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Ogden Martin on the carpet Residents attack burner during Q&A period

by Pat DiMaggio
In an effort to provide "detailed and factual" information, representatives of the Union County Utilities Authority and Ogden Martin addressed members of Rahway's City Council and

residents at a special meeting held last week. The Union County Utilities Authority will own and operate a regional resource recovery facility to be built by Ogden Martin Systems on 22 acres in the City

of Rahway. The facility will include three 480-ton-per-day wastewater furnaces and ash handling systems. Cost is projected at \$155 million in 1991 dollars.

During the five-hour meeting, more than 100 residents listened to presentations from Authority Executive Director Joseph Kazar, Ogden Martin Executive Vice President William Mack and Dr. Gary Crane, who heads up Ogden Martin's environmental staff.

"The county and the Utilities Authority have labored for over 10 years to address the solid waste needs of Union County," said Authority Chairman Angelo Bonanno. "We believe a balanced approach incorporating recycling and a resource recovery facility is the proper path for Union County."

Joseph Kazar explained that the Utilities Authority was created in 1986 to implement the county's solid waste management plan. The authority operates a regional recycling operation, owns the franchise for all solid waste in the county, oversees the county transfer stations, and develops landfill and waste-to-energy capacity.

Kazar said the authority is committed to a waste-to-energy plant to solve the solid waste problem because it has kept up with environmental advances, meets all New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection requirements, has no negative health impacts, needs only modest land requirements, and is cost effective.

William Mack explained that Ogden Martin Systems Inc. was established in 1984 to provide municipalities with full-service design, construction and long-term operation of waste-to-energy facilities. Ogden Martin presently operates 18 facilities in 12 states, serving 13 million people. "All of our facilities utilize Continuous Emissions Monitoring (CEM) systems," said Mack. "CEM systems improve air quality by automatically detecting fluctuations in air emissions, make quick adjustments to the air pollution control equipment and alert facility operators to any change in facility status."

In answer to residents' concerns over emissions and the health and safety of those living in the immediate vicinity of the facility, Dr. Crane said eating bread and bacon presents more health risks than living near an incinerator. Dr. Crane said state-of-the-art pollution control devices would minimize hazardous emissions. In many cases, he said, ambient air tests cleaner in the vicinity of an incinerator.

After the presentation, the meeting was opened to questions from council members and residents. The audience included about 40 members of Local 715, a carpenters union, who support construction of the incinerator. Union members stressed "taxes, jobs, opportunities," however, none of them came forward to address the authority or representatives of Ogden Martin.

Twenty-six members of the audience signed up to speak and were limited to five minutes each. Many of them made statements instead of asking questions. One, Madeline Hoffman, asked questions but said she wasn't interested in the answers. "I don't want to hear your answers," she said. "I don't want you to take up my time."

Members of the concerned Citizens of Union County continued to speak against the health and safety dangers of incineration.

"The American Public Health Association says incineration should be considered as a last resort," said Bob Carson, Central Ave. "Ontario has banned this incineration. We need this like a hole in the head. Ogden Martin is sick and they are charitable, but they are also playing hardball."



THIRTY-DAY SUSPENSION ORDERED... Triangle Inn, Monroe and Montgomery Streets, was ordered by Rahway's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to suspend business for 30 days following public hearing at which neighbors complained of disturbances, underage drinking, property damage and drug sales they attributed to bar's patrons. Owner denied charges.

Triangle Inn gets 30-day suspension

by Pat DiMaggio
After several continuations, Rahway's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board finally found the owners of the Triangle Inn guilty of creating a public nuisance and ordered a 30 day suspension of business.

The ABC board, meeting last week, heard final testimony from police officers and the owner of the bar before rendering its decision. Residents of the Monroe and Montgomery Streets area have complained repeatedly of disturbances, underage drinking, loitering, drug sales and property damage which they attribute to patrons of the bar. An ongoing police investigation has resulted in several arrests of underage minors in the tavern and one summons issued to the owners for allowing minors on the premises.

An area resident, who refused to give her name out of fear of reprisals, said conditions continue in the area. "We are afraid to get out of our cars, we are constantly harassed and threatened," she said. "Large groups congregate, there is loud music and noise. If I could move, I would. I am extremely afraid."

James Young, a resident of the area, said people can't even sell their homes. "The neighborhood is deteriorating," he noted. "This has been going on for several months, and I can't understand why we can't get help. There are lots of homes for sale, people are ready to get out, they are sick of it. Something has to be done."

At the meeting, Detective John Burket testified that he arrested several underage youths at the Triangle Inn during his two-month tour of duty in the area. "The bar was the center where kids hung out," he said. Burket also said that he never observed anyone at the door checking identification.

Frank Werrity, a co-owner, testified that the large groups of people who congregate outside the tavern are not his fault. He said he has complied with recommendations from the Police Department by removing his phone and shutting down his pool table at an early hour. He also said he does not serve anyone under the age of 25. "We've gone out and cleaned up the street ourselves," he said. "The police told me to take care of the inside and they would take care of the outside. This is not only a problem for the neighborhood, but also a problem for us."

