

Revaluation alarms subside in Hoboken

By Randolph Diamond

There is doubt today that a full revaluation of all property in Hoboken will be ordered in the next several weeks, as the council was warned.

In a letter addressed to City Council members, Hoboken Chief Assessor Woodrow Monte had warned that he had been informed by the Hudson County Tax Board's chief auditor, Stanley Kosakowski, that Hoboken would be ordered by the state attorney general to undergo a total revaluation in the next couple of weeks.

Monte has asked the Hoboken City Council to meet with the board of assessors to discuss what he said is a "urgent situation." But Kosakowski said there is no revaluation "in the works" for Hoboken in the near future.

John Barry, president of the Hudson County tax board, said the board will not even consider the possibility of a revaluation for Hoboken or any other municipality in Hudson County until January at the earliest.

Barry said the tax board first wants a revaluation of all the assessments in Kearny to get started before it deals with any other Hudson County municipalities.

The tax board had first ordered Kearny four years ago to revalue, but the town appealed to the state Division of

Tax Appeals. It lost in the courts and the state Supreme Court has refused to hear the case.

Even after the last appeal was lost, however, the revaluation was held up by the failure of the state attorney general's office to seek a court order compelling Kearny to revalue.

Only after a Jersey Journal report on the situation on Aug. 13 did the attorney general's office move on the situation. Barry said the order should be served on Kearny officials shortly.

Monte, meanwhile, refused to comment on Kosakowski's statements that a reassessment was not forthcoming in the near future.

He said the letter to the city councilmen was personal and none of the public's business.

It was also learned that Monte had received a payment of about \$5,000 in addition to his normal \$10,000 a year salary for a reassessment he did of land in Hoboken this past year.

Monte refused to comment on the payment but Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said it was for extra work in reassessing Hoboken's land.

Municipalities usually revalue when their valuations on property are far out of line with a state law requiring assessment of at least 85 percent of true (market) value.

Property in Hoboken is

currently valued at 55.02 percent, according to the tax board.

Other municipalities below the required ratio are Jersey City, 63 percent, Bayonne, 61.66 percent, Harrison, 57.09 percent, Guttenberg, 65.94 percent.

Anthony Clinto of Hoboken, a member of the Hudson County Tax Board, said he feels Hoboken and the other municipalities would be ordered to revalue in January because of its order to Kearny to revalue.

Another board member, Marita Borzaga, has previously said she felt the other towns would have to revalue if Kearny was forced to do so.

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri said Monte should do all he can to keep the assessment level just under the one required by the state.

"If the state ordered us to revalue, Hoboken would become a ghost town," he said.

Monte's letter sent shock waves throughout Hoboken City Hall today.

Hoboken Mayor Cappiello said he had been concerned about the effects of a state-ordered revaluation in Hoboken, and Business Administrator Edwin Chius said a revaluation would hit the small homeowner the hardest.

The mayor later in the day said he was very relieved when he heard Kosakowski's statements that no state-ordered revaluation is planned in the near future.

Farina ties dirtier parks to CETA worker layoffs

Hoboken parks are getting dirtier since the layoff of eight CETA workers who used to maintain the areas, Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina said today.

Farina said he is doing all he can with the men he has — but the parks aren't as clean as before.

Still, Farina said the parks are cleaned and it's the people who dirty them.

"We clean up a park one hour and its dirty the next," he said.

Farina said most people take care of the parks when they use them.

"It's only one or two people that are ruining it for everyone," he said.

"They just don't care."

Farina said he will be rotating the six city park workers, instead of leaving them in specific parks, so they can concentrate on a park when it is particularly dirty.

Farina said he feels he will be able to better maintain the parks under the new system.

Parents council starts new Hoboken season

The first meeting of the new season for the Parent Advisory Council of the Hoboken public schools Title I and State Compensatory Education program will take place at 9:30 a.m. Thursday.

It will be held in the meeting room of the Administration Building, 1115 Clinton St.

This will be the first meeting for

the new chairman, Virginia Mejias, and other newly-elected officers, Barbara Ezell, vice chairman; Madeline Schnabolk, secretary and Theresa Coari, assistant secretary.

The council will discuss the further development of the local school councils. Linda F. Erbe is coordinator for the federal and state programs.

Cramer opposes call for revaluation parley

Hoboken City Council President Walter Cramer said today he is opposed to calling a special meeting of the City Council to meet with the Board of Assessors in view of the fact that county tax officials say no revaluation of property in Hoboken is planned in the near future.

Hoboken Chief Assessor Woodrow Monte in a letter to city councilmembers had requested the special meeting because of what he said was an "urgent situation."

Monte had said he had been informed by the Hudson County Tax Board's Chief Auditor Stanley Kosakowski that Hoboken would be ordered by the state attorney general to undergo a total revaluation in the next couple of weeks.

But Kosakowski said yesterday there is no revaluation "in the works" for Hoboken in the near future.

And John Barry, President of the Hudson County Tax Board said they would not even consider possibility of a revaluation until January at the earliest.

Cramer said in view of the fact there is no urgent situation he does not think the special meeting would be needed.

The council president said, though, he is "shocked" that Monte Kosakowski that Hoboken would be ordered by the state attorney general to get to the bottom of the situation find out what is going on.

Cramer said he will bring the whole matter up to the city council at its caucus meeting next Monday.

Hoboken cops threaten job action

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken policemen will probably take a job action if the city continues to push through a proposal to cut three sergeant and one lieutenant positions from the police force, Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association President Thomas Meehan said today.

Meehan said there is no way the PBA will accept the proposed cuts under any circumstances and he accused city officials of trying to push in the proposal "behind our (the PBA's) back."

Members of the City Council's Public Safety Committee meanwhile

discussed the proposed cutbacks at a meeting in City Hall last night. The committee is expected to make a recommendation to the entire council on Monday, one councilman said.

Meehan would not disclose the nature of the job action but said his men would not call a strike.

The PBA head said the union would also seek an injunction if necessary against the city. Meehan said an arbitrator is due in City Hall on Oct. 31 because of a grievance the PBA filed in June concerning the fact that the positions had remained vacant for nine months.

Two of the vacancies were created by Mayor Steve Cappiello and

Public Safety Director James Giordano, who are on indefinite leave from the department, and the other by Sergeant Mario Mercado, who is assigned to the Public Safety Garage.

A fourth superior officer is scheduled to retire shortly and city officials do not want to replace him.

The ordinance eliminating the positions was introduced at last week's City Council meeting but was tabled after Giordano said he knew nothing about it.

The ordinance had been introduced by Cappiello.

Meehan said the mayor and his associates tried to push the ordinance through even though they knew the

PBA had filed a grievance.

"They were trying to be sneaky, because they knew the arbitrator would rule against the city," he said.

Cappiello said, however, he knew nothing at all about an arbitrator coming in or that a grievance had been filed.

Business Administrator Edwin Chius said the city contract with the police allows the police department's force to be reduced at any time.

Chius said there are too many superior officers on the Hoboken police force and cited a study done three years ago by the New Jersey

Police Training Commission which showed the police department had too many superior officers.

The business administrator said the study recommended that Hoboken have 11 lieutenants and 16 sergeants and the police department now has 17 lieutenants and 23 sergeants.

Meanwhile, Meehan said morale is down to rock bottom on the police force.

"We have three men making plans to leave the force because they feel they can't get promoted," he said.

Meehan said that with the proposed cutbacks it would be nearly impossible for anyone to be promoted on the force.

The PBA president also said Cappiello was reneging on a promise he made to the PBA three years ago that there would be no cutbacks on the police force while he was in office.

Meehan said he has the statements on tape and will produce them if necessary.

Cappiello has maintained the cuts on the force cannot be avoided because of the city's severe budget problems.

Cappiello died yesterday, however, there could be some type of compromise on the cuts.

In addition to cutting the four superior officers from the police department, Cappiello's proposal also calls for cutting four fire captains.

Officials from the Hoboken International Association of Firefighters have said they also would fight the proposal.

Hoboken city workers threaten job action

The head of Hoboken's Municipal Employees Union threatened a job action today by his members, making him the second local union head in two days to make such an assertion.

John Wallington said even though his union reached agreement over two months ago with officials on a contract, city officials have not yet given the union their first written contract.

Hoboken's municipal employees have traditionally received the same wages as policemen and firemen but have never had a written contract.

This year city officials agreed to give the union a written contract under the agreement that municipal employees lived up to their obligations and stopped goofing off and leaving work early.

"We've been waiting and waiting but this is too much," said Wallington. "We've kept our agreement but they haven't kept theirs."

Wallington said he and his members are quite upset over the whole matter.

"I keep on trying to see Business Administrator Chius about the contract but his secretary always says he's not in or he's busy," he said.

"I'm becoming quite fed-up."

Wallington said he now has a meeting scheduled with Chius for next Monday and if he doesn't get satisfaction then, his members will vote on a job action Tuesday.

Chius said, though, the municipal union will get their written contract and that a delay in city final arrangements for a drug and dental plan for municipal employees is the reason the employees don't have the signed agreement yet.

Chius said he wasn't trying to avoid Wallington but many times when he was busy he didn't want to keep him waiting too long, because Wallington was away from his city job.

Yesterday the president of the Hoboken Police Benevolent Association Thomas Meehan had threatened policeman would stage a job action if the city administrator tried to pass through a proposal eliminating four superior officer's positions.

Police, fire cuts in Hoboken hit by safety panel

The Hoboken City Council's public safety committee has come out against a proposed ordinance to cut eight superior officers from the police and fire departments.

Though none of the members would talk on the record, the word around city hall today was that the committee members would recom-

"We're going to have to stop the health and welfare services for poor people," he said. "And you can forget about hiring the extra cops in the parks," he said.

Chius said he was hoping the full council would vote against the committee's recommendations.

The ordinance to eliminate the positions was introduced by Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello who said the cuts were necessary because of severe budget cuts.

Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association President Thomas Meehan said he was confident the full city council would reject the cuts.

Meehan had threatened yesterday that the PBA would probably stage a job action if the cuts went through and accused the mayor and his aides of

HOBOKEN BOARD OF EDUCATION

Joseph F. Brandt
S. Calabro
Thomas G. Connors

Daniel S. Kealy
Sadie F. Loinkauf
Rue/Denmarst School

Hoboken High School
Wallace School

The Hoboken Board of Education announced today starting Monday, September 24, 1979 that low cost nutritious school lunches, are available to the children enrolled in the schools listed above. In addition, meals will be provided free or at a greatly reduced-price to children from families whose gross income is at or below those shown on the income scale below.

Applications for Free and Reduced-Price Meals were sent to the families of all children enrolled in the schools listed above. Children from families whose gross income is at or below that shown for their family size are eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals.

Family Size	FREE MEALS			REDUCED PRICE MEALS		
	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	WEEKLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	WEEKLY
1	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 383.00	\$ 88.00	\$ 7,160.00	\$ 597.00	\$ 138.00
2	6,040.00	503.00	116.00	9,420.00	785.00	181.00
3	7,490.00	624.00	144.00	11,680.00	973.00	225.00
4	8,940.00	745.00	172.00	13,940.00	1,162.00	268.00
5	10,390.00	866.00	200.00	16,200.00	1,350.00	312.00
6	11,840.00	987.00	228.00	18,470.00	1,539.00	356.00
7	13,290.00	1,108.00	256.00	20,730.00	1,728.00	399.00
8	14,740.00	1,229.00	283.00	22,990.00	1,916.00	442.00
9	16,190.00	1,349.00	311.00	25,250.00	2,104.00	486.00
10	17,640.00	1,470.00	339.00	27,510.00	2,293.00	529.00
11	19,090.00	1,591.00	367.00	29,770.00	2,481.00	573.00
12	20,540.00	1,712.00	395.00	32,030.00	2,669.00	616.00
Each Additional Family Member	1,450.00	121.00	28.00	2,260.00	188.00	44.00

If a family's income exceeds those shown but the family experiences any of the Special Hardship Conditions listed below, a child may still be eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals.

- Unusually high medical expenses;
- Shelter costs in excess of 30% of the family income
- Special expenses due to the mental or physical condition of a child;
- Disaster or casualty losses.

Foster children are often eligible for Free or Reduced-Price meals.

To discourage the possibility of misrepresentation, the application forms contain a statement about the space for signature certifying that all information furnished on the application is true and correct. An additional Statement is added stating that the application is being made in connection with the receipt of Federal Funds, that if school officials have reason to question the information provided, they may seek verification and the federal misrepresentation of information may subject the applicant to prosecution.

Application forms for Free or Reduced-Price Meals are available at your school and application can be made at any time during the school year. If a family member becomes unemployed, the income or family size changes or the Special Hardship Conditions during the school year, parents should contact the school so that all children receive the proper benefits.

In the operation of the Child Nutrition Program, no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, or ability to pay. A child will not be identified as a recipient of a Free or Reduced-Price meal.

The information provided by parents on the Application will be kept confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility.

The school will advise parents as to their child's eligibility within 15 days of receipt of the Application. Any parent dissatisfied with the eligibility determination may contact the school to request an informal conference or may appeal the decision by requesting an informal Hearing Procedure. A Hearing can be arranged by writing Mr. John Palmigiano, Hoboken Board of Education, 1115 Clinton Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030. Parents may call 402-2167 for further information.

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trying to sneak through the ordinance behind everyone's backs.

Meanwhile, Hoboken Public Safety Director James Giordano confirmed today that an arbitrator is due in city hall on October 31 on a complaint by the PBA that some of the vacant superior's positions haven't been filled in over a year.

Meehan had said yesterday the arbitrator was coming but Cappiello and Business Administrator Chius said they knew nothing about it.

Giordano admitted he never told Cappiello or Chius about the arbitrator request when he had received it because it was not the proper procedure.

"I referred it to the law department which is what I am supposed to do," he said.

But Chius said the proper procedure was for the arbitration request to be referred to him and the mayor and said he is worried that no one has been ordered to prepare the city's defense.

"I hope we don't lose the case because of it," he said.

Is street sweeper now in hibernation?

Residents of the eastern section of Hoboken have not had their streets swept by a mechanical sweeper for over a month and it may not be until next spring before they do.

The sweeper is not broken as it has been most of this past spring and summer.

"We just don't have enough men to operate it," said Public Works foreman John Wallington. "The CETA cutbacks have really hit us hard. I don't see it out again until next spring."

Wallington said he has lost seven CETA employees and is so short-staffed he doesn't have anyone who knows how to operate the sweeper nor can he spare the manpower to train someone.

"The sweeper still serving the western half of Hoboken is still working," Wallington said, "and we're doing the best we can with the manpower we have."

But Wallington said he feels no matter what he does he is fighting a losing battle to clean up Hoboken's streets.

"People in this town just don't care," he said. "We clean a street one hour and it's dirty the next."

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato said he wants to sit down with Wallington to discuss the situation and to see if the sweeper can be put on the street sooner.

Hoboken layoffs delayed

The Hoboken City Council decided to table an ordinance to eliminate three captains from the Fire Department and three sergeants and a lieutenant from the police force after a meeting with representatives from their unions Tuesday night.

"We have to look into this a little more," said Councilman Nunzio Malfetti, one of three members on the council's public safety committee. "I'd like to sit with (Public Safety Director James) Giordano and study this," he said.

City Business Administrator Edwin Chius said there is the possibility that patrolmen might have to be cut from the force if the council does not eliminate the some higher positions.

"The money is going to have to come from someplace," said Chius, who said he might not be able to rely on the city payroll any of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) workers being terminated this month because of cutbacks in the federal program.

Patrolman Thomas Meehan, president of the PBA, said his union would not tolerate any cuts in the police force.

"If he (Chius) wants to cut patrolmen, heads will roll," Meehan said. "We would definitely take some kind of action and the public would be up in arms."

Meehan said, however, he was pleased with the council's decision to table the ordinance.

Hoboken's only black worker losing her job in City Hall

Hoboken's only black City Hall worker will be out of a job tomorrow — after 13 years of service.

Ann Mae Lyons is one of the 87 Hoboken CETA workers that are scheduled to be laid off because of massive cutbacks in the federal program.

Ms. Lyons had worked in the Hoboken parking violations bureau as a clerk for 13 years as a temporary employee. She failed a Civil Service test to become a permanent clerk and four years ago she was transferred to the mayor's office as a clerk under the CETA program.

Anna Mae, as she was known to those who have visited the mayor's office, would often fill in for the mayor's personal secretary when she was on vacation.

"I've been here so long," she said. "If I was 20 or 30 maybe I would get a chance to find a job somewhere else. But I'm 44."

Ms. Lyons said she will look

anyway because she has three kids to look after and support by herself.

Though Ms. Lyons will be eligible for unemployment she is worried that the money won't be enough.

But what really worries her is the idle time she will have on her hands if she can't find a job.

In her 13 years of work at City Hall, Ms. Lyons has never taken a sick day or a vacation.

"I guess I just like to work," she said. "I have to be doing something."

Tomorrow is the last day for Ms. Lyons but she keeps on hoping against hope that somehow she'll be spared.

"You would think after all these years of service they could find something for me," she said.

It's not likely, though.

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius said the city would like to keep Ms. Lyons and other loyal CETA employees on the payroll, but just can't afford to.

Decision needed on cop, fire ranks

By CAMILLE KENNY

Hoboken Council members will have to make a decision next week whether or not to table an ordinance that would reduce the number of higher-ranking officers in the police and fire departments.

After a meeting Tuesday night with representatives of the two unions, members of the council's Public Safety Committee indicated they would recommend the ordinance be tabled.

The ordinance would not cut manpower in the departments, only fail to replace senior officers who retire. The departments have been doing without some of these positions for several months while the men who fill them are on permanent leave.

Union leaders had objected strenuously to the ordinance, saying it would reduce morale in the departments because fewer men could look forward to promotions.

But the problem doesn't end there,

according to city Business Administrator Edwin Chius.

Mayor Steve Cappiello wanted to use the \$170,000 in savings to retain some Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) employees on the city payroll.

News Analysis

Because of cutbacks in the federal government program, Hoboken will lose a total of 85 CETA workers by the end of this month.

Chius estimates that the money saved by having fewer senior officers would allow the city to retain 15 to 17 CETA workers who provide essential services.

He began this week to evaluate recommendations from city department heads as to which CETA employees should be retained. Recommendations were made on the basis of how essential each employee is and how well the employee performs.

"But if this ordinance doesn't pass, we may not be able to keep any of them," said Chius. "The money has to come from somewhere."

Chius intends to speak to the council

before it comes to a vote. He may be able to torpedo the move to table it by pointing out that the action would probably cause several CETA employees to lose their jobs.

Chius added that if some of the CETA workers who are dropped are Hoboken residents, he will make it clear to them that a vote by some of the councilmen to table the ordinance made the cuts necessary.

Thomas Meehan, president of the city's Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (PBA), said he was confident after the Tuesday night meeting that the council will table the ordinance.

But Chius said he had an indication yesterday that a move to table the ordinance may not be successful.

"A councilman called me about a CETA employee in his ward who loses his job on the 26th," Chius said. "I said, tell him the mayor intends to put him on the payroll but might not be able to because it looks like all his recommendations about the table of organization (how positions within the police and fire departments are organized among ranks) are not going to be adopted."

"Well, we might have to change our minds," the councilman told me.

Hoboken health clinics may cut services

Hoboken's health clinics, which last year provided medical service for over 3,000 infants, may have to start turning children away, Hoboken Health Officer Patricia Mitten said today.

Mrs. Mitten said she has lost five CETA employees — four of whom acted as health aides in the clinics.

Mrs. Mitten said she has only a few aides left in the clinics and, at most, 1,000 babies could be cared for in a year.

"We are just getting by — barely," she said.

Mrs. Mitten said many of the mothers who bring their babies to their clinic are very poor and cannot afford to pay for medical services.

There is currently no fee in the Health Clinics.

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius said he feels "terrible"

about the situation. "The children are our hope for the city and it's unfair for a poor child to be deprived of health services," he said.

Chius said he will try to do what he can to see if any of the laid off CETA employees could be put on the city payroll.

But, the business administrator added that with the City Council public safety committee's recommendation that eight police and firemen's superior positions not be eliminated it may be that further jobs may have to be cut from the health clinics if the program doesn't have to be closed altogether.

Chius has said keeping the eight positions which the mayor had proposed eliminating would cost the city \$170,000, money which the city just doesn't have.

Truck problem in Hoboken put on back burner

Two months ago Public Safety Director James Giordano promised the police department would crack down on trucks double-parked on Hoboken streets but nothing has changed.

Trucks were to be seen on numerous blocks double-parked while loading and unloading this week.

Giordano had said his men would inform storeowners they would have to reserve parking spaces for trucks unloading and loading at these establishments.

He also said he would work with storeowners in obtaining loading zones in areas where parking was a problem.

Giordano admitted today that he had not carried out his promise.

"We had to put our plans on the back burner because there are so many other things going on," he said.

Giordano said he has been preoccupied lately with the proposal by the mayor to cut eight superior officers from the police and fire departments and with other matter.

He declined to name the matters, but said they weren't big things, though they did consume a lot of time.

Mayors council to get law on heating cost surcharge

The North Hudson Council of Mayors is expected to receive at its next session the written legislation needed by rent leveling municipalities to allow landlords to pass along escalating heating costs to tenants.

Union City Commissioner Robert C. Botti said that the amendment to rent leveling ordinances in North

Bergen, West New York, Union City, Weehawken and Hoboken is being completed and should be ready for the Council of Mayors for final review.

Botti, who was appointed by the mayors to write the amendment, said that the law is "fair and equitable."

The Union City commissioner said that landlords who can show that

their heating costs are 10 percent higher than the previous year will be able to receive the surcharges, which can range from 1 to 5 percent of the monthly base rent.

He said that landlords would be expected to provide certified records from their heating fuel suppliers for

the last 12 months and for the 12 months prior to that information. The municipal rent leveling board will have to act within 60 days of the filed application for the surcharge or it will automatically be approved. The landlord will have to notify tenants 30 days before the surcharge is expected to go into effect.

PBA chief says politics inspires cut

The president of the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association, Thomas Meehan, charged today that Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius wants to cut four superior officer's positions from the police force so he can put CETA employees on the city payroll.

"How can he justify putting CETA employees on the city payroll who everyone knows are politically connected, when we're talking about eliminating cops and jeopardizing the public," Meehan said.

Chius refused to comment until he saw Meehan's comments in print.

But the business administrator has said in the past the only CETA employees he would consider rehiring of the 87 who have been laid off would be ones who provided essential service to the city.

Chius, along with Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, was responsible for the introduction of an ordinance at last week's city council meeting which called for the elimination of four police and four fire superior officer's positions.

They maintain the cuts are necessary because the city doesn't have the money to fund the positions.

Meehan said he wants to know exactly what CETA jobs Chius is planning to save because he doesn't believe that politically connected workers will not be returned back on to the city payroll.

"He (Chius) is just a spoiled kid and this is the first time he's been challenged on something," said Meehan. "He has to have his way."

The city council's Public Safety Committee met in closed session last week to discuss the cuts and it is expected they will recommend at next week's city council meeting to keep the superior's positions.



Students from the Salvatore Calabro School in Hoboken gather around Mayor Steve Cappiello during a tour of City Hall. The youngsters had lot of questions to ask about the city.

First graders put Cappiello on spot

"When is dog debris going to be cleaned up off Hoboken streets?" Why can't perfume be put into Hoboken's sewers to stop the obnoxious odor?"

Those are just a few of the questions first graders in Hoboken's Calabro School quizzed Mayor Steve Cappiello on as they toured City Hall.

The mayor laughed at the first question and explained on the second question that Hoboken sewers were

currently being cleaned out to make them smell better.

He emphasized to the first graders of Lee Raines' class that they plan an important part in keeping Hoboken clean. "It's up to you," he said, "not to throw soda bottles and containers on the streets of the city."

The class tour was part of Citizenship Day and the young students seemed to thoroughly enjoy the trip to City Hall. Mayoral aide

William Van Wie led them to the various parts of the building and they got the opportunity to meet each department director.

Revenue and Finance Director Frank J. Bartletta gave them each a piece of candy. They also got a chance to sit in the Hoboken Municipal Courtroom.

Student David Lopez said the courtroom was the favorite part of his tour. "It's so clean, not like the other parts of City Hall," he said.

Many of the first graders seemed indifferent about their visit to City Hall, but the four parents who accompanied them seemed to enjoy it the most. "It was really exciting," said one mother. "We got to see the inside of the mayor's office."

City picks engineer for sewage plant

Hoboken city officials have selected an engineer to begin work repairing the city's sewage treatment plant.

The Hoboken City Council will vote Wednesday on whether to follow the recommendations of city officials and approve the hiring of Nicholas Campagna of Woodbridge.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said Campagna's fee for supervising the repair of the sewage plant will be approximately \$48,000 and work should begin shortly if the council approves his hiring.

Council approval is expected since council members already agreed to spend \$800,000 to repair the city's sewage

treatment plant and avoid a lawsuit by the federal Department of Environmental Protection.

The department had charged that the Hoboken sewage plant was in such bad condition that sewage was flowing directly into the Hudson River from the plant for the last three years.

Cappiello said the first thing he wants the engineer to do is to apply for a \$500,000 grant DEP officials said would be available to help pay the cost of repairs to the sewage plant.

Hoboken school board cut still up in the air

Whether the Hoboken City Council will create a new, seven-member Board of Education tomorrow night may depend on the outcome of a meeting today between a school attorney and the city law department.

The council had introduced an ordinance calling for a seven-member board because it was felt it was required since the elected board had returned to the appointed type. However, a Newark law firm retained by the school board felt the present nine-member board was legal.

Council President Walter Cramer said he would like the city law staff to meet and study the opinion of the Newark firm and then determine whether the new ordinance should be brought up for a public hearing and vote tomorrow night.

Other ordinances scheduled for hearings will be one setting new salary scales for non-uniformed municipal workers who have been granted 7 percent pay boosts, and ordinances granting similar increases for police and fire chiefs.

The council is expected to designate Councilman Robert Ranieri to act in all labor negotiations with the five unions representing city employees. Ranieri, who has had the role in the past, will form a committee that will include the mayor, a member of the law department and the director of the department concerned with the negotiations.

An emergency appropriation of \$48,000 is coming before the council for engineering services in connection

with proposed repair work to the sewage plant ordered by the federal courts. Estimates of the work have been \$800,000. There was some question last night as to which engineer would be retained for the work.

The council is expected to approve a \$33,889 grant for third-year federal funding of Primera Inglesia Day Care Center at 11th and Bloomfield streets and \$25,000 for continuation of the Head Start program to be operated jointly by the Community Development Agency in conjunction with HOPES, the anti-poverty agency.

Chius blames cop 'surplus' on politics

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius charged today that "politics" is the reason why the Hoboken Police Department has too many superior officers.

Chius said that prior Hoboken politicians, going back over the years, created a larger than needed number of superior officers on the force to win political support.

The business administrator made the comments while talking about why his proposal to cut four superior officers from the police department was sound.

Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association Presi-

dent Thomas Meehan had charged yesterday that Chius was cutting the four superior officer's positions, three of which are now vacant, to keep politically connected CETA employees on the payroll.

Chius had refused comment yesterday but admitted today that some of the CETA employees are politically connected.

"But that doesn't mean they will stay on the payroll," he said. "CETA employees who are essential to the operation of the city will stay and those that aren't will go," he said.

Hoboken had lost 87 CETA positions because of cuts in the

federal program but Chius has said a few employees who are essential will be put on the city payroll.

Chius said Meehan shouldn't talk about politics since just about every Hoboken cop has some type of political connection or another.

The Hoboken City Council is expected to vote on Chius and Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello's proposal tomorrow to cut four superior officers from the force.

The Council's Public Safety Committee is expected to table the proposal and members have privately said they are against the proposal.

But Chius and Cappiello maintained the cuts are necessary because the city just can't afford to carry the four superior positions without making cuts elsewhere in the city budget.

Chius said the four superior officers positions to be cut from the force would not have any major effect on police service.

"Three of the positions are unfilled now and there hasn't been any problems," he said.

Chius said Hoboken, with a population of 45,000, has 45 superior officers while Union City, with a population of 52,000, has only 33 superior officers.

"We have far too many officers," he said.

Chius urges tighter belts in Hoboken

By PETER BEGANS

Terming 1980 "another crisis year," Hoboken business administrator Edwin Chius has told municipal officials that further belt-tightening may be in order.

Chius, in a memo dated Sept. 10, said that the city stands to lose about \$1 million from both state and federal governments in 1980. This does not include cutbacks in the federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act program.

Chius added that another \$800,000 could be lost if General Foods Corporation is successful in its suit challenging the tax assessment on its Maxwell House plant.

Chius noted that federal General Revenue Sharing funds terminate on Sept. 30, 1980. Unless Congress re-enacts the legislation, Hoboken will receive about \$200,000, or 25 percent, less than it did in 1979.

He also said the state's Emergency Assistance Act of 1979—a \$771,000 grant that helped bail Hoboken out of financial hot water this year—was a one-shot grant and that its absence would leave a big hole in the budget.

The city budget for 1979 was reduced by \$1.7 million from the 1978 budget, Chius noted yesterday. At least 14 municipal workers laid off in January because of the cuts still have not been rehired, Chius said.

Effective Oct. 1, 72 CETA workers will be laid off because of cutbacks in that program.

General Foods currently is seeking to reduce the \$7,038,000 assessment on its property to \$3,000,000—a reduction that, if approved, would trim its taxes about \$400,000 retroactively for both 1978 and 1979.

(Continued on page 31)

Pay raises unlikely for Hoboken city workers, says aide

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius said today there is little chance that the city will be able to afford any pay raises for municipal employees in the coming year because of the city's severe budget problems.

Chius said if raises were given to the municipal employees then there would have to be cuts in the number of municipal employees.

But the head of Hoboken's Police Benevolent Association, Thomas Meehan, said he doesn't believe the city has a budget problem.

Meehan said the PBA will be hiring an auditor to examine the city's books and find out where all the city's money has gone.

John Wallington, president of the Municipal Employees Association, said he wants to wait until he gets to the negotiating table before he comments on Chius' statements.

Chius: Keeping cop ranks invites deficit

By DIANE CURCIO

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius yesterday predicted a deficit in the public safety budget unless the reduction in ranks of superior officers in the police and fire departments is approved by the city council.

Chius said salaries for three firefighters appointed last June were excluded in the 1979 budget. Moreover, one fire captain was due to retire last March, requiring the city to appropriate only one-third of his salary in the budget, Chius said. But the fire department filled the vacancy a month later.

Thus, the city must pay the new captain approximately \$11,000 for the remainder of the year, even though no monies were appropriated for the job, Chius said.

Furthermore, the combined firefighters' salaries for the remainder of 1979 total \$15,000, according to the director. Chius said a similar condition exists in the police department. "I don't know where the money will come from."

The director said he could not provide the precise amount of the expected deficit because the city's budget-calculating machine was broken.

Chius and Mayor Steve Cappiello proposed to eliminate four captains from the fire departments and three sergeants and a lieutenant from the police force. The reductions will be achieved through attrition, causing no demotions, Chius said.

PBA and International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) spokesmen have criticized the move.

Hoboken PBA President Thomas Meehan said Chius was playing politics by reducing the ranks. Meehan speculated that the monies saved by the cutbacks would be used to hire Comprehensive Employment and Training Act workers laid off after recent trimming of funding for the federal program.

"How can he justify putting CETA employees on the city payroll who everyone knows are politically-connected, when we're talking about eliminating cops and jeopardizing the public?" Meehan asserted.

Chius called Meehan's remark "completely erroneous." The truth of the matter is that the number of superiors is truly political," he said. Superiors have not been reduced since the force was comprised of 166 men. There are now 151 men listed in the table of organization.

Chius noted that the Union City police force maintains 33 superior officers with a complement of 120 patrolmen, while Hoboken has 45 superiors and 104 patrolmen.

"The reduction is mild in fact," the director said. Decreases in rank will not affect the municipality's safety.

He explained that three fire captains have been on terminal leave for several months without weakening the department.

Moreover, two police sergeants are listed on indefinite leaves of absence—Cappiello and Public Safety Director James Giordano—and one sergeant is permanently assigned to the public safety garage, he said.

Chius said lieutenants serve together on several shifts and that one rank could be eliminated from the department.

IAFF spokesman Michael Bavaro has said the move would hurt morale in the fire department, since the reductions would narrow chances of promotion.

But Chius said openings would be avail-

able from retiring personnel. Bavaro refused to comment on Chius' deficit prediction until he spoke with the director.

A police sergeant's salary is approximately \$20,400, while a police lieutenant and fire captain receive about \$32,500.

Savings from the reductions are counted on to balance the budget and provide funds to rehire two CETA public safety dispatchers, Chius said.

The city council is expected to act on the reductions at tomorrow night's meeting.

Ambulance said to take patients 'for a ride'

A dispute has arisen among members of the Hoboken Volunteer Ambulance Squad, St. Mary Hospital and a private Fairview ambulance company.

Thomas Vecchione, president of the Hoboken Volunteer Ambulance Squad, said he had received reports from his members that St. Mary Hospital

officials and employees of the Universal Ambulance company in Fairview were misleading patients to think the private ambulance concern was connected with the volunteer ambulance squad.

"We transport any Hoboken resident to St. Mary for free or even to hospitals in New York

as long as we have advance notice," said Vecchione. "It doesn't have to be an emergency."

But Vecchione said he has heard reports that patients were being "steered" by hospital officials to Universal under the impression they wouldn't have to pay a fee for the ambulance. "Then the patients get the bill and it's not for free after all," he said.

A spokesman for St. Mary Hospital said he had no idea there were any problems with Universal and the volunteer am-

bulance squad but said a meeting would be called this week to discuss the situation.

