

Byrne opens Hoboken highrise

By TERRY BRENNAN

Gov. Brendan T. Byrne dedicated a senior citizen housing complex in Hoboken yesterday by saying it was continued visible proof that people "aren't laughing at this town anymore."

The governor, on hand to dedicate the 12-story, 154-unit Marian Towers housing project for the elderly, said Hoboken has continually improved its image because it has become a city that cares. He said its main problem is too many people are coming over from New York because it's "such a great town."

"When I was a little boy, all a comedian had to do was mention Hoboken to get laughs,"

Byrne said. "Today it's such a great town we have to keep it a secret so people stop flocking over from New York."

Although construction and permanent mortgage financing for the complex was provided by the state Housing Finance Agency, rental subsidies for the senior citizens will be provided by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Byrne said he prefers the word "experienced" to "senior" citizen because of their "know-how."

"I like the word 'experienced' more than 'senior' because you people have the know-how and experience age has brought," Byrne said. "Now it's up to us to channel that experience to

positive ends."

Although all senior citizens in the Hoboken area will be eligible for the housing, priority will be given to persons over 62 years of age; families with special needs due to disability; and residents of the city. Rents vary from \$185 per month for an efficiency, \$225 for a one-bedroom, and \$255 a month for a two-bedroom apartment.

Mayor Steve Cappiello called the complex "another positive effort in the revitalization effort of our city." He said the housing has added significance because it fills the needs of people who often need help the most.

"Senior citizens are often our most

neglected citizens because they often have no one to care for them," Cappiello said. "Marian Towers will help allay their fears about rising rents, crime and personal care."

The complex is located at First St. between Grand and Adams avs. and will include 22 efficiency, 121 one-bedroom and 11 two-bedroom apartments. The Hoboken Community Health Center is adjacent to the structure.

The building was initially sponsored by the Mount Carmel Guild and is presently owned by Marian Towers Associates Inc., a non-profit housing agency. An affiliate of Catholic Community Services, the guild will provide counseling services for the elderly.

Hoboken school budget OK'd

The Hoboken Board of Education approved a proposed \$11,666,119 budget yesterday for 1977-78, which includes a disputed \$1.5 million for teachers' summer salaries.

The budget, which is \$2.7 million over the present state education "cap" law, includes the \$1.5 million while the board awaits a state ruling on whether the funds can be added to the present budget.

A spokesman for the state education department said yesterday he didn't know when state education Commissioner Fred Burke would make the final decision on the funds.

"We had to provide for the salaries in next year's budget because we haven't heard from the state yet," school board attorney Robert W. Taylor said. "We felt we had to go ahead with the proposed budget because we simply couldn't wait any longer."

Although Taylor said the board will appeal to state Superintendent of Schools Russell Carpenter today to exceed the

"cap" law, Carpenter said the "cap" would change if the \$1.5 million is approved for this year's budget. He said he couldn't make a decision on the appeal until the state rules on the present budget.

No Decision Now

"I couldn't make any decision on the appeal until the state decides how much the 1976-77 budget actually is," Carpenter said. "We won't really know what Hoboken's 'cap' is because there's a percentage increase from the present budget. That budget figure is still uncertain."

A state hearing officer still hasn't decided whether Burke can authorize Hoboken to increase the present budget by \$1.5 million.

The problem arose when the state attorney general ordered the board to stop paying teachers' summer salaries out of the following school budget. He told the board to pay the salaries out of the same year's budget.

"We didn't budget for the \$1.5 million

for the salaries because we've been paying them that way for 30 years," Taylor said. "We didn't know we wouldn't be able to continue it this year until we were told to stop last July."

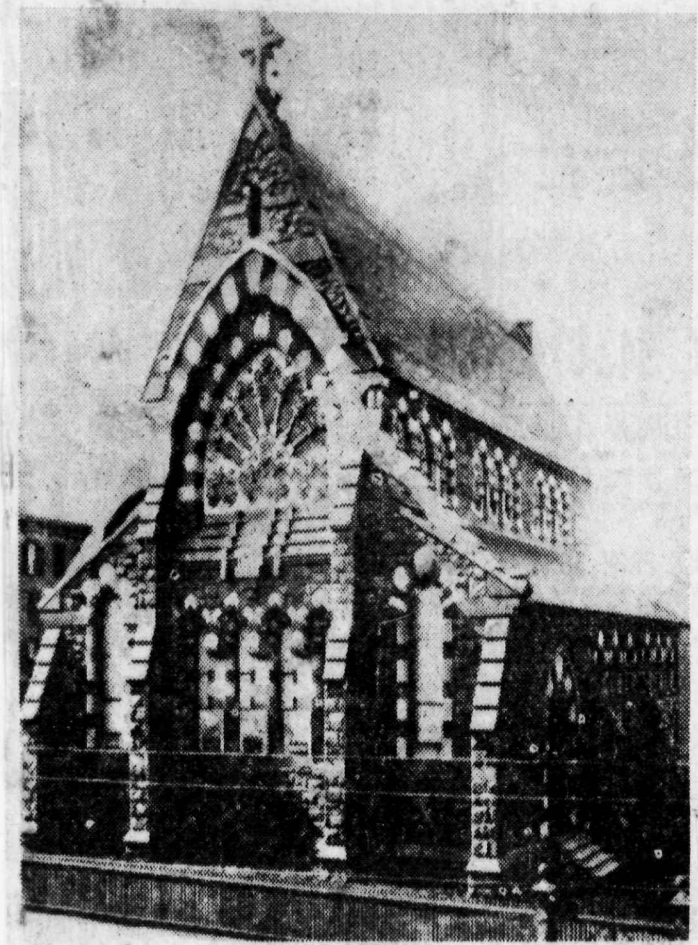
August Thomas, head of the Division of Controversies and Disputes for the state Department of Education, had said he would try to submit a recommendation to Burke on the funds by Jan. 4. He had said he wanted to give Hoboken a chance to evaluate state aid before school elections are held March 29.

Carpenter said state legislation might be required in Hoboken's "unique" situation if the decision on funds isn't made soon. He said that decision could possibly delay the school board election.

"There are a lot of possible ramifications in this whole thing because of budget deadlines and election dates," Carpenter said.

"Hoboken is proposing a budget which really hinges on the state's decision. Nothing is really final until that comes through."

The Tuesday Dispatch, Union City, N. J., February 8, 1977



The Church of the Holy Innocents at Sixth st. and Willow av., Hoboken, has been added to the state Register of Historic Places, it was announced by the Department of Environmental Protection yesterday. Built in 1872 by Martha Bayard Stevens, the church contains many historic artifacts.

List of historic places aids Hoboken church

The Church of the Holy Innocents in Hoboken has been added to the state Register of Historic Places, the state announced yesterday.

The Department of Environmental Protection announced the addition of the church to the register and said it was also being nominated for inclusion in the National Park Service historic register.

The church was constructed in 1872 with the direction and backing of Martha Bayard Stevens, the wife of Edwin A. Stevens who founded Stevens Tech in Hoboken.

Mrs. Stevens erected the church as a memorial to her 7-year-old daughter, Julia

Augusta Stevens, who died in Rome in 1870 of Typhoid fever.

The edifice was designed by the renowned church architect Edward T. Potter, one of the original designers of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City.

John J. Heaney, Hoboken historian and sacristan of the church for many years, was instrumental in providing the research and background documentation which made it possible for the church to be added to the state register.

A special service to commemorate the occasion is being planned for sometime in the spring.

Fire trainee plan being eliminated

The Hoboken Fire Department won't have to contend with 10 trainee positions that the city authorized for appointment under an ordinance passed by the city council last month, because the positions are being eliminated.

First War Councilman Anthony H. Romano has asked the Law Department to prepare a new ordinance eliminating the positions. The city's Fire Fighters and Fire Officers associations had objected to the trainee plan.

Romano said he expects the amendment to be ready for introduction at next week's council meeting and would get the support of a majority of the council members.

"In the confusion resulting from the final agreements on contracts with the firemen and officers and the

council action on the necessary ordinances needed to support their pay increases, this item slipped by the council," he said.

"I doubt very seriously it would have passed if we had been aware of the strong objections to it that were voiced by them (the firemen) after we had acted on it."

The trainee positions were part of an ordinance setting the manpower, salaries, and table of organization for the fire department.

But both fire unions objected saying that the action was illegal because the city had a valid Civil Service list of men eligible for appointment to the fire department and many of them were Hoboken residents. They charged that the position was being used by the city as a means of circumventing Civil Service regulations to hire firemen at cut rates.

Hoboken mini-school again without principal

Hoboken's new mini-school at 524 Park Ave., scheduled to open officially sometime between March 1 and 15, is again without a principal.

Joseph Buda, who was slated to be named principal of the new school, has advised the board of education that he does not want the

position. In a letter to the board, Buda said he would prefer to remain at the David E. Rue School where he is currently the principal. The board honored Buda's request. It did not move to appoint him principal at yesterday's meeting. The board announced

that all after-school activities which had been discontinued because of the energy shortage will begin again Monday. This will include regularly scheduled after-school activities as well as allowing school facilities to be used by local groups and clubs. The board officially

adopted March 29 as the day for the annual school board election, the polling places to be open from 2 to 9 p.m. Feb. 17 has been set as the last day for candidates to file nominating petitions with the board. They must get them into the box before 4 p.m. Ballot positions will be

drawn the following day at 8 p.m. in the office of Thomas A. Gallo, board secretary. The board approved the appointment of three new teachers to fill vacancies created by retirements or resignations. The new teachers are Mary Pat Carroll, Belinda White and Joseph Marnell.

Superintendent of Schools Thomas F. McFeely was given permission to attend the annual convention of the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) on Feb. 25 through March 1 in Las Vegas and was granted \$750 in expenses for the convention.

Stevens sets solar energy project to aid Hoboken poor

By JEAN DEITZ
Dispatch Trenton Bureau

TRENTON — Solar energy to heat the cold water flats of Hoboken? It's one proposal for easing the energy crunch that will be tested in a pilot project by Stevens Institute of Technology.

In cooperation with HOPES, the Hoboken anti-poverty program, Stevens energy researchers will select several apartment buildings in Hoboken and install solar heating devices.

"Some of the cold water flats either have no hot water at all or they use gas to heat the water. We want to develop a device that could be placed on top of the building or in the wall. It may be only able to pre-heat the water,

but even that will save money and gas," explained Stevens physics professor Frank Pollock, the school's expert on energy policy. Stevens is spending a total \$250,000 on four energy projects. Much of its energy work is not known to the general public since its results are published in academic and trade journals but it is one of the institutions in the state doing significant work on energy usage and conservation.

The institute has just completed a pilot study of four hospitals to determine how much energy they use, how much is lost due to poor construction or other factors, and how much is

retained. The hospitals measured were Overlook Hospital in Summit, Morristown Memorial, Rahway Hospital and Riverview in Red Bank.

"We will publish detailed calculations on how much energy should be coming out of the walls, windows, or through the roof, how much is saved by good insulation."

Pollock says the four hospitals vary in age, and within each complex, there are newer additions so that energy loss is varied. The results should tell the hospitals where they're wasting energy and why.

Two other projects deal with the production and storage of energy. One, on plasma physics, is the most expensive and most significant one for development alternative energy sources. The project is developing ways to contain at extremely high temperatures a special form of gas critical in developing nuclear fusion power.

Stevens researchers are also experimenting with methods of extracting energy out of organic chemicals. They want to perfect a way to store energy in its highest state, and extract it by use of a catalyst.

Pollock says the institute is more concerned with long-range solutions to energy problems rather than the current natural gas crisis. Full development of solar and nuclear energy sources would prevent such crises in the future.

Schools may wipe out tax cut

By Peter Hallam

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello's proposed budget for 1977, which will be presented to the city council next week, provides a reduction of a few pennies in the city's tax rate — which in all probability, however, won't find its way to city taxpayers.

"If anything, there is probably going to be an increase in the tax rate and taxes our local property owners will have to pay — and it can be traced directly to the board of education," asserted the mayor.

"As the public will see when the budget is presented to the council, we were anticipating a reduction of a few cents," he continued. "This was done by cutting the city's costs and anticipating the same approximate contribution for education as we had in 1976. But with the board's budget,

more than \$2.7 million higher for 1977-78, there is little chance for any tax decrease."

The mayor declined to discuss any specifics of his proposed budget until it has been formally presented to the council, which may increase it, decrease it or leave it unchanged.

The Hoboken school board filed an appeal with the Hudson County superintendent of schools yesterday morning seeking permission to exceed by more than \$2.7 million the state-set "caps" on its budget, according to a board spokesman. However, this couldn't be verified with the county because Dr. Russell Carpenter, the superintendent was unavailable for comment and his staff is under "strict orders" that only he can talk with reporters.

However, Carpenter is reported to have said Tuesday that he won't be

able to rule on the "cap" appeal until the Commissioner of Education Fred Burke has made a final determination on the Hoboken school board's 1976-77 budget appeal. The state is deciding whether the city will be forced to reinstate some \$985,000 cut from the budget by the council and include an additional \$1.5 million for summer salary payments.

Carpenter said that the official "caps" for the 1977-78 Hoboken school budget can't be determined until the 1976-77 budget is finalized since the "caps" are based on the budget for the previous year.

Most of the \$2.7 million school board increase will come from the city if Carpenter allows it to exceed the estimated "cap." Part of that is the \$1.5 million for the summer salaries. A decision is expected momentarily since the hearing by the

state was concluded in late December.

The mayor said he was extremely disappointed by the board and its proposed budget for the 1977-78 school.

"The board is well aware of the city's financial difficulties, yet it appears that it refuses to take them into consideration and continues to go merrily along spending what it wants without any effort to economize," the mayor asserted.

"A comparison of the city's budget for the last four years with the board's makes the point."

"Hoboken's budget has been stable with very slight tax increases or minor reductions. The board's has gone up. Only cuts made in the city's budget to compensate for increases in the school board budgets has avoided those tax increases."

Cramer sees battleship as an albatross

Hoboken's Councilman Walter Cramer doesn't buy the assurance that it wouldn't cost Hoboken a nickel to berth the famed battleship New Jersey on the city's shore as a permanent museum.

Cramer said today if the city does get the ship and brings it to Hoboken from the state of Washington, he greatly fears it will become "a grey elephant."

The councilman said he was dubious about the statement made by Richard T. Bozone, chairman of the Hoboken Battleship Memorial Wharf Committee, that the entire project would be financed privately through statewide fund-raising.

"I have no doubt it would be a tourist attraction for a while," Cramer said. "But what happens if interest drops off after six months or a year or so? We'd be stuck with maintaining it. How would we get rid of it? We couldn't pass it off on someone else. No one else would take it — after it didn't work out for us."

Bozone has said that the only commitment the committee would need from Hoboken is for a place to berth the vessel and a small recreation area to provide access to it.

He is to make a full report to the city council on the committee's activities and on what future support it might seek from the city.

Hoboken blasted over fire trainees

By TERRY BRENNAN

The head of the Hoboken Firefighter's Association yesterday charged the city council with "trying to break the union" by creating 10 trainee firemen's posts.

Mike Bavaro, president of the 88-member firefighter's organization, said the approved ordinance violates the union's contract and Civil Service regulations. He claimed the council "railroaded it through" at the public meeting Jan. 19.

"They definitely tried to push this through so they could fill our union with political pawns," Bavaro said. "It's a direct attack against our union and unionism in general by trying to force scabs onto our job."

Although the ordinance was passed after public notice at the council meeting two weeks ago, Bavaro said the firemen's union had "absolutely no knowledge" that the proposal was under consideration. He also charged that "some of the councilmen must have been misinformed" about the nature of the ordinance.

"I have to believe that some of the councilmen got a false representation of this thing," Bavaro said. "I don't know where their minds were, because a few have told me they didn't think it violated our contract."

"It Slipped By Me"

While Councilman Anthony Romano admitted "it slipped right by me," he said yesterday he'll "amend it if I get enough support" on the council. Romano said "it's incumbent upon the council to reevaluate the ordinance" and added he would look into it.

Council President Martin Brennan first said the director of public safety, Mayor Steve Cap-

piello drew up the ordinance, then he attributed it to the Law Department, and then he admitted to Bavaro that he had introduced it to the council. He defended the ordinance by saying the trainees "would have worked under your supervision."

Bavaro later accused the council of hedging on responsibility for the ordinance and said he had the impression "They didn't even know where it" — the ordinance — came from. He claimed the "majority of the council" seemed to be "with us after the meeting."

"We don't care who introduced it as long as they make sure the trainees don't walk onto the job," Bavaro said. "We don't mind working with qualified people who have passed Civil Service tests, but they want to jeopardize our lives by throwing raw recruits alongside us."

Hoboken has signed a contract with the firemen in December without the authority to create the trainee slots, but the city had tried unsuccessfully to do away with a table of organization prior to signing both the fire and police contracts. City officials had said the list was undermining their "managerial prerogative."

Bavaro said there were 200 qualified persons who had already passed the Civil Service exam and were on the waiting list. He said the city's efforts to save money by paying the trainees "substantially less" than a private's salary were "self-defeating."

"You don't save money by paying people who have no training or experience less than the have no training or experience start with," Bavaro said. "The only thing you really do is jeopardize the lives of Hoboken's citizens and the people who are trying to protect them."

Pick Buda principal of mini-school

Hoboken's new mini-school, scheduled to open by March 15, has a principal after all.

A spokesman for the Hoboken Board of Education said today the board has decided against allowing Joseph Buda to stay on as the principal of the David E. Rue School and will require him to become the new mini-school principal.

It has been previously reported that Buda's request to stay on at Rue had been honored by the board.

According to the board spokesman, the mini-school will be using the "open classroom concept" in teaching the 400 youngsters expected to be eventually in the school.

Hoboken tests public hearing on 1977 budget

The public hearing for Hoboken's 1977 municipal budget will be held on March 16 at 8 p.m. in the city council chambers, Mayor Steve Cappiello said today.

Cappiello will submit his budget to the council for its consideration at Wednesday night's council meeting. Substantial changes are expected, the mayor said.

The mayor explained it has been brought to the city's attention that there are some federal and state funds available to the city, which it is fairly sure of getting if it applies for them, which will help reduce the amount of money the city planned to spend.

"Should we be successful throughout it could result in a reduction in the tax rate of up to \$7 per thousand," he added. "But that is speculation, at least at this time."



SECOND IN A ROW — Hoboken High School cheerleaders have won the county championship for the second successive year. Team members, kneeling, from left, are: Maria Velez, co-captain; Donna Kranz, captain; and Donna Scarpulla, co-captain. In top row, from left, are: Linda Dorr, Mary Jo LaSara, Annie Spina, Sandra Ehlers, Arlene Kranz, Debbie Falco, Roselle Pasquale and Mrs. Olivia Pescatore, coach.

Tighten the specs

Tonight, Hoboken's City Council will consider specifications for Phase III of the city's water main repair and replacement program.

Tonight is the time to tighten up those specifications so that the city's residents will not have the trouble they are having with the Phase II contract.

The Phase II contractor left something to be desired. He shut off the water for blocks of houses without giving notice other than shouting through a bullhorn from the street. He insisted on working through the coldest days of the winter, which meant he turned streets into lakes of ice with parked cars frozen in them.

Phase III will be another big job, costing up to \$4.3 million. Let the specifications pin the contractor down to do a satisfactory job or pay a stiff penalty.

Sees Hoboken industry unit in business

By TERRY BRENNAN

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri yesterday called the recent sale of the Standard Brands Building the first challenge to the nonprofit corporation created last week to attract industry to the city.

The corporation, a quasi-governmental agency which will offer low-interest loans to lure industry to Hoboken, will be given a \$300,000 funding during its first year by the federal Community Development Corporation. Ranieri said the Standard Brands Building should put the organization on the line right away.

"The agency should go to the new owner and try to help him rent his space as quickly as possible," Ranieri said. "Instead of paying 10 or 11 per cent for a commercial loan, we'll be able to offer him a loan for about half that. It should be very attractive."

Although new owner William de Goode said he's negotiating six major leases right now, Ranieri said the new organization should get under way as soon as possible so de Goode gets a chance to "savor its many advantages." He said this is a "perfect chance" to show other industries what the city has to offer.

"This is an ideal opportunity to prove that the development corporation can present industries with a silver platter," Ranieri said. "While other cities like Jersey City and New York are struggling to keep industry, this agency will make Hoboken too attractive to pass by. Where else can you get loans for six per cent?"

The 12-story concrete structure is located on a 5.5 acre site at Hudson and 12th sts. de Goode said he will divide the 76,000 square foot space into units as small as 15,000 square feet and will be

able to offer them at "a fraction of new construction."

Although Ranieri acknowledged that the city reassessed the building recently from \$500,000 to \$480,000 to make it a more attractive investment, he said "it was just a small step backward so we could take a major step forward." He said there's "no question it's a sound building."

"This is a giant step forward and the beginning of the end of the money drain to suburbia," Ranieri said. "We'll be able to get full commercial interest loans for our local banks so they can benefit along with industry. Industry won't want to move out to suburbia anymore."

While Ranieri said the \$300,000 initial funding will "merely prime the pump," he predicted that the agency will become "literally a million dollar corporation in its first year of operation." He also

forecast that state and federal funds will eventually make it a multimillion dollar corporation.

"Hoboken has been in the forefront in the past few years with new and novel solutions to urban problems," Ranieri

said. "This is just the latest approach that has me convinced that we've been doing something right on this side of the Hudson. I don't see how it can miss."

De Goode has restored the Singer Sewing Machine property in Elizabeth

(1,500,000 square feet); the Clark thread building in Kearny (600,000 square feet); and the American Rope structure in Brooklyn (1,500,000 square feet). He purchased the Standard Brands building from the Nationwide Development Corp.



The 12-story Standard Brands Building at Hudson and 12th sts. in Hoboken was

purchased recently by Orange developer William deGoode.

Hoboken PBA head, chief testify

By JIM BENSON

Hoboken's police chief and the city's Patrolmen's Benevolent Association president both testified yesterday before a Hudson County grand jury in Jersey City in its ongoing probe of alleged gambling kickbacks to municipal officials.

Chief George Crimmins, making his third appearance before the jury, spent all morning with it. The investigation is under the direction of Deputy First Assistant Prosecutor Edward McGill.

After lunch, James Behrens, PBA head, appeared before the jury for the remainder of the afternoon.

Others May Get Subpoenas

The two police officers had no comment on their activities inside the grand jury room.

A source close to the investigation said yesterday that the grand jury

will meet again next Friday when Behrens is to testify again.

Other Hoboken policemen may be subpoenaed to appear after Behrens next week, the source said. But he added that no further subpoenas have been issued as yet.

Although Crimmins is not scheduled to go before the jury next week, the source said he "may not be through" testifying.

Sources have said subpoenas will not be restricted to Hoboken police.

The grand jury launched its investigation following reports by The Dispatch last October that Hoboken gamblers were paying high municipal officials thousands of dollars a week to allow gambling operations in the city.

It was reported that police knew of the payoffs and gambling and threatened to close down operations if

contract demands were not met in negotiations with the city.

Probe in 3rd Week

The grand jury's investigation is expected to last several more months, according to the source. The probe is now in its third week.

More than \$10,000 a week was being paid officials by gamblers to allow bookmaking operations to flourish, The Dispatch learned.

The newspaper learned in October that state police, who have been unable to crack the gambling in Hoboken, suspected that a vice squad detective was the "big man" for high police and city officials in the payoffs.

State law enforcement officials are reportedly aware of the identities of the officials involved in the payoffs.

State police, however, have been hampered by lack of manpower for official corruption investigations and the tight-knit nature of the city.



George Crimmins

Critic steams Hoboken battleship committee

Leonard Luizzi, a member of the Hoboken Battleship Memorial Committee, today lambasted Councilman Walter Cramer for his comments on the committee's attempt to bring the battleship New Jersey from the state of Washington to berth permanently at a Hoboken pier as a floating museum.

Cramer had questioned whether the cost of keeping the vessel might not outweigh the anticipated revenue from visitors.

Luizzi termed Cramer's remarks "an insult to the committee which has worked on this project for eight months."

He said Cramer "has received over six invitations to attend our meetings since last September, has consistently refused to attend, and has not even shown us the decency and common courtesy to answer our invitations."

Luizzi added: "It's too bad that there are elected officials in Jersey City who, instead of criticizing this project, are working to grab the ship for that city."

Meanwhile Mayor Cappelletto of Hoboken "enthusiastically" endorsed the project, saying the ship "would provide jobs for local residents and provide a stimulus for business in and around the proposed site."

Cappelletto said the battleship would ideally fit into the city's plans to redevelop the Erie Lackawanna railroad and ferry terminal. He said he urged "all citizens and organizations in Hoboken to support the campaign to bring the vessel to Hoboken."

Richard T. Bozzone, chairman of the Hoboken committee, announced endorsements from the Hoboken Kiwanis Club, the Fathers Guild of Sacred Heart Academy, the Thomas Gallo Association, the Helluva Guys Association, and Councilman-at-large Bernard Scrivani.

Bozzone said newly-joined members of the committee include Arthur Calabro, Joseph A. Capporino, Daniel C. Simone, Vincent M. Mastandrea, Frank Clark, Harold Lillenthal, Vincent Olsen, Otto Hotendorf, Al Strattin and Bernard Ziegler.

Bozzone also announced that the committee had dropped the word "wharf" from its name, which had been the Hoboken Battleship Memorial Wharf Committee.

The committee has been working to have the New Jersey Senate amend Bill S-830 to increase from the present nine to 15 the number of members of the state commission to bring the battleship to New Jersey.

Bozzone said State Senator William V. Musto of Union City has told the committee he is supporting the bill.

Richard Eversen, dean of students at Stevens Institute, is a member of the commission.

Bozzone said that although he himself was recently elected an associate commissioner by the members, "this section of the state is under-represented on the commission," and if S-830 is passed, the Hoboken committee hopes to have "one or two additional members named to serve on the commission."



TAKING A BREAK — Joseph Koroluk takes a soft drink break during the 11-hour scubathon for the aid of the Leukemia Society held at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken. The scubathon started at 8 a.m. and ended at 7 p.m., with participants coming up for several breaks. Koroluk is chairman of the program.

Hoboken supporter says battleship would pay way

Hoboken's member of the state's U.S.S. New Jersey Battleship Commission is optimistic that should the battleship be located in Hoboken it will be self-supporting and won't cost Hoboken anything.

Richard Eversen, who is also chairman of the Hoboken Parking Authority and a dean at Stevens Institute of Technology, says there are four other battleship memorials in the country and each is operating in the black.

"In fact, the one in North Carolina has been very profitable," he added. "And our operation will be patterned after theirs."

Eversen said he would like to see Hoboken get the site designation from the state commission because he believes it would attract a lot of attention for the city and draw tourists.

According to Eversen, Hoboken's plan calls for the battleship memorial to be part of the redevelopment of the Erie Lackawanna Railroad and ferry terminal area and would not call for

the purchase or acquisition of tax-producing waterfront property.

"From the plans submitted by the Hoboken Community Development Agency (CDA), the waterfront area around the terminal is not designated for any specific waterfront activity or use," he said. "So using it for the battleship would not take away from it, but improve upon it."

Eversen said that all financial costs of the project — acquiring the war ship, ferrying it to this area, preparing the final memorial site, and maintaining it — will rest with the state commission.

"The commission will be in charge of the entire matter," he continued.

He said that as part of the memorial there could be a small snack bar and curio shop which would also produce revenue. As a museum, the ship could exhibit military, naval, maritime and historical items and articles.

Hoboken teacher listed in latest 'Who's Who'

Joseph J. Colaneri, a Hoboken school teacher who is also a member of the Palisades Park Board of Education, has been officially listed in the new edition of "Who's Who Among School District Officials" in the United States.

Colaneri, who started his career as an industrial arts teacher in 1944, has developed and directed a wide variety of educational programs.

Joining the Hoboken school system in 1945, he has been active in industrial arts, job training and guidance counseling work. His program last summer of sending Hoboken youngsters to a farm to get a

first-hand look at rural living, won wide acclaim.

Colaneri was first elected to the Palisades Park school board in 1969 and served as board president in 1973 and 1974. He played a major role in the development of the borough's high school.

A graduate of Newark State College, Colaneri earned his master's degree at Seton Hall University and also studied at Rutgers and New York University and Texas A. and M. He was a consultant and adjunct instructor at Jersey City State College in 1971 and is chairman of the Hudson County Career Education Council.

Hoboken down \$1.4 million in assessed value

Hoboken's assessed valuation has gone down approximately \$1.4 million for 1977, according to the city assessor's office, with most of the reduction resulting from the loss of personal property for tax purposes.

Last year, personal property — machines and equipment that are taxed by the state with the revenues eventually going to the municipalities — was valued at \$3,291,230. For 1977, it is assessed at \$2,087,713.

A spokesman said that this was caused by the closing of some industrial plants and the relocation of their equipment to other locations. However, those same companies still retain their land and buildings in Hoboken and most are still paying taxes on them.

He said that only a slight drop in assessments of land and improvements of buildings was recorded for 1977.

Last year, Hoboken land and improvements had a total assessment of \$109,606,450. For 1977 they are assessed at \$109,432,850 — a drop of \$173,600.

The city's new assessment books were made available to the public for inspection last week. Only one resident showed up to inspect them, the spokesman said.

Shipowner pays \$15,000 pier rent

Hoboken has collected \$15,000 from the owners of a grain ship that has been docked at the Fifth Street Pier since last June and applied the money to over \$200,000 in back taxes owed on the property by the M.M.W.B. Corp., but the city is still going ahead with foreclosure proceedings to take over the piers.

A spokesman for the city's law department said that the owners of the ship, the Newport Tankers Corp., had been holding the money since they were notified by the city last year that there were tax liens on the Fifth and Sixth Street piers and that the rents should be collected by the city.

"When the company learned that the foreclosure proceedings had started, it notified us that it was holding the funds and wanted to pay the city what was owed," he said. "But just to make sure everything was proper, we had the money paid to the county in the city's name."

"It was placed in an escrow account by the county and then turned over to the city as a payment on the back taxes owed on the piers."

The spokesman said that the money has been credited to the back taxes owed on the property but is far from enough to satisfy the entire amount, which is well over \$200,000.

Besides the piers, Hoboken is also foreclosing on the old Todd Shipyard in the northeast section of the city, and the Condenser Service property at Observer Highway and Bloomfield St.

High school tiles may be replaced

The Hoboken Board of Education will either remove or repair small decorative tiles that have been falling off the exterior of Hoboken High School at Ninth and Clinton street, Business Manager Anthony H. Romano said today.

"I have asked the board's engineers to look into the problem and make a recommendation as to what course the board should follow — remove them or replace them," Romano said. "The work, whatever it is, will be done in the spring when the weather warms up."

