

Hoboken City Hall limiting access 88 12/11/77

There are three entrances to Hoboken City Hall but as of today the public will be able to use only the main entrance on Washington Street.

The other two entrances, one on First Street and the other on Newark Street, are being closed to the general public because of modernization being done within the police department, which occupies the entire ground floor of City Hall.

And when the work has been completed, those two side entrances will remain closed to the public, according to Capt. Russell Sweeten, who is overseeing the operation.

The police desk area, where suspects are formally booked and

where most persons seeking information make their first stop, has been moved so that it is now just inside the Newark Street entrance to the building.

That door has been locked but equipped with a buzzer opener operated by the desk officer, who can open the door from inside for policemen wishing to enter the building. That area had been a hallway which led to the City Hall elevator.

Sweeten said the old desk area is being converted into the public safety communications room and the new City Hall telephone switchboard area. The room will house the police and fire department radio dispatchers and the telephone switchboard operator.

"The work being done is primarily for the purpose of creating the communications room, but it also gave the department the opportunity to secure its area," Sweeten said. "Our

security has not been good in the past because of the building's layout.

"With both the Newark and First Street entrances open just about anyone could walk into the police area — and they've done just that."

Sweeten recounted how on several occasions persons had walked into the police area from the First Street entrance and broke into lockers belonging to police officers, taking their guns and personal property.

"Once we've completed the work I don't think anything like that could happen again," he continued. "We were pretty wide open, anyone could walk through."

Sweeten said that city employees and visitors to the building will not be

allowed to use the police area to get to their offices on the second and third floors of the building. They must use the main entrance on Washington Street.

"The only persons other than policemen who will be allowed to come into the building through the Newark Street entrance are those confined to wheelchairs," he added. "That's the only entrance without steps going up or down."

The captain said that the new operation should be in full gear by Jan. 30. That's the day the radio dispatchers and new telephone system for City Hall will be switched from the top floor of the building to the ground floor communications room.

Hoboken to arrest entire crew if any tugboat ties up at pier 88 12/11/77

Hoboken Police Chief George Crimmins threatened today to arrest the entire crew of any tugboat that ties up at the city's Fifth Street Pier or drops off a barge there.

The chief's threat followed the collapse of negotiations for a deal un-

der which the city would rent out part of the pier to Mervyn's Midnight Waterfront Beauty Inc. That tugboat company has continued to moor barges at the pier from time to time although it no longer has any legal right to do so, inasmuch as it lost the pier (and the adjacent Sixth Street Pier) when the city foreclosed on the property for non-payment of taxes.

Crimmins said that the minute any tugboat secures a mooring line to the pier, the crew will be deemed guilty of trespassing.

Frank J. Bartletta, the city's revenue and finance director, said he had offered to let the Mervyn's firm continue to use the pier in return for paying rent, but the dickering fell through when Vin Carriga, the firm's agent, failed to keep his last two appointments.

Bartletta also said Mervyn's still has two cranes sitting on the pier but he isn't going to do anything about it until he hears the latest from Crimmins about the illegal dockings.

He recalled that he had asked the U.S. Coast Guard for help (since Hoboken has no boats to chase the intruders away) but the Coast Guard had helpfully advised him to have the offenders arrested.

Bartletta said Mervyn's hauls sand and gravel on the Hudson, with half a dozen tugboats, each of which tows up to three or four barges.

Hoboken teacher wins bias case 88 12/11/77

TRENTON — The Hoboken Board of Education has been ordered to pay Linda Rutigliano \$7,140 in back pay and \$1,000 in damages for "pain and humiliation she suffered" because of an act of discrimination in maternity leave case decided by the State Division on Civil Rights.

The division ordered Hoboken to pay the back salary and damages for the teacher who was forced to take a two-year maternity leave even though she was physically able to return to work one year after the birth of her child.

The \$7,140 represents back pay for January, 1973, through June, 1973, the "period she would have worked had she not suffered discrimination," the division said. The damages were for her pain and humiliation.

Division Director Vernon Potter issued the order on findings of Hearing Examiner I. Leo Motiuk, who concluded the school board maternity leave policy discriminated against Rutigliano on the basis of sex.

Her maternity leave began July 1, 1971, and in November, 1972, she informed the board that she would be ready to return from her leave on Jan. 1, 1973.

The board refused to reemploy Rutigliano until the start of the new school year in September, 1973, despite the fact that she qualified for vacancies in teaching and library posts which occurred between January, 1973, and the end of the school year.

Motiuk's report, filed in October, concluded that "there is no evidence whatsoever that males, who experienced new children in their families, were ever required to remain away from work for such a period of time."

"Accordingly, one can only conclude that the board's policy, in fact, was based on the assumption that it is the place of females to remain home for a substantial period of time after giving birth to a child."

Ranieri says HUD disappointed at city for 'slowing down' 88 12/11/77

A Hoboken councilman said today that he will ask Mayor Steve Cappiello for a "thorough" re-evaluation of the city's Community Development Agency, which has spent millions of federal dollars in the city in the last few years.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri said he is making the request because officials of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development have told him of their "disappointment" with the CDA's efforts in the last two or three years.

Ranieri had just returned from a National Conference of Cities convention in San Francisco. He said that while attending the convention he had the opportunity to talk with some top HUD administrators about Hoboken's CDA and its recent efforts.

"There has been a definite slowdown, and HUD officials are concerned by it," the councilman reported. "Hoboken in recent years has come to be the showcase — so to speak — for many of HUD's biggest programs. And the national publicity this community received supports that."

"It appears that our CDA is no longer generating the new programs or ideas it once did and isn't taking advantage of the many new programs available to it from the federal government through HUD and other government agencies. Other municipalities around the county are catching up with us. Some may have even surpassed us in a few areas."

Ranieri said that the CDA ap-

peared to be having trouble getting the federal government to go along with the program it had selected to push for and cited the proposed Hoboken Economic Development Corp. as an example.

"The corporation, designed to assist with the economic growth of Hoboken, was created more than 10 months ago but it ends there," he asserted. "We still haven't gone any further than that although more than \$200,000 in CDA funds was earmarked for it."

CDA Director Fred M. Bado said that the corporation needed more than the \$200,000 in CDA funds but had been unable to get it.

"We have been unable to get a firm commitment for funding for the program from the U.S. Economic Development Agency," he said. "The commitment of federal funds to other projects, like the Public Works Employment program, has caused the EDA problems which have filtered back to agencies like the CDA on the local end of government."

However, Bado said that he hasn't given up on Hoboken's economic development agency concept and thinks it will be able to play a role in a new federal program CDA is applying for — the Urban Development Action Grants program. He said the program was designed to provide funds for new industrial, commercial and residential projects. But he added he didn't know at this time what that role would be.

"The funds the CDA set aside for the Economic Development Corp. have not been used and are still available if something should break loose at the EDA," he continued. "The reason we never staffed the program is that our funds represented only a small part of what was needed."

"There was no reason to put on a staff that didn't have anything to work with. It would have only eaten up the CDA's funds and failed to produce any results based on current conditions."

Bado, meanwhile, is asking the City Council to approve an agreement whereby the city will apply for future federal funds through a regional countywide agency rather than individually.

A resolution scheduled for action at tomorrow's council meeting asks the city to adopt the necessary ordinances and contracts with the county.

Bado said that the proposed regional agency cannot be created unless Hoboken joins because the other eight municipalities scheduled to join do not have the combined minimum population required under federal law.

Hoboken can still apply for funds individually under its current status as a "small city" but there doesn't appear to be any advantage since it

wouldn't lose anything under the proposed sharing formula worked out with the county, Bado said.

The county has agreed to give Hoboken the difference between the \$2.5 million it had gotten in past years and the gradually diminishing amounts it is scheduled to receive over the next three years on its old allotment agreement.

Next year, he said, Hoboken is supposed to get \$1.7 million but if it joins the proposed regional agency it will get an extra \$800,000 from that source.

The only municipalities not joining the county agency are Jersey City, Bayonne and Union City since all of them have sufficient population to qualify individually in the category of cities over 50,000 population, he said.

Monthly spaces go fast at Hoboken garages 88 12/11/77

The Hoboken parking authority expects by next month to have less than 100 parking spaces available in its three parking garages for monthly parkers. Joseph Hottendorf, executive director, said today.

The authority has a total of 1,650 parking spaces in the three garages. Of that number 1,500 are reserved for monthly parkers and the remaining 150 are used for transients on a day-to-day basis.

"We currently have more than 1,370 monthly customers and should be over the 1,400 mark by the end of this month," he said. "That leaves us with 100 or less spaces that can still

be rented — and I don't expect to have them available long."

Hottendorf explained that January and February are usually heavy months for the authority because they are bad weather months.

"Many local motorists like to get their cars off the streets during those months because of the ice and snow, not to mention the salt used by the city to keep the roads clear," he continued. "But this year those same motorists may not enjoy the luxury of waiting until the last minute to decide on renting a space. With only 100 left I expect to be at full capacity before January is over."



RAISING GLASSES — Members of the Hoboken Lions Club begin toasting the \$25 pairs of eyeglasses that were collected by McDonald's in Hoboken to be sent by the Lions to foreign countries. From left are Charles DeFazio, program chairman, Michael L. Spase, a member of the club; Nicholas Damiano, owner of McDonald's fast food outlet and Donald DIALLO, Lions district president.

Hoboken replacing sewer line section 88 12/11/77

A 15-foot section of sewer line on Jackson Street is now being replaced by the Hoboken Public Works Department. It is the first time the city has attempted such a large job on its own, according to Director Andrew Amato.

The director said the section is between Newark and First Streets. It apparently caved in within the last three or four weeks but residents and businesses in the area had been

experiencing problems for some time.

"It isn't a matter of repairing, the whole section is shot and has to be replaced — and the Public Works Department is going to try to do it without any outside contractors," Amato asserted.

"Maybe that's the wrong decision and we'll have to call in outside help, but I think the job is within the department's capabilities."

The line is one of Hoboken's old wood ones dating back to the Civil War. The sides and top of the line have caved in and cannot be replaced or repaired, forcing the installation of an entirely new section.

"We don't think it happened all at once," Amato continued. "The line was probably fail-

ing apart a little at a time for several years but continued to flow until this last section gave way. I know the department has done some major repairs on some of the old wood lines in the past but I think this is the first time that it is undertaking a replacement on its own."

Amato said he expected the job would take between four days and a week.

Mrs. Gaspar will seek new Hoboken term 88 12/11/77

Mrs. Mary Stack Gaspar, president of Hoboken's board of education, announced today that she has made up her mind to run for re-election Feb. 14 ... despite the fact that she seems to be out of favor with the city's Democratic organization.

Mrs. Gaspar denounced the plan to hold a special election on the question of reverting to an appointed board "seven days before the regular board of education election."

"This is a disgraceful waste of \$13,000 — which the board doesn't have," Mrs. Gaspar asserted. "It's the most stupid thing I ever heard of in my life. If the voters approve the changeover to an appointed board, it won't become effective for a year, and so the mayor won't be able to appoint anyone for a year."

"The people who want the appointed board should have had the special election last August. That way, if they won, the mayor could have appointed three members without waiting a year."

Garbage collector to be paid next week 88 12/11/77

Hoboken's contract garbage collector will have to wait until Thursday to get his \$40,000 check for collections made in November.

That's the day after the next regularly scheduled meeting of the city council. And the council is expected to approve payment of the check, the same one it held up at the Dec. 7 meeting because some members felt the company wasn't complying with the contract it has with the city.

According to Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius, the LaPera Contracting Co. of Newark

will wait and won't discontinue service as had been threatened if the check wasn't released this week by the city. But the matter of contract obligations isn't resolved.

"There will have to be some lengthy discussions with the company about the contract and what it requires be done," Chius said. "But I'm sure the matter can be worked out."

Some Council members claim that the company hasn't been emptying out their litter baskets or picking up rubbish that is deposited at city fire hydrants. The company claims that it has.

Renaissance art form to go into Hoboken office structure 88 12/11/77

The office building now under construction in Hoboken on First Street from Hudson to River streets will incorporate many of the classical art forms of the great Italian Renaissance masterpieces of architecture, Bernard F. Kenny, the owner, said today.

The design theme of the hotel Kenny is planning a block to the north is likewise in the classical style of the Renaissance, Kenny said.

He commented that this is in keeping with "Hoboken's tremendous success in restoring and rehabilitating old beautiful classic-like structures, including the planned restoration of the historic Erie Lackawanna Railroad terminal."

About 40 of the 127 foundation piles needed for the office building have already been driven, and Kenny said the remainder should be sunk in six more working days. Then, frames will be built around the tops of the piles, so that concrete can be poured on top of them for caps.

A service driveway will separate the building from the seven-level

municipal parking garage which takes up the rest of the block from First to Second streets.

The main entrance of the building will be on First Street, and there will be additional entrances to two movie theatres and a full-service drive-in bank, as well as access to a shopping mall, Kenny said.

The movie theatres will be operated by Victor Orjelick, who owns and operates four theatres in New York City as well as the Colony Theatre in Union City.

Regarding the design of the building, Kenny, a professional engineer, declared:

"There is an obvious search for

alternatives to the predominant architectural styles of the past generation of architects and developers in America. This fact is very much underlined by the general public's interest in historical designations and landmark preservation efforts."

Kenny said he did not know of any other building designed in the classic Renaissance style anywhere in New Jersey, since the old Hudson County Courthouse in Jersey City which is being renovated.

"That building was truly a magnificent effort," he added. "We will do our utmost to achieve results close to that fine work of art."

Cappiello urges historic status for rail terminal 88 12/11/77

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello wants the City Council to introduce an ordinance creating a special historic district for the Erie-Lackawanna railroad terminal area.

The city action would be the first step toward acquiring national designation for the terminal and is "strongly urged" by Robert Embry, assistant director of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, said Cappiello.

The mayor told council members at last night's caucus that he wants to have the designation procedures started by the time he meets with Embry in Washington on Jan. 11 to discuss Hoboken's redevelopment plans.

Hoboken receives millions of dollars annually from HUD and Cappiello said the historic designation would help the city get approval for new projects to rehabilitate the terminal area.

Cappiello said HUD officials were quite enthused about the possibilities for redeveloping the terminal building and ferry house and said the city would be working with the Port Authority, the New Jersey Department of Transportation and Transport of New Jersey in drawing up proposals.

The terminal at Hudson Place was built in 1907 for the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad to replace an earlier station that had burned. It is the only one of four major rail-ferry terminals on the Hudson County waterfront still in operation although ferry service to Manhattan was discontinued a decade ago.

Amato wants advice on shunning council 88 12/11/77

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato said today he will consult with his personal attorney, E. Norman Wilson of Hoboken, over the weekend, on his role in a controversy with the Hoboken City Council.

The council has directed Amato to appear at the next council caucus to defend his refusal to heed a council directive. That was a demand that he turn over to the council his record of the dates and hours when public works trucks took trips to Keansburg, where Councilman Louis Francese has a summer home, when Raphael Vitale was public works director.

Cappiello to issue identification cards 88 12/11/77

Mayor Cappiello of Hoboken is issuing identification cards housing, fire, electrical, building, or others — and meter employees who have occasion to go into homes or other premises in the city.

He urged all Hobokenites to ask to see the I.D. cards before admitting anyone who claims to represent the city.

"Let the public be wary of people soliciting at the door or seeking to come into the house," the mayor said. "It's a simple matter — just ask to see the identification."

Cappiello said the badges

are going to all inspectors — housing, fire, electrical, building, or others — and meter readers, and also to all police and firemen. The reason for the latter, he explained, is that off duty police and firemen sometimes have occasion to seek entry.

It has been a number of years since such I.D. cards were last issued, and the ones he is now issuing constitute a much-needed update, the mayor said. They are laminated, and signed by him as public safety director. There will be close to 400 in all.

Jersey City water meter check urged by Hoboken

Mayor Cappiello has fired off a telegram to the state Public Utility Commission asking it to check the meter Jersey City uses to measure the water it sells to Hoboken.

This move was a quick change from the strategy decided on at a conference of Hoboken city officials late Tuesday when it was decided to demand that Jersey City produce "facts" to support its claim that it has been under-charging Hoboken almost 50 per cent as a result of a faulty meter.

Councilman Robert A. Ranieri, chairman of the Hoboken city council's water committee, said that under state law the PUC is required to check meters on request of such agencies as the city. He said a fee of \$5 is charged.

Jersey City has notified Hoboken that whereas it has been billing Hoboken for 5.4 million gallons of

water a day, actually Hoboken has been getting 9.5 million.

Ranieri today caustically commented: "Under our contract to buy water from Jersey City, we paid penalties during the summer months for under-consumption and now we face penalties for over-consumption."

If the PUC meter reader agrees with Jersey City that the meter was defective but has now been corrected, Hoboken will then have to have a financial accounting with its neighboring city, Ranieri said.

"The bill they have sent us for November is obviously estimated, since it is based on consumption of practically 9.5 million gallons a day," the councilman declared, "whereas we were metered by Jersey City during November at only 5.5 million. Since they say they did not repair the meter until Dec. 8, we want to know how they arrived at the bill."

School board issue may be on ballot in Hoboken Feb. 14

Supporters of an appointed school board in Hoboken have filed a petition with more than 1,600 signatures asking for a special election on a referendum to revert from an elected to an appointed board. But they may not have been successful.

Robert W. Taylor, board attorney, said today he will recommend to the board that the question be placed on the ballot at the regular Feb. 14 election of school board members instead of having the special election.

Taylor said his understanding of the law was that the petitions had to be submitted to the school board and the election held within 50 days of that date. He said the petitions have been given to the board's secretary but the board itself hasn't officially received them and won't until its next meeting.

"I will suggest to the board members that a special meeting be called for the evening of Jan. 5 since that is the last day for filing

nominating petitions for the school board candidates and there is usually a lot of business that must be attended to around that time," he continued. "The petitions for the referendum could be accepted by the board at that meeting."

"If they are, then the placing of the question on the Feb. 14 ballot conforms with the law."

Supporters of the appointed board want the matter decided at a special election, separate from the regular school election. Their contention is that the latest special election can be held in Feb. 7 and that the 30-day limit started when the petitions were turned over to Thomas A. Gallo, board secretary, yesterday afternoon.

The petitions were filed by Edwin J. Chius, the city's business administrator, and William Van Wie, Mayor Steve Cappiello's confidential aide.

Chius said appointed board supporters still want a separate election but no action would be taken to force the issue until it's known what the board's official position is.

"The board members may not agree with Mister Taylor," Chius said, "and vote for a special election. But regardless of what is decided, at this time there is no official decision for us to take exception to or accept."

Taylor said he did not believe putting the question on the Feb. 14 ballot violated the spirit of the law.

"Based on their theory, we could have two elections within seven days of each other," he explained, "a special election one Tuesday to decide the appointed or elected school board question and the regular school board election the following Tuesday."

The petitions carrying the signatures of 1,632 voters were turned over yesterday by Gallo to Hudson County Superintendent of Elections Joseph Brady for verification. Approximately 1,250 valid signatures from registered voters are needed.

Politics was the story of Hoboken in 1977

By Peter Hallam

The name of the game is politics. And as it has been in so many past years, it was the pastime of most Hoboken residents during 1977 as Mayor Steve Cappiello successfully battled dissident forces in his administration.

Rumors of unrest within the administration had been circulating for more than a year but the public image considered the primary opposition Cappiello would face in the May mayoral election.

That prediction came true in April when Romano announced at the 11th hour that he was running for mayor and fielded a ticket that comprised Francis X. Leahy, then a councilman, Anthony Russo and Frank Duroy as his councilmen-at-large candidates. Bier and Vitale became campaign managers.

Their campaign started off well, many observers believing that Romano would rout the Cappiello forces. It did not come to pass. Cappiello ran a highly polished campaign and in less than four weeks overcame Romano's apparent early commanding lead. The day before the May 10 election, bettors in the Cappiello crowd were willing to lay 2 to 1 odds that the mayor would beat Romano by more than 2,000 votes.

The mayor's plurality was almost double that — he polled 9,118 to 5,196 for Romano — and he swept into office with him his three councilmen-at-large running-mates, Thomas Kennedy and incumbents Robert A. Ranieri and Bernard J. Scrivani. The latter victory gave the mayor a 6-to-3 majority on the council.

Prior to the election Cappiello selected Andrew J. Amato to replace Vitale as public works director but he left the position of business administrator unfilled until after the election, when Edwin J. Chius, who had helped direct the mayor's campaign, was named to the job.

That should have ended it — but it did not. Friend had been pitted against friend, family against family, and the wounds opened by the hard-fought contest still have not healed.

and unity was maintained until March when the mayor moved Herman Bier from his position as business administrator and removed Raphael P. Vitale from the post of public works director a month later.

Both Bier and Vitale were given the formality of a hearing before the mayor, but neither was able to change Cappiello's thinking and the firings stood. The two men had allies on the Romano supporters employed by the city suddenly found they were being called on the carpet for every minor incident. The same held true for Cappiello supporters on the county level, where Romano and his allies, Freeholder Vincent J. Fusilli, seem to pull more weight with the county's new Democratic leader, Mayor Thomas F. X. Smith of Jersey City.

After the election Bier moved to Florida, never to return to the city of his birth. He died in August of a heart attack. Vitale remained in Hoboken and continues to be politically active through the Louis Francane Fourth Ward Regular Democratic Club, of which he is president.

Image was the key word for the city during 1977. And the image conveyed nationally was that "No one laughs at Hoboken anymore." The waterfront town that only a few years before had been down on its luck was making a comeback — and that message was splashed across the country on television and through the newpapers.

The foundation for the comeback was housing — rehabilitated houses, and programs financed by the state and federal governments that actually worked thanks to the successful efforts of Applied Housing Associates. That company's latest figures show that between 20 and 25 percent of the city's total housing stock has been rehabilitated since it began operating more than five years ago.

Adding to the picture was a reduction in the overall crime rate for the second year in a row.

But a disturbing fact was the involvement of police in several shootings, three of them fatal, one resulting in the indictment of a police officer on a murder charge.

city council but they were unable to muster the six votes needed to override the mayor's action.

Mayor Cappiello never gave any public reason for the dismissals except to say that Bier and Vitale served at his pleasure. But it was a political fact of life that the two were siding with First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano, who was con-

On Feb. 22 Patrolman Walter Lebrink shot and killed Dennis Kierce of Jersey City while off duty in an incident outside a local tavern. The officer said Kierce had a gun and had pointed it at him as though he was going to shoot. The gun was a starter's pistol that fired only blanks, but this was not learned until after Lebrink had fired, hitting Kierce in the head.

After a lengthy investigation by the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office, the case was presented to a grand jury, which indicted the young police officer on the murder charge. However, a jury deliberated only a few hours before returning a "not guilty" verdict.

Similar investigations were conducted into shootings involving Patrolmen Peter Falco, James Lynch and Fred Ferrante but all were found to have "acted properly."

Falco shot and killed Angel Nenadich on Sept. 22 in the hallway of 228 Bloomfield St.

Lynch and Ferrante shot and killed Manuel Rivera on April 16 in a shootout in front of a tavern at 86 Garden St. Rivera and two other men has just held up the tavern and were exiting when police arrived.

Environmental troubles that had started in November of 1976 when Hoboken withdrew from the Hudson County Sewerage Authority continued into 1977. The state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) notified the city on Jan. 21 that it was following the trail of raw sewage that was being discharged directly into the Hudson River at the Bethlehem Steel shipyard and traced it to the Maxwell House coffee plant nearby. It also told the city to take immediate corrective action.

City officials exonerated Maxwell House and accepted full responsibility. After several meetings with both state and federal anti-pollution officials it was determined that the September 1975 explosion which destroyed the 11th Street pumping station, just outside the Maxwell House plant entrance, was probably responsible for the problem. Work on the repair of the station and connecting lines is underway.

No longer under the protective blanket of the county authority, Hoboken had to come up with its own plan for upgrading its sewage treatment. It did so by investing \$100,000 to construct two different pilot filtering systems and hiring the engineering firm of Mayo Lynch and Associates to operate the project.

A report on the feasibility of the two systems, both of which are reported to be working well, is expected to be released to the city at the end of this month or the beginning of January.

A probe of alleged widespread gambling activities was launched in the spring after another newspaper claimed that police were taking payoffs to look the other way and that those payoffs were reaching city officials. A number of policemen and superiors were called before the Hudson County Grand Jury by the Prosecutor's Office, but no indictments were handed down. Sources in the prosecutor's office say the probe is still open and the investigation continuing.

In late January professors at Stevens Institute of Technology launched an 18-day strike over wages and fringe benefits which ended on Feb. 11 when both sides agreed to federal mediation.

In October one of the city's landmarks, the large Mount Olive Baptist Church on the city's main street, was gutted by a general alarm fire that left only the four walls standing. The disaster gave Hoboken residents a chance to show the generosity and concern.

The all-black congregation has yet to launch an all-out formal fund-raising drive to rebuild the church but it hasn't had to. Donations from local residents and business establishments started coming in to the Rev. Odell Stewart the day after the fire.

Council won't accept Amato refusal to supply truck data

Hoboken's City Council will not accept Public Works Director Andrew Amato's refusal to turn over the dates and hours on which city trucks made trips to Keansburg, where Councilman Louis Francane has a summer home.

Amato yesterday said he would not comply with the council's request for the data — a request initiated by Francane himself. His reasoning was that the council has no jurisdiction and could not do anything about the truck trips, regardless of what information it obtains about them; and that the only agency with any

authority in the matter would be the county prosecutor's office.

But Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri retorted today:

"He'll comply with our request. He's employed by the mayor and council — not by the prosecutor. If we request information pertaining to his department, he must comply. Otherwise he is defying us. It would be an affront to the council."

"On the other hand," Ranieri continued, "if he has information on criminal matters, then he is duty-bound to bring it to the attention of the prosecutor himself. And he can't

make a judgment as to whether he should or shouldn't. It is his duty."

The councilman said he felt certain Amato would supply the information sought. "I presume he voiced his refusal in a moment of ill-advised reaction, and he will reconsider and change his mind," Ranieri added.

The city council, at last night's meeting, directed the city clerk to send a letter to Amato directing him to appear at the next council caucus to explain his accusations.

Councilman claims proof to back illegal work case

By RICK BOOFIELD

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato said yesterday he can support his recent allegations of illegal work performed by city employees over a two-year period with eyewitness accounts.

Amato said his witness is not a city employee but someone who says he has seen men from the Public Works Department working, on city time, in the Keansburg area, near the New Jersey seashore.

When asked whether he would call the witness before the City Council, which is seeking information about the alleged illegal work, Amato said he would first consult his attorney, E. Norman Wilson, before deciding on a course of action.

Amato first made the charge of the illegal work performed during 1976 and 1977 17 days ago at a council caucus meeting. He and Councilman Louis Francane were arguing about the condition of the trucks in the Public Works Department, when Amato mentioned the illegal work in the Keansburg area.

The question surfaced again this week when Francane asked Amato to substantiate his charge.

Two days after the Dec. 19 caucus, Councilman Walter Cramer, at a regular meeting, called on Amato again to substantiate his charges with lists of employees who drove to the Keansburg area in city trucks and worked on a variety of projects on city time.

Amato rejected Francane's original request, saying the matter should only be investigated by the Hudson County prosecutor. He repeated his rejection of Cramer's request yesterday. "I will not supply the council with any information, nor call any Public Works employees, until I have spoken to my lawyer," Amato said.

Francane's and Cramer's request for the exact times, dates, and places the city employees worked cannot be supplied by the Public Works Department. Daily records of mileage, work performed, and materials used by Public Works Employees, have not been kept for the last two years, a 25-year veteran of the department said yesterday.

Amato has said the records do not exist, but he plans to conduct his own investigation beginning Monday morning by calling in 15 Public Works employees and questioning them about the alleged illegal work.

Amato refuses to say whether or not he will deliver any evidence of wrongdoing to the council if he discovers it. But in a letter to the council to be delivered Monday, he said that body should disqualify itself from the investigation.

Assistant Corporation Counsel Thomas Callighy said the council has the full right to request information from Amato concerning city workers. He added that it is the council's responsibility to inform the appointing authority, Mayor Steve Cappiello, if it uncovers any wrongdoing. Callighy also said the council could decide to turn the matter over to the Hudson County Prosecutor's office for further investigation.

Chius raps school board aide on petition criticism

Irked by criticism of the petition for a special election on the question of reverting to an appointed board of education, Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius said today that unless Robert W. Taylor, Board of Education counsel, was "speaking in the capacity of a private citizen, he should 'keep his mouth shut.'"

Chius exclaimed that if Taylor wished to hold down the board's expenses, "he should take a train when he travels to Trenton on board business, and pay the \$10 train fare, instead of traveling in a chauffeured limousine for \$140."

Taylor is recommending to the board that it refrain from holding the special election and instead place the question on the ballot at the regular annual election of three board members Feb. 14.

Taylor said that, according to his understanding of the law, the special election would have to be held within 50 days of the date the petition was submitted to the school board. Although the petition has been turned in to the board's secretary, he said, the board itself has not officially received it, and will not until its next meeting.

The attorney added that he would suggest the board hold a special meeting Jan. 5, since that is the last date for receiving nominating petitions for the Board of Education election, and that if the board accepted the petition at that time, the placing of the question on the ballot Feb. 14 would comply with the law.

To this, Chius retorted that Thomas A. Gallo, the board secretary with whom he filed the petition, "is the statutory officer to file with."

Chius, who circulated the petition along with William Van Wie, Mayor Steve Cappiello's confidential aide, said the petitioners still want a separate election.

