would like you to hold your  
5 comments.

6 PUBLIC SPEAKER: I'm asking you.

7 MR. TETTO: There are more girls on the  
8 team.

9 MAYOR MASSA: Mr. Tetto, answer that.  
10 Please.

11 MR. TETTO: Real quick.

12 Last year, very simple. This year we  
13 have 16, last year I had 12; okay. We have 16 teams  
14 average 13, 14 girls per team this year; okay.

15 In practice last year, last year what  
16 we did was the field that was at County Park existed  
17 last year at County Park.

18 We had more playing time here last  
19 year because of JV. The high school was not here.  
20 JV is now down at Allan Park with the varsity. So  
21 they're down there Monday through Saturday. So now  
22 you have varsity and JV, which took some extra time  
23 away from us. So I increased teams, girls, plus  
24 high school. That's where our thing is.

25 Here are our fields of practice, I

1 have this high school field Monday and Wednesday for  
2 two hours. I have County Park Monday through  
3 Friday. So that is one team. And I have Allan  
4 Park, which is used by the high school and for our  
5 games.

6 So there are two ball fields that I  
7 can use to practice. Two ball fields, seven days,  
8 if you want to calculate it, Monday, Wednesday, and  
9 Monday through Friday. So 16 teams, one team gets  
10 on the field once every other week. That's our  
11 issue.

12 I'm not saying we're going to have  
13 the lights there to practice at night. We're hoping  
14 to get these other fields at County Park.

15 Right now we have a problem with  
16 games. We don't have enough time for games. We  
17 want to use them for practices. If we just started  
18 out simple. Saturday night, we can do an hour.

19 I could change my schedule, like Mike  
20 was saying, I don't have to go at ten, I can adjust  
21 and cut games down maybe a half hour to get more  
22 games in maybe during the day. Or during the week  
23 maybe we can just practice from six to eight. Maybe  
24 have the lights on the weekends and maybe not Monday  
25 through Friday.

1                   Two nights on the weekend would even  
2 help me out. A Friday or a Saturday night would  
3 help me out. We're looking for anything.

4                   The lights are only going to be on  
5 for an hour and a half during four months out of the  
6 year. I'm not saying July, August. You're saying  
7 April, May, June. That's it. Three months. April,  
8 May June.

9                   Our season starts April 10th. It  
10 ends the end of June. I'm not going July, August,  
11 September, October. We're just going for that.

12                   I know you're concerned. I live by a  
13 cemetery. I've got to listen to bagpipes at 8:30 in  
14 the morning when they're doing a funeral.

15                   I understood that when I bought my  
16 house. I'm living next to a cemetery. I have  
17 respect. I can't cut my grass at 8:30 if they're  
18 having a funeral; I shut the lawn mower off. I hear  
19 bagpipes, I have little kids, we got to close the  
20 windows.

21                   You guys moved next to a park. I  
22 know it stinks. You're concerned, you got a  
23 promise. Nothing's written in blood. Nothing is  
24 written in stone, but I understand what you think,  
25 we have more kids now. They're our future.

1                   What do you tell a kid, you can't go  
2 out and play? That's the bad thing.

3                   MR. WALL: Anyone else?

4                   MAYOR MASSA: If anybody hasn't been  
5 heard.

6                   MR. WALL: Mayor, I think we want to hear  
7 from the young lady here who wanted to share  
8 something.

9                   (Applause.)

10                  MISS COSTELLANO: Ariel Costellano, 54  
11 Arlington Boulevard.

12                   I understand where everybody is  
13 coming from, from the lights and the music, but that  
14 can be negotiated. People here, softball is my  
15 favorite sport and I don't get to play anymore  
16 because it gets dark. I like to play softball and I  
17 want to play.

18                   If there is lights, it could change a  
19 lot of things. Everybody here that plays likes  
20 softball and they want to play. They don't have a  
21 chance to play because it gets dark.

