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Incumbents, D'Ambola, current expense win; capital outlay voted down narrowly

By R.R. Faszczewski
About 20 percent of the township's approximately 11,000 voters, 2,184, turned out for Tuesday's Board of Education Elections, and when the tallying was all over two long-time incumbents and their running mate coasted to victory in the elementary Board race, the elementary current expense budget narrowly passed and the elementary Board's capital outlay budget was narrowly defeated.

The newcomer to the Board, Toby D'Ambola, Jr. of 130 John St., who was trying for the second time to be a member of the school body, led all voters in the race for three, three-year terms with 1,287 votes.

A man who will be starting his 10th year on the elementary education body, Michael J. Dudek of 66 Kenneth Pl., came in second in the voting with 1,266 votes.

The current vice president of the Board, John A. Fitzpatrick of 51 Coldevin Rd., who will be starting his 19th year on the body, garnered 1,239 votes to capture the third seat.

The three winners were followed by Arion DiMartino, of 37 Harold Ave., with 892 votes, and John Schroock of 56 Hutchinson St., with 878 votes.

A man who had originally filed to run for the

elementary Board, James J. Ratti of 126 Briarhenth La., withdrew from the race.

The \$4,913,358 local tax levy in support of current expense in the 1985-1986 budget was approved by a margin of 1,013 to 1,008 and the \$199,950 levy for capital outlay was defeated 1,010 to 982.

That figure will now be discussed with Township Council, which has the option of decreasing it, leaving it the same or increasing it.

In the election for the Union County Regional High School District No. 1 Board of Education, which governs Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark, the \$17,698, 350 tax levy for current expense passed in the overall tally for the six municipalities in the district by a margin of 2,776 to 2,392.

However, it was rejected by Clark voters 1,001 to 967.

The regional district's \$274,500 tax levy for capital outlay was approved district-wide 2,557 to 2,392 and rejected in the township 1,000 to 908.

There was only one seat up for election by Clark voters on the Board — to fill the unexpired two-year term of Stephen Marcinko, who resigned earlier this year.

Running unopposed for that seat, Melvin D. Altman of 11 Rutgers Rd. received 1,201 votes.



John Fitzpatrick



Toby D'Ambola



Michael J. Dudek

A former member of the regional Board from Clark, Manuel Dios, had been appointed on March 19 to fill the seat until the regional body reorganizes on Tuesday, April 9 and Mr. Altman is officially sworn in.

The elementary body will also reorganize on April 9. Among the candidates for the elementary Board Mr. D'Ambola did his best in Valley Road School, where he garnered 368 votes to 342 in the Carl Kumpf School, 325 at the Charles H. Brewer School, 220 at the Frank K. Hehny School and 32 on absentee ballots.

Mr. Dudek had 364 votes at Valley Road, 348 at Brewer, 319 at Kumpf, 203 at Hehny and 32 in absentee ballots.

Mr. Fitzpatrick's strength was also at Valley Road, where he tallied 344 votes, to 342 at Brewer, 315 at Kumpf, 306 at Hehny and 32 in absentee ballots.

Mrs. DiMartino had 340 votes at Valley Road, 216 at Brewer, 203 at Kumpf, 129 at Hehny and four absentee ballots.

Mr. Schroock tallied 294 at Valley Road, 227 at Brewer, 221 at Kumpf, 131 at Hehny and five in absentee ballots.

The current expense tax levy went down 337 to 284 at Valley Road and 277 to 256 at Brewer. It passed at Kumpf 270 to 243 and at Hehny 173 to 144. Absentee voters cast 30 ballots for it and seven against.

Capital outlay went down 343 to 278 at Valley

Road and 269 to 253 at Brewer, while passing 259 to 247 at Kumpf, 165 to 143 at Hehny and 27 to 8 among absentees.

Going back to the regional district, a principal in the Clark schools, John Conlin of Garwood, who did not file to run for reelection after serving 33 years in that community's seat on the regional body, nevertheless received the greatest number of write-in votes when no-one filed for the seat.

If he should choose to again take the Garwood seat he would, of course, be entitled to it.

If he does not choose to take the seat again one of the other write-in candidates may be given the position.

Another Clark principal, David M. Hart of Mountaintop, won reelection to that borough's post, as did Natalie R. Waldt, the incumbent in the Springfield position.

Both candidates were running unopposed.

Clark elementary school officials were elated over the passage of the current expense budget, although Board secretary, H. Edward Flanagan, was disappointed capital outlay did not also pass.

Mr. Flanagan told The Clark Patriot many necessary capital improvements were needed in the schools and the budget was needed to finance them.

Board president, Thomas Faria, said he was happy that, after seven straight budget defeats, township voters had decided to take a more positive stance and hoped this trend would continue into the future.

All three successful elementary Board candidates promised to work their hardest for both the children and the residents of Clark.



