

A Regular Meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, July 10, 2007 at 8:40 PM in the Council Chamber in City Hall, 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, NJ 07026.

Mayor Frank J. Calandriello presided. City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act and that adequate notice was provided by mail and fax to the official City newspapers and to other interested parties and by posting the meeting notice on the bulletin boards in City Hall.

Councilmembers Present: Louis G. Aloia, James Krone, Stanley J. Moskal, Joseph Delaney and Frank J. Calandriello

Also Present: City Manager Thomas J. Duch, City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica, City Attorney Joseph J. Rotolo and Interim Chief Financial Officer Roy Riggitano

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Councilmember Moskal moved to approve the Reports of the Cabinet as presented orally and in writing during the Work Session held earlier this evening. Councilmember Delaney duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 07-256

RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield that the City Clerk is hereby authorized to issue the following licenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008:

License No. 0221-33-031-003	Mulligan James and Audrey t/a Jimmy Jim's Grill 399 Midland Avenue
0221-33-052-014	Ramos Investments LLC t/a Envy Lounge 279 Passaic Street

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the foregoing renewals are granted on the condition that said renewal shall not constitute approval of anything at variance with the records of the City Council or any person-to-person transfer, place-to-place transfer or change of corporate structure approved prior to the passage of this resolution.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley J. Moskal

Resolution No. 07-257

WHEREAS, an application has been filed for a person to person transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License No. #0221-33-050-003 from Struck, Constantine t/a Sportsman Tavern Inc., 245 Outwater Lane, to Sportsman Tavern Inc., (Constantine S. Struk, 5 Main Street, Garfield, NJ 07026 who will own 100% of the shares of the corporation), t/a Sportsman Tavern, and WHEREAS, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, the transfer fees have been paid, and the license has been properly renewed for the current license term, and WHEREAS, the applicant is qualified to be licensed according to all standards established by Title 33 of the New Jersey Statutes, regulations promulgated thereunder, as well as pertinent local ordinances and conditions consistent with Title 33, and WHEREAS, the applicant has disclosed and the issuing authority reviewed the source of all funds used in the purchase of the license and the licensed business and all additional financing obtained in connection with the licensed business, and WHEREAS, the Police Department has conducted a background investigation and the applicant and premises are suitable for licensing, and

RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, a "Tax Clearance - Transfer Certificate" has been issued and has been received as required pursuant to regulations promulgated by the State of New Jersey Division of Taxation, NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey, does hereby approve, effective July 11, 2007, the transfer of the aforesaid Plenary Retail Consumption License to, Sportsman Tavern Inc., and does hereby direct the City Clerk to endorse the license certificate to the new ownership as follows: "This license, subject to all its terms and conditions, is hereby transferred to Sportsman Tavern, Inc., effective July 11, 2007.", BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this license is transferred on the condition that no go-go, live entertainment or discotheque be used in connection with this license; (A fee of \$ 75.00 was collected for the City of Garfield and \$200.00 was collected for the State of New Jersey in connection with the license transfer).

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley J. Moskal

Resolution No. 07-258

RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey that Scott Lebowitz of 130 Krakow Street, is hereby appointed as Third Alternate of the Zoning Board of Adjustment effective immediately, for a term to expire December 31, 2008.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley J. Moskal

Resolution No. 07-259

RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey that Stanley Bielewicz of 5 Bergen Street, is hereby appointed as Fourth Alternate of the Zoning Board of Adjustment effective immediately, for a term to expire December 31, 2008.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Stanley J. Moskal
Louis G. Aloia

Resolution No. 07-260

WHEREAS, Robert Moran, 107 Belmont Avenue, who is the holder of a Disabled Person I.D. Card No. P776286, has filed application for a handicapped parking sign to be placed at his address, and WHEREAS, the Police Department has conducted an investigation and recommend approval of the application,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield that one parking space be designated as reserved for "Handicapped Parking", located on the north curb line of Belmont Avenue commencing 50 feet east of the intersection of Belmont Avenue and Pierre Avenue and an additional 25 feet east from that point.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Traffic Safety Control Division is hereby authorized and directed to erect an appropriate sign at the above location.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley J. Moskal

Resolution No. 07-261

WHEREAS, Nilda Onativia, 181 Cambridge Avenue, who is the holder of a Disabled Person I.D. Card No. P767292, has filed application for a handicapped parking sign to be placed at her address, and

WHEREAS, the Police Department has conducted an investigation and recommend approval of the application,

RESOLUTIONS

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield that one parking space be designated as reserved for "Handicapped Parking", located on the west curb line of Cambridge Avenue commencing 50 feet north of the intersection of Willard Street and Cambridge Avenue and an additional 25 feet north from that point.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Traffic Safety Control Division is hereby authorized and directed to erect an appropriate sign at the above location.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley J. Moskal

Resolution No. 07-262

WHEREAS, Peter Padro, 143 Clark Street, who is the holder of a Disabled Person I.D. Card No. P489227, has filed application for a handicapped parking sign to be placed at his address, and WHEREAS, the Police Department has conducted an investigation and recommend approval of the application,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield that one parking space be designated as reserved for "Handicapped Parking", located on the south curb line of Clark Street commencing 50 feet east of the intersection of Clark Street and Midland Avenue and an additional 25 feet east from that point.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Traffic Safety Control Division is hereby authorized and directed to erect an appropriate sign at the above location.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley J. Moskal