The tiles started falling off the three-story building several years ago. To date, the board has been replacing them but that hasn't been entirely satisfactory.

"The main problem with that is that we haven't been able to get replacement tiles that are exactly the same color as the tiles that fell off," he said.

Hoboken set to replace north side water lines

The Hoboken City Council is prepared to go ahead with phase three of its water line replacement program which, when finished, will mean that 80 to 85 per cent of the city's pipes will have been replaced.

The council is expected to approve plans and specifications for the work, to be performed in the northern part of the city, at tomorrow's 7 p.m. meeting in City Hall. Bids will be received March 2 at 10 a.m.

Joseph Lynch, of the Mayo and Lynch engineering firm told the council at last night's caucus that receiving bids on that date would allow time to readvertise for new proposals if the offers received are not acceptable.

The work must start with the coming of good weather, he said.

Lynch said he would try to have digging operations spaced to allay

fears expressed by council president Martin Brennan that "the whole town will be dug up at once."

Lynch also recommended against a suggestion, voiced by councilman Robert Ranieri, that a \$1,200 service opening be provided at all valves so they can easily be lubricated to keep them from wearing out early.

Lynch said the new valves don't need lubrication but that they should be opened and closed twice a year. If this is done they should last 40 to 50 years, he said. If it isn't they will only last seven or eight.

At the upcoming meeting the council is also expected to act on a proposed municipal budget for this year and approve a \$214,301 payment to Jersey City for water delivered to Hoboken last year.



Henry Schneider, Hoboken sewage treatment plant laborer, scans section of brick wall around digesting tank that tumbled down over the weekend. Officials say, however, the damage won't impair the tank's operation.

Sewage tank wall a must to go

A brick veneer wall around a sewage digesting tank at the Hoboken treatment plant may be removed by the city because a portion of it came crashing down during the weekend. Mayor Steve Cappiello said that the wall served no functional purpose and in no way affects the operation of the treatment plant.

"The wall only served to make the tank eye-pleasing," he said. "That was its only purpose."

The wall section is approximately 35 feet high and almost as wide. Cap-

piello said that whatever bricks are still loose and could fall will be removed. The city will then decide whether the wall will be repaired or entirely removed.

According to the mayor, several weeks of extremely cold weather are probably responsible for the collapse of the wall. He said that water from melted snow may have seeped under the sheet metal that seals the top of the tank and the wall.

"The cold caused the water to freeze and thaw," he speculated.

"This action apparently was enough to weaken the wall and eventually cause it to fall. There was no damage to any property and no one was injured."

The incident occurred Saturday morning. City officials were alerted to it by workman at the treatment plant who heard the crash.

Cappiello said that if the city can repair the wall at a reasonable price it will be repaired. However, if it requires a costly operation, the rest of the brick work may be taken down.

State review of welfare requested 2/15/77 J.J.

State welfare authorities have been asked to review Hoboken's welfare department procedures and practices and specifically recommend changes they feel are necessary to eliminate inefficiency and improve the control of welfare payments, Mayor Steve Cappiello said today.

The city was notified last month by the state that it wanted the city to respond by today to its suggestion for tighter welfare controls to eliminate questionable expenditures.

"I have written to the state and asked that it send in a team to evaluate our welfare operation, and then make specific recommendations for changes within our system," he said. "The city will implement all of the recommendations made by the state."

The order from the state resulted from an audit performed at the city's request last year. The request was made after city police arrested a local grocery store owner and a hotel

owner for cashing welfare vouchers, and keeping a percentage of the vouchers' face value for themselves for the cashing service. Welfare regulations prohibit the cashing of vouchers.

As a result of the audit, the state recommended to the city that instead of using a voucher system it go to a check system. The state also warned that unless Hoboken took action to implement tighter controls and better office procedures, the state would

probably have to stop reimbursing the city the normal 75 per cent of Hoboken's welfare costs.

"I have asked for the review and specific recommendations just so there aren't any misunderstandings at a later date," said the mayor. "We want to comply with the state as fully as possible. Hoboken can't afford to lose the reimbursements from the state and absorb its own welfare costs."

The mayor said he has not received a reply from the state as yet.

Hoboken seeks funds for more project police

Hoboken officials have started looking into the possibility of obtaining federal or state funds for the creation of a private police force for the city's housing authority projects, Mayor Steve Cappiello said today.

The effort is being made in response to complaints from the auxiliary police who claim conditions in the projects, especially in the vicinity of the Harrison and Jackson Gardens projects, have become so bad that they are not able to handle them and

there is great concern for the safety of the tenants.

According to the mayor, there are several possibilities open to the city and the authority. One of the more promising ones was through the State Law Enforcement Planning Agency (SLEPA).

"The city's obvious and most pressing problem in this matter is funds," the mayor continued. "We don't have the money to finance additional police for the housing authority so we must seek the funds from either state or federal agencies, possibly both. That is what we are doing now."

Cappiello said the city and Community Development Agency (CDA) will be looking into the various areas of funding on both levels to see which might best suit the city's needs and where the city has the best chance of being successful in getting what it is looking for.

"The SLEPA program would give approximately 50 per cent of the funds for such a project," he continued. "The city and the housing authority would have to come up with the rest."

Cappiello said a suggestion from Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francione calling for the switching of hours of men assigned to the Tactical Patrol Force (TPF) is also being studied.

Cappiello projects 'slight decrease' in Hoboken tax rate

By Ronald Leir

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello is projecting a "slight decrease" in the municipal tax rate based on his proposed budget of about \$14 million for municipal purposes, reflecting a reduction of around \$900,000 from last year's appropriations.

An estimate of the city's tax rate, however, can't be made now, says Cappiello, because neither the local school board nor county budgets have been settled.

The mayor is urging residents to reject the proposed school budget, which he says calls for local taxpayers to sanction an additional \$2.7 million in school expenses. This increase, he says, will be "confiscatory and devastating to the future of Hoboken."

Should the school budget receive voter approval, says the mayor, it would result in a local tax increase of

more than \$25 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

"This would be in addition to the state income tax to be paid in 1977 which was supposedly enacted to support the public school system," Cappiello says.

"If the school budget is defeated, the city council will have the opportunity to reduce the budget to a reasonable level for the already over-taxed residents of our city."

On the negative side of the municipal ledger, Cappiello points to a loss of more than \$100,000 in state aid "despite the enactment of the state income tax," a loss of \$445,382.42 in local railroad taxes and the city's contribution of \$600,000 in debt service to the Hoboken parking authority on the Grogan Marine View Plaza parking garages construction.

On the positive side, Cappiello listed the receipt of \$312,322.06 in new

state revenue sharing funds, reduction of water and sewer utility operating deficits and the securing of a federal grant to rebuild the 11th Street pumping station.

"Current tax collections showed a distinct improvement for 1976 in excess of 2 per cent," says Cappiello. "The hardheaded collection policy and heavy interest penalty charges for late payments have proven to be very successful," he says.

Those gains, however, are offset by the city's loss of more than \$1 million in ratables, largely the result of businesses opting to leave Hoboken for the suburbs.

The mayor says "all appropriation requests have been reduced to the lowest reasonable levels possible without affecting the quality of municipal services to the community" but Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri disagrees.

When the budget is introduced at tonight's city council meeting, Ranieri says he's prepared to recommend cutting "other expenses" within the Public Works Department, for starters, and those recommendations may extend to other department.

"I've been scrutinizing the claims resolutions and there have been a flood of claims coming in as of this month from the Public Works Department stamped 'reserve 1976 funds' mostly for parts, supplies and some services," said Ranieri.

For instance, he said, of the \$29,000 in claims submitted by Public Works for payment at tonight's meeting, about \$20,000 is to be paid out of last year's reserve fund account. Ranieri estimates about \$120,000 in such claims have come before the council since Jan. 1.

"This leaves me wondering," the councilman said. "I believe that department directors are not adhering to the city's accepted purchasing policy under which all purchases should be made from the business administrator's office."

"In the case of the public works department, the director seems to do his own purchasing and has the vendor send his bill to the city. This is a question of administrative discipline and it's up to the mayor to enforce it."

Public Works Director Raphael

P. Vitale replied, "It's possible this may have been happening. There are times you need things in a hurry and occasionally the business administrator is away on vacation and you just go out and get the stuff, but there's nothing willful about it."

On the matter of the reserve fund expenditures, Vitale said: "Last year, we had many hardships in different divisions and there were some extra-curricular things like the pumping station that exploded and the bicentennial celebration we got stuck with. Things sometimes get out of hand but we try to control them. I appreciate the councilman calling this to my attention and we'll try to work it out."

Injured workers cut back

2/14/77 - H.D.

By TERRY BRENNAN
Hoboken Councilman Walter S. Cramer said yesterday he's been assured by the Law Department the city will no longer pay employees injured on the job more than they're entitled to under the law.

The Second Ward councilman, who had asked Law Director Lawrence Florio to direct department heads to end the long-time procedure, said Hoboken can barely afford the standard two-thirds salary, or \$138 a week. He said the practice was started "years ago" when job compensation was at a minimum.

"The law states that workers hurt on the job are entitled to either two thirds of their salary up to a maximum of \$138 a week," Cramer said. "The city has continued a practice from ages ago when workers were paid 100 per cent of their salary. We just can't afford this any longer."

Although injured employees were required to repay the city the accumulated increment after they received permanent disability, Cramer said the practice wasn't being enforced, according to statutory requirements. He said Florio has assured him the policy will be put to a stop.

"Mr. Florio has told me he'll issue a directive to all department heads telling them to end the practice," Cramer said. "I'm not blaming employees or current officials because this thing goes back for years, but I just feel we can't afford it given our present financial situation."

Once Earned Penalties
Cramer said the practice started when city workers were making "about \$45 a week" and they couldn't recover when they were hurt on the job. It's just an archaic practice no longer applicable now that compensation methods have been refined.

While Cramer said there had initially been a "gentlemen's agreement" that the injured worker would repay the city the difference between disability and salary, he said the city treasury can't afford the continual drain any longer. He said it's time the "back stop" right here and right now.

"A guy making \$200 a week should only get a maximum of \$138, but we were paying him his full salary," Cramer said. "The worker was supposed to repay the city the difference it picked up when he got a permanent disability award. To my knowledge we weren't collecting that money."

Florio said he would abide by Cramer's request and will direct department heads to enforce the legal requirements. He said employees injured on the job are entitled to the compensation until their doctor says they can return to work.

Cramer said the reason for the practice "was abolished when city workers started making decent living wages."

Hoboken is offering anti-burglar inspections

How secure is your apartment or business from burglaries?

Hoboken residents and businessmen can find out from the city's police department and get some helpful suggestions as to what can be done to improve security, according to Mayor Steve Cappiello, public safety director, and Police Chief George W. Crimmins.

The mayor said today that the police department's recently created Crime Prevention Bureau is making itself available to the public for the purpose of checking apartments, businesses and other locations for proper security and recommending improvements.

"The service is free to all residents, property owners and businessmen," the mayor said. "They can make an appointment for a security check by calling Detective Sgt. Frank Turso in the detective bureau Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m."

Cappiello said that Turso will inspect the areas and make recommen-

dations based on each individual's needs and area. Compliance is voluntary, the mayor added.

The bureau was started last year through a grant under the National Crime Prevention Program. Turso attended a university course on security and the prevention of burglaries.

"Sgt. Turso has completed an inspection of all city schools which we feel will help cut down on burglaries, and after-school vandalism if his recommendations are followed by the

board of education," Crimmins said. "Burglary investigations take up a major portion of a police department's time."

"And they are always after the fact—the crime has been committed, the persons' valuables gone, and they can only hope that partial recovery will be made."

"Proper security, be it in a person's apartment or place of business, helps thwart burglaries. And by preventing them, we keep police personnel free for other duties and investigations, not to mention the aggravation that the victim has to go through with reports and insurance claims."

"Although proper security can sometimes be costly, in the long run it usually saves money by preventing the loss of valuables."

Hoboken families could lose water again

Water service has been restored to several hundred Hoboken families along Garden and 10th streets following the repair by the city of a major water break. But those same families may be without water at any time because the line could go again.

Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale today assured residents that the city would keep a close check on the line but complete replacement was the only guarantee that it wouldn't go again.

"The line is very old and in very bad condition," he said. "It has to be replaced and it will be, but the city

isn't prepared to do it now. If we did it now the cost would come out of the city's pocket — when we have \$4.3 million in federal funds just around the corner that could pay for the job."

Vitale explained that Hoboken has been given a \$4.3 million Public Works Act grant for Phase III of its water line repair and replacement program. He said specifications for the project have been drawn up, advertised, and bids are due in next month.

"Once we've settled on a contractor and he's ready to start, the line on Garden Street will be one of the first to be replaced," he asserted.

The line blew out Thursday afternoon leaving families on Garden Street, from Ninth to 11th streets, and 10th Street, from Bloomfield Street to Park Avenue, without water service. The repairs were made by 7 p.m.

Vitale said he was informed by his water line repair crew that the job was "iffy."

"The line has rotted away and is in very bad condition," he continued. "Any great pressure fluctuation could blow it out again. We just have to keep an eye on it so should it go we'll be there right away to make another temporary repair."

Seniors talks resuming

The Hoboken Evening Adult School will resume its popular lecture series for senior citizens next week, according to Ignatius Farinola, school director.

Speakers will discuss various topics of special interest to seniors every Tuesday at the city's Multi-Service Center and every Thursday at Fox Hill Gardens, he said. The discussions will start at 12:30 p.m.

Next week's program on first aid will be presented by the Hoboken Volunteer Ambulance Corps. The March 1 and 3 program will be on the emotional well-being of widows and widowers and will feature Mrs. Santa DeGross of the Hudson County Mental Health Association.

Anthony Lisa of the Washington Savings Bank will present the March 8 and 10 discussion on the state inheritance and federal estate taxes. The spotlight will be on fire prevention on March 15 and 17 when Fireman James Monaco of the Hoboken Fire Community Relations Bureau is the guest speaker. A film is also planned for that week.

On March 22 and 25 Farinola will be the guest speaker. He will discuss living within one's means and getting the most out of retirement monies. John Bosworth of the Bosworth Funeral Home, Hoboken, will discuss the role of the funeral director on March 29 and 31.

Merchants may get grants

Hoboken store owners soon will be eligible for grants of up to \$2,000 to modernize their shops, Mayor Steve Cappiello said today.

Letters have been sent out by the mayor to shopkeepers along Washington Street, between Newark and Fourth streets, and most of those on First Street, telling them that surveys from the Community Development Agency (CDA) will be visiting them within the next few days to collect information on their needs.

"Barring any last-minute problems," said the mayor, "the CDA should be ready to accept applications for the grants by next week."

Cappiello said there were several conditions that shop owners must

meet before they would be eligible for the \$2,000.

"First, they must own the building or have a long-term lease with at least five years remaining on it," he continued. "Next, they must agree to spend at least as much as the grant. In other words, if the job is going to cost \$3,500 they put up half and the CDA puts up the other half."

"With the grant goes free design assistance from the CDA. If the owner accepts the grant he must have the work done according to the CDA's design criteria. In addition, the grant will be applicable only to the storefront, not the interior."

The mayor said the CDA had

\$40,000 committed to the project which would allow up to 20 stores to refurbish their storefronts. The program is under the direction of the Neighborhood Preservation program.

"The program serves two purposes," Cappiello added. "We are helping the store owners make their premises more attractive for their customers. And at the same time we are making sure that such work is in keeping with the buildings and character of Hoboken as part of the Neighborhood Preservation program."

Cappiello said the program may be expanded in the future so that more shop owners are eligible for it.

Spend to save

Hoboken is contemplating contracting with East Orange to computerize its parking tickets for a fee of 25 cents a ticket.

At a time when appropriations are being slashed for lack of money, there is a natural reluctance to take on any new expense.

The proposed computerization is in a different category. It is intended to bring in more money, by making it possible to collect more fines.

East Orange's computer has already proved this is not a mere hope, but a system that really works. From all that has been learned so far, Hoboken would do well to take the plunge and engage this service.

Hoboken High ceilings found to have asbestos

By William Taft

Asbestos has been found in the ceiling tiles of Hoboken High School and it would cost about \$100,000 to replace them.

This is in addition to the asbestos previously found in the ceilings of the high school's boiler room and store room and in the walls and ceilings of the boiler room of the new Wallace elementary school. Replacing these would cost an estimated \$30,000.

Joseph Lynch of the firm of Mayo and Lynch, the board's architect, said that "as a minimum," the surfaces should be sealed. He said he would present options — replacement or sealing — to the city's board of education.

tion, whose offices are in the same building as the Wallace School.

Lynch said that the surfaces could be sealed effectively but that if at some time they were scratched, asbestos could be released.

"The particles are small and light and float in the air, and can be breathed in," he commented.

He said he understood that the board was concerned about the great expense required if the asbestos materials were replaced.

Actually, Lynch said, he tested only one sample of a tile furnished to him by Walter Fine, the high school principal; and he was investigating to find out whether all the ceiling tiles in the school were installed by the same contractor.

Fine told The Jersey Journal the sample he gave Lynch was a leftover tile which had not been installed in a ceiling.

The test showed 5 per cent asbestos in the tile, according to Lynch. Fine said the trade name was Acousti-celotex, and he understood the material was known as rock wool.

Lynch said final tests showed that ceilings in the high school boiler room and store room were 50 per cent asbestos, as against only 5 per cent in the sample of tile making up the ceilings in the classrooms and other rooms of the school.

Final tests of the walls and ceilings in the boiler room of the Wallace School showed 15 per cent asbestos, the architect said.

Hoboken school budget ignores cap, appeal set

The Hoboken Board of Education will file an appeal with the Hudson County superintendent of schools today seeking to exceed the state imposed "cap" on its 1977-78 school budget by more than \$2.7 million.

And Mayor Steve Cappiello predicted that if the school board is

successful, it will cost local property owners close to \$30 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation more on their local tax rate.

A resolution authorizing the cap appeal was approved by the school board yesterday after the board had adopted its budget for 1977-78. The board must still be approved by the voters in the March 29 school board election.

The budget adopted by the board is for \$14,868,119 as compared to \$12,829,731 for the 1976-77 school year. For 1977-78, the board will expect the city to contribute \$6,765,657 through local taxes, compared to \$4,032,269 for the 1976-77 budget — an increase of \$2,733,388.

According to Robert W. Taylor, school board attorney, most of the increase results from \$1.5 million in summer salary payments for teachers that the state Attorney General has ordered the board to pay and \$884,984 in teachers' salaries, increment and retirement and sick benefit increases the board agreed to in 1975.

The school board is a year behind in its summer salary payments. The board had been budgeting for the July salary payments in the budget in effect at that time and the school year ends June 30.

Cappiello called the school budget "impossible."

"If this budget is allowed to stand as is," he said, "it will be the downfall of the city. While the city administration is making every effort to reduce the city's budget and the tax rate, the school board blithely tacks on \$2.7 million to what the city will have to contribute."

"If this is the best that can be done after T and E (Thorough and Efficient Education) and the state income tax to support education, heaven help us all."

The mayor said he would actively campaign against the adoption of the school budget by the public in the March election.

A public hearing on the proposed 1977-78 school budget will be held on March 16 at 11 a.m. in the board's conference room in the Wallace School, 11th and Clinton streets.

Hobokenite on Broadway

A Hoboken musician is now involved in a Broadway show.

John Marino, a 31-year-old, life-long resident, has been in charge of musical direction and arrangements for "Plaf . . . A Remembrance," a newly-opened show about the late French singer, Edith Piaf.

Previously Marino was involved in musical direction for an off-Broadway show which ran two weeks.

Marino is a graduate of Hoboken High School and Manhattan School of Music.

Hudson County senior citizens are entertained daily by Marino, a pianist, at the hot lunch programs for the elderly sponsored by the North Hudson Council of Mayors. He is an employee in the county Comprehensive Employing Training Act program.

Inconsistent?

Hoboken's Mayor Cappiello says he is extremely disappointed in the board of education and its proposed budget.

"The board continues to go merrily along," he says, "spending what it wants without any effort to economize."

If the board deserves such criticism, why then does the mayor endorse and support two of its members who are running for reelection?

Hoboken school board may consider layoffs

A special meeting of the Hoboken Board of Education has been called for tomorrow by Mrs. Mary Gaspar, board president, to discuss the proposed 1977-78 school budget and the possibility of teacher and administrative layoffs as a means of reducing the amount the city may have to chip in.

Mrs. Gaspar said the meeting won't be open to the public because personnel discussions will take place and such matters are exempt from the "Sunshine Law."

"I don't think the budget will be approved by the board in its current form," she said. "But reducing it by a significant amount is more than likely

going to call for the elimination of some personnel."

The proposed school budget, as it now stands, will require Hoboken to pay the school board more than \$2.5 million more than its contribution for the 1976-77 budget. If approved by the voters on March 29, the budget will raise the city's tax rate by about \$25 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Meanwhile, it was unofficially reported that State Commissioner of Education Fred Burke has reinstated some \$380,000 of the \$885,000 cut by the city from the board's 1976-77 budget and that money will have to be made up in the city's 1977 municipal budget. That would add about \$6 more to the tax rate.

The city's total proposed budget, presented by the mayor last night to the city council, is for \$15,490,341 with \$5,884,504 needed from local taxpayers to support the budget. Last year, local taxpayers were required to chip in \$6,009,327—\$144,823 more. This

could have resulted in a tax rate drop of between 60 and 75 cents this year if the county tax levy and school costs had remained the same.

According to Mrs. Gaspar, it appears that a majority of the board members don't want to be responsible for a \$30 tax increase and will make an effort to trim the proposed budget before it is presented to the public.

According to Robert W. Taylor, the board's attorney, school trustees don't have much time to amend the proposed budget, he said the budget has to be finalized no later than March 17, the day after the public hearing, so it can be included on the ballot for March 29 and advertised in the newspapers.

Cold cuts parking meter collections in Hoboken

The extreme cold last month caused revenue and expense problems for the Hoboken Parking Authority, according to Ricard Eversen, authority chairman.

The authority commissioners yesterday discussed the ripoff in both revenues from parking meters and tickets issued for overtime parking at the meters. Eversen said the meter enforcement staffers were unable to make their complete rounds because of the bitter cold.

The cold also increased the utility bill for the authority's offices and parking garages. The commissioners discussed ways, such as insulation, to reduce the fuel bill in the future.

The commissioners also talked about Councilman Walter Cramer's request for action to alleviate the Second Ward's parking problems.

The authority will invite its insurance consultant to a meeting to review the insurance needs of the authority.

Ranieri hits the ceiling over roof repair work

The Hoboken City Council and municipal directors appear to be headed for a battle over a \$2,300 roof repair job at City Hall.

According to Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, no one is willing to admit authorizing the job, and since there aren't any requisitions or purchase orders on it, the city won't pay for it.

But Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale and Business Administrator Herman Bier say that the work was authorized and that accepted procedures for the situation were followed.

"I have looked into the matter and found that there are no prices, no estimate, no bids, no purchase orders or requisitions for this work," said Ranieri. "The job was personally stopped by the mayor last week although most of the work had been finished."

"The contractor talked with the mayor but couldn't or wouldn't tell him who told him to start. However, he did say that the job was going to cost \$2,300."

"Since then, other contractors have looked at the work and said that the job was worth between \$750 and \$1,000. Admittedly, this was after the fact, but they did suggest that we were overcharged."

But Bier and Vitale said that the necessity of getting the work done as quickly as possible prevented the city from following all procedures "to the letter."

Vitale said that the matter started about two-and-a-half weeks ago during a very bad spell of weather. Portions of the city hall roof had been blown off by the wind and snow and water were leaking through.

"I advised the business administrator's office that repairs were needed immediately and to contact contractors who might be able to start right away," he said.

Vitale said that three were called. One came in promptly to look at the roof. Another never called back and the third appeared at City Hall several days later to inquire about the job. The director said that the job was given to the first contractor.

According to Bier, the contractor's first estimate was in keeping with the prices Ranieri said the mayor had obtained. However, once the job was started it was determined that the repairs required would be more extensive than originally planned. Since the man was already on the job and the added cost was still under the amount where the job would have to be put out for bid, he was told to do the work.

Bier added that a requisition was made out for the original work, but he did not know if it was amended to include the additional work. Ranieri said he wasn't satisfied with the explanation given by the directors and would ask the rest of the council to disapprove payment of the bill.

Hoboken to cut other staffs to meet state welfare order

State-ordered increases in the Hoboken Welfare Department staff will not add any new employees to the city's payroll for 1977, Mayor Steve Cappiello said today.

"All additional welfare department personnel will come from other departments and consist of persons already on the city payroll," said the mayor. "Adding 11 employees as ordered by the state would force the city to exceed its 1977 budget 'cap' set by the state."

"At the moment, we are just under the 'cap' limitation by about \$2,000. You can't get 11 new salaries out of \$2,000."

The mayor said that he didn't know yet which employees would be transferred from their current duties to the welfare department, but this was being looked into.

Cappiello added that the city might not transfer 11 employees, the number may be less.

"We can't strip the other departments, either," he continued. "That

would result in curtailment of services. Every possible effort will be made to free existing employees from the current duties and to reassign them to welfare. Their old duties will have to be split up with remaining staff members in the former departments. But if we can't get 11, well we'll just have to do the best with what we have on hand."

The mayor said he believed 11 additional staff members for welfare is the state's idea of having "ideal conditions." He said he thinks the city could get by with less.

Cappiello was notified last week by the Hoboken Local Assistance Board that the state wants 11 additional employees for the welfare department so that proper office procedures and practices can be maintained, eliminating waste and irregularities. The city was also warned that if these improvements aren't made the state might not reimburse the city the usual two-thirds of its welfare costs.

their operation," said Ranieri. "If it works there, and Peterson officials think it does, then it can certainly work here in Hoboken."

Ranieri said that the computerization of the police department's files, records and other paperwork saved time, money and personnel.

"The beauty of it is that we can start out with a small system for the police department and then add to it so that eventually we will have the whole city hooked into it," he continued.

The councilman said that he would like to see the police department

computerized before the end of this year.

"It will require some budget changes," he added. "We'll need between \$75,000 and \$80,000, which will have to be scraped up from items already budgeted for since we are so close to the maximum increases allowed by the state. But I think we can find it."

Ranieri added that there is a good possibility that some of the money might be obtained through the Safe and Clean Streets Program or the State Law Enforcement Planning Agency (SLEPA), at least for the first portion involving the police department.

Ranieri blasts unapproved buying

Two Hoboken departments, Public Safety and Public Works, have been buying supplies without going through the business administrator or following accepted procedures, Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri charged today.

And a simple rubber stamp, according to the councilman, is going to turn the whole thing around and make the system work properly.

"The rubber stamp is going to be the key," he said. "If the requisitions and purchase orders don't have that stamp on them, it means someone made an unauthorized purchase — and it is not going to be paid."

Ranieri said some employees of the Public Safety and Public Works Departments order supplies, then fill out requisitions and send them to Herman Bier, the business administrator. This results in the purchase order being made out after the equipment and supplies have been delivered.

Both Mayor Steve Cappiello, the

public safety director, and Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale agreed that there have been instances where this has happened. They said that they have agreed to work with Ranieri to eliminate it.

"There is only one person in the city who is authorized to make any purchases, regardless of the circumstances, the business administrator," Ranieri continued. "And there is only one procedure that is to be followed."

"If an item is needed by a department, a requisition is prepared listing the item. The requisition is taken to the business administrator, who gets a price and authorizes the purchase. A purchase order is then prepared. Then and only then can the item be obtained."

"To insure that this system is followed, the rubber stamp will be used. When a requisition is brought in, it is stamped and the date and time entered. When the purchase order is prepared, it is also stamped and the time and date entered. Since the business administrator has the only

stamp, and requisitions or purchase orders that come through without it automatically signify an unauthorized purchase."

Ranieri said that the purchase orders and requisitions can be subject to checks at three stages — when they reach the business administrator, when they go to the comptroller, who deducts the amount of the purchases, from the various accounts, and when they come to the council for payment authorization.

"Situations do come up, where items are needed fairly quickly, but this is no reason for deviation from accepted purchasing practices," the councilman asserted. "We must have control of purchasing and it can only be exercised through the business administrator and his office."

The councilman added that the special stamp has been ordered — through the business administrator — and should be ready this week. He said that the checking procedure would start immediately.

Hoboken considering self-insurance program

After spending several thousand dollars last year to consolidate and streamline its insurance needs for 1977, Hoboken's new insurance package will cost the city about \$25,000 more than last year's and that isn't entirely satisfactory to Councilman Robert A. Ranieri, who pushed for the change.

"We have better insurance and more thorough insurance, but the fact remains that it is still costing the city about \$125,000 for 1977 as compared to

about \$100,000 for last year," said Ranieri. "There's got to be a better way and I think we've found it."

Ranieri said that at the U.S. Conference of Mayors convention in Colorado he learned that many municipalities are going into "self-insurance."

"The term isn't quite accurate because most cities still do carry insurance but it is in the form of deductible coverage," he continued. "What they do is provide for their own coverage for a set amount and carry insurance for everything over that amount, much like what most motorists do with deductible car insurance."

"The money that the city would normally pay for that insurance coverage that it no longer has would be placed in an interest bearing bank account and drawn on as needed to pay claims."

Ranieri said that during the convention, he spoke with representatives of the National Self-Insurers Administration Inc., who briefed him on what has to be done to set up such a system.

"I have related this information to the mayor and our insurance expert, Walter Hartye, and they are going to look into it further," he said. "There is quite a bit of work involved in getting the figures on our costs of insurance versus our claims. And then there will be conferences with the corporation. It may take from a year to two years to set it all up, but in the long run it could result in a very big savings for the city."

Ranieri said that the self-insurers program contains a certain amount of risk but not much more than an insurance company took.

"We would be gambling that nothing would come up within that year which would exceed the amount of money we set aside," he said. "But the odds are that nothing will happen — and that's what makes a profit for the insurance companies. If something does happen, we are still protected in the sense that our loss can be no more than the point at which we start our deductible coverage."

Vitale writes a warning about sewage treatment

Hoboken's problems with state and federal environmental control agencies over deteriorating conditions at the sewage treatment plant are expected to continue through this year. And at the root of the problem is the \$2.1 million the city estimates it will cost to repair the plant and the \$200,000 or so that is actually in the 1977 budget.

Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale said today he would notify the city council in writing before its March 16 public hearing on the 1977 budget that budgeted funds for treatment plant repairs are insufficient. More funds are allotted, he said, the city should expect the worst.

Both state and federal environmental officials have made it very clear that they want our primary treatment plant completely functional," said the director. "That means a great deal of repairs and replacement are needed."

"We estimate that \$2.1 million will be needed. That is the amount that was included in the preliminary budget for the plan for this year. It has since been removed."