The spokesman said Universal was just one of five private ambulance services that regularly serve the hospital. He said, though, the hospital liked to use the private ambulances for non-emergency trips so the volunteer ambulance squad would be free for emergencies.

Meanwhile the owner of Universal, Charles Maksip, denied his company had even served St. Mary Hospital patients.

Hoboken council OKs 7-man ed board

By PETER BEGANS

The Hoboken City Council last night approved an ordinance creating a new seven-member board of education to replace the current panel which the city's law department says is illegally constituted. Mayor Steve Cappiello must now appoint a new board.

The council also approved an emergency appropriation of \$48,000 to hire a Woodbridge engineer to monitor all modifications ordered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the 10th Street sewage treatment plant.

Earlier in the day, city Law Director Lawrence Florio had advised council members that arguments put forward by a law firm hired by the board of education were "weak."

The firm said in a brief delivered to Florio Tuesday night that the board was legally constituted under a 1912 New Jersey statute.

However, Florio said that a 1980 statute prohibited nine-member appointed boards in cities with less than 150,000 population unless a referendum approving such a panel is affirmed by the city voters.

Hoboken residents passed a referendum in 1978 changing the school board from an elected to an appointed panel, but it did not stipulate the body would have nine members, Florio said.

Therefore, the board was in violation of the 1980 statute, he said. The council, Florio said, had no alternative but to pass an ordinance creating the new board.

On the sewage plant problem, Woodbridge engineer Nicholas Campagna was the lowest bidder for the monitoring job.

Council president Walter Cramer and other councilmen raised questions about Campagna's competence at the council caucus on Monday.

But Cramer, after voting with the other council members to unanimously approve Campagna, said he had done some checking and was pleased with what he found.

"The city of Woodbridge was pleased with the work he did," Cramer said, "and that solved any questions I had."

Business administrator Edwin Chius said that Campagna had experience working a 110-pump sewage system in Maryland. Florio reported in a letter to the

council that the EPA had approved of the engineer.

The EPA had threatened to fine the city \$10,000 a day for violations if the treatment plant was not fully repaired. A three-year study of the facility showed it was dumping untreated sewage into the Hudson River.

The city also approved new pay scales for municipal workers, awarded an \$18,000 contract to A.C. Chevrolet Co. to purchase a 16-passenger minibus, and received bids on rock salt, rolloff containers and the construction of a parking lot at 11th Street and Willow.

New board plan panned

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello indicated yesterday he would not sign the City Council ordinance creating a seven-member Board of Education.

If Cappiello does not sign the ordinance it becomes law in 10 days. If he does sign it, it becomes effective immediately.

Cappiello said if he does not appoint the new board after the ordinance becomes law, that job will fall to the county Board of Education.

He added that he is fearful that selection of the new seven-member board will cause animosity among the present nine members.

If Cappiello does select the new board, it is expected

he will just dismiss two of the present board members.

He may, however, to appoint members as he wishes.

The new board was created Wednesday night by the council at the advice of the city's law department. The department said the nine-member board was illegally constituted under a 1969 New Jersey statute and had to be replaced.

Cappiello would offer no comment yesterday on whom he would appoint to the new board.

Cappiello said the present nine-member board had worked well together and it was unfortunate it was going to be broken up.



Dispatch photo by Maggie Greve

Generous Donation

John Santora of Hoboken, owner of John's Exxon at 1001 Clinton St., will donate one-half cent on every gallon of gas he sells during the month of September to the Hoboken Unit of the Hudson County Mental Health Association—a service he has performed for the past 10 years.

Station owner serves Mental Health

By JANICE RADAK

John Santora, the owner of John's Exxon at the corner of 10th and Clinton streets in Hoboken, believes in customer service.

For every gallon of gas Santora pumps in September, he is donating one-half cent to the Hudson County Mental Health Association—a donation he has been making for the past 10 years.

"It's just my way of helping," he explained.

Santora got involved in the Hoboken Unit of the association through one of his "regular customers"—Mrs. Alice Yacullo. Mrs. Yacullo has been chairman of the Hoboken Unit for the past 17 years.

"I've known Mrs. Yacullo and her dedication to

the association for a long time," he said, "and by participating in this, I am helping her help the underprivileged."

The association, which is funded completely through donations, has 16 community-oriented projects which include telephone hot-lines, training volunteers to serve as community companions, and advocating the rights and needs of the mentally ill.

Besides his monetary donation, Santora is also serving as ticket chairman for the unit's 17th annual Cocktail Party, one of two major fund-raising events for the county association.

The party will be held September 23 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Union Club on Sixth and Hudson streets, with tickets available from Santora or at the door.

Renewal of revenue-sharing vital to city, Cappiello says

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he is wondering what to do if Congress does not renew the federal general revenue-sharing funds act that is scheduled to be terminated Sept. 30, 1980.

Cappiello said it looks like the city's tax rate would have to be raised or there would have to be some further cutbacks in city services, if the funds don't come through next year.

Asked how much the tax rate would have to go or how many employees would have to be laid off, the mayor said, "I don't even want to think about it. I'm very worried about the whole situation."

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato has already said his department is operating at a bare minimum now due to the loss of CETA employees.

And today Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina said there could be no more cuts in the departments he administered.

"Over my dead body will there be any more cuts in my departments," he said. "They just about cut everyone away and they can't take away any more employees."

Rents city pier after council fight

A request by a Hoboken resident to rent a city-owned pier for use by his commercial fishing boat touched off a heated debate and eventual approval by a 5-to-4 vote last night by the city council.

The request was made by Antonio Scrivanich, owner of the 40-foot boat, who offered to pay \$100 a month rental for the pier near Fourth Street. He is a commercial fisherman who returns from the sea daily with a catch, it was reported.

Four councilmen voting against it, Anthony Romano, Louis Francone, Nunzio Malfetti and E. Norman Wilson, felt the rental was not enough and were concerned about possible competition with the city's fish markets.

The request, however, was approved by the votes of Council President Walter Cramer and Councilmen Robert Ranieri, Thomas Kennedy, Bernard Scrivani and Salvatore Cemelli.

Ranieri pointed out that Scrivanich is a local resident and will be covered by \$100,000 of liability insurance. He also will not sell directly, he said, but intends to sell to local markets. Ranieri pointed out that the charge for mooring a barge for one night at a city pier is \$2.

The council adopted an ordinance calling for a seven-member Board of Education to replace the present nine-member board. The council had received a copy of an opinion from a Newark law firm

retained by the school board that the present board was probably still legally constituted. However, Lawrence Florio, city law director, advised that the council go through with its original plan to establish a seven-member board.

Some members of the school board attended the meeting but did not speak on the ordinance. The council in a resolution asked the mayor to name the new board.

The council also adopted an ordinance appropriating \$19,000 from capital improvement funds for a mini bus. The present bus has been out of operation for several months because of mechanical problems.

A large delegation of police and firemen attended the

meeting as a result of reports that the city intends to reduce the number of superior officers in both departments. The council's Public Safety Committee made a report to the entire council in caucus, but no action was taken by the council last night.

At the request of Ranieri, the \$1,300 payment for repairs to a chlorinating device used by the Water Department, was held up.

Ranieri said he wasn't as concerned about the cost of repairs as to why there was a need for chlorination of the water when it already was treated at the Jersey City plant in Bonton. Ranieri said he will contact Patricia Mitten, city health officer, to try and find the answer.

CETA cuts pinch Hoboken

By PETER BEGANS

The termination of CETA employees mandated by the federal government is causing severe headaches for Hoboken's building and housing divisions. And officials of both offices are seeking financial relief from other sources.

Chief Building Inspector Michael Curcio said he has recently filed for a reimbursement of \$60,000 from the state for building inspections done by his office over the past year.

James Farina, director of health and welfare for the city and Curcio's superior, said Wednesday he hoped that the reimbursement, when it arrives, could be used to hire back workers laid off because of cuts in the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act program.

Farina contends that a shortage of inspectors has caused a backlog in inspections by the housing division.

City Business Administrator Edwin Chius said yesterday that one or two inspectors may be hired in the housing department with the funds. "But," he added, "we can't do anything until we get the money."

Farina had hinted Wednesday that the money might arrive yesterday. But when state Housing Inspector Jerry Rienzi arrived to confer with Curcio he didn't bring a check with him.

Curcio said yesterday that he expects the money in a few weeks.

The state pays Hoboken \$10 for each unit it inspects up to \$150 for a multi-family dwelling. It also pays \$30 for each reinspection after violations have been corrected. The maximum allocation for fiscal year 1980 is \$77,000.

Hoboken's Chief Building Inspector Alfred Arezzo, who inspects buildings that are being renovated, repaired or constructed, said yesterday he has a backlog of approximately 30 cases.

Arezzo blamed some of the backlog on the loss of his secretary which he said has forced him and his assistant, Joseph Lisa, to handle clerical duties in the office.

Arezzo said the secretary, a CETA worker who previously had been employed by the city, left on Wednesday. Arezzo is hoping the city will again pick up her salary.

These developments come on the heels of a memo from Chius to city directors last week warning of tighter fiscal belts in 1980 because of possibly reduced revenues.

"I can't make any more cuts," Farina said Wednesday. "I've pared everything down to the bone."

Hoboken won't cut 8 cop, fire jobs

The proposal of Hoboken officials to cut eight superior officers from the police and fire departments is dead, Hoboken City Council President Walter Cramer said today.

The ordinance was not brought up at this week's council meeting and Cramer said it is not expected to be brought up anytime in the next year.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said, however, nothing will be done until October to fill the positions, which are vacant, when an arbitrator comes in from the state.

The arbitrator is coming in at the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association's request.

PBA officials contend that Hoboken city officials have filled the positions in the past and should fill them now, but the latter say they don't have the money to do it.

PBA officials said today they are very happy at the council's decision.

Business Administrator Edwin Chius had predicted, however, that other city employees would have to be laid off if the superior officers' positions were not dropped from the table of organization.

Chius said today, though "the council has made its decision, and let the chips fall where they may."

Hottendorf, Farina, Pope seen likely prospects for ax

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he will take 10 days to decide which two members to drop from the nine-member Hoboken Board of Education but the word around City Hall was that board members James Farina, John Pope and Otto Hottendorf were among the leading candidates to go.

Farina, the City Hall regulars say, already has a City Hall job as director of Health and Welfare which makes him expendable.

Pope, meanwhile, has not been very active on the board, and Hottendorf, who has been on the board for years, is not considered to have much clout with Cappiello.

Pope, Farina and Hottendorf were also the only board members appointed to one-year terms last May.

Technically, Cappiello could pick seven new members for the board since he must reappoint every member, but the mayor already has indicated he will keep seven of the nine present members.

The Hoboken City Council adopted an ordinance calling for the seven-man school board Wednesday night even though the council received a copy of an opinion from a Newark law firm retained by the school board that the present board was probably still legally constituted.

See CAPPIELLO — Page 12.

Continued from Page 1

City Law Director Lawrence Florio, however, advised the council that he thought the board as presently constituted was still illegal.

The issue of whether Hoboken's school board was legal or not first came to light two months ago when Council President Walter Cramer said the board had never passed an enabling ordinance when a switch was made from an elected school board to an appointed board last spring.

Cramer said the enabling ordinance was required by law and said appointed school boards could only have five or seven members.

State Education officials subsequently agreed with Cramer's opinion.

Cappiello said he expects to meet with the school board in the next few days to discuss the situation.

Board President Robert Wendelken said the board will abide by the city council's decision though admitted a lawsuit by one of the laid-off board members was always a possibility.

If the mayor does not sign the new ordinance creating the seven-man board law in 10 days it automatically becomes law.

Cappiello said he is waiting for the last day to make the decision because he wants to think about the matter carefully.

Cappiello plans to hire two more housing inspectors

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he expects to add two more housing inspectors to the city's housing inspection bureau staff to help it catch up with the backlog of work.

Cappiello said he will wait, however, until the city receives its allotment check from the State Bureau of Housing before he hired the inspectors.

Hoboken Chief Housing Inspector, Michael Curcio, said the check, which is for about \$58,000, should be arriving within two weeks.

The mayor had received formal notification today that the check was on its way.

Curcio currently only has two inspectors in addition to himself to inspect all Hoboken buildings. A CETA trainee was laid off last month and another building inspector was laid off last January because of Hoboken's financial problems.

The chief housing inspector had said that he was six months behind in his work because the state dropped on him a number

of reinspections and inspection reports all at once.

Curcio has said he didn't have the manpower to do rooming house inspections for the health department and there was a delay in doing complaint inspections because of his big overload and the fact that he only had two inspectors.

Jerry Rienzi, field representative with the State Bureau of Housing, said the two inspectors should be a welcome addition and should help Curcio's bureau get back on its feet.

The field representative said he hopes the two new inspectors could be hired by the beginning of October because a eight-week training course in housing inspection is starting at Rutgers University then.

"It's important for the inspectors to take the course to learn the basics of housing inspection," he said.

Rienzi said after the course he would accompany the new inspectors in the field to further their training.

Delayed

The dispute over eliminating eight superior officer positions from the Hoboken police and fire departments is far from settled.

The City Council considers the proposal dead, according to Council President Walter Cramer.

However, Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said nothing will be done to fill the positions — which are vacant — until next month when a state arbitrator enters the picture. The Policemen's Benevolent Association has requested the arbitration.

The PBA contends those jobs have been filled in the past and should be filled now, but the city says it doesn't have the money. The business administrator says that if the disputed jobs must be filled other employees will have to be dropped.

It's obvious the decision is delayed, not dead. And it also should be obvious that if the police and fire departments can function without those jobs being filled, it would be unjust to fill them and then fire other city employees.

Farina is feeling his oats

By Randolph Diamond

If Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello doesn't decide by tomorrow which two members of the school board to ax, Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina may make the decision.

Farina, who is also a school board member, will be filling in for Cappiello when the mayor leaves Hoboken tomorrow for a Boston convention.

Farina has been mentioned by City Hall observers as one of the leading candidates to be axed from the board but said today he will make sure that doesn't happen if the decision is his.

"As acting mayor I'll have the power to decide who will sit on the new board if the mayor hasn't chosen a new board by then," he said.

However, state law prevents acting mayors or mayors from serving on school boards.

CDA aiming at 'special' playground

Hoboken's Community Development Agency is looking into the feasibility of creating an unusual playground at Third and Madison streets.

The playground would feature different timber-type structures, which would be designed to create various playthings for children, according to the CDA project site manager.

One of the keys to the project is in involving community residents in designing and building the park.

"The community must be improved or the park won't work," it was asserted. "Other mini-parks have been destroyed by vandals and we don't want that to happen to this park. The way to stop vandalism is to have the community involved in all aspects of the park."

Morale plunges for city workers, union leader says

Morale among city employees is at rockbottom because of poor working conditions, said Jude Fitzgibbons, vice-president of the Hoboken Municipal Employees Association.

"We're tired of being treated like animals," said Fitzgibbons as he told a reporter about the shack being used as the main office for the Public Works garage.

Public Works equipment is being stored at the sewage treatment plant while a new garage is under construction.

"There are absolutely no indoor areas for the garage employees to go to and the foreman sits in a little shack with one phone," he said. "It's getting really cold and workers can't take it."

Fitzgibbons said conditions in City Hall for employees have worsened, too.

"The hall is getting dirtier and dirtier," he said. "You should take a look at my office. No one cleans the floor or empties the ash trays or does anything," he said.

Fitzgibbons also said if the Public Works equipment is not moved indoors soon there will be problems when colder weather comes.

"Our entire fleet of Public Works equipment could be immobilized," he said.

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato said he realized conditions were quite bad at the garage but said there was nothing he could do about it since the business administrator and mayor were in charge of the garage relocation.

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius said the shack is adequate as a temporary office for the Public Works vehicles and men.

"The foreman doesn't need an office. He should be on the road supervising the men," Chius said.

The business administrator said he is aware the vehicles may not start in the cold weather but said plans are being made to move the Public Works garage to the Port Authority piers.

As far as City Hall getting dirtier, Chius said there are six cleaning men assigned to clean it up.

"They are all members of Fitzgibbons' association. If the hall is not getting clean, he should blame his own men," Chius said.

Hoboken teachers OK pact for a 14% raise

The Hoboken Board of Education and the Hoboken Teachers Association informally agreed to a new contract granting teachers a 14 percent raise over two years. Board President Robert Wendelken said yesterday.

The contract in its final form will be presented to both parties tomorrow by mediator Larry Hammer. Wendelken said.

The HTA mediating team will then take the contract to its 350 members for approval on Monday or Tuesday, said William Rutherford, president of the HTA.

extra 13 minutes of work high school teachers have been putting in since the beginning of the school year, Wendelken said.

The extra time was the result of an additional period added to the school schedule to accommodate ninth grade students who had previously been in junior high schools.

The contract also contains a prescription plan for teachers' families, Wendelken said. Neither he nor Rutherford would comment on the plan.

The reconstituted school board will meet on Oct. 9 to vote on the contract, Wendelken said.

7-member school board legalized, members next

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken will have a new school board today but there won't be any members on it.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he will sign the ordinance creating a new seven-man school board before leaving for a Boston conference this afternoon, but wouldn't name the new board members until he comes back on Monday.

Cappiello said he understood the board was not going to transact any business in the next few days.

The board President Robert Wendelken said the board is scheduled to accept bids tomorrow night for a new sidewalk outside the Lein Kauf School.

Wendelken said the old nine-member board will meet as scheduled to accept the bids even though the board's action could later be ruled as illegal.

Cappiello said he wants to think about which two members he wants to

ax off the school board while he's in Boston.

Technically, the mayor could create a whole new school board but he has already indicated that he will reappoint seven of the present board's members.

The Hoboken City Council last week passed the ordinance which dissolved the nine-man school board and created the new seven-man board.

Its action came after Council President Walter Cramer had discovered that the present school board was illegal under state education law.

The school board was switched from an elected to appointed board last spring but Cramer discovered the council had never passed an enabling ordinance as required under state education law.

In addition Cramer found that state education law says appointed boards can only be made up of only five or seven members.

Amato warns sewer work may lead to cave-ins

9/27/79 J.J.

By Randolph Diamond

Unless a private sewer cleaning company immediately stops cleaning Hoboken sewers, some streets may cave in, leading to possible loss of life, Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato warned today.

Amato said that pictures taken in the sewers show that portions of the brick walls that line the sewers are collapsing as the result of the sewer cleaning jet being used by the Axxon Co. of Woodbridge.

Amato said the jet, which created 600 pounds of pressure, is causing the cement to loosen around the joints that hold the bricks together and is resulting in collapses.

"If a few bricks go, then the whole wall around the sewer can go," he said. "Then we will just be left

with dirt sewers, which could lead to a street cave in."

Amato said he doesn't want to think what would happen if a truck rolled over one of those streets. "That would be it for the truck driver," he said.

Amato said he tried to convey to Mayor Steve Cappiello before he left for Boston the urgency of stopping Axxon's work but the mayor wouldn't listen.

"They had a consulting engineer there but he wouldn't listen to be and kept on saying the job Axxon was doing was safe," Amato said. I just walked out of the mayor's office."

Amato said he would bring the matter up at the City Council's Monday night session.

"I was in the construction field for 30 years and have built sewers myself," the public works director

said. "I know what I am talking about."

The engineer, Michael D'Altio of Storch Associates, and the mayor were unavailable for comment.

But the Axxon firm's supervisor in charge of the Hoboken cleaning job, Charles Davis, said it was impossible that his company was causing any damage.

"We've used jets with 800 pounds

of pressure in other cities and there has never been any damage," Davis said. "My men are doing a good job in cleaning the sewers."

Davis said while it's true that a few bricks have been found in the sewers it has nothing to do with the jet.

The supervisor said bricks were found on Willow Avenue between Fourth and Fifth streets, but that's

where the street caved in last spring.

"The bricks must have been left there by the contractor who did the repair job," he said.

In some other locations, bricks were also found but that was due, he said, to the sewer manholes being raised a number of years ago and bricks also being left behind by a contractor.

Hoboken Councilman Robert

Ranieri, a member of the City Council's water and sewage committee, said he hopes Amato knows what he is talking about in making the charges that the streets may cave in.

"He is making very serious charges," he said. "The full council will listen to him at the meeting."

The Axxon Co. is being paid \$150,000 to clean Hoboken's sewers and started work last month.

Welfare records ruined

HD 10/1/79

A suspicious fire in Hoboken's welfare office has destroyed 300 budget cards containing information on how much money welfare recipients receive each week.

The fire, which occurred at 6:30 a.m. Friday, destroyed all the budget cards of Hoboken welfare cases from the letter O to Z, welfare workers reported.

Officials believe the fire was deliberately set but they do not have any suspects.

Mary Costello, the office's director, said she was unsure if the monthly checks were to be delivered today as planned.

Mrs. Costello said the budget cards which are normally kept in desk drawers were left on a desk in the front room of the office Thursday night. Welfare workers were refilling the cards and didn't have time to put them back in the drawers, Mrs. Costello said.

The fire caused only minor damage to the office on Second Street and workers expected it to be open today.

Mrs. Costello said information contained on the budget cards would now have to be taken from other records—a task that should put the welfare workers far behind in their work.

Cutbacks in the federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act program during the last month have greatly reduced the staff.

Night school to begin in Hoboken

HD 10/1/79

Offering a variety of courses, the Hoboken Adult Evening School will begin classes next Tuesday at Hoboken High School.

Ignatius Farinola, the director, said the Board of Education this year is offering English as a second language, Americanization classes, adult basic education and high school equivalency courses in both English and Spanish. Farinola said several leisure-time classes are also being planned.

The classes will be held each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 o'clock, Farinola said. They are being moved to the high school, he explained, because the building is centrally located and more adaptable for use by adults.

Hoboken welfare records burned

9/29/79 J.J.

Workers in Hoboken's welfare office say a suspicious fire has destroyed 300 records there has put them months behind in their work — and they don't know how they are going to catch up.

Hoboken police and fire officials say they believe the fire, which took place at 6:30 a.m. yesterday, was deliberately set, but they do not have any suspects.

The fire caused only minor damage to the offices which are located at Second St. and the office will be open on Monday.

But the office's director, Mary Costello, said she doesn't know if all the monthly checks were going to be distributed this Monday as planned.

"We're going to do our best," she

said. "We've been working all day recopying the lost information."

Lost in the fire were the budget cards of every Hoboken welfare recipient whose last name starts with a letter between O and Z, according to Mrs. Costello.

"The budget cards told us how much a recipient was receiving each week," she said. "Now to get that information we're going to have to go through a number of different sets of records."

Mrs. Costello said she doesn't think her staff will be able to catch up now for a number of months.

"I don't see why anyone would want to set a fire," she said.

The budget cards are normally kept in desk drawers but yesterday Mrs. Costello said some of them were

left on a desk in the front room of the office.

"We were refilling them and we didn't have time to put them back in the drawers," she said. "We were going to do that today."

Workers in the office, though, say even if the cards were put back in the desk drawers it might not have mattered.

"We don't have locks on the drawers," said one worker as she pointed to the poor condition of her desk. "We're lucky even to have legs on the desks."

Yesterday's fire is yet another blow to the shortstaffed welfare office.

Just a little over two weeks ago a number of welfare workers, who were funded by the CETA program, were laid off because of a cutback in the program's funds.

But Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina said he's confident the office can get back on its feet.

Hoboken First Warders to have a voice

9/28/79 J.J.

The state Department of Community Affairs wants residents of Hoboken's First Ward to be more actively involved in planning the redevelopment of their area.

The department has asked the Hoboken Community Development Agency to set up a broad-based community organization, Sal Santoniello, the city's coordinator for neighborhood preservation, said.

Santoniello said a meeting has been set up for Oct. 9 at the City Hall and all First Ward residents are urged to attend.

The First Ward, which embraces the southeastern section of the city, received about \$200,000 in neighborhood preservation funds this year, Santoniello said the community-based organization must be formed for the city to get funds next year.

The neighborhood preservation money has been used to fund various types of programs but all connected in some way with redevelopment.

There is already, however, a community-based organization in existence, the First Ward Block Association, headed by President Thomas Newman. But, Santoniello says the state feels the block associa-

tion is not meeting the criteria for a community-based organization.

"They want the community organization to have a much broader base of membership, including landlords," he said.

Newman's group and the Hoboken Community Development Agency

have worked together on a number of projects in the past and Santoniello said he has nothing but praise for the organization. "They are welcome to be part of the new organization," he said.

See FIRST WARD — Page 2.

Continued from Page 1

Informed City Hall sources said, however, the reason Newman's group is not being considered a community-based organization is because state housing officials are upset with Newman.

Two years ago the block association applied for funding from the state and a private foundation and when

both sources came through, Newman took the foundation's grant and returned the state's money. The sources said the state has never forgotten the incident and this prompted its attitude.

Newman said he feels the reason the state does not consider his group as the community organization is because of pressure from Hoboken landlords, Ernest and Lisalotte Lieber. Newman said the Liebers

have complained to the state that the block association was harassing them and other landlords.

Newman's group had initiated a state inspection of many of the Liebers' properties in the First Ward several months ago. Mrs. Lieber said she did indeed complain to the state.

Mrs. Lieber said the First Ward Block Association was formed with just one purpose — "to benefit Tom Newman."

Will ask public's views on schools

10/2/79

Should three of Hoboken's oldest school buildings be repaired or replaced by new schools?

The whoboken Board of Education wants to hear the views of the public on that issue and will hold a joint public hearing with the Hoboken City Council on Thursday, Oct. 11 at the

high school auditorium. The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m.

Robert Wendelken, board president, urged parents, civic groups, Parent Teacher Associations and all other community groups to take part in the hearing.

"Whatever decision is made concerning the future of Con-

nors, Leinkauf and Kealey Schools will involve a considerable expenditure on the part of the city," Wendelken said. "Residents of Hoboken should take this opportunity of making their voices heard."

The public session had originally been scheduled for Sept. 27.

Rent hikes: A trend grows in Hoboken

By PETER BEGANS HD 10/1/79

Last week, tenants from two Hoboken buildings listened as the Rent Leveling and Stabilization Board told them their rents were going to increase by as much as 50 percent.

Nearly all of the tenants were elderly and on fixed incomes. Several said they would be moving out of their buildings to more affordable apartments. Most were bitter.

This is just the beginning of a trend in the mile-square city that promises to generate much bitterness, according to Juan Torres, acting chairman of the Rent Leveling Board.

Property is changing hands quickly in Hoboken, Torres noted. New landlords are paying high interest rates on mortgages they have taken to cover escalating property values in the city. Fuel costs have nearly doubled in the past year.

Torres explained that a local ordinance

allows landlords to increase rents 7 1/2 percent per year or an amount equal to the consumer price index rise over the past year, whichever is lower.

However, if a landlord can show hardship, he is allowed to raise rents much higher. Courts say a landlord should be able to meet his expenses and make a reasonable return on his investment—11 1/2 percent on purchase price and improvements.

If a landlord can show he is not making money on his property, the board is required to allow him to raise his rents.

"Basically, it's black and white," said Torres last week. "It's hard to tell the tenants the verdict, but it's out of our hands."

Wednesday night tenants at 708 Garden St. learned their rent can be raised as much as \$72 a month by the owners who purchased the four-story building in June. The new landlords had originally asked for a \$120 raise.

"Where am I going to go?" asked Rita Field, 60, who has a broken hip and suffers from arthritis. "There's no place left in Hoboken."

Mrs. Fields, who has been paying \$160 for her four and one-half room apartment, will soon be paying \$232.

Albert and Lillian Rosenthal, second floor tenants in the building, blamed the increase in rents all over Hoboken on the influx of New Yorkers. They said several houses on the block had been purchased recently by people from New York.

The Rosenthals, both on Social Security, said they would not be able to afford the increased rents and would try to get into senior citizen housing at Fox Hill.

"The landlords plead hardship. Why can't the tenants plead hardship," said Rosenthal, who has been living in the brick building for 20 years. He estimated that, if combined, all four tenants have lived there 180 years.

"It's not a nice thing. It's not a thing I'm very happy about," says Dennis Tuti of Union City, one of the two new owners. "I've been very upset about it."

"But," Tuti added rhetorically, "are landlords expected to lose money all together and subsidize tenants?"

Tuti and his partner Ronald Fischer were able to show the rent leveling board that they were operating their property at a deficit because of increased operating expenses and principal and interest payments on their new mortgage.

Citing the difference between Hoboken and Jersey City which recently disallowed fuel pass-along increases, Tuti said rent leveling legislation in Hoboken is mild in order to upgrade housing in the city.

He warned "Unless increases to landlords can be granted, Hoboken's renterance will be turned around."



The children carrying the flags — Ralph Santiago of Jersey City, seated; Lucrécia Bellopiano of Hoboken, standing behind him, and Lawrence Petruzzello of Weehawken — have been sworn in as United States citizens. Former Jersey City Mayor Charles Krieger, second from left, was guest speaker. Shown also are James F. Quinn, county clerk, second from right, and Judge Leonard Hornstein, who officiated at the ceremony.

200 new citizens told to succeed by trying

"The people who succeed are the ones who try," declared former Jersey City Mayor Charles Krieger, speaking at naturalization ceremonies in Superior Court before Judge J. Leonard Hornstein.

Krieger, introduced by the judge as an example of "democracy in the flesh," was born in Austria, but came to this country in the 1930s, serving overseas in the U.S. Army in World War II, later becoming mayor and a success in business. The judge called him "a respected citizen."

The former mayor told the 200 new citizens at yesterday's ceremonies that they should make use of educational opportunities, master the English language while not giving up their native tongues and try to help this country.

The new citizens were administered the oath of allegiance by Hudson County Clerk James F. Quinn before Judge Hornstein, who declared this country's streets may not be paved with gold, but it has "the gold of opportunity."

Musto, Cappiello to lead cities in Columbus march

Union City Mayor Michael Formisano will lead some 20 Jersey City letter carriers, the West Side Civic and Social Club of Jersey City will have a large contingent of 100 marchers escorted by three antique cars under the leadership of Frank Piccillo and Michael Sinczak.

The N.J. Department of Weights and Measures led by Director William J. Wolfe will enter with marchers, "Smoking the Bear" float and other department vehicles. The Knights of Columbus, led by David Senter, will have some 70 participants.

The Hudson County Police Department, which will lead the parade, will enter four escorting cars and a contingent of marching guards under the direction of Chief Thomas McDonough and Deputy Chief Conrad Cousins.

Hoboken, led by Mayor Steve Cappiello and his councilmen, will bring out a large contingent including Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts directed by Michael Curcio, the Hoboken Volunteer Ambulance Corps headed by Thomas Vecchiola, Police Chief George W. Crimmins and Fire Chief James Houn will lead their respective groups.

Also joining the ranks will be American Legion Post 107 and marching members of the Anthony Russo, Steve Cappiello, Louis Kennedy, Andrew Amato and Tom Kennedy Clubs. The Hoboken High School band will provide the marching music for the contingent. William Van Wier, Edwin J. Chius and James Farina are in charge of the parade arrangements.

From St. Peter's College, the Pershing Rifles, Company N4 will participate under the direction of Capt. Thomas Funk and Sgt. by Capt. Thomas Banoforte. The 12-man drill team has been national champion for the last 10 years. The college's Italian Club will also march with 25 members under the supervision of Tina Lancelotti. ROTC out of The Naval Junior School, led by Chief Robert Courtney, has signed up with 50 marchers and a color guard.

Probe fire that left 53 persons homeless

While the Hoboken Fire Department tries to determine the cause of a three-alarm fire that swept through three apartment

buildings Saturday afternoon, the Hudson County Red Cross is looking for help for 53 homeless fire victims.

A department spokesman said the investigators are convinced the fire started in the rear of 1036 Willow Ave. The flames spread to the adjoining buildings at 1038 and 1040 Willow Ave., injuring six people, but none seriously enough to remain at St. Mary Hospital after initial treatment.

7 Fifty-three persons from 14 families were housed over the weekend in rooms at the North Bergen Holiday Inn provided by the Red Cross. The Red Cross is trying to arrange permanent housing anywhere in Hudson County.

Fire Chief James Hour ordered all of the families evacuated from the buildings after he determined that water damage had left them uninhabitable.

All of the city's fire equipment was brought to the scene until the flames were under control, some three hours after the first alarm at 1:08 p.m.

Blaze leaves 70 homeless in Hoboken

By KAREN YAREMKO

Seventy people were homeless yesterday after a three-alarm fire swept through three attached apartment buildings in Hoboken on Saturday, fire officials said.

The cause of the blaze is still undetermined, according to Deputy Fire Chief Ed McDonald.

Two firefighters were injured, but the tenants received only minor bruises, fire officials said.

McDonald said the fire started on the fourth floor landing of a five-story, brick building at 1036 Willow Ave. at about 1:06 p.m. Saturday. It quickly spread to the neighboring five-story buildings at 1038 and 1040 Willow Ave., he added.

By the time the firefighters arrived on the scene

Fire of unknown origin ravages 3 attached apartment buildings

—a lapse of just a few minutes—neighbors had helped most of the tenants evacuate the buildings, the deputy fire chief said, adding that no one was trapped inside the buildings.

The fire was brought under control within an hour, McDonald said.

According to reports, firefighters Ray Lillienthal suffered smoke inhalation and exhaustion and Anthony Kowalski received second-degree burns of the right arm. McDonald said both were treated at St. Mary Hospital in Hoboken and released.

No tenants were taken to hospital, according to fire reports. But one tenant said yesterday that she took her daughter to hospital to be treated for a sprained ankle.

According to fire reports, 1036 Willow Ave. suffered extensive damage, 1038 moderate to extensive, and 1040, slight. McDonald predicted residents of 1040 would be able to move back in some time this week. But he did not know when residents of the other buildings would be permitted to return.

