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City budget deemed 'illegal' Proposed \$19.1M exceeds CAP allowance; Excess may have to come from 'distressed cities aid'

by Pat DiMaggio
Rahway's Municipal Council introduced their \$19.1 million 1989 budget at a special meeting held last week that will be "substantially cut" before final adoption in April. Business Administrator Joseph Hartnett said the budget, based on the mayor's recommendations, is illegal in that it is over the CAP allowance, the state al-

lowed increase for municipal budgets. The budget was introduced on February 23 to meet the state's deadline and the budget was prepared to comply with that deadline, said Hartnett. "This will not be the budget the City adopts this year," noted Hartnett. "It is just to get the budget process started."

The budget as it stands is \$1.1 million over CAP and illustrates the "fiscal crisis facing Rahway", according to Hartnett. Representing a 4-1/2 percent increase over last year's City budget, it also shows a 27 percent decrease in revenues. "The cost of government is not going up," said Hartnett. "Federal and state aid programs are going down."

"Other towns are sending out layoff notices and are causing panic," said Mayor Daniel Martin. "That is not my method of operation. Based on the needs of the City there is no way we can tolerate this revenue situation. We are boxed into a corner."

Rahway has applied to the state for \$2.7 million in Distressed Cities Aid. Last year the City received \$1.4 mil-

lion. "By approving the introduction of this budget we are putting on record what the City's financial situation would be if we didn't continue to receive state aid," said Hartnett. The budget, as introduced, would result in an increase of 78 tax points. The tax rate would increase from \$3.09 to \$3.87 or \$300 for municipal purposes on an average priced home in Rahway, said Hartnett. Voting against the budget were Republican Councilmembers Michael Esposito, Katherine Fulcomer and William Wuuck.

One of only 30 districts Intermediate, Franklin Schools to share 20G pot Board of Ed recognizes student achievements

by Pat DiMaggio
Grants were awarded to district schools to facilitate a "partnership between the home and school" at Rahway's Board of Education meeting on February 21. Superintendent of Schools Frank Brunette announced that two schools, the Intermediate School and Franklin School, will share in a \$20,000 Partners in Learning Grant from the State Department of Education. Of 600 school districts in the state, 200 applied for the grant monies and Rahway was one of only 30 districts to become grant recipients, said Brunette.

The purpose of the program is to involve parents in assisting their children with learning. Monies will be used to provide parent workshops and in-service training for teachers. Parents will participate in assertive discipline training sessions and teachers will participate in workshops to develop skills in establishing positive parent-teacher relationships, said Brunette. Also included will be workshops to help parents become more effective in monitoring the completion of homework assignments.

"We will also work on community awareness to communicate to the public the value of a partnership between home and school," said Brunette. The programs will be implemented for the next school year although some workshops will begin prior to the opening of school in September, he noted.

The board also recognized the following students for their accomplishments: Cheryl Butler and Brian Deeds, grade 12, \$1,000 annual scholarship, N.J. Distinguished Scholars Award; Dana Evans and Timothy Brophy, grade 12, \$500 annual scholarship, Garden State Scholar Award; Dena Williams, grade 12, DECA regional winner, 1st place in Roleplay and 2nd place overall in general mechan-

dizing; Eric Sloan, grade 9, 1st prize of \$50 in Planned Parenthood Essay Contest, "From Vietnam with Love"; Bryan Currie, grade 9, 2nd prize of \$25 in Planned Parenthood Essay Contest, "How My Family Communicates"; Jennifer Heuser, grade 9, honorable mention in Newark International Airport's Aviation Poster Contest. In other business the board:

- Reappointed the following: Milt Theodosatos as head football coach at \$4,916; Glenn Curnow, John Perillo and Fred Steuber as assistant football coaches at \$3,687 each; John DiBlasio as a trainer at \$3,687; Anatol Popovich as boys soccer coach at \$3,441; Miriam Fernandez as head girls tennis coach at \$1,475; Patricia Dempsey as head cheerleading coach at \$3,037; Sandra Murphy and Rose North as assistant cheerleading coaches at \$1,429 each.
- Appointed Leon Ali-rangues as assistant softball coach at \$2,845; Miriam Fernandez as head boys tennis coach at \$1,366 and Michael Semchyshyn as assistant wrestling coach at \$1,194.
- Approved James Eden, Alonzo Welcher, Victor West, Carl Stanton and Robert Lazor as substitute custodians.
- Appointed Frederick Canady a custodian at the High School at \$18,413.
- Appointed Theresa Migliore-DiMatteo as a secondary Gifted and Talented teacher at \$23,794.
- Appointed Brian Grip as an Industrial Arts teacher at the High School at \$23,468.
- Adjusted the salary of Rocco Collucci, High School teacher, to \$25,520.
- Appointed Yhetta Cowen as a resource room teacher at the High School at \$24,066.
- Accepted the resignation of Donna Doughter, Franklin School teacher.

- Appointed Ellen Pankuch as a Science teacher at the High School at \$23,150.
- Appointed Rocco Colucci, Sandra Murphy, Barbara Twerdak, Leon Ali-rangues, Phyllis Inemer and David Valla as tutors for Project ASK.
- Approved Project ASK for 9th grade at-risk students in preparation for the High School Proficiency Test.
- Authorized the following Rahway Saturday Youth Program teachers: Raymond Bladzinski, judo, \$90; Hilda Manhardt, tennis, \$100; Michael Hartnett, drawing, \$100; Laura Catalano, preschool activities \$100; Aline Tassitano, preschool gym, \$100; Cathy Klandt, preschool activities (one session), \$12.
- Added Angela Beninato, Thomas Burke, Lori Huxford, Michael Semchyshyn, John Woods, Michael Bukoosky, Robert Copeland,

- Davinder Johal and Murray Shereskewsky to the Substitute Teacher List.
- Approved an Intermediate School summer school session for grades 7-8.
- Approved a High School summer session.
- Submitted an \$18,020 and \$202,560 Flow-Thru application to the State Department of Education.
- Approved Carry-over funds in the amount of \$30,608.
- Appointed United Jersey Bank to act as the board's registrar and paying agent for the \$619,000 bond issue.
- Approved the change of hours that the polls will be open for the April 4 school election from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. to 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Approved participation in a cooperative pricing system for supply bids known as "Education Co-operative Pricing System".



Rahway man wins a million \$\$



MILLION DOLLAR SMILE... Robert C. Stevens and wife, Paula, of Rahway, flash smiles of victory after winning the top prize of a million dollars in a special state lottery drawing. A top prize of \$1 million, payable over 20 years, was at stake when the New Jersey Lottery held its "Pick-6 Lotto" Bonus Million Grand Prize Drawing at the Tropic World Casino and Entertainment Resort in Atlantic City, on February 15. Among the 250 finalists on hand was Robert C. Stevens of Rahway, who attended the drawing with his wife, Paula. Tension mounted as the drawing began at 12:15 p.m. in the Ballroom. The finalists represented all 21 counties, and six were from out-of-state — two from Pennsylvania, two from New York, one from Florida and one from Virginia. Robert Stevens emerged as the million dollar winner! The finalists had won their

ways into the drawing by matching, in exact order, the five-digit Bonus Million Game numbers picked Monday and Thursday evenings as part of the televised drawings for the "Pick-6 Lotto" twice-weekly game. Entered in the February 15 drawing were those winners whose claims had been received by the Lottery in Trenton by January 4. Stevens, a Rahway resident for 2-1/2 years, works as a carpenter mechanic. Ironically the drawing took place on the 7th birthday of the Stevens' son, Robert Jr., proving that seven is, indeed a lucky number. The Stevens' will receive the prize monies in installments of \$40,000 a year.

City may sell land to fill revenue gap

'Library Park' back on list

by Pat DiMaggio
Rahway will try to offset decreases in revenue by selling off City-owned land not needed for public use. Proceeds from the sales will be included on the revenue side of the City's 1989 budget.