Werrity also said he has lost business because of conditions in the area. His customers are postal workers or workers from Merck & Company, and many of them have stopped patronizing his establishment because of the groups of people who congregate on the street, he said.

"In the morning when we go out to clean up broken bottles, we find brands that we don't even sell," he noted. "We are not causing this problem. We want it solved like everyone else."

After a ten-minute deliberation, Board Commissioner Courtney Clarke rendered the board's decision. The board found the bar to be a public nuisance and ordered a 30-day suspension. Fifteen days will be credited if the owners agree to hire someone to check identification at the door. This person must also check the immediate outside vicinity and notify the Police Department if a large crowd forms, said Clarke.

Glen Roth, the attorney representing the Triangle Inn, said he didn't agree with the finding of guilt based on the evidence presented and might file an appeal when the decision is rendered in writing at next month's meeting of the ABC board.

Kurylak takes the reins

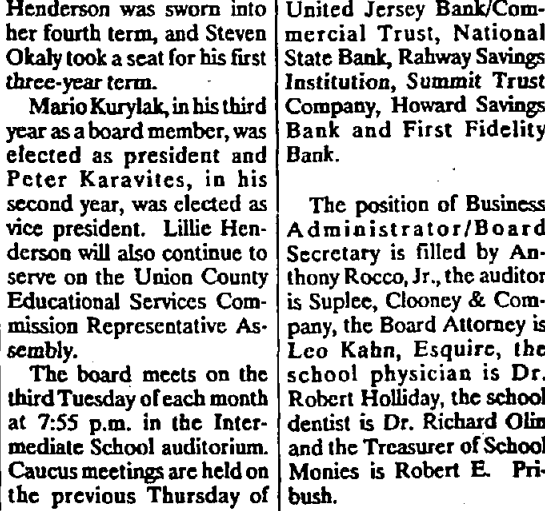
by Pat DiMaggio
Newly-elected board members were sworn in at the Board of Education's Reorganization Meeting held last week. Antonio Garay began his second term in office, Lillie Henderson was sworn into her fourth term, and Steven Okaly took a seat for his first three-year term.

Mario Kurylak, in his third year as a board member, was elected as president and Peter Karavites, in his second year, was elected as vice president. Lillie Henderson will also continue to serve on the Union County Educational Services Commission Representative Assembly.

The board meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:55 p.m. in the Intermediate School auditorium. Caucus meetings are held on the previous Thursday of each month in the Louis R. Rizzo Board Meeting Room at the Intermediate School.

The board named the Rahway News Record as an official newspaper and the following banks as depositories of school monies: United Jersey Bank/Commercial Trust, National State Bank, Rahway Savings Institution, Summit Trust Company, Howard Savings Bank and First Fidelity Bank.

The position of Business Administrator/Board Secretary is filled by Anthony Rocco, Jr., the auditor is Suplice, Clossney & Company, the Board Attorney is Leo Kahn, Esquire, the school physician is Dr. Robert Holliday, the school dentist is Dr. Richard Olin and the Treasurer of School Monies is Robert E. Pribush.



MOTHER SETON INDUCTS TWO FROM RAHWAY... Two students from Rahway are among 24 new members inducted into National Honor Society at Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark, at Annual Spring Induction Ceremony. Induction took place at general assembly attended by administration, faculty and student body of Mother Seton, and parents and friends of inductees. From left: Barbara Curtin, former President of N.J. Board of Public Utilities, who was guest speaker; Sister Regina Martin, Principal; Nelsa Mamczak and Barbara King, both of Rahway, two of inductees; and Geraldine Wolosh, Moderator.

Board OKd for six-month budget

by Pat DiMaggio
Rahway's Municipal Council voted to bond \$7.2 million to fund its six-month transitional budget at its regular meeting held last week.

Rahway is utilizing the six-month budget to bring its spending plan in line with the state's budget and to qualify for state aid. On July 1, the City will introduce a year-long budget to run until June 30.

The council voted to finance the transitional budget through the issuance of \$7.2 million in bonds. In the past, the City used tax anticipatory notes to finance expenses until state aid monies were received.

There will be no tax impact from this transitional budget, according to Business Administrator Peter Polissier.

Councilwoman Katherine Fulcomer voted against the bond ordinance. "This is a one-shot deal for operating expenses," she said. "It will give residents a false sense of security."

The bond ordinance was approved on a straight party-line vote, with six in favor and Republican Councilmembers Fulcomer, Michael Esposito and William Wauack opposed.

A public hearing on the bond issue will be held at the June 12 meeting of the council.

The council also approved increases in the fee schedule for copies of documents furnished by the City. An ordinance setting the following fees will also come before the council for final adoption.

Confirmed the mayoral appointment of James Ferrill as an alternate member to the Board of Adjustment.

Approved a Police Department bicycle and related parts auction for Saturday, June 22, at 11 a.m. in the rear parking lot of the department.

Confirmed the mayoral appointment of Anthony Deigo as Director of the Department of Health, Welfare and Building.

Confirmed the mayoral appointment of Paul DeCarlo to the Board of Adjustment.

Library was also approved for first reading.

In other business the council:

Approved a Police Department bicycle and related parts auction for Saturday, June 22, at 11 a.m. in the rear parking lot of the department.

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