While all on-duty Hoboken firefighters were battling that blaze, another smaller fire broke out

in an apartment building less than a block away. Union City and Jersey City firefighters, who had been called in to serve as back-ups for Hoboken, helped tenants douse that blaze at 1115 Willow Ave. at 1:50 p.m., McDonald said.

He said that fire was confined to the bathroom of a fifth-floor apartment. No tenants were evacuated from that building, McDonald said. The cause of that fire is also still undetermined.

The 15 families evacuated after the three-alarm fire were relocated in North Bergen's Holiday Inn by the Red Cross, McDonald said.

The mood among the 70 tenants in the Holiday Inn was grim yesterday.

"We lost everything. We don't know what is going to happen next," said Janet Colon, 14.

(Continued on page 2)

May cost \$50,000 more to jet-clean sewers

Members of Hoboken City Council's Public Works Committee agreed today with Public Works Director Andrew Amato that a jet being used by a private company to clean Hoboken's sewers may be causing damage to the sewers.

Committee members will recommend to the full council tonight that the Axxon Co. be required to lower the pressure being generated by its jets from 650 pounds to 400 pounds, informed committee sources said today.

The catch, however, is that the \$150,000 contract Axxon was awarded may have to be upped another \$50,000 because of the longer time it will take cleaning the sewers at the lower pressure.

"Axxon doesn't care how much they have to lower the pressure since the more time it will take them to clean the sewers, the more money they will get," said one committee member who asked not to be identified.

Public works committee members had met in private with Amato and representatives from Stoarch Associates, an engineering firm that is monitoring the work being done by Axxon to discuss the situation.

Amato had said he wanted the work being done by Axxon halted because the pressure being generated

from the jet was loosening the cement around the joints holding the brick sewers together.

The Public works director had said, however, that he had found portions of the sewer's brick walls had collapsed because of the pressure being generated by the jet.

Amato had warned that eventually a street cave-in, which could cause possible loss of life, might result.

Roy Haack, Hoboken sewage plant superintendent, had said before the private meeting that he didn't agree with Amato's conclusions.

Haack said it was true the brick walls of the sewers were collapsing but said it had nothing at all to do with the pressure being generated by the sewer cleaning jet.

Haack said it's due to the fact that many of Hoboken's sewers are more than 100 years old and have been neglected for almost that long.

The superintendent said some of Hoboken's sewers are in such bad shape that they should be completely replaced while others would need a complete relining.

Haack said it would cost millions of dollars to put Hoboken's sewer system into shape.

But if the money is not spent, Haack said, there will be no way to prevent the collapse of sewers that eventually will lead to street cave-ins throughout the city.

Hoboken fire leaves 70 homeless

(Continued from page 1)

Carmen Tirado, another tenant, grimaced as she recalled the scene of the fire. "It was terrible. We thought the whole building was going to fall."

Wilbur Wright, a tenant at 1038 Willow

Ave., said: "I lost all my clothes in two feet of water. This shouldn't have happened. There should have been smoke alarms in that building."

An ordinance requiring smoke detectors in all multi-family dwellings in the

city was introduced before the City Council earlier this year. It has been stalled however, over differences in electric or battery-operated devices and pending possible state legislation which would void local ordinances.

Seeks 2 non-voting school board members

There are still no members on the new Hoboken school board because now Mayor Steve Cappelletto says he wants to explore the possibility of keeping two non-voting members on the board.

Cappelletto said he wants to avoid having to ax two board members from the old nine-member board. So the mayor said he wouldn't make any appointments to the new seven-member board until state education officials let him know if it is permissible to keep two non-voting members on the board.

Meanwhile the old School Board president, Robert Wendelken, has called off a board caucus meeting scheduled for tomorrow night because there are no board members.

Wendelken said the board can't transact any business until new members are appointed.

The mayor had signed the ordinance creating the new school board last week.

An ordinance creating the new board was introduced by the Hoboken City Council last month after it was discovered by City Council President Walter Cramer that the nine-member school board was illegally constituted.

Hoboken had switched from an elected to an appointed school board last spring but Cramer found out that state education law said only five or seven men could sit on appointed boards.

Hoboken is finally ready to require smoke detectors

rehabilitate the 14-family apartment building at 58 11th St. at an estimated cost of \$413,000. A spokesman pointed out that Hoboken will receive annual payments of \$3,500 in lieu of taxes from the property, which it previously received \$2,700 in tax money. The city that its subsidiary is shifting from the state. Housing Finance Agency to the federal Housing and Urban Development agency for a mortgage to rehabilitate the tenements between Observer Highway and Newark Street on Washington and Bloomfield streets.

Also coming up for a public hearing tomorrow night are ordinances granting pay raises to the police and fire chiefs.

was too high and rejected it. Last night four bids were received — the lowest was \$325,000. It was recommended that these also be rejected. Public Works Director Andrew Amato, who said last week he feared that the city's sewer cleaning project was likely to meet today with Councilman Bernard Scrivani, chairman of the Public Works Committee. Councilmen Nunzio Maffetti and Salvatore Carmelli, committee members, and representatives of Stoarch Associates, consulting engineers. They will discuss Amato's concern that the sewer cleaning might weaken the walls of the sewers.

Meanwhile, in other business, the councilmen last night got a first-hand look at inflation. A month ago they rejected a bid of \$250,000 to develop part of a city block into a parking lot and recreation area. The area is from Observer Highway to Newark Street and from Bloomfield to Garden Street. The council left the \$250,000 bid.

Sewer work issue before council caucus

Davis said there were loose bricks in the sewer but they had been left from previous repair jobs.

Amato said he first learned that bricks were being knocked out of the wall a week ago. After giving the matter thought and talking to professional people, Amato said he decided to speak out against the cleaning job Wednesday.

"I'm not saying they're not cleaning the sewers, I'm saying their methods are weakening the sewers," he said.

Amato said he would oppose the water pressure method before the City Council heard Amato.

The council formally authorized granting pay raises to the police and fire chiefs.

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13 Hoboken CETA aides to remain

Thirteen Hoboken CETA employees scheduled to be dismissed have received temporary waivers to remain on the payroll. Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius announced today.

Chius said the 13 employees all performed vital functions and their continued employment was necessary for the smooth operation of the city government.

The personnel involved are five fire dispatchers, two police dispatchers, a building official, two painters, a secretary in the law department, a

collector of delinquent accounts and a street sweeping program foreman.

Hoboken CETA Director George W. Crimmins Jr. said the waivers are only temporary and the idea is for the city to put a few more CETA employees on the city payroll

every few months until they are all being funded by the municipality.

Crimmins said he did not know how long the waivers would last but federal officials have said a year would probably be the limit.

The CETA director said, though, he will have to cut additional CETA workers who are in less essential jobs to make up for the 13 employees being allowed to stay on through the waivers.

Crimmins said he did not know at this time how many other CETA employees would have to be laid off.

Breakfast slated

The Hoboken Lions Club will sponsor its second annual pancake breakfast Oct. 21, starting at 8 a.m. at the Hoboken High School to benefit the club's charity fund.

Tickets for the event may be purchased at such Hoboken locations as J. Caporino, 528 Adams St.; McDonald's, 234 Washington St.; People's Photo, 510 Washington St., and Arleen's Babyland, 210 Washington St. Tickets cost \$1.50 for senior citizens, \$2 for others.

Forced off bus, robbed

A Hoboken man reported to Bayonne police that he was forced off a bus by two men early today at 23rd Street and Kennedy Boulevard and punched in the face and robbed of his wallet containing \$10. Police said Robert Ryan, 24, lost a tooth but refused medical treatment. The incident took place 1:30 a.m.

Hoboken teachers OK new contract

Hoboken teachers have ratified the contract agreement negotiated by their union by a 2-1 vote.

A spokesman for the Hoboken Teachers Association said they were very happy with the results.

It may be a while, however, before the Hoboken School Board signs the new contract.

The board still has no members because Hoboken Mayor Steve Cap-

piello has still been unable to confer with State Department of Education officials about keeping two members on the board in a non-voting capacity.

The mayor said he does not want to name the new board until he gets an answer from state education officials.

The teachers will receive a 14 percent raise over the two-year span of their contract in addition to increased medical benefits.

Farina hails Hoboken 'rec' grant

"It's good news for Hoboken and for our future recreation programs," James Farina, the city's health and welfare director, said today following the announcement that \$325,000 in federal funds is being allotted for complete rehabilitation of the Jefferson Street recreation center.

U.S. Sen. Harrison A. Williams Jr. announced the grant yesterday under the new Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program. Hoboken was one of six New Jersey communities and counties to qualify for \$2.4 million in aid.

Williams said in addition to the

federal grant the state will contribute \$65,000 to help with construction costs and the city will provide another \$75,000. Farina said the city's share will come from the federally-funded Community Development Agency.

Actually, he said, the city will be getting a completely rehabilitated recreation center at no cost to the Hoboken taxpayers.

Farina said Hoboken was one of the first cities to apply for funds under the new program and credited Mayor Steve Cappelletto and members of the CDA and recreation staffs for preparing the application.

Hoboken House Tour will be held on Sunday

A former speakeasy, a home with a built-in greenhouse, the church with the oldest congregation in the town, a turn-of-century hotel and the gamut of architecture from fussy Victorian to sleekly contemporary will be featured this weekend in the fourth annual Hoboken House Tour.

On Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. eight residences, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the Elysian Cafe, Sacred Heart Academy and The Madison Hotel will be open to visitors. The

buildings include renovated, restored or just plain resplendent townhouses plus the public buildings. All have played a part in the much noted Hoboken "revival" of recent years.

Tickets will be on sale the rest of this week at Ricco's Restaurant, 1024 Washington St.; Hoboken Antiques, 511 Washington; and Beat'n Path Cafe, 125 Washington. On Sunday only they may be purchased at the Academy of Sacred Heart, 713 Washington; and the Madison Hotel at 14th St.

The tour has attracted hundreds of visitors to Hoboken during its first three years, "many of whom have come back to buy and become a part of the community," said a member of the sponsoring Hoboken Environment Committee.

Proceeds each year help support the urban conservation and beautification efforts of the committee. Incidentally, out-of-towners interested in the "back-to-the-city movement" can make arrangements with the group to visit selected brown-

stones during other times of the year. Sunday's tickets entitle the guests to tour the 12 edifices included in the 1979 open house, refreshments, a slide show on Hoboken, and possibly an organ recital in St. Paul's Church. In addition several neighborhood restaurants will be open to serve house tour special menus.

Each visitor will be given an attractive brochure with a map of the area and background notes on the buildings involved.

CIVIC plans meeting on Hoboken hills

Citizens Involved for the Viable Improvement of their Community — CIVIC is planning a meeting tonight at 7:30 p.m. at 904 Hudson St., Hoboken. The group will discuss Hoboken's waterfront as well as

education and zoning issues. All interested Hoboken residents are invited.

Hoboken acts to plug news leak

By LISA RUBIN
Three Hoboken councilmen and two city public works administrators will be hauled before the council as the city's governing body tries to determine the source of a leak to the press about a controversial sewer project, Council President Walter Kramer said last night.

A story published in yesterday's Jersey Journal attributed to Public Works Director Andrew Amato a statement that the city-sponsored cleanup of its sewer system might cause a street cave-in which could result in fatal accidents.

The story also quoted an unidentified councilman as saying that the company handling the cleanup project is not displeased about the safety snags in the project because to fashion any remedy would entail more time and therefore more money than the \$150,000 the City Council has already allocated for it.

Kramer, who disputed the accuracy of the story, said he wants to interrogate Amato, Hoboken Sewer Plant Superintendent Roy Haack and the three members of the council's public works committee: Salvatore Cemelli, Nunzio Malfetti and Bernard Scrivani, all of whom were present at Tuesday's private meeting with Kramer to discuss the project. The six men had agreed not to publicize the nature of their discussion before last night's council meeting, Kramer said.

The council, however, voted to reduce the amount of pressure being applied in the cleanup project to elements in the sewer system and to enforce the ban on large trucks going from Willow Avenue south onto Observer Highway pending the completion of the Fourth Street and Willow Avenue project.

Under questioning from fellow councilmen, Kramer insisted these measures were only needed as an extra precaution and not because the published story was accurate.

In a statement before the council, Amato denied that he spoke to the press about the meeting, saying, "After the meeting, I went to the dentist to get my gums cut. Then I went home, and this morning I went to work."

In an interview after the meeting, an angry Kramer rasped, "I want to find out who that (unidentified) councilman is."

The interrogation, which Kramer hopes will be conducted before the council's Oct. 17 meeting, will be held in private, if he gets the city's legal counsel to agree that the state Sunshine Law would not prohibit a closed session to discuss what he termed "personnel matters."

Ranieri helped bring power to the people

Councilman Robert Ranieri and Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken could have been on the island of Sansego in the Adriatic Sea for an electrifying experience yesterday.

But they turned down the invitation.

Ranieri, who visited Yugoslavia as a guest of Sansego Island groups in July, watched as power lines were being erected to give the island electricity on a 24-hour-a-day basis for the first time. The residents have had power only two hours each night.

The councilman observed that a lack of cement for posts was delaying the job and he mentioned the problem to government officials at a series of conferences with them. They assured him cement would be on its way.

On Friday, Ranieri received a telegram inviting him and Mayor Steve Cappiello to take part in turning on the switch for the power. It came from Dinko Zorovic, president of the assembly.

In step

Perhaps Virginia Zanetich of Hoboken has the key to speeding up the plans for and construction of the proposed food distribution center in Jersey City.

Responding to a Jersey Journal editorial, Mrs. Zanetich, an independent Democratic candidate for State Assembly from the 33rd District in the Nov. 6 election, is circulating a petition demanding "quick" construction of the food center.

State and municipal leaders have expressed their support for the center. Mayor Thomas F.X. Smith of Jersey City has let it be known he is losing patience with the progress the Hackensack Meadows Development Commission is making with the financing and construction arrangements. State Community Affairs Department Commissioner Joseph Lefante, of Bayonne, the chairman of the HMDC, has been prodding the commission members and staff to speed things up.

First Ward first in Hoboken plans

By Ronald Leier
A Hoboken citizens committee, stacked with representatives of the First Ward Block Association, was formed last night to "design and monitor" a plan for further improvements in the First Ward with state financing.

"We could have packed the house, too, if we had known this was how it was going to be done," complained Mrs. Herzog to Sal Santaniello, a deputy director for Hoboken's Community Development Agency, serving as moderator for the meeting which drew more than 100 persons despite inclement weather.

Thomas Newman, head of the First Ward Block Association, which claimed 82 members at last night's meeting, said later, "We passed around a CDA flyer about the organization of the committee; we spread the word."

"I think what happened tonight was a real demonstration of the support these different groups," Newman added.

The First Ward Block Association gained eight slots on the 13-member committee.

For the other groups, the ground rules were eased a bit as one committee seat was permitted for the five members of the Hispanic Merchants Organization attending and four seats were allotted to a group of 34 persons — primarily Hispanics — unaffiliated with any organization.

Castro Maldonado, a Hoboken tradesman, was designated the Hispanic Merchants' committee member and representing the non-aligned group on the committee will be James Liado, Alberto Lopez, Grace McEwen and Ruth Nieves.

The First Ward Block Association has yet to select its choices for the committee, although, by agreement of all persons voting last night, at least four will be Hispanic.

Santaniello said CDA hopes to accomplish the plan by November.

Hoboken rehires 2 CETA workers

Two of the five caseworkers on the CETA program recently laid off from the welfare office have been put on the city payroll, Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina announced today.

Farina said even though the city has little money to add employees to the payroll the welfare workers were put on because that office is short-staffed.

Farina said there is still a possibility one additional worker that was laid off could be put back on the payroll.

"I am exploring that right now with the mayor," he said.

The Health and Welfare director said the two workers are especially needed because of last week's fire that destroyed a number of welfare records.

Farina said the fire was a blow to the short-staffed office and put the workers further behind in their work.

"The two additional workers are going to come in very handy to help us put the office back in order," he said.

What is needed now, however, is the input by Hudson County residents. Mrs. Zanetich deserves plaudits for her efforts to put pressure on all of the officials involved in the food center by going into the streets to collect as many signatures as possible demanding quick action.

But she and her staff can't do it alone. It might be a good idea for Mayor Smith, as well as several of the mayors in North Hudson, to encourage some of their political leaders to circulate similar petitions.

If county residents are more aware of what the food center will mean to them in the way of permanent jobs and new taxes, there's no reason why at least 100,000 signatures can't be collected within a short time.

The petitions probably will have more effect on the state and the HMDC than any amount of prodding by public officials.

focus '10 worst' NJ legislators

By DANIEL AKST
Dispatch-Trenton Bureau
TRENTON—On a survey of the 10 worst state legislators, "New Jersey Monthly" named three from Hudson County and a fourth from a district straddling Hudson and Essex counties.

Though the Princeton-based publication cited Assemblyman Robert Janiszewski, a Jersey City Democrat, as a man of "intelligence and integrity," and a prospect for legislative stardom, the county's legislative delegation fared worse than almost any other in the state in the second such study conducted by the magazine.

Jersey City Sen. Walter Shell, Assemblyman Patrick Pasculli of Bayonne, Thomas Gallo of Hoboken, and Michael Aduhato of Newark (whose district includes Secaucus) were among the 10 worst, while Jersey City Assemblyman Thomas Cowan was cited as a do-nothing in a separate category. All four are Democrats.

Assemblyman Charles Mays, a Jersey City Democrat, was singled out for the Atlantic, Senate President Joseph Morone, D-Mercer, Sen. Edward Dwyer, D-Bergen, Sen. Martin Greenberg, D-Union, Assemblyman Richard Olsky, D-Essex, Assemblywoman Barbara McConnell, D-Hunterdon, and Assemblyman Martin Harman, D-Gloucester.

The Ten Worst, including Shell, Gallo and Pasculli, were: Senators James Wallwork, R-Essex, Joseph Marone, D-Camden, Angelo Erichette, D-Camden, and Assemblymen Kenneth Gewertz, D-Camden, Carl Orechio, R-Essex, Michael Aduhato, D-Essex, and Assemblywoman Mary Scanlon, D-Essex.

Michael Aron, editor of the magazine, said three reporters surveyed 50 legislators, lobbyists, and statehouse journalists as well as others with knowledge of the legislature to come up with the standings.

"The point is to shed a little light on what goes on in Trenton," he said. "The first time around, it was one of the most popular things we've ever done."

Shell, who is president of the Hudson County Community College, was unavailable for comment. Pasculli and Gallo were also strongly criticized, and the magazine lauded Pasculli's decision not to run for a second term. Neither man was available for comment.

In addition to Burstein, the Top Ten were: Sen. Frank Graves, D-Paterson, Assemblyman Walter Kern, R-Ridgewood, Sen. Steven Furber, D-

Hoboken due \$325G grant

Hoboken is slated to receive \$325,000 to complete rehabilitation of the Jefferson Recreation Center which was built in 1937.

New sidewalks, benches and landscaping will be provided throughout the park. The monies are a combination of federal, state and local funds.

Under the new Urban Park and Recreation Recovery program, the federal government provided \$185,000 for the project. The state will match the federal funds with \$65,000, and the Hoboken municipal government will provide another \$75,000.

The Hoboken project was among nine urban parks in New Jersey to receive a share of the \$2.4 million slated for the new federal program, according to U.S. Sen. Harrison Williams, D-N.J.

But she and her staff can't do it alone. It might be a good idea for Mayor Smith, as well as several of the mayors in North Hudson, to encourage some of their political leaders to circulate similar petitions.

If county residents are more aware of what the food center will mean to them in the way of permanent jobs and new taxes, there's no reason why at least 100,000 signatures can't be collected within a short time.

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Hoboken to be asked to set pattern backing food center

A Hoboken city councilman said he will ask the council in caucus Monday to go on record in favor of immediate development of the proposed \$170 million food distribution center in the Hackensack Meadows.

See Editorial: IN STEP On Page 14.



Mrs. Frank Sest, left, and Bertha Lusacz sign petitions being circulated by Virginia Zanetich, standing with Ralph Vesta, right. Mrs. Zanetich, an independent candidate for the State Assembly, is urging rapid construction of the meadowlands food distribution center.

Incomplete Hoboken ed board stalled

By PETER REGANS
All business of the Hoboken Board of Education—including approval of a new teachers' contract and the October payroll—has been postponed indefinitely because of the fuzzy legal status of the board.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello signed an ordinance effective Sept. 20 creating a new board with seven members instead of nine. The mayor, however, has not yet appointed the members to the new board, saying the old board is legally constituted until he does.

But Hudson County Superintendent of Schools Russell Carpenter advised the board yesterday that "Henceforth the board should not meet until the present legal status is clarified," according to board president Robert Wendelken.

Burned-out families back in homes

By Randolph Diamond
Five families burned out of their Willow Avenue tenement houses last Sunday are back in their homes today.

Hoboken building and fire officials declared one of the three buildings that had been the scene of the fire, 1040 Willow Ave., safe for occupancy and the families moved back in.

The remaining 12 families that were living in 1038 and 1036 Willow Ave. are out of luck, however, for a complete renovation process will have to take place before the premises can be occupied.

"I'm so happy to be back home," said Nates Patel, who with his wife and two sons had been put up by the Red Cross in area motels the last few days.

"Since the day of the fire it has been terrible," said Patel. "I couldn't think. My mind would just go blank."

Though his possessions had not been destroyed in the fire, Patel was afraid they would be robbed even though city policemen were guarding the entrance to the building.

"I've walked all around Hoboken looking for apartments but there are none," he said.

Joseph Lecowitch, executive director of the Hudson County chapter of the Red Cross, said of the six families the Red Cross had been providing shelter for, four have found housing.

Lecowitch said one resident of 1040 Willow Ave. went back into his building and another three who had lived at 1038 and 1036 found permanent accommodations elsewhere.

Hudson County welfare officials, who had been housing 11 families from 1036 and 1038 Willow Ave. said a good number of them still had not found housing.

The officials did not have exact numbers.

"Finding housing is not easy," said Lecowitch. "We're losing 3,200 units of housing in Hudson County a year and it gets harder and harder to relocate people."

Lecowitch said the fire on Willow Avenue has taken a big toll on all the families who were displaced.

"Every person who was displaced in the Willow Avenue fire has had his life totally interrupted," he said. "Some people in this fire had their clothes, belongings and furniture totally destroyed. It's like they have to start life all over again."

One family Lecowitch was trying to help found an apartment in a Hoboken housing project.

But Lecowitch said because the mother was receiving Social Security she learned her income was too high to be eligible.

"And that person was making just enough money to live," said Lecowitch. "The federal regulations contradict each other and often work against the people they were designed to help."

Lecowitch is hopeful the two remaining families from 1036 and 1038 Willow Ave. he is helping will find accommodations in the next few days, but he is really worried about the future.

The Hudson County Chapter of the Red Cross has \$100,000 budgeted in the coming year to provide emergency shelter and food for disaster victims. Already, the director said, there have been 25 percent more fires in a three-month period starting this July compared with 1978. It had cost \$3,000 to care for the Willow Avenue fire victims.

"The only thing that saved us last winter was that there was continuous cold weather for only two weeks. If we have a bad winter this year, we're finished."

See FIVE — Page 8.

Five burned out families back in their homes

Continued from Page 1
Willow Avenue residents...
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See FIVE — Page 8.

Guarini to field citizens' queries

Rep. Frank J. Guarini will host town meetings in Hoboken and Bayonne Saturday to answer questions from the public.

Guarini, who represents the 14th District, will be accompanied by a staff of experts to help people with problems concerning Social Security, veterans' affairs, Medicare, immigration, education grants or loans and other areas of the federal government.

He'll be at Hoboken City Hall from 10 a.m. to noon, and in Bayonne City Hall from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the council chambers.

Willow Ave. tenement funding sought

The Hoboken Housing Authority will once again entertain an application from the Limited Partnership for funding of its Willow Avenue rehabilitation proposal, at tonight's 8 p.m. meeting.

The developer is looking to set up financing with the Housing Authority which would allow it to sell low interest bonds for funding.

This is the second time the Authority is seeking the assistance of the Hoboken authority. Its proposal to renovate tenements, between Eighth and Ninth streets on Willow Avenue, was rejected by the Hoboken Community Development Agency in August in favor of another proposal by Applied Housing Corp.

Fred Bato, director of CDA, said the proposal was rejected because the Authority did not have the necessary mechanism for funding — an IIB application — from the Housing Authority.

CDA officials say there should be no problem approving the proposal now since new federal funding was set up on Oct. 1.

Joseph Caliguire, executive director of the Authority, said the resubmission will be discussed tonight, but he does not think any action will be taken.

Meanwhile, state Bureau of Housing inspectors have given the owners of 800 to 805 Willow Ave. until Monday to clean up more than 300 housing violations found this summer.

The landlords, Ernest and Lisalotte Lieber and L.J. Munoz, were fined \$30,000 for the violations. State bureau chief Ralph Pfleger said more fines will be levied Monday if a reinspection shows violations have not been corrected.

The Liebers maintain they haven't fixed any of the violations for the last year and a half because they were expecting the renovation deal to go through.

The developer is proposing 91 units of low and moderate income housing for the area.

Hoboken should be getting sanitation inspection soon

Hoboken should be getting a full-time sanitation inspector soon, Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello announced today.

Cappiello said he feels the question of where the sanitation inspector gets the police powers go give out summonses has been resolved.

The mayor said if the sanitation inspector is put under the health department he should have the power to give out summonses.

Hoboken has been without a sanitation inspector since last May when the city's only sanitation inspector died.

City officials had said they couldn't appoint him because they didn't know how he was given the legal power to give out summonses.

But Cappiello said the law department has determined the sanitation inspector would have the legal power to give out summonses if he worked under the health department.

The mayor said he must confer with Health Officer Patricia Mitten to determine when the inspector could be appointed.

12 feet dug, but no sewer found

As Hoboken engineers and Public Works officials study sewer line plans, a 6-foot wide, 12-foot deep hole dug by Public Works employees sits abandoned off a city cross-town street.

The hole was dug in order to locate the sidewalk sewer line on Court Street so a catch basin could be installed to alleviate sewage backups in Hudson Street homes, Andrew Amato, Public Works director, said.

Amato said after cleaning the main line in Sixth Street several times to no avail checked the city plans. He discovered another line which supposedly travelled under the sidewalk on Sixth Street.

After spending nine work days at the location and digging 12 feet, the public works employees have turned up no such line and Amato has called the men off the location.

"At the moment we are

studying the plans but we will probably just run a line from the Hudson Street homes to the Sixth Street main," the director said. "Eight more feet of digging into Sixth Street will be necessary if Amato decides to take that step, making already dangerous navigation for both vehicles and pedestrians that much more hazardous."

If the weather holds out — meaning no more rain — Amato said the job should be complete

by next week.

Until then the hole has been barricaded by wooden Public Works horses and metal plates.

The legendary Court Street, made famous in the film "On the Waterfront," is not a thoroughfare despite complaining drivers who may use it as such, Amato said. There are mostly private garages or lots which are just as accessible from Fifth Street.

Hoboken's way

Mayor Steve Cappiello had to trim Hoboken's Board of Education from nine to seven members, because of a state law.

It was not unexpected that politics would enter into the selection of the two to be knocked off. Still, it came as a surprise that politics — even in Hoboken — should make such a clean sweep.

The mayor picked two of the more qualified members to get rid of, leaving untouched all those whose qualifications could not be seriously defended.

Among them are people who can be counted on to do the mayor's bidding, either because they hold a paid job in the city administration or they have relatives who do.

This was a wrong move, mayor. It cannot be justified. And it can only be explained by pointing out that it is the traditional way Hoboken's government is run.

Waterfront topic for new group in Hoboken

"Development of the Hoboken Waterfront" will be the topic of a talk by Joann Katzenbaum, representing CIVIC, a new Hoboken community group, at the Hoboken Kiwanis Club meeting Thursday noon in the Clam Broth House.

Cappiello choices hinge on election

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello expects to have some answers this week on what he plans to do about the now defunct school board — but sources say he's going to wait until after the Assembly election before appointing members.

Hudson County Superintendent of Schools Russell Carpenter has given the mayor until Dec. 3 to make up his mind, before the state moves in and names a board.

Cappiello said he plans to make his mind up this week. Sources say the mayor is going to wait until after the November election in case Councilman-at-Large Robert Ranieri should win the assembly seat and want to vacate his council seat.

Cappiello could then name one of the board members to be named as councilman, thus having to oust only one board member, sources said.

The board has been in limbo for over two weeks now, since Cappiello signed an ordinance creating a seven-member appointed board, but failed to name the seven members.

Spotless Hoboken not envisioned by Amato

As youngsters gleefully anticipate the opening of yet another fast food restaurant in Hoboken — a Burger King on Washington Street which is scheduled to open next week — the city's Public Works director glumly awaits the day.

Although Andrew Amato says the streets in Hoboken are 60 percent cleaner than they were when he took the job as Public Works director, he cannot envision a spotless Hoboken unless residents' attitudes change.

"Not all residents have little regard for their property or the city's, but there are a lot of people out there who just don't care."

"People don't sweep their sidewalks any more, and those that do just sweep the garbage into the street rather than picking it up and putting it into a trash can."

Amato credits the 12-man foot-force of street sweepers for a great deal of progress in the cleaner streets. He says mechanical street cleaners have been doing their job, despite residents who claim they haven't seen one in weeks.

Coming at the end of the month are 50 trash receptacles that Amato ordered. He claims they will be placed in strategic locations along Washington, First and Fourteenth streets.

"The city-placed trash cans will work as long as residents don't start throwing household garbage into them."

Amato praises most of the retail owners for keeping their sidewalks clean but insists it must be done on a daily basis.

With the fast food chains, he realizes that although managers keep their sidewalks clean, there is nothing preventing customers from walking down the block and dropping their trash anywhere, when finished with their food.

"We can make residents aware of the problem but we can't make them have a conscience," the director says.

Amato predicts that the streets will stay as clean as they are now and may possibly get a little better, but the feels the days of filthy Hoboken streets are over.

City creates clerical pool Assembly candidates to talk on environment

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said all clerical employees will receive a notice today informing them that an office and typing pool will be in effect starting Monday and they will be expected to participate in it.

Cappiello said the pool is necessary because of the recent layoffs of city CETA employees.

"All of our departments are understaffed and employees will have to be rotated when necessary," he said.

The mayor said city workers will be expected to do their fair share so the city government can continue to function effectively.

City Hall secretaries interviewed by The Jersey Journal said they were already doing extra work and would continue to do so.

But one secretary said she thought the plan wasn't fair.

"I can see doing my own job, but it's just not fair to ask me to do other people's work," she said.

Candidates for state assemblymen in the district which includes Hoboken have been invited to make statements about the waterfront, education, environment and rehabilitation of housing at an "election forum" to be held by the Hoboken Environment Committee

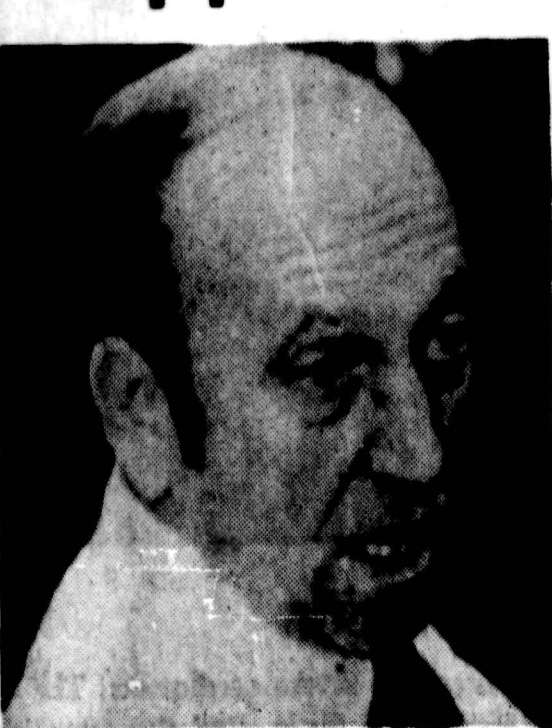
Oct. 29 at 8 p.m. in the city's public library, Fifth Street and Park Avenue.

"Facts on Fluoridation" will be presented by P. Richard Wexler, president of Citizens for Better Oral Health, and Joseph Weisberg, chairman of the Geoscience Department of Jersey City State College. The question of fluoridating drinking water is on the ballot in the election Nov. 6.

The meeting is open to the public, and admission is free. It was announced. Questions from the audience will be answered.

The Assembly candidates are the incumbent, Thomas A. Gallo; Councilman-at-Large Robert A. Ranieri and Mrs. Virginia Zanetich.

Cappiello dumps 2 from school board



Steve Cappiello
Louers the boom without explanation

By DIANE CURCIO

Richard England and Donald Pellicano have been removed from the Hoboken Board of Education, The Dispatch learned yesterday.

Mayor Steve Cappiello had said he would announce his choices for the school board yesterday, but he could not be reached last night.

It was Board of Education President Robert Wendelken who last night confirmed that England and Pellicano had been ousted by the mayor.

Wendelken said he did not know the rationale behind the mayor's choices. "They both worked hard at their tasks and they'll be missed," he said.

"Now, I know what it feels like to be kicked by a mule in the stomach," England said of the news.

Pellicano said, "It's a sham."

The nine-member school board had been found to be illegally constituted in August because it failed to fulfill a technicality in state law when converting from an elected to appointed body in February.

State law limits an appointed board to seven members, meaning two would have to be dropped. And that was Cappiello's responsibility.

Both men said the mayor personally called them

with his decision. England said the mayor gave no reason for his action. And Pellicano said he "could not hazard a guess" to explain Cappiello's decision.

Pellicano and England are both commissioners on the Hoboken Parking Authority. England said he intends to resign from that post "since the mayor seems to have no faith in what I'm doing."