Mrs. Mary Stack Gaspar, board president whose term is expiring and who announced Friday that she will run for reelection, said today that she would try to arrange for a caucus of the board Jan. 5.

Repeating her denunciation of the proposed special election, she declared: "It will cost the board an extra \$13,000—which we don't have—and that amount of money we could hire another teacher."

Mrs. Gaspar said the voters had already turned down the appointed board twice.

Hoboken critics zeroing-in on trips by city officials

Two Hoboken critics focused on vouchers for trips by city officials and for a theater party at last night's city council session.

Robert King wanted to know why three planning board members, the board consultant and an outside architect gobbled up three \$16 dinners and two for \$41 at a plush Boston eatery during a two-day trip to the Bay State this month to check out a city waterfront project.

Although he didn't ask about it during the meeting, King later told reporters he saw another voucher submitted by one board member requesting payment for taking nine persons to lunch.

King said the vouchers indicated the board members and the consultant flew to Boston and back at an economy rate of \$74 one-way. Compensation requests for plane fare, taxi rides and parking fees were included on last night's claims list.

Council president Martin J. Brennan said only that the figures presented by King sounded "reasonable. That's about what dinners cost nowadays."

King chided the council for doing

"very sloppy business" by approving payment of a claim for \$240 submitted by the local Community Development Agency for theater tickets for Citizens United for Neighborhood Action, a local Hispanic group, for a Sunday showing of "Star Wars" when the CDA purchase order "was not signed until today."

Brennan replied that Mayor Steve Cappiello "wrote out his own personal check" to cover the payment because the voucher request "came in too late to get on our agenda."

To King's complaint that it was "not good policy to give free tickets to private groups," and that he hadn't seen any city-wide public advertisement for the theater program, Brennan responded: "I imagine the word got out about it. I read about it in the paper."

Thomas Vezzetti asked the council

why it authorized as many as 28 people from Hoboken to attend the three-day League of Municipalities Convention in Atlantic City last month at a cost he said was \$300 per person.

The list of participants, which Vezzetti said he got from city

business administrator Edwin Chius, included all six planning board members, three members of the local zoning board, three councilmen, two department directors, city comptroller, first assistant city attorney, police and fire chief, inspectors of the city housing, electrical and plumbing departments, city manpower director, court clerk, signal-system foreman, a member of the advisory recreation commission, and the parking authority's executive director, chairman and comptroller.

"Did any of these people give you a written report that would make Hoboken that much better?" asked Vezzetti, but he got no answer on that.

On whether those persons should have gone, Brennan said: "There's a line item in the budget for this. It's the only meeting during the year which the city councilmen are invited to attend." Brennan didn't mention anything about the others.

Hoboken replies in kind to hospital nonpayment

St. Mary Hospital says it has been unable to keep its agreement to pay up its water bill arrears to Hoboken—now totaling at least \$135,000—and the city administration is replying in kind by withholding payment of bills it owes the hospital—in the neighborhood of \$50,000.

This was disclosed today by the business administrator, Edwin Chius. Chius said he has arranged a meeting for 10:30 a.m. Wednesday in his office to discuss the situation with hospital representatives.

St. Mary has been running behind for many years in its payments for water used, and on at least two occasions in recent years it has agreed to

pay up the arrears on a definite schedule. After the last agreement, a couple of years ago, the hospital did pay, for some months, but it later stopped. Chius said the reason given was that the hospital did not have the money.

The payments withheld by the city, he said, are mostly for medical bills for treatment of city employees injured in the line of duty, mainly police and firemen.

One large piece of it, he said, is \$11,000 for the care of a prisoner.

Chius said the Hoboken Law Department has been simply holding up the bills from the hospital as they arrived, and he has now asked the department to total them.

PUC to hear Hoboken water complaint

Hoboken is offering an increase from \$20 per million gallons to \$476 in the rate it pays to Jersey City for its water . . . but the staff of the state Public Utilities Commission is recommending \$553.

The PUC has a meeting scheduled for Tuesday at 2 p.m. to set an interim rate. However, Hoboken yesterday obtained PUC permission to have the PUC hear arguments on the matter at 1:30 p.m. by its special counsel for water, John Sailer of Elizabeth.

A series of hearings on the question of setting an interim rate was held over a period of weeks. (After the interim rate is set, the PUC will hold more protracted hearings on a permanent rate.)

Hoboken's \$476 figure, Sailer explained today, is what Hoboken calculates Jersey City should receive

— provided Jersey City is found to be correct in its recent announcement that the meter that measures the water delivery to Hoboken has been "43 percent slow."

The meter will be tested soon by the PUC to verify Jersey City's claim that it under-recorded the Hoboken water delivery by that percentage.

Even before the matter of the meter came up, Jersey City had asked the PUC to allow it to impose an interim increase of 45 percent in Hoboken's water rates, to satisfy requirements for a sale of bonds to finance construction of a \$39,000,000 water filtration plant.

That was the issue originally before the PUC, now complicated by the discovery of the inaccuracy of the meter. Sailer said the PUC staff's recommendation of \$553 represents a

32 per cent increase over the current rate, and Hoboken is objecting to it as excessive.

Sailer said Hoboken would have to sit down with Jersey City to iron out complications flowing from the way the agreement between the two cities is written. The agreement contains a minimum and maximum amount of water Hoboken was to take.

Sailer said Hoboken paid Jersey City \$30,000 in penalties for "under-consumption" in June, July and August, but it now faces penalties for "over-consumption" because the amount it actually draws has been refigured upward.

Move those plans

Mayor Cappiello wants the Lackawanna railroad and ferry terminal in Hoboken declared a historic district to help the city get money for new projects to rehabilitate it.

This is a good idea and it should be followed through aggressively.

However, the city has had possession of the terminal for more than a year now, and it has commitments for \$5 million in federal and state funds, yet it has not completed any plans for the use of the terminal, beyond repairing the roof and installing new heating and electrical systems.

The planning should have been farther advanced by this time. At least it should be getting talked about.

The terminal is potentially a big asset — perhaps the biggest the city has — toward making the rest of the country take note of Hoboken.

If only Hoboken was as adept at completing its plans as it is in getting the money for them!

A grievance has been filed with the state Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC) against Hoboken for refusing to give a patrolman his vacation because he had been on extended sick leave.

The vacation request was disapproved by Chief George W. Crimmins. However, the chief said that the ruling wasn't his. It had been made by Law Director Lawrence Florio. The law director was not available for comment.

Jersey City has won an interim water rate increase of 32 percent but that victory could very well cause it to lose one of its largest consumers — the City of Hoboken — and force it to seek even larger increases from the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in the near future.

Chius said the city had looked for other sources when Jersey City raised the water rate a year or so ago to almost double what the city had been paying — and several were found. However, there were financial disadvantages involved which made Jersey City still the best buy.

"Our last increase to our customers served two purposes," said Chius. "Not only did it cover the increase from Jersey City but it made our water utility self-sufficient. Part of the increase covered Jersey City's

Hoboken was being billed for only 5.4 million gallons daily, while it was actually receiving 9.5 million gallons. Both sides agreed that the temporary November bill would be an average of the August, September and October readings — 6 million gallons a day.

Hoboken School Board Attorney Robert W. Taylor is sticking to his contention that a referendum on whether

referendum will have absolutely no bearing on the regular school election that follows on Feb. 14. Even if the public votes to go back to the appointed school board, that does not mean

Supporters of the school board may have to wait in order to get their say. An informal poll of board members says that with Tonder

The Hoboken Board of Education will meet Thursday at 8 p.m. to decide whether it will stage a special election on Feb. 7 to allow residents to vote on returning to an appointed school board or if that question should be part of the ballot for the regular school board election to be held on Feb. 14. The meeting will be held at 1115 Clinton St.

Supporters of the appointment of a new school board may have to go to court in order to get their special election. An informal poll of a majority of board members shows that many agree with Tordella.

Two Washington Street Hoboken bus companies have been notified by the state Public Utilities Commission (PUC) that permission has been granted to begin operating bus service on Willow Avenue and Clinton Street.

The spokesman added that the fare will be 40 cents, the same fare

According to the spokesman, additional runs may be made during the

Street, west on Newark to Clinton
Street, north on Clinton to 12th Street

Hoboken and St. Mary Hospital have worked out an agreement that will eliminate part of the more than \$130,000 in back water bills the health facility owes the city. But a final solution will be a lot more difficult, says a city official.

year since some of the payments owed by the city to St. Mary were for treatment provided in past years and would have to be included as a separate line item in the city's 1978 budget.

**Want flat
within city**

Six Hoboken taxi co
asked the city for a 35 c

Six Hoboken taxi companies have asked the city for a 25-cent increase in the fare they charge for transporting passengers to certain sections of the city.

Currently, the fare is \$1.25 for a point-to-point trip between Observer Highway and Eighth Street, from the west to east boundary; and \$1.50 from Eighth Street to the northern city boundary. The companies wish to establish one flat rate of \$1.50 for a ride within the city.

Fred Bado, director of Hoboken's Community Development Agency, said today he is "upset" by Councilman Robert A. Ranieri's criticism of the agency, and feels it is "inaccurate and unfair."

Bado replied today that he had

Bado offered the following as evidence that HUD was pleased rather than dissatisfied with the agency:

The successful application made by the state for \$4.8 million in federal

[illegible]

HOPES wins grant

The state Department of Community Affairs has awarded HOPES Inc., Hoboken's anti-poverty agency, an \$18,307 grant for the continuation of the "In-School Youth in Community Service Corps." E. Norman Wilson, HOPES director, said today.

Wilson said the funds would allow the program to go into its third consecutive year.

SECRET

Officials of St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken, differ with the city as to the amount of money they owe the city for water. The difference is about \$90,000.

The city claims that the hospital owes it about \$135,000. But hospital officials say all they owe is approximately \$45,000, and that will be paid shortly—as soon as the city turns over approximately \$30,000 that it owes St. Mary for treating city employees and police prisoners.

At that time the city said the

"We have an agreement with the city going back to last November in which the hospital's daily patient care cost was reduced to \$150 a day from \$114," he said. "But the city hasn't paid those bills under the new rate and we wanted to bring that fact to its attention."

city's part," Chius asserted. "Taxpayers should understand that the tax rate is actually the product of three factors — the financial needs of the city, the local school district and the county. And the city appears to be in good shape."

Hoboken expects to "hold the line" on spending in its 1979 municipal operating budget, Business Administrator Edwin J. Chiuso said today.

The budget, saying that it would be premature and that a number of changes may still be made before the budget is finalized and submitted to the city council.

The director was quick to point out, however, that a reduction in the city's operating costs wouldn't necessarily result in a decrease in the

1979-79 school budget would go to the city council for approval. The school board would probably approve whatever cuts the city makes, and then the cuts would be

major factors — the financial needs of the city, the local school district and the county. And the city appears to be of good shape."

Chius, who has been working on the budget with Mayor Steve Capriello, declined to go into specifics on the budget.

Chius said that if there was a decrease it would probably be minimal. But even a small decrease

not expect any increase in taxes for the support of the city. In fact, there is a very good chance that Hoboken may show a slight decrease."

Chius explained that if the public

school budget is approximately \$3 million more than last year but it must still be submitted to the public, which could reject it and set off a string of events that could take months to resolve.

Chius explained that if the public

the budget would be finalized by the end of this month submitted to the city council at Feb. 2 meeting. The council would then decide if it wants to make reductions, additions or changes and then schedule a public hearing on the final product for mid-March.

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DeBari won't seek re-election

Anthony DeBari won't seek re-election for a second three-year term on the Hoboken school board and will be replaced by Mayor Steve Cappiello's ticket by Richard F. England Jr., a parking authority member.

DeBari, a local baker who had also served as an appointed board member before the school board became an elected body, did not file nominating petitions but did not file them as of yesterday's 4 p.m. deadline.

England picked up his petitions yesterday morning and filed them in the afternoon. He, James Monaco and Robert Wendelken will be running with the mayor's support. Cappiello confirmed that he will endorse the three as his slate but would not say why DeBari changed his mind and decided not to run.

"I cannot speak for Mister DeBari," said the mayor. "I can only say that he decided against seeking re-election."

Wendelken, a teacher in the Union City school system, also filed his petitions yesterday. Monaco, a Hoboken fireman and head of the Community Relations Bureau, filed Wednesday.

England is employed by the Maxwell House Coffee Division of the General Foods Corp. at its corporate headquarters in White Plains, N.Y. He has been with the company 15 years and is currently a senior production analyst.

Both England and Wendelken were unsuccessful candidates for the school board last year. They opposed the administration's three candidates, all of whom were elected.

Mary Stack Gaspar, the school board president, and Michael "Spike" Costello, another incumbent, filed their nominating petitions yesterday. They will be seeking their second terms on the board, but this time without the backing of the mayor. They opposed the mayor in the May election last year by backing his main opponent, First Ward Councilman, Anthony H. Romano.

Although he has filed, Costello, a police sergeant, said he may still withdraw as a candidate, for health reasons.

If there are no withdrawals from the election, scheduled for Feb. 14, there will be 10 candidates in the race. Petitions have also been filed by Nick DiTrizio, George Giordano, Vito Lanzo, Perry Bellone and Angel Roman.

Cappiello backs 3 for school board

By Pete Hallam

Anthony DeBari, a baker, James Monaco, a Hoboken fireman, and Robert Wendelken, a Union City school teacher, are expected to get the nod today from Mayor Steve Cappiello, the city's political leader, as his candidates for election to the Hoboken Board of Education, according to sources close to the mayor.

All three picked up nominating petitions yesterday. Monaco filed his signed petitions later in the day.

The move will leave Mrs. Mary Stack Gaspar, board president, and Michael (Spike) Costello, incumbents seeking reelection, to fend for themselves. Both ran with the ad-

ministration's blessing three years ago, but went against Cappiello in the municipal election last May.

Monaco, who lives at 1300 Garden St., is head of the fire department's Community Relations Bureau.

Wendelken lives at 1210 Hudson St. DeBari owns and operates a bakery. He lives at 260 Third St. and is an incumbent board member.

DeBari served as an appointed board member before the school board was changed to an elected board and he will now be seeking his second three-year term as an elected member.

Monaco has never sought elective office before.

Wendelken, however, is making

his second attempt at getting elected to the school board — this time from the other side of the fence. He ran last year without backing by the mayor, and placed sixth. But he had help from some administration supporters. Wendelken was backed by Mrs. Gaspar and Freeholder Vincent J. Fusilli as a pretense to the May municipal election when Fusilli openly broke with the mayor and supported First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano.

According to administration sources, Wendelken's election is not sitting well with some of the mayor's supporters because of his association last year with Mrs. Gaspar and Fusilli. They argue that there are loyal and long-time administration supporters who are more deserving.

It is reported that one of those dissatisfied with the selection of Wendelken is DeBari. And for that reason DeBari was still something of a question mark. Sources reported that as of late yesterday he still had not given the mayor a firm commitment to run or drop out. He could not be reached for comment last night.

The first candidate to file his nominating petitions was Vito Lanzo of 10 Church Towers. Lanzo, a baker, was an unsuccessful candidate for councilman-at-large in last May's municipal election. He filed his school board nominating petitions yesterday.

Also picking up petitions yesterday was Perry Bellone of 1021 Park Ave.

All petitions must be filed by 4 p.m. this afternoon with the board's secretary. A minimum of 10 signatures from registered voters is needed to become a candidate.

The other potential candidates with petitions are Mrs. Gaspar,

Costello, Nick DiTrizio, George Giordano, Louis Picardo, Joseph Lotito, and Mrs. Joanne (Sissy) Lepre. However, it is reported that Mrs. Lepre picked the petitions up for another candidate and will not file herself.

A special meeting of the board will be held tonight at 8 to discuss matters pertaining to the election, including what to do about the petitions calling for a special election on Feb. 7 on whether to revert to an appointed board.

Supporters of the referendum submitted more than 1,000 signed petitions demanding the special election. A total of 1,250 valid signatures was needed.

According to the office of the county superintendent of elections, however, many of the signatures were disqualified and the petitioners had to submit some 100 more.

"The signatures that were disqualified came from registered voters but they didn't meet the requirements for this kind of election," a spokesman explained. "The signatures had to be those of persons who voted in the last General Assembly election and many of those we received, although from valid registered voters, did not vote in the last General Assembly election and had to be disqualified."

He added that even with the extra signatures that were submitted the petitioners exceeded the 1,250 requirement by only 25 or so names.

At tonight's meeting, the board will decide if it will hold the special election on Feb. 7, a week before the regular school election, or place the question of reverting to an appointed board on the ballot for the regular election.

No separate school board vote

The Hoboken school board has approved a referendum to decide once again whether the panel should be changed from an elected to an appointed board.

But there will not be a separate election on the issue. The board voted last night to include the question on the ballot at the regular school elections Feb. 14.

It will be the third time that Hoboken voters have been asked to decide the question. A referendum several years ago changed the board from one appointed by the mayor to

an elected panel. Two years ago another referendum reaffirmed that decision.

The administration of Mayor Steve Cappiello has been pushing for a return to an appointed system and several weeks ago presented petitions to force the question on the ballot again. However the Hudson County bureau of elections ruled that a sufficient number of valid signatures were not included on the petitions.

But last night, with a majority of those present allied politically with Cappiello, the board voted five to two

to place the question on the ballot anyway.

Voting in favor were Anthony F. DeBari, James Farina, Otto Hottendorf, Jack Raslowky and Aurelio Lugo. Voting against were board president Mary Gaspar and James Giani. Absent were Michael Costello and Leo McLaughlin.

Mrs. Gaspar called the referendum a waste of time and money. "I don't know why we want to try reverting back again when the people have made themselves heard on this issue twice before," she said.

She also complained about another board decision to hold the annual budget hearing at 10 a.m. on Feb. 1. Mrs. Gaspar cast the only negative vote on that matter.

The controversy on that matter was similar to the one that erupts every year when board critics say the time is inconvenient for the public and school officials say it is traditional to hold the hearing at that hour.

"I really don't see why we can't have two hearings, one in the daytime and one at night," said Mrs. Gaspar.

Parking, playground planned

Preliminary steps are being taken by Hoboken to establish a metered parking area for approximately 75 cars and a park-playground on the large city-owned lot that once belonged to the Condenser Service Co. at Observer Highway and Bloomfield Street.

Edwin J. Chius, city business administrator, said today that the Hoboken Parking Authority, Community Development Agency and the city were generally in agreement on the use of the lot, which takes up approximately half a block. However, a formal plan must yet be worked out and put into package form.

Chius said he visited the site this week with James Caulfield, city building inspector, to get an idea of how the area can be laid out to the best advantage. Caulfield is to survey the site and make several proposals for the layout.

"The parking area will be operated by the parking authority," said Chius. "It will manage the parking area, maintain it, enforce the parking regulations and collect whatever revenues are generated by the metered spaces."

"The city will be responsible for the park-playground area."

Chius said the lot will serve two parking purposes and although it will be metered, not all motorists using the lot will be required to feed the meters.

"A system is being considered through which city officials and others with daily business at city hall would be exempt from using the meters," he said. "This could be accomplished by using decals or visitor cards which the parking authority would issue."

Chius said that this system would be better than leaving a number of spaces unmetered for official cars.

"The trouble with that is that unauthorized motorists would always be pulling into the unmetered spaces, even if they were marked or posted for city officials only," he explained.

"They would be ticketed of course but the space would be taken and an official would have to park at a metered space."

"Metering all the spaces makes more sense," he asserted. "It also makes things a lot easier to enforce."

Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the parking authority, said that hopefully all of the funds for the project could be obtained through the CDA or applications to the Federal government. The authority hopes to keep its investment in the facility to a minimum.

"As long as the city keeps possession of the property the authority would have to keep its investment in the project as small as possible," he continued, "because of our trust agreement. It wouldn't be acceptable to have the authority sink a lot of money into the development of the facility and then have the city decide in a few years that it wants the lot back for some kind of development."

"If it did turn the area over to the authority and then wanted it back, the authority would have to get back whatever it invested in the development of the area. That's one of the problems but it shouldn't be too difficult to work it out."

Hoboken's buses

The operators of Hoboken's Washington Street bus line are going to start a parallel route in the western part of the city.

If it works out, the operators should be in an advantageous position to take over Hoboken's only other bus line, the municipal cross-town route.

One reason is that their buses will now be traversing a good part of the area the cross-town bus serves, and it would not take much to extend their operations over the whole of it.

The city fathers would no doubt gladly unload their bus operation, which has been a consistent loser. The cross-town bus is frequently out of service for repairs — as at present — mainly because the city just does not have the operational know how or repair facilities.

There is a persistent belief that some passengers somehow manage to ride free. There is no doubt the fare is too low to finance efficient operation. Both problems can be traced to local politics.

Private operators would have a better chance to make the cross-town line a success.

Todd Shipyard pacts asked

The Hoboken Water Department and Revenue and Finance Department have been asked by the city council to work out lease agreements with the owners of ships that are docking at the old Todd Shipyard and using city water.

A letter was sent to both departments by the city council's water committee headed by Councilman Robert A. Ranieri, recommending that formal contracts for docking space and the purchase of city water be negotiated immediately with all companies using the facilities.

But neither Frank J. Bartolotta, revenue and finance director, nor Andrew J. Amato, head of public works, which includes the water department, is doing any negotiating. The letter from Ranieri was turned over to the law department. It, in turn, has sent Ranieri a letter asking for more information.

Thomas Callagy, assistant city attorney, asked the councilman how much he felt the city should charge for docking, and how long the agreement should be for.

Ships docking at the facility lately have been unable to get any water. The director was having the area checked daily to make sure none had again hooked up to a hydrant without the city's knowledge. Yesterday, Amato authorized the sale of some city water to one ship. How much the owner would be charged would depend on how much water the ship took on, he said.

"We'll measure its tanks and then figure out how much we are to get," he continued. "It will be charged the normal rate we charge all our customers, a little over \$10 per 1,000 cubic feet."

Although ships have been docking at the city-owned facility for some time, the city has no formal agreements for docking or using city water. That came to light two months ago.

when Amato discovered one of the ships hooked up to a city fire hydrant near the docking site in the northeast section of the city.

According to Amato, the company that appears to be running the show at the shipyard, Eastern Seaboard Pile Driving Co., has agreed to pay the city \$1,200 for water it has taken in the past. However, the city hasn't received any payment yet from the company.

The same company has been

making docking payments to Revenue and Finance for the last several months. But there is no written formal agreement with the company. And before it started paying Hoboken it had been making the monthly payments to Seatrains Lines in Weehawken, according to Bartolotta. He said Seatrains claimed that the section of the pier the ships were docked at was its property. The city has been negotiating with the company to get a share of the rents paid in the past.

End of controversy seen over Hoboken school vote

Supporters of a referendum on whether the Hoboken School Board should be appointed or elected may change their tactics and temporarily eliminate the controversy that has been kicked up over whether the question should be put to the public at a special election on Feb. 7.

According to sources close to the petitioners, the backers of the petition drive may ask for their petitions back and then request that the board have the question included on the ballot for the Feb. 14 regular school board election.

"Support for a referendum on the Feb. 14 ballot would be needed from a minimum of five of the nine board members," he said, "and we should be able to get that."

But there is still one catch. The petitioners want the question worded in such a way that a "no" vote would

signify approval by the voter of returning to the elected board.

Another hitch is that if the petitioners should seek to get their petitions back from the board they may not get them, because the board doesn't have them. They were turned over to the Hudson County superintendent of elections who is verifying that the petitioners have the 1,250 signatures of voters who cast ballots in the November election. A total of 1,000 signatures were submitted to the board.

An advantage of getting the petitions back is that they can be used again should the referendum be placed on the Feb. 14 ballot but be defeated. The same petitions could be resubmitted a few weeks later and the board would then have to hold a special election to again decide the question.

The petitions are expected to be returned by the county before Thursday night's special school board meeting. The petitioners have until then to ask for their return.

Wording of school board vote 'deceitful', Mrs. Gaspar charges

Hoboken's school board president, Mrs. Mary Stack Gaspar, declared today that the wording of the forthcoming referendum on reverting to an appointed board is "deceitful."

She said voters who want to keep the elected board will be expecting to vote "no" — right after they vote "no" on the budget — but actually a "no" vote will bring the appointed board in.

The wording is: "Should the local school district (Hoboken) continue as a Type II district (elected board members)?"

The board last week voted to put this question on the Feb. 14 ballot for the annual election of school board members, at which time voters also will pass upon the proposed 1978-1979 school budget.

Mrs. Gaspar is a candidate for reelection, but without the backing of Mayor Cappiello, whose political organization is pushing to restore the appointed board.

The referendum "is worded to anticipate a 'no' vote from the public," Mrs. Gaspar asserted, "because the public is expected to vote 'no' on the proposed 1978-79 school budget and to be in a 'no' mood when it gets to the referendum on the elected board."

Mrs. Gaspar was one of two board members who voted against putting the question, in any form, on the Feb. 14 ballot at last week's special meeting. The other was James Giani.

"This will be the third time the public has been asked to vote on the elected or appointed school board,"

she continued. "It has twice voted for the elected board so I don't think a third referendum is really necessary. Unless, of course, you happen to be thinking politically and that appears to be what is happening here."

Mrs. Gaspar said it was "obvious" to her that Mayor Steve Cappiello again wanted to control the board by putting his people on it. Mrs. Gaspar, who is seeking her second three-year term, was elected the first time on a ticket backed by the mayor and his organization.

"I was running on a ticket that was being supported by a mayor who had campaigned for the elected board so that the schools could be taken out of the realm of politics," she went on. "He had publicly stated during his election campaign in 1973 and after that the school board should not be an extension of City Hall and that the board members should stand or fall on their own merits."

"I still feel the same way but it is apparent that the mayor doesn't and now wants to hand pick the people who will serve on the board."

Sources close to the drive to have a vote on the elected school board question on a different date said the board's action last week to include the question on the Feb. 14 ballot was a "compromise" agreed to so that a special election would not have to be held.

The petitioners for the special election have fallen short of the number of signatures from qualified voters required to get the question on the ballot. That was verified by

Robert W. Taylor, board attorney, who said that the petitions returned by the Hudson County superintendent of elections were 16 short of the approximately 1,250 needed. A total of 1,000 signatures had been submitted.

Sources said that the petitioners would have been granted additional time by the board of elections to get more signed petitions and they could have forced the special election either on Feb. 7, the week before the regular school board election, or on a date after the regular election.

Instead, they said, the petitioners chose to save the school board the cost of a second election by agreeing to having the question on the Feb. 14 ballot — provided the question was worded in such a way that a "no" vote would signify approval of a return to an appointed board.

Meanwhile, George Giordano, a Hoboken fireman, has been picked for the top spot on the ballot in the election next month. Giordano's name will be on the first line of Column A. He will be followed on line two by Robert Wendelken; Richard England on line three; Mrs. Gaspar on line four, and Perry Bellone on line five.

Mike (Spike) Costello, an incumbent board member, drew the first line in Column B. Vito Lanzo is on line two followed by James Monaco, another fireman; Nick DiTrizio, and Angel Roman on line five.

England, a parking authority member; Wendelken, a Union City school teacher, and Monaco are backed by the mayor.

Hospital debt \$130,000

St. Mary Hospital owes the City of Hoboken \$130,000 for water supplied to it in the six months ending Nov. 18 — plus charges not yet calculated for water supplied since then.

Edwin Chius, the city's business administrator, said today it is true — as the hospital claimed — that the hospital owes only \$48,000 on arrears it built up in the early 1970s. But the hospital's failure to pay current bills makes a total debt of \$130,000 at present, Chius said.

A hospital spokesman had said the hospital was holding up payment of current bills because the city was not honoring an agreement to increase its payments for patient care from \$114 to \$150 a day. Chius said the city was holding up its payments because the hospital wasn't paying.

Chius agreed with the hospital spokesman today that the differences have been settled, the city will hand over a lump sum for what it owes and the hospital will resume paying its bills on a schedule agreed upon.

Center will install Cilento

The installation of Anthony J. Cilento of Hoboken and Peggy Spano of Teaneck as presidents of the Italian Community Center's organizations will be held the night of Jan. 21 at the clubhouse in Union City.

State Sen. Anthony Scardino of Lyndhurst, whom Cilento has known since the lawmaker's infancy, will be installing officer.

Cilento and Mrs. Spano were reelected to second one-year terms last month, he as head of the parent group and she as leader of the auxiliary. Mrs. Spano is a former resi-

dent of Weehawken. She is active in many women's organizations. Cilento is a Hudson County Board of Taxation commissioner, chairman of the county Republican Organization, a former freeholder and the organizer of the first Hudson County United National chapter in Hoboken in 1946.

Cilento also is an honorary founder of the Boy Scouts of Italy and because of his activities in behalf of the Boy Scouts the Italian government cited him with the Star of Solidarity in 1972.

Ranieri wants catch basins fixed and funds in the budget to do it

There's a game Hoboken officials play every year at this time. It's called "Budget Roulette." The department directors ask for the moon, hoping that by the time their budgets pass through the hands of the mayor and then the City Council, they will have enough left to do what they wanted.

The script seldom varies. But this year is just might, at least in one area of the Department of Public Works' budget.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri thinks the department should have adequate funds in 1978 to make all the necessary repairs to the city's corner catch basins, and if the money isn't already in the budget that Director Andrew J. Amato has submitted to the mayor, Ranieri intends to see that it gets in before the public hearing in March.

"The catch basins are a problem: unfortunately, it's one that fades out of mind when the weather has been dry for a few weeks," he said. "But we've had enough rain lately to make the problem highly visible around the city — we have a lot of broken basins that are broken or clogged. Since it always seems to be the same loca-

tions that get flooded when we have a heavy rainfall, I'm inclined to believe that those catch basins are broken and in need of repair."