"The state-imposed 'cap' forced the mayor to cut the proposal drastically. There was no other way to meet the financial limitations set by the state."

Vitale said his letter to the council was more of a reminder than notification.

"I'm sure most of the councilmen are aware of the situation," he continued. "I just want it to be in writing to protect myself. The federal government can fine the city and officials up to \$2,500 a day, plus imposing prison terms for non-compliance with its environmental laws."

"I don't need that kind of problem, not does the council. But it could be one of those we face this year unless we show the environmental agencies that we are making a sincere attempt to put the plant back in top shape."

Vitale added that the city's action dealing with the current treatment plant problems could have a direct bearing on any efforts made to establish Hoboken as a secondary treatment region outside of, or as part of, the Hudson County Sewerage Authority.

"We have a primary system that isn't running properly," he asserted, and asked "How much help can we expect from state and federal authorities in improving that system to a secondary plant when we can't even keep a primary operating properly?"

Hoboken outflow

It was bad enough when a Hoboken councilman discovered that the Mayor's Public Safety Department and the Public Works Department had been bypassing the established procedure in buying supplies . . . but the case of the City Hall roof repair tops even that.

The roof has been repaired, and the fellow who did it wants his money — \$2,300 — but it turns out that all he had was an oral go-ahead. No official put the order in writing.

Another complication is that other roof repair men say they would have done the job for less than \$1,000.

If it is that easy to dip into the city's treasury, heaven help the Hoboken taxpayer. Apparently help is not available from any other source.

Lack of staff jeopardizes welfare aid for Hoboken

Seventy-five per cent of Hoboken's annual welfare cost is reimbursed by the state, but the city is running the risk of losing that reimbursement, according to the local assistance board, unless it doubles the size of the Hoboken Welfare Department staff this year.

The local assistance board has sent a letter to Mayor Steve Cappiello advising him that the state will not make the reimbursements unless Hoboken hires 11 more people to work in the welfare department, a board spokesman said today.

"According to state Welfare authorities, we should have an assistant director, three additional clerks, three more case workers, three more investigators—preferably men — and an additional supervisor," a board spokesman said. "That's 11 people. We only have 11 working now including the director, who is on suspension."

The spokesman said the state's desire to see 11 more staff members was not a recommendation or suggestion, but an order. He added that the local assistance board did not consider the possible cutoff of the reimbursements to the city an idle threat.

"We are very concerned with the situation because the general efficiency of the welfare office is being hampered by a lack of qualified personnel," he continued. "We're also concerned with the fact that the city hasn't provided any funds in its 1977 budget to hire additional staff. Our letter to the mayor was to remind him of the problem we are facing."

Cappiello said he had received the letter and advised the local assistance board that the city will cooperate fully with the state to improve the welfare department.

"I have also informed state

authorities of this and asked them for their guidance in making the additions and changes in the department," he said. "As for the funds for salaries, the budget hasn't been approved yet and there is still time to make whatever changes will be necessary."

Hoboken cops may computerize data

The Hoboken police department may computerize all of its records and information, if Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri has his way.

Ranieri said today that he will recommend to the city council that it invite some computer manufacturers to give presentations on their systems and how they could improve the efficiency of police record-keeping and the filing of information.

The councilman and Police Chief George W. Crimmins yesterday visited the Paterson Police Department, which has a computerized system. It was the second visit for the councilman.

"Frankly, I was impressed by

their operation," said Ranieri. "If it works there, and Peterson officials think it does, then it can certainly work here in Hoboken."

Ranieri said that the computerization of the police department's files, records and other paperwork saved time, money and personnel.

"The beauty of it is that we can start out with a small system for the police department and then add to it so that eventually we will have the whole city hooked into it," he continued.

The councilman said that he would like to see the police department

Chinese auction set

The Anthony H. Romano Civic Association of Hoboken will hold its annual Chinese auction March 2 at 7:30 p.m. in St. Ann's School Hall, Seventh and Madison streets, it was announced today by Mrs. Marion Poncerelli, chairman. A capacity crowd of more than 700 is expected. A Chinese menu is planned with food supplied by Henry Yee's Island Restaurant.

Hoboken making progress effecting turnaround

By Steve Cappiello
Mayor of Hoboken

Hoboken is making firm progress in effecting an urban turnaround and improving the quality of life for its residents.

And we are confident of an economic upturn in 1977.

Our housing programs, particularly in rehabilitation, have attracted national attention, and precipitated a new esprit de corps in town.

It is manifested in our residents, shopkeepers, neighborhoods and municipal workers, all of whom are brimming with new vitality.

And it has stimulated outside interest in our city.

For any old urban center to survive, it requires a middle-class base. This is building in Hoboken, and is expanding every year.

At present there is a waiting list for brownstones, and property values have risen as much as 30 per cent in the past three years; new shops and restaurants are opening.

And there are continuing inquiries about available sites, reflecting rising income levels among residents — and most important — a vote of confidence by investors in the city's future.

Our greatest asset is our strong people base and the stability it provides. Our residential buildings are 60 per cent owner-occupied.

This stability is reflected in our neighborhoods, and their people who care about their homes, neighbors and neighborhoods. It is a secure feeling, unique in 1977 urban America.

I am convinced that this atmosphere has been singularly important in influencing residents to remain, and others to move here.

Like any other urban center, we are hopeful that the new Democratic administration in Washington will benefit Hoboken. It should be of particular significance to our city because we continue to be a premier American city in making meaningful progress through federally funded programs.

The jobless rate should improve from an infusion of these monies, especially through the federally funded public works program. Under this program, Hoboken will receive \$4.3 million to continue refurbishing its water supply system.

I am convinced that innovative public improvements are a key factor in stimulating private investment. This has helped our housing program

become successful, and we hope it will do the same in the business sector.

During the past year the city has established an economic development capability within the framework of the Community Development Agency (CDA). We are trying to coordinate public and private interest for the overall benefit of Hoboken.

The CDA is now beginning a promotion program to attract business and industry.

Also, we are now establishing a commercial storefront rehabilitation program, shop (Shop Hoboken Opportunity Program), whereby storeowners will receive up to \$2,000 matching grants for storefront improvement.

Again, we are doing this with

federal monies through a grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

Other major projects include:

- Rehabilitation and reuse of the Erie Lackawanna Terminal and a study of potential sites for development.

- Reconstruction of Shore Road, reopening the waterfront to pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

- Establishment of a business promotion program and design of an ongoing system to analyze to the city's potential, and monitor the private sector growth level.

Of particular interest is the Erie Lackawanna project, which is being designed by the same firm that did Ghirardelli Square in San Francisco. Hopefully, the terminal will become a

handsome recreational and shopping center.

In housing and neighborhood preservation, we have:

- Opened the \$5 million Keuffel and Esser factory-to-housing conversion.

- Completely rehabilitated more than 300 apartments for moderate income housing with 150 additional units in construction.

- Given more than 500 Home Improvement Loans to upgrade 1500 units; this represents \$3.3 million in home improvements.

- Secured funding to improve our park system; we are building a new park and restoring Church Square Park and plans are being made to refurbish other city parks.

- Made progress in the Tenement Rehab program; 10 units have been completed and 50 additional units are in various stages from mortgage processing to construction.

Also, we are opening a 12-story, 154-unit senior citizen housing com-



MAYOR STEVE CAPPIELLO
Confident

plex adjacent to our new Multi-Service Center.

I am confident that our city will continue to progress, mainly because of our human resources — the people of the neighborhoods.

It is these people, interacting with government and the private sector, that are making Hoboken work.



Mrs. Thomas Palumbo smiles proudly as Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken presents Lieutenant's badge to her husband, in city hall ceremonies.

Feedback On Battleship NJ...

Editor, The Dispatch:

I am writing this letter both as an educator and a trustee of the Hoboken Battleship Memorial Committee to urge everyone in the North Hudson area to support our committee's efforts to have the battleship New Jersey located in Hoboken.

While much has been said about the commercial merits of having the ship located in Hoboken, and they are considerable and worthwhile, not much has been said about the educational values of this undertaking.

As a teacher and curriculum planner, it has been my job to evaluate community resources as to their value as field trips for schoolchildren. I know that throughout New Jersey, teachers are constantly searching for worthwhile historical areas to visit with their classes. A good example can be found in Camden. With the help of Public Service, an old ferry boat has been converted into a classroom and information center which stresses nuclear energy. Classes from all over N.J. visit this boat every year.

I think that a similar benefit could be accomplished by having the New Jersey located in Hoboken. The ship is certainly large enough to accommodate an historical museum as well as an audio-visual center that could acquaint New Jersey's school children with the important role that the battleship New Jersey played in W.W. II.

In addition, Hoboken, is ideally situated from the point of view of transportation. Our existing transportation network of buses and trains would make the ship easily accessible to children throughout the metropolitan area.

Therefore, I would like to urge all civic minded citizens, businessmen, political leaders, and educators to support the considerable efforts that have already been made by Chairman Dick Bozzone and the committee to make this project a reality.

Leo Genese,
Camp Tamaqua Director

Hoboken brass facing charges on sewer plant

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello and city officials are facing possible federal prosecution for failing to act satisfactorily and promptly in correcting violations at the city's sewage treatment plant, it was learned today.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has served the city with a show cause order directing officials to appear at the EPA's New York office and explain why the matter shouldn't be referred to the U.S. Department of Justice for civil and criminal prosecution.

According to Cappiello, the city is to appear next Monday at 10 a.m. Both the mayor and Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale said they were "surprised" by the EPA's action, since they felt the city was moving at a reasonable pace to correct the problems at the treatment plant.

The mayor didn't say what the city would do or how it would approach the situation. However, he asserted that he and other city officials would be there "fully prepared to do battle."

There is growing suspicion among city officials that the root of their recent problems with state and federal environmental agencies was the city's decision to withdraw from the Hudson County Sewerage Authority and attempt on its own to upgrade the local treatment plant to a secondary facility.

The Hoboken City Council passed a resolution last year withdrawing from the county authority because local industry expressed concern with the possibility that Hoboken would be saddled with an unfair portion of the cost and operation of the county system.

Some officials feel that Jersey City, which controls the county authority, is using political ties to have the state Department of Environmental Protection put the pressure on them so that the city backs down and rejoins the county authority.

Vitale said that the EPA's action resulted directly from the state. "The violations at the plant have never been seen by anyone from the EPA," he said. "At least, not to my knowledge. It was a state inspection made last October that discovered the violations and the information forwarded to the EPA."

Cappiello will hire welfare aides

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello intends to add minority members on the welfare department's payroll.

However, reports that the city might lose 75 per cent of its annual state welfare aid if 11 more people are not hired are untrue, he said.

The local assistance board had sent a letter to the mayor advising him that the state would not make reimbursements unless Hoboken hires the additional specified number of helpers.

The mayor said, "I have no idea of the number that will be hired, but I will try to operate the department with as few people as possible to keep down expenses."

"I am willing to talk to state authorities about hiring people, but I don't think we'll need 11 more."

Need Many Hispanics

Cappiello said that the department needed approximately 80 per cent of its total staff to be Hispanic so that it would be able to serve the needs of most of its welfare applicants.

The mayor has also asked state authorities for guidance in making changes and additions to the department.

A spokesman for the local assistance board said that the "general efficiency of the welfare office is being hampered by a lack of qualified personnel."

"We're also concerned with the fact that the city hasn't provided any funds in its 1977 budget to hire additional staff."

Mayor Cappiello said that the budget has not been approved and that there is still time to make changes.

Fine Hoboken on dump

The director of the state Solid Waste Administration said yesterday Hoboken has been fined \$2,000 for failure to eliminate a dumping area and to cover it properly.

Beatrice S. Tykucki, who said the violations stemmed from an unannounced inspection of the area on Feb. 10, said the city could receive a 90 per cent rebate on the fine if there are no subsequent violations within a six month period. The dumping area is located at 16th and Grand sts.

Although it had been reported that the city was subject to up to \$150,000 in fines for not clearing up the area, Miss Tykucki said the state would impose no more than a \$1,000 fine for each violation. She said the state would investigate to see if the area is cleared up in another unannounced inspection in the near future.

Cops told to check Brandt School

Hoboken police have been ordered by Mayor Steve Cappiello to make more frequent security checks at the Joseph F. Brandt School, Ninth and Garden streets, to prevent unauthorized youngsters and teenagers from getting into the building during school hours.

The mayor, who is also public safety director, said he was taking the action after receiving a number of letters from parents who were concerned with the number of incidents in the school in which youngsters who did not belong there were involved.

Frank Spano, principal, said he'd "welcome" the additional help, ad-

ding that the problem with such youngsters was "getting out of hand."

According to the letters sent to the mayor, a number of teachers and

pupils had been assaulted by persons who got into the building. Spano said there had been a few such incidents but they were not common place. He said the main problem was with youngsters who sneak in to see friends during the lunch hour or the afternoon portion of the school day.

"We try to screen the kids when they come back from lunch," he said. "But with several hundred children going into the building and four or five outsiders among them, who is going to be able to pick those few out of the crowd?"

"Even I try to assist in screening the kids. I don't know how long it has been since I took my lunch hour for lunch."

Meanwhile, it was learned that police also are investigating reports that marijuana is being sold in the school and that investigation already has led to one arrest.

A police spokesman said the probe was launched more than two weeks ago when the parents of a

Brandt school pupil found two marijuana cigarettes among their child's belongings. Police said the youngster claimed to have bought them at school — from another student.

The spokesman said the investigation of that incident led to the arrest of a 19-year-old former Stevens Institute of Technology student. The college student, Julius Olds, has been charged with possession of marijuana and is free on bail pending a hearing in Hoboken municipal court. Police added that he was not charged with selling marijuana.

Extra men give Hoboken clean sweep

Emergency federal unemployment funds are helping Hoboken get one of its best cleanings in years, Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale said today.

"Hoboken has about 25 extra men for a couple of weeks because of the extra money from the government for those who lost their jobs or were laid off during the gas crisis," said the director. "And about a dozen of them have been assigned to helping clean up our streets after almost two months without regular cleaning due to the weather."

Vitale said the men are slowly going through the entire city sweeping up the soot and litter that has been gathering since around Christmas time.

"We have our sweeper trucks out also, but the accumulation is too much for them, and it's too spread out," said Vitale. "The trucks only get what's at curbside."

"The soot and litter are shoveled into the truck and then taken out to the dump in North Arlington," he added. "If we don't have any rain or snow to stop the work we should have the entire city swept clean by the end of next week."

Council to accept bids on water line replacement

The Hoboken City Council will be accepting bids on its new \$4.3 million water line replacement program at Wednesday morning's council meeting.

The project is being financed through a grant the city received under the Public Works Act of 1976. It will center on the repair and replacement of old water line and gates in the northern section of the city. Phases I and II of the program covered the same ground in the southern and middle sections of the city.

Bids also will be received for the replacement of the heating system in the Jefferson Street Recreation Center at 117 Jefferson St. The city only was going to have the system repaired. But one of the contractors, Walter Geiger, suggested in his proposal that the city reject the repair concept and instead replace the system.

He advised the council that the repairs would only be temporary, could only be guaranteed for a few months at most, and that the condi-

tion of the system almost made it certain that more problems would come up soon. He added that for approximately \$5,000 more a complete new system could be installed. The council agreed and rejected the bids.

The council is expected to award a contract to L. D. Seely Co. of Wanamassa to supply the city with 10-foot sign posts at a cost of \$7.20 a post. Hoboken plans to buy between 200 and 400 of the posts. The city is also considering bids for the purchase of equipment and supplies with which to make its own street and traffic signs. However, those bids are still being studied and haven't been introduced for council action at the upcoming meeting.

Also on the agenda for council consideration is a resolution approving the action of the city's board of adjustment in granting a variance to Applied Housing for the conversion of a factory at 1000 Clinton St. into a residential apartment. The building is in an area zoned for industry and a variance was required for the conversion.

Now hear this: 9 shipmates from battleship sought

The Hoboken Battleship Memorial Committee is looking for nine men who served aboard the USS New Jersey during World War II and the Korean War, Richard Bozzone Sr., chairman of the committee, said today.

"We hope to invite them to a benefit the committee is planning to promote Hoboken as a permanent site for the ship," said Bozzone. "We know that they were once residents of the county but that was a while ago. But possibly there are relatives around who might know where we can reach them."

The men are J. J. Bell, J. J. Farrell, T. Franco Jr., L. Olsen Jr.,

F. P. Pipolo, and J. E. Walsh, all of Jersey City; J. Silvio of Hoboken; H. G. Johnson of Kearny, and J. W. Castelli of Union City.

Bozzone said that the New Jersey, now in a mothball fleet berthed in Washington State, also served off Vietnam in 1967 and 1968 but he has been unable to determine if anyone from Hudson County served in that crew.

"If any of the former crew members still live in or around the Hudson County area, or if any of their relatives know where they are, we'd like them to call me at 792-6700," said Bozzone.



SENIOR SESSION — Patrick Shannon, seated left, of the Hoboken Volunteer Ambulance Corps, discusses the corps' role in the community at the Multi-Service Center, where he addressed a meeting of senior citizens. With him, from left, are Ignatius Farinola, director of the Hoboken Evening Adult Education Program which is sponsoring a weekly series of lectures; Vincent Barbo, director of the senior center and Mrs. Martha White, one of the seniors who attended.

Hoboken gets ultimatum: Shut dump or be fined

Hoboken has been fined \$1,000 by the state Solid Waste Administration (SWA) and faces more than \$150,000 in additional fines if it doesn't clean up and eliminate a dumping area at 16th and Grand streets, it was learned today.

Beatrice S. Tylutki, director of the SWA, a division of the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), has advised the city it has until March 11 to clean up the area and prohibit further dumping or the matter will be turned over to the state Attorney General for prosecution.

Her letter advised the city that under state law, Hoboken can be fined up to \$1,000 a day for each day the

conditions were allowed to exist past Sept. 16, when an order was issued to Hoboken to stop using the area for dumping.

Director Tylutki has offered Hoboken a settlement: If the city cleans up the area by March 11, the state will accept \$1,000 for its past sins.

However, if the dump hasn't been cleaned up, the matter will be turned over to the attorney general with instructions to seek the maximum penalty allowed by law.

The letter added that the state made three inspections of the area after the cease and desist order was issued — one on Oct. 18, another on Nov. 30 and the last on Jan. 20 — and all showed that the area hadn't been cleaned up or any measures taken to prevent further dumping.

Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale acknowledged receipt of the letter and said that he has forwarded it to the city council. "I have also written the state asking that it extend the deadline from March 11 to May 1," he said. "I don't think we can fully comply until then."

"The city should be able to have the area thoroughly cleaned up by the end of March, but keeping it that way is another problem. In spite of our efforts to keep police and sanitation inspectors in the area for as much of the day as possible, people are still dumping there — and getting away with it."

"The area has to be fenced in, which the city plans to do. But it is a job that the city will do itself rather than hiring an outside contractor, which would be too costly. I have a man in my department who does metal work and can put up the fence but he has been preoccupied with jobs at the sewage treatment plant, where we are also under state pressure to make repairs."

Vitale said he has not received a reply from the state on his request for more time.

Hoboken budget hearing March 16

The Hoboken City Council on March 16 is scheduled to hold a regular council meeting at 7 p.m. in City Hall and the annual hearing on the proposed 1977 budget at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of Hoboken High School.

Anthony J. Amoroso, city clerk, said today that the council would have moved to hold both meetings at the high school but the specifications on bids the council is due to receive that night stated that they are to be turned in at City Hall at the start of the meeting.

"To avoid confusion on the bids, the regular council meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the council chambers," he said. "At the conclusion of the council meeting — before 8 — the council will then go to the high school for the budget hearing."

Few of Hoboken's recent council meetings have taken less than an hour to conclude. Most, even those with a minimum amount of business on the agenda, have been running for at least two hours, sometimes longer.

Because council critics have been taking every opportunity to speak on city business.

According to Amoroso, the council plans to limit comments from citizens to a minimum at the regular meeting and waive the public portion at the end where citizens are allowed to speak on any matter they feel is of general concern to the city.

He said that if the public doesn't cooperate, the meeting may have to be adjourned at 7:45 p.m. and reconvened at 8 in the high school.

Cappiello wants to make staffs more productive

If Hoboken municipal workers start getting the feeling that someone is looking over their shoulders while they go about their daily duties, there's a good reason for it.

Mayor Steve Cappiello has advised all of his directors that the general productivity of city workers leaves something to be desired and that he expects improvements.

"The fault may not be with the workers themselves but the way in which their superiors use them," said the mayor. "I have noticed how some employees always seem to be up to the ears in work while others sometimes have nothing to do because they are all caught up."

"The logical thing is for the one who is finished to help the one who isn't, and I'm hoping that between the

directors we can work something out along these lines."

"We must have better utilization of existing personnel because they're all we have," the mayor continued.

"The municipal operation is becoming more complicated and requires a greater effort every day. It means more work, but not necessarily more people."

"Financially, I cannot see the city adding any new employees to help with the added work load for some time to come. Therefore, the added work must be assumed by the people we already have."

The mayor said that he met with the directors last week and asked them to check all of their personnel and their duties for overloading and underutilization.

"In some cases it may mean permanently relieving some employees of a portion of their duty assignment and giving it to someone else working at a related or similar position with the same department," he continued. "In others it might mean just the use of another employee to help out for a few hours while the other catches up."

Mass for Hoboken pastor

A first anniversary memorial Mass for the late Rev. Daniel F. Meehan, pastor of Our Lady of Grace Church, Hoboken, will be offered at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Father Meehan served 11 years as pastor of the Hoboken parish, from 1962 to 1973. Prior to that he had been a Navy chaplain for 20 years.

Final level opening in Hoboken garage

The Hoboken Parking Authority is just 120 cars away from filling two of its three parking garages, according to Joseph Hottendorf, the executive director.

Hottendorf said today that the authority has decided to open the seventh and last level in Garage "B."

the largest of its three garages, because the extra space is needed.

The seventh level, the top floor of the garage, holds 120 cars. There are 750 spaces in the garage. Garage "G," the other open garage, contains 456 parking spaces and all have been rented.

"We've kept the seventh level closed down to conserve operating costs," he explained. "But there is a demand for the extra spaces, so we will be opening it shortly."

The authority's income figures for January, compared to December,

show a small decline attributed to the exceptionally bad weather during the month.

Hottendorf said that the authority took in \$28,381 in January, compared to \$29,654 in December. Most of the revenue decline was in the area of transient parking, which showed approximately 800 fewer cars for the month.

Ask delay on sewage plant hearing

Hoboken officials are seeking a postponement of next week's show cause hearing before federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) representatives, about the city's sewage treatment plant, it was learned today.

Mayor Steve Cappiello said that the city could be unable to present a "thorough and accurate presentation" on its position in such a short time and is seeking at least two weeks' postponement.

The EPA has ordered the city to appear Monday morning in New York and explain why it shouldn't be

prosecuted on both criminal and civil charges for failing to make repairs at the city's sewage treatment plant.

Meanwhile, on another legal front, it's likely that Hoboken will be unable to extricate itself from participating with the Hudson County Sewerage Authority in a regional plan for treating solid wastes, it was learned.

The city has been advised by the Washington law firm of Krivit & Krivit, legal consultants hired by the Hoboken's Community Development Agency (CDA), in a preliminary report that breaking from the authority would constitute a "breach of contract," according to a well-placed city source.

However, other legal options are under exploration, the source said.

On the sewage plant hearing, Cappiello said: "I have been advised by the city's law department that it will take more than a week to prepare a proper and thorough reply, so I in-

structed Law Director Lawrence Florio to seek a delay."

The mayor said that officials of General Foods, the parent corporation of the Maxwell House Coffee plant in Hoboken, have also been notified to appear Monday in New York before the EPA concerning the problem with the 11th Street pumping station and a discharge of untreated sewage into the Hudson River.

"I understand that the corporation has also asked for a postponement," the mayor added. "Both it and the city are awaiting a reply on our request for additional time."

The EPA's action was prompted by an inspection of the city's treatment plant last October by the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The state found the plant to be "unacceptable" and recommended certain repairs be made, giving the city until the beginning of January to outline in writing what it planned to do.

Hoboken purchasing probe sought

Declaring the Hoboken City Council is a "toothless tiger" when it comes to checking whether supplies are delivered or if services are performed, Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri has called for a probe of city purchasing over the past four years.

Ranieri, recently in the throes of battle with Business Administrator Herman Bier and Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale over pay-

ment of certain claims, urged his colleagues to insert a \$50,000 line-item in the mayor's municipal budget to finance the "investigation."

The lawmaker added he would "settle for half of that," but, judging from the council's lack of enthusiasm, it appears his proposal won't get very far.

Mayor Steve Cappiello had this response: "We're right up to our

budget limitations under the cap law. There would have to be a change in priorities."

A better idea, said the mayor, would be the development of a computerized purchasing system at a cost as yet unknown. He added that Ranieri has checked out such an electronic system in Paterson.

There's no money appropriated in this year's budget for such a system,

said Cappiello, "but that could always be done by bonding," he added.

Meanwhile, Ranieri continues to question various claims submitted by Vitale for the public works department. At last night's council caucus, Ranieri asked City Clerk Anthony Amoroso to get clarifications from Vitale on certain claims by tomorrow's meeting. Vitale left the caucus early to check on a possible gas leak from a Washington Street sewerage plant.

Those claims singled out by Ranieri for checking were:

- A \$1,620 bill to correct a "wrong safety control installed on boiler" at the city's 16th Street sewage plant.

- A bill submitted by Raymond Wright of North Bergen for maintenance of emergency sewer pumps as part of sewerage claims rather than being included, as it usually is, as a resolution on the council agenda.

- A claim for \$532 from Pascale & Luongo Plumbing & Heating with a "supporting bill" for payment to another local firm for excavating, permits and a water tapoff.

Councilman-at-large Francis X. Leahy called Ranieri "unfair" for bringing up the items in the absence of Vitale. Ranieri said that might be true, "but there's a degree of inefficiency in this city that could put most private corporations out of business."

He said the council members can only do a "very casual spot-check from time to time" to see whether materials were delivered or services furnished. The city auditor can't be relied on to check those things, Ranieri added.

Therefore, said Ranieri, the city "purchasing order isn't worth the paper it's written on—it's valueless." But Council President Martin J. Brennan countered that, "It's very binding as an affidavit. That's a way out thing to say."

When Ranieri proposed that the council support his plan to appropriate \$50,000 for the purchasing probe, Leahy responded: "Put this before the (council's) administration committee and let them study it." Ranieri chose not to press the matter further.

In other business, Cappiello told the council, "I'd be kidding you if I said we were going to clear up" a temporary dumping ground next to the city's 16th Street disposal plant. Fencing might keep out illegal dumpers, said Cappiello, but "I may be violating the law by closing off sections of the public streets in the area."

"We put stuff in containers there to relieve the burden of our trucks going out to the dumps and getting chopped up," the mayor continued. "Ultimately, we may have to face up to the purchase of several packer trucks."

Another person upset about garbage is Councilman Walter Cramer, who wants to introduce an ordinance that would ban littering and the dumping of refuse on private property along the newly-paved Shore Road and which would authorize local police to issue tickets for littering offenses.

The city welfare office may be moving soon from 209 Second St. where the rent is \$900 a month. Cappiello told the council: "I don't want to sign a lease (with Brilinn, Inc.). I'd like to see some public building we can put them in."

Hoboken speedup

This is the age of the computer and more and more industrial and governmental organizations are heeding the call to get with it.

Hoboken is planning to computerize its police department records as a starter. Later, the rest of the city departments will be on tape.

Understandably, a lot of manpower hours can be saved if someone in the detective bureau or the criminal identification bureau can press a button and instantly come up with a suspect's record, rather than laboriously go through acres of files.

And that is only one of the potential savings in clerical work. Since time is an important factor in apprehending suspects before they disappear, the computer can be doubly helpful in that aspect.

Police throughout the county will be watching to see what Hoboken does with its computer . . . and what effect, if any, the computer has on Hoboken crime.

Hoboken output

Mayor Cappiello of Hoboken has taken a constructive approach toward the problem of getting more production out of the city government departments.

The workload is increasing, but Hoboken cannot afford to hire more employees. As a matter of fact, the mayor does not think that is necessary. Better utilization of the existing manpower would result in greater productivity, he says, and it is up to the department directors to check on the output of their personnel and, if necessary, revise their duties accordingly.

If it is true that some employees always seem to have too much to do, while others are always caught up, as the mayor observes, then either the way-behind employees are not working fast enough or their executives are not apportioning the work intelligently.

Hoboken welfare session

Hoboken and the state will be able to work out their differences over how the city's welfare department should be operating and avoid the cut-off of state reimbursements to the city equalling approximately two-thirds of the city's annual welfare costs.

Mayor Steve Cappiello said today.

The mayor and members of the Hoboken Local Assistance Board met yesterday with state welfare officials in the mayor's office to discuss the welfare department and what the state suggests the city do to improve efficiency and eliminate irregularities.

More than \$90,000 in questionable welfare payments were found by the state through an audit of the welfare

records. And an investigation is now under way by local police and the Hudson County Prosecutor of other payments for services supposedly provided to welfare clients but which were never received.

State welfare authorities have recommended to the city that it eliminate the voucher system of making welfare payments and go to a check system, and that approximately 11 more workers be added to the welfare office staff.

"The meeting was at the city's request," said the mayor. "We asked the state to come in and help us set up the changes which it feels will improve our situation with the hope that it would consider the various

problems we feel are to be found only in Hoboken."

The mayor said that from the conversations he had he doesn't believe the state will demand total elimination of the voucher system of welfare payments or that 11 workers be added to the welfare staff.

"I think we will be able to work out a combined voucher-check system with the state's approval," he said. "And I don't think we'll have to add all 11 workers. There will have to be some beefing up of the welfare staff but not 11, and those increases will be from existing personnel already on the city payroll but working in other departments."

Does Hoboken keep repair surplus?

If Hoboken has a surplus left over from Phase III of its water line repair and replacement program does it have to give the money back to the federal government which is putting up \$4.3 million for the job?

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri hopes to find that out next week when he's in Washington, D.C., for a League of Cities conference.

"Should the city award the contract to the low bidder (the Spiniello

Construction Co. of Newark) and there are no overruns, we stand to have a surplus of approximately \$433,000," said Ranieri. "It is important to know where that money is to go."

Hoboken was awarded a \$4.3 million grant for Phase III of the program through the Public Works Act of 1976. The low bid on the job is \$3,866,125. If the contract gets the job and holds that price, Hoboken will have a surplus of \$433,875.

"There is still work that should be

done in the areas covered by Phase I and II of the program," Ranieri said. "Those contracts were awarded with options which allowed us to keep within our budget. By taking out certain things that we would have liked done but couldn't afford, we were able to reduce the bids and bring them in line with what we had to spend."