22                   And I know that you don't want the  
23 lights because it's going to be too bright, babies  
24 can't sleep, but that can be negotiated. We can say  
25 when the lights are going to be turned off, and the

1 speakers can be turned off. I just want these  
2 lights so we can play.

3 Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. WALL: Is there any new folks?

6 We will definitely get back to the  
7 folks that spoke before. But are there any new  
8 folks?

9 PUBLIC SPEAKER: I do.

10 MR. BURNS: Gary Burns, 12 Stratford  
11 Terrace.

12 Has anybody approached the high  
13 school and said, why can't we use your field at  
14 night since we put the lights down there? That's a  
15 question; has anybody approached the high school?

16 MR. TETTO: The high school field is Allan  
17 Park.

18 MR. BURNS: No. The high school field  
19 down on River Road. Is there no way you could  
20 utilize that for something since the lights are  
21 already there?

22 MR. TETTO: No. The footage is different,  
23 baseball is 90, softball is 60. Pitcher's mound,  
24 softball, there is no mound.

25 MR. BURNS: But let me ask this question.

1       Could you use it for practice?

2               MR. TETTO:   Yeah, maybe.

3               MR. BURNS:   Why don't we then approach the  
4       high school and make that suggestion, since the  
5       lights are already there, you're out of a  
6       neighborhood that have been appeased by the fact  
7       that the lights are there.

8               MR. TETTO:   But it's used, the senior  
9       league baseball uses it.

10              MR. BURNS:   At night.   How often?

11              MR. TETTO:   That use it at night every  
12       day.

13              MR. BURNS:   I'm sure there's got to be --  
14       you know, since we've given up something for the  
15       high school down at your field, they need to give a  
16       little something down at their field.

17              MR. TETTO:   I agree.

18              MR. BURNS:   So I think that's a  
19       conversation these gentlemen may have.   Just a  
20       suggestion.

21              MAYOR MASSA:   Thank you.

22              MR. WALL:    The Mayor and Council wanted to  
23       make sure that everyone's voice is heard.   So what  
24       we would like to do to first is ask, is there anyone  
25       who hasn't spoken, whether it's one of the children

1 or one the sports players, students or adults who  
2 haven't spoken before or who would like to speak,  
3 and then we'll go back to the folks who want to do  
4 some follow-up and then Mayor and Council will bring  
5 it back to the dais.

6 Here you are.

7 MISS CARROLL: Gianna Carroll, 12 Grecco  
8 Terrace.

9 Okay; I understand that all the girls  
10 who are going to play softball want the lights on  
11 the field so we can play at night. And I understand  
12 how you're problems are with the babies and the  
13 music, but that also, as Ariel has said, can be  
14 negotiated at what time they will be turned off.

15 And another problem is that we are  
16 saying the goose droppings on the County Park field,  
17 which we can be using for practices, all I want to  
18 say is what would be better, putting a new field on  
19 somewhere else where there's more houses and will be  
20 more distraction or putting the lights on a field  
21 that we already have now and using less money?

22 Thank you.

23 MR. WALL: Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. WALL: Anyone in the back?

1                   No.

2                   Anybody on this side?

3                   Yes. Okay.

4                   MS. TORRES: Hi. My name is Abbie Torres  
5 and I live on 170 Belmont Avenue.

6                   I just want to say that as  
7 a parent -- first of all, I'd like to ask, the  
8 people who are against this, do you have any  
9 children who are on any the teams especially  
10 softball? Because, you know, as a parent we will do  
11 anything for our children.

12                   As they stated before, when you  
13 bought your house, I'm sorry, but if you bought your  
14 house and you knew there was a field there,  
15 obviously, you knew that there was going to be  
16 noise, there was going to be things going on in that  
17 field.

18                   So, I mean, that's something you  
19 should have really considered. When we were looking  
20 for a house, honestly, if that's not what we wanted  
21 to hear, the noise, the music, the kids running  
22 around, well, we looked elsewhere.

23                   I really think that as a town, we  
24 should give these kids an opportunity to play.  
25 There is some really good girls out here that really

1 need the practice, that really look forward to  
2 scholarships, and without the practice they can't  
3 really go anywhere.