The councilman said his attention was brought to the problem by a flooding condition on the east side of River Street at Second Street.

"The water must have been a foot deep there yesterday," he continued. "It extended at least 100 feet in either direction of the River Street catch basin that should have been taking the water in, and had spread to the west side of River Street by the afternoon."

"I asked the Public Works Department to send a crew to try to fix it but they were unable to because the water was so high. With the weather expected to turn cold for the next several days that water is going to freeze over and we're going to have one very dangerous street to keep an eye on." The councilman added he has made an informal survey of the problem citywide and counted almost a dozen trouble spots. He also asked Public Works to make its own.

Hoboken gets state grant payment

By RICK SCOFIELD

The first installment of the \$30,000 state grant to the First Ward Block Association of Hoboken finally arrived this week, and it will pay the salaries of a staff organized to mediate landlord-tenant disputes, an official said yesterday.

Association President Thomas Newman said the grant request made to the state Department of Community Affairs was approved in November, but the first \$7,500 check arrived Monday.

The three-member staff, led by Tomas Ayende, is temporarily housed at 219 Park av. and will move to per-

manent quarters at 241 Garden st. in five weeks, Newman said.

The office has been open since November. Newman said, and its primary function is to assist tenants and landlords whenever a dispute emerges. "The thrust of the program is to inform as many persons as possible about the state's 'truth in renting law' Newman said.

The grant request was prepared in September, and all money first goes to the City Treasury. Every check received must be formally accepted and disbursed by the City Council.

Ayende's salary is \$13,000,

and the budget also provides for two clerk-typists who will each be paid \$5,000 annually. The balance of the grant will pay for the normal costs of operating an office: rent, utilities, supplies, and equipment such as typewriters, Newman said. The state Department of Community Affairs makes such grants as part of the neighborhood preservation program.

While the grant to Hoboken does not involve any plans for new housing in the southern section of the city, Newman said improving landlord-tenant relations could only improve the housing market in the city.

"It landlords receive fair and timely rents for their properties, and tenants get the safe, clean housing they pay for, the quality of housing in the First Ward will at least be maintained," Newman said.

Romano not giving backing to school board candidates

None of the 10 candidates running in Hoboken's Feb. 14 school board election will be getting the endorsement of one of the city's major political forces, First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano, who ran for mayor last May and lost.

Romano is staying out of the election in spite of the fact that two board members running for reelection whom Mayor Cappiello is opposing, are of Romano's political faction.

Romano said today that he not only won't back any candidates but he will not take a public position on either of the two questions on the ballot — the proposed 1978-79 board budget and a referendum on returning to the appointed school board.

"My supporters and members of my association are free to pick their own candidates and become involved in the election if they wish," he said. "However, because of my position as school board business manager, I'm keeping my personal opinion on the matters of candidates and the public questions to myself."

The candidates of Romano's faction are the board's president, Mrs. Mary Stack Gaspar, and Michael (Spike) Costello.

Romano added that there were still bitter feelings among some political factions stemming from the May election. His participation, even by only a personal endorsement, might rekindle them, he said.

"My candidacy for mayor last year disrupted many long-standing personal relationships in which friends ended up on opposite sides of the fence," he continued. "Those friendships are being rekindled and that's the way it should be."

The councilman said his only disappointment about the upcoming school board election was that Anthony DeBari, one of the three incumbent school board members whose terms expires this year, had decided not to seek reelection.

"Mr. DeBari is one of the more active school board members," the councilman continued, "and I think it is a shame that we will be losing his experience and services after all these years on the board."

Cappiello school board endorsements a secret

Mayor Steve Cappiello will be supporting three candidates in Hoboken's Feb. 14 school board election but political observers will probably have to wait until tomorrow to find out who they are.

The mayor said today that he will endorse three candidates for the school board but declined to name them. "I have to talk with several more persons before making a decision," he said.

Meanwhile, two more potential candidates picked up nominating petitions. They are Nick DiTrizio and George Giordano, a local fireman and a member of the mayor's political association.

Including those two, eight persons have picked up nominating petitions. The petitions must be filed with the board no later than 4 p.m. tomorrow.

Ten signatures from registered voters are needed to be accepted as a candidate.

The others with petitions are Louis Picardo, Joanne Lepre, Vito Lanzio, Joseph Lotito, Michael "Spike" Costello, one of the three incumbents and Mary Gaspar, the current school board president.

Costello and Mrs. Gaspar will be seeking their second three-year terms but unlike their first attempt it will probably be without the mayor's blessings. Mrs. Gaspar and Costello both actively worked against the mayor in May's municipal election.

Anthony DeBari is the third incumbent and is expected to get the mayor's support, if he decides to run for another term. However, DeBari hasn't announced his intentions as yet.

Board of Ed loan barred

The Hoboken Board of Education cannot borrow money to close the projected \$30,000 deficit in this year's school budget, it can only cut staff or raise taxes, a state official said yesterday.

Assistant Commissioner of Education Vincent Calabrese said borrowing money to erase a projected deficit is in violation of state law. The same state law governing the financial operations of school districts prescribes only two other choices.

The Board could put a tax referendum on the ballot seeking approval from residents to raise taxes to close the deficit, or simply lay teachers and administrators off, Calabrese said.

At the request of Mayor Steve Cappiello, Calabrese led a review team into the city four weeks ago to examine the board's financial records.

The records were not complete when the review team examined them Calabrese said, and the additional information requested is expected this week.

Calabrese declined to say what records were requested. He would only say the records were reviewed, and the additional information expected this week involved the projected costs of operating the district.

When the complete information is supplied by the board, Calabrese said his staff will prepare a report and meet with the board to discuss it "in the very near future."

While the Commissioner of Education can order the board to take specific action to erase the deficit, Calabrese said that "would be a last resort."

Hoboken Superintendent of Schools Thomas McFadyen, Board Attorney Robert Taylor, and Trustee Otto Hotiendorf, agree the district will incur a deficit.

Illegal parkers get blitzed in Hoboken

Hoboken police are on a ticket blitz that has turned out more than 600 summonses for illegal parking since New Year's Day.

The task of slapping the tickets on the illegally parked vehicles has gone to the Tactical Patrol Force (TPF) and not without some discontent on the part of its members. Because of the blitz, the TPF patrolmen are not getting the same beat two days in a row, which is not to their liking.

According to Chief George W. Crimmins, the stronger enforcement of the parking laws is not a blitz. It is a response to some criticism in recent

weeks about illegal parking going unnoticed by police.

"Issuing tickets is part of the policeman's job," he continued. "The men have been reminded of this requirement and what is expected of them from their superiors and myself."

The chief said that between 12:01 a.m. Jan. 1 and midnight Jan. 3 a total of 631 tickets were issued by police. That does not include summonses given out by Parking Authority meter attendants. Of that number, 616 were for parking violations, including overtime meter parking. The remaining 15 were for moving violations.

"It should be pointed out that more than 70,000 summonses were given out by Hoboken police last year," he asserted. "For a city this size that's a lot of tickets. They were given out by both the police and Parking Authority for assorted parking violations."

Crimmins said the ticket campaign would continue as long as there are motorists willing to risk getting a summons for parking illegally. "If there is an illegally parked car and a police officer observes the violation, he is to ticket the vehicle," he said. "That's all there is to it."

Work lags, Hoboken acts to take back Grand Hotel

Time is rapidly running out for the owner of a famed landmark, the Grand Hotel in Hoboken, to complete its rehabilitation before the city moves to take it back for failure to do what he said he would when he bought it.

At the request of the city council, City Building Inspector James Caulfield is to check the building and report back to the council and law department on what progress has been made since September when the council gave Pasquale Severino, the owner, a conditional six months to finish the work.

Severino appeared before the council in September, when the council announced that it was going to take back the building because he had not lived up to the terms of the sale imposed by the city which then owned the property.

Severino bought the property from the city on Jan. 10 of last year for \$27,500. He had 45 days from the city council confirmation of the sale to submit his plans for the building's rehabilitation or redevelopment and was to have started work within that same period. The work, according to the sale conditions, was to be completed within six months of being started.

His plans for the old hotel called for it to be gutted. Then a restaurant would be built on the ground floor level and the upper stories turned into apartments or a hotel. A substantial amount of work was done inside the

hotel to gut it but it stopped during the summer and hasn't been resumed.

In September, the city council gave Severino an additional six months to complete the job, but conditionally. The condition was that a substantial amount of additional work had to be done on the property by Dec. 27.

If it had not been done, Severino wouldn't get the extra three months, and the city would take steps to reclaim the building on the ground that Severino had not lived up to the sale conditions or to the extension conditions.

A resolution was to have been introduced at last Wednesday's city council meeting directing the law department to take the necessary steps to get the building back. However, it was not included on the agenda on the advice of Law Director Lawrence Florio.

He told the council that it should follow accepted procedure which, in this case, would be to have the building inspected by Caulfield, have him make a report to the law department and council on the progress made, if any, and then to notify Severino of the findings of the inspection and the city's decision to take the building back.

The council agreed and ordered the city clerk to send a letter to Caulfield asking for the inspection and a report, copies of which are to be sent to the council and the law department.

Group hoping to get battleship for Hoboken has 2,000 signers

More than 2,000 signatures have been gathered by the Hoboken Battleship Memorial Committee in its petition drive to bring the World War II battleship New Jersey to Hoboken, Allan Straten, committee president, said today.

The committee's petition campaign is being conducted statewide and has a goal of 10,000 signatures. The signatures will be presented to the state Battleship Committee, which currently is reviewing several possible sites as a permanent birthplace for the ship. Hoboken is

one of the finalists. According to Straten, the petitions will be turned over to the state committee at its March meeting. Hoboken has one representative on the state committee, Richard Everson, chairman of the Hoboken Parking Authority.

Straten added that John Pitera of Scotch Plains has been selected by the Hoboken Committee to serve as its Union County petition drive chairman, and Fred Dapuzzo, a former Hoboken resident, will lead the drive in Ocean County.

Ranieri probes possible pinball coverup

A Hoboken councilman said today that he will push to find out who in the city's government knew that a local company was distributing pinball machines and other electronic vending devices without obtaining a license and why nothing was done to see to it that the applicable city ordinances were enforced for more than a year.

Ranieri said he takes exception to the claim of Hi-Score Amusement and Vending Inc. — in a suit it has filed challenging the city pinball ordinance — that Hoboken had full knowledge of its operation but did nothing to enforce the local ordinances.

"I can't speak for anyone else, but I'm one official who didn't know about it until a few months ago when

the mayor introduced in the council an amendment to the pinball ordinance," Ranieri said.

"And all the facts really didn't start coming out until several weeks later."

Hi-Score, which is located at 208 Jackson St., is attempting to have two sections of the city's pinball ordinance knocked out in court. One section requires all pinball and vending

machine operators to obtain an annual license from the city at a cost of \$2,500. The other limits the number of electronic amusement devices allowed in any establishment.

In the papers it filed in Hudson County Superior Court early last month, the company contends that the city had full knowledge of its operations in the city for over a year but did nothing to enforce the local ordinance.

"I want to know exactly who had this knowledge — and did nothing about it," asserted Ranieri. "And when I do find out, they had better have a very good explanation as to why they didn't point out the irregularities so that the city's laws could be enforced."

It was only after the amendment to the pinball machine ordinance was presented to the council that the council learned that portions of it weren't being enforced, Ranieri said.

The owners of establishments with pinball or vending machines or juke boxes leased from the distributor failed for the most part to obtain \$15-a-year permits from the city for each machine, and Hi-Score had not obtained a distributor's license.

Detective Leo Serrano was assigned by Mayor Steve Cappiello, the public safety director, to investigate the matter and straighten it out.

Serrano said today that he checked the entire city for devices lacking permits and that all owners have either been granted the permits or the permits are pending. All establishments with jukeboxes, the permits for which run from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, Serrano said, have filed applications.

The pinball and vending machine permits run from July 1 to June 31 of the following year, he added. However, those establishments that did not have permits have all filed applications and all were approved.

The council was also concerned with establishments that had more than one pinball machine. Serrano said he located eight throughout the city. The owners and the distributors were notified and the machines were removed within a day or two.

Iervolino back as Hoboken weights and measures chief

Hoboken again has its own superintendent of weights and measures. Joseph A. Iervolino, dropped from the Hudson County payroll as an undersheriff several days ago, went back on Hoboken's payroll yesterday in his old position.

The job had been vacant since Iervolino took a leave of absence almost four years ago to take the undersheriff's post. His Hoboken salary will be \$12,500 a year.

Iervolino's county job went to Stephen R. Kopycinski of Jersey City, who had been serving the unexpired Assembly term of Rep. Joseph LeFante. That term ended Tuesday.

Kopycinski, a strong supporter of Jersey City Mayor Thomas F.X. Smith, will be making \$18,500 a year.

Iervolino was one of two undersheriffs not reappointed by John Gillen, elected sheriff in November. No one has yet been named to fill the second slot.

It had been rumored in Hoboken political circles for several months that Iervolino, a strong supporter of Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, was going to get the ax from the county. Iervolino would not comment on the

reports at first, but he eventually confirmed he had been told by Gillen he would not be reappointed to another three-year term.

Iervolino's dismissal and the fact that some other Hoboken resident wasn't named to the job is seen by some political observers as an indication Cappiello has only limited pull with Smith, the county's recognized Democratic leader. It is reported that Iervolino reportedly was offered a job in the county Weights and Measures Department but declined to accept unless it was the top spot, county superintendent.

Political sources say a former Hoboken police lieutenant, August Ricciardi, was being mentioned for Iervolino's undersheriff slot. Ricciardi is a close friend of First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano, who unsuccessfully opposed Cappiello in last May's municipal election. But that did not come to pass.

Sources claim Cappiello told Smith he would rather give up the undersheriff's post, which has traditionally gone to a Hoboken resident, and have Smith pick one of his own men, rather than see it go to someone from Hoboken whom Cappiello considered to be from his opposition.

If Smith and Cappiello aren't getting along, it doesn't show when the two are together at public functions. They trade quips, slap each other's backs, and often have long semi-private conversations at such events that are marked by frequent smiles.

Hoboken mystery

A distributor of electronic amusement devices is suing the city of Hoboken because it recently asked him to obtain the required licenses and pay the fees.

This announcement gives rise to a disturbing question: How is it that the city officials have allowed him to operate for more than a year in violation of the ordinance, and without even asking him please to comply?

It was not that the city officials were unsympathetic to their own ordinance. If that had been the case, they could have had it annulled. They knew that the competitors of this distributor were obtaining licenses and paying the fees, but they made no effort to have him do the same.

This shocking failure was not made public until it accidentally happened to get out as a result of the mayor asking the city council to soften the ordinance's provisions. The council refused.

Hoboken's hard pressed taxpayers could have benefitted by the thousands of dollars in fees which went uncollected. And even today this unlicensed distributor is allowed to continue operating in Hoboken without paying a cent.

Does this not add up to a resounding WHY?

Why not in Hoboken?

Hoboken's First Ward Block Association struggled through many a public hearing before it finally got the city's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to seize the license of a tavern whose patrons night after night disturbed their sleep.

Police, too, spent many an hour testifying in support of the residents.

The long effort finally resulted in victory . . . or did it?

The tavern owners now have appealed to the state ABC board. The board gentlemen have graciously granted a new hearing to be held in Cranford, miles away from Hoboken.

This is not to be a hearing only on the legal aspects of the case. No, it is to be a completely new hearing, starting from scratch. The residents will have to prove their case all over again. And, if they are to win again, they will have to bring along the police witnesses.

If the state has to hold this hearing, why can it not be held in Hoboken? Why does everyone have to traipse to Cranford?

School 'chaos' in Hoboken hit by Giordano

George Giordano, a candidate for the Hoboken school board, said today that "past and present chaos in the school system is the result of the board allowing employees to become masters without proper control and responsibility to the taxpayers."

Giordano, a Hoboken fireman for 21 years and one of the founders of the Steve Cappiello Association, cited numerous court cases involving the school board and city which cost both the city and board time and money.

"The conditions of the schools themselves have been a direct result of the poor quality of supervision by board members who are directly responsible for insuring that youngsters are given instructions in the best possible conditions," he asserted.

"I will not be part of the type of system that has led our schools to their present sorry state of affairs."

Crosstown bus back on Hoboken route

The Hoboken crosstown bus is back in full operation after being out of service for almost two weeks, a spokesman for Business Administrator Edwin J. Chiusa said today.

The bus was taken out of service two weeks ago because its radiator had to be replaced. The city did not hire a replacement bus for the line.

Aide: Hoboken due major investment

Private developers are prepared to invest up to \$25 million in an urban renewal project for Hoboken's First Ward and waterfront areas, the city's community development chief said yesterday.

Fred Bado, director of the Community Development Agency, said the size and scope of the project was dependent on the amount of federal aid which accompanied the investments from the private sector.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello and Bado met with federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) officials yesterday in Washington to discuss a new aid program for small cities.

HUD's new aid plan, labeled Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) program ties the aid granted directly to the level of private money committed to any building or renovation scheme.

Bado said his staff will draft a grant application, which is scheduled to be filed before Feb. 28, for between \$3 and \$5 million.

Accompanying that request, Bado said, will be a commitment from private developers, for between \$18 and \$25 million.

The ratio of private to public money necessary for approval by UDAG has not yet been firmly established, Bado said. But the figure now used is 10 to 1.

While the city's grant request for between \$3 and \$5 million falls well below the 10-to-1 private to public money ratio, Bado said he felt confident the city's request would be viewed favorably.

Cappiello came away optimistic about the city's chances for a large slice of UDAG's \$100,000,000 budget for the first year of the program.

"I think we impressed upon Assistant Secretary for Community Planning Robert Embry and Action Grant Officer David Dresser that we did our homework before coming to Washington."

Bado declined to name the developers who would supply the private capital for residential and commercial projects in the southern part of the city and on the waterfront. He said any advance publicity about the application could jeopardize federal action on the request.

The UDAG program evolved out of HUD only Tuesday, and the small cities programs (for those under 50,000 population) will not officially begin until Feb. 1.

Hoboken has until Feb. 28 to qualify for the first of four quarterly grants. Bado and Cappiello were cautiously optimistic about meeting that deadline.

But if the city can not amass the necessary data by that time, no money will be lost, Dresser said.

Hoboken may get free garbage study

Hoboken will get a free evaluation of its garbage collection operation and what could be done to improve it, if a resolution authorizing the Garden State Paper Co. to perform such a survey is approved at next week's council meeting.

According to Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, who is having the measure introduced, Garden State has self-interest in doing the survey — it wants to see if Hoboken's operation can be changed to one that uses source separation.

"Source separation means that residents will have to separate their rubbish into four different categories — paper products, cans, glass, and everything else," Ranieri said.

"After this has been done, the rubbish is put out for collection, not before," he continued. "If such a

system can be applied to Hoboken it could mean additional income for the city."

Ranieri said Garden State is one of several companies which think there will be shortages of glass, metal and paper in the future and that recycling of these products will be a financially feasible operation in years to come.

"There are already industries that are willing to buy such items for recycling," he added.

The councilman said that if source separation can be used in Hoboken, the city could get some income from Garden State.

"The survey will determine if it can be done," Ranieri said. "A report will be made to the city showing several different methods that could be used," he continued. "Under our

present collection system, the products would be turned over to Garden State by our contract collector. Garden State would then pay Hoboken, based on whatever figures we agreed to for the paper, glass and cans."

"If we go into our own garbage collection program when our current collection contract ends, the source separation system becomes even simpler to operate since we'll be dealing directly."

Ranieri said the survey would take about five days.

Stevens to help plan county trash disposal

Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken will serve as the consultant for planning a garbage disposal system for Hudson County.

The planning efforts will be funded by a \$60,000 state grant, to which the county will add about \$30,000 in cash and \$30,000 in services.

A recommendation to use Stevens Tech as the consultant was unanimously approved at yesterday's meeting of the county Solid Waste Advisory Council.

Representatives of that organization, whose members include the mayors of each Hudson County municipality, expect the county Board of Freeholders to concur with the recommendation.

Thomas Leane, planning coordinator for the project, said Stevens Tech was chosen because of its expertise in urban planning and because it was considered non-partisan and, therefore, wouldn't favor any municipality over another.

The county is under a state mandate to

prepare a 10-year garbage disposal plan by July 24. Jersey City and 140 other municipalities currently cart their garbage in the meadowlands, but that area is being closed to dumping in April 1979.

Leane said the study conducted by Stevens will first try to determine exactly how much garbage is produced by Hudson County. Then it will consider various means of disposal, most of them involving some kind of productive use for the refuse.

Hoboken School Board: It's All in the Family

By DANIEL HAYS

Hoboken's school board is becoming such a family affair that it may not be able to conduct business, school board president Mary Gaspar said yesterday.

The issue of nepotism, which surfaced during the present school board election campaign, involves four candidates with relatives who work for the board and four incumbents who also have him on the payroll. The election is Feb. 14.

Mrs. Gaspar said she noticed the clause on board candidate petitions that forbids anyone from serving who is "interested directly or indirectly in any contract with or claim against the board." The board, she said, "might not have six people to vote a budget."

Lawrence Township Case

A New Jersey Department of Education spokesman said the most recent case on the question, in 1974, involved a Lawrence Township school board member whose husband was custodial serv-

ice supervisor for the district. The State Board of Education ruled she could serve but could not vote on anything related to her husband's contract.

However, conflict cases will be reviewed and decided on its own facts and merits," the board stated.

Two Hoboken board members have daughters who are teachers. The sister of another is a school clerk and one has a brother who is a school custodian, according to Mrs. Gaspar.

Of nine candidates running for three seats on the board, four have relatives working for the school system. One candidate, Perry Bel Fiore, has asked to have his name removed from the ballot.

"I can't ask people to vote for me if they think I will gain from it monetarily. My wife is a contracted teacher," he explained.

Richard England and James Monaco, whose wives are teachers, and Robert Wendelken, a Union City teacher who has five relatives with the Hoboken system, have not withdrawn.

"There has to be a suit proving we have exercised a conflict of interest. We are now just candidates," said Wendelken. He insisted that there would be no conflict because "I can't violate the trust of the electorate," he said.

Wendelken said he would expect to vote on all issues, including teacher salaries. He said he would remain a member of the New Jersey Education Association branch in Union City.

Calvin Hurd, an Elizabeth lawyer who is chairman of the advisory committee for the New Jersey Education Reform Project, said "It might be possible to project a situation that might make the board immobile."



New Hoboken police officers are sworn in at ceremonies in the city hall council chambers. From left are new sergeants Kenneth McGurk, Mario Mercado, John Aiello and Edward Shelly and new lieutenants Angelo Radefich, Robert Hockstetter, Robert Davis and Gabriel Ferraiuolo.



New Hoboken police officers display their shields after they took the oath of office in the city hall council chambers. The new members of the force, from left, are Michael Lisa, John Gilberty, Michael Plunkett, Edward Maher Jr., Paul DiMartino, Edward Meeks, John Picorro and James Tummaro Jr.

New cops on streets in 2 weeks

Eight new Hoboken policemen — all of them local residents started their first day on the job today by attending orientation classes conducted by the Tactical Patrol Force and the Police Community Relations Bureau. It will be at least two weeks before most of them get out on the streets.

The new patrolmen were sworn in yesterday during ceremonies at Hoboken City Hall. They are Paul DiMartino, Edward Maher, Michael E. Lisa, James Tummaro Jr., John E. Gilberty, John Picorro, Michael Plunkett, and Edward Meeks.

At the same time, the city promoted four sergeants to lieutenant and four patrolmen to sergeant.

The new lieutenants are Angelo

Radefich, Robert Hockstetter, Robert F. Davis and Gabriel Ferraiuolo. The new sergeants are Edward Shelly Jr., John Aiello, Kenneth McGurk and Mario Mercado.

Chief George W. Crimmins said that the new superiors would remain in their current assignments for the time being but duty changes would be made within a day or two.

The new patrolmen, the first to be appointed by Hoboken under the new Civil Service regulations which allow municipalities to give local residents first crack at police and fire jobs, will be under the supervision of Capt. Russell Sweeten, TPF commander. He said the men will undergo at least two

weeks of training before being put on the streets with one exception.

Sweeten said that Tummaro, the son of Sgt. James Tummaro, had already taken portions of the training course and would probably be assigned to street duty sometime next week.

The training will be conducted by Lt. Paul Tewes and Sgt. Tummaro with Lt. Joseph Pereira of the Community Relations Bureau in charge of the orientation.

Sweeten added that all of the new patrolmen will also be required to also attend the State Police training academy at Sea Girt within one year of their appointment. If they do not successfully complete that course they will be dropped from the force.

Hoboken firm challenges city on pinball law

By Peter Hallam

A Hoboken firm which leases pinball and other amusement machines, and which admits it has been operating in the city for more than a year without obtaining licenses or permits — or paying for them — has filed suit against the city, claiming that the fees and licenses are violations of its constitutional rights.

HiScore Amusement and Vending Inc., of 200-206 Jackson St., served Hoboken with a show cause order for an appearance in Hudson County Superior Court on Dec. 18. The hearing was postponed at the city's request and is to be rescheduled for sometime this month, according to Hoboken Law Director Lawrence Florio.

The company is seeking to have two sections of the city ordinance governing the operation of pinball machines and other electronic amusement devices set aside.

The first section deals with the fee schedule. It calls for companies such as Hi-Score to pay Hoboken \$2,500 a year to do business in the city. It also requires the stores that lease the machines from the company to pay the city \$15 for each machine leased.

The second portion of the ordinance limits the number of pinball and amusement machines to one per establishment.

In its legal statement, the company said the city had "full knowledge" of the fact that it had been operating in the city for over a year without paying the fees or obtaining the licenses but chose not to enforce the ordinance. It further claimed that enforcement now of the ordinance would seriously hinder its ability to honor the contracts it has entered into for the amusement equipment and would cause financial hardships for the company.

Florio said that the city would contest the company's position, but he would not disclose the city's strategy.

Hi-Score was incorporated in August 1976, according to the records of the Secretary of State.

At the time, the corporate address was given as 44 South Main St., Lodi. That is still the address given, although the suit filed in Hudson County Court lists 200-206 Jackson St. as the address.

The state also says the corporation has not filed a corporate report for either 1976 or 1977.

The corporate papers list Steven Lutz of Lodi as the agent and Thomas Principe and Anthony Peranio as directors. Both Lutz and Principe give the Lodi address as their residence.

Principe is the son of Thomas A. Principe of Little Ferry, who is reputed to be connected with illegal gambling and loan-sharking activities but has never been convicted. The father operates the Orlando Construction Co., which also gives its address as 206 Jackson St., Hoboken.

Hoboken police began cracking down on the pinball machines three months ago when an amendment to the pinball ordinance, introduced by Mayor Steve Cappiello was presented to the City Council. The amendment would have eliminated the portion of the ordinance that prohibited an establishment from having more than one pinball machine.

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Crosstown bus riders may soon rejoice

By Ronald G. Leir

Riders of Hoboken's irregularly run crosstown bus will find some welcome news in the city administration's 1978 budget proposal.

City Business Administrator Edwin Chius says there are plans to replace the existing mini-bus with a new one and to buy a spare one as well for an estimated \$18,000 apiece.

In other developments at last night's public caucus, the City Council:

- Agreed to drop an investigation of charges by the city's public works director that his predecessor dispatched public works trucks to Keanburg for his personal use.

- Prepared to award a contract for the furnishing of six walkie-talkie radios for the fire department to the higher of two bidders.

- Gave a lukewarm reception to a proposal for a free market study by the Garden State Paper Co. on the feasibility of residents separating their garbage for the recovery of certain types of wastes.

Responding to Council-at-large Robert A. Ranieri's question about an \$800 claim for a new electrical system for the crosstown bus, Chius said the work had to be given to an outside firm "because our garage mechanics were unable to repair it."

Expanding on the condition of the bus, Chius said the city "can't stock parts for it" due to their age and the special make of the bus. He said it took five days just to find a new radiator, for example.

If the city had a more conventional mode bus with available replacement parts with which city mechanics would be more familiar, said Chius, chances are the bus would run more efficiently.

"When the bus operates on a good schedule," Chius added, "the people do ride it." Chius said, however, he could not gauge the impact of a new Willow Avenue bus on the crosstown patronage.

"We need the crosstown bus," said Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francone. "If we're going to get two new buses, that's great."

Whether his colleagues will agree remains to be seen.

It appears that nobody will ever know if Public Works Director Andrew Amato's charge that Hoboken's public works vehicles are run down because they were driven to and from Keanburg for use in other than city business is true.

The governing body's three-man public works committee, headed by Second Ward Councilman Walter S. Cramer, advised the council, in writing, that it is not pursuing the matter further.

"We questioned Director Amato concerning the alleged use of the trucks to and from Keanburg," the committee states, "and were informed that the charges were the result of hearsay and rumor and Director Amato had no personal knowledge that these trucks were ever sent to Keanburg by former Director (Raphael) Vitale."

"Under the circumstances, the committee felt that the matter should be dropped and it would not be necessary to question Councilman Francone (Vitale's brother-in-law, who reportedly has a

summer home in Keanburg.)"

The council is being asked to let a contract to Motorola Communications, Glen Rock, for a half-dozen fire department portable radio units at \$657.50 per unit, despite a bid of \$647 per unit submitted by General Electric.

Thomas J. Vecchione, city signals superintendent, and Fire Chief James Houn are recommending the action, according to Martin J. Brennan, council president, because if firefighters were to use the lower bidder's equipment, they'd have to take time out to remove their gloves to operate the transmission switch on the units.