Ranieri said he planned to ask federal officials next week if the surplus could be used to do those things the city had to eliminate the first time around.

Cut-rate parking tickets net \$13,000

The Hoboken Violations Bureau collected about \$13,000 during February from motorists with overdue parking tickets who took advantage of the city's "cut rates" for the month. But that represents only a small part of what is still owed, says Mrs. Marion Roland, chief violations clerk.

The one-month cut-rate schedule ended yesterday and motorists with overdue tickets will have to pay late charges and court costs when they settle their summonses. And yesterday was also a start of the new volume processing of all tickets by the East Orange Violations Bureau.

"The response to the amnesty was much less than we had anticipated," said Mrs. Roland. "Although there was a rush the last two days with overdue 816 tickets paid for a total of \$3,300 in revenue, something like 60 to 70 per cent of the overdue tickets are still outstanding."

Mrs. Roland said that she asked a number of motorists who came in to pay their late parking tickets why

they waited until the last day to pay them.

"Most said that they wanted to hold on to their money until the end of the month," she related. "I guess that makes sense. But it sure made things hectic for two days in the bureau."

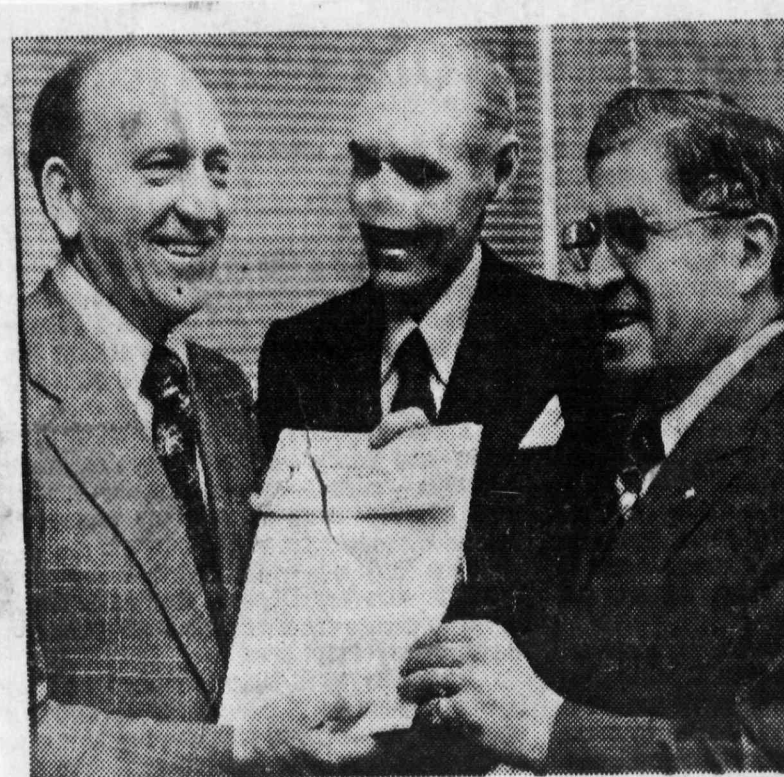
The city's first batch of tickets to be processed by the new computer system will be picked up and taken to the East Orange Violations Bureau tomorrow. A courier from East Orange will also make a second

pickup Friday.

Starting next week, three pickups will be made each week.

The tickets that are being turned over to East Orange for computer processing are all overdue. The bureau holds current tickets until they are paid or until the due date for payment is expired. Motorists are usually given 10 days to two weeks to pay their tickets.

The computer will be sending out notices to motorists that haven't paid.



INTO THE KITTY — Andrew H. Scherer, center, chairman of Hoboken Housing Authority and Joseph Caliguire, authority executive director, right, present annual in-lieu-of-tax payment to Mayor Steve Cappiello. This year's payment amounted to more than \$40,000.

Hoboken receives bids on repairing water line

Hoboken has received bids on its new \$4.3 million water line repair and replacement program with more than \$1.3 million separating the high bidder from the low.

Three proposals were submitted to the city at yesterday's meeting of the city council.

The low bidder was the Spiniello Construction Co. of Newark with a price of \$3,866,125. The high bidder was Raymond International of Oakland with a proposal of \$5,173,505. And in between was the estimate of Ameron, Inc., with a floating proposal ranging from a high of \$5,477,940 to a low of \$3,475,580.

Spiniello has worked previously

on the city's water lines. It concluded Phase I of the repair and replacement program, a \$3 million project, at the beginning of last year. Ameron is currently involved in Phase II of the program at a cost of just under \$1 million.

Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale said the bids have been turned over to Mayo, Lynch and Associates, the city's engineers for the project, for study. The contract is expected to be awarded within four weeks.

Hoboken is getting the money for the project from the federal government through the Public Works Act of 1976.

Council OKs variance for conversion

The Hoboken city council has cleared the way for Applied Housing Associates to begin working on the conversion of an old factory building at 1000 Clinton St. into a modern apartment house.

A resolution approving the action of the city's board of adjustment in granting Applied Housing a variance for the project was approved by the council at yesterday's meeting. The variance was required because the building is in an area zoned for industrial purposes.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri told the council he agreed with the proposal for the rehabilitation but was again seeking its commitment for a demolition program coupled with any further rehabilitation in the city.

"There will be something like 50 modern apartments available when this work is done," he said. "Fifty families will move out of substandard buildings into modern facilities, but what happens to the 50 apartments they leave behind?"

"If those slum buildings aren't taken down the purpose of the rehabilitation program is being defeated because while we are relieving human suffering on one hand we are adding to it on the other by allowing new tenants to move into those slums."

Councilman Louis Francone disagreed with Ranieri and said the city was "losing another factory" that might have attracted industry and provided sorely needed jobs for local residents.

Francone was also critical of the

Hoboken bilingual program topic

Hoboken residents will have an opportunity to discuss the Board of Education's bilingual program and its plans for the future at 7 p.m. on March 14 when a public meeting will take place at the administration building, 1115 Clinton St.

Edwin Duroy, coordinator of the

program, which is funded by Title VII of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, said parents and other interested residents will also see a slide presentation of the work being carried out through the program.

Under the bilingual project, clas-

ses are held in both English and Spanish from the first through the eighth grades. At the junior high and high school levels, there are classes in English as a second language. Duroy said the March 14 meeting will give the public an opportunity for input into the program.



year-old Trung "Frank" Leba sits proudly before scenes of American history.

7 Vietnamese kids adjust to Hoboken

By TERRY BRENNAN

Seven Vietnamese youngsters in Hoboken are proving that the American fabric is still resilient enough to absorb yet another wave of immigrants. The children, part of a mass exodus from Vietnam when the communists captured Saigon 22 months ago, are the latest immigrants to undergo an Americanization process through the public school system. The kids are enrolled at the David E. Rue School at 3rd and Garden sts.

"It's amazing how quickly they've adjusted socially and how fast they've picked up the language," said Vice Principal Joseph McGuire. "They've become part of a total Americanization program that lasts about seven hours a day. That's why they've seemed to absorb so much of our culture already."

While the youngsters still speak Vietnamese and celebrate their national holidays when they're with their families, they've showed that uncanny ability children have to imitate everybody around them.

Some of the kids have even picked up quite a few Spanish words during their short stay.

"Fit Right In" The children used to pal around with each other when they first came but they've learned to fit right into the group by now," said Miss Kathleen Salmon, a first grade teacher at the school. "They seem to be more resilient or adaptable to different customs when they're at this age. I guess that's why they learn so quickly."

Anh Dung Le likes to be called Andy and has what Miss Salmon called a "boyish interest" in American sports and games. Miss Salmon said Andy and the other Vietnamese children she's taught seem to have those "rugged American virtues" built right into their culture.

"The character of Vietnamese society was always one of excessive pride in oneself and one's family," Miss Salmon said. "Their work ethic is really very similar to ours, so I predict many of these children will be successful in our culture."

The children had initially been housed in the city's Grogan Marine View Plaza when they first arrived, but have since been scattered to various locations. Chase Manhattan Bank had handled the original accommodations because parents of the youngsters had worked for the firm in their homeland.

While just about every other immigrant group settled in what have been labeled ghettos by sociologists, there are too few Vietnamese families

Pick up U.S. ways as pupils at Rue School

In the area for the culture to remain self-enclosed for very long. School officials believe that may be a major reason Vietnamese parents are stressing language skills so strongly.

"English Whole Key" "I have the distinct impression that the parents feel that English is the whole key to the future for these children," McGuire said. "I think the parents realize there will be little market value for Vietnamese and that English is the language these kids will have to do their business in."

A fifth grade teacher thinks the lack of "cultural support" from a large, isolated group is probably the main reason the Vietnamese youngsters seem so intent on "absorbing everything so quickly." He said the fact that there's "no ghetto to fall back on" has heightened their need to fit into our culture.

"This town went through so many waves of immigrants who were able to keep large parts of their cultures because they lived amongst their own," said Joseph Pinto. "These youngsters have been forced to work and play with kids who have totally alien cultures. That seems to be the key to their rapid Americanization."

Pinto said 11-year-old Trung "Frank" Leba had a little difficulty with English but has been able to pick up the language because his parents worked with him. He said the boy is a "prime example" of how the Vietnamese value hard work, high achievement and what Americans simply call success.

"The main thing I've noticed about their culture is the tremendous interest the parents have in education," Pinto said. "I think it stems from their strong family structure and their great sense of pride. Their ability to work hard and their respect for others seem to stem from that."

Although Frank may have had some minor problems in picking up a new alphabet and reading fast enough, Pinto said he's "really amazed" at the youngster's "incredible ability to sketch buildings and draw in such fine detail." Pinto thinks the boy's skills

may have been passed on from his father being an engineer.

"Frank seems to get tremendous satisfaction out of drawing the major events and the leading figures in American history," Pinto said, as he pointed to his room full of sketches the boy has done on all phases of our culture.

"I almost get the impression that that's the way he's showing us he's an American as anyone who's been born here," Pinto continued. "He just seems to get involved that much more when it concerns his new home."

While 20 Vietnamese children originally registered at the school in September of 1975, relocation and desire to be closer to loved ones has reduced the present number to seven. Miss Salmon says she "already misses" one student who left her class last week.

"I really enjoyed having two Vietnamese youngsters since the beginning of the year and I think it's going to be difficult without one next year," Miss Salmon said. "They really are well behaved and they're just a lot of fun to be with. I hate to see mine go."

Miss Salmon said "Andy" is fascinated by American geography and history and responds quickly when he hears places where his relatives have relocated. She said he's especially interested in Arizona and Alaska because friends from Saigon were headed there when the refugees fled their homeland.

"I think the fact that Andy has seen so many places and traveled so widely has really heightened his sense of geography," Miss Salmon said. "I've noticed that he really responds to certain states in the Far West and that's where most of the Vietnamese settled when they came. He really has seen so much in less than seven years."

A fourth grade teacher said it's interesting to see children struggling for the right word in English when they naturally think in another language. He said their facility to move from Vietnamese to English "could only happen in children whose curiosity hasn't been dampened yet."

"These children lived in one complete culture and every once in a while they seem to respond in Vietnamese," the teacher said. "The fascinating thing is for me to see them actually being transformed from Vietnamese youngsters to those who are becoming 100 per cent American. I guess it's just the latest step in our history."

Miss Salmon said the children typify what has happened to both Hoboken and the country since European immigrants started flocking here more than 100 years ago.

Hoboken to host housing convention

Hoboken has been selected by the U.S. League of Cities to host a three-day conference on housing next month by the League's Northeast Region members. Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri said today.

The conference will be held April 11 to 13 at Stevens Institute of Technology.

"This is the first time that a city in the 40,000-to-50,000 population range has been selected to host such a meeting," said the councilman. "We will have visitors from Washington D.C., Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York, New Jersey and all of the New England states."

Mrs. Patricia Harris, secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), will be one of the main speakers.

Ranieri leaves tonight for Washington where he will represent Hoboken at a five-day congressional conference sponsored by the League. It ends Thursday.

Court to eye Hoboken teacher pay

By JEAN DEITZ

Dispatch Trenton Bureau

TRENTON—A state appeals court yesterday said it could not uphold an unfair labor practices ruling against the Hoboken school board without a full hearing. It ordered the school board to file a brief with the court within 30 days.

Meanwhile, the court ruled without merit a complaint by Hudson County that it was getting a disproportionate lower share than other counties of federal social service funds.

In the Hoboken case, the state Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC) had asked that the appeals court affirm its decision that the school board had acted in bad faith

while negotiating a contract with the Hoboken teachers.

PERC had asked for a summary judgment on the merits of the case. The appeals court said, by law, the case must go to a full hearing.

The Hoboken school board was cited for acting in bad faith for reopening salary negotiations after a salary agreement had been signed for both parties on Nov. 4, 1975.

The teachers and the school board had been negotiating for the school years, 1975-76 through 1977-78.

Hoboken teachers refused to reopen the salary negotiations in light of the written agreement and instituted unfair labor practice proceedings

against the school board on Nov. 17, 1975.

PERC upheld a hearing examiner's report on July 20, 1976, that the school board should negotiate in good faith in respect to two unresolved areas, makeup days and additional compensation, and that reopening the salary negotiation was a violation of the New Jersey Employer-Employee Relations Act.

In its case, the county had charged it was getting only between four and eight per cent of money under Title XX of the Social Security Act, whereas it had between 11 and 15 per cent of the residents considered eligible under the act.

The complaint against the state was

filed for the fiscal year, 1976, which ended June 30. The money, \$87.8 million, was the bulk of the money used by the state for its New Jersey Comprehensive Social Services Plan, which spent a total of \$116 million.

Not Deciding Factor

The appeals court ruled, in an unanimous decision, that income eligibility was not the deciding factor in distributing the funds.

The intent of the act was to provide some services regardless of income and to put the burden of the services on help for the blind, aged and disabled, rather than younger, poorer people, the court said.

Leahy, Russo pick up petitions

Hoboken's political peace hasn't been shattered but it has been badly bent. Picking up nominating petitions yesterday were Councilmen-at-large Francis X. Leahy and Anthony Russo who will be running as a ticket in the upcoming municipal election.

And with them when they picked up their petitions was Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francone, the city's consistent top vote getter and Democratic strongman.

Francone made it clear he is endorsing the pair. He also said if Mayor Steve Cappiello picked three other candidates to run with him for councilmen-at-large, two of them, and maybe all three would be running without Francone's support.

Leahy and Russo are reported to have the support of Raphael P. Vitale, city public works director and Francone's brother-in-law; Sixth Ward Councilman Nunzio Malfetti, First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano, Business Administrator Herman Bier, Freeholder Vincent J. Fusilli and Hoboken Assemblyman Thomas A. Gallo. All but Fusilli and Gallo were waiting outside the clerk's office yesterday for Russo and Leahy to pick up their petitions.

And wait they did, some for almost an hour.

Leahy and Russo showed up at noon to sign for their petitions but were unable to get them at that time because City Clerk Anthony J. Amoroso was not there to handle it. The assistant city clerk told the two candidates it was office policy for Amoroso to handle distribution of the petitions but he was out to lunch and wouldn't be back until 1 p.m. They waited along with everyone else.

Leahy, 59, is a bachelor and employed on the waterfront as a checker. Four years ago he ran on Cappiello's ticket but since then has had a number of differences with the mayor. He publicly vowed he would step down rather than run with Cappiello again.

Like Leahy and the mayor, the city's political family had been having its differences for some time. But that was believed to have been resolved several weeks ago when Romano, the reported leader of the opposition forces, announced he was endorsing the mayor for re-election in May.

The current feud now appears to center on who is to be the councilmen-at-large candidates on Cappiello's ticket. And at the center of that controversy is whether or not Robert A. Ranieri should be on the ticket, it is reported.

According to administration sources, the consensus of opinion among administration leaders is that Ranieri is "too controversial" and had needlessly embarrassed some members of the administration. Some wanted Ranieri to "step up" to a non-elected post within the administration, possibly with the Community Development Agency, and left the mayor with the task of convincing the councilman to take the job. This, sources said, occurred almost four weeks ago but the mayor still had not moved on it as of Friday.

Although Cappiello had not announced a councilman-at-large slate of his own, it was believed Ranieri and Bernard Scrivani were his two selections and a third spot open for Leahy if he wanted it.

If political peace is to be restored the mayor will have to accept Leahy and Russo, leaving one opening on an administration ticket. That spot may have to go to Scrivani since Cappiello committed it to the councilman over a year ago. So says Scrivani.

The mayor said he had "no reaction" to the news that Russo and Leahy had picked up petitions. "That's their right," he added. Cappiello said he would be announcing his ticket "pretty soon."

It's unlikely that Russo will be on it. That ground was covered at a recent meeting of the mayor's club in the Third Ward where Russo had run two years ago for ward councilman against incumbent Salvatore Cemelli, a member of the mayor's association.

According to association members, there is no way they can go along with the mayor's ticket if Russo is on it.

Russo, 30, married and a special education teacher in the Hoboken school system.

Some administration sources say that should the mayor name his own slate of candidates and not include Russo and Leahy those two will be the nucleus for another full slate. And Romano could head that ticket as the mayoral candidate.

Romano declined to comment on that but did say he was endorsing Leahy and Russo.

The nominating petitions are due back in the city clerk's hands no later than 4 p.m. on March 24 which a minimum of 188 valid signatures from registered voters on them. In the past, candidates have picked up, nominating petitions one day and filed them the next so more than enough time remains for the Leahy-Russo ticket to be filled in and made a full slate.

Weather delayed fire site demolition

Sub-freezing and inclement weather during portions of January and last month prevented a Newark contractor from demolishing the vacant, three-story frame tenement house at 325 Monroe St., Hoboken. Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale said today.

The building burned to the ground Wednesday in a three-alarm fire taking with it a recently renovated one-family house at 324 Madison St. and injuring seven persons, including five firemen, a police officer and two civilians.

According to Vitale, the city awarded a \$2,300 contract to the Burlington Construction Co. of Newark on Jan. 6. On Jan. 26, the company took out its demolition permit.

"The delay in getting the permit was due to the bad weather," said the director. "And the delay on getting to

the building once the permit had been taken out was again caused by the weather."

The building at 324 Madison St. owned by Pasquale DeStefano, a Hoboken fireman. He purchased it approximately 10 years ago as a three-family house but converted it into a one-family. According to DeStefano, he had been complaining to the city for at least two years that the abandoned building behind his was a fire hazard and should be razed. He has threatened to sue the city for damages, claiming that it had neglected its responsibilities by waiting so long to have the structure taken down.

Vitale declined to comment on the possibility of a suit, adding that legal matters were in the realm of the Law Department.

Fire officials theorize that youngsters may have been playing

with matches in the vacant building before it burst into flames. However, no witnesses have confirmed that possibility. The investigation is being continued by the fire department's Fire Prevention Bureau. A bureau spokesman said that if any evidence to show the cause of the blaze would turn up because of the severe damage to the building.

Meanwhile, three of the seven injured persons are still being detained at St. Mary Hospital. Fireman Warren Cassier and Wayne Madsen are in "guarded condition" with head injuries. Fireman Arthur Kirschner's condition has "improved" and he has been transferred to a semi-private room.

The three men were injured when the front wall of the Monroe Street building caved in on them during the firefighting operation.

Hoboken gaming probers also active in N. Bergen

A Hudson County grand jury, which is probing alleged gambling in Hoboken, turns its attention to North Bergen municipal affairs Friday.

Hudson County Prosecutor James T. O'Halloran, while confirming the North Bergen probe will be handled by the same grand jury investigating the Hoboken case, declined further comment.

However, informed sources claim that four or five North Bergen municipal employees will be subpoenaed to appear Friday morning.

The Hoboken probe into alleged gambling payoffs continues Friday afternoon with at least five policemen

being called as witnesses, the same sources say.

The prosecutor, according to the sources, is checking an extermination company's records, as well as North Bergen's Alcoholic Beverage Control bureau documents, resulting from a second trip by his investigators to the township last week. Two weeks ago, they seized, after obtaining search warrants, various municipal records, including those from the traffic violations bureau and those showing lumber purchases.

The prosecutor and his investigators have looked over nearly all vouchers found by North Bergen firemen in a garbage can outside the town hall late last week, it was learned.

Housing panel session slated

The Hoboken Housing Authority will hold its regular meeting tomorrow at 6 p.m. in its offices at 400 Harrison St., Andrew W. Scherer, chairman, said today.

On the agenda is the consideration of specifications for plastic compactor bags, a discussion a questionnaire sent out by Stevens Institute of Technology on the Hoboken waterfront area and a letter from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) concerning electrical utility conservation measures.

The meeting is open to the public.

\$1.5M quandary still haunts Hoboken

By TERRY BRENNAN

The nagging question of how the Hoboken Board of Education is going to come up with \$1.5 million for this summer's teaching salaries has been thrown back to the city again. The recommendation, made to state Education Commissioner Fred Burke by the head of his departments Division of Controversies and Disputes, basically told the board it had to pay salaries for two summer sessions of the present school budget. The decision will be considered final if neither the board nor the city file written appeals before March 17.

"The hearing examiner can find no authority by which the

commissioner can add money to a budget after it has been submitted to the electorate at the annual election," August Thomas said in his report to the commissioner. Although the board has been paying summer salaries of the following year's school budget since the Depression, state Atty. Gen. William F. Hyland ordered it to stop the practice last July. The board was directed to pay the salaries out of the preceding year's school budget.

"It certainly could be drastic if the board and the city council don't come up with some way to resolve this thing," Superintendent of Schools Thomas F. McFeeley said. "The

only way I see the money being obtained is by increasing taxes." Board President Mary Gaspar said "every possible avenue will be explored" before increasing taxes on the "already over-burdened Hoboken taxpayer." Mrs. Gaspar said board officials will meet with Hyland and Burke in Trenton tomorrow "to try to iron out this situation."

Sees \$20 Jump

Mrs. Gaspar said the denial of the \$1.5 million and the restoration of \$22,287 out of \$680,000 cut by the city council would add about \$20 to the tax rate.

Hoboken is seeking funds to create housing police

Hoboken wants to create its own Housing Authority police force and has applied to the State Law Enforcement Planning Agency (SLEPA) for the money to do it.

And Mayor Steve Cappiello says that SLEPA is looking favorably on the city's application. "I have been advised by SLEPA officials that our application has been well received and it is very possible that it will be approved and funded," he said.

Both city and housing authority officials have received many complaints about the police protection

that is provided in the authority's area in the western section of the city. The situation came to a head a few months ago when a member of the auxiliary police force which provides much of the police protection under a contract with the authority, told members of the city council that conditions had become so bad that the auxiliary police couldn't cope with them.

He cited muggings and attacks on senior citizens and placed most of the blame on gangs of teenagers who hang out the hallways of the projects. Auxiliary police, unlike regular

policemen, carry no guns and have no arrest powers. They must call for the regular police.

"Statistics verify that there is a problem, but they don't show it to be as bad as stated to the council," said the mayor. "However, there are incidents and the city's goal is to reduce the number and hopefully eliminate it entirely."

"The housing authority police will have all of the equipment and powers of regular policemen. They will also have the authority to go into the projects themselves and check doors and hallways for persons who don't belong there and gangs congregating."

The mayor explained that local police have the right to enter the projects only if they are chasing a suspect.

Cappiello said that the authority police would be selected from the existing Civil Service list of men eligible for appointment to the regular police force. They would be listed as temporary officers while serving on the authority and would have the option of later becoming regular policemen on the city's force when openings occur.

The mayor said he expects to have a definite decision from SLEPA in late May or early June.

Cop, fire vehicles may have to line up for gas

Police, public works and fire vehicles in Hoboken may soon have to refuel at public gas station because the company from which the city gets its gasoline and oil hasn't made a delivery since last week and the city's storage tanks are rapidly running dry.

Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale said that British Petroleum (BP) has promised a quick delivery.

Vitale said that the police used up their gas supply and started taking gas from the fire department's supply. Now that, too, is running low, as is the public works garage supply.

"We used to get two or three

deliveries a week," he continued. "If the police, fire or public works departments were running low, they'd call the supplier and a load would be delivered the next day. Calls were made last week for a delivery for the police but it never arrived."

Vitale said that the company explained that it has contracted with another firm to handle deliveries of its gas and the new company is taking several days longer to make them.

Hoboken has contracts with (BP) and Exxon to supply it with gas. The contracts, agreed to during the gas shortage several years ago, alternate every six months.

School board, council, Hoboken all object . . .

Both the Hoboken Board of Education and City Council today were preparing to file exceptions to the recent decision by the State Department of Education restoring funds in the 1976-77 school board budget.

A total of \$522,287 of the \$680,000 cut from the budget by the City Council last April was restored by the state after the school board appealed the reductions. The council trimmed the \$4,025,278 budget after it was turned down by the voters.

Under the terms of the recommendations made by August Thomas, the hearing officer, both Hoboken and the school board have until next Thursday to file exceptions, objections or to appeal his findings. It is one day after the school board is holding a public hearing on its 1977-78 budget.

The school board has already said it will file exceptions. Mayor Steve Cappiello, who met with members of the council into the wee hours of

yesterday morning, said the city also will file.

Thomas Calligy, assistant city attorney, said that at this late stage of the 1976-77 school year it is highly unlikely that either the city's or the school board's exceptions to the decision will have any bearing on the final outcome.

He added, however, "The city just wants to be on record with the Commissioner of Education in case there is a decision on his part to go into the matter further." He said the city's exceptions probably will be sent to the state by Monday or Tuesday.

The dispute was discussed by Hoboken school board representatives and state education officials for nearly two hours.

Amato to back Cappiello

Andrew J. Amato won't be on the ballot for Hoboken's May mayoral election, it was learned today. But he will have a part in the campaigning that's to come.

Amato said today he will not file the nominating petitions he took out for mayor last month. However, he is throwing his support behind Mayor Steve Cappiello who will be seeking re-election to his second term.

"The mayor has agreed to let me to play an active role in his administration," said Amato. "He is going to give me the opportunity to participate, and to help bring new business and industry and development to the city."

Amato, who has been severely critical of the mayor on many past occasions, said that lack of effort in these areas prompted the criticism.

"The mayor has agreed to let me work in these areas with his administration," he continued. "To me this means that he now finds some merit in the suggestions I have made in the past and is flexible enough to try to adopt some of them for the future."

Commenting on recent political developments which make it appear that the mayor has lost most of his organizational support for the May election, Amato said Cappiello might be better off without it.

"They are deserting the mayor because he won't tolerate the poor practices and procedures they want any longer," asserted Amato. "Those practices and procedures helped ruin this city and the mayor is right in wanting to change them."

Amato said his wife, Florence, who had picked up petitions for councilman-at-large, will not file either.

Housing panel session slated

The Hoboken Housing Authority will hold its regular meeting tomorrow at 6 p.m. in its offices at 400 Harrison St., Andrew W. Scherer, chairman, said today.

On the agenda is the consideration of specifications for plastic compactor bags, a discussion of a questionnaire sent out by Stevens Institute of Technology on the Hoboken waterfront area and a letter from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) concerning electrical utility conservation measures.

The meeting is open to the public.

Hoboken fears PUC bill

By TERRY BRENNAN

Hoboken officials fear they could be at the mercy of Jersey City once again if a bill in the state Senate which exempts water suppliers from Public Utilities Commission (PUC) control, is passed.

The proposed legislation, which is already out of committee and could be presented for a vote soon, could enable Jersey City to control Hoboken's water rates without PUC regulation. Mayor Steve Cappiello said he'll fight the bill "unless it gives us a lot of protection."

"We want to make sure the city is covered so Jersey City doesn't hold us captive again," Cappiello said. "We want to make doubly sure Jersey City can't increase our rates at its own discretion. There simply has to be adequate control."

Although Hoboken agreed to pay a 75 per cent rate increase last year, Jersey City had proposed a 225 per cent hike on the 12 million gallons a day Hoboken uses. The Mile Square City went to court to force its sole supplier to limit its rate increase to the same 75 per cent raise imposed on Jersey City consumers. "We want to make sure how the bill is worded so there's necessary controls built into it," said Asst. Law Director Carl Schaefer. "We settled our dispute with Jersey City out-of-court last year but we could be in the same boat when our contract expires in five years. That's what we have to watch."

The bill was introduced by Sen. Raymond Garramone of Haworth last November to exempt the Borough of Park Ridge from PUC control. Garramone said he proposed it because the community sought release from regulation as a supplier of 10 homes outside its area.

"The utilities commission was gearing itself to regulating multi-community systems and I sought to discharge Park Ridge from its jurisdiction," said the Bergen County Democrat. "It's applicable to the Hoboken-Jersey City situation, but Mayor Cappiello assured me he was satisfied there were enough safeguards."

Schaefer said he was asked by Cappiello to study the bill because of the possibility Jersey City could "try to quadruple our rates again while we have little immediate recourse." He claimed there's always a possibility of "imposed discriminatory rates" if present safeguards are removed.

Hoboken pays about \$2 million to Jersey City for its water supply and would have been forced to pay approximately \$4 million under rates initially proposed by its supplier.

CETA teens start helping senior citizens

Ten Hoboken teenagers enrolled in the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) work-study program have started going around to senior citizens apartments enrolling them in the Title XX Program, according to Vincent Barbo, coordinator-director of senior citizen activities.

The Title XX program provides services for seniors. In addition, the teenagers, who are working in teams of two, will do light shopping and write letters for the elderly, Barbo added.

"The youngsters all have identification and should be asked to show it before being admitted to an apartment," he continued. "We are hoping to increase participation in the Title XX program through the registration drive. The more elderly taking part, the more funds we can apply for and the more service we can provide when we get them."

Filling them up

A little known fact has been helping Hoboken's Parking Authority in its uphill push to fill up those municipal parking garages, which at first were a white elephant.

The fact is that many of the new customers are people who neither live nor work in Hoboken, but who live elsewhere in New Jersey and work in New York. The Parking Authority has been persuading them to park in its Hoboken garages in the morning and continue on to New York in the nearby buses or PATH tubes.

As New York restricts its on-street parking more and more, and the fees in that city's parking garages soar accordingly, the Hoboken deal has become attractive.

And as these out of towners get accustomed to dropping in on Hoboken twice a day, it has already occurred to some of them to see about buying homes there, which is one reason Hoboken's pleasing brownstone houses are in the midst of a real estate boom.

Forman to get specifics of charges

Suspended Hoboken Welfare Director Jerry Forman, who has threatened legal action to be reinstated unless the city gives him the specifics of the charges against him, should have them no later than tomorrow, according to Thomas Calligy, assistant city attorney.

Calligy said that he and members of the city's detective bureau worked on the specifics of the charges against Forman yesterday and they should be put into legal form and presented to Forman or his attorney today or tomorrow.