The Municipal Council, meeting last week, approved a list of land to be auctioned off sometime in late March. Included in the list of irregular and land-locked lots are four buildable parcels. Six building lots located behind Rahway's Public Library on Central Avenue and Pierpont Street will once again be included in the sales, either as six separate lots or one parcel.

The City sold this parcel last year for a bid of \$385,000, but the sale fell through when the buyer defaulted at the closing, said Business Administrator Joseph Esposito. Angry residents who attended the meeting last year when the council originally approved the sale of this land disagreed with the sale of what many called "park land." Residents at that time said this parcel was known informally as "Library Park" and shouldn't have been included in the sale.

Councilmembers Michael Esposito, Katherine Fulcomer, Alex Shipley and William Wuuck were outvoted when they proposed an amendment to delete the Central Avenue parcel from the resolution. "We should hold out on the sale of this property," said Esposito. "We should first see if we are going to get state aid."

"We have no guarantee of state aid," said Councilman Dennis Hemenway. "The City needs this revenue and we owe it as elected officials to bring as much relief to the taxpayers as possible."

The resolution concerning these lots for sale was approved on a vote of 10-3, with Councilmembers Esposito, Fulcomer and Wuuck opposing. Other business items include a \$100 by \$100 Regional Assessment, \$100,000 for an Environmental Study, \$101,000 for an Environmental Study, and a \$100,000 for an Environmental Study on Wall Street. The study is undetermined, however, and will be affected by the recent property census.

Pvt. Rivera in W. Germany

Army Pvt. Richard Rivera, son of Emilio and Gladys A. Rivera of Elm Ave., Rahway, has arrived for duty in West Germany. He is a single-channel radio operator with the 38th Signal Battalion. In 1982, Rivera graduated from Rahway Senior High School. He received an associate degree in 1985 from the Association of Graphic Arts in Manhattan.

Rahway Noncom earns army leadership award

U.S. Army Specialist Michael C. Bailey recently graduated from the 7th Army Noncommissioned Officers Academy. His appointment to the Academy placed him in competition with the finest noncommissioned officer in Europe, and he distinguished himself by attaining the highest leadership standing within his student company. For this accomplishment he earned the "General Douglas A. MacArthur Award for Leadership," achieving one of the highest goals a noncommissioned officer may attain.

VFW to host St. Pat dinner

A St. Patrick's Day dinner will be held by the Mulvey-Ditmar Post #681, Veterans of Foreign Wars, on Saturday, March 11 at 7 p.m. at the Post Home, 1491 Campbell St., Rahway. For tickets, call Virgil Wilson (388-4231), or George Hartigan (574-3609). Tickets are \$5 each.

Jacqueline Garcia will participate in Miss New Jersey Teen USA Pageant

Jacqueline Garcia of Rahway, daughter of Sandalo and Amelia Garcia and sister of Michael and George Garcia has been selected to participate in the Miss New Jersey Teen USA Pageant being held at the Somerset Hilton Hotel, Somerset the weekend of March 17-19. Each contestant will be judged in swimsuit, evening gown and personal interviews. The winner will represent the Garden State at the nationally televised Miss Teen USA Pageant in July 1989. Among her many state prizes will be \$1,000 cash, a Norwegian Blue Fox Flemington Fur Jacket, luggage, and the all expense-paid trip to the CBS telecast of the national finale for the opportunity to compete for the prestigious title of Miss Teen USA 1989 and over \$150,000 in cash and prizes. Jacqueline Garcia is a student at Rahway High School. She has been sponsored by Sandalo, Amelia, George and Michael Garcia, The Rahway Savings Institute, Pascale Realty, Rahway Kiwanis Foundation, Miller Pontiac-Cadillac Corp., El Bodegon, Cliff's Hardware, Scott's Service Center, Rahway Lumber, Ray Eggs Agency, The Forum, Enrico's Pizzeria, Spanish Tavern III, Skaff's Pharmacy, Spanish Tavern II, Susan Bauman, Mr. Gritschke, Meche and Jose Lopez, Amanda, Eduardo, and Eddie Amorin, Emmanuel Novoa and Ted's Pizzeria.

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READ...
PAGE 2