OVER THE TOP...Comm. John Specht, center, of Clark Post No. 328 of the American Legion is congratulated by American Legion national commander, Clarence Bacon, and the legion's Department of New Jersey commander, John Hein, for his support in the 1985 membership drive. The Clark post has gone over the top for 22 consecutive years. The national commander's official visit to New Jersey was held in the Ramada Inn in Princeton. Approximately 250 legionaires attended the dinner-dance on March 2.

Board leaves Commandments on table

Two attempts to include in township elementary schools instruction in the Ten Commandments were rejected March 26 by the Board of Education following a ruling by Board attorney, Steven Glickman, that such instruction would be unconstitutional.

The Board member who originally introduced the Ten Commandments instruction at the February school body meeting, John Dillon, in response to a recently-adopted addition of a course on the Holocaust, tried once again to introduce the motion on the Commandments as a completely new item at the March meeting.

However, it was pointed out to Mr. Dillon since the school body had already tabled his February motion on the same subject for further study by the attorney that motion would have to be brought off the table and acted upon first.

According to a spokeswoman for the school body after Mr. Glickman explained the teaching of the Ten Commandments could be ruled unconstitutional the motion to bring back the February move for action was rejected by a 5-3 vote of the school body.

The move to return the subject from the table was supported only by Mr. Dillon and Board members, James Kehoe and John Schneider. Board member, F. Donald Paris, was not present at the session.

Board members also took action on a state-mandated policy on child abuse on which action had been delayed in February because of questions regarding the school district's liability in suspected cases of child abuse.

Of particular concern in February had been a section of the policy which would have required "prompt action to secure treatment of such injuries as to protect the health of the child."

That section was changed in the motion, introduced on first reading on March 26, to inform all staff members who have contact

with students of their responsibility to report all suspected and/or alleged cases of abuse, abandonment, cruelty or neglect resulting in physical or mental injury by other than accidental means.

In other action, the education body:

—Authorized the superintendent of schools to enter into a contract for the 1985-1986 school year with the Union County Educational Services Commission to provide services for handicapped children through the Clark district.

—Adopted policies on student progress, student complaints and grievances, relations between the public and non-public schools, remedial instruction and individual Education Plans.

—Approved Thursday, June 20 as the graduation date for eighth graders at the Carl H. Kumpf School.

—Okayed cancellation of its April 1 regular meeting. —Gave its permission for the employment of Charles McCutcheon and Mrs. Sandra Powers, at stipends of \$22.50 each, to act as bowling coaches on March 14 and 21.

—Approved the reimbursement of Otto Picard, Gloria Havens and Jack Tomasovich for attendance at conferences, seminars and workshops.

—Authorized the addition of teachers, Adrienne Flisser, Igrid Davis and Gary Chernow, and Vincenta Wheeler, a clerk, to the 1984-1985 substitute list.

—Approved the retirement of Mrs. Betty Truss, a teacher, effective on Sunday, June 30.

—Okayed the retirement of Michael Krawec, head custodian, effective on June 30.

—Authorized the retirement of another teacher, Mrs. Ruth Deardoff, on June 30.

—Gave its permission for the retirement of Andrew Boydos, a bus driver/maintenance man, also effective on June 30.

—Approved the retirement of Superintendent of Schools Dr. John T.

Farinella, effective on Tuesday, Dec. 31.

—Authorized the abolishment of three classroom teaching positions, one music teacher position, one home economics teacher position and one speech teacher position in accordance with the 1985-1986 school budget.

—Okayed the placement of Mrs. Rose Bachraty, a music teacher; Miss Jennifer Palmer and Mrs. Lillian Liskovec, home economics teachers; Mrs. Nancy Mendonca, a speech teacher and Mrs. Julia McCarthy, Mrs. Doris Chinch, Mrs. JoAnn Chern and Mrs. Jane Murray, teachers, on the Reduction-In-Force List for the 1985-1986 school year because of declining enrollment, economic constraints and school organization plans.

—Approved the salaries and compensation for 1985-1986 in accordance with recently-settled staff contracts.

—Authorized the employment of Mrs. Julia McCarthy, effective March 11 to Monday, June 24, at an annual salary of \$19,400 to work 17.5 hours per week in accordance with a negotiated agreement between Mr. Glickman and Mrs. McCarthy.

—Accepted the resignation of Cindy Coucavage, interpreter for the deaf, effective on March 8 of this year, and the employment of Miss Karen Braun at \$9 per hour worked to replace her for a term of employment ending on June 24.

Township budget shows no tax increase

By R.R. Faszczewski
After increasing and decreasing a number of items originally proposed by Mayor George G. Nucera the Township Council March 22 introduced a \$5,753,107.45 budget which will have no effect on 1985 local property taxes for municipal purposes.

The vote was approved with all the councilmen in favor except Third Ward Republican representative, Ruth DeLuca, who abstained.