Forman's lawyer notified the city last week that he was giving Hoboken nine days to detail the facts that lead to the suspension or he would take legal action to have Forman reinstated.

Forman was suspended by the local assistance board in January as the result of a police investigation into welfare claims. According to police, the work for which payment was authorized was not done.

The information gathered by police has been turned over to Hudson County Prosecutor James

O'Halloran. However, Forman has not been charged with any crime.

According to Calligy, Forman and his attorney are entitled to the information on the charges and if the city doesn't supply them it is very likely that Forman would be reinstated if the matter is taken to court.

Truce struck on pollution in Hoboken

Hoboken won't have to pay up to \$10,000 a day in fines for violating federal anti-pollution laws — at least for the time being — following a meeting with officials of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in New York.

City officials and consultants appeared yesterday before EPA officials and representatives of the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in response to a show cause order served on the city last week. The order directed the city to explain why it shouldn't be prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney General's office for violating federal water pollution laws.

Representing the city were Raphael P. Vitale, public works director; Thomas Calligy, assistant city attorney; Roy M. Haack, sewage treatment plant supervisor; Joseph Lynch and John Lange, the consulting engineers.

The problem centers around violations at the sewage treatment plant, violations of the conditions of the city's National Pollution Discharge elimination permit and the discharge of untreated sewage into the Hudson River from a sewer pipe in the northern section of the city.

City officials had come prepared for the worse, but the meeting was amiable and the prospects for resolving the problems without having to go to court appear good, according to Calligy.

Representing the EPA was Claire Buino, an attorney for the EPA's water enforcement branch, and Salvatore Badalamenti, representing the agency's municipal section. Edward Post, Richard DiNito and Ronald D. Nicholson attended for the state DEP.

On the violations at the treatment plant, Calligy said that the city will prepare a compliance schedule for the work that remains to be done — much has already been started or needed equipment is on order — and that schedule will become part of a consent agreement between the city and the EPA.

Calligy said that the matter of permit violations was a little more complicated and might not be resolved for a few days.

Hoboken is under directive to upgrade its treatment plant to a secondary system by July 1. It won't meet that deadline and doesn't even have a plan to do the necessary work and improvements, but it wasn't being held to any formal schedule because it was part of the Hudson County Sewerage Authority. The authority, although behind in its schedule, has been granted extensions and delays by the EPA.

When Hoboken withdrew from the authority last year, said Calligy, it failed to take into consideration that this action would have a hearing on its own permit.

Ms. Buino said if Hoboken hoped to get its permit renewed "it should have alerted the EPA to what it was going to do (withdraw from the authority) and asked for modification of its permit."

In order for Hoboken to be considered for a renewal of its permit a new compliance schedule must be prepared and submitted. Lynch has been assigned this task.

The only tense moment during the meeting occurred when Ms. Buino said that she wanted everything as clear as possible so there could be no misunderstandings if the EPA moves for a "consent judgment" against Hoboken.

"Hoboken will agree to consent agreements but not a judgment," Calligy said. "If we are to go to court then let it be for a full fledged hearing. Besides, I have no authority to enter into such an agreement. That's something that our elected officials would have to vote on."

Calligy said that he spoke with Ms. Buino after the meeting and expected her to get back to him in a few days on whether the EPA would accept an agreement.

In the interim, Lynch is to prepare a compliance schedule for the federal pollution requirements the city must meet under its own NPDES permit. He has 30 days to prepare it.

The city also agreed to take full responsibility for the discharge of sewage into the Hudson, believed to be coming from the Maxwell House Coffee plant from a break somewhere in a city sewer line.

Seeks teachers' pay

The Hoboken City Council and the Board of Education will meet in an emergency session tonight to try to resolve how it will find \$1.5 million for summer teaching salaries.

Mayor Steve Cappiello, who said he called the meeting because "this is everybody's problem in this town," also said the city would appeal "some" of the \$522,287 the state is ordering restored to the board's budget. The city has until March 17 to appeal.



FUSILLI HONORED — Hudson County Freeholder Vincent Fusilli, left, accepts plaque from Union City Mayor William Musto, right, and Union City Democratic chairman Bruce Walter last night at the Union City Elks Club where he was honored by the local Democratic organization. Fusilli was recently elected president of the New Jersey Association of Counties.

Questionable expense

Will Hoboken's Board of Education drop its long standing practice of running up food and liquor bills for private meetings at local restaurants?

It would be difficult to continue this quaint custom now that the State Department of Education has declared it an unwarranted expenditure.

The state hearing examiner who made the unfavorable pronouncement was mild in his use of language, chiding rather than castigating the board for these astronomical outlays at the taxpayers' expense.

However, the state is at last on record as "not recommending" the use of tax money for dinner meetings and "other questionable expenses."

Presumably the \$5,400 bash Dec. 3 at which \$900 worth of liquor was paid for, and in which all the school boards of Hudson County participated, is in the "questionable" category.

Will there be another one of these next fall, perhaps with a different school board getting stuck with the bill?

It's up to you

By early April, a crime prevention program aimed specifically at break-ins, a major problem in the city, is scheduled to begin in Bayonne.

The program is based in large measure on the simple fact that businessmen and the rest of us unconsciously cooperate with those who specialize in this type of crime by making it easy for them.

The program involves carrying the break-in prevention message to the public through personal contacts, brochures and speaking engagements by a specially trained police and civilian team.

Once this team is functioning, it will complement the work of the line policeman, thus making break-ins more difficult for the criminals and multiplying the possibility of their capture.

A similar program is under way in Hoboken. Other municipalities in the past have worked out their own version of police-taxpayer cooperation against crime. No matter what the effort, each program boils down to cooperation . . . and cooperation begins with you.

Housing police

Hoboken's city administration is on the right track in moving to create a separate police force for its extensive housing projects.

The city police are not geared to the kind of intensive protection the projects require. They do not have the authority to go into the project buildings and grounds unless they are chasing a suspect.

On the other hand, the Auxiliary Police who have been trying to guard the projects are simply not equipped for the job. They do not carry a gun and cannot arrest anyone.

That the State Law Enforcement Planning Agency looks favorably on the city's application for funds is good news for the project residents harassed by thieves, thugs and vandals.

May the final approval come soon.

Hoboken to get new cop force?

The "alarming" rise in muggings and other street crimes at the Hoboken Housing Authority project in the western section of the city, has prompted Mayor Steve Cappiello to seek funds to create a police force for the projects.

Though the housing project, which is federally sponsored, has its own auxiliary police force, members of the force told the city council that crime is out of hand. Auxiliary policemen do not carry guns or have powers of arrest. City police are called in for emergencies, the mayor said.

The funds, if approved, will come from the State Law Enforcement Planning Agency (SLEPA). Cappiello said he expects the application to be approved.

He did not know how many officers would be hired, but he said that they would carry the same equipment and have the same powers as city police.

He explained that the new police would be chosen from the existing Civil Service list for police positions.

"I hope to have the funds before summer, when everyone will want to be outside and the problem could get worse," Cappiello said.

Ranieri 'might' run for mayor

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri could be the next candidate to pick up nominating petitions for mayor in Hoboken's May election, it was learned today.

The councilman declined to say definitely whether he would or wouldn't, only that it was "very possible."

Ranieri is said to be the bone of contention among warring factions of Mayor Steve Cappiello's administration. Some do not want Ranieri on the mayor's ticket for re-election. They may apparently do.

"I have talked with many people throughout the city since learning of this power play by some members of the administration, and many people are urging me to run for mayor," Ranieri said. "I haven't made a final decision, but I would say that it's very possible I might just do that."

If Ranieri does become a valid candidate, one of the other potential candidates would drop out. Thomas Vezetti, who has picked up his nominating petitions but hasn't filed them yet, said today that if Ranieri is a candidate for mayor he will "drop out" of the race.

The emergence of Ranieri as a possible mayoral candidate further clouds the city's political picture. But it isn't expected to stay in its murky condition for too much longer.

According to administration sources, they expect everything to be settled, or close to it, today. It is reported that First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano and an as yet undisclosed candidate will pick up nominating petitions for mayor and councilman-at-large, respectively, sometime today if the mayor hasn't decided to go along with the wishes of his supporters.

If that comes about, the sources said, Romano and the undisclosed candidate will join forces with Councilman-at-large Francis X. Leahy and Anthony Russo to form a full slate of candidates for the May election. Leahy and Russo picked up their nominating petitions for councilman-at-large earlier this week and announced that they would be running as a team.

Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francane, one of the city's most consistent vote getters, was with Russo and Leahy and promptly announced that he was endorsing both of them.

Mayor Cappiello has repeatedly refused to discuss the political situation. The mayor is expected to announce his ticket this week. If Romano doesn't pick up petitions today, Cappiello will probably be running with Leahy, Russo and another candidate. If Romano does pick up, the mayor will probably have his own ticket.

Hoboken Council will ask state audit schools, check personnel use

The Hoboken City Council has a resolution on its agenda for tomorrow's meeting asking the state commissioner of education to audit the Board of Education's books and check on "the way personnel are utilized."

Martin J. Brennan, council president, said officials in the state Department of Education were "looking for us to make a formal request to them to in and look at (the board's) books so Councilman (at-large Francis X.) Leahy will move the resolution."

The move could take the board by surprise since only last Friday, council representatives met several school trustees to discuss conflicting state directives concerning the insertion of \$1.5 million in the school budget for summer teacher payments.

Brennan said city officials never tipped their hand about what the board could expect from the forthcoming resolution and state action.

Brennan added the audit procedure shouldn't affect preparation of the budget.

A persistent critic of the board's spending, Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, said he welcomes the audit, adding that it should focus on why the trustees have tended to lay out more and more money each year while the city, he says, has sought to cut back costs.

Another resolution concerns a recommendation from the state Division of Public Welfare that the city and its Board of Local Assistance switch from vouchers to cash to pay welfare clients.

Mayor Steve Cappiello told the council that the city's current welfare payment system "requires a lot of papers issued for rent, food and medical services to people who are sometimes difficult to find."

"The state recommends cutting down the paperwork and issuing checks to welfare recipients deemed to be responsible persons," Cappiello said. "But in cases where the clients are alcoholic or drug addicts, we could be doing them more harm than good so we've asked for permission to use the voucher system as well," he added.

"An effort was made by realtors to stop us from going to a cash system," said the mayor, "because under such a system landlords for whom the realtors rent apartments

would have to go directly to welfare clients, whereas with the voucher system, the clients were usually locked in to pay rents we have found to be 20 to 30 per cent higher than for comparable accommodations."

In other business, the city Multi-Service Center at Second and Grand streets came under the council's scrutiny as lawmakers questioned use of equipment, lighting facilities and personnel discipline policy.

Ranieri charged that private entertainment groups took loudspeakers, lighting equipment and an elevated stage platform from the center on separate occasions the last two months to put on shows in local taverns. Fred Bado, director of the city Community Development Agency (CDA), which supervises the center, said he knew of at least one instance in which items were taken. He said this was in line with a past CDA policy of lending such equipment to performers because of what he called a lack of adequate sites in the city. But now, says Bado, that policy is being discontinued.

Leahy said he was "embarrassed" about a week ago while watching a basketball game at the center to see the court lights go out several times. Bado answered that the lighting at the center is "an ongoing problem" caused by ineffective wiring. Joseph Lynch, consulting engineer, said "three defective breakers" that triggered last week's short have been "replaced."

Councilman Louis Francane told Bado he was concerned about reports he's gotten about one center worker "threatening" other employees with suspension when, in fact, only Bado has the power to discipline CDA personnel. Bado said he's received no complaints "about anything like that from employees."

The council tomorrow is also expected to:

- Introduce an ordinance upgrading by eight per cent the annual pay of non-uniformed municipal employees based on a negotiated contract retroactive to Jan. 1.

- Act on a recommendation by Mayo, Lynch & Associates, Hoboken, to award a contract for \$386,125 to the Spinnello contracting firm for Phase Three of the city's water improvement program.

- Approve a resolution calling for computerizing the city's bookkeeping by purchasing a Burroughs computer at \$13,500.

Hoboken feels it won battle while losing on budget cut

Hoboken's municipal budget for 1977 probably will go up another \$522,287. That's the amount the state Department of Education has reinstated in the 1976-77 board of education budget from which the city council had cut \$680,000.

However, city officials say that while they may have lost the battle for bucks they have won the war with the school board over financial responsibility and will continue to do so in the future.

The money was cut from the school board last April and appealed by the school board. That appeal was heard in December and the state Department of Education's decision was released to the city and school board last Friday.

Both the board of education and the city have until March 17 to file

written exceptions, objections or replies to it. If none is filed with the state commissioner in that time the matter will be considered complete and a final written decision will be prepared.

The state allowed \$157,713 in city council reductions to stand — primarily in teacher salaries.

The largest single reduction made by the council was for a decrease in professional staff — \$550,000 was taken from the salary account. August Thomas, the hearing officer, ruled that the board had, in fact, increased its teaching staff by 22 from 1975-76 to 1976-77 even though school enrollment figures were basically the same.

Thomas recommended that one-half the cost of 10 additional teachers be deducted from the budget at \$11,

196 a year each, pro-rated for five months since more than one-half of the school year is complete. The reduction reinstated \$494,402 of the amount cut by the council, but will have some additional bearing on the 1977-78 proposed budget because 10 teachers will not be coming back.

In most of the other areas where the city council made cuts in the budget, Thomas agreed either totally or in part with the council's action.

The following reductions made by the council were upheld by Thomas — \$3,000 from the other expenses, \$1,000 for health service, \$37,000 from operations, \$5,000 from insurance and judgment accounts, \$30,000 from the food service program, and \$7,000 from the breakfast program.

The council cut \$15,000 from administration salaries of which \$3,385 was restored, \$5,000 of the \$10,000 cut from contracted services was put back, \$11,000 of the \$13,000 for transportation, and \$3,500 of the \$7,000 cut from teachers pension fund.

Thomas was thoroughly hard on the board in the area of expenses and questioned its wisdom for incurring them.

"The hearing examiner notices, also, the expenditure of monies by the board for numerous conferences and dinner meetings," wrote Thomas. "The expenditures were approximately \$3,101. At the very least, the wisdom of these expenditures must be questioned, if not the board's authority to so frequently hold dinner meetings at the public expense and incur other questionable expenses."

"The evidence shows a total expenditure of \$21,027 for these meetings, travel, fees for workshops and negotiations. Although some of the expenditures are adequately justified, the hearing examiner cannot recommend the expenditure of monies for personnel dinner meetings."

Thomas also ruled that a questionable transfer of \$222,000 in capital outlay funds to current expenses without the approval of the voters was "improper" and no authorization for such a transfer could be found in state statutes except by a question on the ballot for approval of the voters in the school board election.

Thomas said it was apparent to him that neither the \$222,000 nor a \$125,000 reserve were revealed to the voting public during the 1975-76 school year. He recommended that the commissioner order the board to place the \$222,000 back in the capital outlay account until it is used for the purpose intended — work on the mini-school — or a transfer is approved by the voters.

On the petition of the board to have the state commissioner order Hoboken to include an additional \$1.5 million in the 1976-77 budget for the payment of summer teacher salaries, Thomas ruled that the commissioner did not have the authority to do so after it had been submitted to the voters.

Thomas recommended that the Division of Administration and Finance of the state Department of Education conduct a complete audit of the board's business practices and that the board be directed to administer a summer payment plan for the teachers in accordance with state law.

Whether or not the school board and city will accept the findings could not be determined this week.

According to Robert W. Taylor, the board's attorney and administrative officer, it will take up the decision either before or after tonight's regular board meeting.

City officials are meeting tomorrow evening to review the decision.

Hoboken may be able to use Phase III surplus

Hoboken has received tentative but unofficial approval to spend an anticipated surplus of just under \$500,000 in Phase III of its waterline repair and replacement program, it was learned today.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, who just returned from a National League of Cities conference in Washington, D.C., said he looked into the matter of surplus Public Works Act funds and found that there "really isn't any clear-cut policy on what is to be done with them."

"However, the consensus of opinions is that we can probably use the money and won't have to send it back," he said.

Hoboken has a \$4.3 million grant from the federal government under the public works act for Phase III of the water line program. The low bid

received on the job is a little more than \$3.8 million. If that bid is accepted and the contractor holds to it without any cost overruns, the city will have a surplus of close to \$500,000.

"The money probably will have to be used for a continuation of the Phase III program," Ranieri continued. "If we have an open end contract with the low bidder it probably won't even have to go out for bid again. However, if it is a closed contract the additional work would have to be put out for bid."

The bids are still being studied by the city's consulting engineer on the project and no recommendations as to which contractor should get the job have been made. A decision is expected by the council's April 6 meeting.

Hoboken housing agency seeks OK to sue PERC

The Hoboken Housing Authority has asked the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for permission to take the state Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC) to court and test whether or not it has jurisdiction over the authority in labor matters, it was learned today.

PERC has ordered the authority to recognize Teamsters Local 97 as the bargaining agent for some 35 maintenance employees. The order was issued last November after a vote by the employees on the union representation.

According to Joseph Caliguire, executive director of the authority, it wants to challenge the PERC ruling

in court but since it is an action outside the authority's normal realm, special permission has to be obtained from HUD to expend the funds and hire a special attorney.

"The authority comes under the jurisdiction of HUD," he said. "Since PERC is a state agency it is the contention of the authority that it has no right to make a ruling on this matter."

Caliguire said the request for permission was sent to HUD Thursday.

Four guards suspended at three Hoboken parks

By Pete Hallam

Three Hoboken parks will be without their usual security until Tuesday because four guards and their supervisor have been suspended without pay for three days for leaving their posts, George W. Crimmins, head of Hoboken's Concentrated Employment and Training Act (CETA) program, said today.

Crimmins said he has asked the Hoboken police department to make more frequent checks of the parks until Tuesday evening when the CETA guards are to return to duty.

"It started a week ago when I got some complaints that the men weren't in the parks when they were supposed to be," Crimmins explained. "I personally investigated the com-

plaints and found that they had merit."

The guards, officially called public safety officers, are stationed in Elysian Park, Church Square Park and Stevens Park. They work from 3 to 11 p.m. seven days a week.

"I checked the parks last Saturday, Monday and again Thursday and found that one or more of the guards was not to be found," he continued. "As a result of the investigation, four guards have been suspended for three days without pay, along with their supervisor. In addition, the men have been docked an additional one to three days' pay for the days they were not on post."

Crimmins added that if there should be a repeat of the infraction the violators will be dismissed from the program.

Film details conversion of factory into housing

A 17-minute film on the conversion of the old Keuffel and Esser factory in Hoboken into a modern, 173-unit apartment house has been released by the Public Service Electric and Gas Co. (PSE&G) and is now available to interested groups for showings.

The film was given its first showing at ceremonies yesterday at Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, during an informal luncheon hosted by Mayor Steve Cappiello and Robert I. Smith, PSE&G president.

PSE&G began producing the film more than two years ago after plans were unveiled to convert the factory into an apartment house. The film is made from nearly 400 slides that depict the various stages of rehabilitation.

A spokesman for the company said that the purpose of the film is to

show one way to help rejuvenate aging urban communities throughout the nation. He said the company hopes to encourage officials in other municipalities to consider efforts similar to the one that was undertaken in Hoboken.

The factory is now called Clock Towers and was converted at a cost of \$4.3 million. It is located at Third and Adams streets. Construction began in March 1975 and the first residents arrived last April.

The voices of Hoboken residents and officials narrate the film. Included are some comments from residents of Clock Towers.

Groups interested in showing the film to their members can make arrangements for it by contacting PSE&G's community relations department in Newark at 622-7000, extension 2794.

Ranieri asks Cappiello club to ponder municipal change

Members of the Steve Cappiello Association of Hoboken have been asked to consider changing the form of government from the present mayor-council type, and Mayor Cappiello said if sentiment is strong enough "we'll go to the electorate."

The suggestion to consider a change was sent to the Cappiello membership by Councilman Robert Ranieri. The councilman was unable to attend the meeting because of a council caucus.

The mayor, who did attend the club meeting, said the members agreed to give the idea serious thought. "I am now the mayor in a strong mayor-council type of government," said Cappiello, "but I

also feel the people have the right to be governed as they see fit."

Ranieri also asked for the club's support in the event he seeks reelection and there was "strong sentiment" that he be given it, a spokesman said. Ranieri was elected with Cappiello four years ago.

The members also agreed to consider working for an appointed school board instead of the present elected type. This was another recommendation made by Ranieri. The question was defeated in last year's school election and is on the school ballot this year. Hoboken switched from the appointed to elected board three years ago.

Join bid for battleship

Two more Hudson County governmental agencies have adopted resolutions supporting the efforts of the Hoboken Battleship Memorial Committee to bring the World War II ship, the U.S.S. New Jersey, to Hoboken for a memorial park, it was announced today.

Richard T. Bozzone Sr., committee chairman, said the North Hudson Community Action Corp., and the North Hudson Regional Council of

Mayors have both passed resolution supporting the committee's efforts.

The committee, with the help of the Hoboken Community Development Agency (CDA), plans to berth the ship in an area at the Erie Lackawanna ferry terminal and create a historical memorial museum with the ship as the center of attraction. The surrounding area, including the terminal, will be developed into a shopping mall and transportation center.



Children romp outside Clock Towers Apartments in Hoboken—a scene from the 17-minute color film on the factory conversion produced by Public Service Electric and Gas Co., which had its first public showing yesterday.

Stevens prof named dean of graduate studies

Dr. Jack Fajans, professor of physics at Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, has been appointed Dean of Graduate Studies, it was announced today. He has been serving as associate dean for several years.

Fajans will have responsibility for the administration and supervision of the Institute's graduate division.

New emphasis will be given to the special programs by Fajans in an effort to increase graduate enrollment above its current number of 850 students.

The dean, who is among the most prolific inventors at Stevens, holds 20 patents. The Battelle Corp., Motorola Corp. and Arthur D. Little, Inc., have worked on applications of some of his inventions, which include a three-dimensional display tube and a high density information storage device. Two of his inventions have met with commercial success and are installed on hundreds of papermaking machines around the world.

As a consultant for design, Fajans' contacts with industry have been extensive. He has advised the Huyck Corp., Kearfott Co., Cutler-Hammer Corp., Airborne Instruments Laboratory, and the Veterans Administration Hospital in East Orange.

Fajans earned his undergraduate degree in chemical engineering at the City College of New York in 1944. His doctoral degree was awarded in 1950 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

When he joined the Stevens faculty in 1953, he effected the Institute's entry into the field of cryogenics. With grants from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Office of

Scientific Research (OSR), and the Research Corp. he and his students opened two new areas of liquid helium research — superfluid electrohydrodynamics and phonon optics in superfluid.

During the 1960s, Dr. Fajans helped launch the cooperative program between Stevens and the faculty of engineering at Kabul University in Afghanistan. He spent four years as a visiting professor of engineering at Kabul.

A native of New York, Dr. Fajans lives with his wife in Teaneck. His son Joel, a college freshman, is concentrating in engineering and science. Anita, his daughter, is a college senior majoring in East Asian Studies.

Hoboken warned water to be sluggish for 3 days

Hoboken residents will have at least three days of very low water pressure during which some families living in taller buildings will have no water at all while the main line between Hoboken and Jersey City is re-lined, Public Works Director Raphael Vitale said today.

The director explained that the 24-inch main connects Hoboken with Jersey City, Hoboken's water supplier, at Harrison and Newark streets. Most of the work will be done on Newark Street.

"The work will start tomorrow morning so I advise all residents to take adequate measures to insure they have enough water stored to last at least three days," said Vitale. "The work is being done by Ameron, Inc., which will run two by-pass lines from Jersey City into Hoboken, insur-

ing that we have a water supply. However, it will not be equal to what we normally get from a 24-inch main."

"Some residents living on the top floor of higher buildings in the city may have no water at all," he said. Vitale said this was unfortunate but unavoidable. According to the director, the work entails re-lining the water main with a coating of cement after it has been reamed out and sediment removed.

"Every precaution will be taken to make sure the city has an adequate water supply for fire-fighting purposes," the director continued. "As long as we are getting water at a hydrant, the low pressure should not be a significant problem because our fire pump trucks have the capacity to increase pressure when their tanks have been filled."

Fire them!

It is disheartening to find that some persons hired under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) are so ungrateful as to bite the hand that feeds them.

These people had been unemployed and jobs were created for them by a socially-conscious nation.

In Hoboken, four CETA park guards and their supervisor failed to show up on their jobs for from one to three days. The parks they had been hired to protect went unguarded.

They are being docked a day's pay for each day they were caught AWOL and have been suspended without pay for three days. There are many jobless who would consider the punishment too light.

Because the incident has been well publicized, any other CETA people who goof off on other jobs should be fired without the opportunity of a second chance.

Forget it!

One of Hoboken's councilmen wants the city to go back to the commission form of government, under which five commissioners jointly govern the city, each one a department head, replacing the present system, a city council and a "strong" mayor who appoints department directors.

Under commission government you have five political machines, each trying to build its own empire. Since responsibility for running the city is divided equally five ways, you have the dickens of a time locating someone who admits he is responsible for anything.

If you are displeased with something, the commissioner you grab tells you he is on your side, but the other four guys are the bad guys.

Unlike the mayor and his department heads, who work full time at their jobs, the five city commissioners are part timers who often are not around.

Let's just forget the councilman brought this up.

Hoboken changing welfare payment setup

By TERRY BRENNAN
An extensive probe of the Hoboken Welfare Department has led to the expected conversion of public assistance payments from multiple vouchers to a more controllable cash system.

The 18-month investigation, launched after a routine audit uncovered at least \$96,000 of illegally authorized checks given to welfare clients, led to an ongoing probe of Welfare Director Jerry Forman in connection with an alleged kickback scheme.

Forman was suspended by the Local Assistance Board (LAB) two months ago on charges of recently paying claims for work not performed. "The new system we expect to implement came about as a result of the welfare investigation," Mayor Steve Cappiello said. "We hope it will help end some of the abuses

and should prove to be a much more efficient method. I think it'll work fine." Although the city council will vote on the resolution at tonight's meeting, Cappiello said he's "positive" the board will accept his recommendation and approve the new system.

He said the proposal will enable the welfare office to pay clients a single check in place of separate vouchers for food, lodging or medical expenses. "It won't be a total conversion because we'll continue some vouchers with clients who are alcoholics, drug addicts or otherwise incapacitated," Cappiello said. "We'll only go to a cash policy when we're absolutely sure the client is responsible enough to handle it."

While Cappiello said the initial recommendation for the conversion came from the state departments of health and welfare, he acknowledged that the LAB also advised the council to "ensure a more efficient method of controlling expenditures." He said the cash method would reduce office paperwork "at least in half."

A routine audit by the state Division of Public Welfare uncovered the "questionable expenditures" in the welfare department's assistance program for 1975. A major portion of the vouchers were apparently not signed by Forman and the auditors claimed the vouchers were improperly issued.

Hudson County Prosecutor James T. O'Halloran's office has been investigating an alleged kickback scheme involving Forman and local businessmen. The prosecutor's probe reportedly centers on whether Forman knew or was associated with a group of businessmen who have been constantly exchanging cash for food or rent vouchers and keeping a percentage of the transactions.

Cappiello said yesterday some realtors had tried to stop conversion to a cash payment system because landlords had been forcing clients to pay "up to 20 or 30 per cent higher rents" under the voucher method.

That system provides for the welfare office to give the client a separate voucher just for rent.

Losing no time

The developer, who undertook to convert another Hoboken factory into an apartment house has lost no time in getting started. Hardly had he received the somewhat grudging approval of the City Council when he moved in on the job. The building has been gutted and men are remodeling the interior.

How different from what happens when a municipality directs a housing project. There is usually a time lag of from two to ten years before anything happens.

The converted apartment house will not pay ordinary taxes, but will pay 15 per cent of the gross shelter rent. Some of the councilmen grumbled that there is too much of that going on in Hoboken.

They are wrong. The 15 per cent deal is profitable to Hoboken, especially when the property has been returning no taxes at all. In transforming rundown buildings into attractive living quarters, the 15 per cent deal is a real benefit to the town.

Too bad there are some in Hoboken — and elsewhere — who have yet to learn the lesson that tax abatement is tax incentive at its best.

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MUSICAL NOTES — Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello shows city's support for "Stevens Sings," paving the way for Stevens Glee Club performing concert March 26 for St. Mary Hospital followed by champagne reception at Stevens Center. Also on hand, from right, are Sister Grace Frances, executive director of hospital; Edward Hindlin, associate executive director; and Dr. William Ondrick, Stevens professor.

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Councilman Anthony Romano, left, obtains petitions at Hoboken City Hall to enter the race for mayor. With him, from left, are Frank Duroy, who will run with him for councilman-at-large; Pino Morin, a coordinator for the campaign and Councilman Louis Francione, who is supporting Romano.

Romano fielding full ticket for mayoralty

Continued from Page 1

are being considered for the mayor's ticket. But it was not known if they were to fill one spot or all three. Mentioned as possible runningmates for the mayor are Thomas Kennedy, a city detective; Mark Cerrone, office manager for a trucking company; Leonard Luizzi, who owns his own business and is a member of the mayor's club; Vincent Barbo, director of senior citizen activities for the city and John Raslowsky, a school board member.

Accompanying Romano and Duroy when they went to the clerk's office for their petitions were Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francione, who announced his endorsement of the ticket, and Michael Cauffield, a retired police officer and the city's top Republican organizer.

What prompted Romano to break up with the mayor and run? The councilman said it was a difference of ideals and principals.

"The mayor has forgotten that he ran and was elected as part of a team," said Romano. "It was a group effort, not the machine of one man."

"Our purpose was to give the best possible representation and participation to the people of the city. Instead, it has become a one or two-man show with almost no unity among the administration members as a result."

"Our residents cannot have good government and leadership if the people who are supposed to supply it are always fighting each other. We need strong leadership, decisive leadership, and we haven't been getting it."

Romano said he strongly believed that the ticket truly represented all of the people of Hoboken and had the balance needed to give the city forceful and dramatic leadership.

Romano, on leave of absence from the city's police department, is employed by the Hoboken school board as business manager. He said he will take a leave of absence from that position shortly to campaign.

Leahy, who ran with Cappiello's ticket in 1973, broke away from the mayor almost two years ago. He claimed the mayor "lied" to him a number of times, and has publicly repeated the accusation on several occasions.

Leahy is a checker on the local waterfront.

Duroy is a professor at Essex County Community College and also instructs at Rutgers. He was a candidate for mayor in 1973 against Cappiello and finished in the field. He is the first Puerto Rican to run on a major ticket.

Russo is employed by the Hoboken school board as a special

education teacher. He is the standard bearer of the Anthony Russo Association. Russo was a candidate for Third Ward councilman two years ago and came in second to the incumbent, Salvatore Cemelli.

