



Clark Patriot

'A Voice for All, an Echo for None'

VOL. 17 NO. 21

CLARK, NEW JERSEY, THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1983

USPS 115-760

20 CENTS

CLARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
MAY 26 1983

Councilman calls School Board action on budget punishment for cut vote

By R. R. Faszczewski
Two Township Council members reacted strongly at the Governing Body's meeting on May 16 to the recent Board of Education decision to cut out funding for staff members involved in the school body's recreation and summer school programs in order to meet a recommended \$425,000 cut in the township's defeated school budget.

Saying school boards have a stronger voice in Trenton than the state government itself, Council President Joseph B. Pozniak declared the Board could have taken the full amount of the cut, recommended by the Governing Body, out of surplus instead of taking it out of the budgets for summer school and recreation.

Councilman-at-Large Pozniak added the councilmen are responsive to the wishes of the citizens, and if the voters didn't like their actions they could remove them from office at election time.

Calling it unfortunate the Board chose to eliminate summer school and recreation from its budget, the Fourth Ward Councilman John Bodnar called the elimination of the two programs a punishment to the students and their parents

because the Council had voted to cut \$425,000 from the budget.

He added summer school and recreation are important to all township residents and their elimination would not result in saving out-of-pocket costs for any taxpayers.

However, Board of Education member, James E. Kehoe, pointed out to the Council members it was functionally illegal for the Board to bring its budget before the county superintendent of schools with recreation and transportation included in it.

Mr. Kehoe said this was one of the factors which motivated the vote because Board members were afraid they might have to present the budget to the county superintendent next year.

Reacting to Council's adoption of an ordinance providing for a \$30,000 salary for a full-time treasurer in the township, Mr. Kehoe said the Board, which also uses the treasurer to help it receive its school tax money, should be given the option of turning down the treasurer as its agent instead of the treasurer only being given the option of turning the Board down, as the situation stood with a part-time treasurer.

He also said some con-

sideration should be given to the fact the Board has to pay for the employment benefits for the treasurer, plus a stipend for his services.

The appointment of Betty Jo Zimmer to fill the full-time treasurer/tax collector post caused protests from the Governing Body's two Democrats, Second Ward Councilman George Nucera and First Ward Councilman Raymond Krov, because just prior to Mayor Bernard G. Yarusavage's notice of the appointment to Council, after the set agenda had been voted on, the councilmen had unanimously approved a motion that all communications be submitted to the Office of the Township Clerk on the Tuesday of every month prior to the executive session or be held over to the next monthly executive session.

Councilman Nucera, although he had no objection to the person receiving the appointment, said he objected to the mayor presenting something a few minutes before a Council session for the Governing Body's approval without giving advance notice.

He called for a poll of the Council members to see if they thought the matter

was considered an emergency.

The Township Attorney Joseph J. Triarsi ruled, however, the mayor had the right to present the appointment as he had done because he had done it the same way in the past.

Although voting for the appointment, Councilman Krov said he agreed with Councilman Nucera, and wanted to know when the proposed treasurer had been interviewed.

Mayor Yarusavage replied the several applicants for the post had been screened carefully, and Mrs. Zimmer had been interviewed the weekend preceding the Council session.

Councilman Bodnar said he thought it was necessary for the councilmen to move to the treasurer appointment so the new official could be broken in while the township still had the services of John Florentino, the state official who filled in in the Treasurer's Office while the township was looking for a new director for the office.

The Council had voted earlier in the meeting to congratulate Mr. Florentino for his services as acting director since Jan. 19 and to authorize the reimbursement of \$1,200 to the

state for Mr. Florentino's services from May 1 to May 13, added time he was not due to work for the township, but which had been required until a new treasurer was appointed.

At attempt to remove from the table an ordinance to regulate solicitors, canvassers and peddlers was turned back by a 4-3 vote when Council members said they still needed more information before acting on the measure.

A township hot dog vendor, Anthony Chudak of 23

Charles St., criticized the councilmen for again failing to come up with an improved ordinance which would allow him to make his living by selling hot dogs from his parked truck.

Mr. Chudak said he was disturbed over the fact that the township had recently issued permits for some trucks to sell merchandise in the township, but every time he tried to sell from his truck he was chased by police.

The present township ordinance, which has been

under study for several months, says vendors in trucks must not stay longer than a certain period of time in one place when dispensing their wares.

When asked about their votes against acting on the revised measure those in favor or tabling it said the issuance of the new permits was the reason they wanted to investigate the matter further.

The Governing Body also adopted ordinances:

Establishing the position of permit clerk.

Setting up the position of principal account clerk/cashier.

Filling the post of account clerk in the Treasurer's Office.

Authorizing the establishment of the position of administrative secretary in Clark's Business Administrator's Office. Councilman Krov objected to this or-

inance on the grounds the township's priorities were not set right when other departments with more immediate needs, such as the Tax Assessor's Office, were short-handed.