Pellicano said he was considering resigning. "It's not sour grapes and we're not saying the hell with you, it's been said to me."

"When the mayor asked me to serve on the board he charged me with the financial stability. I have had a good solid business background for 30 years. I rearranged my schedule to be available for meetings. I only missed one caucus and one meeting. And I've spent incalculable number of hours on board matters," Pellicano said.

Both men headed the board budget committee. Pellicano manages a \$80 million budget in his job as director of meetings and conventions for the International Council of Shopping Centers. England is a logistics specialist for General Foods Inc.

England was elected to the board in 1978. When the board converted to an appointed body in February, Cappiello appointed him for a one-year term. Pellicano was appointed for three years.

Hoboken City Hall staffers shiver with tenants calling complaints

As Hoboken health officials were overwhelmed again yesterday with calls from chilly tenants, City Hall employees worked in coats and gloves with only small electric heaters supplying heat.

The City Hall is without a boiler as contractors try to cope with rain and water leaks delaying installation of 2 new boilers.

The coldest offices by far were those in the attic of the three-story building.

Secretaries in the Tax Assessors' office on the third floor wore heavy sweaters and drank steaming cups of coffee to ward off the near-freezing

temperatures.

Most employees complained about the cold in general, as opposed to the lack of heat in the building.

In fact, Edwin Chius, business administrator, whose office has three oversized windows facing Washington and First streets, said he thought yesterday was mild compared to some of the days the building was without heat when the old boiler would break down.

He said the new boiler was supposed to be installed and working by today, but with the recent rain, he said it probably won't be until next week.

All 3 sweepers fail Hoboken; try again today

Yesterday was to be the day all three of Hoboken's sweepers were to be out on the street — the first time ever!

The first sweeper actually did go out on the street but a short time later a head gasket became loose from the engine and the machine had to be brought back for repairs.

The second sweeper never made it out of the garage. A diesel fan became loose from the engine as the driver of the vehicle started it.

And, as for the third sweeper, it was working, but there was a slight problem — a door was missing from the driver's compartment.

Hoboken police Sgt. Mario Mercado said he felt it would be too dangerous to send the third sweeper out with a door missing.

Mercado said that except for the door problem all of the sweepers had been in perfect working order on Sunday.

Mercado had promised on Saturday that all three sweepers would be out on the street yesterday — and yesterday he made a new promise that they would all be out on the street today.

The sergeant admitted that the sweeper missing the door had been that way for at least three weeks but he said he didn't know about it because it was being kept at the old Public Works garage at the sewage plant until recently.

Mercado said, that although he has been directing the sweeper repair program as of late it is not really his responsibility to fix the vehicles. He said he is only in charge of fixing Public Safety vehicles.

Economic Development Corp. is still developing

In June of last year, Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello called for the reestablishment of the long-dormant Economic Development Corp. "as soon as possible."

Eight months later, a Cappiello directive to get the paper work completed "post haste" was given.

Last April, Cappiello met with federal officials and local businessmen, which was the first sign of life shown in getting the agency going.

In May, he said he wanted the program "off the ground now."

It took two more months

before board members from the private sector were chosen and now, a year-and-a-half since the mayor's first call for staffing, the board still hasn't met.

The City Council approved the reestablishment and the federal government approved funds for it over two years ago.

At one point, city officials were saying the mayor is very fussy about who he wants to serve on the board, but now that the private sector has been chosen, Cappiello says the community Development Agency has to carry the ball.

Fred Bado, director of CDA, said that there have been

a number of problems in doing the organization of the board, among them being summer vacation and hours making members unavailable.

Now that fall is here, however, Bado promises a meeting within the next month.

He says he's hoping to set up a meeting with a consultant experienced in EDCs, who will present to board members the pluses and minuses of having such a board.

Bado explains that the EDC's purpose is to retain present industry in Hoboken, help present industry expand and to

encourage other industry to come.

Bado has been criticized by the mayor, who last week directed questions on the formation of the group to Bado, for exercising "too much caution."

"I am hoping it will get started very shortly, but only Mr. Bado can tell us when."

Bado has been concerned about a number of procedures including the drawing up of by-laws and the appropriation of federal funds.

The Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development is the source of the Urban Development Action Grants for

private investment. The federal Economic Development Agency supplies funds for the creation of the Corp.

"There have been quite a few changes in federal allocations over the last year, so we must review what's available and how we can use it."

"It may be that the city will have to contribute to the establishment of the EDC."

That is why Bado says he wants the board members chosen thus far to hear the pros and cons of establishing the corporation.

According to Bado, there

Hoboken in landlord crackdown

By PETER BEGANS

Hoboken will soon begin prosecuting chronic abusers of the housing code at municipal court, Mayor Steve Cappiello said yesterday.

Cappiello said the city will begin a "double-edged" program to curb housing violations in its multiple-family dwellings.

The mayor said the housing inspector's office will continue the inspections it performs for the state, but may take some recidivist landlords to municipal court if the court can handle the workload.

Cappiello said the renaissance of Hoboken depends on the health of its housing stock, and his goal would be to prevent marginal housing from becoming abandoned.

"We're going to begin to move in our local courts against these landlords who give us the greatest problem," Cappiello said. "But we

Housing code abusers to face municipal court

have to be careful not to infringe on the state's activities."

City Law Director Lawrence Florio said the municipal court can accommodate additional housing cases though he warned that the city and state cases would have to be kept separate.

Cappiello said the paperwork demanded by the state inspections was "repetitious" and "bureaucratic," and had tied up the city's housing inspector's office in red tape.

Chief Housing Inspector Michael Curcio said he would like stricter housing code enforcement in the city. But right now, he said, the state's housing code is more stringent than the city's.

"The city housing code should be more stringent," Curcio said yesterday.

Curcio also claimed there should be one code enforcement office with its director working out of the mayor's office. The office Curcio proposed would include the plumbing, fire, electrical, housing and health inspectors.

"Then you'll have stricter code enforcement because it would be run out of one office," Curcio said.

At present these inspectors are spread over the Public Works Department, the Public Safety Department and the Health and Welfare Department — each with its own director.

Curcio said he has proposed the rearrangement of personnel a half-dozen times to the mayor but nothing has been done about it.

Curcio's office had come under criticism from Business Administrator Edwin Chius re-

cently for alleged incompetence. Yesterday Cappiello announced he felt Curcio was "definitely competent" and said he stood behind the city's housing inspection team.

Curcio attacked Chius for saying he (Curcio) was overpaid for the work he did as chief housing inspector. "I deserve more than what my salary calls for and so do my inspectors," Curcio said.

Curcio said the inspectors under him take "their lives into their hands" when they go out on a job and deserve to make \$18,000 a year. Currently, housing inspectors in Hoboken make \$12,100 a year, Curcio reported.

Chius said yesterday he thought Curcio's salary was "fair," but added that none of the housing inspectors were "underpaid." He also said the inspectors work only 30-hour weeks while New York housing inspectors work 40 hours.



Mayor Steve Cappiello
Will take recidivist landlords to court

Chius calls housing inspector's office 'incompetent'

By PETER BEGANS

On the eve of the start of negotiations with municipal workers, Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius lashed out at the "incompetence" of the city's housing inspector's office yesterday.

Chius said a check for \$58,550 from the state reimbursing Hoboken for inspections may be used to hire more inspectors in the department, but only "if they justify to us that they need to hire more."

"If we're going to give them more money, we want to see them take these slummers to Municipal Court," Chius said. He said the inspections and reinspections of multiple family dwellings do little to correct serious housing violations in the city.

Chius also complained that Chief Housing Inspector Michael Curcio is overpaid and that the work done by the two other housing inspectors could be better performed by part-time college students. Curcio receives an annual salary of \$21,000.

Chius said salary and fringe benefits for the employees in

the department amounted to approximately \$58,000 for which the city paid. Therefore, Chius claims, the state reimbursement should go into the general city funds.

The city does housing inspection for the state and the state, in turn, reimburses the city.

Curcio had no comment yesterday on Chius' charges.

Ralph Pfleger, chief of the state Bureau of Housing, said yesterday that work done by the housing inspector's office has improved over the last year and a half.

He noted that an audit in the beginning of 1978 showed the Hoboken inspectors were not citing landlords for housing violations. But since that time, he said he has audited reports from Curcio's office and found "the quality of inspections have improved."

Curcio has complained that the office is backlogged with inspection and reinspection cases.

Recently, inspectors have worked overtime recently to catch up with cases.

By law, a multiple family building must be inspected by the state once every five years. If violations are cited, the state must give the landlord at least 60 days to correct them. If the violations are not corrected by reinspection time, the landlord will be fined \$50 for each citation.

On Sept. 19, the state fined Ernest and Lisalotte Lieber and L. Munoz, owners of 800-808 Willow Ave., \$30,000 for long-standing violations. The buildings were scheduled for reinspection yesterday and the results will be made public after the landlord is notified.

Negotiations with municipal employees for the 1980 contract were scheduled to start today but Policemen's Benevolent Association (PBA) President Thomas Meehan said police and firemen will not sit down with the city until discrepancies in the dental plan have been worked out.

Meehan claimed the payments made by the city to the New Jersey Dental Service Plan was \$24 less a year than the amount agreed upon in the 1979 contract. Meehan said the city agreed to pay \$280 per person, but instead paid only \$256.

The difference means that employees would be picking up 30 percent of all medical costs instead of 10 to 20 percent, Meehan said.

He also said the maximum payment would be reduced from \$1,500 to \$1,000.

Meehan said the PBA's lawyer would sue Chius for malfeasance in office if the \$24 were not restored to the plan.

Chius said he did not know why the coverage was less than the amount agreed upon but added unless New Jersey Dental Service changed the plan, the city would take action to get another one.

Meehan also said a private auditing firm, Stephen Redic Associates, has been hired by the PBA to audit the city's books.

"The city claims they don't have the money to hire more cops," Meehan said. "We cannot believe them."

Meehan said the accountant, who will be paid \$65 per hour, will audit the city budget for the past four years to see how much money was available for the Public Safety Department.

After-school program to start Nov. 12

After months of planning and negotiations with the school board, Hoboken's after-school recreation program is finally getting off the ground.

Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina announced today that the after-school program will start at the Kealey School Nov. 12. The hours will be from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Farina said the program will include drama, acrobatics, art, physical fitness training, twirling and a recreation room with different types of board games and play equipment.

Farina said the program will be offered weekdays in the Kealey School and will be expanded to include the Wallace School in January.

He said he expects the program to be expanded next September to a number of other Hoboken schools.

"We will be working the kinks out in the beginning so we will know what we are doing before we expand the program," he said.

The program will be under the direct supervision of Hoboken's newly appointed recreation coordinator, Mary Ellen Gallo.

Mrs. Gallo said about 10-part-time personnel will be hired to staff the program in the beginning in addition to using some of Hoboken's present recreation staff.

Farina said the total cost of the recreation program for the next 10 months should be about \$13,000.

He said anyone who wants to participate can register either Nov. 5 or 7, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Kealey School.

Rent board to be buried under fuel hardships

While Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello ponders with other leaders of the North Hudson communities ways to accommodate the sky-rocketing cost of fuel this winter so as not to harm either tenant or landlord, the Hoboken Rent Leveling Board is faced with handling an unusually high influx of hardship applications.

More increased rents have been requested for the month of October — which is only half

over — than any other month so far this year.

Rent Leveling Board Administrator Bernie Bancharpels said her one-person office has been overwhelmed with tenant and landlord inquiries.

"I try to help the callers as much as I can," Mrs. Bancharpels stated.

"It seems that they come to this office as a last resort."

The Rent Leveling Board will have to entertain at least two

hardship increase applications at its Oct. 24 meeting. Six people had requested applications, the administrator said, but after reviewing them she found only three to be eligible. Although the board makes the final determination on the application, Mrs. Bancharpels must go over each application to see if the landlord is actually losing money on his investment. If he or she is not, there are no grounds for a hardship raise

within the guidelines of the ordinance.

"With several of the requests for hardships that have come in I have discovered that the landlords have not yet levied the allowed cost of living increase."

"Often when they do this, they are no longer losing money."

Hardship raises do not solely include fuel costs, but that is one of the many items listed in the expenses of maintaining a building.

Mrs. Bancharpels said no one has yet listed fuel costs as the sole reason for seeking the increase.

Right now the city does not have a mechanism to allow for the absorption of the increased heating fuel costs, but according to Cappiello one will be devised before the end of the winter.

The North Hudson Council of Mayors, of which Cappiello is a member, is proposing some type of heating surcharge which

would allow a landlord to increase and decrease rent in accordance with fuel costs.

Cappiello said he will go along with what ever the Council of Mayors decides on. However, the City Council must then approve the plan.

"At the special meeting on sewage tomorrow night we will set a date for a meeting to discuss the surcharge and alternate plans at the Council of Mayors," the mayor said.

Use of Rec Center limited

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken's Uptown Recreation Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., mostly during hours when those who would use it are in school.

In fact, Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina admits that the only scheduled activities at the center are from noon to 12:45 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m.

There are three full-time employees who staff the center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in addition to a part-time CETA employee who is scheduled to work from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The center is open from Monday to Friday. It is in the American Legion Hall at 13th Street and Willow Avenue.

Marian Kennedy, the center's supervisor, said today that she sends the two other full-time employees out to the city's parks when the weather is not too cold, to supervise and direct recreational programs there.

But residents interviewed in the parks yesterday said they had not seen a worker from the Recreation Center since the end of the summer.

Mrs. Kennedy said the CETA employee does the cleaning of the center in addition to helping her organize recreational activities during the four hours she works daily.

The center occupies only part of the rather small building and the area to be cleaned is not large. During the four hours the CETA worker is present there

are only recreational activities going on during the last hour.

Hoboken CETA Director George Crimmins Jr. said he simply assigned the worker employed in the Uptown Recreation Center to Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina he said and it was up to Farina to place the worker and supervise her.

Crimmins said that in his opinion the recreation center should be closed.

"I don't see why they keep it open," he added.

Farina, however, when asked about the status of the CETA employee, didn't know anything about her at first.

"I didn't even know she was there," he told The Jersey Journal.

Later Farina said that the employee was the responsibility of Crimmins and that he was the one to account for her time.

Farina said the situation at the Uptown Recreation Center has existed for 30 years and it would be unfair to criticize him about it because he has only been in office for two years.

"I inherited this situation," he added.

Farina said Mrs. Kennedy will be retiring in January and he will assign the two other full-time employees to work in a new expanded after-school recreation program to start then.

7 incumbents

Continued from Page 1.

that the law compelling the city to adopt a seven-member board should have been fought.

England said he felt "shocked, disappointed and cheapened." "I feel like I was kicked by a mule," he said.

He also felt the nine-member board should have remained. England added that the seven new appointees "are good members on the board," and said he hoped they had the time to do the job the nine-member board was doing. He said he would accept the mayor's invitation to remain active in school affairs.

Hoboken voters last year approved a referendum changing the school board from an elected type to an appointed type. Because of the change, however, the city had the option of reducing the membership to seven or five members.

An ordinance was approved last month setting up a seven-member board and giving the mayor sole power of appointment.

Cappiello drops Pellicano and England from board

By Thomas O'Keefe

Ending weeks of speculation, Mayor Steve Cappiello announced last night that seven members of the former nine-member Board of Education will serve on a new school board.

The mayor had the choice of choosing from the nine-member board or appointing new trustees. "It was a difficult decision to make because all nine members had been

working closely with Schools Superintendent George Maier and were heading in the right direction in forming board policy," said the mayor. "They have been doing a wonderful job."

Because of a new city ordinance limiting membership on the board to seven, the mayor said he was forced to drop the members, Donald Pellicano and Richard England. He

pointed out that both men are now members of the Hoboken Parking Authority which enables them to continue to serve the city in public service.

Named to the new board were Robert Wendelken, James Farina, Steve Block, John Pope, Otto Hottendorf, Mrs. Zelma Lugo and James Monaco.

Cappiello said he hoped that

Pellicano and England would continue to take an interest in school affairs and he hoped that the city sometime in the future could revert to a nine-member board. "I would be in favor of that," he said.

Pellicano said he was "very disturbed" at the news and felt the referendum for an appointed board implied nine members. He thought

See 7 INCUMBENTS — Page 2.

Hoboken needs larger traffic bureau

By William Tait

Hoboken's Violations Bureau should be tripled in size to produce its full revenue potential for the city, Me-ion Roland, the bureau's chief clerk, declared today.

The bureau handles all traffic fines. These range from \$2 to \$10. Each week, as many as 1,500 people who have received parking and other traffic summonses ignore them. They have been getting away with it because the bureau "just does not have the staff" to get after them, Mrs. Roland said.

At present, she said, the staff is herself, two regular clerks on the city payroll, and a CETA worker who is new on the job. The CETA worker

replaced three other experienced CETA clerks who were let go because they had had 18 months of CETA employment.

Before the CETA people came on, there were five regular clerks, but even that was not as many as there should have been, Mrs. Roland avers.

"The number of fines collected is in proportion to the number of warning notices we send out," Mrs. Roland said.

She said she once made an experiment, sending out 1,000 notices a week. "It was very effective," she related, "but we just could not keep it up. We fell behind in all our other work."

Mrs. Roland said people may believe that all that the Violations

Bureau clerks do is to accept money for fines and hand out receipts.

"That's only a small part of it," she explained. "All day long we are on the telephone with people who question their summonses. And we have tremendous bookkeeping to do. On top of that, we are supposed to send out notices to all whose fines are overdue, and prepare warrants for their arrest. We never finish. We never catch up."

Mrs. Roland said that since Aug. 1 no warning notices have been sent out, because in August there were vacations, and on Sept. 1 the three experienced CETA people were taken off.

"As many as 1,500 notices a week could be sent out if we had the manpower to do it," she added.

Catch 22 in Hoboken's attempts to name sanitary inspector is license, price tag

Hoboken officials, trying for six months to figure out a way to appoint a sanitation inspector to fill a vacant post, are back to square one today.

The only way an inspector with special police powers can be named is under the health department, the city law director ruled. But Mayor Steve Cappiello said a licensed sanitary inspector would probably command a salary of \$17,000 or \$18,000 a year, which the city can't afford.

Three weeks ago the mayor said he believed the question had been resolved of where the sanitation inspector gets his power to issue summonses and that an inspector would be appointed shortly.

The last sanitation inspector, Edward McIntyre, who died in May, had been appointed a special police officer many years ago and worked out of the Public Works Department.

But two years ago the state attorney general ruled all special policemen must be employed directly by a police department.

Cappiello said he will ask the law department to again research the idea of placing the inspector in public works as a special police officer but Police Chief George Crimmins, who said six months ago it would be illegal to do so, said it again today.

Meanwhile, Helen Manogue, chairman of the Coalition for a Cleaner Hoboken, said she can't understand how Jersey City and other communities in the state have sanitation inspectors without any problems. She and her group plan to meet with the mayor to discuss the situation.

Ranieri resigns as Water, Sewer Utility chairman

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri has resigned from his post as chairman of the Water and Sewer Utility because of the council's rejection of his proposal to start an investigation into the activities as the city's sewage treatment plant.

Meanwhile, the city has finally designated a professional engineering company to do the necessary rehabilitation of the plant as mandated by the state and federal environmental agencies.

Envirogetics, a resource recovery company based in Woodbridge, was selected by the council for the repair project, another reason why Ranieri has tendered a resignation. The council is expected to approve a contract with the firm next week.

Department of Environmental Protection, but according to Ranieri, Envirogetics was not on the list.

The councilman-at-large had asked the council to appropriate \$25,000 to conduct a probe into why the plant had "been allowed to fall apart," but was denied.

Ranieri said that in the last 10 years more than \$2 million has been appropriated for repairs and maintenance at the plant.

"It seems to me if that much money were spent for maintenance we have a little bit more to show for our money than an inoperative shell."

There were several excellent consulting engineers who submitted proposals who have a background in environmental and hydraulic work and who I feel would have been a better choice," Ranieri said.

Hoboken was facing fines of up to \$10,000 a day if it hadn't hired an engineering firm to draw up plans and specifications for fixing the treatment plant.

District Court Judge Herbert Stern had issued an injunction earlier this summer ordering the city to hire a firm by Sept. 1.

A list of more than half a dozen engineers was supplied by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State

However, Cramer said he has not acknowledged Ranieri's offer to resign as yet because he did not think the councilman was serious.

"I'll discuss it with him again, but if he doesn't want to serve we won't make him," Cramer said.

"I feel the investigation is necessary if we are going to spend the money to rebuild the plant so we can determine what the malpractices were and how they can be eliminated so 10 years from now we don't find the plant virtually abandoned again."

Ousted trustee raps Hoboken building plan

One of the two members of the Hoboken Board of Education axed last week by Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello disagreed today with the plan the board is reportedly recommending to deal with the city's disintegrating school buildings.

Richard English said he would be against building a new elementary school in Hoboken until the present schools are maintained properly. The former board member also said he could not see how Hoboken could tolerate all the classroom space that would be lost by closing two elementary schools.

A top education official, who asked not to be identified, had reported the plan yesterday. It calls for the closing of the Leinkauf and Connors schools, the renovation of the Kealey and Rue schools and the building of a new, 800-pupil elementary school in the city's southwest section.

But English said that while he was on the board he "never even heard of the plan," reported in yesterday's Jersey Journal.

"I don't think we should be building a new structure until

we learn how to maintain the ones we have," he said.

English said there is a lack of trained maintenance staff in the school system to deal with the many aging school buildings.

"When you have a water leak, you don't wait a year until you fix it," he said. "By then you have plaster damage."

English said things like that have happened in the past in the school system and are still happening.

He said there is only one plumber and three carpenters assigned to the entire school system. He said the rest of the maintenance staff is "ill equipped" to deal with the serious problems.

Though there is a supervisor of maintenance for the school system — Louis Francone who is also a councilman — English said he is really "more of a foreman than a supervisor."

English said Francone doesn't have the expertise to deal with the serious problems and that there has been no supervision coming from the Board of Education.

Hoboken teachers get 6% raise this year, 8% next

8/10/21/79

The Hoboken Board of Education last night voted to ratify a new two-year, \$1.3 million contract with the Hoboken Teachers Association that gives the district's 490 teachers a 6 percent pay raise this year and an 8 percent increase next year, board officials say.

The action came at the first meeting of the board since it was reconstituted from a nine-member to a seven-member appointive board. Robert Wendelken, who had presided as president of the elective board earlier this year and, later, as head of the appointive board, was voted into that spot again.

The teachers' pact, retroactive to

July 1, boosts a teacher's starting pay from \$12,100 to \$12,400 a year for the first year of the agreement and to \$12,500 for the second year, while the maximum pay, for a teacher with a B.A. degree, now at \$19,350, will rise to \$21,365 by July 1, 1980, according to William Rutherford, HTA president.

Besides the raises, the contract assures teachers of normally received pay increments, a family prescription plan, an extra personal day and, for those on the elementary school level, "work preparation time," Rutherford said.

John Pope, named last night to chair the board's finance committee, said the increments over the two years of the contract would amount to \$600,000, while \$225,000 represents the

amount for raises. The balance is for the other benefits, he said.

Before the board voted on the contract, Pope read from a letter urging ratification. He said he was sent by Donald Pellicano, a former board member who served with Pope on the finance committee until he and Richard England were lopped off the nine-member board by Mayor Steve Cappelio.

During the board's reorganization, James Monaco, was re-elected vice president and was named to head the board committees on personnel and school government.

Veteran board member Otto Hottendorf was assigned buildings and maintenance. James Farina is in charge of athletics. Steven Block will

oversee curriculum and Mrs. Zelma Lugo has district programs.

Wendelken, Hottendorf and Farina will serve as board members through Feb. 28, 1980. The terms of Monaco and Pope run through 1981, while Mrs. Lugo and Block are aboard through 1982.

Still to be resolved is the question of a board attorney, which the board has done without since it dispensed with the legal services of Robert W. Taylor several months ago.

Wendelken says the board will hire a replacement at its Nov. 13 meeting. Personnel committee members are scheduled to interview four or five applicants on Nov. 5, one board member said.

According to Wendelken, the at-

torney's salary will be "negotiable." One option the board is exploring is a "monthly stipend for attending board meetings, supplemented by bills for any extra services performed for the board."

In other action, the board went along with a Block recommendation to "enter into discussions" with representatives of Applied Housing, Inc., a housing rehabilitation firm based in Hoboken, to review the district's past school construction efforts to determine how better "management" procedures might be used, if any.

The board also agreed, at Block's behest, to talk to an agent of the New Jersey Bell Telephone Co. to consider a "management study" of the board's

business office in anticipation of possibly bringing in some electronic equipment to update its bookkeeping system.

In other developments, the board named Nona Wasserman a school nurse, hired Joan Murphy as a Title I remedial teacher and retained Carolyn Branda, James Roarty and Mary Bussanich as classroom teachers, assigned to Calabro, Leinkauf and Connors Schools, respectively.

Under a board-approved contract with the federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act program, the district will get \$22,000 to permit 36 high school students participate in a work-study project involving development of vocational and clerical skills.

Wendelken heads school board—again

8/10/21/79

Robert Wendelken was elected president of the Hoboken Board of Education for the third time this year as the newly appointed seven-member board reorganized last night.

The board went on to approve the new teachers' contract which members of the Hoboken Teachers Association (HTA) ratified three weeks ago.

Wendelken was first elected board president in February. After the board evolved into an appointed body in May, Wendelken was again selected for the top post.

In late summer, the nine-member appointed board was judged illegally constituted under state law by the city's law department. The City Council then passed an ordinance changing the board to seven members on Sept. 19.

Mayor Steve Cappelio last week finally appointed the board, dropping Donald Pellicano and Richard England as trustees.

Wendelken's selection was unanimous. James Monaco was elected vice-president, also unanimously.

The teachers' contract was ratified by all members except John Pope who abstained. Prior to the vote, Trustee Steve Block read a letter written by Pellicano urging the board to ratify the contract unanimously. Pellicano and England sat on the negotiating team that hammered out the contract.

HTA president William Rutherford said last night that the contract, which reportedly gives teachers an average increase of 14 percent over two years, does not grant increases nearly that large to new instructors.

Rutherford said the contract calls for first-year teachers to make \$12,400 this year and \$12,500 in 1980-81. In the 1978-79 school year, first-year teachers earned \$12,100, an increase of less than 4 percent over two years.

Rutherford said the greatest increases were at the top of the seniority list. He said teachers in the system will receive about a 25 percent hike over two years.

Rutherford noted that of the 490 Hoboken teachers, only 162 voted to ratify the contract, and 71 voted against it. Only the 350 HTA members in the Hoboken schools were allowed to vote on the contract.

The contract provides a family prescription plan in the second year. That plan requires only a dollar payment for any prescription drug bought by a teacher or his family.

Otto Hottendorf, James Farina, and Pope were all appointed by Cappelio to serve until 1980. Wendelken and Monaco were appointed until 1981 and Block and Mrs. Zelma Lugo will serve until 1982.

Wendelken reiterated the promise he had made twice before—to provide "better coordination between members on the board."

About 25 members of the public congratulated English and Pellicano for their past work and lamented that the two were forced off the board. Mrs. Lugo said the two would be missed by the new board members who would have to pick up the added work load.

English and Pellicano were co-chairmen of the finance committee of the board, a role that will be assumed by Pope.

Cappelio wants old school board to meet again

8/10/21/79

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelio said today it will be at least a few more days before he decides who to name to sit on the new seven-man school board.

But Cappelio said he doesn't see why the old nine-man school board can't hold its regular meeting Thursday in the meanwhile to transact board business even though it is technically not in existence.

"I wouldn't want them to do any major things, but I think they could handle routine business," he said.

Cappelio signed an ordinance creating a new seven-man school board last week, but hasn't named any members.

His action came after it was discovered by City Council President Walter Cramer that the nine-member school board was illegally constituted.

Hoboken switched from an elected to appointed board last spring and Cramer discovered that state education law said appointed boards can have only five to seven members.

School board president Robert Wendelken canceled a board caucus scheduled for last week because he said it would be illegal for the old board to meet.

Wendelken said he will have to talk to Cappelio about whether to hold the regular meeting scheduled for Thursday or not.

Hoboken's 9-man ed board may go to referendum vote

8/10/21/79

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelio said yesterday he is thinking about proposing another citywide referendum in order to create a nine-member appointed board of education.

Cappelio said if such a referendum were approved by Hoboken voters he would reappoint Richard England and Donald Pellicano, the two members who were displaced Monday when Cappelio named a new seven-member board.

Cappelio was forced to name a new board of education after the city's law department found the nine-member appointed board, which came into existence March 1, was illegally constituted under state statute.

Cappelio estimated a special referendum could cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000 but might be incorporated with a school bond referendum to cut costs.

It is very likely the city will soon seek voter approval for increasing the debt service to complete a school improvement plan that includes either rehabilitating three schools or building one new one, former board president Robert Wendelken said yesterday.

The latest of the Hoboken school boards was sworn in last night by City Clerk Anthony Amoroso at board headquarters.

A reorganization meeting will be held soon.

The new board's most pressing job will be the approval of the new two-year teacher's contract recently ratified by the Hoboken Teachers Association. The October payroll was approved last week by Board Secretary Thomas Gallo and Superintendent of Schools George Maier with permission from the state.

Maier said that England and Pellicano made "tremendous contributions" to the finance committee. He added the lack of their "business acumen" would "leave a void" on the board.

Cappelio would offer no explanation yesterday as to how he made his decision. He said all board members had done a fine job.

England and Pellicano were both bitter over the news of their axing.

Pellicano said yesterday he would not fight his ouster only because he does not have the money for court fees. He noted he had spent "inordinate" hours as head of the negotiating team hammering out terms of the new teachers' contract.

Pellicano added he has several friends on the city council but said he did not ask their assistance in helping him retain his job.

Several sources disclosed a letter handed City Council President Walter

Cramer and two other councilmen by Richard England last Thursday resulted in England's ouster. England would not disclose the content of the letter though he said he also had heard it was a determining factor.

England said he was annoyed he had received no reason from Cappelio for not being reappointed. "The city got a lot of free business hours for nothing," he said bitterly.

England and Pellicano were co-chairmen of the board finance committee. England is a logistics specialist for General Foods, while Pellicano is Director of Meetings and Conventions for the International Council of Shopping Centers.

Both men also said they felt the city could have tried other options to preserve the nine-member appointed board.

A 1980 state statute (18A:12-4) states that a second class city—one with a population between 12,000 and 180,000—may have a nine-member appointed board of education only if the number of members is stated in the referendum. Otherwise the board has to be five or seven members.

Hoboken voters approved a changeover to an appointed board in 1976 but there was no mention of it consisting of nine members.

Hoboken forum may point future for 3 schools

8/10/21/79

The Hoboken Board of Education will take part in a forum tomorrow night at the high school to discuss the fate of three of the city's oldest school buildings. But whether the board will hold a formal meeting soon was still up in the air. Mayor Steve Cappelio said he still does not know when he will make a decision on appointing a new, seven-member board.

The school board and the Hoboken City Council will conduct the forum at 7:30 p.m. to receive suggestions from the public in the future of Thomas Connors School, built in 1908; Sadie F. Leinkauf School, constructed in 1904, and Daniel Kealey School, built in 1920.

Robert Wendelken, school board president, urged all of the city's civic, fraternal and service organizations, as well as school groups, to attend tomorrow night's forum and make their views known. The forum is not considered a regular board meeting.

"We want opinions on whether these schools should remain as they are, by completely renovated or perhaps be merged into a single educational center," said Wendelken.

Since the final decision will involve millions of dollars, residents of the city should make their voices heard, he said. Future buildings needs of the school system also, will be discussed.

Meanwhile, the mayor is expected to cut the present nine-member school board by two members to bring it within the legal guidelines of a new appointed board.

Cappelio said he did not know when he would make a decision on who would be ousted from the board. However, he said, he was waiting to hear from the county superintendent of schools, Dr. Russell Carpenter, on how long could continue to consider the candidates.

Hoboken switched from an elected, nine-member board, to the appointed type last spring and an ordinance was signed by the mayor two weeks ago creating a new, seven-member school board. The action came after City Council President Walter Cramer discovered the nine-member board was illegally constituted. But the mayor has still to act on making new appointments.

Ranieri wants power for faster action on pay for demolition

8/10/21/79

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri plans to ask the City Council to adopt an ordinance which would take a step further the state statute allowing liens to be put on insurance payments to owners of fire destroyed buildings.

Ranieri plans to have the city law department draw an ordinance allowing the city to take such action without waiting for council action.

"Right now, the state dictates that the lien can be placed only with the local government's approval," Ranieri said.

Ranieri stated that the city has lost thousands of dollars in the past by

paying for demolition of burned out buildings that landlords have received insurance money for and abandoned.

"We cannot afford to keep using the tax-payers money for such things,"

Hoboken missed out collecting money from insurance companies earlier this year when two buildings were demolished only days before the state law went into effect.

At the time, Business Administrator Edwin Chius said the fire insurance law would only apply to new policies or renewed ones issued at the time the law was passed.

Idle rec center repair assured, yard aid sought

8/10/21/79

Hoboken is asking the state for \$65,000 for outdoor recreational facilities at the idle Jefferson Street Recreation Center, with \$325,000 already on the way from the federal government to rehabilitate the building itself.

The money would be used to repair the broken asphalt pavement in the yard and replace broken playground equipment, according to Fred M. Bado, director of the city's Community Development Agency, which is seeking the \$65,000 from the state's Green Acres program.

The most essential part of the rehabilitation of the structure is replacement of the broken roof, through which water pours in during every rain, resulting in the closing of the building a year ago. The middle of the building is a basketball court. A wing at one end has half a dozen rooms for indoor recreation. A wing at the other end was last used as a day care center.

