

The minutes of the regular Public Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook held on September 8, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Building, 93 Market Street, Saddle Brook, NJ.

Council President Camilleri called the meeting to order.

Township Clerk called the roll:

Councilman Cimiluca – absent until 7:02 PM

Councilwoman Mazzer – absent

Councilwoman D’Arminio – present

Councilman Accomando – present

Council President Camilleri – present

Mayor White – present

Mr. Suarez, Twp. Attorney – present

Mr. Lemanowicz – Twp. Engineer – present

Council President Camilleri asked everyone to please rise for the salute to the flag and to observe a moment of silence in remembrance of the terror attacks on 9/11/2001 and the passing of Edward Steiniger, retired school crossing guard and Mr. Setticase.

Council President Camilleri announced that adequate notice of this meeting has been sent to all Council members by police messenger on August 26, 2016 and to all legal newspapers in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

The Township Clerk announced that the public is hereby advised that any statements made during the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook may not be privileged or protected and that persons or entities who take issue with such comments or are offended by same, may, and have in the past, sought legal redress through the courts.

Any member of the public who addresses the Council speaks for themselves and not for the Council.

Council President Camilleri asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Motion: Councilwoman D’Arminio

Second: Councilwoman Accomando

Councilman Cimiluca - yes

Councilwoman Mazzer - absent

Councilwoman D’Arminio - yes

Councilman Accomando - yes

Council President Camilleri – yes

Ms. Susan Molina of 224 Midland Avenue introduced herself as a health coach and the person who organized the Walk with the Mayor for the annual picnic. She said one of the things she wanted to point out from the New Jersey Health Department is that the adult obesity in New Jersey is one out of every four people, and that childhood obesity is at a rise. These are statistics from the New Jersey Health Department, so if you go on their website you can find it yourself. The concern is the economic impact. In 2008 \$2.2 billion dollars was spent on health care for obesity related problems in New Jersey, and by the year 2018, that’s going to rise to \$9.3 billion. So it’s a crisis, and so we need to work as a community to get everybody healthy. And so because I’m now a member of the community, I want to collaborate with the community and ask for everyone’s help to give ideas on how we can work together and offer programs and bring education and exercise and nutrition and physical activity to Saddle Brook, and one of those examples was at the annual picnic when the Mayor walked with over a hundred people. There was over 1500 people there at that beautiful lake, so it was an opportunity to see that Saddle Brook is one of the towns in the State of NJ that has accepted the Mayor’s Wellness Challenge. So I’m here today to ask for your help to find ways that we can help Saddle Brook become healthy through nutrition, physical activity,

body/mind/spirit and through meditation or whatever it takes, so that's all I wanted to say.

Council President Camilleri thanked Ms. Molina and asked if anyone had any questions.

Mayor White said through the chair that he would be working with Susan to put together some kind of programs that we can implement to make the town and the residents healthier. He said he would be calling Susan soon.

Councilman Camilleri said I know with our health insurance, with Post Benefits, our broker, there is something in our package where they will work with the workers in town, and they have special programs for that. I don't think it's at any cost. Maybe you could work in conjunction with them. They do offer some wellness programs.

Ms. Molina said awesome, definitely, thank you.

Mr. Lou Rodriguez of 7 Franklin Avenue said I received information that the property that backs up onto my house is now going to be turned into some type of a park or a gathering by Platt Ave right by where Route 80 is. I was just wondering if I might be able to get information. The only thing I'm concerned about is obviously if anybody is there, the safety of my family and the safety of my home. I have small children, so my daughter's bedroom backs up against that area. So I would want to make sure that there is fencing, or something there just to make sure. She changes, there's showers, there's things like that. I just was hoping I might be able to speak to somebody just to see what actually some of the plans might be so that I know I can ensure my family is safe, and my house is safe.

Council President Camilleri said there is actually nothing carved in stone, in concrete. We are going to be turning that into a park. Some of your safety concerns are also our concerns because we did all together talk about putting up fencing, and when it does come into a park we will put up fencing. I think Councilwoman D'Arminio has brought that to our attention, but any of your concerns are deeply taken up here, and I'm sure we will accommodate to almost all of them. Right now there are no plans or anything drawn up in concrete, but it is going to be going on.

Mr. Emil Sudol of 412 Van Luyk Terrace said through the chair to the Township Engineer, I noticed that during the week some sections of Fifth Street have been closed for construction. What exactly are they doing? Are they replacing water lines, or are they repairing the drains? I don't have a clue. I know they have been working basically from Market all the way, even across Route 46 even on to the south side. I just don't know what they're doing. Do you have any information?

Mr. Lemanowicz explained the project involved issues with water quality and the 10-inch main and 6-inch main. They were switching over to the 10-inch.

Mr. Sudol said two small pipes to one big pipe. Is there anything being done for the drainage? For the flooding problem that's constantly there?

Mr. Lemanowicz said coincidentally we have a drainage cleaning project that is cleaning the storm drain that runs from Fifth Street. He explained the route of the storm drain and said that whole line is being cleaned, and it will be camera'd to make sure it's clean.

Mr. Sudol said that could be a major factor as far as that flooding there.

Mr. Lemanowicz said I know Mr. Lo Dico has been working with the County to get the ditches clean in back of that property, the properties that front on Fifth. There are some ditches back there that Mr. Lo Dico is getting the County to clean that up.

Mr. Sudol said I noticed that basically they haven't been going down horizontally. They're going vertically across the roads.

Mr. Lemanowicz said they're providing new water services to all the buildings.

Mr. Sudol said so nothing will be done directly to each residence like new copper lines or...?

Mr. Lemanowicz said no.

Mr. Sudol said an issue that has really been bothering me is the Caldwell Avenue senior housing project. Here another month passes, and zero progress. Here the township is losing, I'm just saying ballpark, about \$7000 a month in property taxes that we should be collecting from that property or that we have been. I'm sure there's other factors too. I'm sure now we're also paying the DPW to service it. I'm sure we're paying for the insurance and everything else on it. This project has been horrible. It's been enough already. I think we should stop bleeding here if we can. It's well over \$80,000 a year, probably I'm sure a lot higher than that that we're losing out by getting involved in this project. That's serious money. I just wish we can get away from this project, perhaps sell the property to a builder and have the builder come in and put four beautiful houses in there and get that property back on the tax rolls, which would benefit everyone. To lose that amount of taxable income is, I don't know, it's horrible. This whole decision to move ahead with this project is not right. It was the wrong thing to do. We should at least put a deadline with the County on this thing.

Council President Camilleri said not to interrupt you, Emil, but we are working on a deadline. Councilwoman D'Arminio said we do have a deadline. Mr. Sudol asked when, and Councilwoman D'Arminio said December. Mr. Sudol said December is the deadline. If nothing happens between us and the County, this project is done? Councilwoman D'Arminio said exactly. Mr. Sudol said and we can move on? Councilwoman D'Arminio said exactly.

Council President Camilleri said just to shed a little more light, Emil, that was even before my time when the town purchased that, so we're just giving you our updates on it. We're all on board with that, too. If it doesn't come through this time, I don't know what's really going to happen with that.

Mr. Sudol said it's just the way I see it. If we didn't get involved in this project, we would have collected enough money, enough property tax money, and I'm sure it's been a few years already that this has been going on, and this would have been more than enough to pay off our tax appeals, which we just got hammered for this major tax increase in town. I'm sure this money that – a hundred plus thousand dollars a year that we're losing – if that went towards the property taxes, we wouldn't be left holding the bag like we were. I just hope there's no more major tax appeals.

Council President Camilleri said we all hope that as well.

Mr. Sudol brought up the reassessment and said my house was reassessed yesterday, and the inspector was there for maybe ten minutes or less. How is this going to benefit the homeowners in town having our property reassessed at this time? I don't know how this works.

Council President Camilleri said basically what we're trying to do is keep it at 100% assessed value, and it's the big tax appeals which are the commercial appeals. If we keep those in check, Emil, and we just keep those in check with one appeal, it will pay for itself, and from all the charts and everything that were presented to myself that I did look at, it does switch where your homeowners – the taxes do stay much more stable, and your commercial does pick up the end that we want them to pick up. It's also being proactive instead of reactive.

Mr. Sudol said I understand that through time property values change, they rise, they decrease. Are the commercial properties also being re-evaluated or is it strictly residential? Council President Camilleri said it's both. It's commercial and residential.

Mr. Sudol said it's just that this tax increase was a pretty rough thing to swallow, and I'm sure it was a real burden and a hardship for a lot of people in town. This hurt pretty bad. That's pretty much all I got to say. Thank you for your time.

Council President Camilleri commented on the flooding on Fifth Street and said we're all on board with that as well. As far as I do know about that, if we can complete this last leg behind MAACO, the auto body, Thermo, and we get that tied up, it's all clear under Route 46, it should definitely alleviate the flooding that goes on there because that water should all be taken out into Garfield and then out to the Passaic River.

Mr. Sudol said I hope so. It would be a home run.

Council President Camilleri said I look forward to completing that.

Mr. Jack DiLisi of 331 Outwater Lane and 330 Sixth Street said the Mayor has been nice enough to take time and meet with me and a number of residents that live on the south side of town on President Street and that area. The Council, I think, is aware the prior administration was aware, that there is a problem on President Street. There were a number of stop signs that were put there to try to take care of the issue that we have there with all the traffic and the speeding that's going on there. That's a very high volume road. There's a number of cars that go there with the Saddle Brook Mall, and with the Wal*Mart being there, it's used a lot. It's heavily traversed. People use that as a short cut, and people are blowing through at 40 miles an hour where we have kids that are in that area. There's a small park that's being completely – has been completely neglected for years, but that's a completely separate story. Nevertheless, we use that park for our kids, for rec. I understand there's a business that's in that area that's looking to use that park as well, so there are kids that play in that area and now that the stop signs that were put there by the prior administration were removed, we're back to square one. We have the speeding problem all over again, and there's nothing that's there to alleviate that. Not that I was a big fan of the stop signs. I've had this conversation with the Mayor. I think the Mayor is right that they were not necessarily legal. It did deter or at least slow down the traffic, even if people blew right by them, and they were a little unsightly, so I know that the mayor has mentioned to me that he's had conversations with the Council. He's met with people in that part of the town, and he's brought the suggestion to you that he'd like to have – we would like to have some speed ramps put in on that side to alleviate the issue. And the benefit, I agree with the Mayor, is that we don't lose any parking spaces if we have two speed ramps there as opposed to stop signs, and also it looks a lot nicer. The situation that we have there is pretty much well known, and I think the prior administration had gone and actually sat in people's homes in that area. They're not here tonight, but I've sat and spoken to them on President Street. They have told me they've had the same issue and the prior mayor sat inside the home and watched the cars speed up and down that road and said my goodness, there really is a problem going on there. That's why she had the stop signs put there.

So it's not like we need to confirm that there is an issue there. There is definitely an issue there. That's why the stop signs were put there. We need to have something there, and I think the speed bumps would be a nicer solution than the unsightly stop signs that we had. I'm hoping that the Council supports the Mayor's idea, supports our request to alleviate the issue hopefully with a minor cost and a minor construction project that it would require to put those in. We're not looking for five or six. I think one or two would be sufficient in that area, the area between Fifth Street and Route 46, which is where the mall traffic is heaviest. Before somebody gets hurt in that area, before a kid gets run over, before we need to go any further, it seems like a very simple solution to a pretty substantial problem that's documented and established and everybody is aware of it, and hopefully you guys – lady and gentlemen – are on board to help us out in that part of town. I have lived there my whole life. I'm 48 years old, so I know the area pretty well. I've invested in that part of town. I don't think that's a secret either. I own three homes in that part of town. I grew up in a separate home in that part of town, so yeah, I would like to see that part of town taken care of. I see a lot money spent throughout the entire town with roads being paved and parks being beautified and what have you, and it seems like through the years that side seems to be neglected. If we can please do something to help us out, we'd really appreciate it. If you guys have any feedback or any comments, I'm happy to sit and listen and respond hopefully.

Mayor White thanked Mr. DiLisi for coming and explaining the situation. He said I met with Jack and three other residents about a month ago, and I received two complaints from residents there that weren't at that meeting. The concern was that the stop signs were taken down.

Mayor White said Chief Kugler is here and he can probably shed light on this whole situation because the stop signs were taken down because the chief had reviewed and the police department felt that there was problems there with the parking. People were getting parking tickets because parking is limited there as it is, and people were parking too close to the stop sign because the law says it's within 50 feet. If the stop sign is in front of someone's house; they weren't able to park in front of their own house. There was issues; there was too many of them. We thought it was a little bit overkill, so that was why the chief had recommended that we take them down. He then asked Chief Kugler to explain the situation.

Chief Kugler said he was very familiar with the area and the issue and all the neighbors there. He said he grew up there himself, 55 years and added President Street has a number of streets that are about 300 to 350 feet apart. Stop signs were put up at every block from Fifth to Ninth. If you just look at it in a simple way, a stop sign is not justified every 350 feet. It just isn't. What we came up with was a halfway point, Seventh Street maybe. We thought about doing it not only at Seventh but at Third. That's where, originally, the two stop signs were supposed to be. It's the halfway point, and this Council was happy doing that. Then the Council got happier and put the stop signs up at Sixth, Eighth and Ninth. That was a little bit too much.