The ticket is not without a good deal of organization support. Besides the endorsement of Francione, considered the city's top vote getter, it is expected to get the endorsement and support of Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale, Business Administrator Herman Bier, Freeholder Vincent J. Fusilli, Assemblyman Thomas A. Gallo, among other prominent local political figures.

Romano is also expected to get some support from the Hudson County organization which has not been on the best of terms with Cappiello for some time.

Romano to pay school bash bill

Liquor and bar bills incurred by the Hoboken school board for the Dec. 3 Christmas party for the Hudson County Associated Boards of Education will be paid out of the pocket of the board's business manager, Anthony H. Romano.

The bill comes to \$1,215, less credit for unopened bottles of liquor which Romano says he will return, provided the supplier is willing to accept them and Hudson County prosecutor James O'Halloran gives approval.

Joseph F. Zach, assistant state education commissioner, has ruled that public monies cannot be used to pay for the booze and that if school board members and their guests drink the cost should come out of their pockets, not the taxpayers'.

Hoboken is responsible for paying \$890, the cost of the liquor. The Associated School Boards was to share the remaining cost of \$150 for bartenders, \$50 for a bar boy and \$125 for bar supplies for the party held at Stevens Institute of Technology.

Zach said that most of the liquor was not used and is being held by the Hoboken school board. Romano confirmed this and said that the liquor is in the basement of the board's office at the Wallace School. The Commissioner also suggested that the unopened bottles be returned to Van's Liquor Store for credit.

"I will ask the Hudson County prosecutor, who inventoried the liquor, if it will be all right to return it for credit," Romano said. "However, I must first find out if the supplier will accept it. I don't know if the state ABC (Alcoholic Beverage Control) law will allow him to take back a bottle or bottles that have been already sold."

"If he will accept the unopened liquor, it will be returned and the balances paid out of my own funds. I will also pay Stevens for the bartenders, the bar boy and the supplies. I will then seek personal reimbursement from the school board members who attended the party."

Romano said that even though Zach has said the purchase of the liquor was "clearly improper," it was a situation that the school boards and their members had to cope with, not the vendors.

"Stevens and the liquor supplier performed in good faith," he said. "They are entitled to be paid."

Romano said he is accepting the responsibility of paying Stevens and Van's because he was the one who made the arrangements for the party on the orders of the Hoboken school board.

Elysian Savings and Loan marks 50th with optimism

Fifty years ago this month, the Elysian Building and Loan Association, at 40 Newark St., Hoboken, was chartered by the State of New Jersey. It remained a small but sturdy

financial institution through the Depression and into the late 1940s. In 1956, the name was changed to Elysian Savings and Loan Association, as prescribed by the State Banking Commission.

The offices were moved to 401 Washington St. in 1963 and in 1967 the Association's assets of \$1,092,966.00 were insured by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation.

The growth of business required an expansion of business offices, and in 1973 the office was expanded to include facilities at 403 Washington St. Current assets are approximately \$11 million.

"Our policy has always been one of friendliness and cooperation," said bank president Barbara Badaracco. "We are able to predict a future of steady growth and we want to take our 50th anniversary as an opportunity to thank the people of Hoboken for their continued faith in the Elysian Savings and Loan Association."

International cuisine on menu at Wallace School

Food for many corners of the world will be on the menu tomorrow when teachers and the parents of students at the Wallace School, Hoboken, sponsor their second annual international luncheon.

Peter Vecchio, school principal, said the event is held each year to continue the spirit of cooperation that exists between members of the faculty and the parents. Featured this year will be dishes from Mexico, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, India, Italy and Ireland.

Gumersinda Ferreira a teacher, is chairman of the event. Working with her are Felicia Cappadonna and Anna Accetta, both teachers, and a parents' committee.

Ranieri throws wrench in Cappiello peace hopes

The possibility of political peace within Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello's administration appears even less likely today with the disclosure that one of the mayor's possible running mates in May, Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, does not want Business Administrator Herman Bier or Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale reappointed.

According to sources within Cappiello's Third Ward political club, a message from Ranieri expressing his feelings on the two officials was read to the club members during Monday night's regular meeting.

Ranieri, who has been critical of both directors, confirmed the report and said he believes that the city should have some "new blood."

Ranieri said that he has a list of names that he expects to be on the mayor's ticket and help in the selection of the other councilman-at-large candidate. Ranieri would be one of the three council candidates, Bernard Scrivani another and a third would be selected to oppose Francis X. Leahy, who is running with Anthony Russo on his own ticket.

Ranieri's stand has put Cappiello, who picked up his nominating petitions Monday afternoon, in the position of having to choose between Ranieri and a bitter fight with organization forces or Vitale and Bier and organization peace.

The mayor, who still has not announced his ticket, would not comment on the matter.

Bier and Vitale have the support of several organization councilmen and any effort to remove them from office or not reappoint them is expected to meet with stiff opposition.

Leahy and Russo were put into the field for May by the organization to force the mayor's hand, sources report. If he accepts them as running mates it would leave only one vacancy on the ticket and the mayor has already committed that spot to Scrivani, who has also picked up his petitions.

The mayor's reaction to the move was that Leahy, who was his running mate in 1973, and Russo had the right to pick up petitions and seek public office. Publicly, he neither accepted nor rejected them as possible mates.

Meanwhile, sources report that First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano and an unidentified person are waiting in the wings for Cappiello to make a decision on the ticket. If it doesn't meet with their approval, they will pick up petitions, with Romano going for mayor and the unidentified person filling out the council slate with Leahy and Russo.

Candidates have until March 24 to pick up their nominating petitions, get

the required number of signatures and return them to City Clerk Anthony J. Amoroso in order to get on the ballot for the election.

To date, petitions have been taken out by seven possible mayoral candidates, including Cappiello. They are Dominick DeFino, Thomas Vezzetti, Andrew Amato — who has announced that he's backing the mayor for re-

election and won't file — Michael DeLanzo, Vincent Murtha and Peter Alicandri.

Petitions for Councilman-at-large have been issued to Leahy, Russo, Scrivani, Michael Spano, John McShane and Mrs. Florence Amato. Mrs. Amato, like her husband, won't file them and will support the mayor and his ticket when it is announced.

School pay time again in Hoboken

By TERRY BRENNAN

Hoboken officials will meet with Gov. Brendan T. Byrne later this week to try and resolve the nagging question of how the Board of Education can come up with \$1.5 million for salaries.

Mayor Steve Cappiello, who admitted yesterday he has no concrete solution to the problem "at this time," said he'll go to Trenton with board President Mary Gaspar and Business Manager Thomas A. Gallo to attempt to "work out some kind of deal" with the governor.

Although Cappiello said he was "still open" to Mrs. Gaspar's suggestion that the city float bonds, he claimed there's "still too many things to talk over with the governor" before attempting a final resolution.

"Something obviously has to be done soon, but we'll have to wait until we meet with Gov. Byrne and (Education Commissioner) Fred Burke," Cappiello said. "The decision is simply too important to act before every single alternative has been explored."

The problem stems from the board's long-term policy of paying teacher's summer salaries out of the following year's school budget. State Attorney General William F. Hyland ordered the board to stop the practice last July and to pay salaries for two summers out of the present budget.

Although the \$1.5 million would be necessary to "catch up" with Hyland's order to put an end to the practice, the money wasn't included in the 1976-77 school budget.

Hoboken fights \$1,000 fine

The state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will be asked to reconsider the \$1,000 fine it has assessed against Hoboken for not cleaning up a dumping area at 16th and Grand Streets, Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale said today.

The DEP's Solid Waste Administration levied the fine last month stating that the city didn't eliminate the conditions that prompted the state to issue a cease and desist order last September.

According to Vitale, the city did comply and the fine should not have been imposed.

"Hoboken did stop using the area for a rubbish staging area when the order was issued," he said. "But the city was the only one to stop. Our contention is that unauthorized carting firms, most of them from New York City, illegally used the area for dumping."

"An effort was made to prevent this but the only way it could be done effectively was to have people stationed at the site around the clock, seven days a week. There was no money available to hire people for this or to put existing people on overtime."

Vitale based the city's position on several instances where out-of-state carting firms were issued tickets by city sanitation inspectors who caught them in the act. The last, a Brooklyn firm, was fined more than \$300 for the violation.

"I don't think the city is entirely free of blame since it was the city that started using that area for a staging area," he continued. "But the city

did not encourage or condone its use by private concerns and should not be held responsible for them."

"If that's the case then the state should start going after other municipalities as well. I know that Jersey City has cleaned up that mess a hundred times if it has done it once. But people still come back and dump there."

Vitale and Mayor Steve Cappiello met yesterday with DEP representatives and inspected the dumping area. Vitale said he thought the state was "satisfied" with what the city has done to date to clean up the area and stop unauthorized dumping. Hoboken has until May 1 to finish the cleanup.

50 at hearing on budget in Hoboken

Hoboken's \$15.4 million municipal budget for 1977 was given a public hearing before about 50 persons last night at the high school. It will come up for an adoption vote by the city council next month.

The budget calls for \$5.8 million to be raised by local taxes. Councilman Robert Ranieri, who presided at last night's hearing, said that would mean a slight decrease in the present tax rate of \$106.85 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

He emphasized, however, that could be offset by county and school costs which are not known.

Five persons spoke at the meeting.

An hour earlier the council conducted a regular business meeting at City Hall. An ordinance was introduced granting 8 per cent pay increases across the board for non-uniformed employees, retroactive to Jan. 1. Ranieri said the increased paychecks probably will be distributed in May.

He noted the ordinance does not include the \$100 clothing allowance for public works crews, which will be included in another ordinance later, and he said those checks may be available in June.

In other business, the council approved an ordinance modifying the operating of the planning board to conform with new state land use statutes.

Ranieri presided at both sessions last night in the absence of Council President Martin J. Brennan.

Hoboken mall-for-a-day planned

A six-block stretch of Washington Street in Hoboken may be closed to all traffic for an entire day as part of a special sale and exhibition this spring, it was learned today from Fred M. Bado, director of the city's Community Development Agency (CDA).

According to Bado, the CDA, Hoboken Retail Bureau, Parking Authority and city officials are working on the project, which would turn Washington Street into a traffic-free

shoppers mall for the day. "The area will be from First to Seventh streets," said Bado. "And we are shooting for sometime in the early part of May. The rest of the plans are still being worked on."

"One of the ideas is to hold a special sale where the merchants would set up their wares along the sidewalk. On the same day an exhibition of art, photographs and other projects by Hoboken residents or that

deal with Hoboken would be set up down the middle of the street."

Bado said that the sale would probably be for a two-or-three day period but Washington Street would be closed only for the one day.

"Further study will be needed on that, though," he added. "Closing down the city's main thoroughfare for more than one day might cause some problems. Then again, it might not."

Bayonne hires Hoboken home loan chief

Bayonne has hired Michael Coleman, former director of Hoboken's Community Development Agency, to update the city's Home Improvement Loan Program, which is lagging because government guidelines are making it difficult for most local homeowners to become eligible.

According to Joseph Pulaski, the city's director of community development, the present system allows local homeowners, with four or more persons in the family and an annual income of \$12,000, to apply for low-cost loan assistance.

"We've found that most

homeowners either earn more than \$12,000 annually or have less than four members in a family," Pulaski said. "Our alternate plan is to have the guidelines revised so that more homeowners would become eligible."

This is where Coleman comes in, he said. He will be paid \$6,000 for six months' work as a consultant. His pay will come from the community development budget, Pulaski said.

Coleman, who headed the Hoboken Model Cities Agency from its inception in 1968 and later became director of that city's Community Development Agency, established the home improvement loan program in

Hoboken and it proved successful, Pulaski said. The home improvement loan program subsidizes loans homeowners acquire from lending institutions and lower the effective interest rate paid by the homeowner to about three per cent.

Once the individual makes application to the city's program, a housing inspector is sent to the person's home to review the application.

Then, the city requires that at least three bids be received before awarding the contract to the lowest bidder. Once that's completed, and all the financing arrangements

have been made, the city's housing inspector re-inspects the job performed by the contractor to make sure the job was done properly and in accordance with the law, Pulaski explained. "Our main purpose is to protect the homeowner," he said. "The city does not make any money on the home improvement loan program. The government makes this money available to us and we make it available to the qualified homeowner."

Pulaski urges homeowners with questions about the program to contact him at his city hall office.

Cappiello gets Latins' gripes

By TERRY BRENNAN

A group of Hispanics told Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello last night he hasn't given them sufficient representation in government and has failed to provide adequate police protection.

Angel Roman, a member of the city's Library Board for seven years, claimed there's "no relationship between City Hall and Hispanics" in Hoboken. Roman also charged that Hoboken police don't respond to the needs of the "50 per cent of our city" who are Hispanic.

"We want a mayor's aide who's elected by the people so he can act as a liaison between our people and the mayor," Roman said. "We demand someone who we can go to so we can air our grievances and get a response."

Although Cappiello told the Hispanics that the "crime rate has dropped consistently in my four years in office," Roman claimed there are "more abuses against Hispanics and blacks right now than in all the 27 years I've lived here." Roman charged Cappiello with not carrying out his last campaign promises for better police protection prior to his election.

"We had a mayor's aide in 1971 after we had to go out into the streets and riot to get one," Roman claimed. "The money for that project has run out and the mayor has failed to replace him with someone who understands our problems."

Although Cappiello was slated to debate Councilman Anthony Romano in a forum at Hoboken's First Spanish Baptist Church, the mayor's major opposition failed to appear and Cappiello heard Hispanics question his response to their community. Romano couldn't be reached for comment late last night to explain his absence.

Cappiello said he had accepted "the challenge of the debate" and would meet with Romano "at anytime and any place" to discuss the campaign issues.

School board head rips Cappiello, 2 councilmen

The president of the Hoboken Board of Education said today that last Friday's meeting with Mayor

Steve Cappiello and two members of the council "was like talking with the Japanese as Pearl Harbor was being bombed."

Not only did the city representatives offer no solution to the board's problem of where to find \$1.5 million for teacher summer salaries, said Mrs. Mary Gaspar, but they knew that on Monday they would agree to seek a state audit.

"I welcome an audit. We certainly have nothing to hide," said Mrs. Gaspar. She questioned, however, why the mayor and Councilmen Martin Brennan and Robert Ranieri "went through the motions of a conference when they knew they would not cooperate."

Mrs. Gaspar said she was particularly incensed by Brennan's statement that school board members were not told Friday what the council planned for Monday's caucus.

"That meeting Friday was called at the mayor's request to discuss a problem that could affect our city's education programs and the residents' tax dollars. We attended in good faith."

"We're not fighting for supremacy," she said. She is seeking city cooperation, she explained, in solving conflicting state directives concerning a \$1.5 million appropriation for summer teacher payments. The board is under a mandate from the state attorney general's office to include that amount in its budget but the state commissioner of education has ruled that the \$1.5 million will exceed the cap, or ceiling placed on spending.

Mrs. Gaspar said she made two trips to Trenton last week and felt that Friday's meeting might bring about a solution to the dilemma. "Our board was there," she said, "but the two councilmen there were apparently not sitting in good faith."

Set school budget approval

A special meeting of the Hoboken Board of Education will be held tomorrow at 1 p.m. to approve the proposed 1977-78 school budget which will appear on the ballot for voter consideration on March 29. The budget was given a public hearing yesterday and reflected a reduction of more than \$2 million from the total amount announced several weeks ago. The cut was mandated by the state, which refused to allow the board to go over its "cap" for the year.

Among those addressing the board were Leo and Alice Genese, Richard England and George DePalma. The latter two are candidates for the school board.

The proposed \$12.1 million budget calls for the city to raise \$4.1 million in local taxes to support the school system. This is approximately \$200,000 more in taxes than for the 1976-77 school budget.

Hoboken's school brass must pick up bar tabs

Hoboken school board members and administrators will be expected to dig into their own pockets and come up with hundreds of dollars for liquor bills incurred at various pre-conference meetings and personnel meetings — bills they thought the school board would pay for.

That is the prospect facing them as a result of a letter by Assistant Education Commissioner Joseph F. Zach which states that the state's feeling is that the expenditure of public funds for the purchase of liquor is "clearly improper." And that is probably what Hudson County

Superintendent of Schools Russell Carpenter is going to tell all of the county school boards when he meets with them.

Zach's letter deals specifically with a Dec. 3 party of the Hudson County Associated School Board which was hosted by Hoboken at Stevens Institute of Technology.

According to Carpenter, while Zach's letter dealt only with that one party, the state's formal policy on liquor would apply to any and all board meetings and liquor bills.

The liquor portion of the bill for Dec. 3 amounts to a little over \$1,200 — \$890 for the liquor, \$150 for bartenders, \$50 for a bar boy and \$125 for bar supplies. Hoboken is to pay for the liquor while the other members of the association share the remaining cost with Hoboken. However, if those bills haven't been paid yet, Carpenter said, the school boards should request their money back from the association. Officials of the county association were not available to say whether the bills had been paid yet.

"Each board member or administrator should figure out his share and then send it in," he said. "It should not come from public funds. Of course, if the bill already has been

paid then it is too late. But the commissioner's letter will serve as policy for the future."

If that is the case, there is still the question of liquor purchased by Hoboken school board members at pre-conference meetings and personnel meetings in local restaurants.

Hoboken Revenue and Finance Director Frank J. Bartlett, the custodian of school funds for the Hoboken School board, is still holding up the payment for more than a dozen such meetings held in the Union Club, Leo's Grandevous and Casella's.

Those bills are for dinners and drinks served to the board members.

Carpenter said that since the bills hadn't been paid it was his opinion that Zach's letter would apply to them as well.

According to Carpenter, who has been instructed by Zach to advise all of the Hudson County school boards of the state's position on using public funds for buying liquor, a meeting with the various boards will be called shortly. At that time he will go over Zach's letter and draft a formal policy for the boards to follow.

Zach also sent a copy of the letter to Hudson County Prosecutor James T. O'Halloran but O'Halloran declined comment, saying he had not yet received it.

Bilingual education is program topic

Agnarda Pasha, director of bilingual education for the New Jersey Department of Education, will be the guest speaker Thursday at a day-long Bilingual Institute Day program to be held at the Wallace School, Hoboken. She will discuss bilingual education under the state's Thorough and Efficient Education program.

Edward Duroy, coordinator of the bilingual project in the Hoboken schools, said more than 30 teachers who specialize in bilingual education, and English as a second language, will take part in the meeting. It will include also a series of workshops. School Superintendent Thomas F. McFeely and other school officials also are expected to attend.

Lynch defends Hoboken contracts

Joseph Lynch of the Hoboken engineering firm of Mayo, Lynch and Associates, is willing to join in competitive bidding for city contracts because he is confident his firm's price will be the lowest.

Appearing before a meeting of the Hoboken Environment Committee at Stevens Institute last night Lynch defended his firm against charges that it has a monopoly on city contracts. Some of the charges have by member of the environment committee.

Lynch said there was no way an outside firm could beat his company on a Hoboken project because Mayo Lynch has all the facts and figures on the city's physical makeup in its files. "Another firm would have to first spend a lot of time on background work," he said. "We only have to

work on the specific project."

Lynch was highly critical of an article, appearing in last month's issue of New Jersey magazine, which questioned his company's relationship with the city.

The article, which he said was prompted by the environment committee, is filled with "irresponsible innuendoes and represents McCarthyism at its worst," he said.

He said the magazine account draws negative conclusions but doesn't present facts to support them and in other instances actually has in there a conflict of interest between the firm and the city because Mayo Lynch draws most city engineering business under a loophole in state bidding laws that allows exemptions for "professional services."

The report lists a number of

"recent" projects the firm has done for the city but Lynch said several are more than 10 years old; several troublesome projects listed do not even involve the firm, but others that have been satisfactorily completed by Mayo Lynch are not mentioned, he said.

"The article suggests that we tell the city what should be done and then we go ahead and do it," said Lynch. "We are not in a position to influence city contracts. We are consultants."

Among the examples of "false facts" he cited were the city water line project which was started under federal mandate, not because of a Mayo Lynch suggestion, and the Mt. Carmel Guild housing project contract which was awarded by the Newark Archdiocese, not the city.

City councilman Robert Ranieri, who attended the session, told Lynch

that it was "unfair and incorrect" of him to infer there was a conspiracy against his firm.

"We are aware that you have done top notch work for the city," said Ranieri. There are many times you came out at 2 a.m. when we had a problem and stayed all night. But we feel these contracts should still be open to competitive bidding."

Lynch said he was willing to sit down and discuss the situation with Ranieri or anyone else. "I'm concerned because my reputation is at stake," he said.

The environment committee also heard Hudson County Citizens Committee president Theodore Conrad outline his plan for a Hudson County rapid transit system using existing rail lines. He urged the members to fight the destruction of abandoned lines saying once they are removed "they'll never be replaced."

Cappiello fires 'free spender' Bier

By TERRY BRENNAN

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello rid his administration of its scourge yesterday, dismissing Business Administrator Herman Bier without citing a cause.

Cappiello anticipated no need to bring charges against Bier because, the mayor said, "I'm optimistic the City Council will uphold my decision." Two thirds of the nine council members must vote to overrule the decision within 20 days for reinstatement.

"I simply told him he's not compatible with my administration's needs and that he no longer will serve at my pleasure," Cappiello said. "I'm very concerned that he's too much of a free spender and I'm confident the council will support my decision."

Although Cappiello had said Tuesday he planned on suspending Bier on charges of "carelessly" violating the public purchasing act, he claimed yesterday the council would make it unnecessary to bring charges because of their support. Cappiello claimed Bier had authorized purchases of individual supplies whose total cost exceeded \$2,500 and required public bidding.

Bier claimed the purchases for the Department of Public

Safety underlie alleged Cappiello attempts to cover up the mayor's "malfeasance or misfeasance."

"I expect a lot of criminal charges to be filed against the mayor because he's the head of Public Safety," Bier said. "I wasn't aware of any improper billing for supplies until he brought them to my attention. I want to know how he knew about them."

The mayor claimed Bier would have violated the Local Public Contracts Law mandating public bidding for purchases over \$2,500 if he hadn't withheld payment. Cappiello said he stopped payment at \$2,100 because he "didn't want to break the law." Cappiello also maintained Bier had billed the city for \$405 this week for three chairs Public Safety had requested at a total cost of \$177. Bier acknowledged purchase and billing for the chairs but denied any impropriety.

Heated Political Wrangling

The dismissal takes place in the midst of heated political wrangling between Cappiello and a faction which backs Councilman Anthony Romano in the May 10 municipal election. Bier is supporting Romano and his ticket of Frank Duroy Jr., Francis X. Leahey and Anthony Russo for the three councilman-at-large posts.



Steve Cappiello

Rap Hoboken engineering, again

By TERRY BRENNAN

Critics of Hoboken's multimillion dollar engineering contracts have surfaced again to question the "domination" Mayo, Lynch Associates, Inc., exercises over other firms in getting city work.

Mrs. Helen Manogue, founder and chairwoman of the Hoboken Environment Committee, charged the city's only engineering firm "just walks away with every contract in this town." She said Hoboken should seek three proposals on all contracts "to insure competitive prices."

"There's always the chance you can get more for your money when you contact more than one firm," Mrs. Manogue said yesterday. "All I'm saying is the city must explore the possibility that someone else can save us some money once in a while. Let's put competition back into government where we so sorely need it."

Although virtually all government contracts

over \$2,500 must be opened to competitive bidding in the state, the Local Public Contracts Law specifically exempts professional services from this control. Mayo, Lynch has cashed in on this for more than \$1 million in city consulting fees recently.

Councilman-at-large Robert Ranieri said he was part of a committee which studied the feasibility of hiring a city engineer to curb Hoboken's "servile position vis-a-vis Mayo, Lynch." He claims a city engineer would be federally funded and would "have undivided loyalty to the city."

"I'm very concerned that so much money is going to one man (Lynch) who controls our consulting contracts," Ranieri said. "We decided that \$75,000 would cover the entire engineering staff before the project was stymied. I contend that some people somewhere don't want to protect the city's interests."

Although Community Development Agency (CDA) Chairman Fred M. Bado claims the project fell through because federal funding was denied, Ranieri countered that there's "still" money available in the CDA's municipal projects budget. He added that "it would be worth it even if the city had to cover the full \$75,000 for the staff."

Company consultant Joseph Lynch said he advised Mayor Steve Cappiello and Ranieri that "every city should have an engineer" to outline projects and keep technical records. He claimed the staff couldn't possibly "affect our relationship with the city one iota because it couldn't handle major municipal projects we can tackle."

Mayo, Lynch's recent contracts with the city include: engineer and architect for the \$1.5 million multiservice center; engineer for three phases of the \$10.3 million water program; and engineer for a pilot program for the city's sewerage treatment plant.

Hoboken awaiting word on teacher summer pay

The state may notify the Hoboken Board of Education next week how to find the \$1.5 million for teacher summer salaries the state has ordered to be paid.

Several possible options were discussed at the State House yesterday by Hoboken and state officials after Mayor Steve Cappiello asked the governor's office to intervene. Joining in the conference were representatives of the State Department of Education and the Attorney General's Office.

John J. Degnan, chief counsel for Gov. Brendan T. Byrne, said he would be in further contact with Education Department officials and hoped to find a solution by next week.

An Education Department ex-

aminer ruled on March 2 that the Hoboken school system has not been complying with state law for 30 to 40 years in failing to pay teacher summer salaries out of its current budget and drawing the money from the budget of the following year.

The school board does not have the \$1.5 million in its present budget and the state said if it is included in the new budget, it will exceed the state caps, or spending ceiling.

Degnan said that among the options discussed yesterday were possible special legislation, a relaxation or waiver of the cap law, a loan or a grant. He indicated that the school board has already been denied a waiver of the cap spending limit by the Education Department.

Money well spent

As it has for four years, Hoboken could have continued to enjoy the services of its consumer advocate, Mrs. Audrey Borg, without pay, but the city has decided to pay her \$2,600 a year from now on.

Perhaps the local officials felt embarrassed at accepting her unselfish service while others on the city payroll manage to get away with late arrivals, early departures, extended lunch hours, frequent coffee breaks and even unexplained disappearances — all of which cut into what is at most a six hour "work" day.

The consumer advocate gets to work early and takes files home with her as homework. The mayor says that kind of dedication "deserves a salary."

He can say that again.

Rise in crime in Hoboken held to small fraction

Hoboken has less than one per cent increase in major crimes reported during 1976 compared to 1975, according to figures released today in the Police Department's annual report.

For the year the city had a total of 1,763 major offenses reported as compared to 1,712 during 1975.

In spite of the low increase overall, the number of crimes was up in most areas. The offsetting factor was a substantial decrease in the number of robberies which dropped to 80 for the year as compared to 106 for 1975.

The city had two murders during 1976, none for 1975; two forcible rapes, none the previous year; 136 aggravated assaults, 120 the year before; 752 breaking entries and larcenies, down from 776 the year before; 437 larcenies over \$50, 354 for 1975; and 354 auto thefts compared to 347.

In the area of arrests, the police made 285 in the 1,763 incidents. For 1975, 411 were made for the 1,712 offenses reported.

Figures show that there was a reduction in the value of property stolen during the year. In 1975 stolen property had a reported total value of \$1,450,750. Last year it dropped to \$1,058,000.

The police recovered \$320,028 in stolen property during the year, a slight decrease from 1975. However, compared to the value of stolen property it represents a fairly large percentage increase.

Cappiello admits politics figured in Bier firing

By Peter Hallam

Herman Bier has been fired by Mayor Steve Cappiello as Hoboken's business administrator.

The mayor served Bier with written notification of dismissal yesterday morning. It said Bier no longer served at the mayor's "pleasure." No

reasons or charges against Bier were presented.

Bier said he expected the mayor's action and termed it "strictly political, nothing else." The business administrator is openly supporting an opposition ticket which will oppose the mayor in the May 10 election. "I will seek whatever recourse I

am entitled to under the law," Bier said. "The charges, if any, are trumped up and no one knows this better than the mayor. I have retained legal counsel and will seek a formal hearing."

According to the mayor, he is not required to specify to Bier his reasons for firing him unless Bier asks for a formal hearing.

"Director Bier was appointed at my pleasure and he has now been notified that he no longer serves at my pleasure," said the mayor. "He is officially off the city payroll and no longer has any right to use the office or city facilities."

While the mayor did not tell Bier his reasons for dismissing him, he told The Jersey Journal that it was "incompatibility" and "improper purchasing practices."

The mayor added that he believed he had the right to fire Bier without giving him a hearing.

It had been learned this week that the mayor had told Bier and Public Works Director Raphael P. Vitale that they would be dismissed if First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano and a ticket filed petitions to oppose the mayor in the May election.

Cappiello did not deny this, saying if they supported an opposition ticket they would be openly opposed to the policies of his administration. And, if they could not support his administration's policies, they should be dismissed.

The mayor said this was the reason for the "incompatibility." Vitale, who, like Bier, showed up at the Union Club last night to help kick off Romano's campaign, said he's taking a week's vacation following a "conversation" he said he had with Cappiello.

"He (the mayor) asked me what I was going to do," Vitale said. Asked if he's made up his mind which candidate he'll back for the mayoralty, Vitale replied: "Of course!"

Meanwhile, though, Vitale says, "They owe me this vacation and I'm going to get what's coming to me."

Cappiello said he "talked with Mr. Vitale four times (yesterday) about different matters. I told him I wondered what he'd be doing because if he's not with me, we're incompatible."

Asked if he plans to fire Vitale, the mayor said: "I have to continue to examine the policies coming out of that (public works) office. There are still some things I want to check out."

Cappiello added that it has come to his attention that a number of purchases were made for furniture from one company that in total exceeded the state bidding law. Purchases that "exceed more than \$2,500 are supposed to be put out for public bid. He said purchases were in the Public Safety Department. The mayor is director of that department.

Bier said if there are any discrepancies they must go back to the mayor and the public safety department and the original anticipated expenditure for the year.

"I don't make up the budget for Public Safety," he said, adding, "It is the duty of those who prepare it to anticipate their needs and if those

needs will exceed \$2,500, I was never given any prior notification that furniture needs were going to go over \$2,500."

Bier was sitting at his desk trying to reach his attorney, E. Norman Wilson Sr., the city's former law director, when the mayor gave him his mandate.

Bier explained that he was trying to reach his attorney but the mayor insisted that he leave at once. He then turned to the business administrator's three office workers and instructed them not to put through any calls to the director.

Cappiello has not filed his yet nor announced who his running mates will be. It is reported that incumbent Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri and Bernard Scrivani, and Thomas Kennedy, a detective with the city's police department, will comprise the slate.

Romano filed his petitions yesterday with his running mates — incumbent Councilman-at-large Francis X. Leahy, Frank Duroy Jr. and Anthony Russo.