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The buckled floor of the court will be replaced and the interior walls and ceilings will be restored.

The surrounding neighborhood has been without recreational facilities since the closing of the center, which is between First and Second streets.

The municipal Day Care Center 100, housed in the building when it closed, was moved elsewhere and is expected to remain where it is, Bado said. The space it occupied may be taken by another agency, Head Start, which is in the nature of a day care center, Bado added. Head Start is an agency of HOPES (Hoboken Organization Against Poverty and Economic Stress).

The \$325,000 already committed

to the rehabilitation is from a new federal program, the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, which is in the U.S. Interior Department.

That program recently announced it is awarding \$3,200,000 to New Jersey municipalities. Bado said today that the \$325,000 of this amount granted to Hoboken is the largest grant in proportion to the population of any of the cities involved.

He said the providing of grants to rehabilitate recreation structures, as against parks and playgrounds, was a new concept.

The CDA itself already has earmarked \$75,000 of its funds towards the restoration of the center, so there is a total of \$400,000 available, Bado added.

put in Church Square Park.

"This is an important priority so if someone falls he won't break his arm or leg," he said.

The Health and Welfare director said he is also starting a preventive maintenance program in the parks to keep the play equipment in shape.

Farina said there has been no such program in the past and there is no excuse for not having one.

He said the total cost exceed \$2,000 and hopes the necessary improvements will be made by next spring.

Farina promises to make playground equipment safe

8/10/21/79

Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina said today the city's playground equipment needs to be made safer — and he's going to do it.

Farina said although the equipment in Hoboken's parks are still safe, much of it has worn out over the years.

"Some bolts are missing on a swing in Elysian Park for instance it's not dangerous, but it should be replaced," he said.

Farina said he will order rubber matting placed under the play equipment in Stevens and Elysian parks, the same as was

Hoboken firemen to get 7% raise

8/10/21/79

The Hoboken Uniformed Fire Fighters Association and Local 1076 of the International Firefighters' Union have signed a contract for 1979 that entitles them to a 7 percent wage increase from the city, free dental service and an almost free prescription plan.

The contract, which must still go before the City Council for approval, will give firemen retroactive and overtime pay from last Jan. 1. The dental and prescription plans, if approved by the council, will be effective as of Oct. 1.

Fire Capt. Louis Muraca of the officers union said the firefighters had

negotiated for a \$280 per year per man dental plan from the New Jersey Dental Program.

Edwin Chius, business administrator, said he has still not settled with the insurance company the exact coverage for the \$280.

"The plan covers almost everything but it's just some of the finer details that the company and I disagree on."

The firemen and their families have been told to use dentists who are members of the New Jersey Dental Program to receive full benefits.

However, Chius said, if a family insists on using its regular dentist, par-

tial payment will be made by the company.

Forms already have been distributed to firefighters but payments will not be made until the contract is ratified, Chius said.

The prescription plan is one sponsored by Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

Firemen and their immediate families will pay \$1 for any prescription given by a doctor and the insurance plan will pay for the remaining dollar amount of the prescription.

Hoboken policemen still have not settled on a contract for 1979 and negotiations for 1980 contracts with all municipal employees' unions are scheduled to begin next month.

Hoboken bows on officers, will add to fire, police brass

8/10/21/79

Hoboken officials have capitulated in their demand that five new police and fire superiors not be named.

Public Safety Director James Giordano said that a police sergeant and a fire captain will be appointed today and three other fire captains should be named in the next three months.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelio and Business Administrator Edwin Chius had tried to convince the City Council to pass an ordinance to eliminate the positions because they said the city just didn't have the money for them.

Chius has contended numerous times that the city wouldn't be able to

pay the five superior officers without making cuts somewhere else in the budget.

An arbitrator, meanwhile, is scheduled to hear a grievance today by the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association concerning the vacant police sergeants' positions of Cappelio and Giordano, who are both on leave.

PBA President Thomas Meehan said that Cappelio's position has always been filled in the past but it hasn't been in the last two years while Giordano's position has gone unfilled since he took office.

But, Chius said it is not written in the city's contract with the police that the city has to fill the positions of officers who are on leave.

Lost revenue

8/10/21/79

The Hoboken Violations Bureau has been whittled down to a skeleton staff and although the skeleton works hard, it simply does not have the time to get after the traffic violators who fail to pay their fines . . . some 1,500 a week.

When the bureau's staff was larger, thousands of dollars more were collected every week.

The Violations Bureau could be a great source of revenue for Hoboken, which means it could greatly lessen the property tax load, the highest in the state.

There should be no objection to hiring several more clerks for the Violations Bureau. Experience has shown that the revenue they produce would be several times the cost of their salaries.

But they must be clerks who can do a job, not "temporary" politically appointed incompetents.

Hoboken water leak found

By Judith Locorriere

A major water leak found in a Washington Street service line may be in part responsible for Hoboken's loss of thousands of gallons of water a day.

Public Works Director Andrew Amato said today there is no way of knowing how long the leak, which was discovered on Washington Street between Third and Fourth streets, has been pouring water under the street or how much water has been lost.

It has been generally agreed by Hoboken officials that the city is losing anywhere from 25 to 50 percent of its daily water supply through leaks. Service leaks such as the one found yesterday have been cited as the biggest cause of waste.

"We have no way at present of determining where leaks are until they make themselves known either by leaking into basements or filling up streets," Amato said.

The Washington Street leak was discovered as a result of digging done by a private contractor for the Burger King on that thoroughfare.

The fast food restaurant which is due to open Tuesday had hired the company to install a sprinkler system in the restaurant.

Amato said the contractors were following the normal procedure of hooking up the system to the city's main water line.

The contractors assumed the water they found in the 10-foot-deep ditch they dug late last week was ground water and would subside in a few days, Amato reported.

"It did not seem unlikely at the time to have so much ground water

because of the amount of rain we had last week," the director said.

However, the management at Burger King was unnerved by the unusually high level of water in the ditch

See HOBOKEN—Page 2.

Hoboken water leak found

Continued from Page 1.

and the amount of additional time that the contractor was on the scene, so a spokesman contacted City Hall Tuesday.

"We came over here right away but we couldn't locate the problem until we did some soundings," Amato said.

The soundings, which are done with a type of fine tuning equipment, led Public Works employees to two areas diagonally across the street from the Burger King, on the west side of Washington Street.

A spokesman for P.L. Caulfield, the engineering firm hired by the city, said yesterday that the leak had been located in the first location but it could not be determined how much water had been leaking and for how long.

Mayor Steve Cappelletto had called for the City Council to hire an in-

dependent engineering firm last October to investigate the sources of lost water in the city.

Storch Associates had been contacted in February. Business Administrator Edwin Chius said yesterday that added that the comprehensive study being performed by the company hadn't even gotten to water leaks as yet.

"Initially they have been concentrating on the sewerage system which is severely broken down in some cases," Chius said.

Hoboken buys its water wholesale from Jersey City. Of the approximately 10,000,000 gallons bought a day about half is subsequently lost, making the average consumer's water bill twice as high as it should be.

Assembly candidates tackle Hoboken issues

An election forum, sponsored by the Hoboken Environment Committee, for the assembly candidates in the 33rd Legislative District, which covers most of North Hudson and a portion of Jersey City, attracted two of three Hoboken hopefuls.

The forum, at the Hoboken Library, also featured two speakers discussing the advantages of fluoridation. Whether or not Jersey City water — which Hoboken purchases — should again be fluoridated will appear on the Nov. 6 ballot as a non-binding public question.

Councilman Robert Ranieri and Virginia Zanetich were the two candidates who appeared while Assemblyman Thomas Gallo, who attended the annual dinner of the Hudson County Regular Democrats last night, sent a prepared statement that was read at the gathering.

The candidates were asked to address three issues: The waterfront, Hoboken housing rehabilitation and its educational system.

Mrs. Zanetich, the first speaker, sharply criticized Gallo's absence. "It isn't fair to the rest of us that Mister Gallo doesn't attend

anything," she remarked. "We're always debating an empty chair."

In her comments about the waterfront she said some of the waterfront should be preserved for open space but said other sections should be used for industrial and residential construction, mainly because Hoboken is "in desperate need of ratables." Since 60 percent of Hoboken property is either tax exempt or tax abated, use of these to attract construction there would not be "a viable approach."

She said a "stable, sensible government" would be able to ensure that housing rehabilitation in the city continues by holding the tax line so as to encourage private money to invest.

She called on parents to play a greater role in the education of their children saying it was not only "our educators or our legislators who are at fault but also the community's members." She criticized the "stigma of politics" in the system, and suggested the board of education remain an elective rather than appointive body.

Ranieri, in reply to Mrs. Zanetich's attack on the tax abate-

ment program, called it "the strongest weapon we have to rebuild and recoup the financial base of our city." He said the city would be virtually devoid of new development without the tax abatement program.

He said he would be willing to work with the Governor's Hudson River Study and Planning Commission but said he did not think that a commission would be the way to solve the waterfront's problems. He pointed out a number of commissions had already examined the Hudson River shoreline and said little had come of their reviews. He also sharply criticized the \$6 million moving walkway project at the Erie-Lackawanna terminal, saying the money could be better used elsewhere in Hoboken.

As for working for continued renovation of the city's housing stock, he admitted there would be little an assemblyman could do to guarantee that, stressing that "rebuilding the city is up to all of us." However, he would be able to work for the expansion of federal grant programs that help the neighborhoods, he said.

He described the board of education as "a stepping stone for higher political inspiration" and "a dumping ground for deadwood politicians." He also criticized the recent elimination of two active board members when the board was reduced from nine members to seven when it changed from elective to appointive. "What criteria was used in making these choices?" he said. "How was it analyzed?"

In his prepared statement Gallo said he would keep abreast of the governor's waterfront committee's work and would be available to consider legislation.

Providing city services and public improvements to upgrade an area encourage banks and other institutions to invest in the area, he said. He would work for any program that would help this rejuvenation.

He suggested abolition of state-mandated education budget caps and said urban centers must be weighted to receive more school aid than more affluent areas.

Dr. P. Richard Wexler, president of Citizens for Better Oral Health, and Dr. Joseph Weisberg, head of the Geoscience Department of Jersey City State College, discussed the benefits of fluoride.

Weisberg called it "safe, effective and economical way to control cavities," claimed it cut dental costs in half, in addition to reducing bone disease in elderly women and hardening of the aortic arteries.

Wexler said that the effective level of fluoridation would be one part fluoride to every million parts water and this infinitesimal amount of fluoride managed to reduce by 60 percent the number of children who had cavities while Jersey City water was fluoridated.

That wasn't voodoo at fire scene

Friends of Edna Gadea, who died with her infant son in a fire in her apartment at 311 First St., Hoboken, last Thursday, objected today to the report that a "voodoo rite" was being performed in the apartment when the fire started.

Miguelia Feliciano, spokesman for the group, said she and the others in the apartment with Ms. Gadea were preparing for a "spiritual mass," which she said is based on Catholic Church ritual, though with a difference.

She said she, Ms. Gadea, and others who had gathered for the ritual attend St. Joseph's Church in Hoboken.

Voodoo, Miss Feliciano declared,

is entirely different from the kind of ritual that was to be performed. In voodoo, for example, she said, it is believed that a person who wishes to kill or injure another may stick a pin into a doll as a symbol of the other person, and, with the proper incantations, this is supposed to inflict corresponding pain or death upon the other person.

As another example, she said a voodoo practitioner obtains a picture of a person whom he or she wishes to harm, and inserts it into a piece of meat, as the meat turns rotten, the practitioner believes, so will the person's body.

In a spiritual mass, she continued, the participants pray to a

saint, first lighting a candle in front of a statue of the saint, so as to reproduce, as far as possible, the atmosphere of a church.

The floors of Ms. Gadea's apartment were cleaned before the spiritual mass, in accordance with a custom observed by Ms. Gadea and the others of the group "to chase away bad spirits, so that the saints we were going to pray to could come into a clean house," Miss Feliciano explained.

The cleansing fluid was a mixture of water, chlorine and a drop of benzene, as is customary, she said.

How the fire started has not been determined. Detective Sgt. Martin Kieley, in charge of the ongoing investigation, told The Jersey Journal:

"As far as we can determine at this time, what was about to be performed in the apartment was not consistent with what we have found in investigations in the past concerning voodoo."

Other police officers had used the word "voodoo" in speaking of the incident to a reporter on Friday. However, incomplete reports on the investigation, so far, do not characterize the ritual in the apartment as voodooistic.

DPW, poor blamed for dirt

Hoboken Public

Works Director Andrew Amato commented last week that many residents of the city "just don't care" about keeping the city's streets clean, but Mayor Steve Cappelletto replied today that the city government "could be doing a lot more" to set a good example.

Cappelletto said some Public Works Department employees are doing their job but others "could be doing it better."

The mayor said he is

taking steps to improve efficiency.

Cappelletto asserted that it was "unfair" to ask the residents to keep the city clean alone.

He added, though, that he feels the people of Hoboken are responsible too, especially the city's "lower-income residents."

"Poor people create more rubbish," he commented.

Cappelletto explained that poor people tend to buy more used and second-hand items which wear out more

quickly, and that that creates more rubbish.

The mayor also remarked that "people from the islands tend to be unfamiliar with the system," explaining that he feels sanitary customs practiced in Puerto Rico and some other countries are not as strict as they are in the United States.

Cappelletto said he plans to talk to Hoboken school officials about starting a program in which to train foreign-born youth in "better sanitary habits."

Election — '79

33rd District race linked to Hoboken mayoralty

By Peter R. Weiss

There are many who view the 33rd District Assembly race as a Hoboken mayoral preference contest.

Although the three assembly candidates who live in Hoboken all say this election is their primary concern, observers will be studying the results for a clue to the identity of the next mayor of Hoboken.

Assemblyman Thomas Gallo, seeking a fourth term, has the support of Mayor Steve Cappelletto.

One of Gallo's foes is Councilman Robert Ranieri, an independent, who has mayoral ambitions.

Another independent, Virginia Zanetich, has the backing of Councilman Anthony Romano, who is also a mayoral prospect.

Gallo's running mate is Assembly Speaker Christopher Jackman of West New York, who is trying for his seventh term. The Republican challengers are Roger Dorian of Weehawken and Erich Urban of Jersey City.

Gallo, who has hinted that his next term might be his last, points to his outstanding attendance record in the Assembly as an indication of his commitment to Hoboken's interests.

See 33RD DISTRICT — Page 4.



Roger Dorian



Thomas Gallo



Christopher Jackman



Robert Ranieri



Erich Urban



Virginia Zanetich

Hoboken mechanics must be re-relocated

The Hoboken Public Works mechanics who threatened to walk off the job last week because of poor conditions at the sewage treatment plant, which has been set up as a temporary garage, found no respite this week after being relocated again.

Mayor Steve Cappelletto kept his promise to the men, and leased garage area on the Port Authority piers where the mechanics could work more comfortably.

But to his dismay yesterday he found that the garage had no water or bathroom facilities.

"We are hoping to have this snag cleared up by tomorrow," Cappelletto said.

He has contacted representatives from the Port Authority to see if another pier with similar working facilities is available.

The mayor and public Works Director Andrew Amato had been blasted last week by Councilman-at-Large Robert Ranieri for allowing the two mechanics to work in the overcrowded generally poor conditions at the sewage treatment plant.

The regular city Public Works garage is presently under repair and expansion. The facility on Observer Highway will, once completed, accommodate both Public Safety and Public Works mechanics.

Meanwhile, the city council will hold a public hearing and vote on an ordinance tomorrow night at a regular meeting to float a bond for another \$65,000 for the garage renovation. The council has already approved an appropriation of \$1,310,000.

A resolution authorizing the

partial payment of \$57,338.26 to C.R. Construction Co., Inc., for general construction of the new Municipal Garage will also be voted on at the 7 p.m. meeting.

Challengers call Gallo 'incompetent'

By PETER BEGANS

Two Hoboken candidates for the state Assembly have termed incumbent Thomas Gallo "incompetent" and "ignorant" and have targeted him as the man to beat in the 33rd district in the Nov. 6 general election.

Hoboken councilman Robert Ranieri and Virginia Zanetich both have aimed sharp jibes at Gallo, who is seeking his fourth term in the lower house.

Gallo has responded that he has served Hoboken's interest in the state and has "never missed a meeting" of the Legislature.

Gallo and Assembly Speaker Christopher Jackman are the Regular Democratic candidates in the district which encompasses Hoboken, Guttenberg, West New York, Union City, Weehawken and

much of the Jersey City Heights.

Virginia Zanetich, who recently was elected chairwoman of the Committee for Swift Construction (CSC) of a wholesale food distribution center, has complained that Gallo has no office and has not been available to voters.

She added Gallo typifies "legislative comradeship"—a system in which elected officials do favors for one another. She cited Gallo's attempt to get state approval for his school board pension and at the same time collect his salary as assemblyman as "blatant legislative comradeship."

Mrs. Zanetich also said Gallo has shown an "ignorance" of legislation he himself has introduced, being unable to answer questions about his own bills.

Ranieri stated, "It is a widely accepted

premise that the incumbent is a political incompetent." He added that Jackman has two votes in the Assembly—his own and Gallo's.

Gallo answered that he is saving the taxpayers "a lot of money" by not having an office and added that he is always available to consult with constituents at his office as secretary to the Hoboken Board of Education or at his home.

He also answered that he was "absolutely not" controlled by Jackman. He said "in all probability" this would be his last term if re-elected.

Gallo pointed to his achievement in preventing the loss of \$600,000 in lieu of tax payments from the railroad to Hoboken.

Mrs. Zanetich said she would favor an independent authority set up to develop

a wholesale food distribution center in the Hackensack Meadowslands, though she contends that the food center should not be a campaign issue. She also favors initiative and referendum which, she says, would give the voters more of a voice in statewide issues.

Ranieri strongly favors modification and then removal of the state income tax, which he termed "mean and vicious," especially to the poor. He stated that the legislature should first cut the tax to 3 percent and then remove it completely. He said the Legislature should find programs that need cutting to make up for the loss of revenue.

Ranieri recently introduced a resolution in the Hoboken City Council urging the construction of a food center in the meadowslands.

Amato's dinner funds won't swell Cappelletto's war chest

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto may be disappointed if he expects the proceeds from the Fourth Ward Democrats' \$100-a-plate dinner to be dumped into his 1981 campaign coffers.

Public Works Director Andrew Amato hosted the Saturday night affair and insists that the money will not be used to re-elect Cappelletto as mayor, but will be used for the Fourth Ward clubhouse.

"It's much, much too early to think about candidates for mayor," Amato said. "I'm making it very clear. That money is being used to run the club."

At least 100 people turned out for the dinner, according to Amato. "It was very successful," he explained. He said he will not be able to determine exactly how much money was raised until the expenses are tallied and deducted.

Cappelletto announced Saturday that he would seek re-election in 1981 and laid claim to the money expected to be raised by Amato's dinner. The mayor said he had assurance from Amato that the "money will not be used against me." Cappelletto said he interpreted this to mean that the money would be used for him.

"It takes a lot of money to run a clubhouse," Amato said when questioned about the mayor's statement. "I told him I wouldn't be

against him. We want to build a chest for the club."

Amato said the club will run another fund-raising dinner next year when the mayoral election is closer. He did not say who would get the proceeds of that affair.

Guests at the dinner began with a salad and had lasagna and prime ribs as a main course, Amato said. Cake and coffee were served after the meal.

Mechanics' space at sewage plant has Ranieri upset

Unseasonal snows yesterday prompted a Hoboken councilman to blast the mayor and other city administrators for not finding a more suitable temporary facility for Public Works mechanics than the up-town sewage treatment plant.

Councilman Robert Ranieri said today he was appalled at the conditions of the "so called garages" at the treatment plant.

"All it would have taken was a simply phone call to the Port Authority to come to some agreement on borrowing its pier, but it was never done," charged the councilman.

Mayor Steve Cappiello said that he had been in touch with the Port Authority, but no agreement was finalized.

The problem surfaced when two mechanics threatened to walk off the job Tuesday because of the conditions.

Ranieri contends that better arrangements should have been made when plans for renovations and expansion of the present Public Works garage at Observer Highway and Willow Avenue were approved.

"I am happy to see the renovation work going on, but it bothers me to see that, due to a lack of planning, we are running a \$1 million operation out of makeshift garage bins."

The mechanics who threatened to walk off the job were upset about the overcrowding, but Ranieri said that was the least of their problems.

"There are mud holes and puddles at the entrance to the facility and there is no heat for the men."

"How can we expect a crew to repair trucks and get snow removal equipment ready for the winter under those conditions?"

Ranieri demands sweeping overhaul

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri has proposed a 5-point plan to solve the city's street-sweeping problems, including giving Public Works Director Andrew Amato 30 days to "shape up or ship out."

Ranieri proposed that first it be made sure that all the sweepers are in good mechanical condition. Then he said the operation of the sweeper program, which now is now split between the city's Public Works and Public Safety divisions, should become totally the Public Works division's responsibility.

Daily reports should then be issued, Ranieri said, as to what streets the sweepers cleaned and how many tickets were given out.

And then, he said, the Public Works director should have weekly meetings with the mayor to discuss the status of the program.

And finally, if the program is not working after a month, Ranieri said, Amato should get the axe.

"It's not hard to run a sweeper program, but we can't seem to get it right," Ranieri said. "So now we have to go back to kindergarten and start the process from the beginning."

"We have to teach those responsible for the sweeper program how to operate it," he said. "We have to show them this is a piece of paper, and this is a pencil."

Amato refused to comment.

Cappiello declares for '81, claims Amato dinner funds

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello announced today that he will be a candidate for re-election in 1981... and he laid claim to the money being raised at tonight's \$100-a-plate dinner for Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato.

Cappiello said he wants to serve for a third term to see his goal for the development of Hoboken's waterfront become reality. The mayor said that with a Port Authority study now being done on the waterfront development along with the newly formed Hudson River Planning and Development Commission, there will be develop-

ment of the Hoboken waterfront in the next few years.

Cappiello said he also wants to see through renewal efforts started by his administration to rehabilitate housing throughout the city.

"The future of Hoboken is as a bedroom community," he said. "We don't really have room for heavy industry."

Cappiello said if he is re-elected, his next term will be his last.

"I want to bring some younger blood into city hall after that," he said.

Meanwhile, the mayor said he expects the money being raised at Amato's fund-raiser can be used for his own re-election campaign.

"Amato has said the money will not be used against me and since I'm the only declared candidate I would assume the money would be for me,"

See CAPPIELLO—Page 4

Amato 'considering' resigning from job

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken's Public Works director Andrew Amato said today he "is strongly considering" resigning from his job by the end of the year "if things don't get better."

What does he mean by "getting better?"

Amato said it means "if people don't start recognizing" his worth.

"I don't get credit for all the good things I have done for the city, but I always get criticism," he said.

Amato said much of the criticism he has received is due to the fact that many of the residents of Hoboken are "creeps."

The average guy on the

street takes home his \$200 or \$300 a week paycheck and just doesn't care about the city," he said. "My problem is I take this job too seriously."

Furthermore, Amato said Hoboken is full of "dirty politics" and he doesn't want to be a part of it.

"You have to watch your back in this town — and I don't want to watch mine," he said. "Everything is on the 'up and up' in this office. Everyone thinks all politicians are crooks — but it's not true."

Amato said too many local residents think they are "big shots" because they "know Mayor Steve Cappiello. When he's around they tell him they love him — but when he's not, they stab him in the back."

He added.

The Public Works director said many times his own employees will come to him and try the excuse that they know the mayor to get away without putting in a day's work.

Amato said he remains very dedicated to his job — despite all the obstacles.

"I stood outside the Burger King one full day last week when they had the water leak. I watched so the street didn't cave in and a bus with people in it didn't end up 10 feet

See AMATO — Page 22

All-white payroll irks Hoboken NAACP

The president of the Hoboken Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People charged today that Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello is "insensitive to the needs of Hoboken's black community."

Furthermore, Eugene Drayton, the chapter's new president, said discrimination charges will be filed with the federal government unless Anna Mae Lyons, a black City Hall employee recently laid off from her job, is rehired by Oct. 13.

"The mayor broke his word," said Drayton. "He told us Anna Mae would be put on the City Hall payroll immediately after her CETA funding ran out."

Mrs. Lyons, the only black worker in City Hall, was laid off three weeks ago after 14 years of service when funds for her CETA position ran out.

"We now have no blacks at all in City Hall," he said. "It's pure and simple racism."

Drayton said many members of Hoboken's black community would often go to Mrs. Lyons for advice when they needed help from someone in city hall.

"Now, we have no representation," he said.

Cappiello said he has been trying to put Mrs. Lyons back on the city payroll but there are no positions open.

The mayor said he would keep trying but refused to comment further.

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius, however, said Mrs. Lyons had been a temporary employee in

the parking violations bureau and then in the mayor's office before she was put on the CETA payroll because she failed the Civil Service tests for permanent positions.

Chius said that not only wasn't Mrs. Lyons discriminated against, but whites were discriminated against to keep Mrs. Lyons on the payroll.

Chius said Mrs. Lyons was kept on as a secretary in the mayor's office while other employees who had passed the Civil Service test for her position were passed over.

He said the attorney general ruled two years ago that Mrs. Lyons was illegally on the payroll. At that time she was put on CETA.

"The mayor told me to try to find her a job, but don't do it illegally," said Chius. "And that is what I am trying to do."

Drayton said after he finished handling Mrs. Lyons' case he will launch investigations into the Hoboken Board of Education and the Hoboken Housing Authority.

"There is only one black woman in the three senior citizen buildings run by the authority," said Drayton. "The elderly blacks are being discriminated against."

But Hoboken Housing Authority officials said no other blacks have ever applied.

Drayton said through the Hoboken school system is mostly attended by minority students, there are only four black teachers and one black maintenance man.

Schools superintendent George Maier said, however, the district is working to en-

courage more minority teachers to join the system.

Business manager Anthony Romano, who hires the maintenance men for the school system, was unavailable for comment.

PBA claims 'omission' in pact, refuses to sign

Hoboken's Police Benevolent Association is refusing to sign the 1979 contract that it agreed to three months ago, on the grounds that a provision agreed to by city negotiators has been omitted from the written contract.

PBA President Thomas Meehan said a provision to allow the PBA to bargain for a better Blue Cross-Blue Shield plan after the two-year contract that was negotiated is up was left out of a copy of the contract that was given to him by city officials last week.

Meehan also said there

were a number of typographical errors in the contract.

The PBA president said he will discuss the problems with Business Administrator Edwin Chius when he comes back from vacation in November.

"I'm in no hurry to sign the contract since it took the city three months to deliver it to us once we agreed to it," he said.

Chius had said last month the delay in giving the PBA a copy of the terms of the contract was because the city had some trouble in firming up with an insurance firm the drug and prescription plan it had promised the police.

Parked cars not ticketed for sweeper

Hoboken has fixed up one of its street sweeping machines but there's no use trying to sweep the streets — because people ignore the warning not to park in the path of the sweeper.

The reason for that is that the city no longer puts tickets on parked cars, because the CETA employees who gave them out were laid off three weeks ago.

When two of Hoboken's sweepers were operating, the parking violation officers were giving out 100 tickets a day. With the \$10 fine the tickets carry, there was a potential for the city to take in \$1,000 a day in revenue.

When asked why he had not hired regular city employees to take the place of the laid-off CETA employees, Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he didn't know.

"This is the first time I'm hearing about this," he said.

Cappiello said it was the responsibility of Public Safety Director James Giordano to take some action on the situation. But Giordano wasn't available despite repeated attempts to reach him.

Though the CETA workers have

Continued from Page 1.

only been laid off about three weeks, Marian Roland, Hoboken chief parking violations clerk, said there haven't been tickets given out for illegally parked cars in front of a sweeper in "months."

Hoboken CETA Director George Crimmins Jr. said the sweepers had been broken for a while before the men were laid off, and often the two men assigned to sweeper duty would be taken off to do other functions in the police department.

Crimmins said he thought regular

police officers were supposed to give out the sweeper tickets when there was no one else to man the sweeper.

Meanwhile, Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato and Public Works foreman John Wallington maintained today that one sweeper has been "going out" even in "months."

But numerous persons have said they haven't seen a sweeper out in the streets in weeks.

Hoboken has three sweepers but two of them have been constantly breaking down during the last year.

Cappiello will seek third term

Continued from Page 1.

he said. "I would think I'm entitled to it."

Just last month Cappiello had warned Amato not to mislead people by thinking they were contributing to Cappiello by buying tickets to his dinner.

Cappiello refused to disclose what if any action he will take against Amato if the public works director refuses to hand over the proceeds of the dinner to Cappiello's campaign committee.

Amato has said he expects to sell 100 tickets to the dinner and raise at least \$10,000.

While Amato has said in the past that the money will not be used against Cappiello, he has refused to say who it would be for.

Amato refused to comment today on Cappiello's announcement of his candidacy and his demand for Amato's campaign chest.

"I don't have time," he said as he slammed his office door.

Tension between Cappiello and Amato has been increasing since the mayor appointed him as public works director in 1977.

Political observers note that Amato has not been considered part of the Cappiello team and often the mayor would not even consult him on decision regarding his own department.

Neither Cappiello nor any of his political associates are expected to attend tonight's dinner.

Hoboken sweeper tickets killed

Amnesty has been declared for motorists who receive tickets for parking in the path of the mechanical sweeper on one day — Oct. 23.

Hoboken Public Safety Director James Giordano said that on that date the officer handing out sweeper tickets did so selectively.

Giordano said sweeper tickets were given out in the area of Eighth and Bloomfield streets but on other parts of Bloomfield Street, in addition to the entire length of Garden Street, no tickets were given out.

Hoboken Municipal Court Clerk Richard Della Fave said residents who received a sweeper ticket on that date can have it dismissed if they appear in Municipal Court to do so.

Meanwhile, only one of the city's three sweepers made it out on to the streets yesterday despite a promise for the second day in a row by Police Sgt. Mario Mercado that all three sweepers would be running.

Mercado said the parts that were scheduled to arrive yesterday so his mechanics could fix the other

sweepers never came — despite their being ordered.

The sergeant said he has sent men out to get the parts and he expects all sweepers to be in working order today.

Mercado said the one working sweeper which his men had put a new door on left the public works garage at 8 a.m.

But Joseph Hottendorf, Hoboken Parking Authority executive director,

See IF YOU — Page 24

Cappiello favors fuel pass-along

By PETER BEGANS

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello yesterday said he favors a pass-along of fuel costs to tenants by landlords as long as there are some checks on possible abuses.

The abuses Cappiello is worried about are rent hikes that outweigh heating oil increases. Cappiello said local rent control boards would have to be the watchdogs to protect tenants from such rent gauging.

And the mayor said he would like to grant landlords more than the 3 percent increase on rent, as has been proposed in Union City by Commissioner of Public Works Robert Botti. Botti's proposal will be one of the recommendations the North Hudson Council of Mayors

will be looking into when the question of fuel pass-alongs comes up at its next meeting on Oct. 31.

Cappiello appears to favor a proposal unanimously agreed upon by the Weehawken Rent Leveling Board earlier this month. That body recommended that landlords be allowed to pass-along 90 percent of fuel costs to tenants. This is also the position favored by statewide landlord and homeowner associations.

Although Cappiello said the mayors had been asked to reserve judgment on the issue, he said it is well-known that he favors the pass-along.

He blamed the tragedy of the South Bronx and other blighted areas on controls that force landlords to

marginal housing to allow the buildings to deteriorate. He added that the North Hudson mayors should push for the pass-along "as soon as possible."

Though not a legislative body, the council's recommendation could strongly influence the decision of local governing bodies to adopt ordinances for the pass-along.

Sources said it is unlikely the mayors will make a recommendation on the touchy political issue before the Nov. 6 election.

At their Oct. 31 meeting, the mayors are scheduled to hear the arguments of the North Hudson Realtors Association and the Hudson County Taxpayers Association, two groups favoring the pass-along.

If you got a sweeper ticket Oct. 23 it's 'OK'

Continued from Page 1.

said one of his parking violations officers wasn't called to ride in front of the sweeper and give out tickets parked in its way until 9:45 a.m.

Hottendorf said the man could give out 200 summonses but only gave out 90 because up to 30 percent of the streets the sweeper covered lacked "no parking" signs.

While the time the sweeper started is in question, the time he ended — 2 p.m., two hours earlier than he should have — is not.

The sweeper had covered Garden Street and Park and Willow avenues from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and was

scheduled to sweep the length of First, Second and Third streets after that.

Hottendorf said the parking violations officer told him that the sweeper's driver refused to take his vehicle along those streets because he said the machine was too wide for them.

Mercado confirmed this and said the one working sweeper is very hard to maneuver on Hoboken's crooked streets.

The sergeant said he feels cars must be towed away in order for the sweeper to cover the crooked streets adequately.

Boy, 16, charged in friend's gun death

By PETER BEGANS

A 16-year-old eighth-grader has been charged with juvenile delinquent homicide by Hoboken police in the shotgun death of Carlos Marrero, 15, on Monday night.

Marrero, also an eighth-grade student, was fatally wounded when a 12-gauge pump shotgun blast ripped into his neck while he was examining the gun at the home of the accused, according to police reports.

Police spokesmen said yesterday it is

very likely the slaying was an accident but that it was "reckless."

The suspect was arrested late Monday night when his brother convinced him to turn himself in. Lt. Joseph Pereira said yesterday.

Police sources said the suspect has been arrested numerous times for juvenile delinquency, though community workers said the arrests were not for serious offenses.

Yesterday police sources reconstructed the events leading up to and following the death of Marrero.

Marrero and another juvenile companion went to the home of the accused at 805 Willow Ave. The mother and sister of the accused were also in the home. The three went into a bedroom and the accused took out the shotgun which he said he was minding for someone in Jersey City.

