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RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY

Committee recommends waste collection changes

by Pat DiMaggio
Clark's Solid Waste Committee made their final report at a meeting held last week on the plan to incorporate a town-wide garbage collection program.

The Solid Waste Committee was appointed to study a proposal by Mayor George Nucera to change the method in which Clark residences dispose of solid waste. The committee is chaired by First Ward Councilman Robert Ellenport and includes Second Ward Councilman William Caruso and Fourth Ward Councilman Carmine Cristiani.

Clark is currently serviced by seven different scavengers and residents are paying between \$30 and \$40 a month for twice weekly collection.

Haulers presently dump at the Automated Modular Systems transfer station in Linden, where tipping fees have increased to \$138.50 per ton. There is discussion that the tipping fee may rise to \$168.00 per ton.

The committee recommended the seven haulers be replaced with one private contractor thereby reducing operating costs. The contract would go out to bid and would be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. The contractor would also be bonded to the Township.

Under the new proposal, the Township would enter into a three year contract with a scavenger for twice weekly, walk-in, rear yard collection of two containers per residence.

Pick-up would include normal household trash, bagged grass clippings and small tree and bush branches. Bulk items would

be picked up once a month curb-side.

The Solid Waste Committee, in their final report, modified their preliminary recommendation with regard to the method of raising money to pay for the collection of solid waste.

The committee, in letters to be sent to residents, recommended that Clark be divided into separate garbage collection districts.

Each district would be defined according to the average assessed value of homes within that district. Districts would be divided in \$40,000 increments.

The number of residences in each district would be counted and that district would share the cost of solid waste removal. There would be no limit to the number of

districts that may be created. The taxes for each garbage collection district would be collected at the same time and in the same manner as other Township taxes and would be a tax-deductible item for most residential taxpayers.

The committee's proposal stated that each household would not pay the same amount for garbage dis-

posal, but to have equality would be to lose the tax deduction of garbage payments.

The Solid Waste Committee will continue to meet with garbage haulers for further input before the Municipal Council will be allowed a final vote on the proposal.

Board divided on early tenure for Ortenzio

by Pat DiMaggio
Clark's superintendent of schools attained early tenure in spite of a split board vote at last week's meeting of the Board of Education.

More than 70 people attended the meeting held at the board's administrative offices on Schindler Road. Because of overcrowding, the meeting was adjourned to the Hehny School cafeteria.

A resolution granting early tenure to Dr. Paul Ortenzio after two years, eight months and fifteen days drew both support and opposition from members of the audience and members of the board.

Board Attorney Steven S. Glickman explained that a state statute confers tenure status for superintendents after three years of employment unless a school system passes a resolution agreeing to grant tenure after a shorter period of time.

"If a board wishes to grant tenure in a shorter

period of time, they are permitted to pass a resolution," said Glickman. "Tenure is a process that achieves employment security. With tenure, an employee can only be dismissed for very specific reasons."

In 1963 the board passed a resolution giving Superintendent Carl Kumpf tenure after 11 months. In 1975 the board modified the resolution to grant former Superintendent Dr. Farnella tenure after two years, eight months and fifteen days. "You cannot legally do it (grant early tenure) for one and not for another," said Glickman.

Before the board voted on the resolution, members of the audience were given an opportunity to speak. Parent Susan Lordi presented a petition containing 131 names to the board asking them to postpone the decision on tenure until after the April 5 school board elections.

James Kehoe, a candidate for a seat on the

board of education, opposed the vote on early tenure. "To vote 30 days from the election to bring up this issue smacks of illegality," he said.

Speaking in favor of the early tenure were two Clark teachers. "We have had many positive changes under Dr. Ortenzio's supervision," said Pat Fizzel, a staff member at Hehny School. "I look forward to continued educational progress."

"There have been many changes in the early childhood curriculum," said Lyn Harko, a kindergarten teacher for 17 years. "Dr. Ortenzio has demonstrated that he is a child advocate and that he is deeply concerned with the children in school."

Stephanie Pandolfo, president of the Hehny School P.T.A., was also supportive of the resolution granting early tenure. "Dr. Ortenzio was hired for his innovative ideas," she said. "His enlightened approach

has helped our schools tremendously." The board voted six in favor, with Board Members John Dolina, Michael Dudek and Lori-Ann Kazanowski opposed.

"We are circumventing a state statute," said Dolina. "If tenure of the superintendent is to be the choice of the people, by rushing this resolution it will have an impact on the community."

"The decision has divided this board," said Kazanowski. "It comes four months earlier than recommended by the state."

"The issue is if this leadership is going to continue," said Board Member Thelma Purdy in voting in favor of the resolution. "He has looked at things with a fresh eye and has taken a strong stand on accountability. The role of superintendent is defining and re-defining what our goals are going to be. I concur with this resolution."



FLIPPED OUT...



Clark BPW seeks candidate for scholarship

The Clark Business and Professional Women are seeking applicants interested in receiving a nursing scholarship.

In the organization's first year, emphasis has been on health and health related issues pertaining to women.

Recognizing the critical nursing shortage, Clark BPW has decided to award their first annual scholarship to a woman interested in pursuing a nursing career.

For further information and eligibility requirements, contact Marguerite Vovnick, Frank H. Hehny School, Raritan Road, Clark, New Jersey 07066. Deadline for applications is April 15.

Board of Ed authorizes bidding for asbestos removal at Kumpf

by Pat DiMaggio
Clark's Board of Education approved a resolution authorizing Business Administrator/Board Secretary H. Edward Flanagan to advertise for bids for the removal of asbestos at the Carl H. Kumpf School at a meeting held last week.

The asbestos, located in the boiler room, will be removed before work will begin on removing or rebuilding valves in the room, according to Flanagan.

"If (asbestos) exists in the area to be disturbed by a contractor, we must do something about it, either remove it or warn the contractor of its presence," said Flanagan.

Kumpf School is the fourth building to undergo asbestos removal. Hehny School, Valley Road School and the administrative office building on Schindler Road have all undergone asbestos removal programs in their boiler rooms.

Asbestos removal in Township schools stems from a survey made by the New Jersey Department of Health, said Flanagan, in



FLIPPED OUT... A car driven by Laszlo Stancsik, 18, of Woodbridge hit a parked truck owned by James Mastrien of Clark on Westfield Avenue at 1:15 a.m. Sunday morning. Stancsik, who reportedly fell asleep at the wheel, was treated for minor injuries. He received a summons for careless driving. Photos by Robin Salant.

Band Boosters' sale to include CMS items

The Clark Historical Society is pleased to be able to show their exceptionally fine handcrafted items at the A.L. Johnson Band Boosters' Sale, Saturday March 19, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Johnson Regional High School, Westfield Ave., Clark.

These items are also for sale at the Dr. William Robinson Plantation, Madison Hill Road in Clark the first Sunday of each month, April through December.



NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD MEN... With the help of Neil P. Boyle of Clark, the Merchant's & Drover's Tavern in Rahway was well lit this past holiday season. Mr. Boyle, pictured above left, with Tom Connell and Dennis Kirk, Local 675 electrician, is business manager of the local, and volunteered his local efforts to illuminate the tavern. Nineteen electrical workers treated new citizens to the sight of their landmark once again ablaze in light after two seasons in darkness. A big thanks went out to SM Electric Company, New Brunswick Ave., Rahway, who donated the electrical material and wiring — and, of course, to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local No. 675.