The councilmen also tabled an ordinance which would change the title of principal clerk stenographer in the Public Works Office to administrative secretary because they wanted to discuss the measure in caucus.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Township veterans set Memorial rites

The Clark Central Veterans will conduct Memorial Day Services in honor of the nation's war dead at 11 a.m. on Monday, May 30, at Memorial Park on Broadway, Clark. Commanders William Wirth of Clark Post No. 328 of the American Legion and Michael F. Cordasco of John L. Ruddy Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Clark announced.

Chairmen of this year's Memorial Day observance are Ralph Whittle of the V. F. W. and Ray Grimes of the American Legion, who outlined some of the details of the Memorial Day ceremonies to be conducted in the township.

Participating in the services at the Memorial Park with the Clark Central Veterans will be the Disabled American Veterans and

members of the volunteer first aid squad, volunteer fire department, police department, Elks Lodge, Knights of Columbus, and the Clark Winfield Girl Scout Community.

Other organizations of Clark not listed and wishing to participate should contact the chairmen. The speaker for this service will be Clark Mayor Bernard Yarusavage.

Post No. 328 and Post No. 7363 are two of thousands of Veteran and Auxiliary organizations throughout the land which will be leading local Memorial Day observances. Similar services to be conducted in American overseas military cemeteries, are being planned and carried out in many instances by Veterans living in foreign lands.

Memorial Day has grown

from its Civil War origin to an occasion when families decorated the graves of deceased friends and relatives. In many instances, it is a day of personal family commemoration.

From obscure beginnings in 1866 in Columbus, Miss., the custom of decoration of the graves of the war dead received nationwide impetus in 1868 when Gen. John A. Logan, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued his historic order for appropriate ceremonies, including the decoration of graves of dead comrades, reports a veteran spokesman.

The Central Veterans of Clark reminds all people, "many brave Americans have given their 'tomorrows' for the free America we enjoy today" and ask they be remembered on

Memorial Day.

The Union County Committee of the American Legion has finalized plans for the 52nd Union County Convention with the county Auxiliary. The convention will be held at the Connecticut Farms Post No. 35 in Union from Thursday to Saturday, June 2 to 4.

The convention will begin with the flag retirement ceremony on June 2. Comm. Anthony Pollari is asking all citizens to have old and worn American Flags brought to the post home or to the ceremony so they may be disposed of as prescribed by law. All business sessions will be held on June 3. The installation of the newly-elected officers will take place on Saturday morning, June 4. The dinner/dance honor-

ing retiring Comm. Pollari and retiring president, Jean Fugee, will be held at the Coachman Inn in Cranford on June 4 at 7 o'clock.

Library schedule to change on Wednesday

The summer schedule at the Clark Public Library will take effect on Wednesday, June 1, and continue through the summer to Tuesday, Sept. 6.

The library will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

It will be closed Saturdays, July 4, and Sept. 5, Labor Day.

Sisterhood sets gala: Inside

This convention will be hosted by the Connecticut Farms Post and its Auxiliary.

MEMORIAL DAY

A Day for Remembrance



BRING THEM HOME - During a visit to the national Vietnam War Memorial, Rep. Matthew J. Rinaldo, whose district represents Clark, signs a petition urging the cooperation of Vietnam in accounting for 2,500 American servicemen and civilians listed as prisoners of war or missing in action at the end of United States military involvement in Southeast Asia. The petition is to be presented to the Vietnamese mission to the United Nations. Looking on is Ted Muce of the Vietnam Veterans Assn., which maintains a daily vigil at the memorial.

Township to feast senior citizens

The month of May is Senior Citizens Month. The Senior Citizens Action Committee of Clark, whose co-ordinators are Mrs. Virginia Apelian and Peter Campana, is preparing for a special celebration for the senior citizens in Clark on Saturday, May 28, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A brunch will be served from 11 o'clock to 12:30 p.m. at the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School cafeteria in Clark. Then there will be a brief intermission. At 1 p.m. the program will start at the high school auditorium. There will be a speaker from the office of the executive director of the Division on Aging in Union County who will address very vital issues for the senior citizens and there will be a question-and-answer period to follow, reports Mrs. Apelian. There will be entertainment from the high school. Also, the Walcott-McCusk-

er Studio of Dance and Theatre Arts of Clark will present some intermediate and advanced students in ballet, jazz, tap and character dancing. Some of the numbers were presented at a state-wide dance festival in Piscataway on May 15.

There will also be consumer affairs booklets available for anyone's use and prizes.

Tickets will be \$2 per senior citizen with a Clark identification card. Tickets are available at all senior citizens' clubs, and from Senior Citizens Action Committee members. For more information on tickets, please telephone the co-ordinators, Mrs. Apelian, at 381-4913, or Mr. Campana at 388-4323, or Mrs. Ruth Whittle, the president of the Clark Senior Citizens Club at 276-5706, or the secretary of the Clark Senior Citizens Action Committee at number 328-8952.

SUGGESTION DEPARTMENT - Four members of the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School and the Carl H. Kumpf School Parent-Teacher Assns., both of Clark express a concern to the Union County Regional High School District No. 1 superintendent of schools, Donald Metachnik, center, and Board member, Charles

Vitale, at a recent "press" conference with 21 students and PTA members from constituent schools, and six Board members attending. Topics discussed were alcohol abuse, the transition from middle to high school and career education and guidance services.