Asked by Brennan if the council could legally give the contract to the higher bidder, Law Director Lawrence Florio said that West New York had a similar problem and Motorola was upheld in court, although it didn't have the low bid.

"I think we're on solid ground," said Florio.

When Ranieri asked if city officials could be in legal difficulties on possible charges that contract specifications were drawn up to coincide with Motorola equipment, Chius replied that Vecchione prepared the specifications which, he said, are "not Motorola's tailor-made specs."

It appeared questionable last night whether Ranieri would introduce a resolution proposing to accept the offer of the Garden State Paper Co. to conduct a resource-recovery feasibility plan for Hoboken.

When Ranieri said that if the city were to adopt such a plan by ordinance that residents would have to separate their trash into three piles for regular waste, bottles and cans and paper products, meats and snickers from colleagues and members of the audience resulted.

Commented Brennan: "We're having trouble now with just one (garbage) pickup. And you want three!"

In other business, the council:

- Made ready to advertise for bids on a new street flusher, a device that ejects streams of water to clean the roadways. The city has done without them for some 10 years, since the Public Works Department decided to use salt water in the old machine during a drought, according to Chius.

There was a permanent rusting, he said. The city, meanwhile has received a \$27,000 state grant to buy another.

- Learned that firemen stationed at the firehouse at Second and Jefferson streets will probably have to make do with five electric heaters to brace against the cold the rest of the winter because officials don't consider repairing a two-inch crack in the boiler there an emergency, Chius said. There are plans to enlarge the building, he added, and the heating units are likely to be neglected until work is started.

- Will, at tomorrow night's council session, authorize Mayor Steve Cappiello to enter into a contract with the Public Service Electric & Gas Co., which, said Chius, will give the city a "blanket agreement to use all the poles along Washington Street" for attaching seasonal decorations.

Fight sidewalk displays

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri of Hoboken said today he will ask police to issue summonses to any merchants who display their merchandise on the sidewalk in front of their shops — because it is a violation of the city's ordinances.

According to the councilman, a number of shopkeepers have complained to him that other merchants are ignoring the ban on sidewalk displays and the city appears to be ignoring the fact that they are violating a city ordinance.

"The law says that they are illegal unless special permission has

been granted by the mayor," said the councilman. "To my knowledge the mayor has not granted any individual merchant permission to display his goods on the sidewalk."

"And the only time I now of that such permission is granted is during the summer months in conjunction with special promotions conducted by our Retail Bureau."

Ranieri said those merchants who complained probably felt that the sidewalk displays were a form of unfair competition, especially since they were observing the law and their

competitors were not. Ranieri, who helps run a family-owned furniture store on Washington Street, added that enforcement of the ordinance, or lack of enforcement, didn't affect his business either way.

"We don't put out any outside displays, nor do any of the other furniture stores along Washington Street," he said. "Our items are too big to bother with moving them outside and then back into the stores, even when there is a special sale on, and permission for outdoor displays have been granted."

Ranieri calls for storm reports

A Hoboken councilman has asked for written reports from the directors of public works and public safety on how their men and equipment performed during the storm emergency.

Councilman Robert Ranieri said he is sending his requests to Mayor Steve Cappiello, the public safety director, and Andrew Amato, who

heads the public works department.

"I would like responses before the next council caucus on Feb. 6," said the councilman. "I would like to know how they met this test and what their recommendations are for the future."

From Amato, Ranieri said he would like an appraisal of how department equipment performed and

whether the equipment that was rented was adequate. From Cappiello, he said he would like to know how fire and police services functioned when streets were open to fire apparatus and to the general traffic.

"This emergency is a true test of the backbone of these departments," he said, "and from this experience we

can determine what is needed." He said about \$200,000 has been built up during the past four years for capital improvements and this could be available for new equipment if it is needed. The reports from the two directors will be important in determining budget appropriations, he explained.

Hoboken construction fees depend on agency's costs

The fees Hoboken charges for the various permits required for construction and rehabilitation have doubled since last year. But they could go down — or up — during the next six months, depending on how much it costs the city to operate its new Uniform Construction Code Agency.

The agency was created when the city this month adopted the state Uniform Construction Code after a delay of more than a year. It consolidates the offices of the building, electrical, plumbing and fire inspectors into one central agency instead of separate entities each at a different location in the city.

Adopting the code and living by it are two different things, according to James Caulfield, city building inspector, who is expected to head up the new central agency.

According to Caulfield, the city is charging the higher fees for the plumbing, electrical and building permits but it hasn't yet consolidated those offices into one central agency with one central point for the issuance of all permits.

Caulfield and the electrical inspector share office space at Hoboken City Hall. The plumbing inspector is located at the city's Health Center, 916 Garden St., and the fire inspectors have their office at an old firehouse on Grand Street, between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

"The income from the fees is supposed to cover the cost of operating the agency, including the salaries of those who man it," Caulfield said. "We're not going to be able to determine that until the agency is formally operating as a unit."

But once it has been determined whether the

fees are covering the operational costs they may have to be adjusted again. If we're making more than the operational cost they'd have to be reduced. If we're making less than they would have to be increased. The whole idea is to make the agency self-supporting, based on fees, not tax dollars."

What is the difference between the old fees and the new ones? Not too much, according to Caulfield. They have doubled, but that brings Hoboken up to rates in existence in most other Hudson County municipalities — and it is still lower than a few.

"Take renovation work as an example," he continued. "We were charging \$2 for every \$1,000 in estimated cost of the work to be done. Now we are charging \$4."

"On new construction we used to get \$1 per \$1,000. Now it is .005 cent times the cubic content of the new building. And .001 of the .005 goes to the state."

"The real big change is that we now have minimum charges for everything. It's \$10 for renovation work, \$25 for new construction work, and an average minimum of \$5 to \$10 for smaller jobs. The same applies for plumbing, electrical and fire inspection work."

Caulfield said the agency would need at least three more employees. He said another secretary would be required as well as two more field inspectors.

Caulfield said he was only assuming that his department would head the new agency.

Cappiello wants millions from U.S.

Mayor Steve Cappiello said today Hoboken intends to apply for several million dollars in federal aid under a new development program which could mean vast improvements for the First Ward area and "perk up" the once busy waterfront.

The mayor and other city representatives conferred in Washington yesterday with the staff of William Embury, assistant

secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Cappiello said the city made a presentation for an Urban Development Action Grant under a new program which will make \$400 million available nationally over the next three years.

Although HUD officials were non-committal, the mayor said he is hopeful that Hoboken will get a share

of the \$400 million program. "Personally, I feel we are in there early with our presentation and we will have our application ready to file before the Feb. 1 deadline," he said. Another plus, he felt, was that Hoboken "has a good track record in putting its federal funds to good use."

The mayor said the First Ward area would be the target for development. He points out that the nearby

Erie Lackawanna terminal area, also in the ward, will be rehabilitated through a \$4 million program funded by the state Department of Transportation.

The new federal program, he explained, is intended to spark private development. Once a private developer is interested, the city can

use the HUD money to improve streets, sidewalks, and sewer and water services, he said, making the development package more attractive to private investors.

"Some of the funds could be used to perk up our waterfront," said the mayor, who added that he would like

to induce maritime businesses to locate there.

Accompanying the mayor to Washington yesterday were Fred M. Bado, director of the Hoboken Community Development Agency, and Joseph Sicala, head of the Neighborhood Preservation Program — a CDA project.

Hoboken snow loader taken off scrap heap

Hoboken officials have an added weapon in the fight to remove the tons of snow that accumulated last Friday.

One of the two snow loaders that Hoboken was planning to sell at public auction on Feb. 15 isn't in as bad condition as originally thought. All it needed was a new battery and it's now being used in the snow removal operation.

Two mechanics from the police garage were sent to the Public Works yard at 16th and Adams streets Monday night to see if they could get either of the two machines working again, city sources said. Both machines had been condemned by Public Works Department mechanics.

The police mechanics reported that one snow loader is operational — it still needs a tune-up but it is running — and the other needs between \$200 and \$300 in repairs before it can be put into service.

Once running, the loader was towed from the yard and pressed into service along Washington Street Monday night. The loader is used to pick up large quantities of snow by means of a conveyor belt. The snow is

automatically dumped into trucks that wait below the other end of the belt.

Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato said he would have the two snow loaders removed from the list of vehicles his department planned to sell next month. But it won't end there, he said.

"I'm going to have a little talk with my mechanics and some of my top supervisory personnel," he said. "I authorized the sale of that equipment on their say-so. Someone is going to have some explaining to do."

Amato said that he may ask the Public Works Safety Department for the use of its mechanics to check out some of the 13 other vehicles Public Works is planning to sell to see if they

really are in as bad condition as he has been told.

Meanwhile, Mayor Steve Cappiello has ended the city's official "snow emergency" and ordered that most personnel be put back on their regular shifts and duties.

"We're not out of the woods by a long shot but some semblance of order has been re-established," said the mayor. "There is still a lot of work that must be done before anything is back to normal. However, I feel that we can handle what remains to be done with our normal work force and equipment."

Centrex system starts taking calls in Hoboken Friday

Hoboken's new Centrex telephone system will go into operation at 5 p.m. Friday night. And although the basic monthly equipment charges from the telephone company will be about \$300 more than what is now being paid, the city expects to save a minimum of \$3,000 a year.

"That's the minimum savings I will be satisfied with," said Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius who has been working with telephone company officials since the installation work started.

"The Centrex system which is now in final installation stages is much more efficient than the old system and should result in a considerable savings to the city. I expect it will be much more than \$3,000."

According to Chius, the new equipment will cost \$300 more a month but the charges will be more than offset by a reduction in call charges.

The new system will combine four existing systems into one. There will be one central operator who will handle all calls for the city, the Community Development Agency, the Fire and Police departments and the Board of Education. This will allow the elimination of several telephone operators.

Chius said that a number of electronic restrictions are being included in the system which should reduce substantially the number of unauthorized calls made by all employees who have access to the telephone.

"Some of the phones will be set up

so that calls can be made only to telephones in Hudson County and Newark," he continued. "Others will be set up so that calls can be made only in the 201 area code district, others will be limited to the system and can't be used for outside calls without going through the operator, and a few others will be unrestricted."

The unrestricted telephones will be allotted to such high ranking officials as the mayor and directors. The city's new main telephone number will be 490-2000. The current number is 792-3000. There is also a main number for police and fire, Community Development and the school board but they will also work off the new city number. All of the new telephones will have 490 as the first three numbers.

Unlike the current systems where all incoming calls must be handled by the operators who put them through to the proper extensions, all of the telephones in the new system have their own seven-digit numbers which can be dialed directly from the outside. The call goes to the telephone dialed without the operator having to pick up and route it.

A feature to be added to the new system, said Chius, will be a direct line to Trenton for all telephones that are not restricted to system use alone. The city will have two tie-lines to the state capital.

Chius said that a number of classes will be conducted this week by the telephone company for city, police, fire, CDA and school board employees to show them how the new Centrex system works.

Ranieri, Amato at odds over handling snow crisis

War is about to break out in Hoboken between factions in Mayor Steve Cappiello's administration. The main combatants appear to be Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri and Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato.

Ranieri charges Amato's department "isn't under control administratively," and that led to a lot of confusion last Thursday and Friday during the snowstorm. Ranieri said the city didn't get in control of the situation until Saturday morning.

"When Business Administrator Edwin

Chius took charge" and got the men and equipment the city needed to start cleaning up.

Amato replies, "That's a lot of bull."

"We tried to get outside equipment before Saturday but most companies were busy with other towns," Amato said, adding, "I'm not taking anything away from Director Chius. He worked very hard during the emergency."

The Public Works Department was able to keep 80 percent of the city's streets open throughout the snowstorm with only its own equipment, Amato said.

"I admit that the streets weren't perfect, but they were passable," he continued. "And if we had our own equipment and didn't have to call in outside help that was already stretched thin, we would have been in good shape. I can't run a department with chewing gum. I need equipment

and I've been telling the council that for months."

Ranieri said the city has approximately \$200,000 set aside in capital improvement funds. Amato says he wants most of it for outfitting the department. Ranieri says, however, Amato isn't going to get it unless he can show the council an acceptable plan of action for the department's needs.

If there is one thing that the director and councilman agree on, it is that there just might be a need for a "shake-up" in the lower levels of the department.

Amato said that he spent most of his last four working days on the streets with his workmen, not because he wanted to, but to make sure all employees were doing their jobs. There very likely will be some major changes in the department among both supervisors and workmen, he said.

Hoboken landlords face state fines

The owners of multi-family buildings in Hoboken aren't paying attention to violations in their buildings, according to the city's Housing Squad, and it could cost them a considerable amount of money in state-imposed fines.

Michael Curcio, housing squad supervisor, said today that the number of fines imposed for violations on Hoboken property owners who have buildings with three or more dwelling units is on the increase while the number of landlords who do comply is decreasing.

Curcio said that he didn't know why the property owners were ignoring the inspection reports on their properties and not making required improvements or correcting violations. One possibility was that the property owners were assuming that

the improvements were suggestions rather than requirements of the state.

Some of the improvements that are being ignored, said Curcio, were items like state-approved chain locks on all apartment doors, and peepholes which allow tenants to see who is at their door without opening it.

Curcio said that the state can impose fines that start at \$200 for failure to comply with the inspection reports, and some have even gone as high as \$5,000.

The housing squad serves as the state's agent by making the inspections, he continued. Copies of the

findings are sent to the state Division of Housing Inspections which reviews the reports and sets the number of days the owner has to make the repairs — usually 90 days. Notification to the property owners comes directly from the state, not the local housing squad.

"We don't become involved again until the state tells the housing squad to make a re-inspection of the building to see if the violations and improvements needed that were noted the first time have been attended to," he said. "Our findings are sent back to the state and the state takes it from there. It sets the fines for non-compliance and collects them."

Curcio said landlords are also ignoring the city's ordinance requiring them to have all vacant apartments inspected before renting them out to new tenants.



SENATORIAL COURTESY — State Sen. Walter Shell is honored by Hoboken business and civic leaders on his election to the Legislature. Exchanging pleasantries, from left, are Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, Shell, Joseph Costello, dinner chairman, and Jersey City Mayor Thomas F. K. Smith. The Union Club dinner was postponed from last Friday because of the snowstorm. Costello presented a large portrait of Shell to the new senator.

Malfetti to see payroll, but it'll cause overtime

Hoboken Councilman Nunzio Malfetti will finally get to look at the city's payroll records — but at a cost to be borne by the taxpayers.

The Sixth Ward representative got an agreement from City Clerk Anthony Amoroso last night that he could come into City Hall after hours, starting this week, and look over or copy the records.

Malfetti told his colleagues on the council at their regular meeting last night that he was tired of waiting for copies of the lists which he had requested of all department directors in a Jan. 6 letter.

"I'm not waiting for this any longer, I demand that the payroll list be given to me," Malfetti told Council President Martin Brennan.

"You demand?" retorted Brennan. "You're the one who want it, not me. Go in and get it yourself."

He told Malfetti there was only one copy of the payroll and it could not be taken out of the city clerk's office. However, he said Malfetti could copy it.

"I want a copy given to me," said Malfetti. "I want to take it home."

Brennan said this wasn't possible and then asked Amoroso if he would let the councilman see the records, "as a special favor to me."

"A special favor?" interjected Malfetti. "What do you think this is?"

"Look, you asked for it, I'm just trying to get it for you," said Brennan.

Amoroso said he would keep his office open in the evening — the only time Malfetti said he was free to come — but added, "I'll have to pay my help overtime."

"Then you'll have to do it," said

Malfetti, pointing to Brennan.

"That's the way he wants it."

In business on the relatively brief agenda the council decided to postpone awarding a \$3,852 contract for the purchase of six radios for the fire department to the highest of two bidders.

Brennan said the lower bidder asked for the delay saying he wanted an opportunity to present his case directly to the council. Brennan said the city wanted to award the contract to the higher bidder because his product was more compatible with the equipment the city already has. The difference in the total price is about \$70 Brennan said.



HOBOKEN TRIBUTE — Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken, left, congratulates Michael Martinelli, right, the city's plumbing inspector, on his election as chairman of the N.J. State Board of Examiners and Master Plumbers, the agency which licenses all of the plumbers in the state. Joining them at the Union Club event Donald C. Rodner, outgoing chairman.

New Hoboken switchboard goes on line smoothly

Hoboken has completed its first full business day with its new Centrex telephone system and most city officials are pleased with the initial results.

Business Administrator Edwin Chius said the switch from five different switchboards to one went "much smoother" than he expected.

"You always anticipate some problems the first few days," said Chius. "There are always a few bugs that have to be worked out but ours were relatively few. The telephone company and its men are to be commended. They did a highly professional job."

The new system consolidates the switchboards of the city, fire and police departments, Community Development Agency (CDA) and board of education into one location at City Hall manned by one operator. The transition was to have taken

place at 5 p.m. Friday but due to weather conditions it was delayed until noon Saturday.

While Chius and other city officials are impressed with the new system, employees are not. For them it means learning a whole series of new telephone numbers that replace the ones they've been dialing for the last five or six years.

"That, too, was expected," said Chius. "It will pass with time. As employees become familiar with the new extension numbers there will be less and less grumbling. No one likes to have their routine broken up or familiar things changed."

"Everyone has a directory with the new numbers. In a few weeks most employees will have memorized the number that they call most frequently. And then the complaints will die out."

Ahoy, the 'Hoboken'

Not our Hoboken — their Hoboken

The name "Hoboken" will soon be carried to all parts of the world. That's the name of a 75-ton ore ship in the final stages of construction at the Cockerill Shipyards in Belgium.

That's Hoboken, Belgium. The ship was floated Nov. 10 with Mrs. Joseph Wijninckx christening the vessel. Her husband is a former Belgium senator who spent some time in Hudson County's Hoboken last year as a guest of the Hoboken Retail Bureau and John Vervoort. The senator is now Belgium's minister of pensions.

Vervoort is of Belgian extraction and has been attempting to set up a student exchange program between the two cities bearing the same name. According to Vervoort, the ship is over 700 feet long, has an average speed of 16 knots and will carry a crew of 34. The ship's full name is "Mineral Hoboken" and it will be sailing out of Antwerp under the Belgian flag. It can carry coal, grain or ore.

Vervoort said the construction of the ship began last April and delivery of the vessel is expected to be made sometime this month after sea trials have been completed.

Garbage sale backed

Hoboken City Councilman Robert Ranieri said yesterday he will defer until next month introduction of a resolution authorizing a study of the feasibility of the recycling and sale of garbage.

Ranieri suggested the idea at the council caucus Monday night and the reaction from the council and spectators was negative. He said a net gain would result from such a program.

Garden State Paper Co., Saddle Brook, has offered to conduct a study of the current waste disposal and recycling programs in the city at no cost and make a report to the city.

An environmental representative of Garden State, Frederick G. Schmitt, said his company only buys waste for recycling. The larger problem of collecting paper, glass, and metal in separate bags, and probably on separate days, remains to be solved.

Schmitt said, given current dumping fees, pollution control laws, and the cost of acquiring raw materials, it is likely the city can realize a net gain if it sells garbage.

HOBOKEN GETS AN 'ANGEL'



Farrah Fawcett-Majors, in Hoboken to film movie scenes, prepares for a behind-the-scenes transformation yesterday.

Farrah Fawcett-Majors was in Hoboken for two days this week to film scenes for the new movie, "Somebody Killed Her Husband," in which she co-stars with Jeff Bridges. Macy's warehouse on 15th st. was the location for the indoor set, which was outfitted as a toy department for

the Hoboken segment of the love/mystery story, in which Tommy Grimes also has a leading role. Farrah, seen in 'before' and 'after' shots—before and after makeup and wardrobe—started work on the film in late November.

Hoboken school budget 'deliberately inflated'

Edwin J. Chius, Hoboken business administrator, today charged that the proposed 1978-79 school budget has been "deliberately inflated" so that the school board would be in a good bargaining position if the budget is defeated by the voters on Feb. 14 and put into the hands of the city council or appealed to the state commissioner of education.

"As the budget now stands, it would require a tax increase of \$25 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to raise the additional funds the school board claims it needs in the budget," said Chius. "That would cripple the city and every private homeowner in it."

"Such an increase would be disastrous for us. It would mean more than \$300 a year in additional taxes for someone whose home is now assessed at around \$15,000."

Robert W. Taylor, the board's attorney and financial expert who does most of the budget preparation, was not available for comment. Thomas A. Gallo, board secretary, said that Taylor has taken some "time off" and probably couldn't be reached until Wednesday, the day of the scheduled budget hearing.

Chius said there are several things in the budget which lead him to believe it doesn't reflect the board's true needs for the 1978-79 school year.

"To begin with, the board is getting \$1.6 million more in state aid yet it wants an additional \$3 million from local taxpayers," he continued. "That doesn't sound right."

"The board's budget is \$17,000,440 for the '78-'79 school year. The Union City Board of Education's budget for the same period is \$17,138,745 — almost \$600,000 less for the education of almost 2,000 more children than we have in our schools. That doesn't sound right."

"Our board estimates that it will have 200 more pupils for the 1978-79 school year. However, the student enrollment for the last few years has been steadily declining. That doesn't sound right, either."

Chius said that if the budget is defeated by the voters, as he expects it will be, the city council and school board will have to negotiate reductions and bring it down to a level that both can live with. But if an agreement on the budget can't be reached, the council will make whatever cuts it deems necessary and the board must either live with them or appeal to the commissioner of education to have funds reinstated.

"It is my opinion that the board's budget was deliberately overloaded so that in the event the voters defeat it, the board will have a substantial surplus that can be cut out without cutting into the funds that it actually needs," he said.

Hoboken auto revenue rises

By RICK SCOFFIELD

Revenue from the meters and garages owned by the Hoboken Parking Authority totalled \$468,000 last year—an \$185,000 increase over 1976. Executive Director Joseph W. Hottendorf said last night at a regular meeting.

The increase reflects the increase in the parking capacity in the garages, from 918 spaces in 1976 to 1,380 at the end of last year.

Meter revenue increased only slightly, from \$94,000 in 1976 to \$95,000 last year. The three garages the Authority operates are filled to capacity, ending the fear the Authority would not be able to pay current expenses and service the debt incurred by bonding the three buildings, Hottendorf said.

The anticipated revenue from the garages was only \$340,000, but the final tally showed \$75,000 more collected.

While the meter revenue showed only a modest gain over 1976, the combined total of 1976 and 1974 collections equal last year's \$68,000.

In other business, Hottendorf said he will meet with other city officials to discuss the purchase of four lots at the intersection of Willow av. and Eleventh st., for use as parking lots. The lots were recently acquired by the city in a foreclosure.

While the Authority does not now have the money to construct parking places on the vacant lots, Hottendorf said he would pursue the release of some of the meter and garage fees for such a construction project.

City gets bulk of parking tab

Hoboken will have to come up with \$286,701 towards the payment of the \$775,500 that is due March 1 on the Parking Authority's \$8.5 million parking garage bond issue. The authority is paying \$76,777 towards what is due.

That's a lot less than the \$200,000 plus the authority was expected to pay this year on the bonds. But Joseph Hottendorf, executive director, says the September payment — payments are made twice a year — is the important one.

"In order to fulfill our pledge of September so the payment will be much larger," he added.

Even though the authority's March share of the payment is only \$76,777 Hottendorf said it is more than \$40,000 more than what the authority contributed last March. That payment was just over \$30,000.

"The authority has been making very steady financial progress towards assuming a larger share of the bond payments," he said, "even though it is handicapped by the fact that it does not have the monthly parking and income from it that was estimated in the original parking garage apartment building complex. We should reach a point shortly where the authority is paying more than half of the annual cost of the bond issue."

More than half of the authority's approximately 1,000 parking spaces were supposed to be rented to tenants of the four apartment houses in the John J. Grogan Marine View Plaza project.

But only two of the four 25-story apartment buildings materialized, and the building owners, because of their own financial problems and difficulty in getting tenants to take parking spaces in the garages.

The authority is suing the owners for failing to live up to their contract but the suit is still to be resolved.

Hoboken school candidate drops out to avoid conflict

Unofficially, there are now only eight candidates seeking election to three seats on the Hoboken School board on Feb. 14.

Peter "Perry" Belfiore of 1621 Park Ave., an independent, said today that he is withdrawing as a candidate and will not campaign for one of the three board spots because he might be in a conflict of interest, if elected.

Belfiore's name will remain on the ballot for the time being, however. The deadline for candidates to withdraw has passed and only a court order can have a candidate's name removed from the ballot. Belfiore said he has not decided whether he will go through that expense.

"But I have told my supporters that they are released from any obligation to me and are free to participate or not participate in supporting any other candidate of their choice," he said.

"I have decided not to run as a result on the story in a recent edition of The Jersey Journal which pointed out that if I and three other candidates were elected we could possibly be in a conflict of interests because our wives or close relations are employees of the Hoboken School District," he explained.

"Although the legality of the point hasn't been tested in the courts, I believe even the mere suspicion of a conflict is enough to nullify the trust the voters would have placed in me as a board member. I sought no personal gain by my candidacy and I don't want even one voter to think that I did. The only way of proving that point is to withdraw."

Belfiore said he decided to become a candidate because he sincerely felt that the school system was in need of vast improvement.

"I own my own home in Hoboken on which I pay taxes to support the school system," he continued. "I have a 2-year-old son who will eventually be going to school. I have no desire to pay twice for his education — once

Pro-Cappiello school hopefuls' kin on payroll

By Peter Hallam

Four of the nine candidates in the Hoboken Board of Education election on Feb. 14 — including the three backed by Mayor Steve Cappiello — have family members on the board payroll, and if elected they'll be permitted to participate in.

According to school board records, candidates Peter "Perry" Belfiore, an independent, and Richard England, James Monaco and Robert Wendelken — backed by the mayor — all have relatives on the school board payroll.

Belfiore's wife, Patricia, England's wife, Delores, and Monaco's wife, Ann, are all teachers.

Wendelken's mother was recently hired by the board as a teacher's aide. He also has a sister-in-law, Maureen Wendelken, a teacher, who is being considered for a promotion.

According to the state Department of Education, the four may run for office and serve if elected, but must avoid possible conflicts of interest.

The state spokesman said he was not aware if the issue had ever been taken to court, but the opinion was based on a similar incident that occurred a year or so ago involving a Lawrence Township woman and school board member whose husband was the district's maintenance supervisor.

He said that the woman was instructed to refrain from voting on all board business that directly or indirectly involved her husband or the performance of his duties and that the same directive would probably apply to any of the four Hoboken candidates if they are elected to the board.

"That means that they probably won't be able to participate in any labor negotiations, vote on labor contracts, vote on the payroll, take action on the annual board budgets if they contain the salaries of their family members, or vote on any board business in which their family members are directly or indirectly involved," he added. "If any of the four are elected they'll have to be very careful in their voting and play an almost passive role on the board."

Hoboken council to weigh Grand Hotel repossession

The Grand Hotel, which Hoboken sold last year at a public auction, is about to return to the city's possession because the buyer hasn't lived up to the conditions of the sale.

A resolution by Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, directing the city to repossess the hotel at Third and Hudson Streets, is on the agenda for Wednesday's city council meeting.

The successful bidder on the property last year was Pasquale Severino, who announced at that time that it would be converted into a quality steak house with either apartments or hotel rooms occupying the upper floors.

But one of the conditions of the sale was that work start within 90 days after the council approved the sale of the building and that the work be completed within six months of the approval date. The inside of the building was gutted but no construction was started.

As the first deadline neared the council considered taking the building back, but Severino won an extra six month extension on condition that a substantial amount of work be done within three months. Little, if any, work was done during the period, according to Ranieri.

The council will also accept bids for the fire electric aerial ladder, a base station for the fire department communications center, and a street flusher truck. The meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m.

Also on the agenda is a resolution authorizing the payment of \$18,921 to John R. Sailer, the attorney who represented the city in the negotiations with the state Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on a new water rate for Jersey City.

Verify first 1/14/78

Several concerned parents of youngsters attending the Wilson and Washington schools in Bayonne called up newspapers, complaining that the classrooms and lunchrooms were not heated and threatening to keep their children at home until the situation was corrected.

School officials, however, said that all classrooms were heated comfortably, as well as the lunchrooms. So did a parent group member after spending several hours in the schools. A photographer assigned to get pictures of chilled youngsters found no unheated classrooms or lunchrooms.

Apparently the complaining parents got some false information leading them to believe that their children's health might be endangered, or they would not have reacted as they did.

Bayonne is a close-knit community where rumors spread rapidly. The best course for parents who hear of anything in the schools that might affect their children adversely is to check first for verification.

Brennan defuses hassle between Ranieri, Amato

By Thomas Golech

An expected verbal blowup between Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri and Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato over Ranieri's criticism of Amato's snow removal job during the recent heavy snow has been defused — at least temporarily — by Council President Martin Brennan.

At the same time a threatened recall of Ranieri, announced yesterday by some supporters of the director who were angry over the councilman's criticism, has also been called off — at least temporarily.

Amato showed up at yesterday's caucus meeting of the council, with about 20 employees of his department, hoping to question Ranieri about the criticism.

In a letter to Amato, the councilman had asked about the cost of the snow removal and the overall efficiency of those under Amato's control.

Brennan, however, said he felt any questions Amato wanted to direct to Ranieri should be written out and sent to the council for tomorrow's 10 a.m. meeting.

In turn Amato was asked about reports that he would refuse to pay those private contractors and laborers hired to help the city with snow removal operations by Mayor Steve Cappiello or Edwin Chius, business administrator.