Chief Kugler said we scaled it back. We originally proposed to put one at Third and one at Seventh. The Fire Department complained, so we took away from Third, and then Seventh was negotiated to be at Eighth because we do have an issue of traffic coming off Route 46, and it would be a problem. So rather than push that stop sign further back, we pushed it up to Eighth Street. That's the current situation. You have a stop sign on Eighth Street, and I believe the residents' concern is from Fifth to Eighth some three blocks or maybe 1000 feet, there could be speeding and there probably is. There's speeding on every block, and it's not that the police department is not doing their job, but we would hope people do 25. We would hope they do 30, but obviously people do what they do, and we try to enforce the rules and the law as much as we can. Right now, you have a stop sign at Eighth Street. I think what the resident has said is that he would like to see a speed hump, speed bump or something like that in effect. We talked about that with the engineer. The engineer is probably in a better position to explain the issues with speed humps or bumps. They're loud. It's an issue, and maybe the town engineer can expand on that. The police department is willing to participate in any negotiations or talk about what we've got to do to help the neighborhood. The bottom line is there is a stop sign on Fifth Street. Years ago there was not one, so you were able to go from Midland to Route 46 without even stopping. So Fifth Street there's stop sign, which is halfway, and again they were put at Third and Seventh, but that didn't work out. I guess I will just allow the engineer to talk about the speed bumps because I think that's what Jack and maybe some of the neighbors would like to see there, and I think you need to hear it from the engineer about what exactly we can do and what the issue's on. Chief Kugler concluded by suggesting the residents of President speak and give some input as well.

Mr. DiLisi said you're right, there was one stop sign initially every block, and that may have been overkill. I've acknowledged that from the outset, but you've got to consider the issue traveling east and traveling west. The traffic coming off of Route 46 traveling east is coming off onto President Street. There is a stop sign as soon as they come off that ramp, which they hardly see, so no one stops at that stop sign. They may slow down a little bit, but and then they're gunning it to Fifth Street to go make a left, or they're making the illegal left turns down Sixth Street because they know that's an easy outlet from the Saddle Brook Mall where they come down to take the shortcuts into the other streets. The same thing is happening the other way, when they're traveling, that direction would be west. When they're traveling the opposite direction, toward Route 46, toward Wal*Mart, that's east, from Fifth to Eighth. They don't stop at Eighth Street, and there's other residents here that will

tell you the same thing. They blow right by Eighth Street. They know that they're not going to get stopped; they see that there's not a cop there. There's no police cars, so they're going right through it. They're not going 25. A speed bump would make them go 25. I'll listen to what the engineer has to say, but I love what the Mayor suggested, the new form of speed ramp that is noiseless. If you're traveling at 15 or 20 miles an hour, you're not bottoming out on that speed bump. I hope it's not going to make any noise. I know there was one particular neighbor on President Street that complained about the stop signs and said they would stop and then they would take off, and apparently one neighbor had a very heavy influence on his complaints because the squeaky wheel gets the grease, I guess. I would hope that there is a solution, and the Mayor had a great one. I hope the engineer agrees that there are types of speed ramps that we can put in now that if you travel the correct rate of speed, and you don't hit them at 40 or 50 miles an hour, they're not going to make a lot of noise. I've looked at some of them on the Internet, but I'll let the expert testify.

Mr. Lemanowicz said the speed humps, they are not the speed bumps that we used to see, which looked like half a log on the road. That's old technology. There's two things now, one is called the hump as opposed to the bump, which is a specifically designed mound. I think they're about 15 feet from front to back. Then there's another one that's called a speed table. You come up, there's a flat spot and then you come down. They work. When they're designed properly and they have the proper cross section, it's designed for that speed and the suspension behavior of the car, and they do slow down traffic. There are some problems with them. One, they do cause noise. When someone hits them, even just going over them, you will hear a car go over them. It might not be loud; you're not hearing the frame hit the pavement, but you do have that noise. The other issue you have is emergency vehicles; they have to slow down too. So the alternative to that is you place gaps in the device across the speed table so the fire truck or something with that wide of a wheel can straddle them so they don't have to slow down, but then neither does the FedEx truck, the UPS truck, any truck with that axle can just skootch over and go right through. So there's pluses and minuses to everything.

Mr. DiLisi said I don't think we have too many UPS trucks that are going 40 or 50 miles an hour. If they do, they probably wouldn't be working for UPS very long. Mr. Lemanowicz said again, I've done this for a lot of municipalities, and the reality of it is, I think the average right now is we remove 25% or 30% of all the speed humps we put in within one year because residents complain.

Mr. DiLisi said whereas the old speed hump does not have any noise issue. It forces them to slow down, but then you have the issue with the fire trucks, you're saying. Mr. Lemanowicz said even the humps and the tables, a lot of times they come right back out within a year because the residents along the street – again the other situation is, and I'm not justifying anything, they have their arguing points but as soon as that 2000 Honda Civic that's about three inches of the ground creeps over it, he punches it and takes off again. It's not a lot better than the stop sign issue you have when they hit the gas and just take off. Again, they do work, but you have to understand, there's going to be some new issues.

Councilman Accomando said through the chair, the hump won't interfere with the production of DPW as well if you use a speed table, correct? Because they're plowable. Speed humps, you have to remove. Mr. Lemanowicz said no. He explained the difference between speed bumps and speed humps and speed tables. Councilman Accomando said the Garden State Plaza has speed tables.

Mr. Lemanowicz explained the use of the speed tables at local malls. He said the hump and the table are both current DOT-accepted methods. There are permanent, and there are temporaries. He said he did not believe temporaries are DOT sanctioned at this point because there is a certain striping plan for the DOT sanctioned ones. He said they are very, very visually obvious because there is a liability to it because you know if somebody is going to blow down that street going too fast, wreck their car and sue the town anyway because they didn't realize there was speed hump there.

Mr. DiLisi said they can sue the town; the town is immune. There are signs and what have you. Mr. Lemanowicz said it doesn't stop them. Again, I'm not advocating – I'm just saying that this is stuff that I've seen. There's plusses and minuses to everything. You have a situation, and the Council is trying to deal with that situation. I'm trying to make sure my information is accurate.

Mr. DiLisi said if you're saying the table or the other one that you design make noise, then I personally say why not go with the old style of speed bump because are they going to hit the speed bump and then gun it just to stop two blocks later on Fifth Street? I don't think so. And it's not eliminating any parking if you do that. It's a simple little hump, and they're going to have to go slow. I don't think it makes any sense, even if I'm 17 years old in a 2000 Honda like you're saying, to hit a speed bump, go as slow as I need to go because it's a hump, and I don't want to bottom out my car or the front of my car and then gun it again only to have to stop at a major intersection at Fifth and President. Nobody is foolish enough to drive that way. If you are, then you don't mind getting seasick in your own car when you're gunning and stopping, gunning and stopping at every block. Nobody does that. And it doesn't take away any parking, and if it's going to make noise the other way then why not go with the old fashioned style, which is just a hump?

Mr. Lemanowicz said again the speed bump, I would not advise because that's doing something that's non-standard. The hump, the short one is non-standard, so you would have a hard time defending – the town defending itself because it's using something that's not DOT-sanctioned. Mr. DiLisi said it doesn't make any noise? You're saying none of those make noise.

Mr. Lemanowicz said the bump is the worst one. Mr. DiLisi said how does that make noise if they have to go really slow when they go over the bump? Mr. Lemanowicz said you'd be surprised. You still hear it. Mr. DiLisi said because they're hitting it fast, you're saying? Mr. Lemanowicz said yeah.

Mayor White said through the chair, Jack and the other neighbors over there are obviously very concerned about the speeding, and in speaking to them, I would never want to say that they're exaggerating anything. If anything, I truly believe that there is some kind of speed problem there. I think what we have to do, and we were in the process of this with the chief and Tom the engineer, and Tom can explain a little bit better, we were going to put a speed counter there. The engineer's office has, as part of their equipment, we were going to do that. I believe you. Believe me, I believe you. It's just I think the Council, they're going to ask me, and they're going to ask the engineer and the chief to be able to justify this expense and justify the need for a speed hump, and there is considerations, as the engineer said. We're going to get complaints the other way once we put them in. That being said, I still feel that we should conduct an investigation and conduct a speed survey, have the police monitor the area, and let's see what we come up with. I believe that we're going to see that there probably is excess of speed there. If that's the case then we can ask the Council and I know this Council is going to be concerned as well if there is a speed problem there and perhaps agree and vote to do that.

Mr. DiLisi said I don't have a problem with that except that this has been an issue that I know from my experience in town. There's at least three Council members that were part of this administration and are fully aware of everything that's going on, and so why do we have to start back and square one? You saw, you believe us, and you have been great. It was your idea with the speed bump, but excuse us, and forgive us when it sounds like we're going to go through red tape and brush it under the table and do a traffic study, come back at the next meeting, and then the number of people slow down. We all have busy lives; we can't always make it to the meeting. There's probably another half a dozen residents in that area that I've spoken to that have said they want to come, but they can't always come out, and they're concerned about it. So we know that there is a speeding issue. It was bad enough that there was already a decision made to put a stop sign at every corner. Why are we starting back at page 1 when it can be easily resolved and just decide what we need to do to fix the problem? We know that there is a problem. I don't think there's that much traffic on many other streets in town unless you're talking about a major street like Market Street or some of the major roads. It's not like

we're asking for an isolated road on a desolate part of town to be given some attention. I think we've already established that there is an issue there. That's why at least three members of this Council decided to spend money on that issue once before. If that wasn't the right solution, then okay, we can tweak it, but to start back over at page 1 and re-invent the wheel with a traffic study, and everything else to me just seems like a needless waste of time.

Council President Camilleri said you can't just go in there and shoot from the hip and start putting speed humps wherever you see fit. We have to do some kind of study to measure the road out. Our engineer would have to go over there and figure something out, figure a design, and then put it on paper and work up a cost on what it would cost.

Mr. DiLisi said I'm not suggesting the engineer shouldn't be involved, but I'm saying a speed study to establish the fact that speeding is an issue on President Street. I think that's already been established. To design it properly, I'm all in favor of that. I'm not suggesting that for a minute. I think the engineer should be involved, and I had never brought up the idea of a speed bump. The speed bump came up from some other neighbors and the Mayor, who I thought had an excellent suggestion. He said let's do it right. I appreciated the fact that he said that. He said that at our meeting, and I'm all in favor of that. I'm just saying to go back and do a speed study, that part seems to be established.

Council President Camilleri said there definitely would have to be some engineering and design involved. To go all the way back to ground zero, I kind of agree, would be a waste of a lot of time, but just listening to the engineer a little bit, I think the hump would be out of the picture because he's saying they're not using them anymore. We'd have to go to a table, and I think the table would have to be designed, and that may be the answer, but again we'd have to conglomerate [sic] with the chief and everybody to see the whereabouts, the cost and all that.

Councilman Cimiluca said four or five years ago this has been an issue; we know that. There was a town meeting about what should be done. The vote was to put those stop signs in, an inordinate amount of stop signs in my opinion. I voted against that. I was in the minority. I did not vote for that. I thought it was overkill. I have always stated, and you go back four years, that I think the speed tables or speed humps, whatever the more modern technology is, would be appropriate, and I always bring up North Arlington because I myself went with our DPW superintendent. We took a ride over there on a Tuesday morning, talked to their superintendent and looked. North Arlington is very hilly. They have no speed bumps. I don't even know if they're speed humps, speed tables that kind of gradual rise. There are the stripings, and there's actually a sign that tells you, you're going to come up to a speed hump, so you better slow down. In North Arlington on the downward slope, it really is for safety, not only for speed, because if they weren't there without your foot on the gas go 60 miles an hour. It is a very steep hill there. So just for safety purposes, you need them. For President Street it's also for safety, but it's not to protect someone from just idling and going 60 miles an hour; it's to stop people from using the cut-through because one of our main roads is Midland Avenue, and you've got 46, which is a state highway, and President Street connects them. So it is a cut-through. I would like, and I've always said we should have these things. The issue is just like the stop signs, how much is necessary? Were the other five stop signs necessary or prudent? Are four speed humps prudent? Then again, where the engineer comes in and the police, where is the best position for them? Originally we thought Third Street was good for a stop sign. It turned out the fire department says that interferes with their operation because they're on Third Street. When we took down the stop signs, we put one on Seventh Street, which is pretty much the mid-point between Fifth and the highway. That didn't work, so we went to Eighth. No matter where you put it, it may cause some problems, and that's why I agree with Joe and Tom in that you've really got to look at it close because unlike a stop sign, which you can just cut down, I think these speed humps would be a lot more difficult to pull out. So we've got to find the right spot. I'm 100% in favor of it, and I'm thinking one between Midland and Fifth and one between Fifth and the highway would do enough because they are long. You are going over, they may be when you look at it – 15 or 20 feet, and you really do have to slow down. You could probably do 40 over it, but you're risking your health

and the health of your vehicle by doing it. I've seen people crash through it, but I've also seen people crash into walls. People do stupid things. There's a sign; you have to put up a sign. DOT regulations say you have to put up a sign. Hey dummy, there's going to be a speed bump, here and somebody just blindly goes through it. I'm 100% in favor of it. I think, like everyone said, we've got to do it the right way because it's not going to be easy to rip it out and redo it if we don't get it right the first time, but 100% in favor of what you're saying.