The third juvenile cautioned the other two about the gun and then left the room to try on the accused's coat.

He heard an explosion and ran into the bedroom to find Marrero lying on the floor. The accused was screaming that

it was an accident.

Then the third juvenile took the gun and threw it out the kitchen window, fleeing out the apartment door. The accused went down the fire escape.

Marrero was declared dead on arrival at St. Mary Hospital.

The third juvenile was taken into custody and charged with juvenile delinquency for allegedly throwing the shotgun out of the window, police said.

Hoboken detectives said the accused has been sent to the Hudson County Youth House in Secaucus.

Cappiello anticipates layoffs

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today that he anticipates a number of municipal worker layoffs in the forthcoming year due to additional cuts in federal revenue-sharing funds.

The mayor said he had no idea where and when the cuts would be made.

"It appears that we are going to have a serious money shortage in 1980,"

and employment will have to be lowered," he commented.

He said the city will only be receiving about 75 percent of the money needed from the government. The layoffs will hit all municipal departments, he said, including City Hall and public safety employees.

"Each City Hall employee is going to have to be willing to learn other jobs so he or she can perform them if the need dictates," Cappiello said.

The mayor added that yesterday's City Hall fire drill, staged by himself and Public Safety Director James Giordano was part of a preparatory program in case such cutbacks should be warranted.

"It is important that all in-house personnel be aware of the various interdepartmental procedures so that in case of a fire everyone could pitch in to save valuable records and, in the case of layoffs, be able to work in different offices."

John Wallington, president of the municipal workers' association, was unavailable for comment.

Amato's threat to quit angers Cappiello

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today that if Andrew Amato, public works director, is going to resign he'd like to know about it now so he can arrange for a replacement.

Cappiello said he already has had a meeting with Roy Haack, sewage plant superintendent, and directed him to be ready to take over public works.

The mayor said he is "very concerned" that

the city will be "left in a hole" if Amato "just leaves" without giving any type of notice.

Amato had said yesterday he was considering resigning and would make his decision by January.

Meanwhile Cappiello said he was "very disturbed" that Amato made the printed statement that many of the residents of Hoboken are "creeps."

Amato declared today that he had been quoted

incorrectly. He contended that what he actually said was: "There are a lot of political creeps in the city."

Nevertheless, Cappiello said he still is very disturbed by the reference.

"Especially if he was referring to me," the mayor said. "The definition of a creep is 'a low-lying snake' and I don't think the residents of Hoboken like to be called that either."

LaRusso: Success is tied to Hoboken

By PETER BEGANS

"Hoboken was a jungle," says Louis LaRusso II. "But it was a glorious jungle to those of us who survived in it." Lou LaRusso has more than survived. He has prevailed. Over the last four years he has brought raw slices of working class Hoboken to the Broadway stage, earning the plaudits of audiences and critics alike. And what is more, he has remained in Hoboken, writing about its characters, as the mile-square city has blossomed from deterioration to middle-class respectability.

Hoboken's renaissance, marked by the rise of property values and the influx of affluent New Yorkers, has paralleled LaRusso's acceptance as an important American playwright.

In 1974, LaRusso was 38 years old and driving a cab in Manhattan. In his spare time he was writing plays and he kept a bag full of them in the back of the cab. All he needed was a place to stage them.

"I saw a little church on 53rd Street and I went in and asked the little Puerto Rican priest if I could put on my plays there. He thought I was nuts."

"I badgered him for a month and finally he let me rent the basement for \$50 a week."

The Churchyard Playhouse, as the basement came to be called, became the center of LaRusso's dramatic world, and the actors he attracted became his personal repertory company. Toni winner Danny Aiello met LaRusso there and so did film star Paul Servino.

"We started the season in September. By June we had done six plays and gotten bids from everyone on 'Lamproost Reunion.' In October it opened on Broadway. Thank God I never had to drive a cab again."

"Lamproost Reunion" is set in a Hoboken bar. A famous singer (closely resembling Frank Sinatra) returns to this old haunt to encounter the bitterness of friends left behind. Through sometimes humorous, sometimes vicious dialogue, the characters talk out their lives set against the exalted value of success.

Since October of 1975 LaRusso has written several plays, the most successful being "Knockout," which closed in mid-September at the Helen Hayes Theatre. It is the story of an aging fight manager in Hoboken who falls in love with a young contender's wife and has to fight the sadistic husband to keep her.

LaRusso also wrote the final draft for the screenplay of "Saturday Night Fever" and is presently considering other movie deals.

"I have as much to do with Hollywood as I like. But what I really want to be is a

man of the theater. Hollywood is a business. What we do here is more important than that."

LaRusso is sipping coffee at Sardi's with friends. British actor Ken Haigh is there and so is actress Anne Kerry, a beautiful Texan whom LaRusso is courting. Haigh will soon appear with Danny Aiello and Servino in LaRusso's second and third plays of his "Lamproost" Trilogy called "Lifetime Review" and "Lackawanna Rose."

Servino shows up, pulls up a chair and orders a "bacconi dolce" with which he tries to fatten up Ms. Kerry. LaRusso and Servino have been friends, like brothers it seems, since the Hoboken playwright met the Brooklyn actor five years ago.

LaRusso is dressed in a yellow, green and brown Wallace Beery shirt in a room filled with sportscoats. And yet he comes off as the perfect gentleman. Haigh and Ms. Kerry leave, publicists and producers drop by. LaRusso stands at each changing of the guard.

LaRusso is telling his story—a story, as his publicist says, that would make a good novel.

As a boy, LaRusso didn't see his family much—he was always on the streets running with a gang of kids. He did poorly in school and grew to think of himself as stupid. At 16, he quit the tenth grade at Demarest High School to go to work at the Bethlehem Steel shipyards as a coppersmith apprentice.

"He learned, 'Two light, one sweet,'" says Servino.

"I was the biggest clutz," LaRusso moans. "I'd look up the river, and enjoy the sun and water. Meanwhile the coppersmith would be saying, 'The pliers, Lou, the pliers.'"

At 18, he joined the Longshoremen but quit after less than a year to become an MP in the army. He says for the first time in his life he found he was smart. "I had to live by my wits in the Army to outsmart everyone. And I did."

After the Army, LaRusso studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, but came home with a mediocre acting diploma.

"I bummed around New York writing short stories and poetry. Then I packed up and went to Boston."

In Boston, LaRusso began a new life as a salesman, a highly successful one, he notes. "I was president of 11 corporations." Mostly paper ones, he admits, though he even owned a franchise of the Fred Astaire Dance Studios in town.

"Didn't you have a window-breaking company in Boston?" Servino asks.

"It was a leg-breaking company," LaRusso replies, tongue-in-cheek. "No, a window- and leg-breaking company."

Sales techniques LaRusso learned in Boston have served him well in the theater. "A great salesman appeals to someone's problems," he says.

"That's what makes me a successful playwright. I know everyone's emotional hang-ups. The characters in my plays tune into each other. They grow to understand one another."

In Boston, LaRusso married and had a son, Louis LaRusso III, who is now 16. "The marriage lasted for six years. I worked at it for two."

Ten years ago, LaRusso came home to bury his mother and found a new direction. "At that moment I was seized with the urgency of life. I went to Boston, liquidated my assets, and came back home on my 34th birthday."

And that is when he began writing plays.

"I have as much to do with Hollywood as I like. But what I really want to be is a man of the theater. Hollywood is a business. What we do here is more important than that."
— Louis LaRusso II

And as in much of current drama and cinema, the characters, the writer and the players are Italian-Americans. What can account for the outpouring of creativity by Italians in the performing arts in this country?

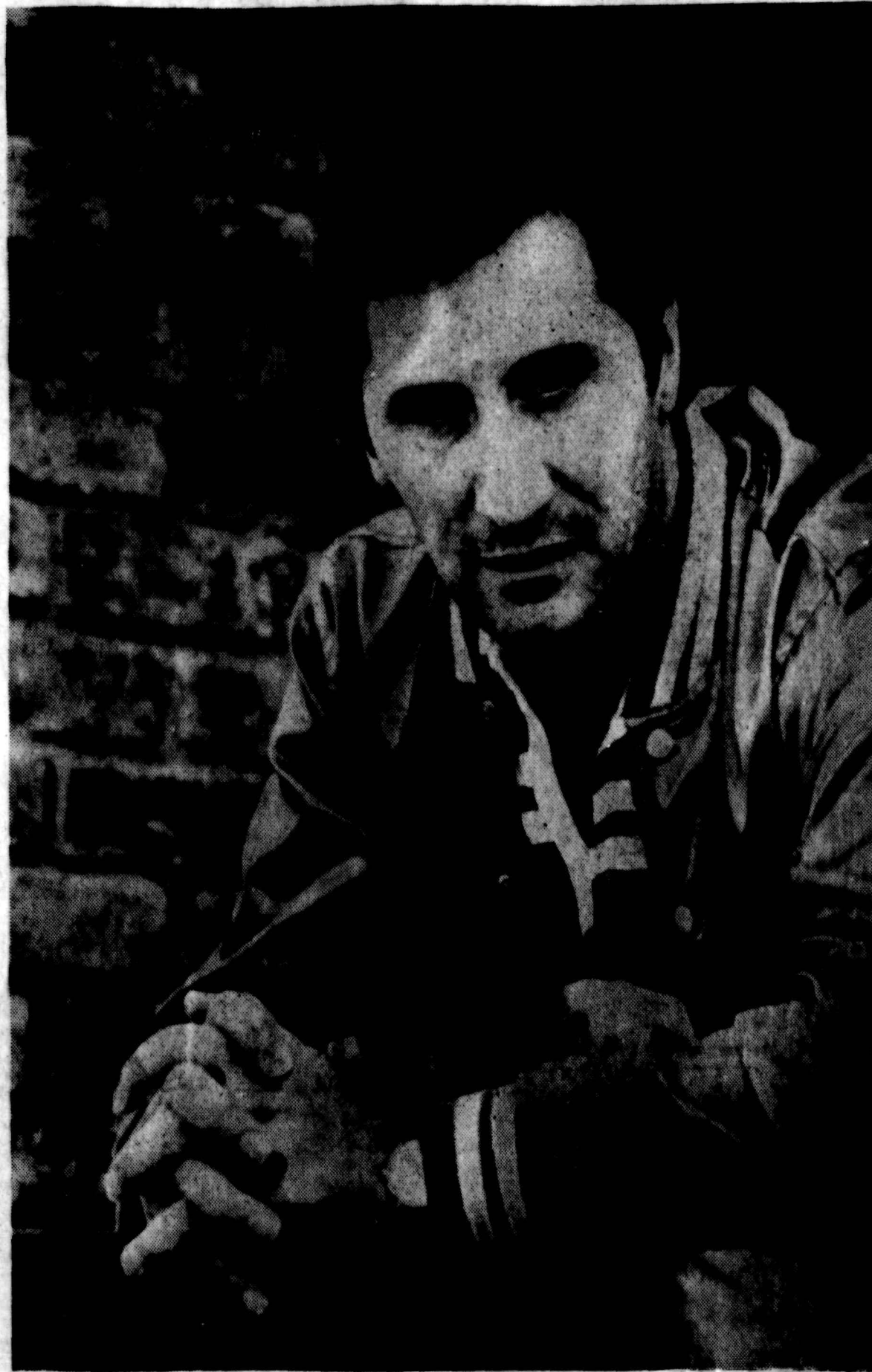
"There are a number of reasons," LaRusso says. "First, Italians have finally shed their ethnic shame. It took longer with them than with other groups."

"Next, the Italian artist has had to make a transition into another language. Now, after two or three generations, he really has that language down."

Though he now has good friends like Servino in New York, LaRusso still retains strong ties with his hometown friends in Hoboken, some of whom are refurbishing his townhouse at 111 Willow Terrace.

"When you need a friend, they're there."

LaRusso is still very much the kid who ran the streets of Hoboken with his gang. "I'm still a 'corner rat.' You see me with all my friends. I survive with my gang."



Dispatch Photo by Maggie Green

Hoboken residents will draw for \$25 spaces in parking lot

The first residential parking lot ever to be built by the City of Hoboken is under construction at 11th Street and Willow Avenue today, and a drawing will be held to pick the lucky residents who will get to use it at \$25 a month.

Twenty-three parking spaces will be marked off on the lot. There will be a five-foot-high green vinyl fence around it. A gate at the entrance-exit will have a lock which can be opened by a key which each of the 23 renters will have.

Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the city's parking authority, said there are already 62 applicants for the 23 spaces on file, some of them for the last two years. He said he will contact everyone on

the list to verify that they are still interested.

Anyone can get on the list by phoning his office, 633-1919. Hottendorf said. He added that "presumably" the only ones who apply are nearby residents or those who work nearby.

The rate was set by the Hoboken Parking Authority Tuesday night, at the same time the decision was made to have all 23 spaces reserved on a monthly basis, and to hold the drawing. A security deposit will be required of all renters, Hottendorf said, and anyone parking in a space other than the specific one assigned to him will have his car towed away.

The lot has been graded and a concrete curb has been placed entirely around it. Hottendorf said he hoped

the contractor would be back Monday to lay the asphalt surfacing.

The contract is for \$43,000. The money was put up by the city. Hottendorf said he hopes to net \$6,000 a month in income from the lot, to turn over to the city, to reduce the amount by which the city subsidizes the parking authority's operations.

The location was the scene of a tenement house fire fatal to 11 persons five years ago. The four buildings standing on it were subsequently razed and the city took the property over and later turned it over to the parking authority.

Evergreen trees and a hedge and azaleas will be planted in and around the lot, but not until spring, Hottendorf said.

Hoboken will appoint first black as sergeant in city police force

Hoboken is due to have its first-ever black police sergeant about Jan. 1, Public Safety Director James Giordano said today.

He is Patrolman Simeon Cumberbatch, a onetime Jersey Journal carrier boy.

Yesterday, Mayor Steve Cappiello promoted and swore in Patrolman Peter Falco as a sergeant. This left Cumberbatch as the No. 1 man on the eligible list for promotion.

Number 2 on the list is now Falco's brother, Patrolman Anthony Falco, and Giordano said at least two more promotions to sergeants would be made around the first of the year.

Promoted to fire captain by Cappiello yesterday was Fireman Edward Hodge, a seven-year veteran. Three additional firemen are to be promoted to fire captain vacancies, by January, to fulfill a union contract requirement that such vacancies be filled, Giordano said.

A hearing was to have been held yesterday on a demand by the city's Policemen's Benevolent Association that appointments be made to fill vacancies existing because both Cappiello and Giordano are police sergeants on leave of absence.

The hearing was called off by agreement of both sides, Giordano said.

Peter Falco replaces Sgt. Richard Carroll, who recently retired.

The promotion means an annual pay raise from \$15,894 to \$17,336 for Falco, Giordano said, and Hodge goes from \$15,894 to about \$21,000.

It was a 'bad brake' for a lone sweeper

Hoboken's street cleaning service made a mighty effort yesterday to get out there and clean the streets... but in vain.

It was the same story that has been repeated day after day, week after week, month after month—the one sweeper (of the city's three) that made it out of the barn had to give up. Its brakes failed.

Actually it was not completely in vain. "No. 150," as Public Safety

Director James Giordano calls it, did sweep Washington Street from 14th Street to 11th Street, and also Hudson Street from 14th Street to 11th Street, before quitting.

Meanwhile, the meter maid accompanying it tucked 70 \$10 summonses under the windshield wipers of cars parked in the sweeper's path. After the sweeper gave up, she continued along along the route it would have followed for the rest of the schedule, giving out warning notices.

Sweeper makes entire Hoboken run

One sweeper made its entire run in Hoboken yesterday, for the first time in many months.

But the Parking Authority meter maid who supposed to ride in front of the sweeper only made it through the morning.

The sweeper had covered the crosstown streets between Newark and Seventh streets in the morning and the Parking Authority's executive

director, Joseph Hottendorf, said 32 tickets were given.

In the afternoon the sweeper covered the crosstown streets between 8th and 11th streets between Willow Avenue and Hudson Street but Hottendorf said there was no use for the meter maid to come along since there were almost no "parking signs" on any of those blocks.

Ironically, the sweeper went

down all crosstown streets yesterday while earlier in the week the machine's operator refused to go down any crosstown streets because he said the machine was too hard to maneuver.

Police Sgt. Mario Mercado in charge of repairing the sweepers had backed up the operator's claim.

Neither Mercado nor the sweeper

operator was available for comment today.

Hoboken's other two sweepers continue to sit in the Public Works Garage, awaiting parts.

Meanwhile, the city's business administrator, Edwin Chius, wants the police man who selectively ticketed cars parked in the sweeper's path Oct. 23 either reprimanded or suspended.

Chius said if the policemen was supposed to give out sweeper tickets in front of all cars parked in the way of the sweeper and didn't some type of disciplinary action should be taken against him.

But Public Safety Director James Giordano said he feels no action should be taken since, apparently, a communications gap was responsible for the problem.

Giordano said the patrolman apparently didn't understand his instructions completely and that all cars parked illegally should be ticketed.

To further add to the confusion, Giordano said a number of streets lacked "no parking" signs and the patrolman wasn't sure whether or not to give tickets there.

Chius, Giordano differ on 2 posts

Hoboken's business administrator and the public safety director had differing views today on whether the city should fill two vacancies in the rank of police sergeant.

Edwin Chius, the administrator, said the city has no need to fill the vacancies.

Public Safety Director James Giordano said the appointments will be made, as

scheduled, in January.

Chius maintained that the city's contract with the Policemen's Benevolent Association does not call for filling positions of officers who are on permanent leave such as Giordano and Mavor Steve Cappiello. Both hold sergeant rank.

Chius added that if two patrolmen are promoted to

sergeant the city wouldn't be able to hire two new officers to replace them because it doesn't have the money.

Giordano said the sergeants will be named as scheduled and will be replaced by officers

from a new Civil Service test scheduled to be given in January.

Hoboken school plan attacked

By Randolph Diamond 11/2/79

One present Hoboken Board of Education member, Steven Block, and a recently-axed member, Donald Pellicano, today attacked the plan the board is expected to approve to deal with the city's disintegrating school buildings.

Both men criticized the proposed building of an 800-seat elementary school in the city's southwest section and closing of the Leinlauf and Connors Schools.

The board is also expected to approve renovation of the other school buildings in Hoboken.

Block and Pellicano said they believe renovation of all existing schools is a better solution.

Block said there are serious questions on the quality of new building construction in general.

He said while Leinlauf and Connors Schools are in a state of disrepair, they are both structurally sound.

Pellicano was even harsher in his criticism.

"How can they build a new school without having done a feasibility study or an environmental impact statement?" he asked.

Pellicano, who works as a shopping center consultant, said with rising inflation and interest rates now is not the time to build a new school.

The former board member cited as an example Rye School, where he says the estimated renovation cost has jumped from slightly over \$1 million to over \$3 million in one year.

The new school is budgeted at \$6.5 million. By the time it is ready, Pellicano said, it could cost the taxpayers twice that.

Hoboken lowers boom on parking violators

Hoboken police are cracking down on residents who fail to pay parking violations in the city and in other communities.

Word has come down from top police officials that scofflaws must be found and forced to pay overdue summonses or lose the use of their cars, according to Det. Angelo Catalano.

The motorcycle squad and foot patrolmen have been ordered to deliver summonses to residents who have ignored violations. Catalano said very often the deliveries are made at night to reach people who work during the day.

Catalano said the crackdown—which began this summer—has forced more than 100 scofflaws to own up to their tickets, garnering hundreds of dollars for the city's coffers.

Catalano said the average scofflaw has about \$80 in fines owed to the city, and some owe more than \$200. One Hoboken man who could not be found had his car towed about three weeks ago until he came up with the cash, the detective said.

Hoboken also follows up on complaints from other cities. Catalano noted that two weeks ago a warrant for \$300 in fines he owed the city of Trenton. Bail was fixed on the man at \$300. Catalano said that when he paid it to get out of jail, Hoboken police sent the money to Trenton.

Normally, police inform scofflaws that they have two weeks to pay the fine before action is taken against them. "Usually when there's a little pressure put on, the people pay right up," Catalano said.

Crosstown bus can't cut through red tape

Despite repeated promises that it would be back on its route, Hoboken's crosstown bus is still confined to the garage.

Why? Two city officials are blaming it on the Public Works Department.

Police Sgt. Mario Mercado, in charge of repairing the bus, said he sent a requisition form for a new engine for the bus to a secretary in the Public Safety Department.

Mercado said she in turn handed it over to the Public Works Department which was supposed to do approve it and then hand it over to Business Administrator Edwin Chius.

But when Chius received the requisition form he said there was just a request for an engine on it but it didn't say for what.

So Chius said he sent it back to the Public Works Department before he left for vacation two weeks ago.

Chius said he thought Mercado would then get the form and supply the missing information, though Mercado said he never got it.

Mercado, meanwhile, said the engine was lying in a repair shop in Plainfield, and he was waiting for approval from Chius to buy it.

Chius said that Mercado will pick up the engine today in person and he expects the bus will be in operation by the end of next week.

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato was unavailable to give an account of the incident.

Cappiello favors some type of oil price rise by landlords

By Randolph Diamond

The Hoboken Rent Leveling Board is not expected to go along with a request by landlords for an automatic oil price increase pass-along, but Mayor Steve Cappiello thinks it would be better for the board to allow some type of automatic increase.

A committee of the rent board which studied the issue has recommended that the city's rent control law remain unchanged.

The law allows landlords a 7½ percent rent increase a year automatically, and also allows them to file a hardship application for an additional increase if they are not getting an 11½ per-

cent return on their property.

Cappiello revealed the board committee's decision after meeting with the board's chairman, Juan Torres, but said he would favor a 3-to-4 percent automatic rent increase to meet the landlords' increased fuel costs.

Cappiello said under the present law all landlords have to open their books for examination in order to justify their need for a rent increase. This, he said, could create problems.

"If we ask the landlords to open their books, its going to create a lot of paperwork for us and we might have to hire additional employees," he said.

The Hudson County Property

Owners Association, a group made up of a number of local landlords, had requested that the difference between this year's and last year's oil will be automatically passed on to the tenant.

Meanwhile, Cappiello announced today that the city's housing, building and health departments will work together to make sure no Hoboken tenant goes without heat.

The mayor said there will be strict enforcement of a city ordinance already on the books requiring landlords to maintain a temperature of 68 degrees between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., and 60 degrees between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Cappiello said if landlords do not provide heat within five days after a complaint is verified, a summons to be answered in court will be issued.

Cappiello said a city ordinance regulating heat now calls for a maximum \$200 fine for landlords not providing heat but he said he would like to see the ordinance revised so landlords could be fined every day they don't provide heat.

Health Officer Patricia Mitten said she had already received 100 complaints from local residents about lack of heat so far, almost as many as she received all last winter.

Hoboken school board votes \$18 million construction plan

The Hoboken Board of Education has approved a resolution calling for an \$18 million construction and renovation program but the proposed solution to the city's crumbling schools is far from being a finished product.

At last night's special meeting to deal with the resolution, introduced by Board President Robert Wendelken, board members could not provide a timetable for repairs, any contingency plans in case money proved inadequate, no idea of what effect inflation may have on the estimates, no assurances that school maintenance will improve and eliminate causes of the current structural problems — in fact, no real assurances that the money requested will be enough to do the job.

But Wendelken tried to allay fears on the part that the plans may be inadequate by

thought out by insisting to the 18 persons attending that "this is step one only, nothing's final."

He said the plan must win a variety of approvals from the city's Board of School Estimate, composed of Mayor Steve Cappiello, Councilmen Walter Cramer and Salvatore Cimelli and school trustees John Pope and Wendelken, as well as win the entire city council, the state education departments and then the voters in the form of a referendum.

Of the \$18 million, only \$5.6 million would be required from Hoboken.

The program has been divided into three parts. The reconstruction of the Rute School is expected to cost \$3.5 million with \$1.15 million promised by the state.

The work there will include the replacement of the brick facing, the electrical, plumbing

and mechanical systems, the windows and the roof and the acquisition and installation of new equipment and furnishings.

Another \$8 million will be required for the reconstruction of Brandt, Demarest, Kealey, Wallace and Calabro Schools as well as the high school.

In addition, \$6 million would be earmarked for the construction of a new kindergarten-to-eighth grade school in the city's south west section. The state has already promised \$800,000 in vocational educational funds for the new school.

Before the board eventually approved the resolution 4-to-2 (Zelam Lugo was absent) trustee Steve Block and Wendelken argued briefly over whether the money the board wants is adequate.

"I just don't see how the amount of money we're asking for is going to do the job," Block

said. "We haven't fully addressed the problem. If inflation reduces our capacity to respond to the problem, what are we going to do?"

Wendelken countered that the board doesn't "know what's going to happen in the future. We can't judge it." He said the cost estimate represented "a realistic figure, as realistic as possible." He also said the board had to consider the taxpayers of Hoboken who would be hit with a tax increase should the program eventually be approved.

"Our responsibility is not to be fair or not be fair," Block replied. "We must put forward a solution to the problem." Block and Otto Hottendorf, former board-president, voted against the resolution while Wendelken, Pope, James Farina and James Monocao voted for it.

Factory gets U.S. aid, will stay in Hoboken

By William H. Taft

A large Hoboken factory, whose owners were contemplating moving out of the city, will remain because the firm is receiving financial assistance to expand from the federal government and the state through the city's Community Development Agency.

The Universal Folding Box Corp. at 13th and Madison streets is getting \$300,000 loan, at only 5 percent interest, through the federal Urban Development Action Grant program. This will cover the cost of driving piles to support a new warehouse, according to Fred M. Bado, CDA director.

Hoboken's soil condition is such that it will cost \$38 for every square foot of foundation, whereas the cost in ordinary soil conditions is only \$27.50. The low-interest loan will make up the difference, Bado said.

He said the CDA has also obtained a \$1,000,000 loan at 9½ percent from the state Economic Development Council to pay for the warehouse structure and new equipment it will house.

The granting of the UDAG loan was announced by U.S. Sen. Harrison A. Williams.

Williams said the financing will create 40 construction jobs and 35 new jobs, and will save 150 existing ones. He said the city will be enriched by \$42,896 a year in new, fresh taxes, Williams added.

Without the loans to expand its facilities, Williams said, "the company would have had to leave the area."

Bado said the CDA was delighted at being able to show an example of "how the city can assist the private sector. We hope that other firms will come forward and work with us in obtaining grants," he added.

Bado said it took only about four months to put the financing through.

He said Universal makes "smaller-sized display boxes, which the product is also put into."

The company is so specialized that if it had left Hoboken it could not have found anyone else who could utilize the facilities it left behind," he added.

The UDAG's \$300,000 actually is a grant to Hoboken, which will lend it to Universal. As Universal pays back the loan, Bado said, the money will be available for the city to lend to other industrial firms.

"We talked with a couple of other companies about such a loan last spring," he continued, "and followed it up with a meeting of several companies. Some of them had some other problems, and didn't pursue it."

"Universal Folding Box stayed with it and worked with us and got the grant. We are still talking to a couple of other companies with regard to similar grants."

Hoboken's garage powerless to run electrical tools

The new (though temporary) repair shop for all Hoboken's city vehicles is out of business part of the time. There's no electrical power to run the compressor.

Police Sgt. Mario Mercado, in charge of the garage, said a special hook-up is needed to connect the compressor with a 220-volt line.

Mercado said the city also has one gasoline-powered compressor, but it is often out on the road helping a vehicle with a flat tire or some other problem.

He said the compressor supplies the power for impact guns used to change tires, as well as a number of other automobile repair and paint equipment.

"We have been changing tires by hand, but it takes twice as long," he said.

The garage has been situated in the Port Authority's Pier A since last month while a new public works garage is being built. Mercado said the problem has been continuous since then.

The sergeant said a meeting had been held with Port Authority officials. The authority will supply the labor if the city provides the material for the electrical hook-up, he said.

Mercado said the authority will also provide the labor to supply heat in the garage if the city supplies the equipment.

Mercado said the total cost to the city for materials should be around \$3,000 and he expects to confirm details with officials soon so work can be begun.

Ticket scofflaws risk arrest in Hoboken drive

Hoboken police have begun a crackdown on motorists who have warrants out for their arrest because they haven't paid fines for traffic tickets they had received.

Hoboken Detective Commander Capt. Edward Sheehy said today there are at least 150 warrants outstanding for a period of up to four months.

Sheehy said attempts had already been made to serve many of the warrants during the day — but often the people were never around.

Now Sheehy said motorcycle officers are going out at night to help the department catch up with its backlog.

Cappiello warns Project Focus will be strictly enforced

Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken today mailed out notices to all property owners and tenants along Washington Street from 10th to 14th streets, reminding them of Project Focus, to start Monday.

Cappiello said he has assigned Acting Sanitation Inspector Peter Falco to work full time on the project, meaning he "will be constantly looking for any violations" of the anti-littering ordinance. Police and health officers will immediately issue summonses to violators "without exception," Cappiello asserted.

The mayor said routine checks will be made to make sure that landlords are supplying one trash barrel for every two families, plus one for the building.

Other requirements to be monitored, he said, are:

- Garbage must not be put out before 9 on the night before collection.

- All garbage must be in securely tied plastic bags or in covered cans. "Paper bags will result in a summons."

- Sidewalks and gutters are to be kept clear of trash by sweeping.

Surprise!

Hoboken's backward traffic law enforcement system has produced another surprise.

It is no longer a surprise that the city's police do not go after people who park illegally in Hoboken — even if they are longtime repeaters.

But Hoboken motorists may be surprised if they pick up a parking ticket outside Hoboken.

At the request of Point Pleasant officials, Hoboken's police sprang into action and did not give up until they tracked down and caught a Hoboken woman whose offense was that she had parked overtime once in Point Pleasant. She paid Point Pleasant \$14 in penalties.

Apparently other municipalities have more influence with Hoboken's police than Hoboken's city government has. Perhaps Hoboken's officials should send their parking ticket scofflaw list to Point Pleasant and ask officials there to send it back to Hoboken.

Maybe then Hoboken will be able to collect some of those many, many outstanding fines.

Hoboken gets 3 sweepers working, but only one driver

For the first time in many months, not just one but two of Hoboken's three sweepers were in working order and ready to sweep the streets — but they never left the garage.

Why? There is only one man who knows how to operate them — and he called in sick.

"We've been so busy here that we just haven't had the time to train anyone else," said Public Works Department foreman John Wallington.

Wallington said he made a recent attempt to train one employee but had to give up when the man claimed he hurt his back while driving the machine.

The foreman said he plans to initiate another training program in the next week or two, so the other five "heavy equipment operators" who are authorized to drive the sweepers will know how to drive them.

Gallo, Jackman cruise to Hudson triumph

11/1/79 HB

By CAMILLE KENNY, PETER BEGANS and ROY KAHN

North Hudson Assemblymen Thomas Gallo of Hoboken and Christopher Jackman of West New York defeated the Republican and Independent opposition by a decisive 4-1 margin yesterday in the 33rd Assembly district.

In District 30, which includes Secaucus, Democratic Assemblyman John Cali of Kearny lost his seat to Republican Anthony Imperiale of Newark. Incumbent Democrat Michael Aduato of Newark retained his seat. These tallies are unofficial.

Though Cali garnered the most votes in Hudson County, Aduato and Imperiale swept the Essex County precincts.

District 33 Independents Robert Ranieri and Virginia Zanetich, both of Hoboken, aimed their campaigns at defeating Gallo, the Hudson County Regular Democratic organization candidate.

Other candidates in the District 33 race were Republicans Roger Dorian of Weehawken and Erich Urban of Jersey City.

In the 30th district, Republican Michael Bucco and Independent Michael Giordano, both of Newark, challenged Cali and Aduato.

In the District 33 race, Jackman, 17,000 votes; Gallo, 16,517; Dorian, 4,995; Urban, 4,727; Ranieri, 3,731; Zanetich, 3,286.

In the District 30 race, Imperiale, 12,042 tallies; Aduato, 12,023; Cali, 11,564; Bucco, 6,529 and Giordano, 1,712.

Results for Newark's north ward, part of the 30th District, were not available late yesterday.

District 33 covers Guttenberg, Union City, West New York, Weehawken, Hoboken and part of Jersey City. It is considered to be the main Assembly district for the North Hudson area.

District 30 covers West Hudson—Kearny, Harrison, Belleville and part of Newark—and a slice of North Hudson—Secaucus.

In the North Hudson Assembly race, Jackman, the Hudson County Regular Democratic Organization candidate, was predicted by political observers to win re-election easily. Jackman first was elected to the Assembly in 1969, became speaker two years ago and is considered a power in state government and politics.

Gallo was provided stiff competition from Ranieri, a Hoboken councilman, and Zanetich, a chairwoman of the Committee for Swift Construction of a state-proposed wholesale food distribution center in Hudson County.

Ranieri and Zanetich focused their campaign on Gallo, calling him "incompetent" and "ignorant," even of the bills he himself sponsors. Ranieri said Gallo is controlled by Jackman. Zanetich complained that Gallo is inaccessible to constituents.

In response, Gallo said he is "absolutely not" controlled by Jackman and listed as one of his achievements as preventing the loss of \$600,000 in lieu of tax payments by a railroad to Hoboken. If re-elected, this would be his last term in the Assembly, he said.

The West Hudson Assembly race was marked by the lack of any real campaign efforts by GOP candidates Imperiale and Bucco and Independent candidate Giordano.

Imperiale and Bucco complained bitterly that the Essex Republican Committee failed

to provide either money or leadership for their election campaigns. Imperiale, with his maverick background, was believed to have the best chance to beat either Cali or Aduato.

Imperiale, a self-styled law and order candidate, first came into the public glare in the late 1960s when he organized vigilante groups to patrol the streets of Newark. He was later elected an assemblyman and then a state senator and at one time made an unsuccessful bid for governor.