Amato was relieved of responsibility for directing snow removal temporarily when Cappiello declared a state of emergency in Hoboken on Jan. 21. The mayor took over the chore of directing the cleanup.

Amato said any contractors hired by city officials other than himself certainly would be paid once they received proper authorization from the official doing the hiring. He has not yet refused to pay any contractors' bills, Amato claimed.

In the meantime, the council's public works committee, headed by Councilman Walter Cramer, has called for a special council meeting Friday at 2 p.m. to hear experts discuss exactly what garbage removal equipment is needed by the city.

The city will have \$200,000 to spend on equipment this year if the fourth annual allocation of \$30,000 in a special contingency fund is included in the city's 1978 budget.

Next week the budget itself will be the subject of a special meeting.

The council will meet at noon Feb. 8 to receive the budget, with a public hearing, expected about March 15, to be scheduled at that time.

Warner Communications has informed the council it may take legal action to block the council's awarding of an almost \$4,000 contract for six mobile radios to the fire department.

Warner contends that its bid was \$78 lower than a bid from Motorola Communications, Inc. The council had planned to award the contract to Motorola.

A spokesman for the fire department said the Warner bid was lower but said it did not fully comply with the city specifications for the equipment. Asked how close the Warner bid came, he estimated it complied "98 percent."

Cramer, saying that did not sound like a substantial deviation from what the city was looking for, remarked, "We can't throw out the lowest bidder so easily."

Ranieri pointed out that, since the equipment the city was looking for might only be available from Motorola, "in effect we're not really bidding. We're precluded from purchasing any other type of equipment."

At any rate, the council will question the corporation council at its meeting tomorrow about the contract before deciding whether it will award it.

The council is also expected to vote tomorrow to repossess the Grand Hotel. The city sold the building to the 223 Hudson Street Corp. on condition that renovation work be started by the end of the year.

The developer had hoped to construct a Victorian restaurant on the ground floor and turn the upper floors into hotel rooms or apartments. But, after gutting the interior, work stopped and the city will move to take possession of the building again.

Both Ranieri and Councilman Louis Francione questioned payment of \$1,222 to Mayo Lynch Associates, but Joseph Lynch explained the money was for engineering fees in connection with repairs on the 11th Street pumping station, seriously damaged in an explosion about 18 months ago.

Lynch explained there was difficulty in obtaining pump parts from the Worthington Pump Co. and that was delaying completion of the station.

Hoboken ed budget gap discussed

By RICK SCOFFIELD

In an effort to ascertain and close a projected \$300,000 school budget gap, Hoboken officials met yesterday with a state assistant commissioner of education in Jersey City for the first round of financial talks.

Board Attorney Robert Taylor said the talks with Commissioner Vincent Calabrese and Russell Carpenter, Hudson County superintendent of schools, were "just in the preliminary stage."

The precise amount of the deficit was not discussed, nor were ways to close it, Taylor said.

When pressed further to disclose the substance of the discussion, Taylor refused all comment, saying it was inappropriate before Calabrese had received all the information he requested from the board.

Calabrese called a meeting two weeks ago to gather more information about the financial position of the board for the current school year.

Taylor and Thomas McFeely, Hoboken superintendent of schools, agree there will be a deficit if the district maintains its current spending level. But they don't agree on how the deficit was caused and how large it is.

Taylor claims it is the result of using state money, designated for a remedial program, for the salaries of new teachers who should have been transferred from existing positions.

McFeely countered Taylor with the charge that the board did not cancel the contracts of 32 teachers during May of last year but failed to include the cost of their salaries in the current school budget.

The issue has not been resolved, and that is one of the reasons state and county education officials are meeting with Taylor, McFeely, Mayor Steve Cappiello, and Finance Director John Erbach.

The meeting yesterday was originally scheduled for last Friday in Trenton, but the snow storm cancelled those plans.

Hoboken school board is facing hard choices

If the Hoboken Board of Education is not to go broke, the state Commissioner of Education will have to recommend one of two things:

• Order a public referendum asking the voters if they're willing to spend the money — however much is needed to square accounts.

• Direct the city government to supply the school board with the required funds, as permitted under Chapter 12 of the state Thorough and Efficient law.

That was the opinion advanced at last night's board meeting by Robert

W. Taylor, board counsel, responding to a query by Dominick Casulli, a member of the audience.

Taylor said he didn't know how much money the board would need. "The matter is in the office of the commissioner and we're looking for a determination," he said.

The state has asked the board for a three-year analysis for its expenses and personnel payroll which has been submitted and a follow-up request, he added, has been made for information on the board's Thorough and Efficient program.

Casulli's question was triggered by the board's vote to rehire 15 of 17 teacher aides let go last year when the board said it didn't have the money to put them on the payroll.

Now, however, said Taylor, the board has secured a special state compensatory education grant that will cover the expense. The aides, among whom are the mothers of Hoboken bi-lingual education coordinator Edwin Duroy and of school board candidate Robert Wendelken, are being hired on a "per diem" basis at \$20 a day and will earn \$75 less a week than the prevailing rate, according to Trustee James Giani.

Abstaining on the vote was Trustee Otto Hottendorf, who said the board would do better using existing personnel to perform the aides' jobs

and paying them with the state funds.

When Evelyn Kieley complained that her daughter has sat in 52-degree classrooms at the Brandt School for the last three days, Giani replied: "You're right; it was cold there and we have had some heating problems, but I believe it's fixed."

Cancel computer cancellation

Hoboken has changed its mind about discontinuing the computer processing of its parking violations paperwork, at least for the time being, Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius said today.

The director said that he has sent a letter to the East Orange Violations Bureau advising it that Hoboken will continue the service, voiding the 90-day cancellation notice the city had sent in October.

"We had hoped that by now an operational audit of the violations bureau in Hoboken would be completed and we would know what changes, if any would or should be made in our procedures," he continued. "The procedural audit is still under way so we should continue with what we have until it is completed."

Chius said that the audit is being performed by the operational audit unit of the state Department of Community Affairs. He said the free service would determine if there were any weaknesses in the procedures now being used and what should be done to improve them. The audit will not cover the financial end of the violations bureau.

"If it is decided as a result of the recommendations made in the audit that the computer service should be terminated we will have to give East Orange another 90 days notice of cancellation," he added.

Hoboken pays East Orange 25 cents for each ticket it processes.

Some city council representatives have complained about the fact that the use of the computer has not upped the amount of money the city has been collecting from persons with overdue tickets. However, Chius said that the purpose of using the

computer service is to increase efficiency not income.

Last month, the bureau took in more than \$21,000 in parking fines, the largest amount in the bureau's history for a one-month period. That did not include fines for moving violations or other financial penalties imposed by the court.

Hiring order to be appealed

Mayor Steve Capriello, Hoboken's public safety director, said today the city will appeal the order from Civil Service to appoint Michael Dapuzzo, 35, to the fire department as of last April.

The mayor said that the city still believes Dapuzzo would be "an undesirable appointment" for a formal appeal will be filed with Civil Service within the 30 days allowed for that purpose. The appeal must be filed no later than Feb. 22.

The mayor said that the city based its opinion on Dapuzzo's record over five years as a special policeman with the Hoboken Police Department. However, he would not elaborate on any specific incidents concerning Dapuzzo.

Why would anybody move to Hoboken?



Everybody pitches in, and cheerfully, as this family from Connecticut fixes up a rundown but sturdy building in Hoboken to make it an attractive home, as others in the area have done. Daniel and Rachel serve as helpers for dad and mom, Donald and Jane Isenberg.

By Peter Hallinan

It was with some hesitancy that Donald and Jane Isenberg, left their comfortable two-family home in New Haven, Conn., for the uncertainties of living in Hoboken. But that was five months ago, and there haven't been any regrets.

The move was one of necessity, Isenberg, a lighting designer, had taken a job with a New York firm and the family needed a new home that was closer to the city. Their house-

hunting efforts were centered in Hoboken. Word of the positive things that were happening in the waterfront community had spread to New Haven.

They found a three-family home at 227 Garden St. that suited them. Early in their search, the Isenbergs had read about the New Jersey Mortgage Finance Agency's Neighborhood Loan Program (NLP) but thought the area they had selected was not eligible.

"The crime rate is low and everyone wants to keep it that way. Everyone is involved in one stage or another of fixing their homes and somebody is always ready to lend a hand."

The Isenbergs moved into the new home shortly after Labor Day. It is an old house and it needed a lot of work, a lot of which they hadn't expected. But they didn't get discouraged.

"We might have if the problems that came up happened in a house somewhere else," said Mrs. Isenberg. "If we all didn't like Hoboken so much we very easily could have been discouraged by the extra work and expenses."

The Isenbergs have two children, Rachel, 8, who attends the new Calabro School on Park Avenue, and Daniel, 4, who is enrolled at the Stevens Cooperative Nursery School.

The Isenbergs are one of the first families to buy a home in Hoboken through the state's NLP. But they need not be the last. Many sections of the city are eligible for the program. Persons interested in buying homes in the city can check with the state Mortgage Finance Agency to see if the site they have selected is eligible and to obtain more information. The agency is located in Newark and can be reached at (201) 648-2774.

Then they met Thomas Newman, president of the First Ward Black Association, and found that their intended home was eligible for a 7.5 percent loan and 30-year mortgage. Their loan was obtained through the United States Savings Bank of Newark, one of 36 leading institutions participating in the program.

"Our main concern was for our children," said Mrs. Isenberg, a native of Passaic.

"We were concerned with the safety on the streets and with them having friends to play with. Especially since my parents were very troubled when they learned that we had decided to buy a house in Hoboken."

"They didn't think it was a very good place to live. But they were wrong. The children have plenty of friends and we feel that they are as safe here as anywhere else, maybe more so."

"We have wonderful neighbors. They care about their homes and they care about their neighborhood. Everyone in the neighborhood looks out for each other and there is a sense of the residents having control of the streets, thereby giving everyone a feeling of security."

Hoboken debt to contractor affirmed

The Hoboken Board of Education must pay a balance of \$100,000 due the general contractor on the Public School 4 (Calabro School) project, 524 Park Ave., Superior Court Judge Thomas S. O'Brien has ruled.

The judge upheld a finding by a three-man arbitration panel that the Pisanelli & De Bari Construction Co., Hoboken, should be paid. The court decision puts legal "teeth" into the arbitrators' award so the firm can collect.

Originally, the firm was awarded the general contract of approximately \$800,000, but the school board, after paying most of the money, refused to pay the last \$100,000 installment. The school board claimed some work was defective, but the general contractor asserted that it was not responsible and any such conditions were caused by the board or some other contractors.

An arbitration board, composed of two general

contractors and a lawyer, later upheld the Pisanelli & De Bari firm's position. Then, Arthur D'Alia, representing the general contractor, got court confirmation of the arbitrators' award after a hearing at which Robert W. Taylor represented the school board.

Mrs. Mary Gaspar, board president, said Taylor hadn't told her of O'Brien's ruling and she had no idea how the payment of the money to the contractor would affect the existing school budget or the proposed 1978-79 budget.

Mrs. Gaspar added that she thought Taylor has gone on vacation and won't be in touch with the board until the Feb. 1 budget hearing.

James Farina, the school board's vice president, said he wasn't aware of O'Brien's decision and that Taylor hadn't contacted him about it either.

Ranieri, Amato tangle over snow pay

The Hoboken Public Works Department may be getting a new director if the current head, Andrew J. Amato, doesn't back down on his refusal to pay private contractors and laborers hired to help the city during last week's snow removal operation.

So says Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri who today assured the contractors and their men that they would be paid and paid on time for the work they did.

"The charges will be billed to the Public Works Department," the councilman continued. "And the director had better back down on his stand about not paying them or we just might have a new director."

Ranieri declined to say what he

could do about removing Amato from office. The directors are appointed by the mayor and can be removed only by him. The exception would be for the council to put public works under another department and eliminate the director's position.

"The director should realize that we were in a state of emergency last week during the storm," said the councilman. "That means that the en-

tire city was under the direct control of the mayor and the business administrator, who acted in the mayor's behalf. If the director feels that his feelings have been hurt because he wasn't consulted on every move, then let him take it up with the mayor. Or better, come to the council caucus tonight and discuss it with the council."

According to Amato, he isn't against paying the contractors. He's against authorizing payment and having to sign their claims.

"If the mayor and business administrator authorized the hiring of the contractors and their men and

equipment, then let them sign the forms," he said. "I have no way of knowing who was and wasn't hired, since no one checked with me about it. It's all right with me if they bill Public Works under the signature of the mayor or business administrator. I'm not going to sign for anything that I know nothing about."

The councilman wouldn't do it. Ranieri reiterated his claim that Amato and the public works department did a poor job of keeping the city's streets open.

"The director did not just lose the battle against the snow, he lost the war," Ranieri continued. "If Public Works had been able to handle the emergency we wouldn't have had to call in outside contractors to do it for us."

Amato would not comment on his department's efforts on the snow removal operation. However, he said he was accepting the councilman's invitation to talk about it at tonight's caucus. And he wouldn't be alone.

"The workmen in the department have had it," the director said. "They gave their blood Thursday night and Friday morning, and all the thanks they're getting for it is abuse. I know a lot of the men plan on being at the caucus meeting."

Grand Hotel reclaimed

Hoboken is taking back ownership of the old Grand Hotel at Third and Grand streets because the owner failed to rehabilitate the building in the time that was allotted by the city.

By a vote of seven-to-one, the City Council approved, at yesterday's meeting, a resolution authorizing Hoboken to reclaim the property from the 230 Hudson St. Corp.

The resolution was authored by Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri. Only Councilman Louis Francione of the Fourth Ward voted against it. Councilman Nunzio Malfetti missed the meeting.

Hoboken sold the property early last year with the understanding that the new owner would begin work on it within 90 days after the council approved the sale and complete the work within six months of that same date.

Work did start but after the building was gutted no further progress was noted. The owner planned to turn the old hotel into a quality steak house with apartments or hotel rooms occupying the upper floors. The owner was given a six-month extension with the provision that if a substantial amount of work wasn't completed within three months, the last three months of the extension would be voided.

In other business, the council rejected a bid from the Motorola Corp. for supplying the Public Safety Department with new walkie-talkies. The bid was rejected because another company that had also submitted a lower bid for the radios had objected.

The council decided to re-evaluate the specifications to make sure that they did not prevent other companies from meeting them and

submitting bids. It was suggested that the specifications might have been prepared inadvertently so that only Motorola would be able to meet them fully.

The matter was to be studied and new bids sought.

Chilly reception at City Hall isn't from workers

It's easy to get a chilly reception at Hoboken City Hall. Just walk in the door. Any door.

Temperatures inside the building have been hovering in the 40s and 50s in some offices, lower in those exposed to the wind on the north side of the building, because the building's heating system has finally given up the ghost, with the help of a small fire early Wednesday morning in the boiler room.

Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato has declared the breakdown to be an emergency so that work can start on repairs without having to go out to public bidding, a process that could leave the building without heat for several weeks.

"The work will cost over \$2,500," said Amato. "But it has to be done and done quickly. Otherwise we'll be without heat for many weeks. We've been fortunate in that it really hasn't been that cold outside for the last few days. The weather has been clear and sunny — and that helped."

Amato said the problem appeared to be in the heating system's combustion chamber where water was turned to steam to heat the four-story building.

"If the contractor doesn't run into any unexpected problems we should have heat by Monday," the director continued. "It might even be on sooner, maybe sometime over the weekend."

In spite of the cold, city officials are keeping the building open and are not permitting employees to go home early. Many don't bother taking off their coats when they come in the morning. Others do, but put on heavy sweaters immediately.

\$200,000 grant to Hoboken

TRENTON — Community Affairs Commissioner Patricia Q. Sheehan yesterday announced a \$200,000 grant for the second phase of the Neighborhood Preservation Demonstration Program in Hoboken's First Ward.

It was described as a unique partnership between the state, Hoboken and the First Ward Block Association.

Sheehan also said a one-year \$30,000 demonstration grant was awarded to the block association. "This grant will test the effectiveness of neighborhood non-profit organizations in improving the living conditions in the neighborhood," Sheehan said.

"By combining these efforts in the same ward, Hoboken is building the kind of partnership between residents and municipal officials that has been recognized as a key to successful neighborhood preservation," Sheehan continued.

Malfetti assails gag rule

One Hoboken councilman said today he doesn't agree with the stand of Council President Martin Brennan who has placed a gag rule on an administration critic.

"This is America and everyone is entitled to speak," said Nunzio Malfetti, the Sixth Ward representative. "No one should be denied that right."

Malfetti said he would not go along with Brennan's action in declaring that Robert King, a constant critic, will not be permitted to talk or ask questions for the next two council meetings.

Brennan said the council could tolerate King's criticism but it would not and could not tolerate his "ridicule and rudeness."

Half of Hoboken students to receive hot lunches

Approximately half of Hoboken's student enrollment will be getting hot lunches as of Monday when the school board officially starts its hot lunch program in the two junior high schools and five elementary schools.

John Palmieri, head of the food program, said the board expects to feed approximately 3,000 youngsters to start in the seven schools. The high school has its own cafeteria and has been offering hot lunches for years.

According to Palmieri, the number of children who participate in the federally funded hot lunch program is expected to increase to between 4,500 and 5,000 once the program is under way.

"The lunches are free to youngsters who come from poor families," said Palmieri. "For those who come from families with borderline income levels the charge is 10 cents per lunch. And for those youngsters whose family income ex-

ceeds the federal income limitation the charge is 45 cents."

Palmieri added that 45 cents was the maximum charge any student would have to pay for the lunches.

The lunches are supplied by Morton Foods. They are already prepared and flash frozen. The lunches are heated at the individual schools in microwave ovens and then served to the students.

A substantial savings is anticipated in the food program through the hot lunch program even though the individual lunches cost the board more than the individual cold lunches that were featured.

"With the hot lunch program, each school has its own frozen food freezers where the ready-to-heat lunches are stored," he continued. "The number taken out to be heated up depends on the attendance record for that day, so waste should be drastically cut."

Hoboken sharing success of CDA

Hoboken is sharing its success. The know-how and expertise that helped get the city national recognition in rehabilitation and redevelopment through the Hoboken Community Development Agency is being shared with other municipalities from around the state.

The Hoboken agency yesterday hosted CDA representatives from six other communities — Salem, West New York, Phillipsburg, Asbury Park, Wildwood and Perth Amboy and the North Hudson Council of Mayors at a Neighborhood Preservation and Community Revitalization Conference.

The conference covered neighborhood preservation and the shop front modernization program and included a tour of several com-

mercial and residential rehabilitation projects.

Fred M. Bado discussed the overall effect of the two programs. Bado is Hoboken CDA director.

The economic development aspects of the programs were taken up by Ken Pal, director of planning and economic development. Barbara Oif, a CDA planner, explained the design and development of the storefront modernization program.

George Beggs, a CDA architect, discussed the problems and solution of integrating architectural standards, designs and concepts while still accommodating individual preference and preserving the character of the neighborhoods.

Representatives of the state Community Affairs Department also attended the conference.

Knock it off

In Hoboken, Councilman Ranieri has threatened to bring about the removal of Public Works Director Amato, and Director Amato's wife has threatened to bring about a recall of Councilman Ranieri.

Either way, Hoboken would lose. Both officials are sparkplugs of Hoboken's city government. It is unfortunate that at the moment they are eyeball to eyeball.

These men are outstanding public servants. Each should realize that the city would suffer if either were to leave the scene. Let them calm down and continue to make their valuable contribution to Hoboken.

Sewer line trouble spot unclogged in Hoboken

A troublesome sewer line on Jackson Street in Hoboken, just south of the intersection of First Street, has been unclogged, Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato said today.

The department began working on the line two weeks before Christmas but had to stop because further work could have closed down a meat packing business in the area and caused the backup of raw sewage into basements. Work was resumed Tuesday.

"The line had collapsed," said Amato. "It was one of those old wood sewers and it finally gave in."

According to the director, the city will repair the line itself by reconstructing an entire new section of line — made from wood like the part that collapsed.

It's the best and quickest way for this kind of repair," he continued. "It

we go into a cement or some other kind of round line we will be bothered by trying to connect the two ends to the remaining wood lines. The new stuff is round while the wood lines are rectangular in shape. So we would have to adapt the new round sewer lines to the old wood ones."

"By reconstructing the section with wood we eliminate that problem. It won't last as long as concrete or metal but I certainly hope by the time the new section starts giving way we'll be in the position of replacing all of the old wood lines and won't have to worry about them anymore."

Amato said that the city will remove the top of the sewer line and replace it with concrete slabs, giving the side walls added strength. Wood planks now cover the tops of the wood lines. He said the cement can take more of a load from vehicles that pass on the street above.

Battleship unit in new office

The Jersey City Battleship Museum Commission, which wants to bring the USS New Jersey to Liberty State Park as a tourist attraction, will open its new headquarters Monday at the Hotel Plaza.

"The headquarters," said Commission President Richard T. Bozone Sr., "which will ultimately be manned by a staff of four persons along with the necessary supportive services, is the result of a Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) grant. CETA,

after investigating and analyzing our application, found that the goals of the commission are not only to bring the big J to Jersey City, but also to provide employment once the ship is berthed in the shadow of the Statue of Liberty."

The commission's volunteer members include Thomas Rush, vice principal of Ferris High School; John Stallworth, executive secretary to Mayor Thomas F. X. Smith and Anthony DeVivo, an engineer. Frank Burke will serve as unsalaried attorney to the commission.

Absentee ballot probe sought

An assistant state education commissioner is looking into a complaint made by the president of the Hoboken Board of Education that absentee voters are being asked to decide on a \$6.1 million budget which has not yet been adopted.

After Mary Stack Gaspar, board president, made the verbal complaint to Hudson County Prosecutor James T. O'Halloran, he contacted state officials and the complaint was relayed to the state education department. She maintains that absentee ballots were apparently mailed out Tuesday or Wednesday and started

arriving at homes on Thursday. They were mailed out by the county clerk's office, she assumed.

"However, the budget figure is not necessarily correct," she said, "because the school board is waiting to hear from the state if it will be allowed to go over its caps or spending limit. If we are not allowed, the figure on the ballot will be incorrect."

Mrs. Gaspar said it appeared that someone assumed the board would approve the proposed budget on Wednesday and jumped the gun by mailing out the absentee ballots.

However, according to Robert W. Taylor, board attorney, the mailing of the absentee ballots was probably routine in that the time for them to be mailed had come.

Taylor pointed out that the absentee ballots do include a notation explaining that the budget may be subject to change based on the decision of the state on the waiver request. An election notice that appeared in the newspaper yesterday also carried that notation.

Taylor said the county clerk's office may have to void old ballots and send out new ones if the figure is revised but he doubted if the school election set for Feb. 14 could be postponed.

According to Mrs. Gaspar, 546 absentee ballots had been certified for the school board election—more than had been cast in either the May municipal election for mayor or the general election in November. She said 375 of the ballots had been mailed out.

Joseph A. Zach, assistant education commissioner in charge of controversies and disputes, is now looking into the situation. Russell Carpenter, Hudson's superintendent of schools, also was apprised of the problem since he was on business at the education department in Trenton yesterday.

Informed sources said Carpenter may have sought to get a waiver of the Hoboken board's cap, which might clarify the situation. Other sources said the need for compliance with school election law deadlines, so absentee ballots could be mailed out in time, may have led to prematurely putting the question on the ballot.

Some officials suggested that state clarification on the caps and subsequent earlier adoption of school budgets might prevent such an occurrence in future years.

To meet the Feb. 1 deadline set by the state, the Hoboken board held its public hearing Wednesday. Since no final word was received from the state, the meeting was continued until 5:30 p.m. Tuesday. The \$6.1 million is the amount of the local tax levy in the overall budget of \$17.6 million. It was estimated that the school board exceeded its spending limit by almost \$2.5 million and asked the state for a waiver.

Other major cuts were \$773,767 from fixed charges, \$300,000 from contracted services, \$100,000 from teaching supplies, \$50,000 from administrative expenses, \$40,000 in other expenses involved in operating costs and \$30,000 by cutting back the maintenance and replacement of equipment. There was also a \$10,000 slash in student body activities.

In another severe move, the board eliminated its traditional Adult Evening Program, School for Foreign

Born and summer school, which made up the balance of the cuts.

Councilman Robert Ranieri said he was elated at the board's action, particularly since it will mean that the city will have to contribute less for school costs.

"A responsible job has at long last been done," said the councilman. He said the board should practice the policy advocated by the city over the past five years by cutting staff through attrition in teaching, custodial and administrative personnel. He urged school officials to take a second look at a plan presented to them by the council two years ago, advocating relieving of overcrowding in one school by making use of space in another. This would mean balanced classroom populations and the need for fewer teachers, he said, and should achieve the "thorough and efficient education" goal.

By the next day, on the city's main thoroughfare, Washington Street, all metered parking spaces were back in use.

It was a case, not only of working around the clock, but of being fully prepared. This town showed it could be done. Good work, Hoboken.

Hoboken will cut tax rate by 25 cents

Hoboken taxpayers will be asked to raise approximately \$200,000 less this year for support of the 1978 municipal budget but it will mean no more than a 25-cent decrease in the tax rate.

Mayor Steve Cappiello and Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius submitted the mayor's proposed budget to the city council at a special meeting yesterday at noon. The amount to be raised through local taxes is \$5,423,473 as compared to \$5,623,473 last year.

According to Chius, that would normally account for a decrease in the tax rate of more than \$2 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. However, Hoboken has lost almost \$5 million in ratables since last year, and that reduction of the tax base is enough to offset most of the budget reduction.

The city's tax rate is currently \$104.68 per thousand.

"Of course, we are assuming that the local school and county contributions from the city will remain the same," continued Chius, "and we are fairly sure that they will not. There probably will be a slight increase in the tax rate but the very worst we anticipate would be about \$6 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation—and it would be the result of increases for the schools and county, not the city."

For the year, Hoboken plans to spend a total of \$18,308,493—up approximately \$1.3 million from last year. Much of the additional money will be coming through the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) programs and the state's Safe and Clean Neighborhoods Program.

School board cuts budget in Hoboken

The Hoboken Board of Education has approved more than \$2 million in cutbacks in its proposed 1978-1979 budget and, although there will be no personnel layoffs, virtually every area of the school system will be affected.

The board was compelled to take drastic action last night when the State Department of Education turned down its request for a waiver of the 5.9 percent cap, or spending limit.

As a result of the cutbacks, the budget was reduced from \$17,600,440 to \$15,112,927 and the local tax levy was dropped from \$6,140,664 to \$4,673,151. This would mean the city will have to contribute about \$122,000 less toward school costs than it did in the current budget.

The vote on the \$2 million cuts was approved 7-to-1. One member, Michael Costello, did not attend.

The lone negative vote was cast by Mary Stack Gaspar, the board president.

"I know the budget had to be cut but there are some deletions I cannot

believe in or live with," she said. She told the board, "We are dealing with human beings, not jelly beans."

She said she is asking Thomas A. Gallo, board secretary, and Robert W. Taylor, the attorney, to have the new figure placed on absentee ballots.

"We are misrepresenting our budget if our absentee ballot has the \$6 million figure and the machines have the \$4 million figure," she said.

"I would probably vote no on the \$6 million and might vote for the \$4 million which does not increase the tax levy."

Although there will be no personnel layoffs, the board adopted a policy of attrition and said it would not replace teachers or other employees who retire or take leaves of absence or maternity leaves. It was estimated this will save \$851,277 in the new contract.

Other major cuts were \$773,767 from fixed charges, \$300,000 from contracted services, \$100,000 from teaching supplies, \$50,000 from administrative expenses, \$40,000 in other expenses involved in operating costs and \$30,000 by cutting back the maintenance and replacement of equipment. There was also a \$10,000 slash in student body activities.

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Hoboken board tells teachers they face cuts

Negotiations have begun between the Hoboken Board of Education and the Hoboken Teachers Association (HTA) on a new contract, but they might as well not have started at all.

According to sources close to the negotiations, the board will not offer any pay increases and wants to take away \$1.3 million a year in benefits that were granted in previous contracts over the years.

Robert W. Taylor, the board's attorney and negotiator, would not comment on the report, but did admit that the school board is committed to eliminating \$1,284,064 by removing almost all contractual fringe benefits. This was part of the \$2.6 million the school board removed from the proposed 1978-79 school budget.

"The fringe benefits are not automatically carried over from one contract to the next," he said. "They are negotiable. And the board has decided that, in order to reduce the budget in accordance with the edicts of the state, part of the money will have to come from this area."

Taylor added that by eliminating the fringe benefits the need to dismiss or lay off teachers would be avoided. However, dismissal was another possibility.

"Staff reductions are another way of making the reduction," he continued. "But that is something that the teachers will have to decide. The board is interested in cutting approximately \$1.3 from the teachers' salary and fringe benefit accounts. It will accept staff reductions as an alternative to the elimination of fringe benefits."

In addition to the \$1.3 million, the board cut \$200,000 in materials and class room supplies, \$200,000 in service contracts, \$50,000 in administrative expenses, \$30,000 in general expenses, \$35,000 for new school equipment, \$75,450 in salaries for teachers who won't be replaced.

The adult evening school is being eliminated for a saving of \$125,000. The evening school are being ended for a saving of \$22,000. Student activities are being cut by \$10,000 along with \$40,000 from skilled trades and \$41,000 in arbitration awards made in 1977.

Good work

The people of Hoboken should feel grateful to the one among them who brought about the arrest of a man he saw breaking into a store and stealing from it.