Mr. DiLisi said thank you. I'm friendly with every member of the Council and the Mayor, and you've always been there to help us out when we need help. I don't mean to sound like I'm coming here and complaining and saying anything negative about this current administration at all. I'm not. I appreciate your comments, Andy. I've known you for a long time, and I appreciate that you're in favor of it. If the rest of the Council is in favor of it, I'm going to sit down. I appreciate that. I just wanted to voice that concern. There's some other people here that want to make some comments. I want to give them a chance to do that. If the rest of the Council members wouldn't mind commenting on it, if you're on board with Mr. Cimiluca's remarks, then we'd love to hear that too, and I'll let everyone else speak.

Mayor White said I don't want to take credit for the idea of the speed hump or speed platform. I just want to let you know, and Mr. Lentini and the others that are here know, that this was thoroughly discussed at a work session by the Council and I when we took the stop signs down. We didn't just want to arbitrarily take them down, and we had a good discussion. I don't remember who it was, but somebody on this Council had brought up that idea, and I thought it was a good one in case we had a problem. So I just want to say that we are all trying to do the right thing here.

Mr. Joseph Lentini of 300 President Street said not to beat a dead horse here, but obviously the signs are taken down, and a lot of the residents were surprised when they were taken down because they seemed to be helping with the speeding. I'm sure the chief of police will agree that any time he had officers posted there, they probably gave out more tickets there in Saddle Brook than any other place in Saddle Brook. All I ask is, I'm sure any other resident asks is, obviously what kind of hump, bump, table we put in has to be legal, has to be DOT-approved, and I would suggest putting as few as possible in at least initially, this way if they don't work out we don't spend a lot of money moving them, replacing them, adding them. Thank you.

Council President Camilleri thanked Mr. Lentini and said point well taken.

Mr. Omar Rodriguez of 275 Madison Avenue introduced himself as eight years Council member, four times Council President and currently a Council candidate for the general election on November 8, 2016. He congratulated the Mayor and Council for a job well done on the picnic, celebrating our 300th anniversary of the town and said that's a great job. I hope they continue doing that. That brings together a lot of people, hundreds of people that I've seen there that I haven't seen in years. With that being said I want to express myself here, and if any Council members will have any questions and comments about my presentation, they can do so while I'm here so I can at least respond and not afterwards because I can't do nothing.

Mr. Rodriguez said I'm here to offer solutions. Some of them might be taken, some might not be taken, but at least this is the forum of the people, and you were elected for the people and by the people.

To respond to some of the comments that were done by prior speakers right there, I would like to answer some of the questions on Caldwell Avenue. It was asked how many years we have the property or we owned the property. It's going to be five years on Caldwell Avenue, and we paid \$850,000. I was one of the most vocal opponents to that because the residents of the neighborhood at the time were against it. Now, I'm glad to hear that there's a deadline, and I hope the construction gets done and some seniors can get some housing there. I'm going to cross my fingers that before December we can have that done.

Also there was another issue that was mentioned right here about Fifth Street. The DEP has been doing some road work, and they are spending close to \$1.2 million. While they are there, my understanding is they found oil. If they find oil on any property, there are studies that got to be done before they continue doing work. This is the time I believe that the town, through the mayor's office and engineer, I believe that we should request for the peace of mind of all the residents of the second district which I belong to, I believe they deserve peace of mind and we should request from DEP to do a study. For years there has been a lot of talk, when it used to be a factor that that's been contaminated. We don't want the taxpayers to end up on the hook many years from now, and we will have to pay. Since we have the DEP, why not tell them to do a test on the brook or under the building? If you go, and I have pictures that I can share with you. I don't know why that water got different colors, multi-color. I'm not an expert on chemistry. I'm not pretending to say that, but I believe the DEP should do a study on that, so hopefully I'll leave you with that idea and this might be the time so the taxpayers, and especially the residents in that area, feel more comfortable, and we should have a formal report on what happened when they found oil. Did they remove everything? Did it go anywhere? Any homes has been touched? Effected by this? So I leave you with that.

Mr. Rodriguez continued, also it has been said about commercial properties. I believe it was Mr. Sudol that discussed about taxes. It was mentioned whether or not for commercial. I just want to clarify one more time, and I've been here for months on this one. I'm not trying to elaborate, but all we did is not trying to be proactive or reactive, and I respect that, but what we just did is just bought new software, that's all we did. We bought a new software because the person that is supposed to do the job are not doing their job. So we just bought them a new toy for them to keep track of all the properties in town and have them in line. I can just say, that's never going to lower the taxes. Once again for all the people at home, every time that we lose a tax appeal, commercial tax appeal, we have to burden those taxes. They will not come – most of you haven't seen the letter, if not all the residents that own properties have received a letter saying they are going to do a re-assessment. It says in the letter that some of those homes will be inspected inside the house, some of us may not. I'm a little bit confused about that. I don't know, the Council might know, but I don't think that they are in a position to answer that question because it's kind of tricky, the language. Because the envelope came in appraisal systems, and the letter was signed by one of our employees. But it says some of our homes might be inspected at length, and they may ask for access, and I still don't understand about commercial properties, and we're talking about millions and millions and millions of dollars. Every time we have in the past any vacancy, what have they done? They hire the biggest attorneys, and they fight with the town. Unfortunately we haven't been able to fight them back, and we have tried to argue with those tax appeals, and the vacancy is no longer there. We're not going after them. This new survey is not going to resolve the problem. Those commercial businesses, I got nothing against them, all I'm asking is that everybody should pay their fair share of taxes. They did by Chapter 91, which is the income and expense analysis, so they fill out a form, supposedly saying the truth. All the burdens, all the expenses, based on that, that's how they do it. That's what's called Chapter 91.

With that being said, I'm just going to move forward, and since I mentioned taxes, on the campaign trail I met a lot of people, and their biggest concern is taxes. I just want to put a human face to the taxes. To some of you, it may mean a lot. To some others, it means the world. I met a family that I have been the soccer coach. Beautiful, decent very religious family – the best family you can think of. Their business went under, and they're going through financial struggle. Like many of us, including me, and I know some of the Council have happened also, and some of them feel the same. There's nothing wrong with it. It's not a sin to have financial difficulties.

Regarding this family, Mr. Rodriguez said I won't mention the name but...it's off Saddle River Road. These people have made a lot of effort to put their three kids in school. Parents are 50 years old; they are not working. One of the kids is going to be a doctor. The second one is going to be a dentist. The youngest one is a nurse and is working part time, and she is the one that's supporting the family. Right now

their taxes went up \$1100. What do they do? I have to sell the house or my kids' education. This is what's going on.

Mr. Rodriguez said now, me. I said, once your son becomes a doctor – he's doing a residency. In two and half years he will be able to become a doctor. He will be good, but from here to there what are they going to do? There's no jobs for people over 55-60, and if there are, they don't pay well. There are people with PhD's, Masters Degrees, that don't have jobs, but they will have to pay increases. That is what taxes are. That is a human face. Based on that, I'm going to move on and say, how can we help the people? Not just those people, but people like seniors who live on fixed income? I'm all in favor of freezing the taxes for seniors, and I know they're going through – there's been some confusion with some of the seniors' tax bills. They've been getting increases that they shouldn't. They're going to come to Town Hall. I told them to come, but we should start thinking of something.

He continued that health plan insurances is close to \$35,000 a year. What are we going to do? We can't talk about the past, but we can talk about the future. Can we do something about that? Some people are doing two or three jobs to maintain their homes. We're not a rich town, so please consider that.

I'm just here for the main purpose that we're going to have to work together, and I'm here to present solutions. Some of them you might take, some of it might not take. I would like to propose here tonight, several months I have been here, and I don't know if you guys have done something or not. I don't think that it's possible that one officer, as much as I love the police department, and I've been fighting and I've been in the trenches, and the first row asking for more police officers because we have – at times, we have too many chiefs and not enough Indians, and we request more patrol, so the hiring came and I applaud that. But now we are at a time that we can't allow this, that one police officer making \$250,000 per year in a small town like ours. I brought this up several times, months ago. I don't know if something has been done. I even said that the taxes are going to go up, in the good sense, not to be negative. So now, based on that, I would like to propose for your debate or determination to do a salary cap. There should be a salary cap, otherwise the sky is the limit, and we've got to think for the well-being of every single employee, and they're doing a wonderful job, but also we've got to think about the taxpayers. As long as it's okay with the civil service law, I believe that it's time to think out of the box. Some positions can be capped at \$150 to \$200,000. It's time to do that, and I think a review of those cops every ten years. Please do that or try to consider that.

Mr. Rodriguez continued, also for months I've been asking to please consider doing a sharing agreement, do shared services with our Board of Education. As much as Board of Education got their own board, Council got their own board, the taxes come from one pocket. It's the same one; it's the taxpayer. I'm not saying to get rid of people. We can do it by attrition, but we can work together. We can serve them; they can serve us. It's one town only. We should work together. We should be able to do that. And actually that will increase the municipal revenue and sometimes eliminate the need for outside contractors because, of course, we can look inside the house, and we can do it ourselves.

Also, just in closing, I would like to say that when I was calling different names, when I was standing right here and I was studying the plans to the bathrooms that were being built at Veterans' Field and the stands for \$1.5 million, you guys and the residents know that I'm the biggest defender of the project. I was part of the administration that built Veterans' Field, but I couldn't imagine a bathroom of \$1.5 million with the town...marbles being built right here in front of the castle, and we were assured that the money was there. Thank God that when it was approved, the money wasn't there. Because I don't think that Saddle Brook needs a \$1.5 million bathroom. We have to learn to live within our means. Now, I believe there's going to be a lower budget. Unfortunately the children will not be able to use those facilities this year, but they will be able to use it next year and on. The reason I touch on that is because right there, where the field is, 900 units were going to be built. When I took office in January of 2003, a week later we were in superior court fighting those 900 units, and in turn we allowed the developer to build elsewhere,

but we kept a beautiful field up there. Also I fought for a long time, for a long time for the abolishment of the position of Deputy Chief of Police if and when Deputy Chief White retired, and I was told it was not possible. Then the Council saw the light, after I brought some ordinances and asked them for it to be done, and that saved us alone – that saves us every ten years over \$2.5 million. Two point five million dollars every ten years. That savings – that's the kind of savings that we have to start looking into because after we have to give some relief to the taxpayers and me, strongly. I gave up my health benefits when I was a councilman because I believe that a part-time councilman couldn't and shouldn't have medical benefits. Nowadays it's very expensive, close to \$35,000 a year, and my yearly salary I donated to the ambulance corps. With that, I'm just going to leave you. Thank you for listening, and if you have any questions, any comments, I will entertain them.

Council President Camilleri said hold on, Omar, please don't leave because I have a couple of simple questions. First of all, a lot of your points are well taken. You bring up a lot of good points. The thing that questions me, and this isn't the first time you've said this about software, the new plan that we brought in with taxes. I was at the presentations when we had our workshop meeting, our closed session meetings, and there was no software at all presented. So, can you elaborate a little more?

Mr. Rodriguez said of course. Thank you for the question. What you guys purchased at a cost of \$75,000 per year, it is basically what I was proposing that we could have done in the town. For \$75,000 we are giving this company access to 25% of all the homes in Saddle Brook. What they are going to do is create a database, and they're going to tell you if somebody made an extension of the bathroom, right away that bathroom from that software that they're going to install or give access to the tax assessor. They're going to tax that home. However, we just did a revaluation not long ago; we just did a revaluation. That information I'm basing on that is because supposedly we were given a discount, but I asked at one of those work session, what kind of software do we have right now? Is that database going to be merged with the one that Appraisal Systems is going to implement? That question was never answered. When I say software, it is because right now, those homes that they are living in with ... I could say temporary certificate of occupancy. Guess what? They're not paying taxes. You want to know how much taxes they're paying? I'm going to tell you. Some of them are going for more years because they don't have a final seal. They start saying that they're going to remodel the kitchen, they're going to remodel the living room, they're going to remodel this, they're going to remodel that. It's been an ongoing thing for years, for years. It's a loophole that we can close it through legislation, through the building department and those people are not paying in town their fair share of taxes. Supposedly what this new software is going to do –

Council President Camilleri interrupted and said I want to stop you right there. Again you're –

Councilman Accomando interrupted and said, if they're getting away with this, don't you think this system that we're doing would benefit the township to know that these people have been going four or five years without fixing their house? So now this company is going in and seeing all the improvements, so now those people who have been cheating the system are going to get their taxes raised, which they deserve because if you're going to try and beat the average citizen out of their taxes, you deserve to get your taxes raised \$4000 or \$5000 because you tried to cheat.