Issues raised by the Republicans centered around Aduato's rating among the 10 worst legislators in the state by New Jersey Monthly magazine, and the Democrats' apparent refusal to debate them.

Cali and Aduato responded by saying they had been busy campaigning and working and that they disagreed with the New Jersey Monthly analysis of Aduato's legislative record.

In the North Hudson race, Independent Zanetich campaigned in favor of citizens' initiative and referendum ballots. Ranieri proposed cutting the state income tax to 3 percent and then removing it completely.

Republican Dorian, who has held various Weehawken municipal elective offices, favored an increase in the senior citizen property tax deduction and granting permanent status to the State Commission of Investigation. He also opposed instant voter registration.

Republican Urban, a self-employed painting contractor, campaigned against what he termed the "low quality of the political leadership of the county," and criticized Democrats for allegedly stalling the passage of initiative and referendum laws.



Christopher Jackman
Accumulates 17,000 votes

Chius averts bus to run on schedule

11/1/79 HB

Hoboken's long-idled crosstown bus will run regularly and stick to a schedule when the bus resumes operation, Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius vowed today.

Chius said he will make unannounced field checks at different points on the bus route to make sure it is running and that the driver is not goofing off.

The business administrator said he will also act on any complaints he receives from patrons of the bus.

Chius said he has not yet decided on a schedule for the bus but will announce it along with its route before it goes into operation.

The business administrator said he has no idea when the bus will go into operation, but the man in charge of repairing it, Police Sgt. Mario Mercado, has said it will be back in action by the end of this week.

Now do others

11/1/79 HB

It turned out to be possible after all to create a municipal parking lot in Hoboken for residential parking.

The lot is small — only 23 spaces — but it is welcome to people who live in or work in the neighborhood. Residential parking is one thing the city is desperately short of, as all will agree.

Although not yet completed, the lot at 11th Street and Willow already is a tremendous success. The parking authority has been swamped with applications for monthly rental of the 23 spaces.

The \$43,000 the city is putting up for it is well spent. There are other residential locations in the city where boarded-up or abandoned buildings could be torn down and similar mini parking lots developed.

The city needs many more like this one. It can be done. The city should do more of them.

Cappiello: Tax hike inevitable

By PETER BEGANS

11/1/79 HB

because of a revaluation of property.

Hoboken's property owners got some unwelcome news yesterday. Mayor Steve Cappiello said that a property tax increase is "almost inevitable" in 1980.

Cappiello blamed inflation, arbitrator's awards to city employees, and cutbacks in funding for the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) program and federal revenue sharing.

Business Administrator Edwin Chius, however, said the major problem with the 1980 budget is not lack of tax dollars but lack of leeway in increasing the budget due to the state "cap" law. The law allows a municipality to increase its budget by only 5 percent a year.

Cappiello said that during his six years as mayor, there has been no significant tax hike, but now that stability was threatened.

The Hoboken tax rate, formerly the highest in the county at \$107.29, was reduced to \$94.19 this year.

Chius said this year's pay increases for city employees have eaten into next year's cap. Instead of being able to increase the budget 5 percent, the administration will be limited to less than a 2 percent increase, he said.

Chius said the 1979 budget was not figured with pay increases for city employees. However, a state-appointed arbitrator decided police and firefighters should receive a 7 percent increase. The administration then went on to grant the same increase to all other municipal workers.

In order to pay the unanticipated costs, the administration had to exceed the 1979 cap. Therefore the 1980 cap has been decreased proportionately, Chius explained.

Chius and Cappiello will meet with all city department directors on Nov. 28 to discuss alterations the directors must make in their preliminary budgets. The

meeting is set for 11 a.m. and is open to the public, though no public testimony will be taken at the meeting, the business administrator said.

Chius sent a memo to all department heads on Sept. 10 warning of budget cutbacks. He advised the directors to begin thinking of ways to pare down their staffs.

Chius said he hopes to form a Citizens Budget Advisory Committee to give input on how the 1980 budget will be set. He noted that other cities such as Plainfield have one and that such a committee allows the people to become "more involved in the budget process."

Chius noted the committee would not be a decision-making body nor would its members be compensated.

Cappiello said he would welcome a citizens committee on the budget. "We welcome all the help we can get," he said.

By state law all temporary municipal budgets have to be ready by Jan. 1. The finalized version of the budget must be completed by March 31.

Council ponders 'Sinatra Drive'

11/1/79 HB

An ordinance changing the name of Shore Road to Sinatra Drive has been introduced by the Hoboken Council while a resolution that would have attempted to regulate the stringing of utility wires has been tabled so it can be toughened.

Council President Walter Cramer questioned whether the city could take action on the renaming since a question was raised yesterday about whether the city owns the street and if it doesn't whether it can legally change its name. A more definitive answer to these questions will come before the public hearing on the ordinance.

Louis Francane, the Fourth Ward councilman, was the only objector to the ordinance saying that since the naming of a park in his ward for his wife, Mary, was turned down, the council should be consistent and refuse to name a street after Sinatra. "He never did nothing for us," Francane said.

request to dismiss the case.

Vincent Marzocca, the city electrical inspector, told the council it must take action to pressure the utility companies to fulfill a promise to "redesign and cleanup some of their wires."

Cramer pointed out that a legal problem existed as far as the cable television company is concerned. When the franchise was signed with the firm in 1967, it gave it permission to string wires on utility poles. To argue against it doing that now might constitute a breach of contract.

In other action the council accepted a \$200,000 out-of-court settlement with Alco-Gravure Corp. for its alleged negligence in allowing chemicals to enter the city sewer system.

Hoboken to auction buildings for taxes

11/1/79 HB

Hoboken will put up 37 buildings for sale for non-payment of taxes and \$4 for non-payment of water bills at a tax sale Dec. 12.

The purchasers have to pay up the arrears. The sale is an auction at which the successful bidders are the ones who offer to accept the lowest rate of interest if the present owners subsequently redeem the property.

The largest unpaid tax bill is \$36,310, owed on property at 500-508 Observer Highway. The owner of record is the Madeline Ann Investment Corporation.

Among the others are three buildings at 1306-1312 Washington St., listed as owned by E. & E. Newman Inc. The amounts owed in back taxes

are respectively \$9,399; \$8,112, and \$5,130.

Of those on the delinquent list for water bills, the highest amount is owned by Justo and William de La Torre, \$4,990, for a building at 131 Washington St.

R. Acquaviva and D. Binetti are listed as the owners of 624-630 Monroe St., on which water bills of \$3,471 are owing.

The Umlands Restaurant building at 508 Washington St., on record as owned by Ann Roberts, is listed for sale for unpaid water bills totaling \$596.

Bidders are not allowed to seek more than 8 percent redemption interest on the first \$1,000 of the delinquency and not more than 12 percent on the remainder. The present owners have two years in which to redeem, except when there are no bidders and consequently the city takes over the property, in which case the redemption period is only six months.

Order by mayor gets Washington St. swept

11/1/79 HB

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello branded the condition of the city's main thoroughfare as "disgusting" yesterday and demanded that the Public Works Department immediately clean it.

"Get every man out on Washington Street, including foremen," the mayor was overheard shouting to aides in his office. The mayor told The Jersey Journal that he had ordered the special clean-up after receiving numerous complaints from residents and store-owners.

The Public Works employees who normally hand-sweep the street on Tuesday had been off because of Election Day and there had been no clean-up since Monday, Public Works foreman John Wallington said.

The foreman added he had recently lost three street sweeping men because of layoffs and is very hard pressed to do an adequate sweeping job. Wallington said he now has only 12 hand sweepers to cover the entire city.

Business Administrator Edwin Chius said he felt part of the reason Washington Street often becomes dirty is that some merchants don't put out their garbage properly.

Chius said the merchants often do not put their garbage in plastic bags but instead put it in open boxes, and set a bad example for residents, who then do the same thing.

Cappiello to keep eye on littering

11/1/79 HB

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello today vowed to keep a close watch on Washington Street this holiday weekend to make sure the city's main thoroughfare is not badly littered by Monday.

Cappiello had been especially upset last week when he returned to City Hall after the veteran's day holiday and found garbage lying all over Washington Street.

He immediately ordered one of his aides to contact Public Works officials so the mess could be cleaned up.

Cappiello said he is very concerned about what Washington Street looks like.

"It's our main thoroughfare and it's the one strangers and visitors travel first," he said.

Cappiello said a small crew of public works employees are scheduled to work tomorrow and they will concentrate on Washington Street, if necessary.

Hoboken aides shift blame on rooming house checks

11/1/79 HB

Hoboken Health Officer Patricia Mitten said today she can't close 18 rooming houses where numerous housing code violations were found last summer because Chief Housing Inspector Michael Curcio has yet to do reinspections of them.

Mrs. Mitten said she has been "waiting and waiting and waiting" for Curcio to do the reinspections.

The health officer said Curcio never sent her copies of the original inspection reports although, she said, he did verbally go over the question with her on the phone.

But an angry Curcio replied today

that he can't do the reinspections because Mrs. Mitten has not given him the addresses of the rooming houses she wants reinspected.

"I'm tired of being used as a punching bag," he said. "Everyone is always attacking me."

See ROOMING HOUSE — Page A.

Would meet officials about crosstown bus

11/1/79 HB

Hoboken Parking Authority Executive director Joseph Hottendorf said today he would be "more than willing" to sit down and talk with city officials to consider the possibility of the authority's taking over the crosstown bus line.

Hottendorf said, though, he couldn't comment on the feasibility of the authority operating the bus until he had a talk with city officials.

Councilman Robert Ranieri had proposed that the authority take over the buses' operation because of the poor job he said the city has been doing.

The bus has been out of service for more than a year because of mechanical problems.

Hottendorf said he has sent letters to Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello and other city officials asking them to sit down

with him to consider the possibility of the authority operating the bus, has got no response so far.

Ranieri had said he favored the authority running the bus because of the excellent job it had done in running the city's parking facilities.

The councilman said not only will the bus service be improved if the authority takes over its operation but the authority will then have the equipment to set up scheduling to and from its three downtown parking garages.

Hottendorf said the authority had once considered the possibility of running a shuttle bus between its garages and other parts of town but gave it up because it would be too costly.

These landlords love squatters!

11/1/79 HB

By PETER BEGANS

Some landlords along Willow Avenue between Second and Third streets in Hoboken have stopped trying to collect rents from the squatters living in their buildings to encourage them to stay there.

The landlords, who are anxiously waiting for a developer to take over and rehabilitate the structures, say the squatters' presence will prevent fires caused by carelessness.

Abandoned buildings become havens for dope addicts, who light fires to keep warm, say the landlords. The Willow Avenue structures are connected, and the fires could easily spread, they point out. With the buildings open and the utilities on, the landlords feel there is less chance of fire.

John Tedesco, who owns 205 and 207 Willow Avenue, said yesterday that seven of the 20 units in the two buildings are filled by squatters—people he said moved in when old tenants moved out. He said he has given up trying to collect rent from both the legitimate tenants and the squatters because neither group pays it.

Although he has obtained a court order to vacate the building, Tedesco says he will give the residents time to move. The developers say it will be at least six months before relocation of the residents can take place and construction begin.

Tedesco says he knows that the tenants have hooked up to the electricity in the hall because his Public Service bills are now about \$100 a month when they used to be \$10.

Tedesco said he expects to get about \$32,000 per building when they are finally sold to the redevelopers.

The situation on Willow Avenue is an example of the dark underside of the renovation movement in Hoboken. Landlords have all but walked away from their buildings because they say they cannot turn a profit on them. They see the salvation of their investment and the area in general coming only from grants and subsidies by the federal department of Housing and Urban Development.

Meanwhile, the buildings deteriorate because of poor sewage facilities, irresponsible tenants, and lack of acruity

by a building manager.

Yesterday morning, as on almost every morning after a night of rain, the basements along Willow Avenue were flooded due to sewage line backup.

Over the weekend, the city called in a firm named General Sewer Service to clean the lines at Second and Willow, but yesterday the water still extended from the basements to the street.

A landlord whose building is not presently slated for renovation, Manny Chaves of 204 Willow Ave., said yesterday his basement has been flooded for two years. He said the Public Service Electric and Gas Co. has given him an estimated bill for that time because they cannot get downstairs to read the meter.

Yesterday, Tedesco came to evict some squatters who had moved into a first-floor apartment at 207 Willow Ave. because residents complained of radio playing late into the night.

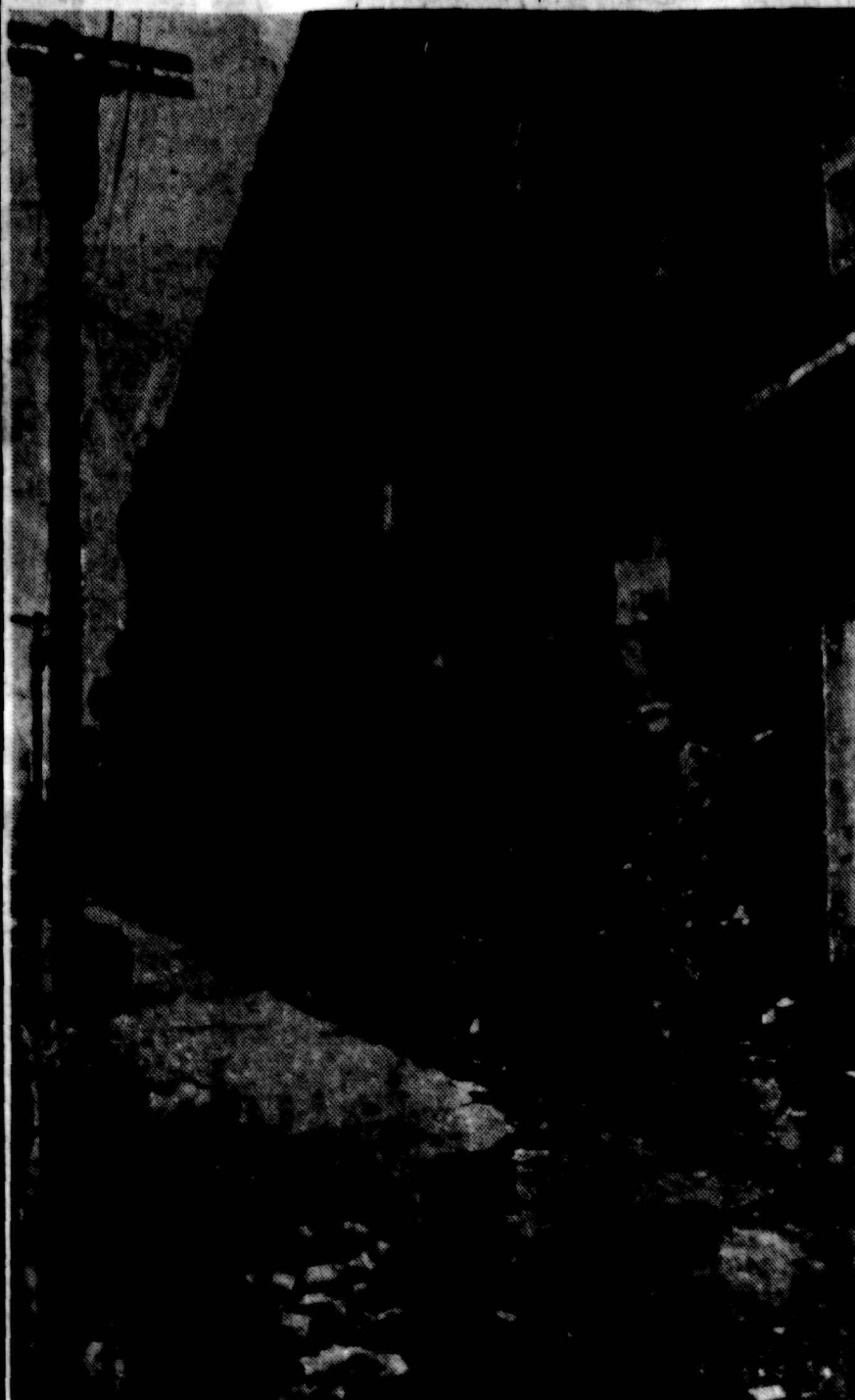
When Sgt. Edward Shelly and Patrolman Kenneth McGurk came to arrest Juan Martinez and Victor Reyes for criminal trespass, they reportedly found in the apartment a gas-powered generator stolen last week from the construction site of the new municipal garage at Willow Avenue and Observer Highway. The pair were also charged with theft.

Both Tedesco and Anthony Delimastro, another landlord, say they have been told to stay off the block by residents there. They added that "decent residents" of Willow Avenue feel like prisoners because of a criminal element.

Nine buildings in the area are slated for substantial rehabilitation by Applied Housing Associates and Fut-Urb Development Services, Inc., two Hoboken developers. HUD has granted preliminary approval to the application for loan guarantees and subsidies, according to Casto Maldonado, Fut-Urb's management and operations officer.

However, final approval for loan guarantees and rent subsidies is not expected for six months, said Joseph Barry of Applied Housing.

Tedesco admitted that he has about \$4,000 in fines from the city lodged against him because of building violations. He added that he also owes the city back taxes.



Dispatch Photo by Maggie Green

Many squatters are living in the tenements on Second Street and Willow Avenue in Hoboken, shown above. Landlords are allowing the squatters to stay in the dwellings since their presence helps to prevent fires.

Harried freight firm may leave Hoboken

By PETER BEGANS

A major freight consolidator on Observer Highway in Hoboken has threatened to move if city police do not stop ticketing trucks delivering and picking up goods at its terminal.

Hoboken police began cracking down Tuesday on all trucks parked diagonally at the bay doors or double-parked on the side of the road, which is the major entrance to the city from the south.

Police issued about 35 tickets Tuesday and threatened yesterday to tow vehicles and arrest drivers if the laws are disobeyed.

Officials of the Shippers Terminal Co., which leases the old Railway Express Co. terminal from the state, called the police action "harassment" and claimed that Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto wants them to close down and move out. The officials would not explain the charge.

"If we don't come to a solution soon, we will move," said the firm's president, Gordon Brown. "And it sure won't be in Hoboken."

Public Safety Director James Giordano said yesterday that many of the trailers backed into the loading dock extend beyond 40 feet—the space allowed by an easement with the state. He also said the companies using the terminal are making a mess of the area.

"We're just asking them to abide by the rules," Giordano said.

Officials of Shippers Terminal were told by Cappelletto and Giordano Nov. 7 that the trucks could not back into the loading dock because of the traffic jams they cause. Brown said the ticketing this week was too swift and inconsistent.

"We're trying to find out, after almost a century of trucking at this building, why all of a sudden they say we can't back in," Brown stated.

How the trucks would unload heavy freight without backing into the docks is unclear.

Russell Sweeten of the Hoboken police said the terminal was first used by 10-foot horse-drawn

wagons and later short trucks. However, as many new trailers were built to a length of 45 feet, they extended over the 40-foot yellow line on Observer Highway.

They've gotten away with it for so long they think they have a license to do it," Sweeten said. He has directed three patrolmen and a sergeant to be out ticketing all trucks parked at a 90-degree angle to the building, or double-parked during the day. He also noted he would have a man in front of the terminal at 6 a.m. to discourage truckers from pulling in that way.

Sweeten also said that, if the trailers are dropped by the tractors at the terminal doors, the police will get their own tractor and tow the vans away.

If they tow the trailers, they're going to have to deal with the ICC (Interstate Commerce Commission) and the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation)," said the operations manager of Shippers Terminal, Kenneth Tillman. Tillman said if anything is lost or stolen, those agencies would be called in.

Terminal Shippers is a consolidator for a number of companies that ship a small amount of goods. "We ship for the little guy," Tillman said, describing the business. "If we go out, they're out."

Tillman said the firm moves about 700,000 pounds of freight a week, much of which is taken on and off ships at the Hoboken piers. "How are you going to keep the piers open without trucks?" he asked rhetorically.

City officials say the trucks on Observer Highway cause a dangerous situation for motorists, especially during rush hour. One police officer also noted that trucks backing in cause traffic slowdowns. "It takes a half-hour to come down Observer Highway in the mornings," he said.

Sweeten, admitting that the crackdown will make things difficult for truckers on the street, said, "For the public safety, private industry has to suffer. I guess that's the way it goes."

Cappelletto is at the League of Municipalities convention in Atlantic City this week. Giordano said the mayor will meet with the shippers tomorrow or Monday to find a solution to the situation.

PBA files grievances, sees cutbacks harmful to public

The Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association has filed two grievances against the city for occasionally eliminating a jail doorman's position and for sometimes making the radio dispatcher double as switchboard operator at night.

PBA President Thomas Meehan said today he is very concerned the city's practices "may jeopardize both the safety of the public and the policemen."

"As president of the PBA, I wish to go on record stating that if any citizen or police officer or prisoner is injured or killed due to this practice, the PBA will take whatever criminal or civil action that might be necessary on the part of the injured party or parties."

Meehan said that marijuana was sneaked through to a prisoner through a jail window last week and he is worried a

weapon could be sneaked though if there were no guard present.

The PBA president said it is impossible for a radio dispatcher to double as a phone operator and do a good job on either.

"What happens if the dispatcher is giving a patrolman instructions and someone being attacked tries to call the police?" he asked. "There is going to be a delay in the time it takes for his call to be answered."

Meehan said in the last few months there has been no phone operator on the midnight-to-eight a.m. shift and on the four to midnight shift occasionally.

He also said that sometimes only two instead of three radio cars are going out on a particular shift because of a shortage of manpower.

"They won't give us overtime to protect the people," he said. "Yet they are willing to pay

overtime to a street sweeper operator. Which is more important — clean streets or the protection of the people?"

Public Safety Director James Giordano countered Meehan by saying he felt that eliminating the telephone operator's position at night does not jeopardize the public in any way.

Giordano said there is usually not that much activity at night. He said if on a particular night there is a lot of activity the desk officer could help answer the phones.

As far as the issue of the jail guard goes, Giordano said when there is one on duty, he is often sitting at his desk with his legs up and not doing any work.

"We've had plenty of marijuana smuggled into the jail when there was a guard on duty," he said. Giordano said the chances of a weapon being sneaked into the jail were very

small. And the Public Safety director said if Meehan wants three radio cars to always be on duty he should try to make sure his men stop calling in sick.

As far as the overtime goes, Giordano said his department doesn't have the money. "If any of my men wants to be transferred to the Public Works Department I will gladly do it," he said.

Meehan said he has not received a reply from Giordano on the two grievances although he filed them on Nov. 9.

The city law, he said, requires grievances to be answered in 10 days.

Giordano said he will give Meehan a formal answer to his grievances by the end of the week.

In the meantime, Meehan said he has filed a request for an arbitrator to resolve the situation.

Labor boss takes Hoboken's name in vain

By PETER BEGANS

It seems that Lane Kirkland, in his acceptance speech as the new president of the AFL-CIO, was taking a pot shot at the fair city of Hoboken, which has given many of its sons and daughters to the labor movement.

The New York Times reported Tuesday that Kirkland, who took over as head of the giant labor federation Monday, compared unaffiliated unions with the Mile-Square-City. And not in a complimentary way, either.

The Times said: "Mr. Kirkland, in his acceptance speech, suggested, without mentioning either group by name, that he would be pleased if the United Auto Workers and the

International Brotherhood of Teamsters returned to the labor federation. In a criticism of non-affiliated unions and, it would seem, of the New Jersey city, he said, "Everything outside the AFL-CIO is really Hoboken."

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto was upset at the alleged remark. "We intend to ask for an explanation (from the AFL-CIO) of his remark," Cappelletto said yesterday.

"If it was derogatory, I will no longer recognize any AFL-CIO unions as bargaining agents in Hoboken," he added.

Asked if that would be legal, Cappelletto said he thought it would be.

Contacted in Washington, D.C., Allen Zack,

assistant director of public relations for the AFL-CIO, said Kirkland's remarks had been taken out of context by The Times.

Zack then read what he said were Kirkland's actual remarks. Referring to unaffiliated unions such as the UAW and the Teamsters, Kirkland said, "Their pride and pelf do not equal what they are missing because, to borrow from The New Yorker's (the magazine) view of the world, everything outside of the AFL-CIO really is Hoboken."

Zack said Kirkland was referring to the well-known drawing that first appeared on the cover of the New Yorker that showed America and the rest of the world looking west from Manhattan. In the drawing, New Jersey appears as a

skinny brown strip with the rest of the country being proportionately thin and insignificant.

Zack said he had not received any flack from Hoboken union leaders or city officials, though he said he did receive an objection from the National Education Association because they didn't like being compared to Hoboken. The NEA is not a member of the AFL-CIO.

"That has to be a misprint (in the Times)," said Steve Hornik, business agent for Local 56 of the United Food and Commercial Workers International, the largest union in AFL-CIO.

Hornik said that Al Barkan, director of the AFL-CIO's national Committee on Political Education, "even in jest wouldn't let something like that be said."

Hoboken hires firm to do job that's done

By PETER BEGANS

At a special meeting yesterday, the Hoboken City Council approved by a 7-1 vote the hiring of an appraiser to put a value on the city's sewer plant—even though the job was completed a month ago.

It remains unclear why Mayor Steve Cappelletto and City Law Director Lawrence Florio waited until yesterday to submit the resolution for the hiring to the council.

Florio and Cappelletto did not tell the council last week that the work by the real estate firm of Stack and Stack, located at 80 Hudson St., had been completed, according to council observers.

Cappelletto said yesterday that he had never seen an official copy of the appraiser's report.

However, The Dispatch has learned that Stack and Stack's report was completed and submitted to the mayor on Oct. 22. And at yesterday's meeting, Florio admitted he personally took the finished report from Stack and Stack to

the Hudson County Utilities Authority (HCUA).

And William Stack admitted yesterday that he completed the appraisal of the sewage plant in October but concurred that he had not submitted a bill to the city.

Federal pollution laws require that the city's sewage system and all other treatment facilities in the county provide secondary treatment of raw sewage. A \$300-million redesign of the facilities in the county will get underway as soon as Hoboken and the other Hudson municipalities sign a service agreement with the HCUA which will operate the new system.

One of the major snags in completing the agreement has been how much the HCUA will pay the municipalities for taking over present treatment plants. Cappelletto has been adamant that Hoboken receive more than its present bonded indebtedness—about \$5.4 million—on the plants it owns.

Cappelletto has asked that 150 percent of the bonded indebtedness of the present

facilities be paid to the municipalities. HCUA special counsel Robert Goodman has agreed to negotiate within a ballpark figure of 120 to 160 percent. Goodman is with the Jersey City firm of Friedland and Friedland.

Florio said yesterday that the appraisal was made necessary by the federal mandate to clean up the sewers. However, Cappelletto indicated several weeks ago that the independent audit report could give the city leverage in dealing with the HCUA.

At the special council meeting, Florio said that it was only yesterday that he received any idea of the price Stack and Stack would charge—and even that was a per hour cost, not a total cost.

Florio said William Stack told him yesterday that the firm will charge \$75 per hour for its services and the services of any other firm it consults with on the project. He would not estimate how much the final bill would be.

Florio said it is not unusual for the city to hire a firm for professional or emergency services without first getting a

price. He also said it was acceptable for the mayor to hire a firm and later get it approved by the City Council. He noted that appraising is a professional service and open bidding is not necessary.

The lone dissenting vote on the resolution was last Ward Councilman Tony Romano, an opponent of Cappelletto's in the 1977 mayoral race. Cappelletto demanded that Romano explain his "no" vote.

"I felt that as a courtesy to the council, we should have gotten it (the resolution) first," Romano said after Council President Walter Cramer told him he was not obliged to explain his vote.

"You're more concerned with the HCUA than Hoboken," Cappelletto shot back.

Reached earlier in the day and asked if the HCUA had received a copy of the appraiser's report, Goodman said Cappelletto had contacted him yesterday and asked him not to discuss the value of the plant or the service agreement with anyone.

Hoboken schedules Dec. 3 auction of city properties

Hoboken will hold its annual auction of city-owned buildings and vacant lots Dec. 3 but city officials aren't holding their breath in anticipation of being able to unload some of their properties.

"There hasn't been a sale in years," said Revenue and Finance Director Frank Bartlett. "Last year

we had three or four people show up." The city is auctioning off five tenement houses and 31 vacant lots at prices starting at \$1,650 for one of the lots and \$4,900 for a tenement house.

Most of the lots are in the \$1,900 price range, the highest price, \$11,750, for a parcel that extends from 209 to 215 First St.

The highest priced tenement being offered is at 135 Garden St., where a minimum bid of \$11,000 has been set.

Almost all the properties are in the city's downtown section on such streets as Madison, First, Monroe and Jackson.

Work areas on Pier A to be walled off

Hoboken will wall off the work areas on Pier A — its temporary central garage — because the pier is so cold the garage mechanics are "freezing."

Police Sgt. Mario Mercado, in charge of the garage, said the tem-

porary heaters installed on the pier are not effective because the heat is being dissipated throughout the area.

Mercado said he hopes the walls will be put up by next month but added the matter is not completely in

his control since he is waiting for city carpenters to obtain the necessary equipment and start work.

In the meantime, though, Mercado said his workers are having "a hard time of it."

Separate housing court demanded

By Randolph Diamond

A separate Hoboken Housing Court was demanded today by Hoboken's new Fifth Ward councilman, E. Norman Wilson Jr., in the wake of a fire yesterday in a tenement house which had approximately 75 housing code violations lodged against it.

The cause of the fire of 804 Willow Ave. has not been determined, but fire officials say they don't believe it was connected to the violations.

No one was injured in the fire but 10 families were left homeless, most of them relocated temporarily by the Red Cross.

Wilson said it was "a shame" that the violations at 804 Willow Ave. and other tenement houses in the city could go uncorrected for months.

Fire officials said the fire started at 9:05 a.m. in the fourth floor apartment of Sonia Jimenez and her four children. Mrs. Jimenez told The Jersey Journal that she had left her apartment briefly at 9 a.m. to go to a pay telephone to make a call and had left her children with a neighbor.

The neighbor, Pablo Dones, said he looked out the window of his apartment about five minutes later and noticed there was a fire going in Mrs. Jimenez's apartment.

The blaze did major smoke, water and fire damage to the fourth floor, and water damage to the rest of the building.

Hoboken Housing Inspector Jude Fitzgibbons said none of the housing violations in the

building dating back over a year has been corrected.

The building at 804 Willow Ave. as well as the attached ones at 800, 802, 806 and 808 Willow Ave. were the subject of a Jersey Journal article last spring which detailed the poor living conditions of the tenants.

Fitzgibbons said the building was under state violation and he could not explain why no action had been taken against the owners, Ernest and Lisalotte Leiber and L. Munoz. Ralph Pfleger, bureau chief of State Bureau of Housing, announced last month that the landlords had been fined \$30,000 by the state for not correcting any of the violations.

But when reached for comment today Pfleger said he did not know if the fine had been paid or if the violations had been corrected.

Pfleger said he would look into the situation. Last May he had said he would personally take charge of the situation to make sure the housing violations were corrected. However, they were not corrected.

Mrs. Lieber, meanwhile had maintained there is no point in correcting any of the violations, which she said are all minor, since the buildings are scheduled to be sold to a Union City-based development firm and then rehabilitated.

Mrs. Lieber said today she expects the buildings will be sold Tuesday.

The sale of the buildings had been scheduled a number of months ago, but the deal fell through.

A memorable past, a promising present

By Thomas J. Dragan

Recently I was asked to do an appraisal of a four story brick dwelling in the First Street area of Hoboken.

The purpose of my assignment was to render an opinion of the value of the property to support a pending mortgage approval from a private investor.

It was back in the early 50s that I first discovered Hoboken for I was then working for the Railway Express during my Christmas recess from college.

On paydays we usually found ourselves on what was then known as the Barbary Coast. First the Harbor Lights, then Umbriagos, then to Meyers and finally back home.

It had its colorful saloons and characters and at the age of 21, we savored every minute of it.

Years later in the early 60s, I was back again, this time as a managing agent for some of the tenements that then existed on First Street, Garden Street, Bloomfield, etc.

The rent collections were rather slow at the time and it took two or three visits before we received the rent which averaged \$90 per apartment.

We had our moments of pleasure again but this time it was usually the Clam Broth House or Helmers uptown. We were progressing even if Hoboken was standing still.

Now it's the 70s with the 80s upon us and I can't begin to

tell the transformation that I have witnessed.

The properties I could have bought for \$50,000 have recently sold for \$60,000 and \$80,000. It is so true, the grass is greenest in your own backyard, but we never pay attention to the signs that tell us this.

The homes that were in extremely poor condition but magnificent in their day, are slowly coming back to the prominence they once had.

It was a sheer joy to walk the many streets of this proud town and see the work in progress. The flowers on the window sills, the brick exposed living room wall, and the decorative porch lights that grace the entrances.

As I walked the blocks again that I remembered from the 50s, I was convinced that this is an ideal town almost unique in size. So much more manageable than some of our more well known cities and towns.

When you live in a town of this size, your voice can be heard and your vote can be precious — precious enough to make an impact on those who govern.

This town is alive and well on its way to the stature it once had and the dwellings I looked at today will be a bargain in comparison to the prices you will be asked to pay to live in Hoboken in the 80s.

If they can do it here, then why can't we do it in other American towns that are there for the asking?

Hoboken employees' job action looming

Hoboken municipal employees will strongly consider taking a job action shortly if the city doesn't make good on its promise to give the workers their first written contract, John Wallington, the president of the Municipal Employees Association, announced today.

"The police and firemen have their contracts, but we don't have ours," an angry Wallington said. "We've been waiting five months for the city to draw up a draft copy of the contract since we agreed on the terms of it. The workers and I are sick and tired of it."