4 My daughter is one that she really  
5 loves the sport and we try to play with her in the  
6 field, but as they mentioned, the goose droppings,  
7 everything, the mud. When it rains, you have to  
8 wait a couple days in order for the grounds to be  
9 nice and dry in order to practice.

10 I just think that we should really  
11 consider giving these people an opportunity. Give  
12 them a chance. I hear the complaints and I was just  
13 wondering if the people who are complaining, do you  
14 have children in this sport? And I really don't  
15 think you do.

16 Because as a parent, you would do  
17 anything for these children. Like I said, we let  
18 them stay until ten at night, to be there a long  
19 time, just give them a chance, please.

20 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

21 MR. WALL: Thank you.

22 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you very much.

23 (Applauds.)

24 MR. WALL: This young lady hasn't had a  
25 chance to speak before.

1                   MISS BENSICK: Sabrina Bensick, 220 Gold  
2 Street, Apartment A.

3                   If we had the lights on our field, we  
4 would have more practice time. And more practice  
5 time would take us to championships and when  
6 everybody enters North Arlington, seeing that banner  
7 wave saying "First Place in Travel Championship," I  
8 think North Arlington would be proud. And if North  
9 Arlington is proud, you know what, we're all happy.

10                   And that's all I have to say.

11                   (Applauds.)

12                   MR. WALL: All right.

13                   MAYOR MASSA: Thank you very much.

14                   MR. WALL: Any other new voices that have  
15 yet to be heard?

16                   Okay. Thank you.

17                   MS. FAGA: Danielle Faga, 14 Statford  
18 Place.

19                   First of all, I want to say that  
20 when, three years ago we did decide to buy this  
21 house, we did like the fact that there was a park  
22 there.

23                   We were also told by several people  
24 in town that it promised that they would not allow  
25 any nighttime lights. So we do not have any problem

1 with the games being played. We actually like the  
2 fact that there's a park there, so when we have  
3 children, they'll be able to play in there.

4 That's number one.

5 Number two, Mr. Tetto just said that  
6 basically what they're asking for is April, May and  
7 June to have their practices from six to eight.

8 Well, it's not dark from six to eight. So that's  
9 fine with me. So what is the point for the lights?

10 And everyone else is saying, well,  
11 ten o'clock will be too late. So what are you  
12 expecting it to be? You're saying six to eight.

13 MR. TETTO: It's six to eight that we play  
14 now, it will be eight to 9:30.

15 MS. FAGA: That's not what you just said.

16 MR. TETTO: Well, I apologize.

17 MS. FAGA: Okay. So, again, I think 9:30,  
18 ten o'clock, I don't even think that -- I'm sure  
19 most of your children have bedtimes, so that doesn't  
20 seem like an appropriate time, especially for some.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. WALL: Thank you very much.

23 Before I go back to some of the folks  
24 who spoke before, just to confirm, is there any new  
25 voices who would like to speak for the record?

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. DEAL: Lisa Deal, 54 Arlington  
3 Boulevard.

4 I just want to address a lot of  
5 people, with all due respect, you're talking about  
6 the noise and the parking. Well, the issue here is  
7 the lights. We're trying to come to an agreement.

8 I do understand, but you are talking  
9 about unruly kids. We're trying to keep our kids  
10 involved in the town and sports and try to keep them  
11 out of trouble, so, I mean, you're talking about  
12 unruly kids, I don't know what kids you're talking  
13 about because these kids are great.

14 And we are trying to support them.  
15 And, you know, come to a softball game and look at  
16 the other towns how they play. Sometimes it's  
17 little embarrassing because we don't have that much  
18 field time to practice.

19 If you go to these other towns and  
20 you see these people and these kids the same age and  
21 the ability that they have. And not taking away  
22 anything from our kids, because our kids, they're  
23 all talented and they all have heart and dedication.

24 But if they don't have the time to  
25 practice, you're not giving them a chance to go out

1 there and compete against these other schools.