Also filing yesterday were independents Vincent Murtha for mayor, and councilman-at-large candidates Thomas Cerbo, Vito Lanzo and Michael J. Spano. Spano is not a local real estate broker, as previously reported, but a truck driver. The four are running separately, not as a ticket.

Michael DeLanzo, who had picked up petitions for mayor, announced he was withdrawing from the contest and will be supporting Cappiello for re-election.

Cappiello reveals May 10 slate

By TERRY BRENNAN

Political lines were sharply etched in Hoboken yesterday when Mayor Steve Cappiello announced his running mates, Councilmen Robert Ranieri and Bernard Scrivani, and Detective Thomas Kennedy.

The mayor, who called his team the "right combination for the people of Hoboken," predicted victory in the May 10 election because "my record proves we've started to rehabilitate and revitalize the city." He claimed people "have stopped laughing and have started to take notice of Hoboken."

"The major issue is the need for continuity in my programs to induce industrial development

and to keep the tax rate stabilized," Cappiello said. "I take great pride in the fact that Hoboken may be the only city around that has maintained its taxes lately."

While Cappiello forecast a second-term victory because of his record of "economy and efficiency in government," Councilman Francis X. Leahy claimed "Councilman (Anthony) Romano's ticket is going to give the mayor some run for his money." Romano is challenging Cappiello with a team of Leahy, Frank Duroy Jr. and Anthony Russo.

Leahy wouldn't comment on Cappiello's statements because he said Romano was making all the ticket's "remarks to the press." Romano has not returned calls from The

Dispatch since he announced his candidacy last month.

Rips Mayor

Although Leahy ran with Cappiello, Ranieri and Scrivani for the councilman-at-large post in 1973, he has made public accusations that the mayor has repeatedly lied to him. Kennedy has replaced him on Cappiello's ticket in his second bid for public office.

The 40-year-old detective is a 15-year member of the city's police force and ran unsuccessfully against Freeholder Vincent J. Fusilli in 1975. He claimed Cappiello's team is "unbeatable" because the mayor has "turned this city around" through his policies.

Although Ranieri had claimed political allies had been pressuring Cappiello to "kick me upstairs" two weeks ago, he said yesterday the mayor "has shed all the dead weight and his effective and efficient government spells victory for the whole slate." He said the "best way to forecast the upcoming election is to compare reputations of the people involved."

Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francone predicted Romano will beat Cappiello by "two-to-one" because the mayor has "lied and made false promises to the people of Hoboken."

Cappiello denied Francone's charges and said his record "proves I'm going to continue to make Hoboken a better place for all its citizens."

\$181,591 pledged to water engineers

The Hoboken City Council has authorized Mayor Steve Cappiello to contract with the Spiniello Construction Co., Morristown, for about \$3.8 million as the apparent low bidder on Phase 3 of the ongoing city water distribution system improvements.

The council, with five members attending, passed a resolution at last night's special meeting rejecting bids on Phase 3 of about \$5.2 million from Raymond International, Inc., Oakland, and about \$5.5 million from Ameron, Inc., Kenilworth.

Ameron, retained to perform Phase 2 of the water line improvement project, still has another 10 per cent of the work outstanding, ac-

cording to Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri. The city is withholding a proportionate amount of the Phase 2 contract pending the job's completion.

Ranieri estimated that the Hoboken firm of Mayo, Lynch & Associates, the architect on all three phases, is still owed "between \$5,000 and \$10,000" for plans and specifications on Phase 2.

After caucusing an hour with Joseph Lynch, a partner in the firm, and Shamus Cunningham, an aide, the councilmen emerged to pass a resolution authorizing payment of \$181,591.88 to Mayo, Lynch "when such funds become available" for

"professional services" in connection with Phase 3.

Lynch told a reporter he needed the money now to settle payroll and equipment expenses and the resolution provides for his firm to "assign this obligation to an authorized financial institution" to secure immediate funding.

The city is assured of getting \$4.3 million from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the Commerce Department to finance Phase 3 renovation costs and, to pay the local firm's expenses — which will come out of \$204,675 as the "municipal contribution toward the project — the council passed a resolu-

tion authorizing transfer of \$300,000 left over from Phase 2's "new water line capital improvement fund" to Phase 3 plans and specification costs. According to Ranieri, the city got 90 per cent funding for Phase 1 and 2 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and contributed 10 per cent shares on each to cover architectural-engineering and "inspection" costs.

Ranieri said the city "over-borrowed" \$500,000 on the \$1.5 million Phase 1 operation. He said the city, however, was able to use \$200,000 of that amount left over from Phase 2 and the remaining \$300,000 will be applied to Phase 3.

Consumer aide irks retail bureau

Not everyone is happy that Hoboken now has a \$2,600-a-year consumer advocate.

The Hoboken Retail Bureau said today that it was "an insult to the city's business community, which has been satisfactorily dealing with local residents for many, many years without one."

William Roth, a member of the bureau's executive board, said that the Retail Bureau had "gone out of its way to seek customer satisfaction" over the years and has never had a complaint go unresolved.

"The Retail Bureau has acted as its own watchdog and has done a good job of it," he continued. "Every com-

plaint that was ever brought to the bureau's attention was brought to an agreeable solution with both the customer and retailer completely satisfied."

"In cases where the merchant refused to give the customer satisfaction, the bureau managed to make a refund from its own treasury. This sudden action by the city is seen as nothing more than an election ploy," Roth asserted.

Last week, Mayor Steve Cappiello announced that Mrs. Audrey Borg, who had been serving as the city's unsalaried Consumer Affairs Local Assistance officer, had been put on the city payroll for \$2,600 a year.

Fusilli blasts his ex-ally and backs Romano bid

By Peter Hallam

Freeholder Vincent J. Fusilli of Hoboken who was a close political confidant of Mayor Steve Cappiello, today endorsed the man who is contesting Cappiello's reelection, First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano.

Fusilli also endorsed the three candidates running for councilman-at-large on Romano's ticket in the city election May 10.

The freeholder was a major force in the Democratic Party faction that helped Cappiello upset Mayor Louis DePascale in 1973. He said, he would be "going all-out" for the Romano ticket, which includes Francis X. Leahy, Frank Duroy Jr. and Anthony Russo.

"A change is definitely needed," asserted Fusilli. "I have closely watched Hoboken's situation for the

last two years, and it is quite evident that there is a lack of leadership, a lack of credibility, and a lack of compassion."

"What has occurred is a polarization of minority groups in that the mayor has done very little in the area of allowing them to participate in their government."

"I have spent the last month desperately trying to bring together various factions. During the course of those negotiations, the mayor was not truthful with me — a point that Councilman Leahy has been making for some time. The position of Francis Leahy, a dear friend, is one of the reasons for my action. He is an honorable man and I don't use that term loosely."

"The mayor was aware during these negotiations that he fully intended to place on his ticket a man who, during the last freeholder campaign, made remarks against the Hudson County Democratic organization, of which I believed the mayor to be a member."

"It is imperative that the people elect a mayor and councilman-at-large who fully concern themselves with the betterment of the city. Was it to the city's betterment to almost criminally decimate the police and fire departments to the point that people must live in fear?"

"An if the mayor feels that the rehabilitation of Hoboken's housing was his idea, he'd do well to recall that it was Louis DePascale, the former mayor, who was the architect and catalyst for it — not Cappiello."

Fusilli was also critical of the mayor and the manner in which he and the city handled relations with the city's school teachers and the board of education.

Hoboken spared court action on sewage plant

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) won't be taking Hoboken to court either for failure to correct violations at the city's sewage treatment plant or for violating the terms of its federal permit, a spokesman for the city's law department said today.

However, according to Thomas P. Calligy, assistant city attorney, the city will be getting an abatement order from the EPA, which will probably set new time limits for getting the plant back into top operating condition and for converting the plant into a secondary treatment facility.

Calligy said he was advised of this by an EPA attorney.

Hoboken has two problems with its treatment plant. The first deals with the plant's condition, the other with its federal discharge permit.

The city's permit expires in July. That was also the month Hoboken was to start secondary treatment of its sewage, but that schedule date was being held in abeyance because Hoboken was part of the Hudson County Sewage Authority, which had its own plan for a county-wide treatment operation.

With Hoboken's withdrawal from the county authority, a whole new set of circumstances developed. First,

the old compliance date for secondary treatment was again in effect, even though the city is in no position to meet it. And secondly, Hoboken was in violation of its discharge permit.

Calligy said he expects the EPA to outline all of the problems the city is facing and set dates for compliance. He said he had no idea of what the time limitations would be.

The condition of the plant itself is closely related to the problem of upgrading it to a secondary system. Before it can be converted, it must be a fully functional primary system. At the moment, according to the EPA, it isn't.

Hoboken police, firemen revive hoop rivalry

The Hoboken police and fire departments will renew their annual benefit basketball rivalry Wednesday at the Hoboken High School starting at 7 p.m.

Two games will be featured. The first pits the veteran members of the two departments against each other. Vic Carpenter will referee the game. The second game will feature the younger department members. The fire department, which claims to have won the last seven games, is again favored.

Tickets are \$1 each and may be purchased at the door or from members of the departments. Proceeds will be donated to the Hoboken Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

Right turn

Hoboken's police department recommends prohibiting right turns against red traffic lights on most of Washington Street and at four other intersections.

The department made its survey at the request of a councilman who wanted the turns prohibited at every intersection in the city, on the ground they are a safety hazard.

Since Jan. 1, when it became legal to make these turns after a full stop and when prudence warrants it, no rash of accidents has resulted in Hoboken, or anywhere else.

In fact, the change in the law has won general acceptance. In Hoboken it seems to be working out especially well because most of the city's streets are one-way, which should lessen the possibility of accidents caused by confusion.

In the light of the police findings, the councilman should reconsider his views.

Candidates' forum slated in Hoboken

A candidates' forum will be held Monday at 7:30 p.m. by the Hoboken Citizens Committee for Responsive Government at the Day Care Center, 1101 Bloomfield St., Hoboken.

Jose Colon, chairman of the committee, said Mayor Steve Cappiello, running for reelection, has accepted an invitation to speak. Colon said Councilman Anthony Romano, Cappiello's main opponent, might not be able to attend.

City Council to meet on field OK

A special meeting of the Hoboken City Council has been called for 8 p.m. tomorrow for the purpose of approving specifications for the rehabilitation of the Hoboken Little League field, City Clerk Anthony J. Amoroso said today.

If approved, the city will advertise for bidders on the job.

The council also will have an open discussion on the city's proposed 1977 budget and possible changes in it before it gets final approval.

Hoboken race has 8

Eight candidates are in the running for three seats in today's annual Hoboken Board of Education election.

The candidates are Otto Hottendorf, James Farina and James Giani, running as a ticket, and independent Richard England Jr., George I. DePalma, Robert J. Wendelken, Patty Bocco, and Mrs. Grace Bilyk. Hottendorf and Farina are incumbents seeking their second three-year terms on the board.

The polling stations in Hoboken will be open from 2 to 9 p.m. The official returns will be taken at the board of education's office in the Wallace School, 11th and Clinton streets.

Award water line pact

The Hoboken City Council has awarded a \$3.8 million contract to the Spiniello Construction Co. of Morristown to complete the final phase of its water line repair program.

Joseph Lynch, engineering consultant for the project through Mayo, Lynch Associates of Hoboken, said construction would be the "last link" in the rehabilitation of 90 per cent of the city's water lines. Funds for the project are provided in a \$4.3 million federal public works grant.

"This is the last link in the city's efforts to decontaminate all its water and give residents clean water within two years," Lynch said. "The city really needs its own water source but that's obviously economically infeasible. We expect this to ultimately be the next best thing."

Lynch said Hoboken should "ideally" have its own water and sewer systems but that "if you ever bonded for either of those projects you'd bankrupt the city."

Puerto Rican power

Hoboken's election for mayor and councilman at large in May should show whether the city's Puerto Rican community has strengthened its voting muscle.

Evidently the political leaders, or some of them, believe it has. A Puerto Rican has been put on a major ticket for a citywide post for the first time.

Two other Puerto Ricans are also running.

All three are well known, thus the city's Spanish speaking residents at last have an opportunity to make a choice.

Even if their votes turn out to be so split that they do not elect a candidate, an impressive turnout of the Spanish speaking electorate would enhance their political power.

Play equipment disappears 89 from Church Square Park 3/28/77

What happened to several thousand dollars worth of playground equipment that once stood in Hoboken's Church Square Park? City Public Works officials are trying to find that out after learning that the equipment, removed by authorities from the park at the end of last year, isn't stored where it was supposed to be — and no one knows where it is.

Missing are a set of tot swings, a slide, a set of playcubes with slide, a merry-go-round, the fencing that enclosed the area, and an old wading pool and sprinkler, which was no longer of any value but was removed with the rest of the equipment. The equipment was removed from the park so that it wouldn't get in the way of improvements being done by the city under the Green Acres program. Work started last week.

According to a spokesman for the city Community Development Agency (CDA), the equipment was taken out on its authority and turned over to the public works department on Dec. 23 for storage in the Willow Avenue garage. The fact that the equipment wasn't there was discovered by Mrs. Sue Newman, who was responsible for getting the city to buy the swings and cubes in the first place, the spokesman said. She was checking to see if any of it was still good and could be used again when the park beautification was completed.

Carmen Cutillo, deputy public works director, said that an investigation was under way but little information had been turned up so far. However, it appears the equipment is gone.

"I'm not exactly sure what happened after it was picked up," he said. "We do know that it ended up at a location near the treatment plant at 16th Street, but it is now gone. What happened between the time it was picked up and found its way to 16th Street I don't know."

Leaks may stall opening 89 of Hoboken mini-school 3/31/77

Hoboken's new mini-school might not open this school year after all, it was learned today.

A final inspection of the building by the board of education's architect, Joseph Lynch of Mayo, Lynch and Associates, has disclosed that there are still more than 70 items — including a leaking roof and windows — which are unsatisfactory and need to be repaired or corrected.

According to Robert W. Taylor, the school board's attorney, the panel met with Lynch Monday night to hear his report and discuss the items. Another meeting was held Tuesday with representatives of Pisani and

DeBari, the general contractors for the job.

"The board's position is that it wants the corrections and repairs to be made in a reasonable amount of time," declared Taylor. "We asked the contractors Tuesday to start that same day and work was started."

Taylor said that if the progress isn't satisfactory, the board has the right to give the contractor 30-day notice and hire another contractor to complete the job. He explained that the school board is holding back about \$100,000 of the contractor's fee and that money will be used to pay another contractor if needed.

"Most of the items on the architect's punch list are minor," he continued. "But there are some that are not. Water is coming in from the roof because it appears that the pitch is away from the drains. Water is also leaking into the building through the windows, which are supposed to be waterproof. And water is still seeping into the basement."

According to Taylor, the board has been aware of the leaks for some time but it was believed that repairs had corrected the problem. However, last week's heavy rains proved otherwise.

The school has already been inspected and approved by representatives of the state Department of Education, but Taylor said that this was before the heavy rains.

"Things being what they are, I doubt very much if the mini-school will open this school year," he said. "The work may take as much as three to four weeks to do and that would put us into the end of April, maybe into May. The schools close in June for the summer, so it probably wouldn't be worth it to disrupt the children and teachers for a few weeks in the new school."

Battleship profile 89 to be presented tonight 3/31/77

The Hoboken Battleship Memorial Committee will present a free film tonight on the history of battleships and a special profile on the USS New Jersey, which the committee is trying to bring to the city. Richard Bozone, chairman of the committee, said that the film will be shown in the Multi-Service Center, Second and Grand streets, at 7:30 p.m. It will be followed by a brief lecture and a question-and-answer period. Frank Clark and Vincent Olsen, vice presidents of the committee, said that Charles DeFazio Jr., a former Hoboken magistrate, and Angel Roman have been added to the committee.

Cappiello picks slate, all file 89 3/25/77

It's Thomas M. Kennedy, Robert A. Ranieri and Bernard J. Scrivani who will be running with Mayor Steve Cappiello in Hoboken's May 10 municipal election.

That's the slate that filed nominating petitions yesterday afternoon with City Clerk Anthony J. Amoroso and will be facing another ticket fielded by First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano plus two other candidates for mayor and three independents for councilman-at-large.

Immediately after filing, the candidates walked up Washington Street

to the campaign headquarters in a vacant storefront between Third and Fourth streets.

The candidates said they expected a "healthy fight" but predicted they would take "four out of four" positions in spite of the apparent strong opposition they will be facing.

Ranieri and Scrivani are both incumbent councilmen-at-large and are seeking re-election. Kennedy, a police detective, is a new addition to the mayor's forces and is aiming for the council seat now held by Francis X. Leahy, who is running with Romano.

Ranieri had said on several occasions that he was considering running for mayor on his own. When asked why he did not and what prompted him to change his mind, he replied: "The mayor has been struggling for four years with severe handicaps; he deserves four more years in office with a clean house and no obstacles."

Among those on hand to see the mayor and his ticket file were County Clerk and city Democratic chairman James J. Quinn who has endorsed the entire ticket; County Republican Chairman Anthony J. Cilento, Andrew J. Amato, who has also endorsed the

mayor; Mark Cerrone and a slew of city employees and supporters.

Meanwhile, Romano announced the selection of Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Franccone as campaign manager for the "People for People" ticket.

Running with Romano are incumbent Councilman-at-large Francis X. Leahy, Frank Duroy Jr. and Anthony Russo.

More than 400 people were on hand Wednesday night at Romano's

Civic Association meeting to hear the councilman unveil the ticket.

Among those announcing their personal support for the slate was Mrs. Virginia Zanetich of Castle Point Terrace. She is president of the state Federation of Women's Clubs and a member of President Jimmy Carter's Commission for Women's Rights, serving with former New York City Congresswoman Bella Abzug and actress Jean Stapleton.

Also filing petitions yesterday was Larry Lerdo of 909 Clinton St., a candidate for mayor.

Rafael Castillo, a former Hoboken policeman, did not file. He had picked up petitions for councilman-at-large. He told The Jersey Journal today he decided against entering the race for the sake of unity and harmony in the Hispanic community.

Castillo said he was not endorsing any other candidates at this time but might after discussing the matter

with his campaign manager, Mario Rivera, and his supporters.

Also scheduled to be on the ballot are Vincent M. Murtha of 816 Washington St. and Larry Lerdo of 909 Clinton St., both independent candidates for mayor, and independent councilmen-at-large candidates Thomas E. Cerbo of 605 Fifth St., Michael Spano of 612 Second St. and Vito J. Lanzo of 10 Church Towers.

The candidates have all filed their nominating petitions and have until 4 p.m. Monday to withdraw if they change their mind. That is also the deadline for replacing any candidates on the tickets if any should withdraw for the election.

City Clerk Anthony J. Amoroso has tentatively set the drawing for ballot positions for April 11 at 3 p.m. in his office.

Amoroso said the drawing date is tentative because the nominating petitions of the candidates must still be double checked by the Hudson County Superintendent of Elections and verified.

Cappiello hails Gallo group backing 89 3/28/77

Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken today hailed the endorsement voted him last night by the Thomas A. Gallo Association and Ladies Auxiliary as "another great stride forward" in his campaign for reelection.

"I feel elated that the Gallo membership gave me such a rousing welcome," said the mayor. "I also feel this is the atmosphere that prevails in all parts of the city and I

sense a complete victory for myself and my running mates."

The mayor, who is seeking a second term, said he is happy to have Gallo, a state assemblyman, allied with him in the campaign. Gallo said the response from the club members was "unanimous" in backing the mayor. Cappiello also pointed out that his ticket has already received the endorsement of Hudson County Clerk James F. Quinn, who is city

Democratic chairman, and Anthony J. Cilento of Hoboken, who is Republican county chairman.

Cappiello said he feels the Gallo Club endorsement can be attributed to the fact that "people won't be fooled." "They know," he said, "that we have brought stability to city hall. They also know that Hoboken has not had an increase in its tax rate in four years but still maintains a high level of city services. This is what counts and the spirit that filled the air at the Gallo Association last night is the spirit of victory that is sweeping across the city for myself and my running mates, Thomas Kennedy and Councilman Bernard Scrivani and Robert Ranieri."

Resodding may save Little League 89 3/31/77

Faced with the embarrassing possibility of the city's Little League organization cancelling its season unless substantial improvements are made to Stevens Park, the Hoboken City Council has paved the way for some serious groundkeeping.

The council last night passed a resolution approving a set of specifications and plans for

"reconstruction" of the Little League field at Fourth and Hudson streets and for the receiving of bids April 12.

What reconstruction means is mainly resodding, according to Martin J. Brennan, council president, who said money would be made available by the city's federally-funded Community Development Agency (CDA).

Fred Bado, CDA director, told The Jersey Journal the job should cost between \$10,000 and \$15,000 based on estimates from several sodding contractors.

Although the council members present voted unanimously for the resolution, its passage didn't go through without a fight, sparked by the council's anti-administration fac-

tion led by First Ward Councilman and mayoral aspirant Anthony Romano.

Romano questioned whether the work, as called for in the specifications, could be completed within a seven-day period, from April 13 to 20. And Councilman-at-large Francis X. Leahy, running on Romano's ticket

in the upcoming municipal election and upset about the projected May 8th opening date, two days before the voting, snapped: "Doesn't this smack of politics? I want to see this (reconstruction) done a week before or week after (the election)."

Robert Van Ingen, vice president

Let public plant on vacant land, Ranieri says 89 3/28/77

Hoboken gardeners with green thumbs but a lack of adequate space to keep them properly exercised get some vacant land to play with if a proposal by Councilman-at-large Robert Ranieri is accepted by several city agencies.

Ranieri has proposed to the Hoboken Housing Authority, Community Development Agency and Mayor Steve Cappiello that vacant land in the John J. Grogan Marine View Plaza project be opened to the public for use as victory gardens.

The area is two half-blocks along Hudson and River streets between Second and Third streets where two 25-story apartment buildings were to have been built as part of the Grogan complex.

The land is owned by the housing authority which is trying to find someone to develop it, either as originally planned with apartment houses or with a new but different proposal.

"The land would be divided into suitable plots and a plot would be given to the people who apply on a first come, first served basis or, if there is a bigger demand than plots available, by a lottery system," Ranieri said. "The housing authority would still own the property but would be allowing residents to use it."

Ranieri said the only cost of the

project would be some top soil, which the Community Development Agency (CDA) would pay for. It would also lend the gardeners the technical advice of Robert Hall, a horticulturist in charge of the CDA's tree planting program.

"The proposal will need the formal approval of the mayor, the CDA and the Housing Authority," said Ranieri. "I have already informally checked with them and I don't believe there will be any problems."

2 more endorsements for Romano 89 3/31/77

Hoboken First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano and his three running mates in the city's May 10 municipal election today picked up two more endorsements — one from

another candidate who is dropping out and the other from Local 1076 of the Fire Officers Association.

William Bergin, president of the Fire Officers, said the organization

endorsed Romano for mayor and his three councilmen-at-large running mates — Francis X. Leahy, Frank Duroy Jr. and Anthony Russo — by a margin of better than two-to-one over Mayor Steve Cappiello. Both Romano and Cappiello attended the meeting at which the endorsement was made, he said.

"We are tired of underhanded tactics in negotiations, of the administration going back on its word, or its attempt to force unqualified trainees on the department," said Bergin.

"There has been continuous harassment of the department in the promotion of men and the filling of vacancies, and reduced protection through reductions in the number of men and equipment. Our manpower is down 30 per cent yet the mayor and

his administration has increased non-essential jobs by 85 per cent."

Bergin said the union believed that Romano and his running mates would "restore the department's morale, good faith in negotiations, establish mutual trust, and remove political influence from the department."

Larry Lerdo, who was running for mayor until a number of his nominating petitions were disqualified by the county Superintendent of Elections, said he was backing Romano and his ticket.

Lerdo said he had the opportunity to amend his petitions and be reinstated as a candidate, but decided not to in favor of supporting the Romano ticket. "The ticket can give Hoboken the leadership it needs for a better future," he asserted.

Hoboken 'barred' from saving camp 89 3/31/77

Hoboken won't spend any money on a private summer camp for mostly disadvantaged local youths because that would be illegal, according to one city lawmaker.

That being the case, 16-year-old Camp Tamaqua may never reopen unless Leo Genese, camp director, can somehow raise \$60,000 by April 15.

Genese says the Hoboken-North Hudson Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) executive board, which runs the camp, has given him until mid-April to come up with the cash.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, following a closed-door caucus by the council last night, said the governing body has been advised by Law Director Larry Florio that Hoboken would be violating state law by "appropriating public money for any private venture."

Ranieri said the city could opt to "take the entire camp over as part of our city recreation program and contract with the YMCA to run it as a recreation facility, but the estimate we've gotten from Genese is that it would take \$60,000 to run the camp

and our entire recreation budget is now \$120,000.

"Even if we did exercise that option — which we can't do because we'd exceed the 'cap' limitation on municipal spending — that would mean sixty cents on the tax rate."

"The consensus seems to be to turn to CDA (Community Development Agency) since they have an allocation of \$10,000 available, I believe, but federal cuts of \$400,000 from their budget of \$3.5 million will probably force Fred Bado (CDA director) to be as stringent as possible with expenditures."

Genese, who relied on mainly private sources for donations until recent years when he turned to such groups as the CDA, HOPES (another city anti-poverty agency), the city board of education and the state for funding, remains cautiously optimistic.

As much as \$30,000, he says, might be funded by the school board by tapping "excess bi-lingual program" monies under Title VII. That possibility, based on a camp registration that's 60 per cent Hispanic, is being explored by

Edward Duroy, bi-lingual coordinator, he said.

Genese will appeal to CDA for more than \$10,000 as its contribution to camp expenses at tonight's public hearing on the federal agency's budget. And he's still holding out hope for HOPES and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to contribute.

Meanwhile, says Genese, "My staff and I will continue in our holding pattern," aiming for a July 4th start. Last year, he said, the camp had to close after six weeks — two weeks earlier than normal — because "we ran out of money."

Hoboken employees griping 89 about political pressure 3/31/77

The president of the Hoboken Municipal Employees Association said today a number of workers have complained of being "harassed" by political forces in connection with the May municipal election. Mayor Steve Cappiello, however, said "I don't tolerate pressure tactics" and said he is ready to discuss any incidents with the association president.

Mrs. Helen Lodato said some employees brought the matter to the association's attention last week. She declined to name them or to say who

was responsible for the alleged harassment.

However, according to association members, three employees spoke up at the meeting and alleged that supporters of Mayor Cappiello were behind the threats.

In announcing that he would not tolerate pressure tactics, the mayor also said "I don't want to see employees taking advantage of politics to drum up such complaints."

Meanwhile, Mrs. Virginia Zanetich of Hoboken, a member of President Carter's Commission on

Women Rights, said she had received complaints from city employees who had been "threatened with the loss of their jobs."

She asked such employees to "come forward and contact me without fear or reprisal. I will get you help and your jobs will not be jeopardized," she said. Mrs. Zanetich, president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, has endorsed Councilman Anthony Romano for mayor.

Mayor Cappiello said he had been in touch with Mrs. Zanetich. "I was pleased to see that she has an open mind and I intend to discuss various city problems with her," said Cappiello. One of the things he will review, he said, is the work of the former business administrator, Herman Bier. Bier was suspended by the mayor last week.

The employees association, which is still negotiating with city officials for a contract, wants any agreement reached put into writing.

"That's the best way," said Mrs. Lodato. "With it in black and white there can't be any misunderstanding at a later date by either the association or the city."

The association meets again April 11 and will meet with city officials before the end of the month.

Bike path plans almost ready 89 3/28/77

Specifications for a bicycle path along Hoboken's recently rehabilitated River Road are in their final stages and should be presented to the city council for its approval by April 20, Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri said today.

Ranieri, the main promoter of the bike path, said that the city's Community Development Agency (CDA), which is preparing the specifications for the project, is making some last-minute changes so that they include

bike racks, especially at the PATH station.

"This was one of the suggestions we received from residents who plan to use bikes to get to the trains in the morning and to come home again at night," he said.

Residents can ride along River Road to the station, lock up their bikes in the racks and take the trains to work in New York or Newark. And reverse the procedure when they come home at night.

Ranieri said that there will also be bike racks in the "Long Dock" area along River Road, near the Stevens Institute of Technology campus. He said the college planned to build a recreation area along the

waterfront with picnic facilities which can be used by local residents.

Hoboken has approximately \$30,000 in state funds for the project.

Rally planned on park dog litter

A group of young Hoboken mothers and their children are planning a rally and march for April 28 to protest the unabated use of city parks by dog owners as toilet areas for their pets.

Mrs. Pam Brennan, the organizer of the rally for the 1100 Garden Street Block Association, said today the purpose of the march was to bring the group's point home to dog owners, not the city.

"We are just a little tired of seeing people letting their dogs run free in the park," said Mrs. Brennan. "We are tired of having to clean off our

children's sneakers and shoes every time we allow them to play in the parks.

"The parks were built for the use of the people, not as dog runs, but that's what many residents use them for."

Mrs. Brennan said that she was particularly concerned with Elysian Park at 11th and Hudson streets and Stevens Park at Fifth and Hudson streets.

"We have talked with some dog owners, and most of them are nice about it," she continued. "Most cooperate. But there are some who

think we are crazy and accuse us of being against dogs.

"That's not the case at all. Most of us have dogs, but we accept the responsibility that goes along with being a dog owner — consideration for others and their rights."

Mrs. Brennan said that she has talked with city officials and they have agreed to post more signs in the parks warning dog owners against walking their pets in them.

Carmen Cutillo, deputy public works director, said he spoke with Mrs. Brennan about the problem. As a result, he will ask Police Chief

George Crimmins to have his men patrol the park areas and issue summons.

"Our men talk to the people with dogs when they see them, but there isn't too much more they can do," Cutillo said. "They don't have the authority to issue tickets and that seems to be the only thing that is going to stop the hard-core violators."

Mrs. Brennan said that the block association is encouraging all residents who are concerned with the parks and the use of them by dogs to participate in the march. It will start at 1 p.m. at Elysian Park

CDA funding revival of storefronts

The Hoboken Community Development Agency (CDA) opens its new Storefront Program today with more than \$40,000 in grants available to local shopkeepers to modernize the fronts of their establishments.

S. Kenneth Pai, who is in charge of the program for the CDA, said that applications have been sent out to most of the local store owners but those who haven't received one can come in to the CDA at 84 Washington St. and get one.

"Applicants are eligible for up to \$2,000 in grants each," he said. "There are only two conditions that they must meet. One is that they follow our architectural guidelines for the work. The other is that once the work has been done no changes may be made in it for five years."

"In cases where the operator of the store leases his space he must have a valid lease with at least five years to go on it."

Pai said that Thomas Oliveri will

be handling the applications. He added that it would take only a few weeks for the CDA to review the applications and award the grants.

