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Budget focuses on takeover of Brewer

By R. R. Faszczewski
The renovation of the Charles H. Brewer School for use as a new municipal complex is accounted for in the proposed \$5,360,292.43 1984 municipal budget, introduced on March 12 by the Township Council, although a maintenance figure for the facility is not... Under the proposed capital-improvement program, some facets of which would stretch over six years, an estimated \$185,000 is proposed for 1984 for the renovation of the school, which was closed for township public school use last year and, under a 20-year lease due to go into effect on Sunday, July 1, of this year, is scheduled to be turned over to the municipality for the relocation of most of the municipal offices.

The estimated total cost of the renovation, presented on Feb. 28 to the Council by Romeo Aybar of the Aybar Partnership, the architectural firm hired to do a feasibility study on the municipality's use of the school, is \$500,000. Under the Aybar plan the entire first floor of the present municipal building would be converted for the use of the police and fire departments to allow police to maintain high security around evidence areas and jail cells. Under the plan the township's engineering department would be re-located to the second floor of the present structure and other municipal offices would be moved to the Brewer School. Mr. Aybar estimated the cost of expanding the police headquarters from \$235,000 to \$285,000. The major expenditure

of \$95,000 would go for the installation of a console and bulletproof glass in the communications center and the watch commander's office. Township police complained to the Governing Body recently about the fact their personal lockers and evidence lockers are presently located in a hallway and the lockers and jail cells are too readily accessible to the public. The architect recommended the school classrooms be left as they are and the north wing of the school continue to be leased to the Westlake School, which runs a program for handicapped children there. Mr. Aybar estimated the cost for renovation of the school itself at between \$185,000 and \$215,000. This would include lowering the classroom ceilings, installing new wiring and

electrical work and creating 40 additional parking places on the south side of the building. The cost of air conditioning or furnishings, such as a telephone system, were not included in the figures presented to the councilmen by the Ridgefield architect. It is estimated the renovations could be done in approximately six to eight months if completed simultaneously. Although Mayor Bernard G. Yarusavage has written to the township's Board of Education asking the school body to continue the maintenance of the school building for another year while the township copes with financial problems it is having this year, he proposed at the March 12 session that \$37,000 be added to the 1984 municipal tab to provide for the maintenance of

the school and to avoid cutbacks in municipal programs. During the Council meetings members of the Governing Body who favor the takeover of the school by the township this year instead of next year said they had not had time to put a line item of \$24,000 in his proposed budget for this year but he had not done so. According to Second Ward Councilman George Nucera if the amount is not put in the budget this year it may jeopardize a federal Community Development Block Grant which would be used to fund the school renovation and maintenance. However, opponents of the takeover for this year, including Councilman-at-Large George Santalano, have said the grant would

not be endangered because it would not go into effect immediately. The opponents of the immediate takeover want to study all the cost figures completely before committing the money to it and the proponents of the move say they have the figures to support their argument it can be done this year and the school building is necessary to provide better facilities for Clark's senior citizens and youth. In any event, the \$24,000 line item was never added to the proposed budget because only four of the five required votes could be mustered for it. Meanwhile, the budget as introduced on March 12 calls for an overall increase of about 4.5% from last year and would reportedly result in a tax increase estimated at 23 points.

The mayor contends lateral transfers of budget funds could achieve a 6.5% budget increase and would provide a greater base without raising costs. Board of Education budget figures proposed so far don't account for maintenance of the school building after July 1 and if changes are not made the Brewer property will be without maintenance funds. Besides the funds set aside in the capital-improvement program for the Brewer renovation there is also \$300,000 included in 1984 for a fire substation, \$147,000 for traffic lights-\$75,900 this year and \$71,500 next year; \$170,000 for public works equipment-\$70,000 this year and \$100,000 next year; \$1,248,800 for road reconstruction-\$288,550

this year and \$192,050 in each of the five years after that; \$155,000 for drainage improvements-\$20,000 this year, \$43,000 next year and \$23,000 in each of the four years after that; \$74,750 for a utility truck for the fire department, all of it next year, and \$57,500 for sidewalks-\$11,500 per year for five years beginning in 1985. The total amount to be raised by taxes in support of the municipal budget is \$2,484,655.55, compared to \$1,831,307.02 to be raised last year. Leading the expenditures for this year will be police salaries and wages, at \$1,168,801, up from \$1,086,669 last year. This is followed by salaries and wages in the bureau of roads, road repairs and maintenance in the department of public works and

engineering, which amount to \$260,681, compared to \$239,247 for last year. Insurance and bond premiums in the office of the township clerk come in with the next highest amount, \$188,728, compared to \$183,545 last year. Group insurance for employees will cost \$160,000, compared to \$140,000 in 1983. The impact of the budget on the final tax rate for 1984 has not been determined as yet because tax-rate figures from the Union County Regional High School District No. 1, the township Board of Education and Union County have yet to be included. The public hearing and possible final adoption of the budget will be held on Monday, April 16, at 8:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