Commonly, people who see such crimes being committed either turn away or, at most, make a perfunctory phone call to police. The Hoboken witness not only called police but followed up by leading them to the burglar a block away after they arrived. May others be moved to follow his example.

Hoboken could require second school election

It appears unlikely today that the Hoboken Board of Education election will be postponed tomorrow, but chances of a second election to determine the budget figures are good.

And, the \$2.5 million that caused so much turmoil is still in the middle of the controversy that could force a special election.

School board officials have been seeking a postponement of the election because they contend the public has not been properly presented with the correct figures of how much money will be needed through local taxation for the 1978-79 school budget.

Hudson County's Superintendent of Schools Russell W. Carpenter said he doesn't have the authority to postpone the election. He said that was up to Education Commissioner Fred Burke.

Originally, the school board had been seeking \$6.1 million, which was \$2.5 million more than the caps set by the state.

The school board asked for a waiver which was refused and the budget was trimmed to \$4,673,151. But Carpenter said the correct figure should be \$3,352,252.

The school board last week tried

to notify the voting public that the \$6.1 million figure printed on absentee ballots was wrong. But, even the new figure, according to Carpenter, was not correct and less than one day remains for the school board to notify the public.

"I frankly don't think we can do it," said Mrs. Mary Gaspar, president of the school board.

Meanwhile, Vincent Calabrese, head of the department of administration and finance in the state Department of Education, still held out hope that Hoboken's Board of Education could get a crack at setting the \$2.5

million waiver from the state.

Calabrese said the state hasn't refused to grant the waiver but was unable to make a decision on the request because the school board twice failed to take an adequate presentation to substantiate the waiver request.

He said in a letter to the school board it was explained that Commissioner Burke would consider the possibility of a special referendum after tomorrow's school board election on the cap waiver, but the board must provide the state with the information it needs to make a decision.

THE JERSEY JOURNAL, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1978



HEATING UP — Doris Alexandre and Edwin Morales, fourth-graders of the Colabor School, Hoboken, pick up some of the first hot lunches distributed to an estimated 3,000 school children in the city as the district's first "hot" meal program begins. School officials believe the total will climb to between 4,500 and 5,000. Morton Foods is the federally-funded supplier of frozen lunches which are warmed in microwave ovens before being served the children.

Hoboken scores

Hoboken's city administration got off to a late start in dealing with last month's heavy snow. Evidently they smarted under the subsequent criticism. More than that, they did something about it.

The repeat storm found them armed to the teeth. They counterattacked with formidable forces which were ready and waiting. By nightfall of the first day, all Hoboken's streets could be traversed. This was a notable feat, for the city's streets are narrow, the corners difficult to turn.

By the next day, on the city's main thoroughfare, Washington Street, all metered parking spaces were back in use.

It was a case, not only of working around the clock, but of being fully prepared. This town showed it could be done. Good work, Hoboken.

Nine names on ballot in Hoboken contest

By Peter Hallam

Tuesday's school board election in Hoboken, possibly the last school board election the city holds, will be a contest among three candidates backed by Mayor Steve Cappiello, an incumbent who had the mayor's support three years ago, four independents, and one non-candidate.

Voters will also decide on whether or not they wish to keep the elected school board and the proposed 1978-79 school budget. The mayor is seeking to turn the school board back to an appointed body. If the voters agree, the first three appointments by the mayor won't be made until April of next year.

The mayor is backing Richard England, Robert Wendelken and James Monaco, and, based on the support they will get from the mayor's administration and organization, they are considered the favorites.



Nicholas DeTrizio



Richard England



Mrs. Mary Gaspar



George Giordano

See NINE—Page 2.



Vito Lanzo



James Monaco



Robert Wendelken

England is a 1960 graduate of A.J. Demarest High School, one of the last

classes to graduate from Demarest before the new Hoboken High School opened. He holds a bachelor of science degree in marketing from St. Peter's College and a masters degree in business administration from Fordham University.

An Army veteran who served 13 months in southeast Asia, England has been with General Foods for 14 years. He is married to the former Dolores Donofrio. They have one son and live at 457 Seventh St.

The four independent candidates are George Giordano, Nicholas DeTrizio, Vito Lanzo and Angel Roman. Of the three, only Roman did not respond to inquiries about his personal history.

Like Mrs. Gaspar, Giordano is considered by some to be a possible dark horse in the school board race. He is an active member of the mayor's political club and has been affiliated with Cappiello for many years. Although he is going against the mayor's wishes by running, it is expected that some of the mayor's backers will cut one of the three ticket candidates to give Giordano a vote.

Giordano has been a Hoboken fireman for 21 years and is currently assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau. He, too, is a life-long resident of the city. He attended local schools and has taken job-related courses at John Jay College, Rutgers University, and Jersey City State College.

He is married to the former Lucy Lepre. Giordano, 51, has been active in local politics for many years. He is past treasurer of the mayor's club, and served as president of the clubs headed by Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri and former Sixth Ward Councilman Edward McLaughlin.

DeTrizio, who lives at 627 Bloomfield St. with his wife, the former Michele P. Schofield, and their two sons, is a research and development technician for the American Can Co. He attended local schools and spent five years in the Navy.

DeTrizio is the vice president of Sixth Ward Councilman Nuncio Malloff's association, and treasurer of the Hoboken Character Club. He is taking his first crack at elected office.

Lanzo, a local baker, is making his second attempt. He ran unsuccessfully in May for councilman-at-large. A lifelong resident of Hoboken, Lanzo and his wife, the former Carolyn Charico, live at 10 Church Towers.

He is an Army veteran of the Korean conflict and is a member of the Hoboken American Legion Post.

The last candidate is Peter (Perry) Belfiore, who has withdrawn as a candidate but whose name remains on the ballot because he did not obtain a court order to have it removed.

England, a senior production analyst with the Maxwell House Coffee Division of the General Foods Corp. in White Plains, N.Y., is also a Hoboken native.

Incumbents, budget lose in Hoboken

By JEANNE M. HALL

Two incumbents, Board President Mary Stack Gaspar and trustee Michael Costello, were defeated for reelection yesterday by Hoboken voters by a margin of approximately 3-2 with some 3,900 ballots cast. Richard F. England, James Monaco and Robert Wendelken won.

This year's election marks the last for Hoboken, since voters also approved the referendum to return to an appointed school board. It will now be up to Mayor Steve Cappiello and the council to appoint or reappoint school board members as vacancies occur due to expired terms, resignations, or for any other reason.

Voters also soundly defeated a confusing proposed school budget listed on the ballot as \$4 million and on the absentee ballot as \$6 million, by a vote of 1986 to 600. According to Hudson County Superintendent of Schools Russell Carpenter, the correct budget figure is \$3,352,252.

The Hudson County superintendent of schools is expected to ask the state commissioner of education today to throw out last night's Hoboken Board of Education budget election results.

"We're recommending that the election of the budget be rendered null and void," Gary Deutsch, school program coordinator, said yesterday. Deutsch said Carpenter would

make this request at a 2 a.m. meeting today with State Commissioner of Education Fred G. Burke.

The dollar amount of the budget was not printed accurately on the absentee ballots, Carpenter said. He said he sent a telegram Sunday ordering the matter corrected by yesterday's election.

According to Mary Stack Gaspar, Board of Education president who was defeated for reelection yesterday, the matter was not cleared up.

The amount printed on the absentee ballot was \$6,140,644. The actual budget amount is \$3,352,252. Mrs. Gaspar said

Hoboken budget picture confused

By LISA RUBIN 2/13/78

A new cut of more than \$40,000 in Hoboken's proposed school budget has been ordered by the Hudson County superintendent of schools, to be implemented before tomorrow's school board election.

"I don't know how we'll survive," said Board of Education President Mrs. Mary Stack Gaspar yesterday.

Further compounding the problem is the fact that there has been no official public notice on the new budget, Mrs. Gaspar said.

The latest word on the budget, entangled in a complex political dispute, was issued by Supt. Russell Carpenter, who heads the county division of the state department of education.

In a telegram sent out late Friday afternoon, Carpenter said that the budget figure placed on the absentee ballots already mailed out, is incorrect.

"According to our calculations," the telegram said, "the correct figure is \$3,352,252."

Previously, the board had approved two separate proposed budgets which were turned down by the state.

The first budget, which now appears on the absentee ballots, was for more than \$6 million, representing an approximately \$2-million increase over the budget for this current school year.

But last Tuesday, the board voted for a budget of \$4,073,151, after having received word from the state that the higher budget simply wouldn't do.

This \$4M budget, according to Mrs. Gaspar, is what appears on the voting machines.

Tomorrow, voters will elect school board candidates; decide whether they should be elected or appointed; and vote "yes" or "no" on the budget. Before 1973, candidates were appointed.

Carpenter charges that neither the \$4 million figure which will appear on the voting machines, nor the \$6 million figure appearing on the ballots were ever state-approved.

"So what's happening is that we have one group of people voting on a \$4 million budget and another group voting on a \$6 million one, and what we really have is a \$5 million budget," said Mrs. Gaspar.

Board Secretary Thomas Gallo, who is also an assemblyman in the 3rd District, said Friday that he could not comment until he receives the telegram from Carpenter. He could not be reached yesterday for comment.

Hoboken school election re-run in doubt

Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he has conferred with the state education commission and there is a possibility there will be no need for a second school election to decide a budget discrepancy.

The mayor said he contacted Commissioner Fred Burke last night and Burke said he will ask the state attorney general for an opinion on whether another election is necessary.

Russell W. Carpenter, Hudson County superintendent of schools, reportedly recommended that the Feb. 14 election results be set aside. He cited the fact that absentee ballots carried a \$6.1 million figure to be raised by local taxes in the 1978-1979 school year while the voting machine figure was \$4.03 million because the state refused to grant Hoboken a waiver on its budget "cap."

Cappiello told Burke he felt that the school board and the city could work out a budget figure through regular administrative channels. The \$4.03 million budget was defeated by the voters and now goes to the city council for action.

The mayor said he learned that if the state rules that a special election is necessary, it will be for the budget question only. The vote on candidates for the school board and a referendum to return to the appointed board system will remain valid, he said. Robert Wendelken, James Monaco and Richard England were the winners in the Feb. 14 balloting.

Mary Stack Gaspar, who unsuccessfully sought reelection, has been seeking a new election because she said she may have lost votes over the discrepancy in budget figures.

Oops!

The bloopers of Hoboken's Board of Education go on and on, incredibly.

The board failed to provide for the teachers' summer pay checks, and then had to rush out and borrow \$1,500,000 to cover them.

It failed to put enough money in the current budget for teachers' salaries, and as a result it will run out of salary funds in May.

Its cumulative acts of mismanagement boosted the coming school year's budget \$2,800,000 beyond the cap — the amount of increase allowed by the state.

When the state rejected the extra \$2,800,000, the board had to wipe out the adult evening school, the foreign-born evening school, the summer school and the fringe benefits won by teachers and other employees in years of contract negotiations.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield have notified the board they are discontinuing coverage of all employees as of Feb. 28 unless the board starts to comply with the regulations.

Now it turns out that the reason the state refused to waive the cap and allow that extra \$2,800,000 was that the board had failed — twice — to submit the necessary data.

In sending out the absentee ballots for the recent school board election and referendum, the board announced the wrong figure for the amount to be raised by taxation in the coming year.

When this was discovered, the board hurriedly changed it to another figure... wrong again!

What next?

Gaspar tries 11th-hour move to postpone school election

Mary Stack Gaspar, the Hoboken school board president, will seek a meeting today with Hudson County Assignment Judge Thomas S. O'Brien in an attempt to postpone today's school board election and to have County Clerk James F. Quinn removed as the top election official.

According to Mrs. Gaspar, the voting public is actually unaware that it will be voting on 1978-79 budget figures that are incorrect.

"The correct amount to support the school budget through local taxes is \$3,352,252 according to the figures of Hudson County Superintendent of Schools Russell W. Carpenter," said Mrs. Gaspar. The amount on the ballot is \$4,073,151.

Mrs. Gaspar, Thomas Gallo, school board secretary; and Superintendent of Schools Thomas F.

McFeely were notified of the new figure by Carpenter over the weekend and were instructed to do everything within their power to make sure the public was alerted to the new figure.

"Since the figures reflect back on the school board members, and I am a candidate for re-election," Mrs. Gaspar declared, "I think the entire election should be postponed until the proper figures can be placed on the ballot."

Carpenter has indicated that such a decision is up to state Education Commissioner Fred Burke. If he calls for another election, however, it would in all probability be only for the budget and not the candidates as well.

Mrs. Gaspar added that she will also seek to have the county clerk disqualified as the top official for conducting the election because he has publicly endorsed three candidates who are running for the school

board—Richard England, Robert Wendelken and James Monaco.

"The county clerk is supposed to conduct the election in an impartial manner," she asserted. "His impartiality went out the window yesterday when a paid advertisement went into the newspapers with Quinn's name on it. He cannot be impartial when he has publicly announced his support for three candidates and should not be allowed to officially participate in the election in any way."

Besides the controversial budget, Hoboken voters will also be asked to decide whether the elected school board should be continued or returned to an appointed board and select three board members for three-year terms. There are nine candidates. More than 800 absentee ballots have been issued for the election, the largest number for any Hoboken election in recent history.

22 Hoboken policemen may get commendations

Twenty-two Hoboken policemen have been recommended for department commendations, including two who will get the commendation bar, the second highest award in the department, Chief George W. Crimmins said today.

Patrolmen Frank Altomare and Celestino Gasbarro have been recommended to Mayor Steve Cappiello, the city's public safety director, for the commendation bar for the actions following the investigation of the murder of two women at the John J. Grogan Marine View Plaza.

The chief said that Altomare and Gasbarro were able to calm down the suspect in the case and convince him to turn over to them the loaded gun he had in his possession.

Recommended for letters of commendation are Lt. Patrick Donatucci

and Paul Tewes, Sgts. Stephen Darago, Martin Kiely, Carmine LaBruno and Thomas McDonough, Detectives Raul Torres (two letters), and Robert DeStefano, Patrolmen Thomas Connor, Arthur DiVincent, Anthony Falco (two letters), Carl Faure, Edelmiro Garcia (two letters), Daniel Halloran, Albert Idevala (two letters), Edward Lepore and Antonio Rentas and Special Patrolmen David Matthews, Martin Perez and Angel Alicia.

The group is among the largest to be recommended for the departmental awards at one time.

Erie-Lackawanna terminal project begins to shape up

The first visible signs of Hoboken's \$4.8 million Erie-Lackawanna train and ferry terminal restoration and development project should materialize by April, Fred M. Bado, director of the city's Community Development Agency (CDA), said today.

According to Bado, contracts for the repair and replacement of the copper roof on the terminal building at the foot of Hudson Place, the refurbishing of the roofs on the main sheds and for a further engineering investigation of the area for future redevelopment are expected to be signed within a few weeks.

Hoboken has a federal Public Works grant of \$4.8 million for the project but the city hopes eventually to draw a minimum of \$10 million for the development and refurbishing of the area, he added.

"The scope of the project has increased since the original concept," said Bado. "And because of the size and amount of money involved, a number of task force committees are being set up to help coordinate various aspects of the project."

Bado said that the Port Authority, state Department of Transportation (DOT), Department of Environmen-

tal Protection (DEP), Department of Community Affairs (DCA) and, in the future, Transport of New Jersey, will be serving on the task force committees with the city.

"We are thinking about three, possibly four, task force committees," he continued. "One would be headed by a representative of the DOT and concern itself with the terminal and land development. Another would be chaired by a Port Authority representative and deal with the development of the pier and waterfront area. A third committee would be chaired by the Community Development Agency and coordinate the development of the surrounding area."

Bado said a fourth committee might be formed to coordinate policy. It would be chaired by Mayor Steve Cappiello and include the chairmen from the other committees among its members.

The ground work for those task force committees was laid Wednesday by the mayor and Bado during a meeting with representatives of the Port Authority, and the DOT in Jersey City.

Willow Avenue bus line restarts limited service

Hoboken's Willow Avenue bus route, discontinued six years ago, is back in operation today, with a new owner.

Buses are running on a 30-minute headway. The fare is 40 cents, the same charged by the Public Service Bus Co. when it was allowed to fold the route as a loser.

The first bus left 14th and Washington streets at 6:45 a.m. yesterday. The last departed from the PATH station at 6:15 p.m. The hours in between are the only hours the route will operate at present. There will be no service on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays.

Business was not so good yesterday, but Joseph Agresta, a partner in the new venture, said that was to be expected, since no notice had been given to the public. A final settlement of details with Public Service and with the state Public Utilities Commission, he said, was not effected until the last minute.

Double-parked cars on Willow Avenue also hampered operations, Agresta added.

School children are being allowed to ride for half fare, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays, though this is not required by the franchise, and it may

have to be dropped if revenues are short, Agresta said.

Starting from 14th and Washington, the buses run on 14th to Willow Avenue, to First Street, to Hudson Street, to Hudson Place, at the PATH station. They return via River Street, Newark Street, Clinton Avenue, 12th Street, Willow Avenue, and 14th Street, to Washington Street.

Senior citizens ride for half fare in non-rush hours.

The route is being operated jointly by the Agresta Bus Co. and the Hoboken Transportation Co. These are two of the three companies that operate buses on the Washington Street line. The third, the Maria Transportation Co., is not involved in the new route.

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius said today that if the newly-revived route is patronized, proving that the residents of the western area want buses, he would like to have it combined with the Washington Street route and the municipal crosstown route. Chius has in mind creating a loop route, with buses circling the city simultaneously in opposite directions.

The city is losing \$40,000 a year in operating the crosstown route, he added.

Hoboken must name fireman

Hoboken has lost the first round in its efforts to skip over a local resident for appointment to the fire department.

Morris C. Ianni, director of Local Government Services for Civil Service, has ordered the city to appoint Michael Dapuzzo to the fire department as of April 18, 1977 or to appeal his decision to Civil Service Division of Hearings and Regulations by Feb. 22.

Dapuzzo, 35, a veteran, was No. 2 on a list of five men certified by Civil Service for appointment to the fire department last May. The city made four new firemen but skipped Dapuzzo claiming that he was an undesirable appointment, based on his record over five years as a special patrolman. Dapuzzo filed the complaint with Civil Service.

Dapuzzo was a special patrolman in Hoboken from May 1972 until January 1977 when he resigned.

In justifying its action, the city cited several reasons for not appointing Dapuzzo. They included extended

sick leave, charges against him signed by civilians and his ultimate resignation from the department under the threat of dismissal.

However, Ianni said there is no record of Dapuzzo being paid while on sick leave, that the criminal charges against him were resolved without the officer being found guilty, and the records show that Dapuzzo resigned because of inadequate pay.

School panel session off as only 2 trustees show up

The Hoboken Board of Education will hold its annual reorganization meeting Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the Wallace School, according to Thomas A. Gallo, board secretary.

Last night's board caucus and meeting were cancelled when only two of the board's nine members — James Giani and Leo McLaughlin — showed up.

Officers of the Hoboken Teachers Association, led by Michael D'Oonofrio, president, conferred briefly with board counsel Robert W. Taylor on the status of the pending discontinuation of teachers' Blue Cross-Blue Shield coverage.

The HTA membership will hear what the board's new contract

proposal is at a union meeting on Wednesday, said D'Oonofrio.

Mary Gaspar made only a limited effort yesterday to take her challenge of the Hoboken school election outcome into the courts. Mrs. Gaspar said that limited availability of county judges to hear the matter was the reason.

The outgoing school president added that she may now wait until she hears what State Education Commissioner Fred Burke has to say on the election before pursuing her legal action any further.

She contends that because the wrong budget figures appeared on the ballots she, as the only incumbent seeking re-election, may have lost votes that cost her the election.

Not over yet for budget candidates in Hoboken

The voting is over in Hoboken's 1978 school board election but the election may still be on. Two different actions are being initiated today that could have some impact on the outcome.

Mrs. Mary Gaspar, the incumbent school board president defeated in her bid for a second three-year term, will go back to court today seeking to have the entire election thrown out on the grounds that she, as a board member, was "misrepresented" because the ballots were incorrect on the budget figures.

And Russell Carpenter, Hudson County superintendent of schools, will be in Trenton today to meet with state Education Commissioner Fred Burke on the Hoboken election and the failure of Hoboken school officials to alert the voting public to the fact that the budget figures on both the absentee and voting machine ballots were incorrect.

The outcome of the election didn't produce any surprises. Richard England, Robert Wendelken and James Monaco, who had the backing of Mayor Steve Cappiello and his political organization, were easy winners with a large vote, including more than 400 absentee ballots in their favor.

The totals for the nine candidates were: England, 2,341; Wendelken, 2,300; Monaco, 1,978; Mrs. Gaspar

1,371; George Giordano, 1,133; Nicholas DeTrizio, 688; Vito Lanzio, 453; Angel Roman 399; and, Peter Belfiore, 212. Belfiore was a non-candidate. He withdrew as an active candidate several weeks ago but did not go through the formality of having his name taken off the ballot by court order.

Hoboken's elected school board will come to an end as of next January. The voters decided by a margin of 1,710 to 1,188 to return to the appointed board.

The proposed 1978-79 school budget was defeated by a margin of 2,023 to 638. But few voters knew exactly what figure they were voting on. The voting machines carried a figure of \$4,073,151. The absentee ballots read \$6,149,664. And according to Carpenter, they are both wrong. The correct figure, he said, is \$3,352,252.

The \$6 million figure represented what the board was asking for in local taxes for support of the budget before the state refused to grant it a "cap" waiver of more than \$2.5 million. The \$4 million figure represents the adjusted budget as the board's attorney and fiscal advisor, Robert W. Taylor, saw it.

Carpenter and his staff saw it differently, however. The county superintendent sent a telegram over the weekend to Mrs. Gaspar, School Board Secretary Thomas A. Gallo, and Hoboken Superintendent Thomas F. McFeely advising them that their figure was wrong and directing them to use all possible means to advise the public of the \$3.3 million figure. No action was taken to do so, according to Taylor.

Taylor said the \$720,000 Carpenter cut from the Hoboken budget represented funds that should be coming from state aid — but Hoboken had no guarantee that it would be coming. "We have no commitment from the state for the funds," he said, "so I don't think they should be taken out of the budget. If the funds should not be forthcoming then the school board will have additional fiscal problems in the 1978-79 school year as a result."

Mrs. Gaspar, with her attorney, Charles DeFazio Sr., appeared before Hudson County Superior Court Judge Maurice A. Walsh Jr. yesterday morning in an attempt to have the election postponed so the correct budget figures could be included on the ballot. After an informal conference, however, Walsh did not take any action and the voting proceeded on schedule.

Mrs. Gaspar contends that as the only incumbent on the ballot, the reaction of the voting public to the high budget figure may have resulted in votes against her. This will be the basis of her court challenge.

Although unsuccessful in her re-election effort, Mrs. Gaspar said she was "pleased" with her vote. "When you figure that I had the entire Hoboken Democratic and Republican organizations against me, I think I did very well," she asserted. "I lost out by 300 votes and 400 of those were absentees."

The new board members will be sworn in Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the board's annual reorganization meeting. Otto Hotimendorf is expected to be named the new board president, a position he held up to three years ago when Mrs. Gaspar succeeded him.

Meter reveals proper Hoboken water use

The meter which records how much water Hoboken purchases from Jersey City is reasonably accurate, according to test results obtained today.

The meter at the Newark Street (Hoboken) station presents "a reasonable record of the measured flow to Hoboken," according to a study made by the engineering firm of Buck, Seifert and Jost.

However, the engineers found evidence of excessive mechanical wear in the recording mechanism and recommended the measuring instruments be replaced.

Jersey City and Hoboken have been arguing for months about the amount of water used. Jersey City contends that Hoboken uses about 3 million gallons daily, while Hoboken contends the amount is less, and that the meter is faulty.

To help solve the dispute, both cities agreed that tests would be conducted with representatives of each

city. The present metering system was installed 15 years ago, and the normal efficiency of such instruments is between 20 and 25 years, the engineers reported.

However, their tests indicated excessive wear and in order to achieve consistent accuracy "it is recommended that the instruments at Newark Street be replaced."

A new system would cost from \$25,000 to \$30,000. Giorgio said Jersey City would give careful consideration to the recommendation.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1978

HUD magazine features Hoboken

The national spotlight is again shining on Hoboken.

"Challenge," the monthly national magazine published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is featuring this month a lengthy article about Hoboken authored by Mayor Steve Cappiello.

Entitled "Hoboken: America's Comeback Town," the article deals with Hoboken's commitment to the Neighborhood Preservation Program and what it has meant to the city. The four-page story also features several pictures of various sites in the city. And a picture of the Erie Lackawanna ferry and train terminal on Hudson Place is featured on the cover.

"This is a great honor for the city, but it is by no means the first time

that Hoboken has been the subject of such publicity," said Cappiello. "The accomplishments in housing rehabilitation and neighborhood preservation over the years speak for themselves. Much has been done, but there is much that remains to be done."

Cappiello said that the purpose of the article is to help convince other urban municipalities that rehabilitation and preservation are good alternatives to wide-scale demolition and urban renewal.

"Rehabilitation and preservation do not change the identity of the municipality," he added. "The characteristics that make Hoboken what it is have been retained. And that's good."

Hoboken school ballot budget figure in error

By LISA RUBIN

A flaw has been found in over 400 absentee ballots mailed out in the hotly contested Hoboken school board election and they have been declared invalid by the state commissioner of education's county division head, leaving the district superintendent's office one working day to resolve the situation in time for Tuesday's election.

A telegram sent to the school board president, secretary and district superintendent by Russell Carpenter, the county superintendent of schools, stated that the budget figure which

appeared adjacent to the candidates' names on the ballot was incorrect.

"Please undertake whatever efforts are necessary to insure that the correct (budget) question is put before voters in the election on Tuesday, Feb. 14," said Carpenter. He added, "please advise me of the success of your efforts."

"That means," said Carpenter, during an interview last night, "that between now and Tuesday, all the ballots will have to read the correct (budget) figure and all voting machines will have to reflect this figure."

The decision on whether also to invalidate the candidates' portion of the ballot will be up to the local board of education, Carpenter said, adding however, that he will

"ask Trenton for advice," should the candidates' fallies in the new absentee ballots not coincide with the fallies of the old absentee ballots.

It will be the district superintendent's problem, said Carpenter, to make sure that the absentee voters receive new ballots in time for the election.

By state law, school board election ballots contain the names of the candidates as well as a state approved local budget for the education district. Voters have the choice of accepting or rejecting the budget.

Recently, the board voted for a \$6,149,444 local tax levied budget.

But at a meeting Tuesday, the board voted to knock down the city's share of the budget to \$4,073,251.

County schools chief asks Hoboken re-run

By Peter Hallam

The Hudson County superintendent of schools, Russell W. Carpenter, has recommended to state Education Commissioner Fred Burke that Tuesday's Hoboken school board election results be thrown out and a new election held.

Carpenter is attending a conference in Atlanta, Ga., until Wednesday. A spokesman for him said that

the superintendent hand-delivered a letter to Burke's office making the recommendation. The grounds were that the budget figures shown on the absentee ballots and — though differently — on the voting machines were both incorrect.

The spokesman added that the matter has been turned over to the Education Department's Division of Disputes and Controversies for consideration.

On the absentee ballots sent out two weeks before the election, there appeared the statement that \$6.1 million was to be raised by local taxes for the 1978-79 school budget. In the corresponding statement on the voting machine ballots, the figure was down to \$4.03 million, because the state had refused to grant Hoboken a waiver on its budget "cap."

Even the second figure, according to Carpenter, was wrong. His calculations

showed that the figure to be raised through local taxes is \$3.3 million. Carpenter notified Hoboken school board officials of the error last weekend and directed them to use every possible means to alert the public to the correct figure.

According to Mary Gaspar, the outgoing board president, the board's administrative officers did not make

any effort at all to tell the public.

Robert W. Taylor, board attorney and financial adviser, agreed, saying there wasn't enough time, since Monday was the first day the board could take any action, and the election was the next day.

He added that he disagreed with Carpenter's figures and felt that the \$4.03 million figure was correct.

Mrs. Gaspar would like to see the election thrown out since she feels she may have lost votes on the absentee ballots because of the \$6.1 million budget figure. The spokesman for Carpenter's office said he believed that this was one of the reasons included in the superintendent's letter, but he was not sure, because he did not have a copy of it.

He added that the state had two options. One, to accept Carpenter's recommendations and throw out the entire election, the other, throw out only the vote on the budget if it was voted down and order a new election on the budget, putting the correct figure on the ballot.

Meanwhile, Taylor expected to hand-deliver today official notification to Mayor Steve Cappelletto and the City Council that the \$4.03 million budget figure had been defeated and to request a conference between the council and the school board for the purpose of negotiating a new budget. Taylor said he hoped to start the negotiations no later than next week.

It'll take cops to silence critic

Thomas Vezzetti of Hoboken could be going to jail on March 1. That's the day of the next Hoboken City Council meeting and

Vezzetti plans on being there and saying what's on his mind even though his speaking privileges have been suspended until April.

City Council President Martin J. Brennan revoked Vezzetti's right to address the council at last Wednesday's meeting because, according to Brennan, "he was getting out of hand."

"We (the council) have a very liberal policy concerning the right of citizens to speak on matters — before the council takes action on them," said Brennan. "But some people tend to abuse that right and Mr. Vezzetti is one of them."

"He has a tendency to say a number of things without so much as one iota of proof or evidence. The

council will listen to criticism provided it is constructive. But we will not listen to name-calling or irrational remarks with no basis in fact."

