

Committee proposes change in garbage collection plan recommend scrapping private contract program for town-wide plan

by Pat DiMaggio

Clark's councilmembers discussed the pros and cons of a Township-wide garbage collection plan at a special meeting held last week.

The Solid Waste Committee, consisting of Councilmembers Robert Ellenport, William Caruso and

Carmine Cristiani, has recommended that the council approve a Township-wide plan instead of the present private contract program now in effect.

Residents pay up to \$400 per year to have their garbage hauled by seven different scavengers servicing Clark.

According to the proposed plan, residents would be taxed through special garbage districts. District number 1 would consist primarily of the First Ward, the area west of Raritan Road and the Fourth Ward area west of the Parkway. District number 2 would encompass the remainder of town.

District 1 would be taxed at \$0.20 per \$100 of assessed value, or approximately \$272.50, and District 2 would be taxed at \$0.30 per \$100 of assessed value, or \$303.70.

"New Jersey State law allows for special garbage districts," said Ellenport. "If these figures are calculated on the value of the property

and are included in the property taxes, they would be tax deductible."

Not only would the plan work, said Ellenport, but other towns are also considering it. "If the direct cost is included with the tax bill, it would result in a tax deductibility of 28 percent in savings," he noted.

Saying that the Solid Waste Committee's report was based on "assumptions", Councilman Bernard Hayden said they would be opening up a "Pandora's Box". "This is an election year," he said. "If there is a change in administration in January, aren't you creating a situation that might be objectionable to the new administration?"

"If this council doesn't take action soon on garbage, we are going to polarize everybody," said Caruso. "We want to make a better community and we need a system that works."

"We have the taxpayers in the middle, they want relief,

they want something done," said Councilman Joseph Pozniak. "We've bagged this long enough, it's time to do something."

The council has called a

special public meeting to take action on this proposal for Wednesday, September 7, at 7 p.m. in the Municipal court room.

Dream Come True:

Ground broken for Clark fire substation

by Pat DiMaggio

A long-awaited dream has finally come true for many in Clark with groundbreaking ceremonies held last week for a fire substation to be built on Raritan Road.

Voters approved a referendum in 1986 raising \$500,000 for construction of the firehouse to cut down on response time in the Raritan Road Area. After years of delays, a shortage of funds and final approval of a contract, Township officials and members of Clark's Volunteer Fire Department saw their goal realized at the ceremonies held last Thursday evening.

Calling the new firehouse

number 2 "much needed", Mayor George Nucera welcomed residents and firemen to the ceremonies.

"When we took over as mayor four years ago, one of the things in our master plan was this firehouse," said Nucera at one of his first appearances since suffering a heart attack several weeks ago. "I hope we don't have any more pitfalls to stop it from being completed."

the Fire Department who worked diligently towards the success of the new fire substation. "I'd like to thank all of the firemen who have waited patiently for this to come about," he said. "Hopefully, next spring we can have a celebration here for the 65 years of service the Fire Department has provided for the citizens of Clark."

ground-breaking for a new firehouse a reality, said it took 10 years of planning. "It has been a long time since this town has been a rural area," he said. "We are responsible for the life and safety of every person in this town. Each and every citizen and each and every fireman should feel proud for what we are doing today."

"It is my privilege to be a part of this ceremony," said Council President Fred Eckel. "It's been a long time coming to this would be an understatement." Fewkes cited the dedication of the men of

Council President Fred Eckel, speaking on behalf of the Township Council, said the council "was with you every step of the way to help you."

Deputy Chief Donald Kellerman who worked long and hard on making the

Construction will begin immediately, according to Anthony DeMaso, secretary/treasurer for the W.D. Snyder Co. Construction Company. The project should be completed by mid-December, he said.



BREAKING GROUND . . . With shovels at the ready, contractor reps and city officials take the initial step in erecting Clark's new fire substation. Pictured left to right: Anthony DeMaso, secretary/treasurer of W.D.

Snyder Co.; Council President Fred Eckel; Fire Chief Jerry Fewkes; Mayor George Nucera; and John Pepe, President of W.D. Snyder Co.

Clark Volunteer Fire Dept. issues second quarter report

During the second quarter of 1988, the Clark Volunteer Fire Dept. responded to 69 alarms as compared to 68 calls for the same time period in 1987. This brings the total number of calls for the year to 116.

The number of manhours expended for firematic calls for the quarter was 2,098 and the total hours, including maintenance duty, drivers' training, and company training were equal to 5,984 manhours. This brings the total manhours for the year to 9,145.