Councilman Accomando said, I know what you're saying, but I think that's where this system benefits.

Mr. Rodriguez said Councilman Accomando, you're totally right.

Councilman Accomando said so then it's a good system?

Mr. Rodriguez said no.

Councilman Accomando said no? It's not a good system? I'm getting confused here.

Council President Camilleri said Councilman Accomando brought up a point saying how people that are going through these loopholes, this system will stop that. Now I –

Mr. Rodriguez interrupted and said can I just respond to that? Because you just made the comment, the problem is the person or the people that are accountable are not doing their work. As simple as that. And on top of that, we are actually giving him or her or the department a present. You did a bad job? Well, we're going to make it easier for you. We're going to let somebody else do the job that you were supposed to be doing. He'll get paid for a lot. You've got to get paid for something. That job, you think that somebody is going to be doing after hours from 7 to 9 or 6:30 to 8:30 two days a week, but we're not going to get into that.

Council President Camilleri said yes, I think we're getting off the track.

Mr. Rodriguez said but no, the point is somebody should be doing that.

Council President Camilleri said Omar, I think it's my meeting, and the first question just was, I just wanted to know about this software which was never presented to us, and somehow you got your hands on this where this software is going to redo something in our taxes, and it was never presented to us. So I don't know where that's coming from. I just wanted you to clarify what the software was all about.

Mr. Rodriguez said that purchase is from the database of Appraisal Systems, so it tells you exactly who bought it.

Council President Camilleri said I don't need that, Omar, please. What am I going to sit here and read it for an hour?

Mr. Rodriguez said no, you can take it home.

Council President Camilleri said no, that's just my point. I just wanted to ask you what the software was. It was a simple question, and we went off on different tangents. Councilman Accomando brought up a very key point. If the software is what you were describing, it will prevent people from cheating the system, and we will be getting our fair shake on our taxes. That was just one question I had. I do want to move on because I don't want to put this mosaic out there. You can still stay because you might want to respond. That we're spending a million and a half dollars on bathrooms. That never happened, Omar, so I just don't want the public to take a false assumption there thinking that those bathrooms and the concession stands that we're putting in at Veterans' currently right now cost a million and a half. No, it didn't. I want that to be out there to the public. We're actually spending under \$600,000 on that project. You didn't put that across. You put the \$1.5 million, but we never heard what we are actually spending there.

Mr. Rodriguez said Council President, I'm glad you brought it up. What I said, maybe you didn't pay attention to me...but I said I'm glad that the plans for the \$1.5 million – but now, it was – when they did it right here, the prior engineer. Now, I'm glad to hear now, because I asked the question, how much costs each tile and the guy says, we'll get back to you, and he never came back with a big tile this big, marble, the best of the best Italian. Did we get that? No. Thank God we didn't have the funds. What I'm saying tonight is, I'm glad to see that we're moving forward with the right project, and we should live within our means. That's all I'm saying. And if we knew that the commercial tax appeals were going to come, how come we didn't put money aside on a yearly basis?

Mayor White said I just want to say one thing regarding what Omar said about, and Councilman Accomando also alluded to. I don't want the public to think that there's a lot of incidents where people are not paying their fair share of taxes. Yes, there are some isolated incidents out there where maybe somebody will do an addition or do something and it's not completely inspected or they didn't get a final CO or

something like that, but I believe that's minimum. That does happen occasionally; it will happen, and it's corrected. So that's correct that it could happen, but it doesn't happen frequently.

Councilwoman D'Arminio said through the chair, I think most of the residents on the south side of town have left, but I'd like to go on record giving my full support for us to resolve the speeding. Let's go forward, Tom, and figure out what we can do, and let's put it together.

Mr. Lemanowicz said he and the Mayor have had a meeting, and we have that device. Unfortunately our software got upgraded to Windows 10, and I'm having some issues with the software for the device, but we should have that straightened out. The location actually was being impacted by the Fifth Street construction, and with Labor Day week it probably wouldn't be a representative week, but I expect we'll get those things out there next week. We'll get someone to put that together.

Council President Camilleri said I'm in agreement with that too.

Councilman Accomando said through the chair to Mr. Lemanowicz about the kid driving down the street bottoming out his car, I could care less about that. All I care about is the safety of those kids. First of all, the kids drive around with these low cars, the chief can tell you, it's illegal anyway, so if they bottom out and they want to sue the township, I say bring it on. As long as we have better safety for the kids and residents, I could care less if ten cars bottom out.

Mr. Lemanowicz said I'm not trying to talk you into or talk you out of anything. All I'm saying is I've been involved in somewhere around forty municipalities and I'm just sharing with you what I've come across because I don't want this to be six months after they're in and somebody said, you never told us that. That's all I'm doing. These devices do work, there's no doubt about it. But with every benefit there's a cost, and if the cost is okay with the town, by all means. I don't necessarily mean financial, but there's new issues that come out whenever you do something. You're always going to get somebody not happy with what you do. I'm just trying to make sure you're prepared and you understand some of the potentials, that's all.

Chief Robert Kugler introduced himself as the chairman of the 300th Anniversary committee. He said the Mayor has asked that a representative of the committee come to practically every meeting this year to give an update and talk about the 300th anniversary celebration. He thanked the Mayor and Council, specifically Councilwomen D'Arminio and Mazzer for all the assistance that was given to the committee and in particular for this picnic. He noted we had nearly 2000 people attend, and he thanked all of the businesses and individuals who gave their support to the event.

Chief Kugler then talked about the Tri-centennial Park and said this project is not set in stone. There is no set of plans; there's no done deal. But we do want to dedicate that parcel for the event and there is going to be a time when we're going to approach all those neighbors. He noted that while there are beautiful park areas in town, they can be an attractive nuisance and you can have individuals in there for criminal activity and just being a nuisance to the neighborhood. He added that there's no doubt that before this thing even gets put on paper we will be visiting the neighbors... whoever abuts up to that property. He explained they definitely wanted to put a privacy fence in addition to greenery, trees, shrubbery, something to block the view, the noise, and to not have any problems with this park contributing to your problems and your backyard. He said he felt the Mayor and Council shared the same thoughts.

In regards to the gala, Chief Kugler said the next event is going to be our annual gala to end this celebration that we have been doing. Right now we set the date for Friday, November 11th, Veterans' Day. He said please if you are interested in attending, look at your calendars and set aside Friday, November 11th. More information on the gala will come, but since I'm here and maybe by the time this airs, our committee will be working together, sitting down together and getting the fine details.

Chief Kugler mentioned the photo journal and said we still want people to send in their old photos. He talked about the resident at the pizza party who turned 100 years old that night and noted that in the last couple of weeks we found someone who is 102. So if you can break the record, please get that information to us. We're still interested in finding people that either have the most amount of years, the business the most amount of years in town, old artifacts, pictures, etc. Please get them to the Mayor's office or somehow to our Facebook, give us information so we can follow up with you.

Chief Kugler said there was a sellout of those 300th anniversary t-shirts. We still have them. We're ordering more, so please if you're interested in the t-shirts, ...please continue to get your orders in to the Mayor's office or on our Facebook page to make sure we can reserve one for you.

Chief Kugler thanked the Mayor and Council for their support and all the residents who participated and attended the event, making it the great day it was.

Mr. Larry Ratajczak of 92 Claremont Avenue said I know a big topic is our taxes and our tax increase. I know it's an election year. I know there's Council people up here, there's a councilwoman missing tonight, but individually what has each Councilperson done that they can tell the audience or tell the residents to lower our taxes? What attempt have any of you made? Let me hear it.

Council President Camilleri said I could speak for myself. I guess you're aiming that question at me.

Mr. Ratajczak said I'm aiming it at everybody. Everybody is accountable.

Council President Camilleri said we do go into closed session meetings, time and time again. We all put our heads together, and we do figure out what is best for the town of Saddle Brook. It's a lot of times where there aren't that many good options, but when you have bills to pay and things have to be paid just like you work your own home, you have to come up with solutions to do it. Yeah, I'm a taxpayer in this town as well. My taxes went up, too. Not thrilled about it, but I think what we did, not think, we did do, we had to solve the issue, and we did solve the issue. I'm speaking for myself. Thanks.

Mr. Ratajczak asked any other Council person?

Councilwoman D'Arminio said I agree. We went with the rolling re-assessment because I think that's going to correct the situation in the future.

Mr. Ratajczak said what did we do for this year to try to lower our taxes? Just this past year.

Councilwoman D'Arminio said we didn't overspend on anything this year. There was no spending. The tax increase was because...

Council President Camilleri said I don't mean to interrupt you, but you're talking about savings, Larry. One thing we did, we booted out the bathrooms and concession stand at Veterans' Field that were over a million dollars. We chopped that back to under \$600,000. The money was there; it was earmarked for that project. Everybody is in agreement. Recreation is a big part that entices families and kids to come into town, so I think that's one thing we all worked on together. I'm speaking for myself. I'm sorry I interrupted you, Karen. But there's one big issue that we saved money, Larry.

Councilman Accomando said you have to remember some of these tax appeals are eight to ten years old. This didn't happen overnight, and we weren't aware of it.

Mr. Ratajczak said were we planning? Were we doing any planning? Any of the old Council people? Mr. Cimiluca, you've been around for a while. Did you know the tax appeals were sitting there?

Councilman Cimiluca said of course.

Mr. Ratajczak said of course? And what did you do about them?

Councilman Cimiluca said let's get this straight. There will always be tax appeals. There were tax appeals. There have been tax appeals since taxes were invented. You have a feeling, I don't know where you get it from, that there was just this extra money and we can throw it at some account and put it in a pocket, and all of a sudden a tax appeal comes up and we can throw it out there.

Mr. Ratajczak interrupted and said, Mr. Muhlstock was there and handling the tax appeals for the towns. He told us, and you told us, we were in good financial shape. And yet we had ten to fifteen large tax appeals sitting there, so we all, or you all, knew that the tax appeals were there, but you were telling us on this side of the fence that we're in good shape, we're moving right along.

Councilman Accomando said we did not know about these tax appeals until the tax assessor let us know.

Mr. Ratajczak said right. You're only here two years. You didn't know anything. You got blindsided. You got blindsided.

Councilman Accomando said some of these are eleven years old, I believe.

Mr. Ratajczak said yeah, and Mr. Cimiluca has been sitting up here for eleven years, Ms. Mazzer sixteen years.

Council President Camilleri said I was on the council. This is my fourth year. I was told we were in good standings tax wise with the big appeals, and it didn't come to pass. We weren't in good standings.

Councilman Cimiluca said I think when you're talking about financial shape, I think you were talking when the auditor was talking about that.

Mr. Ratajczak said I'm talking in general. Everything in general I'm talking about. Like I said, we just got hit with one this year from one place, \$563,000, Park 80. That's one place. \$563. What are our choices when you have them large tax appeals? What are the choices that the town has? What can we do?

Council President Camilleri said you can fight them, taken them into litigation –

Mr. Ratajczak interrupted and said, right. Like I said, you can stop and cut spending. You can stop and cut spending. You could borrow money.

Council President Camilleri said one second please. Spending, again, I want to emphasize. We didn't over spend; we didn't go crazy.

Mr. Ratajczak said okay, we're in check. We're in check with everything. Like Omar said, that cop made \$250,000. How does that happen in a small town like this? And not one. How does that happen? Are we Chicago? Are we Paterson with shootings every weekend and stuff like that?

Mayor White said through the chair, that had been a lot of overtime.

Mr. Ratajczak said that's a lot of overtime.

Mayor White said their base salary...

Council President Camilleri said we're not Chicago or Paterson. We are a safe town, Larry. We can't cut our police force. We want to stay safe.

Mr. Ratajczak said we're top heavy.

Mayor White said, and that was probably reimbursable overtime where the town got reimbursed by private companies.

Mr. Ratajczak said we don't do anything. We're not pro-acting now. We panicking now, looking for this company to bail us out, this A&S. That's why I want to ask about A&S. In 2013, I appealed my taxes. I got a letter from A&S saying they would act as the expert for the town for the tax appeal. So right then and there we had a relationship with them. Yes or no?

Council President Camilleri said if you're telling me you appealed your taxes in 2013.

Mr. Ratajczak said I have the letter right here. I have the letter. Now, does Mr. Carlson work for A&S or have a relationship with A&S appraisal systems, our tax assessor?

Councilman Cimiluca said he does not work for them.

Mr. Ratajczak said does he have a relationship with them?

Councilman Cimiluca said he deals with many towns, and they deal with many towns.