Brennan said he suspended Vezzetti's right to speak at the March 1 and March 15 meetings.

According to Vezzetti, his constitutional rights are being violated and he has no intention of allowing the council president to get away with that.

"I will be at the March 1 meeting and I will speak," Vezzetti said. "The police will have to drag me out of the council chamber to stop me."

Brennan, when advised of Vezzetti's intentions, said: "If that's what he wants, that's what he'll get."

Hoboken snow removal spelled n-o-w, not J-u-l-y

Hoboken officials are proving that their snow removal plan is not called "July."

It will be two weeks Monday since 20 inches of snow fell on the city — and the snow removal operations have been "on-going" ever since, according to Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato.

"By Monday we should be finishing up Adams Street and going on to Clinton Street and Willow Avenue," said Amato. "Everything west of these streets has been cleaned up — or at least cleaned to the best of our ability as allowed by existing conditions."

Amato said he hoped to have his men up to Garden or Bloomfield Streets, by the end of the week removing all of the snow that has accumulated in large piles, taking up hundreds of parking spaces around the city, but could not say what effect the snow predicted for today would have on his timetable.

Snow piles have been responsible for numerous traffic jams, especially along 4th Street where double-parking by motorists and commercial vehicles making deliveries has increased the problem.

Policemen are assigned to traffic control in the area during the morning and evening rush hours, according to Chief George W. Crimmins. However, the chief said even that wasn't much help.

"If there isn't any room for the vehicles to get by it doesn't make any difference if we have one cop or several, they're not going to move and we're going to have traffic tieups until the snow has been removed."

Amato said that 14th Street would be done this week. Even the city's Parking Authority is helping out. The authority's jeep has been going around the city opening up parking spaces wherever it could get enough room to plow. Joseph Hottendorf, the executive director,

added that the jeep was being used to open unmetered spaces as well as those governed by the agency's parking meters.

Amato appealed to all motorists to move their cars from areas that are posted for snow removal operations.

"The city really doesn't want to tow any cars away if it can avoid it," the director said. "Every effort is being

made to post the areas with signs as far in advance as possible so residents will have ample time to dig their cars out and move them."

"If we have to tow we will. But it interferes with the snow removal operations."

He added that the owners of vehicles that are towed will have to pay for the cost.

A star is born and it's Hoboken

"I was born in Hoboken!"

A lot of people over the years have made that claim. Some of them will be doing it again as part of a 30-minute film being produced by the Center for Media Arts at Jersey City State College.

The film is a joint venture of the Center, the Hudson Camera Corp., which is supplying the photographic materials, and the Hoboken Arts Council, which has awarded a \$1,000 grant to help finance the film.

According to Dora Stern, a

spokesman for the council, the film will be a history of Hoboken narrated by a number of long-time residents. It is expected the film will be completed sometime this summer and ready for distribution in early September.

Louis Tiscornia, assistant director of the college center, is directing the film. He is being assisted by Duke Earl and Brian McCord, both students, who have been researching the film for the past year, she added.

Originally, the film was expected

to cost approximately \$10,000. But various grants and volunteer assistance have lowered the cost to around \$5,000. The Hoboken Arts Council, which will share in the proceeds from the film and use them for other creative and performing arts projects, will be seeking donations from the public to help with the production costs.

Mrs. Stern said that persons wishing to contribute can send their donations to the Council at P.O. Box M-528, Hoboken, N.J. 07030.

Hoboken parking fee to rise

The Hoboken Parking Authority will probably lose some of its monthly parking customers April 1 when the monthly rental goes up to \$35 from \$25 — and that's exactly what the authority is hoping for.

Joseph Hottendorf, the authority's executive director, said the increase is expected to drive away some of the almost 1,300 monthly customers the authority now has and free some of those spaces for transient parking.

"We are unable to meet our transient needs," said Hottendorf. "The ideal arrangement is to have about 1,300 monthly customers paying \$35 a

month and 430 free spaces for transient parking."

Hottendorf explained that each transient space produces about \$45 a month in revenues for the authority. In addition, transient parking is less of an expense to the authority, he added.

"Before the recent snow storms we had 1,300 monthly parkers, which was more than we should have had," he continued. "Now, we are up to 1,400 for this month and in a real bind for transient space."

According to Hottendorf, the decision to increase the monthly parking fee from \$25 to \$35 was un-

animously approved by the authority's commissioners. He said if there are any misgivings they involve whether the increase is high enough to reduce the number of monthly rentals sufficiently.

"If we don't get down to around the 1,200 figure we will probably seek another increase," he added. "Even at 1,200 monthly customers the authority's income for the remainder of the year, based on the new rate, will be about \$100,000 less than last year's."

The increase is the second for the authority within eight months. Last August, the authority increased its original monthly fee of \$20 to \$25.

Loop route

The newly restored Willow Avenue bus route — running north and south in the western part of Hoboken — may be the forerunner of more bus service for the entire city.

If western sector residents patronize the new route, Hoboken's business administrator proposes to combine it with the existing north-south route in the eastern part of the city — the Washington Street line — and also with the municipal crosstown line which bisects both routes.

He would create a loop route, with buses circling the city simultaneously in opposite directions. The \$40,000 a year the city now loses on its crosstown line could be diverted to the new route as a subsidy, if necessary.

The problems involved would take skillful negotiation and hard work, but the plan is imaginative and would do much to strengthen Hoboken's notable comeback.

Hottendorf notes service on board is county record

After a two-year absence, Otto Hottendorf is again president of the Hoboken Board of Education. Hottendorf was unanimously elected at last night's reorganization meeting, the last such reorganization of a fully elected board for at least several years.

Hoboken voters decided Feb. 14 to return the board to one with trustees appointed by the mayor — voting 1,710 to 1,180 for the change — and at least two years have to elapse before the question can again be placed on the ballot.

Hottendorf has been a member of the Hoboken board since 1950 and says he has the longest service record of any school trustee in Hudson County. He had served as board president from 1972 until 1976 when he was replaced by Mary Stack Gaspar. Mrs. Gaspar ran for re-election but was defeated.

Attending their first board meeting as trustees were Richard England Jr., Robert Wendelken and James Monaco. They replace Mrs. Gaspar, Michael Costello and Anthony DeBari, none of whom ran for re-election.

"My family did not want me to be president," Hottendorf told those at the meeting after he was elected. "But I felt I had a duty to serve so I accepted it."

Elected as vice-president was James Farina. The board decided to continue

holding meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 8 p.m. and to use the Trust Co. of New Jersey as the depository for school funds.

Martin Brennan, Hoboken City Council president, was among those who attended last night's meeting. After congratulating Hottendorf, he said he hoped the council and the board could enter into "a new era of amicable relations. As regards the coming budget which we have not received, I hope we can agree on something that will satisfy the city of Hoboken and not just the individuals involved." Since voters rejected the school budget, the council now can amend the budget as it sees fit.

At the request of England, Hottendorf set up an ad hoc committee on policy to collect opinions and recommend actions.

"We are required by law to formulate policy," Hottendorf told England. "The usual way is to have a consultant who reviews the minutes and then goes over them with the board discussing policy decisions." But he acceded to England's request saying perhaps the board could accomplish the work without outside help.

The board also set Monday night for the regular February meeting. The regularly scheduled meeting on Feb. 14 was postponed one day because of the school elections and that was not held because of a lack of a quorum.



Hugh Kilmer, an artist employed by the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) program in Hoboken, puts the finishing touches on a mural at the Multi-Service Center. The mural will be officially dedicated at ceremonies tomorrow.

Murals add touch to class

Ten Hoboken residents will be hard at work until September on the beautification of municipal facilities as part of a new program under Title 6 through the Hudson County Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) program. And it's one program that is resulting in more than fresh paint and a few nails. The program is employing six painters, three repairmen and one clerk-typist. One of those painters is also an artist, and his talents are being put to good use.

While the co-workers have been busy putting on coats of fresh paint at the Multi-Service Center in Hoboken, Hugh Kilmer has been putting on some paint of his own — a five foot by eight foot mural of a senior citizen park scene.

The mural is painted on the wall in the senior citizen section of the building at Second and Grand Streets. It will be officially dedicated at ceremonies tomorrow.

According to George W. Crimmins Jr., CETA

director for Hoboken, hiring Kilmer as one of the painters in the CETA program has added a "new dimension" to the project.

"We've taken the word beautification seriously," he said. "Just painting a building and making necessary repairs makes it look clean, nice and a host of other descriptive phrases. But beautiful isn't necessarily one of them. Kilmer's murals give our program added depth and bring out the meaning of beautification."

Kilmer, who resides at 1205 Bloomfield St. with his wife, Beth and their four children, is a co-founder of the Hoboken Arts Council. Besides painting, he is also a poet and writer. He is a graduate of Fairfield University, Conn., and was a college instructor of community affairs.

Crimmins said that several other murals are being planned both at the Multi-Service Center and on or in other city buildings.

Amato asks DPW assistant

Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato of Hoboken wants a helper.

The director said today that he has already discussed the matter with Mayor Steve Cappelletto and will take it up with the city council within the next week or two.

"The administrative and field duties of the department are too much for one man," said the director. "I could get by but the result of that is having a department that just gets by, and that's not what I want."

"It is important that the director have a direct influence on the work that is being done both administratively as well as what is happening in the field. And one man can't do both with any degree of efficiency."

When asked if he planned on asking the council to recreate the position of deputy director, Amato

said he hadn't thought about titles.

"I need an assistant," he asserted. "I don't really care what they call the job — assistant, deputy director, chief foreman, whatever. What I need is someone to whom I can delegate authority and be sure that they will carry out my orders."

For many years Public Works was the only city department with a deputy director. The post was held until last year by Carmen Cuttito.

However, the job and Cuttito went out shortly after the mayor fired former Director Raphael P. Vitale and replaced him with Amato. The city council eliminated the deputy director's position from the department a few months later. Amato said he had several persons in mind for the job if the mayor and council go along with granting him an assistant. However, he hasn't discussed his candidates with either the mayor or the council.



DOMINICAN SALUTE — Andrew Amato, right, Hoboken public works director, joins in helping to raise the flag of the Dominican Republic over City Hall to commemorate Dominican Republic Week. With him are Rafael de la Pena, left, assistant to Mayor Steve Cappelletto for Hispanic affairs, and Ramon Guelon, president of the Dominican Professional Association and the Dominican representative to the United Nations.

Hoboken residents recover \$22,000 through city

Hoboken residents saved or got back more than \$22,000 during 1977 on unsatisfactory home repairs, appliance malfunctions, inferior merchandise, poor workmanship through the city's Consumer Affairs office, Audrey Borg, director, said today.

According to Mrs. Borg, the

number of complaints for 1977 increased over past years.

The Department of Consumer Affairs is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to handle complaints from local residents. Mrs. Borg can be reached during those times at her City Hall office or by calling 420-2038. At other times she can be reached at 638-5800.

The stars still shine in the Garden State



Is that Farrah and her glorious mane making a film in Hoboken?

By WINNIE BONELLI

Come back, all is forgiven. The film industry might not be your typical prodigal son, but stop and remember movies were conceived and weaned in the cradle called Fort Lee.

Like many adolescents, films expanded, grew up and with any growth comes change and sometimes new horizons. For fledgling filmmakers California held a promise of greener pastures or at least sunnier skies.

The fact stands now that New Jersey is actively courting movie companies back to the East Coast and received the needed support through the establishment of the New Jersey Motion Picture and Television Commission.

There is a new man Joseph Friedman at the helm. The Montclair resident has occupied the executive directorship for the relatively short period of five weeks. His credentials have adequately prepared him for the challenge beginning with a nine year Paramount Pictures affiliation as vice-president plus the same status with American Film Theatre and as Sir Lew Grade's film representative in America.

"It is conceivable that if everything breaks right by April or May we might have three or four movies being filmed simultaneously," Friedman optimistically explained.

So far the commission, under the guidance of Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Sidney Kingsley, has tallied an impressive list of credits beginning with William Friedkin's "The Sorcerer," "Eyes" starring Faye Dunaway and "Slow Dancing in the Big City" directed by John Avildsen.

Woody Allen headed for Englewood when shooting "Annie Hall" while the cast of "Hair" departed for Jersey City and a lady known for her glorious mane, Farrah Fawcett-Majors, came to Hoboken to make the upcoming film "Somebody Killed Her Husband." Top this off with "Ripoff," which was filmed in Weehawken and West New York and combined the talents of Karen Black, Edward Albert Jr., Lee Van Cleef and Robert Alda and it adds up to lights, camera, action plus increased revenue for the state.

What is the attraction and why did Raymond R. Homer and Carlo Ponti, the producers behind "Ripoff" chose New Jersey? In a nutshell they required some special physical demands that sites in the Garden State were easily able to accommodate contended Sidney Kingsley, chairman of the commission.

Kingsley explained, "The film revolves around a jewel robbery and a crucial but difficult scene involved a night time car chase. The results were better than anyone hoped for when we set that one up in West New York."

What are some of the new movie titles and celebrities area residents might expect to see walking down their neighborhood streets? "I'm not really in a position to make that information public since there are several film executives, at various levels, who are just looking into what the state has to offer. We don't want these people to think they are being exploited," stated Friedman.

"An episode of this nature happened recently when representatives from the Artists Entertainment Complex visited Trenton. The Complex was simply scouting locations for the filming of "The Senator" and Governor

Brendan T. Byrne extended his hospitality and assured the group of the state's full cooperation. Immediately the news went out via the various reporters assigned to the Statehouse prematurely since no tentative plans were even made."

"Although we are only too glad to help a company publicize their work, the initial decisions and announcements should be made by the movie makers themselves."

According to Friedman, the most ambitious project to date will begin next month in Hudson County. Described as a "romantic drama" written by and starring John Herzfeld, the MGM production will be directed by Robert Markowitz. Slated to be filmed in its entirety in New Jersey, the film has a budget which hovers around \$4 million.

Two additional facets of the current campaign will be advertisement in two Hollywood trade papers and the preparation of a small brochure entitled "Why New Jersey?" which will be distributed to every potential international film maker.

"The commission laid a fine foundation on which I can build. We already have a location library. If a producer needs a waterfall, we can offer him perhaps half a dozen possible locations," said Friedman.

"An important part of the commission's job is arranging for permits or what we call the 'red carpet treatment.' Things can get a bit complicated. For example, New York City has five boroughs to contend with, whereas New Jersey boasts 21 counties and 580 communities."

What has the response been on the part of these communities both before the crews come in and during the actual filming? "Everybody loves show business and people have had great fun. There have been no adverse effects or incidents whatsoever," commented the executive director.

Also, when it comes to the bottom line, the movie industry will benefit the economy of the state and also provide local employment. This, after all, was one of the top priority in creating the commission.

"As a matter of fact, we are trying to establish a network of contacts throughout the state which could assist on a local level," said Friedman. Volunteers or those with suggestions can write to 1100 Raymond Blvd., Room 203, Newark 07102.

The New Jersey Motion Picture and Television Development Commission, headed by Kingsley and co-chaired by Paul Peterson, a film exhibitor, consists of 11 commissioners, who were appointed for their particular expertise and ability to contribute.

Perhaps one of the best-known faces on the commission belongs to actress Celeste Holm. Miss Holm feels a serious responsibility, far beyond the mere formalities of having her name identified with this cause.

"One of the commission tasks is to upgrade the state image. People have unfortunately in the past identified New Jersey with the turnpike and Route 22, which I call Catch-22. Actually there are many beautiful country streams and every variation of site equally appealing," stated the Oscar-winning actress.

"Interior scenes can be filmed inside anywhere, and it doesn't matter what state the set is located in. We have many warehouses which make perfect sets. Even California's appeal of having more sunshine no longer holds any weight since you would not believe the smog hovering over Los Angeles."

"The success of any film is not as dependent on locations as it is on how good the script is, and whether the director can capture on film the desired effect. Equally important are the unions and their locals which have been very cooperative," she explained.

Miss Holm, it seems, practices what she preaches. Her one-woman show entitled "Enter Laughing" will open tonight at the George St. Playhouse in New Brunswick and is scheduled to run through Mar. 12.

Hoboken school budget, what is bottom line?

Although both the Hoboken City Council and Board of Education are eager to resolve the matter of the 1978-79 school board budget which was rejected by local voters last week, it may still be a few weeks before the two sides can sit down and start their negotiations.

"The problem is information, or the lack of it," said Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri who is chairing the council's negotiating committee. "No one is exactly sure of what budget figure they are negotiating on — \$4.073 million which was on the ballot or \$3.3 million which the Hudson County superintendent of schools says is the correct figure."

Ranieri said the council felt it would be wise to wait until the state commissioner of education, Fred Burke, decided the issue before the

council and board started talking on the budget. "If the state says the correct figure is \$3.3 million then the negotiations will be concluded swiftly," Ranieri continued. "The council will accept that figure without further cuts."

"However, if it is decided that the correct figure is the \$4 million one then some cuts will have to be made and the school board can appeal it to the state if it wants any of the funds reinstated."

Ranieri explained that the budget with the \$4 million figure was defeated by the voters last week and the council felt "duty bound" to make some reductions in it.

Serving on the council's negotiating team with Ranieri are Council President Martin J. Brennan and Second Ward Councilman Walter S. Cramer.

Auditors to aid Hoboken with school budget

A team of auditors from the state Department of Education is being sent into Hoboken to help out. The Board of Education with its 1978-79 budget that was defeated by local voters Feb. 14.

Hoboken school board administrators were notified of the pending visit by state Education Commissioner Fred G. Burke in a letter to the school board sent two weeks ago. The board members, however, won't be officially briefed on the contents of the letter until tonight's meeting.

The board is facing a budget gap of at least \$2.5 million for 1978-79 because the state has refused to grant a waiver of the "caps." In his letter, Burke suggests to the board that a special election be held leaving the question of the additional funds up to local voters.

In a reply letter to Burke from Robert W. Taylor, the Hoboken school board's attorney and financial adviser, the commissioner was advised that it was unlikely that the local board would approve the referendum.

Taylor also informed Burke that it was his opinion that the local school district would not be able to function during the 1978-79 school year with the \$2.5 million in budget cuts that were made to eliminate the "cap" overage.

The board will hold a public caucus at 7 p.m. and its regular meeting at 8 p.m. in The Wallace School. The meeting was to have been held last week but was postponed because only two board members showed up.

Hoboken to clear snow at night

Hoboken Public Works crews will be working up to midnight starting today to help beef up the snow removal operations. Director Andrew J. Amato said today.

And the director is asking that local motorists cooperate by not parking their cars where the snow removal operations are in progress.

According to the director, the city expects to get more done during the night tour than during the day. He said that is when most people are home and available to move their cars.

"We have a lot of out-of-towners parking in the city during the day," he continued. "They park and go, and then can't be reached to move their vehicles. So we have to tow them if we want them out of the way."

Crews worked both Saturday and yesterday on snow removal.

Another reason for the double shift is that the city will be testing out a new piece of equipment it is thinking about buying and is taking advantage of the week-long free test to get as much work out as possible. The equipment is a heavy-duty backhoe.

"The company claims it's almost indestructible," the director continued. "Well, I've got the men to test that claim."

Hoboken would add parking board jobs

TRENTON — THE Assembly voted, 63-4, yesterday and sent to the Senate legislation which would permit Hoboken to appoint its traffic engineer or chief of police to its parking authority.

Assemblyman Thomas A. Gallo, Hoboken Democrat, sponsored the measure which amends the present statute prohibiting any officer or employee of a municipality or county from serving on a parking authority.

If enacted by the Senate and signed by Gov. Byrne, the authority could appoint Hoboken Police Chief George Crimmins or Traffic Engineer James Caulfield to the authority.

By a 67-0 vote, the Assembly enacted a bill sponsored by Speaker Christopher J. Jackman, West New York Democrat, extending workmen's compensation benefits for civil defense volunteers.

Hoboken leads rehabilitation parade

Future urban planning, according to Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto, must recognize the work of "neighborhood preservers" and strive to bolster those areas that have long been the heart of urban existence.

Neighborhood people, Cappelletto said, are the "ones who are seeing it rough; they are the secret of our success."

Success in Hoboken's case has amounted to the rehabilitation of 1,300

apartment units since 1972. These former five-story tenements now have modern kitchens, spacious rooms, elevators, garbage compactors and in many cases open spaces for the surrounding community.

In addition, 784 new housing units have been constructed and an old factory — once the symbol of urban decay — is now a 173-unit low- and moderate-income housing complex.

More than 500 Hoboken homeowners have taken out special

loans for renovations of up to \$20,000 for each building. Since almost every homeowner rents at least one apartment this resulted in the improvement of 1,600 additional housing units.

A total of 25 percent of the housing stock in the city has been rehabilitated during the last five years, Cappelletto said. Centralized social services now emanate from a new \$1.5 million center and the city has invested \$10 million to replace its antiquated water system.

These improvements, made through a combination of low-interest home improvement loans, federally subsidized rehabilitation and federal and state financed public improvements have made Hoboken America's Comeback Town, according to Cappelletto.

In the face of all this Cappelletto warns that while Hoboken may have won its battle, America is losing the war to preserve its great cities.

To stem this tide, Cappelletto said that urban planners must reevaluate the high-rise dreams of real estate interests and chambers of commerce.

"We must invest in a timely and total way in preserving the quality of life of those who live on the front line of struggle, those in the neighborhoods," Cappelletto said.

"Neighborhood," he continued, "means knowing who lives on your block. It means having people to talk with as you walk home from work. More than anything else it is a special attitude of care that is assumed and expected of all who live there."

For urban planners to cope with this atmosphere, they must employ a sensitivity to deal with the business sector — the banks, the builders and the developers — and the sensitivity to deal directly with the community.

"Neighborhood preservation comes from the people," Cappelletto concluded. "It seeks to maintain the cultural diversity and stimulation of urban life. It remembers walking to work, hanging out on the street corner, the softball game on the corner lot. It is a cry against destruction and a cry against boredom. It is the affirmation of the integrity of the working people. It is the hope of survival."

Hoboken builds for the future

For merchants, the more people the better their business.

The president of the Hoboken Retail Bureau, Charles Lallo, feels that Hoboken's new image, as a good place to live and work, greatly contributed to making 1977 a "great business year" and the prospects for 1978 even better.

"The employment picture in the city appears to be getting better," he continued. "More people working means more people spending money locally."

"Our physical surroundings are good. We have new apartment buildings, numerous renovated apartment buildings and more people than ever wanting to live in Hoboken."

The general rehabilitation of the city hasn't been limited to the owners of residential property, Lallo pointed out. Merchants have gotten the bug as well and a number of them have done extensive renovation and modernization work to make their establish-

ments more pleasing to the eye and attractive to their customers.

In recent years, night shopping has been on the decline in the city because residents did not feel safe on the streets after dark. But added police protection along the main shopping thoroughfare at night has encouraged both merchants and shoppers to again put their evenings to use.

"New high intensity lights and visible police patrols have started to turn that decline around," Lallo continued. "And our crime rate in general has dropped throughout the city."

Lallo said that many local merchants have started to return to some "old fashioned business values" — making sure their customers are pleased with the purchases and doing their best to stand behind the merchandise they sell.

"We are dealing mostly with local people who we want back as customers. The best way of insuring their return is to make sure they are completely satisfied with their purchases."

Lallo added that the city has also been very cooperative with the bureau and its various promotions, especially the new Christmas lighting program. The bureau has purchased permanent decorations in a joint venture with the city. The city had electrical connections installed on the street lighting poles and pays for the cost of the electricity used during the holiday season.

Lallo is the new president of the Retail Bureau. He replaced Charles Heitner. Lallo extended the bureau's thanks to Heitner, William Roth and James Ungerleider for their assistance in the transition of administrations.



Part of Hoboken's program of restoring the city is the rehabilitation of run-down brownstones such as these on Bloomfield Street between 13th and 14th streets.

Basic right

Today the dispute is in Hoboken, but tomorrow it could be anywhere; and that is why what happens in Hoboken is important everywhere.

Russell W. Carpenter, the Hudson County superintendent of schools, has asked the state education commissioner to order a new vote on Hoboken's school budget.

The absentee ballots informed voters that \$6.1 million was to be raised by local taxes. Voting machine ballots informed voters \$4.63 million was to be raised by taxes.

Carpenter calculated that \$3.3 million was to be raised by taxes.

Voters defeated the budget. Carpenter reasons they did not have the proper information on which to base a decision and so a new election should be ordered.

The defeated budget is now being studied by the Hoboken City Council which has indicated it will accept a budget based on the \$3.3 million figure, reasoning the voters would have accepted the lower figure.

There are those who argue that the City Council is right and that it would be foolhardy to spend \$13,000 just to go through the motions of another school budget vote.

Carpenter disagrees. He insists that a basic right is at stake, the right of the school district voter to cast his ballot on the school budget, based on accurate information.

Carpenter is right. If the City Council is permitted to substitute its guess concerning how the voters would vote rather than the actual voter decision then a dangerous precedent has been set.

If the state education commissioner permits this confusion to be resolved by compromise, then he is opening the door for future compromises which could dilute or even dissolve the right of the school district voter to cast his ballot on the school budget, based on accurate information.

Authority, council to meet on Hoboken parking ills 2/22/78

Hoboken's parking problems, especially in the northern section of the city, aren't getting any better. But a joint attack by the Hoboken Parking Authority and the City Council's Transportation Committee could result in a long-term plan that might help.

According to Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the authority, the commissioners expect to formally contact the city within a few weeks and ask that a series of regular meetings be held with the council's Transportation Committee to begin work on a long-range off street parking plan.

Councilmen Anthony H. Romano, Walter S. Cramer and Thomas Kennedy are the committee.

"The authority's main concern is to develop off-street parking facilities," he continued. "However, it's financial position because of the problems it has been having with gar-

age revenues has prevented it from meeting its primary goal. The authority's financial position has been improving though, and the commissioners feel that they should at least be working on a long-range plan with the council."

The authority's basic problem is that the income from its three parking garages does not cover the annual payments on the \$8.5 million bond issue floated to build them. The city guaranteed the payment of the bonds and has been picking up whatever the authority is short.

And the authority has been short for several reasons. The original contract that was supposed to guarantee the authority 800 filled parking spaces at approximately \$45 a month hasn't been lived up to by the developers of the Grosan Marine View Plaza apartment buildings. Only two of the four apartment houses were actually built

but tenants of the two weren't required to take the parking space.

According to Hottendorf, the developers owe the authority more than \$430,000 in parking space rentals under the terms of the contract. The authority is suing them and is supposed to go to court within a few weeks.

Hottendorf said that in spite of the problems, the authority has been making steady financial improvements. He said it expects to make a minimum of \$100,000 this year over last year just on monthly rentals by increasing the fee from \$25 to \$35 as of April 1. The authority has 1,400 monthly customers, but wants to trim that number to approximately 1,200 and thereby increase the number of spaces for transients. The authority averages approximately \$45 a month from every transient space.

Hoboken occupancy law ruled unconstitutional 2/22/78

Hoboken's ordinance requiring landlords to obtain certificates of occupancy when they want to rent their apartments has been set aside as unconstitutional and vague by Hudson County Judge John J. Grossi Jr.

Theodore Lobez, who owns 24 apartments at 725, 727 and 729 Washington St., brought the action to

set aside the ordinance approved by the Hoboken mayor and council last May 4. He represented himself.

Hoboken, which claimed the measure was designed to insure compliance with city codes and prevent overcrowding, was represented by Carl Schaeffer.

Judge Grossi said it was excessively punitive and denied apartment owners their constitutional right by preventing them from the profitable use of their property while awaiting city inspection. They could be fined up to \$50 per day or get maximum 90-day jail terms.

A West New York ordinance, ap-

parently similar to the Hoboken measure, was superseded by federal regulations in a case involving a federally-subsidized apartment project, according to a ruling by Superior Court Judge Thomas S. O'Brien last year. That decision did not directly pass on the validity of the ordinance.



MAYOR FOR THE DAY — Boy Scout John Eyskens of Troop 68 in Hoboken (left) takes over mayoral duties as part of Scouts in Government Week observance. With him are William Van Wie, mayor's aide (center), and Edwin Chius, acting mayor.

11 Scouts run Hoboken for a day 2/25/78

Eleven Hoboken Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts got a taste of what it is like to run a municipality yesterday as the city observed "Scouts in Government Week" and allowed the youngsters to take over various city offices and jobs.

John Eyskens of Troop 68 at Our Lady of Grace sat in for Mayor Steve Cappiello for the day. He was assisted by Edwin J. Chius, the city's business administrator, who is serving as acting mayor until Cappiello comes back from his visit to the Dominican Republic.

Eyskens had a second aide, Alexander Del Rio of Pack 68, also from

Our Lady of Grace, who served as the mayor's confidential aide for the day under William Van Wie, the official aide.

Also participating in the day were Michael Bruno, Troop 150 Knights of Columbus, police chief; John Milne, Pack 86 of St. Francis, police captain; Nino Giacchi, Troop 20 of St. Ann's, fire chief; Thomas Gallagher, Pack 20 of St. Ann's, deputy fire chief; Milton Ortiz, Troop 86, St. Francis, judge; John Serravalle, Troop 150, Knights of Columbus, law director; Vincent Evans, Pack 54 of Hoboken Housing Authority, Recreation Director; Domingo Ortiz, Troop 154

Hoboken Housing Authority, Public Works Director; and Kevin Strunk, Troop 11 of Hoboken Community Church, finance director.

The scouts were treated to lunch by the city following their morning of activities.

Hoboken bike path found loaded with state money 2/28/78

The Hoboken Council, which had been seeking a \$30,000 federal grant to construct a bicycle path along River Road, is now re-designing its plans

after learning that up to \$120,000 can be made available for the project.