The type of alarms responded to for the year are as follows: 16 House; 17 Brush; 7 Drills; 22 Other; 8 Multi-Dwelling; 19 Commercial; 1 Industrial; 3

School/Church; 17 Motor Vehicle; and 6 Mutual Aid.

The Fire Dept. holds monthly training sessions with the following subjects covered: Incident Command System; Extrication using the Holmatro Rescue Tool; Electrical Safety given by PSE&G; Haz-Mat Emergencies on Railways given by ConRail; Hose Line Evolutions; and Fire Fighting Procedures at a house that was to be demolished.

In addition, many members have attended such courses as Advanced Truck, Fire Hydraulics, Instructional Techniques for Company Officers, and a Critical Incident Stress Seminar given by the N.J. State Fire College and other sources.

During the first six months of 1988 the Fire Prevention Bureau has performed 89 Smoke Detector Inspections, 56 Commercial Inspections, 63 Industrial Inspections, 41 Investigations, and 26 Re-Inspections of various places in the town. Several of the Fire Inspectors have attended the necessary schools and classes to maintain their certification as approved Fire Inspectors.

During the first half of the year, the department had three potentially dangerous working fires - two houses and one commercial fire at the Quick Check Dairy Queen store complex on Westfield Ave. - but fortunately was able to contain

the fires very quickly, keeping damage to a minimum; there were no serious injuries to the residents or fire fighters.

The 48 members of the Fire Dept. continue to have Maintenance Duty every Thursday, Drivers' Training every Sunday, and the scheduled Company training each month in addition to the time spent providing fire protection to the residents of Clark.

Any resident 18 to 35 years of age wanting to find out more about joining the Fire Dept. can stop in at the firehouse on Thursday evening or Sunday morning and talk to the officers and members about becoming a member.



HEALTH HUBBLE . . . Joan Dalton (left) and Al Czaya (center), Health teachers at David Breaerley Regional High School in Kenilworth, review a list of educational publications with Arthur L. Johnson, the newly appointed School Nurse at Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark. The occasion was a Union County Regional High School District Health Education Workshop session held recently at Breaerley - just one of the many curriculum workshops being conducted by teachers from the various departments and schools of the Regional District during the summer.



SCHOOL MEMORY . . . David Lampman (left), in the role of Barnette, does some explaining to Kathy Dodman (right), who plays Babe, during rehearsal for the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School play, "Crimes of the Heart." The play was presented in May at ALJ.

Discount tickets available for school games

Discount Athletic Tickets for the 1988-89 school year good for admission to any regular season home football, basketball or wrestling event sponsored by the four Union County Regional High Schools, will be on sale to the general public starting on Wednesday, September 7.

These season tickets are priced at \$10 for adults and \$5 for students, and they entitle the bearer to free admission to regular-season home athletic events at any of the following schools: Breaerley Regional in Kenilworth, Governor Livingston Regional in Berkeley Heights, Johnson Regional in Clark and Dayton Regional in Springfield.

To purchase these Discount Athletic Tickets, call the Main Office of the nearest Union County Regional High School.



THE KNIGHT IS YOUNG . . . Ronald Diegman, Past Grand Knight for the Knights of Columbus, Clark Council #6503, passes the gavel to newly elected Grand Knight Robert Della Seta, as the District Deputy, Raymond Cooney looks on. Della Seta, a 1982 graduate of

School guidance during summer

Students, parents and graduates are invited to use high school guidance and counseling services and facilities during August. Each of the Regional High School Guidance Offices at David Breaerley, Jonathan Dayton, Arthur L. Johnson and Governor Livingston will be open to serve students and parents from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Registration of new stu-

dents, scheduling conferences and informational assistance are available to all residents of the Regional District.

In addition, the District's Student Assistance Counselor is available in Summer School at David Breaerley, (272-7500), to counsel students with alcohol and/or drug-related problems and assist their parents.



HEALTHY TALK . . . On July 19, Alex Wyssessons, left, from the Clark office of the American Lung Association, spoke to the members of the Clark Kiwanis Club regarding the various hazards in the air today and their adverse effects upon the human lungs. He also stressed the danger of cigarette smoking. Steve Marks, right, President of the Clark Kiwanis Club, presented the speaker with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Clark club schedules Oktoberfest

The Deutscher Club of Clark will hold its Annual German-American Oktoberfest on the Club's picnic grounds on Sunday, August 21, starting at noon. Music will be by the "Melodies."

German food and beverages will be served, and the Ladies Division will hold its annual flea market. The public is invited to attend. A donation of \$3 is requested for admission.