Mr. Ratajczak said well it might be a coincidence that this year a letter got sent to the house from A&S, and it was signed by Mr. Carlson. Is he working for the town, or is he working for A&S? Mr. Carlson sent a letter out saying that we 'may' go into your house in an A&S envelope. Not a Township of Saddle Brook envelope. The other thing I didn't like...we'll answer the questions one at a time. That night when we voted on that contract, if I'm selling you a \$375,000 contract, I'm walking you down the aisle until I get you there, until you sign on the dotted line. That guy was not in the audience that night because it was a done deal. It was a done deal, and he had no need to be here. He had no need. That's the obvious. It stunk so bad. Like I say, if you're trying to sell somebody a job, you take them right to the end. You're showing somebody a contract, you walk them right to the end. He didn't even attend the meeting because he knew he had us in his pocket. He knew he had us in his pocket. And he does. He has us in our pocket. And you're going to see how we're going to get beat up for five years now with this guy. Like I say, there's too much hanky panky going on with the tax assessor not working, the tax assessor being with A&S and A&S being like I said back from 2013. I just happened to save the envelope and the letter from A&S, and answer me why is Carlson's letter in an A&S envelope?

Council President Camilleri asked if the letter was on Saddle Brook letterhead, and Mr. Ratajczak said no, it's not. It's signed Saddle Brook Tax Assessor. You got a letter. You got the same one that I did. You've got to read it.

Councilman Cimiluca said what he's saying is the letterhead, does that say Township of Saddle Brook?

Mr. Ratajczak said Township of Saddle Brook in an A&S envelope.

Councilman Cimiluca says A&S sends out a lot of things.

Mr. Ratajczak said this is from our tax assessor. It should be from our town. Like I say, if you're mailing a letter from your law office, you mail it out, it's Andrew Cimiluca. You don't put it out in and say Tom Lemanowicz. No. Come on. Like I say, the whole thing stinks. The whole thing stinks.

Councilman Cimiluca said we saved on mailing, Larry.

Mr. Ratajczak said no we didn't save on mailing. There's a relationship there where we're rewarding a company and a tax assessor for not doing his job, and we're going to bail him out now. We're trying to do it this way, and we're blaming the commercial tax appeals. It's not going to happen. It's not going to happen.

Council President Camilleri said we're not blaming the commercial appeals, Larry. That's hard case facts. We needed the money to pay that appeal. The commercial appeal.

Mayor White said they're using a town envelope, and Mr. Ratajczak said they're not in a town envelope. It's an A&S envelope from a township employee.

Mayor White said right, but I think most people will open it up. If they see that it's A&S they're going to just throw it out. If they see it's from the Township of Saddle Brook, they're going to be more -

Mr. Ratajczak said Bobby, here's how it comes. See this? And then you open it up and it says...Township of Saddle Brook. I'm saying, the same thing with the contract. The guy's not here the day that you're voting on the contract. How good does that look? How good does that look? What kind of salesman? He must be the greatest salesman in the world because he don't have to show up for the vote. You know you got it. You know you got the job. You were told you got the job already. Don't worry about it. You got \$375,000. Don't worry about it, and like I said, he won't give us a guarantee if we get a commercial tax appeal and we lose, that they're going to pay legal fees. They're going to send a representative there. They're not going to send a lawyer there. We're going to pay the lawyer, and that's why we lose. That's why we lose. We don't have the lawyers, the firepower to match up with these guys.

Council President Camilleri said you what it is, too, Larry, sometimes you've got to cut your ties because litigation fees could escalate and escalate and escalate, and that's what we talked about.

Mr. Ratajczak said when Park 80 Plaza comes in now, they just got \$563,000. When they come in and say their building was assessed at \$90,000 and they come in and say now it's \$80,000. Do we appraise that building or do an appraisal on that building, or do we just take their word for it? A large building like that. Mr. Lo Dico said we do an appraisal. Mr. Ratajczak said what is the cost to do an appraisal on that building?

Mr. Lo Dico said it depends on the building. It could be –

Mr. Ratajczak said I'm using Park 80 Plaza. Mr. Lo Dico said I don't know. We've had it \$5000. They are appraised by the town.

Mr. Suarez said it depends upon the size and amount of money that the project is, so \$5000 for McNerney is pretty much a standard, and these numbers with regard to settlement of these cases are usually done with the recommendation of the assessor. And at times, when it's a major project, where you're looking at a giant jump, Bob McNerney, who is the tax appraiser, will look it over and say I think you should resolve it for this number, otherwise if you take it to trial, you're going to end up losing, so do it this way. You're not using the assessor all the time. To answer Mr. Ratajczak's question because that company does work in other towns, I think what happens is when you contract with them, Rick from Appraisal Systems probably puts together a mail plan and whatever else is necessary and says give me the letter or whatever needs to be sent out, and I think that they do the whole package.

Mr. Lo Dico said they have done that in the past with taxes, the appraisals, the assessment, we've had revaluations. Mr. Suarez said that's how that works just so you know. The company will do it all.

Mr. Ratajczak said I even asked them if they were the only company that did it, and why didn't we get another price from another company? We didn't do that either. Right?

Council President Cimiluca said time was of the essence. Mr. Ratajczak said we always wait until the final minute to do everything. When are we going to learn? When are we going to learn? Poor planning on your part doesn't make an

emergency. You know the clock is ticking, it's ticking, ticking, ticking and we always wait until the last minute.

Councilman Cimiluca said, Larry, with all due respect, I believe that was talked about at a meeting. I'm not sure if you were at that meeting. You do attend most of them, but you may not have been at that one. And in regard to that, Appraisal Systems already has our data system, and that is one of the things I think that Mr. Rodriguez is talking about, about the software. It's cheaper for them to do it because they have the basics there, so it's easier and cheaper and I believe that other places that have used them to use this rolling reassessment found it much cheaper than to bring in an outside company that didn't have that same database. It's \$375,000 or thereabouts or \$75,000 a year. It's a five-year gig because our ratio was down to 79%, and the County will require us to do a reval.

Mr. Ratajczak said that was 2016. Correct? Like I say, the last five years were at 98.75. How much closer to 100% do you want to get? That was 2014. We still had tax appeals then. Okay, 94.88 is 95%. We're going to see what we're going to come out this year. Like I say, how close do you want to get? Like I say, you believe in everything this company is telling you. Like I say we did have that year 79.9. We're under 80%.

Councilman Accomando said through the chair, those years were good because those tax appeals were still in litigation.

Mr. Ratajczak said but we still have tax appeals. We still had them. They still came in and got us, the commercials. They still came in.

Councilman Accomando said we didn't have to pay for them; they were in litigation. Mr. Ratajczak said we didn't pay for them yet. That's right, we didn't pay for them yet, so we're still in trouble.

Councilman Accomando said that's what I'm saying.

Mr. Ratajczak said let me ask this. Back in 2011 we had some troubles with tax appeals, and Mr. Cimiluca, you were Council President at the time. Do you remember what the Council did back then to take care of them? You borrowed \$700,000, bonded right? Seven hundred thousand dollars. Now is that paid off?

Councilman Cimiluca said is it paid off yet? Mr. Ratajczak said yes. Councilman Cimiluca said I doubt it. Mr. Ratajczak said you doubt it? So we knew back in 2011, we borrowed \$700,000. Where were we going? What happened in '12, '13, '14, '15, '16? Five years we knew? We knew we had this sitting here, \$700,000. We probably can't borrow any more than what we borrowed. We're maxed out. You see what we're doing? We're backing ourself into a corner. We're in a corner now. You're not going to get out. Like I said, how many of you knew about the \$700,000? Did you know, Joe? Council President Cimiluca said no. Mr. Ratajczak said, Karen did you know? Todd did you know? Andrew, you knew because you signed it. You think you should share that information with your fellow councilmen? And we should re-elect you? And we should re-elect Ms. Mazzer who knew this? We should re-elect you?

Councilman Cimiluca said I'm not getting you. There was –

Mr. Ratajczak said you're not getting me? You should share what you're telling people.

Councilman Cimiluca said share with my Council people that we bonded four years before? That something happened?

Mr. Ratajczak said right! Because we can't bond now! We have to raise the taxes!

Councilman Cimiluca asked how do you know that?

Mr. Ratajczak said before you didn't raise the taxes! You bonded the money! You bonded it. Right here, you bonded it. Right here. I'm saying you don't know if it's paid.

Mayor White said part of the rules of this is the loss of revenue. You can bond for the money that you owe in back taxes or when there is a tax appeal. It's the loss of revenue. For example if –

Mr. Ratajczak interrupted and said, Bobby, like I said, you've got a guy sitting up here who's running for re-election, was part of a \$700,000 whatever-you-want-to-do -- maneuver and didn't share it with the other Council people. Now he wants to run for re-election.

Councilman Cimiluca said I didn't share it with people who weren't elected yet? Is that what you're –

Mr. Ratajczak said you should share it with Joe and say Joe, you know back in 2011, we did bond \$700,000. Karen, we did bond \$700,000. Councilman Cimiluca said how far back should I go? 2008? Mr. Ratajczak said whatever you want to do, Andrew. I don't know how far you borrowed the money. I don't know. You were doing all the numbers. That's what you do. You're all slick. You're all slick, and you don't share nothing with nobody, and nobody knows what's going on. Nobody – it's funny, Andrew. Like I say, it's very funny. It's hilarious.

Councilman Cimiluca said you are hilarious. You're very entertaining.

Mr. Ratajczak said I am a hilarious person. I love to see when you do things like this and expose you and show the people how you really do.

Councilman Cimiluca said we bonded to pay for tax appeals, which is what you generally do. And you pay it off.

Mr. Ratajczak said I don't think we can do it anymore. I don't think we can. We're maxed out.

Councilman Cimiluca said okay. You have zero to back that up. How do you know that? I don't know the answer to that, but apparently you do.

Mr. Ratajczak said Andrew, I'm not sitting there. You should know that. Andrew, you should know that.

Councilman Cimiluca said you're going back five years and looking at minutes and bond ordinances from five years ago. You obviously come here with an agenda -

Mr. Ratajczak said right, to expose how bad the town's being run by you. And you shouldn't be sitting up there. You're not capable...

Council President Camilleri called for order.

Mr. Ratajczak said here's another thing. In 2016 we made a duplicate payment for...we got a refund back for it... a duplicate debt payment, \$284,000. What's that mean? It says MT BANK duplicate debt payment to be refunded.

Mr. Lo Dico said that was picked up. Mr. Ratajczak said \$284,000, yes. Mr. Lo Dico said it was a debt payment. Mr. Ratajczak said but we paid it twice. Mr. Lo Dico said the amount was wrong; we got the money back. Mr. Ratajczak said so we paid it twice in other words. Mr. Lo Dico said the original amount was wrong that we paid and we got the money back. Mr. Ratajczak said we got \$284,000 dollars back on a mistake. Like I said, we got to watch the money a little closer than that than to be paying things like that. Like I said, we're not in a pro-active state right now; we're in a panic stage right now.

Council President Camilleri said I wouldn't say that, Larry. Mr. Ratajczak said I hope I'm wrong. I hope I'm wrong.

Council President Camilleri said, it's everything again that was presented to us on the Council and myself. Mr. Ratajczak said I hope it works. Like I say, I'm sure the people aren't happy about it. That's the big thing. You've got to keep the taxpayer happy. And when they see –

Council President Camilleri said we're taxpayers too, Larry. Mr. Ratajczak continued when they see shenanigans like this going on, now we'll get into the other thing. He said, let's finally decide who is entitled to township benefits. Let's finally discuss that. Who is deciding?

Council President Camilleri asked, deciding on who?

Mr. Ratajczak said is the Council people, we're going to go right to the bone now.

Council President Camilleri said right to the bone. I'm going to go right to the bone, Larry. I don't get them.

Mr. Ratajczak said I'm not asking that.

Council President Camilleri said I'm speaking for myself.

Mr. Ratajczak said who's entitled to them? Council President Camilleri said I'm not entitled to them.

Mr. Ratajczak said okay. Councilwoman D'Arminio said I'm not. Councilman Accomando said I'm not. Councilman Cimiluca said I am.

Mr. Ratajczak said where does it say that? And I read the ordinance the other day. I read it the other day. It says all full-time employees. If someone has to make comments out here please come up to the microphone when I'm done.

Council President Camilleri said okay, Larry. You will have the opportunity to speak. Mr. Ratajczak said I'm just saying it's hard for me to listen with this ear and listen with this ear here. If someone has something to say, just wait your turn. I waited my turn. Where does it say, Andrew?

Councilman Cimiluca said it's past practices. Mr. Ratajczak said no it's not. Where does it say in the ordinance? Councilman Cimiluca said if you're looking for a specific – Mr. Ratajczak said you just told me. You rewrote the ordinance two years ago, and you wrote all full-time employees are entitled to health benefits. Councilman Cimiluca said after a certain period of time. Mr. Ratajczak said that's for lifetime you put. When are they entitled to regular benefits? The only thing I can say is there was three people that ran in the last election were taking the benefits. Okay? And I believe the townspeople sent the message. They are no longer with us. This is the way you cut spending. You give your benefits that you shouldn't be taking. We can't afford, okay, we can't afford your benefits. Be like Joe, be like Karen, be like Todd. Okay? We can't afford. You're no different than nobody else. You breathe the same air. But you and Ms. Mazzer think that you're entitled to something that we just can't afford. We can't and there's no ordinance that says you're entitled to it, and past practice does not hold water.