The city has been working on the idea for the past year and a half and was designing the path to meet the limit of the \$30,000 in federal funds that were available. Councilman Robert Ranieri, a prime mover of the project, said he was delighted to hear from the state, which allocates the funds, that it has unused money for that purpose which it can make available to Hoboken.

"With that kind of money," said Ranieri, "We can alter our original plans to provide a safety barrier for both bicyclists and joggers. Joggers have been using River Road at all times of the day and night, he said.

In another business at last night's council caucus, representatives from the State Department of Transportation were unable to meet with the councilmen on redevelopment plans for the lower waterfront area. Ranieri said Fred Bado, director of the Community Development Agency, will arrange another conference date.

At tomorrow's regular council meeting, Ranieri said the city will approve its semi-annual payment of \$345,000 for the interest on bonds issued by the Hoboken Parking Authority.

Hoboken may give tax breaks on non-residential properties 2/22/78

The owners of non-residential property in Hoboken may soon be able to make major improvements without having to pay any additional taxes on the work for five years after it has been completed.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri said today that he will ask the city's Law Department to prepare such an ordinance in time to present it at the March 15 council meeting.

"Under a new state law municipalities have been given the option of granting tax abatements to the owners of industrial and commercial properties," he explained. "It is the consensus that adopting the law local-

ity would be in the city's best interest."

Ranieri said that if Hoboken is to encourage economic development and lure new industries to the city it should have something to offer. He added that if the city is to keep the industry it has industry too, must be given a reason for staying.

"Expansion and modernization of facilities means higher assessments," he continued. "Coupled with our already high tax rate, we present a discouraging atmosphere for relocation or expansion. However, we have stabilized the tax rate, we hope to be able to decrease it, and with the tax abatement we can make Hoboken competitive."

The councilman said there would not be any maximums imposed on the extent of renovations or modernization that could be done. He added that there probably would not be any minimums either. But if there were they would be very low so as not to discourage small businesses from taking advantage of the law.

"There is a certain amount of

work involved in the individual applications will probably be judged on their own merit," he said. "An abatement for a few hundred dollars wouldn't be worth the cost of preparing the paperwork."

Ranieri said that the abatements would be subject to the approval of the city assessors, the City Council, the State Department of Community Affairs and its Division of Local Government Services.

Hoboken already has an ordinance which allows the owners of residential property to get abatements for work they do to improve their properties. The councilman said he is also going to have that ordinance amended to eliminate the "blighted area" term from it and replace it with "housing in need of rehabilitation."

"The phrase is objectionable," he asserted. "But we were required to include it under the state law. Now, the state law has been changed so that the objectionable phrase can be stricken and replaced with the new phrase."

Recreation needs listed 2/24/78

The Hoboken Recreation Commission fervently hopes Hoboken saw the beginning of something good last night.

The commission held a public meeting to gather ideas from residents about what recreation programs citizens think are needed in the town. About 60 persons crowded into a second-floor room at the public library to tell the commissioners exactly what they want.

This was "really just a beginning," Commissioner Sue Newman said after the meeting. "We've got to find some way to make these suggestions come true."

Earlier, she had told the crowd, "If things don't happen, it's because we don't make them happen."

But she was quick to point out that the city presently has only about 50 cents per person allocated annually for recreation activities. The program at two recreation centers has a budget of \$30,000, of which \$40,000 is used for salaries and only \$20,000 for arts and crafts materials, buses, flyers, trophies and whatever else makes up a good recreation program.

Part of the meeting was set aside for a workshop session, with the group breaking up into five groups to discuss recreation for pre-schoolers, elementary students, high school students, adults and senior citizens.

Among the suggestions for pre-school activities were a film program on weekends and holidays, better and safer playground facilities, and lectures and workshops on childhood for parents.

For grammar school age youngsters mini recreation centers within walking distance of various neighborhoods were suggested, along with publicizing better the various public library programs. This group also said an excellent recreational program, one for all ages, would be a city marathon. The Hoboken Jay-Cees said they would be willing to subsidize the cost of trophies.

Teenagers said they would like more dances, including some scheduled for the uptown section, better promotion of the PAL programs, increased bowling and tennis and construction of ice skating facilities.

The adult committee questioned why the Hoboken Board of Education's Leisure program was being phased out. That included high school equivalency, English as a second language and reading courses. They also requested that the Young Men's Christian Association permit use of its facilities for women.

Seniors hoped there could be a theater program they could participate in, as well as arts and crafts. They also suggested better attempts be made to reach those elderly persons not living in senior citizens projects. Also proposed was an "invite a senior citizens to dinner" program that would have residents playing dinner host occasionally to seniors.

Fires in Hoboken keep 2 cities' firemen busy 2/24/78

Several fires in Hoboken kept firefighters busy through the night and early morning, officials reported.

A resident of one building was critically burned and a patrolman was injured attempting to rescue a family from their burning building in separate fires. At the same time, Union City fire units battled an up-town blaze while Hoboken units were occupied elsewhere early today.

Hoboken police said a man identified only as R. Terrebachia, 63, received first, second and third degree burns in a 9 p.m. blaze in his apartment at 400 First St.

Terrebachia was being detained at St. Mary Hospital in critical condition.

An hour later, Patrolman John Picurro dashed into a three-family house at 6 Paterson Ave., to rescue the only family living there when he was overcome by smoke, police said.

Picurro was taken to St. Mary Hospital and detained in satisfactory condition. Police said the family in the building got out safely.

At 4:22 a.m., police said, a general alarm fire broke out in a garage at 588 Fourth St., quickly spread to houses back of the garage on Monroe Street.

An hour and 20 minutes later Union City firefighters were called to battle a Hoboken blaze in a multiple dwelling building at 203 14th St.

Amato ward club multiplies 2/27/78

As of today, when Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato thinks or talks about his political club it will have to be plural.

Amato is opening a Fifth Ward chapter of his Fourth Ward Democratic Association and plans to open a third club in another ward sometime this summer, maybe in the Third Ward, the director said.

The new club room is located on Ninth Street, between Garden Street and Park Avenue. The Fourth Ward

club is located at 590 First St.

Does the director have future political ambitions? Definitely — and he's told Mayor Steve Cappiello about them. He'd like to be mayor when Cappiello steps down sometime in the future. But the new clubs serve another purpose which Amato feels is more important at this time.

"My club in the Fourth Ward is made up of people from all over the city," he said. "By opening units in other wards we're making it easier

for them to participate. Sort of like having their own club."

Players set 'Rags'

The Hoboken Players will present "Any Old Rags" March 5 at 1 p.m. in the Hoboken High School auditorium. There is an admission fee, but children under five will be admitted free. The group includes Isabel Casales, Albino Cavener, Thomas LaBruno, Elaine Lawton, Donna Marnell and Nancy Marnell.

Hoboken trying services of contract dog-catcher 2/27/78

Hoboken is negotiating with the Associated Humane Societies of Newark to take over the dog-catching and animal care responsibilities of the city, Health and Welfare Director James Farina said today.

According to the director, the agency is "highly regarded among animal lovers as being 'responsible' and taking good care of the animals it comes in contact with."

"The city hasn't had a fully operational dog-catching and animal care service for some time," he continued. "We have attempted to use our own personnel and equipment but it didn't work out. There were complaints of improper treatment, and then personnel problems."

Farina said that although the negotiations haven't been completed, the Humane Societies would provide daily coverage in the city Monday through Friday during the normal business day. At other times, such as

evenings and weekends, the societies would have someone on call to come to the city as needed.

The director added that the agency is being used on a temporary basis through April to see how its service works and if the city would be satisfied with it.

"We are also thinking about a dog registration drive," the director continued. "There are a lot of dogs in the city who are not licensed and they present a problem for the city."

"Unlicensed dogs can't be checked for rabies shots in the event of a dog bite case, putting the victim in the position of having to undergo a series of painful injections. Unlicensed dogs can't be returned to their owners because the city's doesn't have any way of determining who the owners are."

Farina estimated that approximately three-quarters of the dogs in the city are not licensed.

Hoboken will try to draft acceptable occupancy law 2/28/78

Hoboken has not given up on its certificate of occupancy ordinance even though a court has ruled that it is unconstitutional.

Thomas Calligy, assistant city attorney, said today that an effort will be made to revamp the ordinance so that it meets constitutional requirements. However, the recent decision of the court will have to be reviewed first to determine the grounds on which it was set down.

"The feeling of the city's housing squad is that the ordinance was an effective tool for the city, tenants and property owners," he said. "It protected tenants by making sure the apartments they were about to move into met the minimum standards. And it gave the property owner certified proof that on the day tenants moved in they had an apartment that was up to standards."

Hoboken's ordinance prevented property owners from renting out vacant apartments to new tenants unless they had first obtained a certificate of occupancy from the housing squad. This entailed an inspection of the apartment by the squad. If the apartment was up to code standards the certificate would be issued. If not, the owner would be advised what repairs had to be made and would not

get the certificate until the corrections had been made and verified by a reinspection.

Calligy said that since the ordinance was set down in County Court, the city could appeal the decision to a higher court. However, he added, it would be simpler to determine which portion of the ordinance is unconstitutional and to change it. "If we can't do that we can always put together a new ordinance patterned after municipal ordinances that have been challenged in the courts and have stood up," he continued. "There are a few from South Jersey who have such ordinances, according to our chief housing inspector (Michael Curcio). Of course, what might stand up in district court in South Jersey might not here. That's the chance that is taken."

Calligy said he would discuss the matter today with Carl Schaeffer, the assistant city attorney who prepared the original ordinance.

In ruling the ordinance unconstitutional, County Judge John J. Grossi Jr. said it deprived landlords of the right to the profitable use of their property while waiting for the city inspector to come around and make his inspection.

Hoboken rent rule struck down 2/24/78

By JIM BENSON

A judge yesterday struck down as illegal and unconstitutional a Hoboken city ordinance requiring landlords to obtain certificates of occupancy before renting their apartments.

The ordinance is said to be almost identical to one in effect in West New York, and the ruling leaves doubt about its validity.

It was not immediately known if Hoboken would appeal the ruling.

"This ordinance is vague and it is not the least onerous way to insure the result desired," said Hudson County Court Judge John J. Grossi Jr. in rejecting the ordinance.

Hoboken's mayor and council approved the ordinance May 4, 1977, for the purpose of

insuring that city housing codes were complied with and to prevent over-occupancy of apartments.

It required landlords of apartment houses to apply for and obtain from the city certificates of occupancy for each apartment they wanted to rent each time it was rented.

Once a landlord applied for the certificate of occupancy, the city had 10 days to inspect the flat. During that time, nothing could be done with the dwelling unit which would cause a loss of revenue to the owners.

Non-compliance with the ordinance subjected landlords to fines of up to \$50 per day each day the ordinance was violated and/or up to 90 days in jail.

The judge said the fines potentially could exceed the \$500 maximum for such fines allowed in such cases under New Jersey law and were thus illegal.

Attorney Theodore Lobez, owner of 24 apartments at 725, 727 and 729 Washington St., represented himself as plaintiff in the case, asking that the ordinance be thrown out.

Carl Schaeffer represented the City of Hoboken.

Judge Grossi held that the ordinance was an excessively punitive way to enforce the city housing codes and that it forced landlords to suffer unnecessarily.

The judge said the ordinance denied apartment owners their constitutional right to due

process under the law by keeping them from the profitable use of their property while awaiting inspection. He also said the ordinance contained "insufficient procedural safeguards."

West New York's certificate of occupancy ordinance has also been the subject of litigation. Superior Court Judge Thomas S. O'Brien ruled the ordinance was superseded by federal regulations in the case of Overlook Terrace Apartments vs. West New York. Overlook is a federally subsidized housing project. He did not, however, rule on the validity of the ordinance itself.

Mayor Anthony DeFino said at least some parts of the ordinance are still in effect in West New York.

Which is the real Hoboken budget?

2/28/78

Will the real Hoboken budget please stand up?

Following the format of the television game show, a state Department of Education official will examine the three versions of the Hoboken school board's budget and decide tomorrow which one is the real article.

Included in the ruling of the official in the division of controversies and disputes will be a decision about whether Hoboken will have to stage another election on the board's budget.

The decision is necessary because the board, the county superintendent of schools and the state education department have all arrived at different totals for the amount to be

raised by taxation for the 1978-79 academic year.

The board's version calls for the largest tax levy, some \$4.07 million. The state says the figure is actually \$3.5 million while Russell Carpenter, the county superintendent, figures the total to be \$3.3 million.

Robert W. Taylor, the board's attorney, said at last night's board meeting the problem stems from the placement in the budget and computation of anticipated revenues, the total school aid to be received by the system.

He claims he followed Carpenter's instructions in the placement of anticipated revenues and said he felt the amount to be raised by taxation may be even higher than the

present \$4 million figure in the board's version.

Based on tomorrow's decision, the board's school finance committee, headed by Robert Wendelken, will meet with the City Council Thursday to discuss the budget.

The confusion over the budget has left the council in a quandary, according to Councilman Robert Ranieri, who represented Mayor Steve Cappiello and the council at the meeting.

Once a budget has been defeated at the polls, the board submits it to the council which decides what the school budget will be. If the board disagrees with the council's action, it can take the budget to the commissioner of education.

The council has 15 days to act on the school budget.

Ranieri said the document sent to the councilmen lacked two of the necessary three signatures and was missing vital information about anticipated revenues.

"We're being asked to act on a budget we're not at all certain is the correct budget," Ranieri said. Ranieri told the board the council wanted the missing figures for past budgets as well as an exact breakdown of the anticipated revenues.

The anticipated revenues totaled up to "an even \$500,000," Ranieri said. "Usually figures are not cool and even like that. This seems to be an estimate while it should be exact."

Ranieri also complained that under the listing of state aid to be received by the board, every single line item had the words "left blank" written in, instead of the anticipated figures.

"That is the reason, in my opinion, that Mr. Carpenter did not sign the budget. That is why Mr. (Thomas) Gallo (the school board secretary) did not sign the budget," Ranieri said. Gallo's signature had been placed on the budget by Taylor, at Gallo's instruction, Taylor said.

What most concerns Ranieri and the council, however, is which version of the amount to be raised by taxation is correct.

Ranieri pointed out that the difference between the Carpenter estimate and the board's amounts is just over \$5.30 on the tax rate.

"That's the difference between Hoboken existing or ceasing to exist,"

Ranieri said. "I make no bones about it."

In other action at last night's meeting, the board heard an appeal from Michael Donofrio, president of the Hoboken Teachers' Association, to act on the payment of retroactive premiums due the State Health Benefits Commission Bureau.

Although Taylor said that the matter was going to be discussed at a March 10 hearing before Hudson County Superior Court Judge Frederick Kentz, he later said that no specific issues had been decided as yet for the court hearing.

The teachers say the bureau has told the board that if \$12,000 in retroactive benefit premiums is not paid by April, then it would drop all those in the system covered by the plan, teachers, clerks and janitors.

On the ball 3/1/78

Congratulations to Assemblyman Thomas A. Gallo of Hoboken for calling for public hearings by the Assembly Municipal Government Committee on legislation providing tax credits for businessmen participating in certain community services.

The legislation, on the surface, encourages business participation in community services and allows tax credit for such contributions.

However, the legislation also permits the state to rip off 3 to 5 percent of the industrial contributions to charitable organizations and to dictate which charities get how much.

Hearings definitely are needed. We hope that Assemblyman Gallo will insist that at least one hearing is held in Hudson County and that it is held at a time that will permit industrial and charitable organization leaders to attend and join in an open discussion of the merits and liabilities of this proposed legislation.

State rules out Hoboken tally

Order new school budget vote

Hoboken voters will be going back to the polls to vote on the 1978-79 school board budget.

State Education Commissioner Fred G. Burke has accepted the recommendation of Hudson County Superintendent of Schools Russell Carpenter and ordered a new election for the Hoboken school board on the budget only.

City and school board officials were notified of the decision yesterday by Joseph Zach, head of the state Education Department Division of Disputes and Controversies. Formal letters were also being sent to both the city and school board, giving a formal explanation of the decision.

A date for the election was not set but the state's instructions are for the

board to stage the election on or before March 28, the last Tuesday in the month.

In the meantime, the Hoboken school board will be working with Carpenter and representatives of the state Education Department on a new budget proposal and the amount to be raised for the budget through local taxes. It is expected that the figure

will be in the vicinity of \$3.3 to \$3.5 million.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, chairman of the special council committee created to negotiate with the school board on the budget that was defeated Feb. 14, cancelled last night's meeting between the committee and board.

That budget figure was \$4.073 million and was soundly defeated.

Several days before the Feb. 14 election, Carpenter notified the school board that the \$4.073 figure was incorrect. It should have been \$3.3 million. He instructed the board to make every possible effort to alert the public to the figure. No action was

taken by the board to do so and the \$4.073 figure stayed on the machines.

Carpenter, when notified by former school board President Mary Gaspar that no action had been taken to change the budget figure, wrote to Commissioner Burke and recommended a new election for the budget question only.

Hoboken has 7 police cars 3/2/78

Only seven of Hoboken's 15 police cars are in working order and it will be at least a week before there is any improvement.

According to Sgt. Mario Mercado, head of the public safety garage, three of the disabled cars should be repaired and ready for work by next week. But five others have to be sent out for extensive front end work and he did not know when they would be fixed and returned.

Although most divisions of the department have at least one vehicle for their men, some, like the detective bureau, are feeling the pinch. Contributing to the latter is a ban on the use of private vehicles.

"We've had problems like this before," remarked one bureau

member, "but we always got around not having enough cars by using our own. From a police viewpoint, it worked out better, because private cars are less conspicuous than a police car, even an unmarked car."

The city used to reimburse the men who used their own cars by giving them gas. But orders from the state have put an end to that. Since

the city buys tax-free gas, the state says it can be used only in vehicles owned by the city. And because they aren't getting the gas, most men aren't using their own cars.

Chief George W. Crimmins, however, didn't feel that the seven out-of-service cars were hampering the department's effectiveness.

"If we lose a few more we could have a problem," the chief continued, "but we're getting the job done with the cars that are currently available. Eight cars are adequate."

Cappiello may name safety chief 3/3/78 J.T.

Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken, who has been doubling as the city's public safety director, is again considering the appointment of a separate public safety director.

The mayor has budgeted \$21,500 in the 1978 public safety department budget for a director. He has held the post without pay, taking a salary only as mayor.

Cappiello says he wants to recreate it as a separate post because he cannot devote as much time to it as he would like, due to his duties as mayor.

According to Edwin J. Chius, city business administrator who helped prepare the budget with the mayor, Cappiello does plan to name someone to the post but probably not until sometime in late summer.

"The entire \$21,500 isn't going to stay marked for the director's salary," he said. "Some of it has already been switched to help pay for the overtime we incurred during the two recent snowstorms. But that was done because the mayor decided that he wasn't going to make the appointment now, and we needed to take funds from somewhere to make up for the cost of the snow removal operations."

He has already trimmed portions of the budget to the tune of \$95,000.

That money will be used to pay the bills accumulated by the city for overtime and hiring outside equipment during the two snow emergencies.

"No spectacular cuts were made," he asserted. "A lot of small cuts were made throughout the budget to amass the \$95,000."

By the time the city has paid its snow removal bills Chius expects to have about \$10,000 left for any snow problems that come up in November and December of this year.

"It should be enough," he said. "Those aren't normally heavy snow months. But if we do have an accumulation we won't be in the position of having to hire outside equipment. The city has budgeted for the purchase of a number of new trucks for Public Works and other departments. The \$10,000 will be spent on any overtime needed for snow removal, that's all."

Hoboken's budget total for 1978 is \$18,595,499. That represents an increase in spending of \$1,125,159 over 1977. However, the amount to be raised through local taxes for support of the 1978 budget is only \$5,435,493. That's \$233,496 less than last year.

Normally, according to Chius, that would result in a reduction in the tax rate of approximately \$2. But the city lost almost \$6 million in retail

last year. The smaller tax base wipes out most of the reduction, Chius says the actual reduction, all things being equal, amounted to about 25 cents.

But there is still a big factor that hasn't been included in the budget — the cost to the city of supporting the local school district for the second half of 1978 — July 1 through Dec. 31.

"Since the state has called for a new election on the budget portion of the school budget for 1978-79 we don't know what figures to be included," he said. "I assume it is going to be somewhere between \$3.3 million and \$4.073 million. But that's for the entire 1978-79 school year, and a portion of those funds will have to be budgeted by the city in next year's budget."

Chius added that it was his opinion that if there were a tax increase at all for Hoboken property owners it would be minimal — no more than \$3 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation at the very most. He said he didn't think there would be any increase.

The budget proposal, he added, could be reduced or increased by the city council. It has until March 15 to make any changes in the budget. That is the day of the public hearing on the budget. It is scheduled for 8 p.m. in the city council chambers at City Hall.

Hoboken pays bulk due on parking bonds 3/2/78

Hoboken has paid \$296,791 of the \$375,568 principal and interest due on the Parking Authority's \$8.5 million bond issue. The payment was due yesterday.

The remaining \$78,777 of the payment was made by the Parking Authority, which has promised to contribute a minimum of \$234,000 this year toward the bond payments. To keep that promise the authority must come up with at least \$147,000 for the Sept. 1 payment.

Joseph Hottendorf, the authority's executive director, said he doesn't foresee any problems in meeting the commitment.

Parked cars holding up snow crews 3/2/78

Night snow removal operations in Hoboken are working out well, according to Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato, but the city could stand some better cooperation from motorists.

"We're not towing, so it would be a big help if residents who see there is snow removal going on on their blocks would move their cars," said Amato. "We haven't been able to do as thorough a job as we would like because of parked cars."

The night operations started Monday. The department worked on Garden Street. It finished up Garden yesterday and began on Bloomfield Street. Today, Bloomfield will be finished and work will start tonight on Hudson Street, Amato said.

The director issued a warning to all motorists advising them to use extreme caution on some streets and to travel slowly throughout the city because of pot holes.

"I have to admit that the streets are bad and that we aren't doing too much right now to fix them," he continued. "The department is hampered by an equipment shortage and the fact that there's still a lot of snow on the ground that keeps melting and filling the potholes with water. We can't patch potholes that have water in them. One patch would come out as soon as traffic started going over it."

The director said the city has been trying to fill in the larger potholes as they come to the attention of the department. But it has meant pulling men off other jobs because they had the truck or equipment needed to fix the pothole.

Amato added that as soon as a little more snow melts away his department would start working on the potholes. If the holes can't be patched because of ice or water they will at least be filled with dirt until they dry out and can be patched.

8n THE JERSEY JOURNAL, FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1978

Hoboken gets \$120,000 for a bicycle path

Revised plans for a more elaborate bicycle path for Hoboken should be in the hands of the state by the end of this month. Officials hope to have the ribbon cutting ceremony sometime in early summer.

That was the preliminary timetable worked out last night as a council committee conferred with architects and representatives of the city's Community Development Agency.

The city already had approval for a \$30,000 project to be financed through federal funds administered by the state. Earlier this week, however, Hoboken was told that approximately \$120,000 could be made available. As a result, Councilmen Salvatore Cemelli, Robert Ranieri

and Walter Cramer agreed to go back to the drawing board.

The councilmen conferred with Kenneth Pal, a CDA planner and Robert Donly of Wayne, an architect. With the additional funds "We can build a more complete and safer path and one that will be more aesthetically appealing," said Ranieri.

The city now hopes to create a loop, starting at the Erie Lachawanna Terminal which will undergo substantial facelifting. The route will be along River Street to River Road, then back on Hudson Street to the starting point.

There will be a six foot wide path with a special surface for bicyclists. The path will be separated from

River Road with a concrete divider about six feet wide and the waterfront area will be landscaped. The Hudson Street segment will be painted lines on the street with painted warnings to motorists that the route is used by bicyclists and joggers.

Ranieri said the overall route will be over two miles in length, the longest in the county and in any urban area. He recalled that the project actually started when he read a news item in April, 1974 that the federal government was making funds available. He immediately pressed for Hoboken to file an application.

Three spectators at last night's meeting held at city hall were Thomas Vezzetti, Robert Kling and Charles De Fazio.

School budget may be cut more 3/2/78

The Hoboken City Council Committee set up to negotiate with the city's board of education on the 1978-79 school budget expects to cut at least another \$800,000 from the amount to be raised by local taxes when the committee meets with board members tonight.

The board itself had already cut \$2,500,000 from its original budget to keep it within the maximum or "cap" decreed by the state Department of Education.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, who heads the committee, said today that by using "proper accounting processes" the board's budget, which was turned down Feb. 14 by Hoboken voters, could be reduced more than \$800,000 "without

touching teachers, classrooms, the administration of the schools, or the administrators."

"We have been able to decipher (Robert W.) Taylor's figures," said the councilmen. "A number of inappropriate calculations were made on the original budget, not to mention the fact that it wasn't properly presented to the council because the required signatures weren't on it."

Taylor is the board's attorney and fiscal adviser.

The councilmen declined to state any specific items that were to be cut from the budget. However, he added that "someone" was "going to be held accountable" for the calculations. He did not say whether it would be Taylor or someone else, or just what the

council would do, once it had established accountability.

The state Department of Education has not yet decided which of three differing figures as to the amount of the budget to be raised by taxes is correct — \$4.073 million as reckoned by the board, the state's \$3.5 million figure, or Hudson County Superintendent of Schools Russell W. Carpenter's figure of \$3.3 million. The council, however, is proceeding with negotiations based on the board's figure of \$4.073 million.

"We'll adjust to the state's decision when it comes," said Ranieri, "but in the meantime, we have certain procedures that are to be followed by law. Negotiating on the budget is one of the requirements."

The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. in the city clerk's office.

Hoboken recount confirms victors 3/4/78 J.T.

Angel Roman, an unsuccessful candidate for the Hoboken school board in the Feb. 14 election, has an additional nine votes as a result of yesterday's recount by the state Department of Education. But the outcome of the election remains unchanged.

Mrs. Mary Gaspar, the former school board president who was defeated in her bid for re-election, asked for the recount — and paid for it — because of certain voting "irregularities."

Three voters, Nicholas and Michele DiTrizio, and Nunzio Malfetti claimed they had cast votes for Roman on the machine in the first district of the Sixth Ward. But the tally showed that Roman received no votes at all.

The recount was conducted by Eric Erricon, assistant commissioner of the division of disputes and controversies, state Department of Education. His check showed that the machine used in the first district of the Sixth Ward actually registered nine votes for Roman. The fact that none was shown on the tally sheets compiled by the election workers on

the polls when they closed at 9 p.m. that day was attributed to "human error." The additional nine votes gave Roman a total of 498, not enough to change his position of eighth in a field of nine candidates.

Only one other machine of the 24 used in the election was questioned. The machine used in the second district of the Fourth Ward did not have a seal on the inside and no one could explain why it was missing. Two seals are normally used, one outside and one inside.

"No one will ever convince me that the machine in 6-1 wasn't tampered with," Mrs. Gaspar said. "I can't believe that four people working on the polls could make the same mistake. And if one machine was tampered with maybe they all were. But pursuing this any further would be costly and pointless."

"I chalk the whole thing up to experience and accept the results. But that doesn't mean I'll be fading into the background."

Mrs. Gaspar said she planned to remain active in both school and civic affairs in Hoboken.

"I contributed as a board

member and I can contribute as a citizen," she asserted. "Certain board members have already started making irresponsible statements concerning me and my actions on the school board. According to a statement made by the new board president, Otto Hottendorf, I was responsible for the budget problems that led to a second election on the budget question this month. The record clearly shows this to be a lie."

"I was the only member of the board who voted against adopting the \$4.073 million budget that was defeated by the voters and declared to be incorrect by the state Department of Education. I consider his unwarranted attack on me as a challenge. I'll be at every possible board meeting to meet that challenge."

Chius rips work slackers 3/1/78

Some Hoboken directors and division heads have been lax in enforcing the working hours of City Hall employees, Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius declared today.

And just to make sure that they all know what those working hours are, Chius has sent a notice to them explaining. Besides reminding the directors and division heads that the work hours are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., it also directs them to make sure every department has someone on hand during those working hours, especially during lunch hour.

"The notice was prompted by my own observations," Chius said. "I have noticed employees coming in late, and others going home early. If a director or division head has given his approval for the employee to do so, it's

all right. But the employee doesn't have the right to leave or come in whenever he or she wants to."

"Some employees don't take their lunch hour and instead go home an hour early. If the director or supervisor approves, that's all right with me. But it should be the superior's decision, not the employee, if that is to be allowed."

"But my main concern is with the arranging of the lunch schedule. My own personal experience has shown that some offices are unattended during the lunch hour. That obviously

means that all are taking their lunch hour at the same time, and that's wrong."

"No office should be completely unstaffed between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Our new telephone system with direct outside dialing to all city offices demands that all offices be manned at all times. There will not be any exceptions to this."

Chius said if there are instances where a city office isn't manned during the normal working day the person responsible for that office will have to answer to the mayor.

Time limit 3/2/78

Now that a court has held unconstitutional a Hoboken ordinance requiring landlords to obtain certificates of occupancy before re-renting apartments, the city is planning to rewrite the ordinance to meet the court's objections.

As we pointed out in this column when the ordinance was first introduced, it imposes an unfair burden on the landlord by requiring him to wait until the city's housing inspector gets around to checking out the apartment, however long that may be. The court agreed with our view.

An inspection delay is not only hard on the landlord, but it is against the public interest because it would keep rentable apartments untenanted.

In re-drafting the ordinance, why not put a reasonable limit on the time within which the reinspection must be made?

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