2 We are a small town but we want to go  
3 out there and give them a good competition and we  
4 want to keep these kids in school. We want them to  
5 go to college and excel and, you know, other people  
6 were mentioning scholarships. But I don't have a  
7 lot of money. I want my daughter to get a  
8 scholarship, so I'm going to keep her in softball  
9 for as long as she can play.

10 So I understand, you have a baby  
11 coming, if it's a girl, she's going to want to the  
12 play softball someday, she's going to want somewhere  
13 to play. And six o'clock, seven o'clock, it's  
14 April, it gets dark at seven o'clock. So just give  
15 us a chance.

16 There are ways that we can come to an  
17 agreement. We are talking about curfews. The music  
18 to me is not even an issue. We can just shut the  
19 music off; it's not a big deal.

20 The issue at stake here is the  
21 lights. So the parking issue, if you have an issue  
22 with parking over there, that's another town. We  
23 don't have anywhere else to go for the softball.

24 We have other places to practice but  
25 it's very minimal. So I'm just asking you to

1 consider it.

2 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, ma'am.

3 (Applauds.)

4 MR. WALL: Thank you very much.

5 As I mentioned before, if are there  
6 any new voices, the governing body wants to make  
7 sure that you feel comfortable that your voices are  
8 heard.

9 (Applause.)

10 MISS AMOLE: Gabrielle Amole (phonetic).

11 I just want to say that if we had the  
12 lights and, like people were saying, if we had more  
13 time on the field, we would get better and better.

14 We just had a scrimmage game, our  
15 travel team, against Rutherford, and they are 13, 14  
16 years old, and we're only 11 and 12, and we, if we  
17 had more time, we would have beat them.

18 And if we won the games -- if we had  
19 that banner, like Sabrina said, in our town, our  
20 whole town would be proud that North Arlington  
21 softball girls for once actually won the softball  
22 championship in our town.

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. WALL: Thank you.

25 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, Sir.

1                   MR. CRELLIS:  Giovanni Crellis, 48  
2 Schuyler Avenue.

3                   I just want to say that parking -- we  
4 have problem with the parking; we can also carpool  
5 and get less cars into the park so you have less  
6 problem.

7                   MAYOR MASSA:  Thank you, sir.

8                   MR. WALL:  Thank you very much.  Thank you  
9 kindly.

10                   Then we're going back to a lady and  
11 gentleman.  We will conclude if there no other new  
12 speakers.

13                   MR. FAGA:  Michael Faga, 14 Stratford.

14                   Mr. Tetto, I don't want to keep  
15 coming to you, but the last thing that you said with  
16 the curfews -- you do sound very reasonable.

17                   My problem is this; once the lights  
18 go up, it doesn't stop.  The football teams practice  
19 in the backyard, too.  They scream, they yell, they  
20 do push ups, they do man stuff.  I understand,  
21 again, part of the territory living with the field.

22                   Once those lights are up, now they  
23 want to use them.  That's not your issue, it's my  
24 issue.  Your season is done.  So it won't be just  
25 four months, it will be year-round.

1                   And any other sport who says, you  
2 know what, we need some extra nighttime practice,  
3 Allan Park.

4                   Again, my issue, not your issue. So  
5 you're right, you're only asking for four months,  
6 and you are asking to do some curfews that will all  
7 change.

8                   Just like 20 years ago, they said no  
9 lights. Now that's changing. Your reasonableness,  
10 your reasonality will change.

11                   So I do appreciate what you're trying  
12 to do and I think it's pretty fair what you're  
13 asking, but it won't be that for long, it will  
14 snowball. And it will always be my problem and only  
15 yours for four months.

16                   MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, sir.

17                   MS. FLYNN: Christine Flynn, 16 Stratford  
18 Place.

19                   I just would to like to say that,  
20 yes, my daughter is six now and I would like her to  
21 be on softball in the town, just like I was. But I  
22 do feel that she's too young for some of these late  
23 hours, which is why she's not on it yet.