Councilman Cimiluca said according to you. Mr. Ratajczak said well, according to you ... Councilman Cimiluca said you are not judge jury and executioner. Mr. Ratajczak interrupted and said most things in town require an ordinance for something to go by to be law. And there is no ordinance saying that you get them. And I hope the people feel the same way about you two as they do about the other three, and you're no longer with us and we end that. This election, we end it.

Councilman Cimiluca said if you recall in 2012 you brought up the exact same issue. You went around, you danced around, you passed out petitions, you jumped up and down talking about how we were the devil because we took benefits, and both Ms. Mazzer and I were re-elected. Mr. Ratajczak said well that's fine. Councilman Cimiluca said I may not be right. Mr. Ratajczak said even the County does it, even the County takes the benefits away. They're not entitled to it. They're not entitled to it.

Councilman Cimiluca said if people out there are one issue ponies and believe they should not vote for me because of the fact that I get benefits –

Mr. Ratajczak said the town is in trouble, Andrew. The town is in financial trouble.

Councilman Cimiluca said you have been saying the town is in trouble since the day you were born, I think. The town has always been in trouble in your eyes.

Mr. Ratajczak said you're right. In your eyes you're entitled to benefits! With no ordinance you're entitled to benefits. Pete couldn't find it.

Council President Camilleri called for order and asked Mr. Ratajczak if he was finished. Mr. Ratajczak said yes.

Ms. Marilyn Nasello of 152 Claremont Avenue said just as a general observation, I would tend to think that anybody who is running for Council or coming in to any position would do their homework, would look at things, get information on what's open on the books and not have to rely on another member to tell them something. I think people who have been on any position for an extended number of years, for them to have to keep the Bible and then read everything to every new incoming member is unexpected, so I personally do not hold any one person accountable for having to share that with anybody else. That being said, I'm going to change it up a little bit. I'd like to first thank the Mayor, the Council, every organization in the Township of Saddle Brook, every vendor who participated, every business owner that participated on an excellent picnic that you guys put on. It really, really was. It was so nice to see. We had beautiful weather, everybody came out. It was a township building event, and that's really what we want. It keeps everything going positive which is really what we're all hearing about. We also have another event coming up. Chief Kugler represented the 300-year committee and mentioned some of those events coming up, but we also have an event coming up that's being run by Saddle Brook UNICO. It will be the third year, just to make everybody in town aware. It's coming October 2nd. The banner will go up hopefully in about a week across the street there and fliers and so forth, so it will be October 2nd, first Sunday. Hopefully we will have some great weather again. Everyone will come out and enjoy the day. We also have some excellent support from sponsors in town. We've got three major sponsors helping us out, TLC Plus Childcare, Midland Brew House and the VFW. I just want to give a shout out to them as well. There's about eleven other local and surrounding area vendors and sponsors which is great, so again, I hope you all come out, have a good time and excellent job on the picnic. Thank you.

Mr. Lou D'Arminio introduced himself as a former mayor of Saddle Brook. He said, I said this last month that this is a great town, a great town to live in, to work in. I think anyone who attended the picnic last week will attest to that. I think Mayor, Karen D'Arminio, Flo Mazzer, the rest of the Council, Pete Lo Dico, you guys did a wonderful job. I've been to many township picnics. I started my political career quite frankly back in the '90s with the township picnic, and it was a wonderful day for everyone.

I know there's some history that we come with and new councils and new mayors do not get to know what the history is. You can't change history. We had a former Council member who came up here running for political office, using this podium as a political brochure and quite frankly, we never really did that in this township here before, but he made some comments that I just have to address. When I say that this Council, it's easy to get up here and criticize and very difficult to lead. Sometimes it's what you learn after you know it all that really matters in politics, and some people who get up here forget that. It's what you learn after you know it all, and the purpose of what I want to say is that the township here I think is being run very well. I've had a lot of years of experience here in the township, and I can attest to what one resident said. What did you do to lower the taxes? I can tell you what I see you did with our taxes. Go down Catherine, Franklin, any one of those streets that we recently paved, go look at our infrastructure. You get your garbage picked up; you get the police to respond. There's a lot going on in this township, and it's all good. Nothing bad. We can get up here and talk about Appraisal

Systems, when Omar Rodriguez was Council President we hired Appraisal Systems for our township because it was under my administration. We did the revaluation. I think it was in 2008, correct me if I'm wrong, Pete, but I'm guessing it was 2008 we did the reval. Of that revaluation we did in this township, Appraisal Systems stood by the side of this township. They worked tooth and nail for this township in the tax appeals and of the 5000 homes that we did revaluation on, we had 150 tax appeals that Mr. Suarez, who was our township attorney now, was my township attorney. So you had a third of the taxes go up, about a third go down and about a third stayed the same.

Mr. D'Arminio continued this is how you save the township tax dollars. The rolling assessment makes you save tax dollars just by the mere fact that you're keeping up with market value. That's why you do a reassessment. It's supposed to be done, and there's another thing that I must mention because there's a lot of talk here about Mr. Art Carlson, our tax assessor. Under our form of government, by law, you have to have a tax assessor, and we have that tax assessor here. I've worked with Mr. Carlson for about sixteen years both as a councilman, council president and a two-term mayor, and there has not been any complaints that we have had with Mr. Carlson. His hours are set by the mayor. So it's up to the mayor to decide what hours he works, and we, traditionally, had him working in the evening hours because that's when people get off work. They finish their dinner hour, and they're able to go to Town Hall or down to Coolidge School to go ahead and talk with the tax assessor. The guy is highly qualified, highly experienced and well sought after. This nonsense about where is he, what does he do, he's in the pocket of Appraisal Systems is total nonsense. I think I'm in a science fiction movie here. It's crazy. It's all fiction that these people come up here month after month, day after day; elect me because I know it all! Elect me because I can do better than anybody else! You've got the best council at the best time with the best mayor. I said this two years ago, and I'll say it again today. It's good for another mayor to go and say to the present mayor, you're doing a damn good job! I get a little passionate here because you work hard. These guys work their butts off. And it's not that they're looking for recognition. They're looking to make this Township a better place to live. And it would be a darn shame for this Township to bust up this Council. They're working as a team. I don't care if you're Republican or you're Democrat. These guys are doing a damn good job, and people should recognize that, and I think they will in November because I certainly will. This is a good council at the right time, and the negativity that goes on here, I experienced that negativity with some of the same people who wanted to run again to do what? To do more negativity. I witnessed firsthand that negativity, and I witnessed what happened to this Township, and it went backwards. We can afford to go backwards. No way, no shape, no how. You would be making a serious mistake by electing some of the people who were here before on that Council. I highly recommend that this Council stay intact, work together as you're doing now, and you will get a lot accomplished. It's like we teach our kids in coaching, it's all team work. Together everybody accomplishes more. And that's what I'd like to say, and I want to thank you for the service that you guys do. I think you're doing a good job and keep up the good work. God bless yous all.

Council President Camilleri thanked Mr. D'Arminio and said that was very nice to hear.

Hearing no one else, Council President Camilleri asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilwoman Accomando

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

Council President Camilleri asked for order and turned the meeting over to Mayor White.

Mayor and Council Comments

Mayor White said he appreciated the comments from the former mayor. Regarding the picnic, he said he would let Councilwoman D'Arminio elaborate, but he wanted to acknowledge Committee Chairman Bob Kugler, the Vice-chairs Lou Virile and Flo Mazzer for their efforts and what they did to make it a huge success. Special thanks to Councilwoman Karen D'Arminio for taking the lead role in planning and organizing the whole event with the assistance she got from Projects and Activities chairwoman Shannon Accomando and all the members of the 300th Anniversary Committee.

Mayor White mentioned we have, this Sunday, September 11th, the community 9-11 Ceremony in coordination with St. Philip the Apostle Church. The event starts at 6:30 at the Saddle Brook High School/Middle School. It's going to be a processional in observance to mark the fifteenth anniversary of the 9-11 tragedy. Starting at the High School/Middle school and then walking over to St. Philip's. He outlined the agenda of the ceremony.

Mayor White added his personal thoughts about 9-11. He said as an elected official, at all levels, the primary responsibility that we all have is really to protect the citizens from harm. That's number one. We don't care whether you're a Democrat or Republican, that should be the number one priority, and I feel that I have to comment on this Council and myself. We work well together, and I think we've done a lot of things over the last year and a half to make the town safer. We hired three new police officers last year with the help of the Council. We changed the table of organization and implemented a 12-hour shift, which now has given us much more availability and man-power. We had some recent promotions. Captain McNally retired, so on August 24th we promoted Captain John Zotollo, Lt. Leigh Cadigan and Sergeant Giuseppe Califano. So what we're doing now, which I'm very, very proud of, and again with the help of this Council, we implemented the SRO, which is the school resource officer program back in the high school/middle school. This is a great example of the town working together with the school district. During the time when we did not have a school resource officer, they hired a part time security officer, retired police officer, John Fontana. So they're going to keep him on. So not only do we have a school resource officer who will primarily be in the high school/middle school, we have John Fontana who is going to visit the elementary schools as well. That coupled with the school referendum that was voted on a couple of years ago, the video surveillance that was part of that referendum, a new surveillance system, all new cameras and monitors in all the schools, those are going to be put in. That's part of phase II so that will be done. So I'm very happy to say that we have done a lot to secure the schools, and I believe the residents and the parents of those students should be very happy about that, as we are.

Regarding the UNICO Street Fair Mayor White said it's a great event. There's going to be merchandise and craft vendors; there's going to be kiddie rides, pony rides, a clown, great food and music. I've gone the last two years, and it's a wonderful event and for a good cause.

Mayor White said he spoke about the community rating system a couple of meetings ago. He said Pete and I met with a representative, James Watt, from the Environmental Protection Agency. He is working with FEMA, and he responded to a letter that the Council and I sent to FEMA expressing an interest in taking part in this program. Pete is our Community Rating System Coordinator. We're working with the assistance of the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management and the Shared Services Coordinator.

Mayor White explained the benefits of participating in the program which can reduce the cost of flood insurance for residents who are in the flood plain. He noted we are hoping to start implementing everything we can to decrease our flood hazard in this town, and hopefully we can help residents with their insurance.

Regarding the hiring of a recreation director, Mayor White said his name is Andrew Gallo. He's a resident of Saddle Brook his whole life. He's a member of our Township Volunteer Fire Department. He's also been an assistant coach with Saddle Brook High School Girls' Soccer team. He was the most qualified candidate that applied for the position, and we had many that did. He had proper education, background and experience. He's a recreation leader and coach for many years. As the director, that position was created by the governing body, again working together, seeing the need, and the reason we hired somebody full time is we want to improve and expand the recreation services in the town, and he's going to be tasked with overseeing all the recreation programs and activities. The priority right off the bat is to develop standards in policies and procedures and guidelines which we sorely need. Right now we have kind of a mishmash, and we need to get those policies and procedures codified and out there to all the commissioners.

He is also going to identify the needs of different programs, facilities, resources and do that in an effective and efficient manner. I want to thank our part-time director Joe Setticase for his service. He's done an admirable job in his tenure, and he will stay on until the end of the year so we have a smooth transition.

Regarding the nepotism ordinance, Mayor White thanked the Council for reconsidering it. He said it looks like working together and all the Council people are looking at different points of view, and I think we come together to do what's right for the community. I really believe by having this ordinance or passing this ordinance, it's going to send a strong message to our residents that we're going to have fair hiring practices. That's what nepotism ordinances are all about. We want to be fair and impartial.

Mayor White welcomed the kids back to school and wished all the recreation and high school fall sports a happy, safe and successful season.

Councilman Accomando wished all the kids a safe and healthy new school year. He thanked all the volunteers for the picnic and said we got two complaints, but they were minimal. One was there wasn't enough salt on the popcorn, so something like that I'll take with a grain of salt. He thanked everyone who participated and volunteered.

Councilwoman D'Arminio thanked the Mayor, the Council, and the 300th Committee. She thanked Mr. Lo Dico, Christine the Mayor's secretary, Joe Lecce from the Senior Center, Shannon Accomando and the DPW. She thanked the volunteers, the 300th Committee, the Woman's Club, the First reformed Church, the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts and said without them it would not have been the success it was. She thanked the sponsors for all of their generous contributions, the Korean Church of Christian Martyrs for hosting their barbecue. Howie, the senior bus driver for making it so easy for our seniors to attend that day. She thanked Tommy Hayes who put together a multi-year high school reunion the day before the picnic. He also got the musicians and the local high school bands to come and play for us. This picnic was the success it was because of all the people that helped and we are looking forward to bringing the picnic back as an annual event. She concluded that she looked forward to doing this again next year.

Council President Camilleri said the picnic was a great thing, and these are the things I personally love for the town. He thanked Councilwoman D'Arminio and all the sponsors and everybody who was involved.

He welcomed Andy Gallo as the recreation commissioner and said he seems very active already. I think he's going to put everything in place.

He said school is very important, and he wished all the students a very successful year.

Council President Camilleri concluded by mentioning fall sports and wished them the best. He said he still coaches senior recreation football and the season kicks off Saturday night and High School football kicks off Friday night in Cresskill.

Councilman Cimiluca asked the Mayor through the chair how the schedule works concerning the school resource officer and the 12-hour shift.