"We will be centering our activities on First Street, Washington Street and 14th Street," said Pai, "but the program is open to shopkeepers in the whole city, not just these principal areas."

With \$40,000 in its kitty, the program will be able to award grants

to 20 businesses. However, that figure may be increased before the end of this fiscal year — June 30 — and will be continued in next year's CDA budget, Pai added.

For its third "action year," CDA is proposing that \$150,000 be spent by the agency, matched by \$500,000 in bank loans, for rehabilitation of local commercial properties.

Pai said he's received "close to 50" inquiries from local merchants about the program thus far.

The first of two public hearings on CDA's proposed Year III budget of \$3,062,000 was held last night at the city's Multi-Service Center and was attended by less than 30 persons. Only two spoke.

Another hearing is scheduled for Thursday at 7 p.m. at Hoboken High School, according to CDA Director Fred Bado. CDA's application for funding must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) by April 11.

The Year III program is to be implemented starting Aug. 10, Bado said.

Proposed allocations are broken down this way: \$900,000 for "housing and neighborhood preservation," \$900,000 for "economic planning and development," \$614,000 for "program administration," \$348,000 for "community services" and \$300,000 for "unspecified local option activities."

If the budget is approved in its present form, several new developments would result:

- A Hoboken Housing Development Corp., funded at \$75,000, which would provide "seed money" and "technical assistance" to improve "low and moderate income housing."

- A Hoboken Economic Development Corp., funded at \$150,000 by CDA and \$100,000 by the federal Economic Development Agency (EDA), which would work out priorities for developing ratables out of certain sections of the city like the old Todd Shipyard (Weehawken Cove), northwest industrial sector and Fifth and Sixth Street piers.

- A Hoboken Community Action Bureau, funded at \$30,000 by CDA and \$20,000 by the state Department of Institutions & Agencies (I&A) and federal Comprehensive Employment &

Training Act (CETA) program, which, based at the Multi-Service Center, would provide "casework assistance and referral in the area of social services." CDA is negotiating with the county welfare department for a part-time welfare counselor.

At last night's hearing, Dr. Robert King said he has "no confidence" in CDA "putting down a large amount of money" in renovating Erie-Lackawanna Terminal which he called a "hulk of a mausoleum" and planning for a "shopping center" nearby. King also questioned subsidizing commercial rehabilitation along First Street which he says is a "dying area."

Leo Genese, as expected, made a pitch for CDA to budget \$60,000, rather than the \$10,000 presently allocated, to help keep going Camp Tamagna, a private camp for underprivileged Hoboken youths which he directs for the Hoboken-North Hudson Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA). "I've taken 7,000 kids out of the city in the past 15 years since I've been camp director for two-week vacations, delivering several hundred thousand dollars worth of services," he said.

They care

Parents, friends and coaches of Hoboken's Little League baseball players offered to renovate the city's Little League field if the city would supply the materials and equipment.

That was a good deal, but the city managed to get hold of federal money to do the job, so the volunteers were not needed for that work.

But they still want to help and they will get the chance. The sod the contractor will put down should remain untouched for ten days if it is to root properly.

This has always been a problem at the Little League field because heedless people move in on the fresh sod and trample it.

The volunteers will guard it for ten days. Hoboken is fortunate that these concerned citizens wish to be involved.

Hospital Days start April 28 in Hoboken

A unique joint venture by the city of Hoboken and the Hoboken Retail Bureau will turn the lower end of Washington Street into an outdoor art show ringed with cafes on April 30.

Called "Hoboken Hospitality Days," the program will start April 28 with three days of special sales planned by Hoboken merchants.

"The whole business community is filled with enthusiasm," said Bill Roth, bureau spokesman. "It'll be the biggest holiday ever for Hoboken." Roth is coordinating the merchants' efforts with Fred Bado of the Community Development Agency and city officials, who are seeing to the traffic and parking arrangements for the Saturday art show.

They will meet Monday at 2 p.m. at the CDA office to discuss the possibility of additional events to be held under the "Hoboken Hospitality Days" program.

A historical tour of the city and a tour of homes in the city are other possibilities, according to Bado.

On April 30 the area from First to

Sixth Streets on Washington will be roped off and filled with local artists and their works.

"We want to keep a Hoboken theme and we know there are a number of local artists, photographers and craftsmen with paintings, photos and other work related to the city," said Bado. "We want to have them all out that day to display or sell their things."

This is not a flea market and anti-ques fair," he stressed. "and we are not interested in mass produced items. This will be a day for real artists."

Special craftsmen who have become involved in the restoration of the city's stately brownstones have also been invited to exhibit their work, as have furniture refinishers and other specialists, he said.

The restaurants in the area will be allowed to put tables and chairs on the sidewalk to create outdoor cafes.

Persons interested in displaying or selling their work are asked to register with the CDA, 84 Washington St., Hoboken.

Investigation at Romgno HQ finds no improper solicitation

Inspectors from the Hudson County Board of Elections came up empty yesterday after they seized records from the mayoral campaign headquarters of Hoboken First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano.

The two inspectors, acting on two citizen complaints of alleged improper solicitation of absentee applications, found no violations by late yesterday and will continue their investigation Monday.

A spokesman for Superintendent of Elections Joseph Brady said the board investigates all complaints "from any citizen." Romano is challenging first-term incumbent Steve Cappiello for mayor in the May 10 municipal election.

Councilman Robert Ranieri, a member of Cappiello's slate along with Councilman Bernard Scrivani and Detective Thomas Kennedy, charged Romano with "employing the same old tactics he used when he literally stole the First Ward election from my brother in 1967."

Ranieri claimed Romano "brought in voters from all over the city and the county" when he defeated Rudolph Ranieri in the council election 10 years ago. Ranieri said registration and vote totals were "swelled by 700 names by those people who never voted before or since because of Romano's mysterious antics."

Romano couldn't be reached for comment yesterday.

Unions back Cappiello foe

In a related development, both Hoboken firefighting unions are endorsing Councilman Anthony H. Romano in his bid to unseat Mayor Steve Cappiello.

The unions, the 88-member Hoboken Firefighters Association and the 39 member Hoboken Fire Officers Association, claim Cappiello has continually harassed them and shown them "contempt at every turn." They both said Romano has promised to let them run their own department.

"We've found on many, many occasions that the mayor just doesn't keep his word," said Capt. Bill Bergin, president of the fire officers.

While the unions contend Cappiello has increased "non-essential" services while

cutting back on "necessary protection," Councilman Robert Ranieri defended the mayor and charged firemen with being "carpetbaggers" who no longer have a vested interest in the city.

"Firemen are only endorsing Romano because they expect to get a honeymoon contract out of it," Ranieri said. "They know they'll only get what's fair and (won't end) stabilized taxes if they vote the Cappiello-Ranieri ticket. They have no right to endorse a candidate when they live outside the city."

President Michael Bavaro countered that "more than half" of the members of the Firefighters Association live in Hoboken and that "all" still have families here.

Hoboken asks extension on U.S. rehabilitation aid

Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken has asked the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for an additional 10 days within which to salvage the opportunity to participate in the Section 8 Demonstration Rehabilitation Program and provide an additional 200 units of rehabilitated housing for the city.

Yesterday was the deadline for filing all of the completed paper work and applications for the program.

A spokesman for the Hoboken Community Development Agency (CDA) said that in order to be eligible for the program the city must submit agreements with certain labor unions calling for their men to work for less than the going union wage on rehabilitation work. The city has not been able to get those signed agreements.

With them, Hoboken would be entitled to approximately \$1.2 million in HUD Section 8 rent subsidies for the apartments and that would generate an additional \$5 million in rehabilitation funds.

Jersey City, which is also eligible for the program but is experiencing the same problems as Hoboken in getting the unions to sign the wage agreements, sent all of its paperwork to Washington, D.C., yesterday. But it did not formally request more time.

Jersey City officials, however, are optimistic that they will be awarded some of the rehabilitated housing work.

The Hoboken CDA official was not optimistic. He said there has been two extensions of the deadline and getting a third was not likely.

"The main problem is that the unions fear the reduced wage may become a permanent criteria for the future on all HUD-related projects," he said. "And there are no guarantees that it won't, so their position is understandable."

Hoboken police to probe missing play equipment

Hoboken police have been ordered by Mayor Steve Cappiello, the city's public safety director, to fully investigate the disappearance of several thousand dollars worth of playground equipment, it was learned today.

The investigation was ordered following a meeting with Mrs. Sue Newman, who was instrumental in getting the city to buy the equipment a few years ago.

City officials learned that the equipment was missing two weeks ago when Mrs. Newman made a

casual inquiry to find out what was in good condition and could be used again. The equipment had been in Church Square Park, Fourth and Garden Streets, until last December.

Hoboken's Community Development Agency (CDA) had the equipment taken out of the park but it turned it over to a city truck driver, who was supposed to deliver it to one of the city garages for storage. But the equipment, which includes play cubes, a merry-go-round and slides, was never delivered to any of the city garages.

Murtha will do a lot of listening

Vincent Murtha, an independent candidate for mayor of Hoboken, won't be talking much as he campaigns for the city's top elected spot — he'll be listening instead. "I will be walking the streets in the coming

weeks, talking to the people, but most of all listening to their thoughts and ideas," he said. "I think it is time that the men who run for public office listen, instead of spouting promises and rhetoric about what is good for the people."

Murtha, a Hoboken teacher, said that as mayor he would make it part of his daily routine to get out among the people instead of hiding behind a desk at City Hall. He said he would not be a party to any forums.

3 study Hoboken budget

City Council President Martin Brennan has picked a three-man committee to study the rejected \$12.1 million Hoboken school budget.

Councilmen Francis X. Leahy, Salvatore Cemelli and Nunzio Maffetti will make recommendations to their colleagues on areas that might be trimmed.

Brennan said there's a "strong possibility" the council will meet with the board on Monday, April 11 to discuss possible revisions in the budget. State law mandates that the council and board review a rejected budget within 15 days of the election.

The council now has the authority to revise the budget and the board can then appeal its budget revisions to state Education Commissioner Fred Burke.

Absentee ballot charge probed

Investigators from the Hudson County Superintendent of Elections office are continuing their check today into absentee ballot solicitation by campaign workers for Hoboken mayoral aspirant Anthony H. Romano.

Elections superintendent Joseph T. Brady said he is investigating a complaint that Romano workers were registering new voters and helping them fill out absentee ballots at the same time. Investigators took records from Romano's campaign headquarters last week and are sorting through them at the Hudson County administration building in Jersey City. "Nothing has turned up yet," said Brady.

Still no school

Six years ago, Hoboken decided to build a mini-school. The school has been under construction for almost three years. It has had more announced opening dates than any other educational venture in the state.

The last of its many scheduled openings was a week ago. This, too, did not come to pass. Why? Well, the roof leaks, the walls leak, the windows leak, and the basement leaks.

This means the mini-school will not open before September, if then.

The prolonged fiasco does not speak well for Hoboken's Board of Education. Obviously no one with any authority, no one with any sense of urgency, was watching this project as the years slipped by.

It is difficult to imagine a businessman allowing a construction job to take so long, and then announcing its completion without being aware of all that leakage.

As for the State Department of Education, which recently inspected and approved this sieve-school, its monumental goof is another startling example of its consistent record of inept performance.

Hoboken to foreclose on valuable properties

The owners of several valuable pieces of property in Hoboken have used up the 45 days they had to respond to the city's foreclosure proceedings and the final paperwork which will return the property to the city has been sent to Trenton, it was learned today.

But there may be some problems in store for the city with one section of land — the old Todd Shipyard in the northern section of the city — because it is unclear if there is still public access to it.

A spokesman for the city's law department said it has been brought to the department's attention that the

most northern section of the shipyard property was sold by the former owner — Cosmopolitan Terminals Inc. — to Seatrain Lines Inc. several years ago.

Using the old access road to the property one must cross over property that is now owned by the shipping firm before getting to the shipyard land.

The other properties the city is foreclosing on are the Fifth and Sixth street piers, and condenser Service at Bloomfield Street and Observer Highway.

Hoboken in WW I recalled by Legion

"Hell, Heaven or Hoboken by Christmas!"

That's the promise U.S. Army General "Black Jack" Pershing made to his troops in 1917 during World War I. The promise wasn't kept but Hoboken remained uppermost in the minds of many soldiers for it was their link with home.

And reminding them of those days is an article in this month's edition of the "American Legion Magazine," which spotlights the city as it was then — the port that thousands of U.S. troops left from for the fighting in Europe — and most of what happened in between.

The magazine has a circulation of close to 3 million around the world.

Mayor Steve Cappiello, who is prominently mentioned in the article, said he was "flattered" and "proud" that the magazine had selected the city for a feature article.

"The part the city played during World War I is very interesting, but so is the history that is being made now," he said. "Hoboken is fighting back from the problems that have plagued so many urban areas, and winning. I'm glad that message got across as well as the past history."

Hoboken council to caucus tonight

Bids for the purchase of two different kinds of fire hydrants and parts for them will be accepted by the Hoboken City Council when it meets Wednesday at 10 a.m.

The council will hold a public caucus tonight at 7 p.m. to review the business to be conducted at the meeting.

Also on the agenda are ordinances amending the salary ranges for city non-uniformed employees and Community Development Agency (CDA) staff members. Both will get public hearings and a final vote.

The council is expected to authorize the sale of 20 cars that were abandoned in the city and picked up by police. The sale is scheduled for April 20 at 2 p.m. in the council chambers.

Hoboken ed rescue termed unlikely

Prospects of filling the \$1.5 million gap in the Hoboken school budget are not good, and more than 50 teachers stand to lose their jobs unless the money is found, Hudson County Superintendent of Schools Russell Carpenter said yesterday.

"Two districts in the county are having serious problems — Jersey City and Hoboken," he said. Carpenter rejected Jersey City's \$62.8 million school budget because it included \$1.6 million more in state funds than the department of education will give the city. The matter is being appealed.

"I have appealed Hoboken's plight to the assistant superintendent of finance and the division of controversies and disputes, but I would say Hoboken is in trouble," Carpenter told more than 30 members of the Union City Rotary Club at the Chateau Renaissance in North Bergen.

Hoboken's \$1.5 million deficit is a result of the board's long-term policy of paying teachers' summer salaries out of the next year's budget. Last July, state Atty. Gen. William F. Hyland ordered the board to end the practice and pay the salaries for two summers out

of the present budget. A New Brunswick resident, who came to the \$31,000 post after serving as assistant superintendent of schools in Plainfield, Carpenter says the "politically oriented Hudson County image" does not apply to education in the county.

Carpenter was appointed to the post five months ago ending four years of a series of acting superintendents on loan from the state department of education. "The office is an intricate, complicated one and the county was shortchanged without a full-time superintendent," he said. "We still don't have the facilities or the staff that other counties have."

Hoboken agencies to curb dog owners' use of parks

The Hoboken Police and Public Works departments and Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) program will be combining their efforts to curb dog owners' use of city parks to walk their pets.

Police Chief George W. Crimmins said today he will instruct his men to

issue summonses to all persons observed walking dogs in the parks, in response to complaints from a local block association.

The chief added that he also will ask the CETA program, which provides security guards who patrol

the parks, to have its men issue tickets for the offense.

"I will also advise Public Works of our plans and ask to have its men cooperate with the police department and CETA when they observe a violation," he continued. "In such instances it would be helpful if they contact the police so that the arrest or summons can be issued."

Carmen Cutillo, deputy public works director, said he would make sure the men working in the parks cooperate fully with the police and report anyone with a dog using the parks.

He added the city also is making up additional signs warning residents that dogs are not allowed in the parks and dog owners will be prosecuted for violations. The signs will be posted at all entrances.

A group of young Hoboken mothers, representing the 1100 Garden Street Block Association, are planning an April 23 march to protest unabated use of the park — primarily Stevens and Elysian parks — as dog runs by some residents.



Despite "No Dogs Allowed" signs, dogs are free to roam, unleashed, through Hoboken's Stevens Park at Fifth and Hudson streets.

Showdown

No doubt about it. The young Hoboken mothers who have been protesting the continued use of city parks by dog owners as comfort stations for their pets will have to continue their protests.

No one in authority is doing anything to discourage the abuse of park property. The mothers will just have to draw attention to the problem in any way they can or they will have to abdicate the use of parks to the dogs.

Hoboken, like other cities, could enact an ordinance requiring pet owners to clean up after their animals. Such an ordinance requires careful supervision and vigilant follow through all the way to the courts.

Parks are for people. It is about time someone in authority recognizes that fact and finds the courage to do something about it.

Politics slows Hoboken caucus

Somehow, in between political in-quiescence, the Hoboken City Council manages to pursue the mundane business of governing its citizens.

It isn't easy, though, as any visitor to a city council session will tell you. Take last night's council caucus, for example.

First, the city lawmakers are supposed to go over claims submitted by the heads of the various departments, but last night, only one department director — Fred Bado of the Community Development Agency

(CDA) — was around to answer queries.

Two directors — Herman Bier of Administration and Raphael P. Vitale of Public Works and Recreation — didn't report because they've been suspended by Mayor and Public Safety Director Steve Cappelletto, who was also among the missing.

No one was there to represent their respective departments, either, as was the case for the absent Frank Bartletta, director of Revenue and Finance.

Council President Martin J. Brennan asked several councilmen who had questions to give them to the city clerk who, in turn, he said, would present them to the various departments to be answered by tomorrow's regular council meeting.

But the councilmen wouldn't buy that explanation and Fourth Ward Louis Franco, sporting a jacket label bearing the names of three anti-administration candidates running in the May municipal contest, said the mayor was exercising the policy of a "dictator."

Reading a letter from the mayor announcing Vitale's removal from his director's post, First Ward Councilman Anthony Romano, who is running against Cappelletto for mayor, called the dismissal "politics" and began a litany of charges directed at the incumbent.

"Hold it," said Brennan; "that's off-limits at a council caucus. You're making charges here at a man who's not here to defend himself. You should go to the prosecutor's office."

Romano said he'd confine his remarks to the letter but almost immediately went on to declaim against the mayor. Cutting him off, Brennan said: "If you want to make a political speech, go out on the steps of the city Hall."

Hoboken's governing body and Board of Education have until Monday to decide how they're going to cut the \$4 million-plus in local taxation needed to support local school expenses which voters rejected at the polls and Brennan appointed a three-member council committee to sit down with the trustees.

One member, Councilman-at-large Francis X. Leahy, has begged off, saying he's got no time because he's running for reelection (on Romano's ticket).

"Now I'm in a quandary," said Brennan. "I'm going to ask the work horse of the council — Robert Ranieri — to serve in Francis Leahy's place," he said.

Leahy, who accused Ranieri of saying one thing in public and another in private during the last round of the

city's negotiations with the firemen's union, exploded, calling Brennan a "hypocrite" all the while pounding the table for emphasis.

It was Ranieri who made known the city's position that providing any public funds to Camp Tamaqua, a privately run camp for poor Hoboken children in upstate New York, would be "illegal." But Romano, last night, said he favors "looking into" the possibility and applying that money to the camp.

Asked if that were possible, city Law Director Larry Florio said CDA "would need" "good cause" to break the agreements. Would the camp's needs justify the move? "I'm not in a position to determine what's good cause," said Florio.

Alluding to Romano's position as school board business manager, Brennan said: "The Board of Education has, in the past, paid subsidies for kids going to camp. I think the board should take the money from the raises its administrators got and give it to the camp."

In other business discussed at the caucus:

• Brennan said he'll vote "no" on paying \$40,833 to the La Fera Contracting Co. for garbage pickups during March. "I went around the streets 6 a.m. and it was a mess: they carry the garbage by paper bags out of the barrels and the stuff winds up on the street," he said.

• The council heard Joseph Lynch, a partner in the Hoboken firm of Mayo, Lynch Associates, explain why the firm, which drew the plans and specifications for Phase 3 of the city's water distribution improvement project, should be given authority to hire four "inspectors" to oversee that work and maintenance of the 11th Street pumping station.

• Consideration of Hoboken's 1975 audit by Vincent J. Indelicato, just completed, probably will be tabled for tomorrow's meeting because few of the councilmen, according to Brennan, haven't had time to study the auditor's recommendations.

Romano challenges method for picking ballot spots

Will file cards or capsules be used to draw ballot positions for Hoboken's May 10 municipal election?

First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano, a candidate for mayor, has asked the city's Law Director, Lawrence J. Florio, to direct City Clerk Anthony J. Amoroso to use capsules when he picks the ballot positions on April 11.

However, Florio says the paper cards Amoroso has been using for years are just fine and capsules aren't required.

In a letter to Florio, Councilman Romano, who is heading a ticket opposing Mayor Steve Cappelletto and his ticket, said that state election laws require capsules to be used in the drawings.

Florio disagrees. "The section of the law the councilman referred to pertains to general elections and drawings held by the county clerk," he said. "In Hoboken's case, we operate under the Faulkner Act and it states that 'paper cards' are to be used. The cards, with the candidate's name or the names of the candidates if on a ticket, are placed in a box with an opening large enough for the clerk to put his hand in and pick them out."

"Capsules are not mentioned or required," Florio added that he would advise Romano of this in his written reply to the councilman's letter.

Cappelletto to keynote seminar

Mayor Steve Cappelletto of Hoboken will deliver the keynote address next Wednesday when his city is host to a three-day seminar on housing sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

The seminar will be from Wednesday to Friday on the campus of Stevens Institute of Technology. Cappelletto's talk will be entitled, "Putting it up or putting it with it," and will cover the various approaches Hoboken has taken in solving its housing problems in recent years. The talk is scheduled for 2 p.m.

A highlight of the three-day seminar will be a tour of "Hoboken housing initiatives" next Friday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. with the mayor serving as moderator.

The visitors will inspect a number of rehabilitated apartment buildings, the Clock Towers facility-to-housing conversion, brownstone renovations through the Home Improvement Pro-

ject and a number of tenement rehabilitations.

"We (the mayors) are all in the same position, striving to make our cities work — and work better," Cappelletto said today. "In Hoboken we have made marked improvements, rehabilitating more than 20 percent of our total housing stock."

Also addressing the visiting officials the first day will be Walter Barry, head of Applied Housing Associates, which has done most of the rehabilitation work.



Babette Marchand paints in her fourth floor Hoboken loft. She is just one of many artists, musicians and middle class New Yorkers who have set up studios in Hoboken.

Expatriate NYers flock to Hoboken

By STEVE HINDY

This mile-square port city, once known only as Frank Sinatra's birth place and the site of the 1952 movie, "On the Waterfront," is becoming fashionable.

Many artists, musicians and middle class New Yorkers, unable to afford rents in Manhattan, are finding they can enjoy an easy pace, feel safer and get more for their money in Hoboken.

"I think Hoboken is on its way up simply because it's

been down for such a long time," says Beverly Hans, a 12-year resident who with her husband, Jim, publishes a monthly magazine here.

Recent newcomers say they live comfortably beside the blue-collar German, Irish and Puerto Rican immigrants who make much of Hoboken's 45,000 population.

"I go to the vegetable market and say I want to have fettucine Alfredo for dinner and the manager gives me a recipe," says designer Alice Mueller, 28.

"You buy asparagus and he tells you how to cook it. Nobody does that in New York," she adds.

"It has all the good qualities of a small town," says Mrs. Chester Bloom, whose husband moved his portrait shop here from Greenwich Village.

About \$50 million in public and private funds have gone

into local improvement programs over the past six years, much of it to renovate housing.

In uptown Hoboken, brownstones and row houses stand on tree-lined streets. There are also one-family homes with landscaped lawns and gardens. Unlike the stockbrokers, lawyers and writers who live uptown, artists have come here for cheap space.

"There are more and more artists coming from New York because the lofts are cheaper, but not all that cheap," says Babette Marchand, 41, a painter who has lived here about 12 years.

Ms. Marchand pays \$250 monthly for about 1,000 square feet of loft space on the fourth floor of a turn-of-the-century industrial building.

With 15-foot exposed beam ceilings and high windows at either end, the unpartitioned loft is ideal for an artist, Mrs. Marchand said.

Her workbenches and easels are on the west side of the room where they get sun in the afternoon, and her oak bed and kitchen table are at the other end.

From her rear windows she can look over the bronzed synagogue across the street and across Hoboken's tar roofs and chimneys to the towering Manhattan skyline. "Who else can lie around in bed at night and watch the lights on the Empire State Building going on and off," she said.

Togetherness

The Washington Savings Bank will lease a site at 12th Street and Willow Avenue, Hoboken, to the 1100 Garden Street Block Association for \$10 a year.

The New Jersey Bell Telephone Company will build a pocket park there, providing a sitting area and play equipment for children.

The Applied Housing Association will pay for the insurance.

Hoboken's Public Works Department will supply men and equipment if needed.

The block association will police and maintain the finished park.

That is togetherness and everyone involved deserves the gratitude of the community.

Hoboken begins annual pot hole repair program

Spring weather may still be a few weeks away but for the Hoboken Public Works Department it arrived with the start of the city's annual "Pot Hole Repair Program."

A crew of four men and a truck have been assigned to patching up the city's streets after one of the worst winters — potholewise — in recent years, according to Deputy Director Carmen Cutillo.

"It was a combination of extremely cold weather and streets that had temporary patches on them that did it," he explained. "The city had many streets with patches from work that

was done on the water lines during the summer, fall and early winter months.

"The action of water getting under the patches and freezing caused many of them to come out, leaving large holes in the streets."

Cutillo said city residents could help with the program by reporting any pot holes that aren't fixed to the city.

"We have already listed most of them and know where they are," he continued. "But we may have missed some. If anyone notices that pot holes in their neighborhoods aren't getting

fixed after three or four days, call it in to the city."

"The repair program may take a week, maybe two to complete. There's only one crew working on it and they can't be everywhere at the same time. I'd say that if any given pot hole hasn't been attended to by the beginning of next week we probably missed it and it should be reported."

Cappelletto continues foe purge

By TERRY BRENNAN

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto, his reelection bid seriously hurt by defections from his political camp, continued his purge of one-time supporters in City Hall yesterday when he fired Public Works Director Raphael Vitale.

The mayor, who is fighting to retain his office against First Ward Councilman Anthony Romano, dropped the ax on Vitale, who termed the move "obvious boss tactics." Cappelletto would only say Vitale served "at my pleasure" and would not disclose any charges before a possible hearing.

"This is a sign of political turmoil and the mayor knows he has a fight on his hands," Vitale said. "You either go to the people or resort to political intimidation during elections, and the mayor looks like he's going the intimidation route."

While Vitale can be reinstated by a two-thirds vote of the nine-member City Council, he said he doesn't expect the body to overrule Cappelletto because "the mayor has a 5-4 control of the council right now." He said he would take advantage of his right to a hearing within 10 days.

Romano claimed Vitale's dismissal was "strictly political" and said people should "beware of the mayor if he has the power to fire anybody at his pleasure."

"I think it is unfair because people in politics should definitely have the right of freedom of choice," Romano said. "Cappelletto is infringing on the Constitutional rights of everyone in politics and I will fight to protect them."

Cappelletto fired Business Administrator Herman Bier two weeks ago because he claimed Bier was "too much of a free spender." Both Vitale and Bier are strong supporters of Romano in his bid to unseat the first-term mayor.

The disruption of Cappelletto's administration stems from his decision to keep Councilman Robert Ranieri on his ticket.

Hospital Days start April 28 in Hoboken

A unique joint venture by the city of Hoboken and the Hoboken Retail Bureau will turn the lower end of Washington Street into an outdoor art show ringed with cafes on April 30.

Called "Hoboken Hospitality Days," the program will start April 28 with three days of special sales planned by Hoboken merchants.

"The whole business community is filled with enthusiasm," said Bill Roth, bureau spokesman. "It'll be the biggest holiday ever for Hoboken."

Roth is coordinating the merchants' efforts with Fred Bado of the Community Development Agency and city officials, who are seeing to the traffic and parking arrangements for the Saturday art show.

They will meet Monday at 2 p.m. at the CDA office to discuss the possibility of additional events to be held under the "Hoboken Hospitality Days" program.

A historical tour of the city and a tour of homes in the city are other possibilities, according to Bado.

On April 30 the area from First to

Sixth Streets on Washington will be roped off and filled with local artists and their works.

"We want to keep a Hoboken theme and we know there are a number of local artists, photographers and craftsmen with paintings, photos and other work related to the city," said Bado. "We want to have them all out that day to display or sell their things."

This is not a flea market and antiques fair," he stressed, "and we are not interested in mass produced items. This will be a day for real artists."

Special craftsmen who have become involved in the restoration of the city's stately brownstones have also been invited to exhibit their work, as have furniture refinishers and other specialists, he said.

The restaurants in the area will be allowed to put tables and chairs on the sidewalk to create outdoor cafes. Persons interested in displaying or selling their work are asked to register with the CDA, 84 Washington St., Hoboken.

Field to open before election

The Hoboken city council has awarded a \$21,000 construction contract to insure that the Little League field at Stevens Park will be ready for the first game May 8.

Opening of the refurbished field just two days before the May 10 municipal election brought complaints from Councilman Francis X. Leahy that the action "smacked of politics."

"I'm not saying the children shouldn't be allowed to play," said Leahy at last night's special council meeting. "I'm just saying the timing

is political. Two days before the election we are going to have the mayor throwing out the first ball."

However, Council President

Martin Brennan said the game always starts before May 10 and the council is awarding the contract now because it wants to make sure there is enough time to do the work.

Four bids were received at the meeting and after considering the offers the council awarded the contract to the lowest bidder, Esposito Brothers Contracting Co. of Cedar Knolls for \$20,938. The other bids ranged from \$24,420 to \$31,269.

Many lend hand to give Hoboken 'pocket-park'

Hoboken residents will soon have a new "pocket-park" to enjoy in the northern section of the city thanks to the efforts of a local block association, a bank, the telephone company, a corporation dealing in rehabilitation and the city Public Works Department.

A spokesman for the 1100 Garden Street Block Association said today that arrangements have been completed to develop the vacant lot at 1201-1203 Willow Ave. into a small park for use of residents in that area.

The lot is owned by the Washington Savings Bank which agreed to lease it to the block association for \$10 a year, the spokesman

said. The N. J. Bell Telephone Co. will develop the lot into a park as one of its community projects. The insurance on the park will be paid by Applied Housing Associates, the rehabilitation

firm, if it can get clearance. If not, Hoboken will assume the cost. The spokesman added that Hoboken also has volunteered the use of Public Works personnel and equipment in the construction of the park.

"Members of our block association will take the responsibility of

policing the park and keeping it clean," she continued.

"The lay-out of the park hasn't been determined," the spokesman said.

At one time the lot was occupied by the police department's second precinct. The building sustained heavy damage in a fire and was eventually torn down. Later, the city sold the property to the bank which, at that time, planned to build a branch office on it.

See Editorial: TOGETHERNESS on Page 16.