24                   As we approach the summer months with  
25 the season, they play until dusk now and it is nine

1 o'clock when they stop. I know because I waited for  
2 my daughter to go bed.

3 And I'm worrying about the slippery  
4 slope that Mike is talking about where, you know,  
5 what is it going to lead to?

6 You know, you say maybe one night.  
7 Well, maybe it's going to be one night now and then  
8 some other team from other town or another school or  
9 another league wants to use it, and the lights just  
10 make it more easy to have an expansion all round,  
11 different kinds of leagues, different months of the  
12 year, later and later.

13 So if it's already going until nine  
14 now, what time is it going to go until? And like  
15 Mike said, we do have the football team using it in  
16 August. And there are some other baseball or  
17 softball teams that are using it in our months.

18 I'm not sure who they are, but they  
19 are there later in the summer. I'm not sure who  
20 they are, if it's Kearney, but someone else is  
21 there. It's just not just those three months.

22 That's it. Thank you.

23 MR. WALL: Two more speakers, Mayor, then  
24 I'll bring it back to the Mayor and Council.

25 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you.

1                   MISS WERNER: Veronica Werner, 3 Berkley  
2 Drive, North Arlington.

3                   I understand your concerns about  
4 this, but last year, being in upper division playing  
5 for about six years now, we did not win against any  
6 other traveling towns. We only won against North  
7 Arlington. That's it. If we would have had more  
8 practice time, we would be able to win.

9                   We lost every single game except  
10 North Arlington. That was it. It made my team  
11 upset among all the other girls playing all on the  
12 other teams. It's a very big disappointment to us.

13                   I know about the lights, we do not  
14 practice past maybe at night, eight o'clock. It's  
15 usually the high school or somebody else.

16                   That's it.

17                   (Applause.)

18                   MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, ma'am.

19                   You have one more person.

20                   MR. WALL: Yes.

21                   MISS ART: Meghan Art, 627 Schuyler  
22 Avenue.

23                   I understand where everybody is  
24 coming from but softball, our dedication, and we  
25 want to make our dedication even stronger.

1                   Thanks.

2                   (Applause.)

3                   MAYOR MASSA: Thank you very much.

4                   MR. WALL: Oh. I'm sorry.

5                   MISS GIORDANO: Caitlin Giordano, 31 Lake  
6 Street, North Arlington, New Jersey.

7                   Softball is really important to me  
8 and all of my friends that are on my team and I  
9 really want to have more practice so that I can get  
10 better in softball and I just really want to play  
11 all the time.

12                   So I just want to put in more  
13 dedication for this and I just want the lights so  
14 that we can practice later and have later games and  
15 we don't have to cancel them.

16                   (Applause.)

17                   MAYOR MASSA: Thank you.

18                   Ladies and gentlemen, at this time, I  
19 would entertain a motion to close the hearing to  
20 citizens.

21                   COUNCILMAN HUGHES: I'll make that motion.

22                   MAYOR MASSA: Made by Councilman Hughes.

23                   COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Second.

24                   MAYOR MASSA: Seconded by Councilman  
25 Bianchi.



1 the comments from the people in the neighborhood  
2 whose lives and livelihoods and repose, so to speak,  
3 would be affected in what they say in an adverse  
4 way.

5           It seems to be that presently they  
6 are adversely affected even without any lights. One  
7 of the residents made comment to the fact that years  
8 ago when the field was put in place in the midst of  
9 the residential community that promise had been made  
10 there never would be any lights.

11           I don't have any documentation to  
12 that effect. The question is, well, why are we here  
13 tonight?

14           Well, we are here tonight because we  
15 want to address that issue, because it's only fair  
16 to give a hearing to everyone concerned with any  
17 type of municipal activity or municipal business  
18 that has to come before this governing body.