Mayor White said it's a modified shift, he's working 8 hours a day five days a week. Councilman Cimiluca asked when school is closed or they're on their break, teacher's convention, does he shift back over to patrol? Mayor White said if need be but he will probably be doing other things, maybe helping out in other areas like the detective bureau.

Councilman Cimiluca said he's doing other police duties when school is not in session. Mayor White said yes or perhaps he may take off too. But he will have to use his time.

Councilman Cimiluca Mr. Lo Dico and the Mayor about the status of the light on Fairlawn Parkway. Mr. Lo Dico said yes, we got a phone number and reported to PSE&G.

Councilman Cimiluca mentioned the property at the corner of Midland and Hayes which is the area that the people were parking on the corner; their weeds are about four or five feet high. Mr. Lo Dico said I spoke to Jayne, and Tony has been aware of it and has already taken action before I spoke to him.

Councilman Cimiluca said we talked a lot about the speed bumps, and President Street is not alone. Their residents are not alone in having issues with speeders, so Danna Way, for the resident I spoke to at the picnic about Danna way being used as a raceway in her own words, what I've asked the Mayor to do, through the Police Chief, is to put up one of those big speed clocking devices there because generally sometimes you'll notice yourself you think you're driving at the speed limit, and you look up, and all of a sudden you're 34 in a 25 or something. That can quell it. If it doesn't work, then we could think of other things.

Councilman Accomando said it's there.

Councilman Cimiluca said thank you. He then congratulated Andy Gallo and said people who follow these meetings may recollect that I've been pushing for a full-time rec director, and sometimes it's not about chopping positions. Sometimes the town is better by creating positions. Sometimes not. In this case I think it's a great idea. I've been pushing that for years. I didn't vote for a budget a couple of times because the full-time rec director was not included in it. I also was on record saying I would prefer to have someone who is not a Township resident to be the full-time rec director. That mainly was thinking in my own mind that whoever was hired would have had children in the program, and they have had some prejudices. We all have our own prejudices, and we're somehow – you always have your group of friends, some people might say it's a nice group of guys or girls, other people would say it's a clique. Mr. Gallo came here, we peppered him with questions. He was very forthright and honest. His background is mainly in soccer, and he's been involved in rec programs and the high school program for years. I've known him since he was a kid. I think he's going to do a great job. He doesn't have any children in the program, and when asked if he would have any prejudice or bias toward any particular sport, he assured us that he would not. I do believe him in that.

Councilman Cimiluca said second, congratulations goes out to Karen and the rest of the committee for the picnic. It was a great time, and I was glad to help out. Other than some people who thought the music was a little loud and a couple f-bombs thrown out by the lead singer of that group, everyone had a good time. The third congratulations is to Captain Zotollo and Lt. Cadigan and Sergeant Califano for their promotions and, since I said it before, I am hoping that with this 12-hour shift that we will have the lieutenant for each of the four platoon squads. When we voted for the 12-hour shifts, that was my main concern. I've been a little bit disappointed, and hopefully I'm not further disappointed, but I'm sure that we're going to work this out, and that's the idea to have the four lieutenants each take their own squad and that was one of the reasons that I voted for it. I was assured of that, and I was assured again so hopefully this will come to fruition.

Councilman Cimiluca said I'm a proud member of UNICO, and I look forward to seeing everyone on October 2nd. I also look forward to everyone driving down Market Street and seeing the UNICO Street Fair being advertised on our beautiful new message board that we have been pushing forever. It is up and running. It's multicolored, it's nice, and I have had comments from people from other towns saying wow, that's pretty cool. It's nice, it's big, it's visible. We may be doing something with trimming some trees to get better physical access to it.

Councilman Cimiluca said he was for the reassessment. I remain for it. Someone said that they're only going to look at 25% of the houses. That's completely incorrect. The initial valuation in year one is that they will do 100% of the town. Years two and three, four and five, they will then go back and do 25% of the town. The point is that we always try to keep our rate up to or nearby 100%. The reason that some people win tax appeals is because they do comps – and if a building that was say appraised at \$10 million is comparable to somebody else and they sold their building for \$7 million, well that person just flies right in and says we deserve a tax break. With the ratio being different, and the ratio is the difference between what the county says our value is and what we've had it appraised for, once it gets to that 80% rate, the county actually swoops in and says you got to do a revaluation. It makes it very easy. They don't even have to look at comps. They just come in and say look at your ratio. You're at 80%. You have us valued at \$10 million, it should be \$8 million according to the ratio, and it's real easy pickings for them. Like the Council President said, we're trying to be proactive on this and not let that happen. I think it's money well spent. I think we're going to make it back plus some in getting some of these tax appeals pushed to the side and not be filed.

Councilman Cimiluca wished everyone a good September, and he apologized for not being here for the Pledge of Allegiance. He said I'm a person who appreciates everything that the Pledge of Allegiance stands for, everything that the National Anthem stands for, and I will always be standing for that. I will always be standing for our pledge, the pledge to our country, pledge to our flag, and although it's been talked about on every sports radio, and you can't turn it on without getting sickened by hearing this over and over and over again. I do understand that somebody has a right to do what they want during the playing of an anthem. That is their right; this is America. We give people rights, and sometimes they kind of take it overboard and they abuse it, however it is their right. But like I said, he has a right, this person, specifically this particular football player, he has a right to sit down, kneel down, stand on his head, do whatever he wants. But we also have the right to not buy his jerseys, boycott the team, boycott his sponsors, boo the hell out of him and just generally call him a piece of garbage, because that's our right, freedom of speech. We can do that. Let him kneel all he wants. Thanks.

ORDINANCES

- 1. ORDINANCE #1613-16 – FIRST READING
BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION
OF A FIRE TRUCK AND FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT, BY
AND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK, IN THE
COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY;
APPROPRIATING \$995,200 THEREFOR AND
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$947,810 IN BONDS OR
NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF**

The Council President announced that the next order of business is the introduction of **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A FIRE TRUCK AND FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT, BY AND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$995,200 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$947,810 IN BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF**

The Council President directed the Township Clerk to read the resolution regarding passage and adoption on first reading.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Councilman Cimiluca – yes
Councilwoman Mazzer – absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio – yes
Councilman Accomando – yes
Council President Camilleri - yes

CR# 916-173

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A FIRE TRUCK AND FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT, BY AND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$995,200 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$947,810 IN BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that heretofore passed on first reading, be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 6th day of October, 2016 at 7:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached at the Municipal Building, 93 Market Street and that at such time and place all persons interested be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance according to law, with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of a time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Councilman Cimiluca – yes
Councilwoman Mazzer – absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio – yes
Councilman Accomando – yes
Council President Camilleri - yes

2. ORDINANCE #1614-16 – FIRST READING AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 29 ENTITLED “PERSONNEL POLICIES” TO ADD SECTION 10 ENTITLED “ANTI-NEPOTISM POLICY”

The Council President announced that the next order of business is the introduction of **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 29 ENTITLED “PERSONNEL POLICIES” TO ADD SECTION 10 ENTITLED “ANTI-NEPOTISM POLICY”**

The Council President directed the Township Clerk to read the resolution regarding passage and adoption on first reading.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Councilman Cimiluca – yes
Councilwoman Mazzer – absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio – yes
Councilman Accomando – yes
Council President Camilleri - yes

CR# 916-174

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 29 ENTITLED “PERSONNEL POLICIES” TO ADD SECTION 10 ENTITLED “ANTI-NEPOTISM POLICY”

by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that heretofore passed on first reading, be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 6th day of October, 2016 at 7:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be

reached at the Municipal Building, 93 Market Street and that at such time and place all persons interested be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance according to law, with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of a time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Cimiluca

Councilman Cimiluca – yes
Councilwoman Mazzer – absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio – yes
Councilman Accomando – yes
Council President Camilleri - yes

All items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered routine and non-controversial by the Township Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Council member(s) so requests it, in which case the item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. The one motion signifies adoption of all resolutions, receive and file letters, correspondence, reports and approval of applications and minutes.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

*** MINUTES**

1. July 14, 2016 – Regular Public Meeting

*** RESOLUTIONS**

TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK RESOLUTION

CR# 916-175

WHEREAS, the Township of Saddle Brook previously issued Hotel Liquor license 0257-36-020-001 in the name of Alena Hospitality,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that this liquor license 0257-36-020-001 in the name of Alena Hospitality at 50 Kenny Place, Saddle Brook, NJ hereby ceases to exist due to failure to file a renewal application and non-payment of renewal fees for the 2015-2016 license year.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK
RESOLUTION**

CR# 916-176

WHEREAS, an application has been filed for a Person-to-Person Transfer of Plenary Retail Distribution Liquor License #0257-44-014-009, issued to Shri Hanumann, Inc. @ 195 Market Street, Saddle Brook, NJ 07663 to Shree Labh Liquor, LLC at 195 Market Street, Saddle Brook, NJ 07663; and

WHEREAS, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, the transfer fees have been paid, and the license has been properly renewed for the current license term;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook does hereby approve, the Person-to-Person transfer of the aforesaid Plenary Retail Distribution Liquor License #0257-44-014-009 to Shree Labh Liquor, LLC at 195 Market Street, Saddle Brook, NJ 07663, #0257-44-014-010.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK
RESOLUTION**

CR# 916-177

WHEREAS, Rapid Pump & Meter Service Co., Inc. was awarded a contract in the amount of \$14,610.00 to rebuild Pump #1 at the Mayhill Pump Station; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Lemanowicz, Twp. Engineer, during the course of the work being performed by Rapid Pump & Meter Service Co., Inc. recommended Change Order #1 in the amount of \$3,265.00 for additional work; and

WHEREAS, the need for additional work was not apparent until the pump was disassembled,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that it hereby approves Change Order #1 for Rapid Pump & Meter Service Co., Inc. for a total amount of \$3,265.00, a total contract amount of \$17,875.00 providing funds are available.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK
RESOLUTION**

CR# 916-178

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that the following requisition(s) submitted to the Township Council for purchases over \$2,500.00 be approved providing funds are available:

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
BOND ORD. 1551	J. FLETCHER CREAMER	REPAIRS TO STORM DRAIN, GRAHAM TERRACE	\$11,196.05
FIRE DEPT.	NJ FIRE EQUIPMENT	REPAIR AND TEST SCOTT PACKS	\$3,010.46
REC FOOTBALL	AFA TEAMSPORTS	RECONDITION HELMETS	\$3,202.65

Motion: Councilwoman D’Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D’Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK
RESOLUTION**

CR# 916-179

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY THAT THE PROPER WARRANTS BE DRAWN AND THAT THE ATTACHED BILLS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THOSE BILLS NOT APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF THE COUNCIL, BE PAID TOTALING **\$47,672.42** PROVIDING FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE AND ALL BILLS SUBMITTED COMPLY WITH N.J.S.A. 40A: 11-1 ET. SEQ AND ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE STATUTES.

THESE ARE THE BILLS PAID THROUGH OFF LINE CHECKS

Motion: Councilwoman D’Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D’Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK
RESOLUTION**

CR# 916-180

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY THAT THE PROPER WARRANTS BE DRAWN AND THAT THE ATTACHED BILLS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THOSE BILLS NOT APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF THE COUNCIL, BE PAID TOTALING **\$3,882,827.50** PROVIDING FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE AND ALL BILLS SUBMITTED COMPLY WITH N.J.S.A. 40A: 11-1 ET. SEQ AND ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE STATUTES.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK
RESOLUTION**

CR# 916-181

WHEREAS, Reivax Contracting was awarded a contract in the amount of \$1,045,191.50 for the 2014 Water Main Project at North 5th Street – Re-Bid ; and

WHEREAS, during the course of the design of, Remington, Vernick, & Arango Engineers notified PSE&G Electric of the project's description on October 8, 2015 and March 17, 2016 requesting input but receiving no response; and

WHEREAS, during construction PSE&G required the contractor to isolate the water services from the conductive electric utility lines; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Lemanowicz, Twp. Engineer, during the course of the work being performed by Reivax Contracting, Inc. recommended Change Order #1 for additional work associated with the modifications of the water services for the project; and that the contract price be increased by \$175.00 for the 33 water services installed going forward, totaling to approximately \$5,775.00, along with the re-excavation and retrofit to 8 previously completed water services at an additional cost of \$800.00 each totaling to \$6,400.00; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that it hereby approves Change Order #1 for Reivax Contracting for the work associated with the PSE&G electric requirements for separations between utilities for a total increase of \$12,175.00 providing funds are available.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK
RESOLUTION**

CR# 916-182

WHEREAS, in accordance with 40A: 4-23 of the Local Public Contract Laws, the Township of Saddle Brook is requesting to advertise for the Request for Proposal for the following services:

**WATER LICENSE OPERATOR
PAYROLL SERVICES
HVAC MAINTENANCE**

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Clerk is authorized to advertise for a Request for Proposal for the above listed services for the Township of Saddle Brook.

Motion: Councilwoman D’Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D’Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK
RESOLUTION**

CR# 916-183

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that the following license(s) be renewed for the year 2016-2017 and the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control be so notified.

PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION

<u>STATE LICENSE NO. AMOUNT</u>	<u>NAME</u>
0257-33-009-010 \$1275.00	North Star Saddle Brook Management, LLC (Garden Plaza Hotel) 341-A South Black Horse Pike, Bellmawr, NJ 08031

Motion: Councilwoman D’Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D’Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK
RESOLUTION**

CR# 916-184

WHEREAS, the Township of Saddle Brook has received grants from NJ Green Acres as well as Bergen County Open Space to assist with the purchase of property with repetitive flooding issues; and

WHEREAS, the property owner of 200 Saddle River Road has agreed to sell her property that includes a house and barn for \$305,000 as appraised by McNerney and Associates, an approved appraisal company for NJ Green Acres program; and

WHEREAS, a contract has been prepared to close on the property on or about September 30, 2016.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that it hereby authorizes the Mayor to sign said contract, and authorizes the Township Attorney to prepare all necessary documents to facilitate the closing on this property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue any checks necessary to complete the transfer of property to the Township.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK
RESOLUTION**

CR# 916-185

WHEREAS, Quick Chek, 3 Old Highway 28, PO Box 600, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889, deposited monies in escrow for an application before the Saddle Brook Zoning Board of Adjustment for their property located at 625 N. Midland Avenue; and

WHEREAS, there are unexpended balances in such escrow account,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that it hereby authorizes the release of such funds totaling \$3,537.51 to Quick Chek.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

*** CORRESPONDENCE**

1. James J. Tedesco, III, County Executive Re: Applications for FY2016-2017 Community Development Funding

To: Mayor White Date: August 1, 2016

I'm delighted to inform you that your recent applications for FY2016-2017 funding from the Bergen County Division of Community Development have been approved.

We look forward to working with you as a sub-grantee for the following projects:

Storm Drain Rehabilitation Phase II	\$101,044
Senior Bus Driver Clerk	\$24,500

Laura Salandra, a contract administrator with the Division of Community Development, has been assigned to work with you in executing this project through to completion. Please expect to hear from Laura in the next month or so to review the sub-grant implementation process and begin first steps.

Should you have any questions before that time, please feel free to contact Rob Esposito, Director of the Division of Community Development, at (201) 336-7201 or resposito@co.bergen.nj.us

The Division of Community Development's partnership with the county's 70 municipalities and scores of nonprofit agencies over the years has resulted in a wide range of significant quality of life improvements to the benefit of Bergen residents. I couldn't be more pleased that you are part of our continuing effort to make Bergen County the very best it can be.

2. Lt. Thomas Johnson, SBPD Re: Four Day Business License, Blackthorn Estate Buyers, Inc.

To: Chief Robert Kugler, SBPD Date: August 29, 2016

On behalf of Blackthorn Estate Buyers Susan Peroff has filed a Four Day Business License application, to buy jewelry from the general public. This will take place in the Marriott Hotel, 138 Pehle Avenue on the dates of September 28 through October 01, 2016. A background check was conducted of Mrs. Peroff with negative results.

An in-house computer check was also done, with negative results within the past year. Based upon the above information I recommend the application be approved at this time.

3. Thomas Lemanowicz, PE Remington Vernick Engineers Re: 2015 Water and Roadway Improvements to 9th Street – Payment Certification No. 1

To: Peter Lo Dico, Twp. Clerk Date: August 23, 2016

Enclosed please find Pay Certificate No. 1 from New Prince Concrete Construction Co., Inc. for work performed on the above referenced project. Remington, Vernick & Arango Engineers have reviewed the certificate with the contractor and agree with the partial payment.

Therefore, we recommend payment be made to **New Prince Concrete Construction Co., Inc.** in the amount of **\$69,512.51**.

Should you should have any questions, please feel free to call our offices at (201) 624-2137.

4. Thomas Lemanowicz, PE Re: 2014 Saddle Brook County Curb
Remington Vernick Ramp Replacement, Payment
Engineers Certification No. 1

To: Peter Lo Dico, Twp. Clerk Date: August 26, 2016

Enclosed please find Payment Request No. 1 from Concrete Construction Corp. for work performed on the above referenced project. Remington, Vernick & Arango Engineers has reviewed the certificate with the contractor and agree with the partial payments noted.

Therefore, we recommend the following that payment be made to **Concrete Construction Corp.** in the amount of **\$110,081.38** for Certificate No. 1

Should you should have any questions, please feel free to call our offices at (201) 624-2137.

5. Thomas Lemanowicz, PE Re: Veterans Field Concession Stand
Remington Vernick Payment Certification No. 1
Engineers

To: Peter Lo Dico, Twp. Clerk Date: August 25, 2016

Enclosed please find Payment Request No. 1 from Trino Associates for work performed on the above referenced project. Remington, Vernick & Arango Engineers has reviewed the certificate with the contractor and agree with the partial payments noted.

Therefore, we recommend the following that payment be made to **Trino Associates** in the amount of **\$32,340.00** for Certificate No. 1

Should you should have any questions, please feel free to call our offices at (201) 624-2137.

6. Thomas Lemanowicz, PE Re: William Street Roadway
Remington Vernick Improvements, Payment
Engineers Certification No. 1 & Change Order
No. 1, Final

To: Peter Lo Dico, Twp. Clerk Date: August 17, 2016

Enclosed please find Pay Certificate No. 1 Final from Marini Bros. for work performed on the above referenced project. Remington, Vernick & Arango Engineers have reviewed the certificate with the contractor and agree with the final payment.

Therefore, we recommend payment be made to **Marini Bros.** in the amount of **\$94,814.70**.

In addition, this office recommends that the Mayor and Council approve Change Order No. 1 Final. The change order adjusts the contract quantities to as-built amounts and results in a net reduction in the contract amount of \$420.30.

Enclosed is Marini Bros. two (2) year Maintenance Bond No. CSC-223534M for the project.

Should you should have any questions, please feel free to call our offices at (201) 624-2137.

*** RAFFLES/APPLICATIONS**

One Day Business

1. Blackthorn Estate Buyers Inc., @ Saddle Brook Marriott, 9/28-10/1/16

Used Cars

2. Auto Trader Wholesale, Inc. – 60 Route 46 West – NEW
(limit 29 cars)

*** REPORTS**

1. Municipal Court Monthly Report – July 2016
2. Bergen County Sanitarian Report – June 2016
3. Bergen County Animal Control Report – June 2016
4. Bergen County Animal Control Report – July 2016
5. Senior Citizen Center Attendance Report – July 2016
6. Hotel Room Tax – July 2016
7. Fire Prevention Monthly Report – July 2016
8. DPW Monthly Report – July 2016
9. Water Operating License Report – July 2016
10. Water Utility Monthly Report – July 2016
11. Engineer's Mid-Month Report – August 2016
12. Budget Status Monthly Report – August 2016

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

Councilwoman D'Arminio asked Mr. Lemanowicz through the chair about an update on 9th Street. She said we were waiting for the test to come back. Mr. Lemanowicz said the DPW is still working with the water operator to get the test results to come up to speed. Tomorrow the contractor will be there to pave the trenches that are there. We had left them gravel with the anticipation they'd be back sooner, but it's getting to the point now I want to get them sealed and get the road swept while we wait for these tests to come back. Once they come back then we can certify his pipe and finish the work. The reason we can't do anything more right now is, what's left to be done are the connections to the houses. The new main is in, the new services are in up to where the curb would be, and then we're going to connect once the new main is certified, then we just switch over to the new service to the existing service pipe to the house. That's all underneath the curb, so I can't put the new curb in and dig underneath it to put the new water service in, it wouldn't make any sense.

Councilwoman D'Arminio said I was there today because several of the residents called. Were they notified of why it was being delayed?

Mr. Lemanowicz said I've explained to people as they contact me. Mr. Lo Dico said there's a notice that's going out tomorrow. Councilwoman D'Arminio said they didn't understand. I'm sure you know, but I just wanted to go over it with you, can we move the Porta-John from in front of the house down the street maybe? Mr. Lemanowicz said we will try to find another home for that. It's got to be there somewhere and unfortunately nobody really wants it. Councilwoman D'Arminio discussed alternative places for the Porta John and then added, did they tell you about the sprinkler system that was damaged? She said she had a list and she would see Mr. Lemanowicz afterward. Mr. Lemanowicz said before we did this project, just like before we did Williams, everyone got a letter with my cell number and my e-mail so very, very few people take advantage of it, but those people that do, I call them back, or Rob calls them back and we try to deal with the situation.

Councilwoman D'Arminio said that's going out tomorrow, and Mr. Lo Dico said tomorrow or Monday the latest. Councilwoman D'Arminio said they will get that letter with your number on it. Mr. Lo Dico said no, this is different. Mr. Lemanowicz said before the project started they got my contact number. Councilwoman D'Arminio said she would give Mr. Lemanowicz the list after the meeting.

Council President Camilleri then asked Mr. Suarez to give an update on the vacating of Rosemont.

Mr. Suarez said that's the one we're putting together. We talked about this prior to the meeting. You were going to come up with a figure with regard to the escrow. Mr. Lemanowicz said I have a figure for the escrow. I'm going to forward that to the applicant. They presented us with a survey of the existing conditions. The next step would be for them to give me something, what they're proposing to do, how they're going to deal with that resident on the end, and how that driveway is going to work and just see how it's going to happen because right now, the idea is to shield the residents along Claremont as best as possible from the non-residential buildings with some more vegetation. That last resident on the end has pretty much walled off himself with trees, but since it's going to be blocked now, to some extent we would like to do a little bit more. It's basically to see what they're proposing and make sure it works. They're going to have to close up what's now the end of the road and the curb so it looks more like a driveway. There's some improvements that we have to go over but that's the next step.

Mr. Suarez said from there when everything has been approved, then we put together the form of documentation with regard to transfers and whatever other documentation that needs to be drafted, and we will take care of that.

Councilman Cimiluca said I think I covered all my points.

Council President Camilleri asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public on agenda items only.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

Seeing none, Council President Camilleri asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Councilman Cimiluca - yes
Councilwoman Mazzer - absent
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Camilleri – yes

Mayor White mentioned the senior housing and the Caldwell Avenue property. I just want to say, I think they are all in agreement that all of us, we have been very patient. Now we're getting impatient with the lack of progress, and I feel there's not significant progress. Hopefully there will be. I'm really hoping there will be because I think we could use that senior housing there. I think our seniors need it, but if we don't see it, I think we're going to have to break free of this contract with the county. Also, Omar brought up about the oil leak over by Amloid and the problem that we had on Fifth Street with the water mains. Tom, I don't want to put you on the spot about that but we are going to be transparent about that. We're investigating. We're going to do a report, a whole thorough report that's going to be open to the public.

Mr. Lemanowicz said the DEP has an LSRP, licensed site remediation professional assigned to that project. We have one in our office, so whatever he's telling me, I'm double checking, and we're going to do everything we can to make that situation as best as we can.

Councilman Cimiluca said and they let it go on too long, so now we've got to follow up.

Councilwoman D'Arminio said I just want to thank my colleagues tonight for their support with the anti-nepotism ordinance. I think it's a good thing. We campaigned on it, and I thank you for your support.

Council President Camilleri reminded the Mayor and Council that recreation has their pep rally, Friday 7:00 PM at Veterans', and everybody is welcome to come.

Regarding senior housing, Councilman Cimiluca said a word of advice/warning/ wanting to understand more is that although Mr. Rodriguez did talk about the \$850,000 that was spent, that was not Township money. We didn't have some kind of – it wasn't our money. It was money that was dedicated to COAH, which is the affordable housing, and we used that because at that point, whatever that was, we were basically being threatened by the governor that if you don't use it, you lose it, so that is one of the reasons that we purchased that property. I think it's a great place for senior housing, and I am as frustrated as anyone else. I've been as big a supporter as anyone else for that project, but before we just jump out and say okay December 1st or 15th or 31st, whenever it is, okay what do we do? We break that contract, what do we do? Do we sell the property because it's not really our money? Do we then sell the property, get the money and have to give it to the state of NJ? I'm not sure where that goes and also since COAH is really up in the air, what happens with those units? How does that effect our responsibility to provide some low-income housing units? I'm a little worried about that, and that's one of the reasons that we kind of jumped on that and bought the property when we did buy the property because we were basically under a direct threat. I think they did take some money from some towns who hadn't used it. So like I said, we could be left with no property and obligations for the low-income housing. I just wanted everyone to be aware of that, and we've got a couple months to figure out a backup plan I guess in case the county doesn't come through. I'm really disappointed that we haven't been able to get this thing underway. Hopefully it will come quicker than we think. Hopefully before the end of the year, but in the event it doesn't we've got to be prepared for what we do, and how does that effect our liabilities for COAH, and what do we do with the money?

Council President Camilleri asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Councilman Cimiluca - yes

Councilwoman Mazzer - absent

Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes

Councilman Accomando - yes

Council President Camilleri – yes

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Lo Dico, RMC CMC
Township Clerk

Approved: October 6, 2016

Joseph Camilleri
Council President