School budget would boost taxes 17 points

A 1984-1985 school budget which would be supported by \$4,828,179 in taxes for current expenses and \$100,000 for capital outlay was adopted on March 15 by the Clark Board of Education. According to Board secretary, Philip Foster, the tax increase attributable to the elementary school tax will be approximately 17 tax points or about \$85 on the average \$50,000 home in the township. The two figures cited above are the amounts Clark's voters will cast ballots on in the Tuesday, April 3, Board of Education Elections. The amount to be raised by taxes in support of current expenses for the 1983-1984 school year was \$4,123,720 and that for capital outlay was \$150,000. It was pointed out by Mr. Foster there had been a decrease in the last budget because the school body had applied surplus funds it had received late in the previous school year to offset the tax increases. However, because the state "CAP" limit is based on spending increases from the previous year it became necessary this year for the education body to seek a waiver from the limit for 1984-1985, school officials have pointed out. The total elementary budget amounts to \$5,695,695, compared to \$5,396,662 for last year. This total figure includes state and federal aid in addition to other sources of revenue besides the amount to be raised by taxes. The vote on the budget was six in favor and one, James E. Kehbe, opposed. Two of the nine Board members were absent when the vote was taken. A public hearing on the budget will be held by the governing body

on March 28. The largest item in the budget is for instruction salaries, \$2,824,675, compared to \$2,615,300 for last year. Within the instruction-salary category the biggest portion, \$2,265,920 will go for elementary school salaries. Community support services will need \$1,237,794 for salaries, compared to \$1,162,850 for last year, according to the budget, and the Office of the Principal will take up \$197,560 in salaries, compared to \$181,034 for last year. One of the biggest decreases in the budget is in the area of Board of Education services, where the salary account will go from \$51,738 to \$16,798. The budget only includes the elementary schools because Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School, which services Clark high schoolers, is governed by the budget from the Union County Regional High School District No. 1 Board of Education. That budget will be voted on separately on April 3. In a meeting on March 13, the Board members took the following actions: Approved an agreement between the township school district and John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Edison to provide occupational therapy for handicapped students at Clark's Valley Road School. Approved the granting of \$1,000 in free balance to the school district for the purchase of occupational therapy equipment.

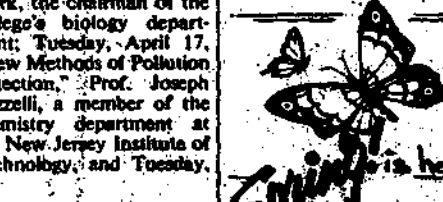
Gave Superintendent of Schools Dr. John T. Faribella permission to attend the I. D. E. A. Conference at Claremont-McKenna College in Claremont, Calif., from July 8 to 14, of this year. Accepted the interim examination report of Amann, Fiesler and Co., certified public accountants, which found all items to be in satisfactory order. The report was requested because of the transfer of the responsibilities of school business administrator from Philip A. Miller to Mr. Foster. Mr. Miller earlier this year left the Clark schools to take a similar post in Bernards Township. Approved the existing curriculum guides for the 1983-1984 school year and those for the 1984-1985 school year. Gave their permission for the Carl H. Kumpf School graduation to be held on Wednesday, June 20, of this year. Adopted new or revised Board policies on inventories, periodic audits and student vandalism. Authorized Mr. Foster to advertise for bids for food-management service, duplicating paper, fuel oil, physical education equipment and supplies, industrial arts equipment and supplies, unleased gasoline, disposal service and transportation routes. Approved the reimbursement of Gayle Conlin and Gloria Havens for attendance at workshops. Okayed the additions of the names of Mary Puffanberger, a teacher, and Karen Hudgins, a nurse, to the 1983-1984 substitute list. Gave their permission for the employment of Dr. Robert Chensoff, a professor of education, as a consultant to the school district.