19           And we have to be sensitive to the  
20 feelings and the needs of everyone concerned.

21           On Tuesday, myself and the Borough  
22 Administrator met with Mr. Dressler, the Director of  
23 Bergen County Parks Commission, and he had told us  
24 that the county was in the process of renovating two  
25 fields that are in the North Arlington side of

1 Bergen County Park.

2 One field has been closed due to  
3 serious drainage problem. I think a lot of you have  
4 tried to use that in the past and that just doesn't  
5 work. That field is going to be renovated but it  
6 won't be renovated until next year. The drainage  
7 problem won't be addressed. And, of course, that  
8 will be a very profound expense to the county, but  
9 they do want to have that available.

10 Keeping in mind though, they are  
11 county facilities and permits are required.

12 I've heard a lot of comments tonight  
13 about some of these fields are all sewed up by  
14 certain groups and certain leagues. Well, that's  
15 something that I think we got to take a look at  
16 also. So we have to take a look at a number of  
17 these issues.

18 Our recreation director, Mr. Hermann,  
19 made mention of the fact that some alternatives are  
20 being examined.

21 Everyone on this governing body is  
22 concerned about taking a look at the alternatives  
23 because we don't want to put something in place in  
24 the community that is going to result in a very  
25 serious impact on the quality of life of the

1 residents.

2           The residents are very accommodating  
3 from what I can see in that neighborhood because of  
4 the fact that the existing field is there already.  
5 But the field can only be used during the daylight  
6 hours.

7           So now the question remains is if we  
8 don't put lights in the field, where else do we go,  
9 where do our young ladies go, where does the league  
10 go to practice and play games?

11           If we put lights in the facility,  
12 there is a concern that the increased activity will  
13 have adverse parking effects, will have noise  
14 effects.

15           Some of the complaints that we  
16 received tonight were that some of the youngsters  
17 were not sensitive to the properties that are  
18 existing there and there some either property damage  
19 or some littering happening and a lot of noise.  
20 That seems to be a continual issue that we heard  
21 from the residents.

22           So we are keeping an open mind to  
23 this entire process and that is why we are doing  
24 this, because in a community where we want to hear  
25 from everybody; it would be unfair to say no. It

1 would be without an informed judgment, informed  
2 community, and it would be unfair to say, yes, we're  
3 going to go ahead and do it with complete disregard  
4 for the quality of life impacts to the people of the  
5 neighborhood.

6           So this is an issue that has to be  
7 thoroughly examined by the governing body. And I  
8 think, very importantly, we have to look for  
9 alternatives. And that's what we're in the process  
10 of doing now.

11           So the governing body will not act on  
12 any proposal this evening until they have an  
13 opportunity to weigh all of the effects and all of  
14 the positive and negative impacts this would have  
15 for both the softball teams and people of the  
16 community.

17           But I, speaking for myself, want to  
18 thank you for joining us tonight.

19           I want to thank all of you for having  
20 the concerns and I want to very much salute the  
21 young ladies here from the league joining us tonight  
22 and the coaches and the parents.

23           That's what community involvement is  
24 all about and I'm glad to see that. And I'm glad to  
25 see the people from the community.

1                   Some of the things that were brought  
2 to my attention tonight I wasn't fully aware of  
3 because they never reached my desk, with respect to  
4 noise complaints that go unanswered. But we will  
5 see that those complaints are now addressed now that  
6 they've come before the governing body.

7                   So I'm going to ask if any of the  
8 Councilmen would like to comment further on any of  
9 the hearing, citizens and this particular issue at  
10 this time.

11                   Councilman Bianchi.

12                   COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: I liked the comment  
13 that Gary Burns made. I'd like to have Jimmy  
14 Hermann and Mike Tetto meet up tonight, make it a  
15 point to see Dr. Stringam and see if schedules can  
16 be made.

17                   I know the varsity baseball team uses  
18 that field down there. But do they use it every  
19 night?

20                   MR. TETTO: Yes.

21                   COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: They do use it every  
22 night.

23                   MR. TETTO: Senior league baseball also  
24 plays and little league, they practice there.

25                   COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: All right. Because

1 sometimes I pass by and that field is dark. But I  
2 don't know, if you could speak to Dr. Stringam,  
3 about maybe there is a schedule that you could use  
4 it, Jimmy is going to handle it.