The vote will cause township property taxes to be used for municipal purposes to remain at 36¢ per \$100 of assessed value.

Chief cuts made in the mayor's budget included: Salaries and wages in the Township Clerk's Office, which dropped from \$84,249 to \$76,251; maintenance costs for the public library, which went from \$161,950 to \$157,000; salaries and wages in the municipal court, which went from \$65,052 to \$60,857; salaries and wages in the department of recreation, which went from \$3,665 to 0, and special services in the bureau of roads, which dropped from \$114,000 to \$100,600.

The largest increases in the mayor's budget were in the following accounts: Mayor's Office, salaries and wages, \$2,400 to \$14,400; Municipal Council, other expenses for official organizations, memberships and meetings, 0 to \$3,500; Township Clerk's Office, for equipment rental, 0 to \$1,800; department of recreation, other expenses for special services, \$1,000 to \$8,000; telephones for all departments, \$18,000 to \$25,000; a \$29,000 item in the bureau of roads account for other expenses for an annual cleanup, and an unclassified salary adjustment, 0 to \$75,000.

Of the total budget for municipal purposes \$3,871,764.50 is within the "CAPS" limit on spending increases and \$1,438,542.95 is excluded from the limit. \$442,800 is reserved for uncollected taxes and \$3,284,964.13 is anticipated from revenues other than taxes.

The amount to be raised by taxes in support of the municipal budget is \$2,468,143.32. Requested to be included as revenue in the 1985 budget, with the permission

of the state director of the division of local government services, were: \$12,029.35 from an office of highway safety project, \$6,100 for a cable television franchise fee, \$68,000 from capital surplus, \$39,129.79 from the Municipal Purpose Tax Assistance Act for 1985 and \$19,632.68 for the act from 1984 and \$271.97 from the assessment-trust surplus.

Emergency temporary appropriations, to pay for various accounts until the 1985 permanent budget is adopted, were approved for: Salaries and wages for the Township Council, the Township Clerk's Office, the Mayor's Office, the Planning Board, the Board of Adjustment, the municipal court, the department of law, the department of administration, the department of public works and engineering, the department of revenue and finance, the department of assessments and the department of public safety.

Emergency appropriations for other expenses were also made for the Mayor's Office, the maintenance of the library, the department of administration, health and welfare, the department of

recreation, the department of public works and engineering, the department of revenue and finance, the department of assessments, the department of public safety and the Social Security System under statutory expenditures.

The public hearing and final adoption of the budget are set for Friday, April 19 at 7:30 p.m.

The recent tax revaluation more than doubled the value of the average township house, dropping the 1984 municipal tax rate from 86 points to 36.

Local school taxes are scheduled to increase by four points to 73, regional high school taxes by four points to 59 and county taxes by five points to 48, it is reported.

Overall the local rate would rise by 13 points if all four budget components receive final approval.

The annual cleanup, to be used to collect bulk household trash, has not been scheduled yet. Reportedly the Governing Body added \$9,000 to the mayor's budget to cover oil heating at the Charles H. Brewer School, about half of which is being converted into municipal offices.

Crusaders to face Lions in opener

By Ray Hoagland
Clark's Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School Crusaders will open their home baseball season this afternoon at the township's Nolan Field at 3:45 o'clock when Coach Larry Sturchio's team faces the Lions of Roselle Catholic.

The Crusaders will travel to Westfield on Saturday, April 6, to play the Blue Devils at 1 p.m.

Coach Sturchio's team has six senior lettermen on this spring's squad.

The opening-day line-up could be as follows: First base, Vinnie Sabba, senior; second base, Ted Jasinski, senior; shortstop, Al Scherb, senior; third base, Mike Sabba, junior; catcher, Robert Banasiak, sophomore; leftfield, Gary Koski, junior; centerfield, Albert Moller, senior; rightfield, Mark Demille, senior; pitcher and first base, Ed Hanewald, sophomore; second base, Jeff Qualieri, junior; shortstop and third base, Brian Sims, junior; pitcher and outfielder, John Strickik, junior; pitcher and outfielder, Mike Dowling, senior; outfielder, Rick

Dudia, sophomore, and pitcher and outfielder, Marty Venezia, junior.

This is the first year for the team in the Mountain Valley Conference. Coach Sturchio will be assisted by Tony Falzone and William Rose.

Clark Cosmos to sponsor car wash

The Clark Cosmos Traveling Soccer Team will sponsor a car wash on Saturday, April 6, at the corner of Westfield Ave. and Schindler Rd., Clark between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. The price for cars will be \$3 and \$5 for vans.

Aileen Hanlon on honor roll

A Clark seventh grader, Aileen Hanlon, was named to the first honor roll at Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child in Summit for having achieved not less than A-minus in all subjects. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Hanlon of Blake Dr.