Authorized the hiring of Mrs. Sherry Bialer as a Chapter No. 1 teacher to work with students from St. Agnes School and St. John the Apostle School, both of Clark, at an annual salary of \$15,470, prorated from Feb. 27 to Saturday, June 30, of this year. Approved an in-district travel allowance of \$50 per month for Mr. Foster, effective on Feb. 1 of this year. Okayed an advanced-study grant for Mrs. Marianne Streisel for this spring for a course, "Introduction to New Jersey Public School Finance," to be conducted by Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey personnel. Meeting cancelled The Tuesday, March 27, meeting of the Clark Board of Education has been cancelled. The school body's next meeting will be held on Monday, April 2, at the administration building on Schindler Rd. at 8 p.m.

the Board of Education Center in Flemington. A member of the Union County College faculty since 1971, Prof. Duncombe received his bachelor of science degree from Delaware Valley College and his master of science degree in entomology from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. He is currently working on a doctorate at Rutgers. Prof. Bozzelli earned his bachelor of science degree from Marietta College, his master of science degree from the University of Dayton and his doctorate from Princeton University. Dr. Ruston has his bachelor of arts degree in chemistry from Earlham College in Richmond, Ind., his doctorate in genetics from the University of Chicago and his medical degree, with honors, from the same university. Scheduled for the series are: Tuesday, April 3, "The New Jersey Pine Barrens: A Precious Resource," Prof. William Duncombe of Clark, the chairman of the college's biology department; Tuesday, April 17, "New Methods of Pollution Detection," Prof. Joseph Bozzelli, a member of the chemistry department at the New Jersey Institute of Technology; and Tuesday,

Clark professor leads Union confab

A high-level biologist and chemist led a series of seminars at the Board of Education Center in Flemington. A member of the Union County College faculty since 1971, Prof. Duncombe received his bachelor of science degree from Delaware Valley College and his master of science degree in entomology from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. He is currently working on a doctorate at Rutgers. Prof. Bozzelli earned his bachelor of science degree from Marietta College, his master of science degree from the University of Dayton and his doctorate from Princeton University. Dr. Ruston has his bachelor of arts degree in chemistry from Earlham College in Richmond, Ind., his doctorate in genetics from the University of Chicago and his medical degree, with honors, from the same university. Scheduled for the series are: Tuesday, April 3, "The New Jersey Pine Barrens: A Precious Resource," Prof. William Duncombe of Clark, the chairman of the college's biology department; Tuesday, April 17, "New Methods of Pollution Detection," Prof. Joseph Bozzelli, a member of the chemistry department at the New Jersey Institute of Technology; and Tuesday,



Hopefuls told release dates

ATTENTION: ALL CANDIDATES IN THE TOWNSHIP APRIL 3, BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTIONS. The Rahway News-Record and The Clark Patriot will publish their pre-election advance notices on Thursday, March 29. All candidates should picture of the candidates which will be published in the newspaper.

Kumpf girls build into contenders

The girls basketball team at the Carl H. Kumpf Middle School in Clark ended the 1984 season with a record of nine wins and one loss, losing one close game by a score of 37-32 to the Terrill School of Scotch Plains. Victories were gained over the Hillside Avenue and Orange Avenue Schools in Cranford, the Harding School in Elizabeth, the Ridgefield School in Ridgefield, and the Scotch Plains School in Scotch Plains. The girls' basketball team was coached by Mrs. Sandra Powers.

See picture inside...

the Kumpfers won two out of three of those games. The girls team was composed of nine eighth graders, four seventh graders and three sixth graders. The squad practiced five days a week from mid-November until its last game on Feb. 15. The team also had a record of four wins and one loss with the "B" squad against the starting lineup of somewhat weaker or smaller schools in the area. The Kumpf squad left its winning streak on Feb. 15, losing to the Scotch Plains team. The girls' basketball team was coached by Mrs. Sandra Powers.

quick and aggressive and were fortunate to have a couple of strong outside shooters, especially guard, Kelly Richter, and forward, Natalie Migliaro. This enabled us to open up our opponents' zone defenses and then work on our inside game." Coach Powers added. "It was also a building year, because the Charles H. Brewer School was closed this year and the two sessions from Kumpf and Brewer merged into one. The transition went smoothly and all the girls continued to play in the successful season. The girls' basketball team was coached by Mrs. Sandra Powers.

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