5 MR. HERMANN: I will handle that.

6 COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Can you handle that?  
7 Because if we could use that maybe just two nights a  
8 week, Saturday and Sunday night, Mike, you know,  
9 maybe Saturday and Sunday night, until we can  
10 rectify this problem, that would be good.

11 Because when I was a kid, I played  
12 softball on that field, too.

13 MR. TETTO: That was long time ago, Joe.

14 COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Yeah, Abraham Lincoln  
15 was President, yeah, I know.

16 You know, you could play softball  
17 there, you'd just have to shorten the bases. As  
18 long as the kids could practice. Maybe Sunday  
19 afternoon. I don't think the varsity uses it Sunday  
20 afternoon, or Sunday around four or five.

21 If you could find the schedule out,  
22 you and Jimmy, the both of you, maybe you can use it  
23 two nights a week and get these kids some practice  
24 time, until we can get that field down in Bergen  
25 County fixed up because it is a mess.

1                   Like one of the people said here  
2                   tonight, that maybe we can use those dogs, those  
3                   wooden dogs to keep the geese away, because it is --

4                   PUBLIC SPEAKER: No, it doesn't work.

5                   COUNCILMAN BIANCHI: Doesn't work?

6                   Well, anyway, we're trying. You  
7                   know, Mike, we're trying.

8                   All right. That's all I have to say.

9                   MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, Councilman.

10                  MR. WALL: Councilman Kearney.

11                  COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: Yes.

12                  My daughter is in softball and many  
13                  of you know her, Tiffany Kearney.

14                  (Applause.)

15                  COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: I want all of you to  
16                  know that we are ultra sensitive to the needs of the  
17                  girls softball team. We were just presented with  
18                  this issue maybe a little bit more than two weeks to  
19                  go, not a lot of time to really make decisions.

20                  And as some of you may have known  
21                  from sitting in other Council meetings or speaking  
22                  to us, we're facing an approximately  
23                  three-and-a-half million dollar deficit that is  
24                  going to be passed on to taxpayers.

25                  Now, we're going to try to make

1 solutions here. I don't know if these solutions are  
2 going to come by April 12th when the season  
3 officially gets started, but I want all the girls to  
4 know, and I also want the neighboring residences to  
5 the field to know that we're sensitive to what this  
6 governing body, the predecessors from this governing  
7 body had agreed to, not to put lights in that field.

8           And we're trying to weigh the balance  
9 and it's not so clear-cut where the needs of the  
10 many maybe outweigh the needs of the few.

11           But I think that maybe I'll speak  
12 just for me and these are my present thoughts. We  
13 are going to try to get a solution.

14           I know that the rec director,  
15 Mr. Hermann, and the people that are working with  
16 him, I know that the Council people, some of the  
17 concerned citizens, like Gary Burns, and all of you  
18 coming up with great ideas, we're going to somehow  
19 try to shuffle the deck so that we can come up with  
20 a solution.

21           And I don't know that it is going to  
22 be made as quickly as maybe all of us would like it  
23 to be made.

24           So I just wanted to say thank you for  
25 all your comments, especially the young ladies, and

1       whatever we can do, we will do that's within our  
2       power.  And thank you.

3               MAYOR MASSA:  Thank you, Councilman.

4               MR. WALL:  Councilman Hughes.

5               COUNCILMAN HUGHES:  I'd like to reiterate  
6       some of what Councilman Kearney said.  We are aware  
7       of your concerns, everybody's concerns.  Not only  
8       the needs of the softball league, but the needs of  
9       the residents.

10              In the period of time that the two  
11       weeks that this was first presented before the  
12       Council, we have made attempts to identify  
13       properties within the Borough that could be  
14       developed.

15              Most of the land in the Meadowlands  
16       right now that is in the North Arlington area of the  
17       Meadowlands is owned by the EnCap/Cherokee  
18       Corporation and is in the process of being  
19       transferred title back to the Meadowlands  
20       Commission.