Wallington said Business Administrator Edwin Chius keeps on

promising him that the contract will be ready any day now but he said he is getting very tired of the business administrator's broken promises.

Two months ago, Wallington also had threatened a job action, but he backed down when Chius said the workers didn't have their contract because of a delay in the city making final arrangements for a dental plan for employees.

Chius said yesterday, however, that he expected the draft copy of the contract would be in the hands of Wallington by late today.

Chius said he wrote the entire contract himself, which caused the most recent delay.

Sweeper drivers training for layup during winter

Hoboken is about to start to train men to operate its three mechanical sweepers — now that the sweepers are finally in working order — but by the time the men are trained it will be winter, and the sweepers don't go out in winter.

Public Works garage foreman John Wallington said today that "once the weather becomes very cold the machines don't go out."

Wallington said two of the three sweepers flush the pavement with water, which he said makes it impractical to use them in freezing weather.

"They could create ice patches all along the street," he said.

While the third sweeper can be used without water, Wallington said, it too is usually not taken out in the winter. He said often the streets are icy and there is no point in taking it out.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto, however, said there is a possibility that the sweeper that doesn't spray water could go out in the winter.

Cappelletto said the final decision would not be in Wallington's hands but in the hands of Mario Mercado, the Hoboken police sergeant who is running the Hoboken Public Works garage's maintenance program.

Mercado could not be reached for comment.

Hoboken: To renovate or build anew?

By PETER BEGANS

The Hoboken Board of Education, the City Council and the Hoboken taxpayers are about to embark on the biggest spending program in the city's history for school construction and renovation.

But not everyone agrees on how much money should be spent or in which way the schools should be turned into acceptable learning environments.

The total cost of the project proposed earlier this month by the school board is \$18 million, of which approximately \$5.3 million will be picked up by Hoboken taxpayers through bonding. The rest will be funded by state grants.

A bonding referendum on the construction plan, expected some time next year, must be passed by the voters before any work can be done.

The proposal calls for the construction of a new, 800-student elementary school, the renovation of six other schools and the closing of two facilities that are each more than 70 years old.

The two schools, Thomas Connors School at Second and Monroe streets, and Sadie Leinikoff School at Seventh and Adams streets, would be either sold, used for some other city function or demolished. The new school would assume most of the two schools' enrollments.

Opponents of the school board plan say the cost of the project will be an albatross around the neck of the city taxpayers and add that it would be cheaper to renovate all the existing buildings instead of constructing a new facility.

The Hoboken architectural firm of Mayo, Lynch has estimated that cost of the new school would be \$6.5 million. Renovation of the six other schools would come to approximately \$11.5 million.

Outright state grants of approximately \$3 million — \$1.1 million to rehabilitate David E. Rue school and \$1.9 million to construct vocational training facilities for the handicapped in the new school—have already been secured.

School board officials also said the state will pick up 67 percent, or more than \$10 million of the remaining cost of the project. The \$10 million constitutes the state's share of the city's education bill under the "Thorough and Efficient" law that provides equal educational opportunity for all state children.

The school board proposal has gone to the Board of School Estimate, a five-member body composed of board president Robert Wendelken and board member John Pope, City Council President Walter Cramer, Councilman Salvatore Cernelli and Mayor Steve Cappelletto.

Wendelken and Pope are in favor of the board proposal while the mayor and councilmen have not committed themselves one way or the other.

Cramer said that a different proposal—one that would put an option of renovating all the buildings instead of constructing a new school—had been discussed at the meeting but he was unsure if the Board of School Estimate could put the question on the ballot.

Cappelletto said he will go along with opinions expressed by the majority at a public meeting to be held within two weeks.

Whatever the school estimate board approves will be forwarded to the City Council. A bonding ordinance—if approved—would then be sent to the voters in a special election.

Superintendent of Schools George Maier said the changing focus of education since the 1980s has determined that a new school be built. He said the primary focus of education back in the first decade of the 20th century when Connors and Leinikoff were built was the classroom.

"We've come 100 degrees since then," Maier said. "We are mandated to provide breakfasts, lunches, gym and compensatory instruction now."

Maier claimed that classrooms located in the basement of Connors School were "substandard." He added that school administrators were forced to use clothing rooms for compensatory education programs.

Maier said the gymnasium in Leinikoff cannot be used because it is located on the third floor and playing would disturb children in the classrooms beneath.

Maier envisions a new school which would be attractive to both the students and the rest of the community.

"If we can provide our students with an attractive, motivating atmosphere they'll take an interest in what is going on there," he said. Hoboken students scored near the bottom in state basic skills exams administered earlier this year.

"We would like to see a building that would attract the community to it in the evening hours for recreation purposes," he added.

Wendelken said the board's proposal including the new school would be only a few thousand dollars more than renovating all the schools in the city.

Pope elaborated: "It would cost \$4.5 million to renovate Leinikoff and Connors. For a balance of \$2 million, of which only one-third is the city's expense, why not get a new school that can be designed for the needs of the student?"

Proponents of the new school say it will be more fuel efficient than the renovated schools in the long run which would make up for any initially higher costs.

Opponents of the school board proposal range from former to present members to the city's business administrator.

Board members Stephen Block and Otto Hottendorf opposed the board's proposal when time came for a vote, favoring rehabilitation of the existing schools instead.

Donald Pellicano, ousted as a member when the board was reduced from nine to seven members, claims Mayo, Lynch is wrong in estimating the new school cost to be only \$6.5 million. Pellicano claimed the cost will end up being \$10 to \$11 million.

Richard England, the other ousted member, noted that if Hoboken's assessment rate on property improvements goes up, as it is rumored to, the state would pay less than the 67 percent of Hoboken's education bill since Hoboken taxpayers would be paying more. Therefore the taxpayers will be picking up a greater share of the construction costs.

Even if Hoboken residents only have to pay the \$5.3 million proposed, England pondered, "How do you sell a bond issue to the (heavily taxed) people of Hoboken?"

City Business Administrator Edwin Chius said the amount of money in the bond would "strangle the taxpayer in later years." Chius also said he favored smaller, neighborhood schools and added the older buildings would be sturdier than a new one.



Dispatch Photo by Bill Boyer

Pupils leave the Thomas Connors School on Second and Monroe streets in Hoboken yesterday. City officials are planning an \$18 million facelift of the city's schools.

Hoboken will try to put heat on heatless tenement

Landlord Daniel Janssen has paid a \$100 fine after he was found guilty in Hoboken Municipal Court of not providing heat in a tenement house at 1016 Willow Ave.

Health Officer Patricia Mitten said afterward that she would send an inspector back daily until Janssen furnishes heat.

Mrs. Mitten said it was her opinion that the health inspector did not have to issue a new summons every day Janssen did not provide heat, in order for Janssen to be liable for a new \$100 fine — the maximum — EVERY DAY.

Plumbing Inspector Patrick Saulino testified in court yesterday that the boiler was not operating on Nov. 19.

Saulino said an inspection of the boiler showed it could be repaired.

Janssen was not allowed to testify by Judge Rudolph Nadeo because he failed to obtain a lawyer for his corporation, Lynsen Realty, which is listed as the building's owner. Nadeo warned him three weeks ago that he could not represent himself.

Janssen had hired a lawyer for a hearing two weeks ago in which he was charged with not providing heat at 1016 Willow and the adjoining building he owns at 1018 Willow. That case was dismissed, the city's lawyer, Thomas Calligy, said the summonses were "technically deficient" because the inspectors had failed to take a temperature reading in the building and because they had not checked to see if the boiler was on.

Janssen subsequently started providing heat at 1018 Willow Ave., leaving only tenants at 1016 Willow Ave. without heat.

Waving a legal bill for \$450 for the last time he was in court, Janssen declared: "I can't afford to bring a lawyer to court every day."

Janssen was also fined \$25 yesterday in addition to court costs for not providing extermination services at another tenement house at 208 Willow Ave.

Michael Spano was fined \$100 yesterday by Nadeo for not providing extermination service at a tenement house at 200 Washington St.

Two renovated tenements sold by block group

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken's First Ward Block Association has completed a novel project. It has gutted and renovated two tenements and has sold them to First Ward residents.

Thomas Newman, association president, said today each house was sold for approximately \$42,000, one to a Hispanic family and the other to a family of Italian extraction.

Newman said the two families were chosen because they live in the First Ward and were financially qualified.

The association bought the two structures in a dilapidated condition in the fall of 1978.

"Everything but the old floor joists was gutted from each structure," Newman said. "New plumbing, wiring, ceilings, walls, windows and roofs were installed."

Newman said the association made sure a minority family purchased one of the buildings because it wanted to promote home ownership by minority members.

Part of the project was funded with money from the Hoboken Community Development Agency. Newman said the block association would like to renovate more houses but is "getting a run-around" from CDA Director Fred Bado.

"Bado promised us over the summer we could get some more money but it's almost December and we're still waiting," he said.

Bado, however, replied that a delay in obtaining the necessary funding from the federal government is the reason the Newman group has not received the additional money.

Bado said the block association should receive \$10,000 in funds sometime after the first of the year.

Hoboken may establish First Street parking lot

Hoboken may get a second municipal parking lot, depending on whether or not there is a buyer for four adjacent lots at Park Avenue and First Street in the auction of city-owned property Dec. 3.

The property is along First Street, running from Park Avenue toward Garden Street. The city has one municipal parking lot near completion at 11th Street and Willow Avenue.

Business Administrator Edwin Chius said today that if the tract is not taken off the city's hands at the auction, the city administration will consider making a parking lot of it.

On Dec. 3 the city will auction off five tenement houses and 31 vacant lots at minimum prices ranging from \$1,050 to \$11,750.

Hoboken grants rent increases

The Hoboken Rent Leveling and Stabilization Board last night approved three applications for "hardship" rent increases, effective Jan. 1, affecting 25 tenants.

Largest of the three properties is 1208-1210 Washington St., with eight apartments in each building, whose occupants will have to pay \$35.20 more a month.

Six tenants at 230 Bloomfield St., owned by Bruce Rosso, must pay \$28.55 more a month and the building's superintendent, who occupies two units, will pay \$37.10 more monthly. Two tenants at 628 Green St., owned by Donald Girovati, had their monthly rents increased by \$36.

The rent board allows rent increases exceeding seven and a half percent if the landlord can show he's not getting a "fair and reasonable" return on his investment.

For the uptown Washington Street apartments, the application filed by the owner, listed as Virginia Lauricella, claims a monthly deficit of \$704 for the operation of the buildings, according to Juan Torres, board chairman.

One woman tenant told the board she's been trying to get a broken window replaced for two years and two other women complained about roaches and mice in the building, but Torres said there were "no violations" listed for either building.

Norman Sweeten, a lawyer who is what he called an "undisclosed principal" in the buildings' ownership, said: "When I'm aware of complaints, I fix things, but the issue here is 'what is my income and what are my expenses.'"

"I think the last time I raised the rents in either building was six years ago and that's what accounts for my present financial situation," said Sweeten. "I'm behind in my taxes."

Sweeten said he pays for an exterminator's service on a monthly basis.

For the Bloomfield Street cold-water flats, on which owner Rosso claims a monthly deficit of \$228, the rent board granted the hardship increase on the condition that Rosso makes various repairs to windows, doors and plumbing by Jan. 1; otherwise, the board will roll back rents to Oct. 1 levels.

For the Garden Street dwelling, on which owner-occupant Girovati claims a monthly deficit of \$144, one elderly woman tenant said she got no heat in her apartment, but Girovati denied that.

May hire hand sweepers

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto was still dissatisfied with the littered condition of Washington Street yesterday morning.

The mayor said today he will — if there is money available — hire hand sweepers to clean the streets on weekend mornings as they can get in between the parked cars, unlike the mechanical sweepers.

Cappelletto said he was upset when he looked at the street yesterday morning.

"It didn't look good — it could have been cleaner," he said. The mayor said, though, the people are to blame for the litter and garbage on Washington Street.

"That stuff is not getting out there by itself," he asserted.

Housing Court gets Cappelletto turndown

Mayor Steve Cappelletto of Hoboken today turned down a proposal for a separate Housing Court in the city, but said he would like to see special sessions of the Municipal Court held to deal only with housing code violations.

Cappelletto said he believes the building of housing cases. He said that it is possible a part-time referee or examiner could be hired to handle the housing cases but that he would have to see first if there is any money in next year's budget to do that.

The mayor said he will discuss his idea with Municipal Court Judge Rudolph Nadeo in the next few days.

Meanwhile, Cappelletto said there is no money to hire any additional inspectors for Hoboken's Housing Inspection Bureau.

"It would like to have a policeman on every corner and not a paper on the street, but unfortunately the city does not have the revenue-producing capacity to do that," he said.

A new housing inspector was put on the payroll a few weeks ago but Chief Housing Inspector Michael Curcio said yesterday the bureau is still short-staffed and he can't do the job he would like to. Curcio now has three inspectors in addition to himself on the staff.

Hoboken awaits fluoride's return

Hoboken residents who have been without fluoride in their water since Jersey City stopped putting it in four years ago may be drinking it again soon if a federal grant comes through.

City officials will sit down with representatives from the Communicable Disease Center in Atlanta next week to work out details of a grant that may provide capital improvements, salaries and chemicals for the program to fluoridate city water.

Business Administrator Edwin Chius said yesterday that he would be working with other city officials to prepare a grant and submit it to the state Department of Health by the end of the year.

The state, which is handling all grant applications of New Jersey municipalities, will then submit the application early next year, Chius said. Chius expects the money to come through by early summer, with work to be completed on the project in 1981.

"It will really help the younger people," Chius said. Fluoride has been shown to be effective in preventing tooth decay. However, critics of fluoride have argued that it weakens the bones of the elderly and may aggravate arthritis.

Hoboken voters on Nov. 6 approved a non-binding referendum to once again add fluoride to the city's water supply by a 21-vote margin. However, Jersey City, which supplies Hoboken with its water, voted down the referendum.

Say "Yes"

Hoboken's city council is considering a request to turn over a one block length of a city street to a factory which needs it to expand.

Stated that way, the proposal sounds greedy, or at least selfish.

Actually, the block involved is a dead end, leading only to several sets of railroad tracks at the base of a steep cliff. It is used only for parking of cars by the factory employees.

That this block could ever be used for through traffic is highly unlikely.

The factory has a federal grant and a state loan for its expansion across the street. This will mean more jobs and more taxes for the city.

The city council should approve the request.

Hoboken basic skills programs studied

By JAYE ANN TERRAY

Hoboken's Board of Education, along with the superintendent of schools and principals from various city schools, spoke last night with a small group of parents about a program to improve pupils' basic skills and to get suggestions for bettering the school system.

The meeting, the first in a series scheduled in accordance with the state's Thorough and Efficient educational guidelines, was held as a result of state tests which showed Hoboken suffered dramatic drops in reading and math scores for the 1978-79 school year.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools Walter Fine emphasized that parents and teachers must work together to improve the pupils' mastery of basic skills. He said people "tend to give a lot of credit to yesterday — yesterday didn't do anything."

Fine explained that in previous years, the emphasis was on "the three R's: reading, writing and arithmetic."

... and all you heard about was the children who succeeded, they didn't tell you about the one that didn't get out."

He added that the change in Hoboken's population from affluent whites to a large minority population means that programs must be more diverse and modeled to suit the more individualized needs of the pupils.

A panel of seven school administrators attempted to outline programs aimed at realizing the broad goals set by the board, such as basic skills in listening, an ability to acquire job entry level skills and understanding and appreciating responsible relationships.

Each administrator emphasized the need for parent participation, but when one administrator asked all the parents in the audience to raise their hands, only 10 of the 30 people in attendance did so.

Fine asked where were the parents of children who are having problems in basic skills. One parent responded during the question and answer session by saying that parents have been disappointed in the past with board promises that were not kept.

Fine admitted the board has made mistakes in the past but he said to the parent, "If you have the best plan for teaching reading and we can't do it, I want it."

Though each of the administrators had suggestions unique to their specialized area, there were some common factors. All administrators saw a need for new textbooks, in-service training programs for staff members, purchasing of supplies and workshops to instruct teachers on how to better manage classroom time.

Another suggestion made by the board was for an evaluation of tenured teachers that would be extended to the supervisory staff and the superintendent. Teacher evaluations have been done only with untenured teachers.

Cappelletto to union chief: Apologize for the slur

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto is waiting for an apology from Lane Kirkland knows the history of Hoboken — much of the union philosophy had its beginning here."

The mayor, who defended Hoboken as a strong union town, threatened not to recognize the union's affiliates in the future unless Kirkland apologizes.

A spokesman for Kirkland in Washington said the union leader was merely using an analogy and it was not an attempt to slight the people in Hoboken.

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Hoboken seeks U.S. aid to fluoridate water

Hoboken city officials have started taking steps to fluoridate the city's water supply but the soonest thing will be done is in 1981.

The action comes after voters had decided in favor of fluoridation by a narrow margin of 2,050-to-2,028 in a non-binding referendum on Nov. 6.

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius said today the city will try to obtain a \$100,000 grant from the federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare to purchase a fluoridator which would be placed at the point where the water from Jersey City enters the Hoboken system.

Chius said the government would also pay operating costs for the system for the first two years under the grant and from then on Hoboken would be responsible for the cost of operation.

Hoboken obtains its water from Jersey City and Jersey City voters decided not to fluoridate their city's water by a 14,727-to-13,345 vote, also on Nov. 6.

Jersey City first started fluoridating its water in the early 1970's when the city council voted 6-to-1 to start the practice. But fluoridation ended in 1978 by a 5-to-0 vote of the council.

On learning of the Jersey City referendum, Hoboken officials decided to schedule a referendum of their own with a non-binding status.

Chius said he will attend a meeting with other city officials next week to work on the grant application but added the soonest it could be approved by the federal government would be 1981.

He said the application must first be reviewed by the state health department before it is forwarded to the federal government.

Chius said he and other city officials decided to take steps to fluoridate Hoboken's water, even though voters came out in favor of it by only a narrow margin, because scientific evidence reveals that fluoridation prevents cavities.

Hoboken drops suit against landlord

By CAMILLE KENNY

Charges against a Hoboken realty company for nine heating code violations at 1016-1018 Willow Ave. were dismissed in Municipal Court yesterday because of technical errors in the summonses.

The request for dismissal of the case against Lynsen Realty Corp., owned by Daniel and Lynn Janssen, was made by Assistant Corporation Counsel Thomas Calligy.

Calligy said he acted because he felt he "didn't have the technical proof required under the (heating) ordinance." He said city inspectors did not make proper temperature readings or note the exact days involved in the violations, and said the inspectors did not indicate if whether boilers in the apartments were on or off.

"They have to be instructed on how to draw up a charge," Calligy said. "There is no question the building was cold, but I felt the proof was legally lacking. Next time, I'm sure they (the inspectors) will do it right."

Health Officer Patricia Mitten said one of the errors made on the summonses

was including both buildings on one summons when a separate summons is required for each.

"I could just cry," Mrs. Mitten said. "It was an administrative error on my part. I'm going to start all over again and make out the summonses for one building at a time."

Janssen, who is the president of the Hudson County Property Owners Association, has admitted he has not provided heat in the two buildings since last March, but said he does not feel guilty of any crime.

Janssen said he has been unable to provide heat because he owes over \$13,000 to his heating oil company for past fuel bills, and one of the boilers has been condemned by the state housing inspector for safety violations and is too expensive to replace.

Calligy met with Janssen and his lawyer, Thomas Sullivan, after the case was dismissed, and said the landlord is working on a plan to repair the boiler in one apartment and have tenants from the other building move into it.

"What's more important is that we are trying to get heat for the tenants," Calligy said. "We've made an arrangement with a boiler expert to look at the boiler."

Mrs. Mitten said there was still no heat in the apartments yesterday afternoon.

and she would issue new summonses. Each day without heat counts for a separate violation, for which the landlord could be fined \$100.

Janssen declined to comment after the dismissal of the case.

Hoboken disco bid to council

The Hoboken City Council is receiving word tomorrow that the city's Board of Adjustment has approved the use of an industrial building at 1221 Adams St. for a disco.

Walter Cramer, council president, twice appeared before the board

to oppose the idea, pointing out that there are no adequate parking facilities in the area.

The council will authorize a hearing for Dec. 19 on a request by the Universal Box Co. to vacate a section of 13th Street, between Madison and Monroe streets, to permit the firm to expand.

The board will hold a hearing on

an ordinance designating the Shore Road as Sinatra Drive, a suggestion made by Councilman Anthony H. Romano. The council also is being notified by the Trust Co. of New Jersey that it will purchase \$500,000 in bond anticipation notes from the city at an interest rate of 9.75 percent. The funds will be used toward the construction of the centralized city garage.

Meter maid posts defended

While Hoboken officials decline to say whether or not the tens of thousands of parking tickets given out by the city's meter maids are legal or not — the man in charge of the maids says they are.

Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the Hoboken Parking

Authority, said a 1961 city ordinance created the position of parking violation officers.

Hottendorf said the position was created in accordance with state Civil Service rules and thus the position and the tickets are legal.

He said he has never questioned whether the tickets legal and doesn't understand why Thomas Calligy, assistant city attorney, was researching it.

Last July Calligy said he was trying to find out what New Jersey law

officials leaned on in drawing up the 1961 ordinance.

Hottendorf said — it's not the city's role to say they are not legal.

He said if someone questioned the tickets' legality they should have taken the matter to Superior Court.

Chius wants to chew the fat off Hoboken budget

By PETER BEGANS

Some Hoboken department directors are seeking increases of more than a half-million dollars for next year's budgets, but Business Administrator Edwin Chius says the requests will be trimmed considerably before the 1980 budget is approved.

All department directors had to submit their preliminary budget requests to Chius yesterday, the first

step in drafting the budget that will be finalized sometime in early spring.

Except for the city clerk's office, which is asking for less money this year, all city departments requested increases of more than 5 percent.

The Public Works and Public Safety departments led all others. Public Works asked for a \$530,000 increase while Public Safety requested a \$700,000 hike. The Health and Welfare Department asked for a

\$340,000 increase, an increase of more than 50 percent above this year's allocation.

Much of the increase in the Public Safety and Health and Welfare departments would go toward salaries, Chius said. Most of the increase in the Public Works Department was because of a \$600,000 request for sewer cleaning, he noted.

The preliminary figures from the Public Works Department did not include seven new workers who will

probably be hired at the sewage treatment plant. A consulting engineer at the plant has recommended the seven be hired to perform functions at the 18th Street plant which is being renovated.

Chius has stated repeatedly during the last two months that the 1980 budget must be cut to the bone. He said that salary increases granted to all municipal employees in the middle of the year forced the city to exceed the 5 percent cap on its 1979 budget. The city had to "borrow" from its 1980 budget to compensate.

Because of this, Chius said, the city budget can increase less than 2 percent above this year's levels.

Chius has clashed with the city PBA and Public Safety Director James Giordano about cutting the police and fire table of organization this year.

Giordano has requested that 10 new firemen be hired and three be promoted to captain.

Chius countered yesterday by saying the city should close one firehouse, which houses 13 men and four captains, and do away with the men.

Giordano agreed that one firehouse in the city should be closed but said the men should be kept.

As for the police department, Chius said Giordano should consider consolidating the youth bureau with the detective bureau and cut the number of men from the youth bureau from eight to two. He added that one-man radio cars should be utilized and civilians should be hired to do police jobs. He also reiterated that the number of superiors should be cut because there are only two officers to each superior.

Giordano said the youth bureau is instrumental in controlling vandalism and youth crime, especially in the summer, and that cutting the ranks of superiors would have a negative effect on the morale of the department. He favored the institution of one-man patrol cars if needed, but only in the daytime.

Chius said the Public Works budget could be cut by bonding the \$600,000 in sewer cleaning costs—if the City Council did decide to spend that much to clean the sewers next year. By bonding, the city could put off recording the money until another year's budget, and so avoid this year's tight cap.

Willow Terrace tenants' unit set

A tenants' organization has been formed at the Willow Terrace townhouse development in Hoboken.

Organizer James Mancuso said the organization wants to help homeowners in the development with any problems they have and to work on the improvement of the Willow Terrace area.

Mancuso can be contacted at 30 Willow Ct.

Hoboken loses on assessments

The total reduction of real estate assessments in Hoboken through 1979 appeals is approximately \$5.5 million, according to preliminary figures compiled by the Hudson County Board of Taxation.

Close to \$3 million of the total involved railroad property and most of the rest involved large industries.

The board received 181 appeals from Hoboken taxpayers this year. Assessments were reduced in 90 cases, but affirmed in 24 others. In 35 cases, there were settlements by agreement of the taxpayers, city and board; 17 were withdrawn, 13 dismissed due to lack of prosecution and 2 dismissed.

The bottom line on an appeal involving the Erie-Lackawanna Railroad property was the reduction of the total assessment of \$3,082,000 by \$2,964,600 to \$117,400. There were conflicting claims, stemming from Erie conveying some property to Conrail and then the state Department of Transportation entering the picture.

The board determined that only eight acres of Erie-Lackawanna property, most of it underwater, should be assessed. The DOT took over the terminal and other land, making it tax-exempt since it's a commuter subsidy. However, after

Hoboken had submitted its assessment figure to the board, the DOT gave the city \$565,908 under a in-lieu-of taxes formula.

Land assessments on two blocks of Castle Point Terrace were reduced from the local assessor's \$500 a front foot to \$400 by the board. This change was not applicable to several Stevens Tech fraternity houses because their appeals are being carried on in the state tax court. There were also a few changes on land valuations in some areas where property was subject to flooding or lacking certain services.

There were some reductions of assessments, such as Neuman & Co., from \$564,300 to \$404,600, and the U.S. Testing Co., from \$617,000 to \$456,050 based on State Chapter 123 establishing an average ratio of 56 percent of true value for properties falling into either of two valuation ranges set by the state.

There were some cases, a board spokesman explained where there was a "freeze" on assessments this a state law dealing with appeals the last two years and this year by a taxpayer.

Unlike a criminal court, the board operates under a presumption that an assessment is correct and the burden is on the taxpayer to prove otherwise by expert testimony, the spokesman explained. In several cases, he noted, taxpayers, especially large corpora-

tions, offered expert witnesses while the city rested on its assessments as correct. The board decided that some of those taxpayers had overcome the presumption, leading to reductions in assessments, it was explained.

Touchy

Anyone who thinks Steve Cappelletto, mayor of Hoboken, is being too touchy about references to himself and his community should think again.

Cappelletto was not happy when Lane Kirkland, newly elected AFL-CIO president, said that "everything outside the AFL-CIO is really Hoboken."

He was even more unhappy about the remark by Allen Zack, an AFL-CIO spokesman in Washington, that "the ayatollah has taken residence in New Jersey."

If Kirkland and Zack heard the words "strong arm" and "kickback" and "sweetheart contract" and "labor czar" used in connection with the AFL-CIO, they would not be as cavalier as they are now.

Yes, Steve Cappelletto is touchy and so are we. Labels are dangerous. They frequently are inaccurate and they usually are misleading. Let's not carry this Hoboken-ayatollah dispute any further, but let's all watch our language.

No matter how many disclaimers we make, what we say mirrors what we are thinking. So let's be careful what we say.

And, for the record, everything outside the AFL-CIO is still organized labor.

Budget requests leave Cappelletto grim

Hoboken's department directors submitted their budget requests for the coming year yesterday. When all the figures were added up, Mayor Steve Cappelletto wasn't smiling.

The total requests totaled \$10,238,001—compared to last year's department budget of \$9,536,074.

And the figures didn't reflect the salary increases employees will be asking when they negotiate next year's contract.

Yesterday's requests reflect only about half of the 1980 budget. Such costs as insurance, welfare payments and the city's contributions to employees pension funds have not been computed.

Cappelletto said already he has learned the city will have to contribute \$100,000 more to the police and firemen's pension fund in 1980 than 1979.

"This is what I've been afraid of," said Cappelletto as Business Administrator Edwin Chius told him the bad news about the budget requests.

Chius emphasized, though, that the departmental requests were only preliminary and will be trimmed. But he admitted some hard choices would have to be made.

One of the cuts he suggested yesterday was one which he and Cappelletto had proposed earlier in the

year—a reduction in the number of police and firemen.

When Thomas Meehan, Hoboken Police Benevolent Association president, heard Chius' statement he declared "There will definitely be a job action if the cuts are made."

The public safety department request was up from \$4,657,276 this year, to \$5,300,453.

The public works request was up a sizeable chunk too—from \$1,758,026 this year to \$2,284,814.

But Chius said the increase is due to a \$600,000 asked by Andrew Amato, public works director, to clean and fix up some of Hoboken's aging sewers.

A sewer cleaning contractor had already been hired this year to do some work cleaning out Hoboken's sewer system.

The business administrator said he support Amato's request because something must be done for the aging system.

Chius said without the proposed sewer contract the budget would be down because, public works employees who left were never replaced. At the start of this year there were 68 public works employees there are now only 53.

All department budget request were up from this year—except for

one—the city clerk's office.

While the clerk's budget request for 1979 was \$131,061, for 1980 it is

\$104,300. Chius explained the decrease was due to the fact that there are no

Waterfront 'Renaissance' a step closer

The Joint Service Clubs of Hoboken has taken the first step toward making the "Riverland Renaissance" in Hoboken a success.

Members of the organization, which is made up of seven service agencies within Hoboken, were brought up to date yesterday on what's happening on a state level with the local waterfront and the statewide shore lines by David Kinsey, acting director of the Division of Coastal Resources.

Kinsey was guest speaker at the clubs' fourth annual luncheon at Stevens Institute of Technology yesterday.

The division under the state Department of Environmental Protection is actively seeking the input of such service groups that were present yesterday to ensure that the waterfront is developed in an orderly, balanced fashion, Kinsey told the group.

"Municipal governments should work together with their citizens to come up with a vision of the waterfront that is agreeable to both sectors," Kinsey said.

This will lend itself to a balance of recreational, residential and industrial development, which has been missing in earlier development, Kinsey explained.

"The perfect vehicle for relaying this vision for the waterfront and coordinating it with state plans has been sanctioned by the governor in this area with his appointment of the Hudson River Planning, Study and Development Commission," he added.

Kinsey told the 100 at the luncheon that evidence of the "Riverland Renaissance" is already exhibited in Hudson County in the development of Liberty State Park in Jersey City; the revitalization of the Hoboken Terminal, and the small park development at Exchange Place in Jersey City.

Hoboken will have extra housing court

Separate sessions of Hoboken court to deal with housing complaints will start the beginning of January, Judge Rudolph Naddo announced today.

Naddo said the court will consider housing complaints on two Wednesdays a month. Acting Judge Chris Pappas will preside.

The judge said, however, he must get permission from Superior Court Judge Thomas S. O'Brien, to have

Pappas preside since the acting judge is only supposed to sit when Naddo is sick or on vacation.

Mayor Steve Cappelletto had proposed the idea of having separate sessions of the court held to deal with housing complaints earlier this week.

Naddo said the housing court sessions will free his schedule so he can devote full attention to criminal cases.

The judge also said one attorney in the city law department will prosecute the housing cases so there will be some continuity on the city's part.

Pappas, meanwhile, said he is looking forward to presiding over the housing cases.

"These slumlords are going to have to follow the law like everyone else," he said.

City, landlords dispute sewer clog responsibility

Four Hoboken landlords charged today they are being harassed by the city on a clogged sewer line.

Landlords John Tescado, Daniel Janssen, Joseph Crot and Sue Junium, who own buildings on Willow Avenue between Second and Third streets said they have been given summonses by the Health Department for the sewer.

The landlords claim the main has been clogged up for the last six years, causing flooding in their buildings, which run from 201 to 217 Willow Ave.

In addition, they say, the water has been seeping onto the sidewalks and into the buildings, creating a safety and health hazard.

"It's gotten much worse the last two years," said Tescado. "We keep calling the public works department to do something but they refuse."

The other landlords said they also have been refused help.

Tescado said Willow Avenue sewer is completely clogged.

He produced a document from the General Sewer Cleaning Co. in Staten Island that said the clogged sewer was the city's responsibility.

"They are giving us a summons but it's their problem," Tescado said. "this is out-and-out harassment."

Tescado said he would like the Ajaxon Co., which was hired to clean Hoboken's sewers to clean out his block, but they can't because the block wasn't included in the city's contract.

The buildings are scheduled to be sold to Applied Housing for rehabilitation. Andrew Amato, public works director, was unavailable for comment.

Cappelletto is hopeful Kirkland will explain

Mayor Steve Cappelletto of Hoboken thinks the AFL-CIO unions should take a good look at their new leadership.

Cappelletto said today he was not demanding an apology from Lane Kirkland, newly elected AFL-CIO president, but that he had hoped Kirkland would explain why he had spoken of Hoboken in a belittling manner.

The mayor said the incident would not stop him from carrying out scheduled negotiations with the city's firemen on a new contract but the relationship would be "a little strained."

Kirkland, in criticizing non-affiliated unions, said last week that "everything outside the AFL-CIO is really Hoboken."

Newsmen then reported that Cappelletto threatened to cease recognizing the AFL-CIO unless Kirkland apologized for the sl-
In reply to that, Allen Zack, an AFL-CIO spokesman in Washington, said Kirkland had simply used "an analogy."

Zack said: "I don't think the officials of Hoboken are going to threaten to violate the labor laws of this country and the State of

New Jersey over someone's analogy."

He added: "It seems to me like the ayatollah has taken residence in New Jersey if that's the attitude of the people in New Jersey."

Cappelletto retorted: "I don't think that phrase (the reference to the ayatollah) should have been used. If this is an indication of the new leadership of the

big unions in Washington, then I think the union people have got to think about their own leadership."

"When they start making such analogies, then I think they are being very divisive."

The mayor said he hoped Kirkland "would give an explanation in good faith, not derogatory to the people of Hoboken and the State of New Jersey."