21              A lot of this land then is going to  
22       be sold for redevelopment.  So we're going to be  
23       meeting with these developers who want to come into  
24       this town and see if they can get us some fields  
25       developed down there, take some of that land that's

1       there and try to get it developed for recreational  
2       purposes.

3                       It's probably the only land in North  
4       Arlington that we could actually develop and expand  
5       our recreational facilities. So we are looking at  
6       that.

7                       We have also looked at the field that  
8       was originally designed to be part of the soccer  
9       field. We've applied to Congressman Rothman's  
10      office for a grant, but our engineers tells us that  
11      because of where that field is located, it's about a  
12      \$1.2 million project.

13                      So we have applied to Congressman  
14      Rothman's office for funding through the federal  
15      stimulus package to try and develop that field along  
16      the soccer field which has adequate parking right  
17      now.

18                      We're also looking into land that the  
19      Borough owns that is actually below the soccer  
20      field. So in two weeks since this has first come to  
21      our attention, as a Council as a whole, we have made  
22      significant strides into looking into it.

23                      But we do ask you to be patient  
24      because these things are not going to be solved  
25      by -- like Councilman Kearney said -- they are not

1 going to be solved by April 10th.

2 We do ask your indulgence; we do ask  
3 your patience, and hopefully we're working very hard  
4 to find a solution that everyone will be happy with  
5 and everyone can live with.

6 MAYOR MASSA: Thank you, Councilman.

7 Anyone else, any other members of the  
8 Council?

9 Mr. Clerk, continue with the agenda.

10 MR. WALL: Yes, Mayor, Council.

11 Resolution 100-10 is a resolution  
12 regarding executive session, "Whereas the Open  
13 Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 commits the  
14 exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain  
15 circumstances, and whereas the Mayor and Council is  
16 of the opinion that such circumstances presently  
17 exist.

18 "And whereas the Mayor and Council  
19 wishes to discuss legal opinion and advice with  
20 regard to the requirements the Borough must follow  
21 in regard to municipal court.

22 Public release of the discussion will  
23 only occur after council approval. Action may or  
24 may not occur after discussion."

25 MAYOR MASSA: May I have a motion, please.

1 COUNCILMAN HUGHES: I'll introduce that.

2 MAYOR MASSA: Motion by Councilman Hughes.

3 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Yes.

4 MAYOR MASSA: Seconded by Councilman

5 Johnson.

6 Call the roll.

7 MR. WALL: Councilman Hughes?

8 COUNCILMAN HUGHES: Yes.

9 MR. WALL: Councilman Johnson?

10 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Yes.

11 MR. WALL: Councilman Kearney?

12 COUNCILMAN KEARNEY: Yes.

13 MR. WALL: Councilman Tanelli is excused.

14 Councilman Yampaglia?

15 COUNCILMAN YAMPAGLIA: Yes.

16 MR. WALL: You're now in executive

17 session.

18 Ladies and gentlemen, thank you very

19 much on behalf of the Mayor and Council for coming

20 this evening. We will take a five-minute break.

21 Children, have a good night's sleep

22 and we thank you folks, everyone for coming.

23 (Whereupon the public hearing was

24 concluded at 8:50 p.m.)

25

## C E R T I F I C A T E

I, KAREN GAGLIARDOTTO KOCSIS,  
a Certified Court Reporter of the State of New  
Jersey, authorized to administer oaths pursuant to  
R.S. 41:2-2, do hereby certify that prior to the  
commencement of the examination, the witness was  
sworn by me to testify to the truth, the whole truth  
and nothing but the truth.

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the  
foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of the  
testimony as taken stenographically by and before me  
at the time, place, and on the date hereinbefore set  
forth.

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am  
neither a relative nor employee nor attorney nor  
counsel of any of the parties to this action, and  
that I am not financially interested in the action.

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the within  
transcript format complies with Rule NJ ADC  
13:43-5.9.

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