Resolution No. 07-263

WHEREAS, Gary Trabucco, 83 Orchard Street, who is the holder of a Disabled Person I.D. Card No. P759639, has filed application for a handicapped parking sign to be placed at his address, and WHEREAS, the Police Department has conducted an investigation and recommend approval of the application,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield that one parking space be designated as reserved for "Handicapped Parking", located on the west curb line of Orchard Street commencing 206 feet north of the intersection of Belmont Avenue and Orchard Street and an additional 25 feet north from that point.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Traffic Safety Control Division is hereby authorized and directed to erect an appropriate sign at the above location.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley J. Moskal

Resolution No. 07-264

WHEREAS, Carole Verhas, 181 Pierre Avenue, who is the holder of a Disabled Person I.D. Card No. P776437, has filed application for a handicapped parking sign to be placed at her address, and WHEREAS, the Police Department has conducted an investigation and recommend approval of the application,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield that one parking space be designated as reserved for "Handicapped Parking", located on the west curb line of Pierre Avenue commencing 210 feet north of the intersection of Pierre Avenue and Belmont Avenue and an additional 25 feet north from that point.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Traffic Safety Control Division is hereby authorized and directed to erect an appropriate sign at the above location.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley J. Moskal

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 07-265

WHEREAS, Mary Leak, 79 Wessington Avenue, who is the holder of a Disabled Person I.D. Card No. P534825, has filed application for a handicapped parking sign to be placed at her address, and WHEREAS, the Police Department has conducted an investigation and recommend approval of the application,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield that one parking space be designated as reserved for "Handicapped Parking", located on the west curb line of Wessington Avenue commencing 129 feet north of the intersection of Belmont Avenue and Wessington Avenue and an additional 25 feet north from that point.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Traffic Safety Control Division is hereby authorized and directed to erect an appropriate sign at the above location.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley J. Moskal

Resolution No. 07-266

RESOLUTION ENDORSING APPLICATION FOR FUNDS FOR REHABILITATION OF FLEISCHER'S BROOK

WHEREAS, the Borough of Elmwood Park and the County of Bergen are in the process of seeking funding for the rehabilitation of Fleischer's Brook; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have reviewed this proposed funding and project and have determined that it would be in the best interests of the residents and taxpayers of the City of Garfield to assist in securing such funds; and

WHEREAS, the rehabilitation of Fleischer's Brook would provide additional benefits to the City of Garfield; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Richard Mola of the Borough of Elmwood Park made a presentation to the Mayor and Council in which he asked that the Governing Body endorse such an application for funding. The Mayor and Council have determined that this funding would, in fact benefit the City of Garfield.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield, County of Bergen, and State of New Jersey that endorsement is hereby granted to representatives of the Borough of Elmwood Park and the County of Bergen to seek State or Federal funds to assist in the rehabilitation of Fleischer's Brook from the Garfield Border with Elmwood Park to Lanza Avenue in the City of Garfield.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk be and he is hereby authorized and directed to forward certified copies of the within Resolution to the Borough of Elmwood Park, the County of Bergen and the Office of the City Manager.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley J. Moskal

Resolution No. 07-267

RESOLUTION ENDORSING BERGEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND MUNICIPAL PARK IMPROVEMENT AND LAND ACQUISITION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, a Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund application in the amount of \$600,000.00 has been proposed by the City of Garfield for the Municipal Park Improvement and Land Acquisition Program in the City of Garfield, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the State Interlocal Services Act, such funds may not be spent in a municipality without authorization by the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid project is in the best interest of the people of the City of Garfield.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Garfield hereby confirm endorsement of the aforesaid project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council is committed to providing a dollar for a dollar cash match for the project; and

RESOLUTIONS

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be send to the Director of the Bergen County Division of Community Development so that implementation of the aforesaid project may be expedited.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Stanley J. Moskal
Louis G. Aloia

Resolution No. 07-268

MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the City of Garfield has entered into a Cooperative Agreement with the County of Bergen as provided under the Interlocal Services Act NJSA 40A:8A-1 et seq. to participate in the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund; and WHEREAS, said Agreement requires that one municipal representative be appointed by the governing body of the community to be part of the Open Space Trust Municipal Park Improvement and Land Acquisition Program Regional Committee for the term of one year coinciding with the fiscal year July 1, 2007 through June 30 3008;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body hereby appoints City Manager Thomas J. Duch, Esq. as its representative to participate on the Open Space Trust Municipal Program Regional Committee.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley Moskal

Resolution No. 07-269

WHEREAS, the City Water Billing Collector collects various fees which involves cash transactions; and

WHEREAS, at times the Water Billing Collector requires the availability of a change fund to process transactions;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey, that a change fund for the City Water Billing Collector be established in the amount of \$200.00

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley Moskal

Resolution No. 07-270

WHEREAS, the rules of procedure of the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustment of the City of Garfield state that a deposit shall be made to cover Engineering and Attorney fees,

WHEREAS, deposits have been received from Anthony & Diane Shupenko, 2 Garden Court North, Garfield, NJ, in the amount of \$289.50 for Engineering fees and \$500.00 for Attorney Fees on 07/07/05, said funds are being held in the Escrow Developer's Trust Fund, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has investigated these deposits and had determined that they are due to the above individual

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey that these monies be refunded to the above.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley Moskal

See the following pages numbered _____ for Resolution No. 07-271

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 07-272

WHEREAS, the City of Garfield Volunteer Ambulance Corps requested that the City Council approve the purchase of a new ambulance for use in connection with that Department; and
WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council agreed that the need existed for such purchase: and
WHEREAS, specifications were prepared for the purchase with a bid receipt date of May 31, 2007:
and
WHEREAS, one bid was received at that time, as follows:

The Vickery Companies
Flanders, New Jersey
Bid Amount: \$139,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the necessary funding needed to facilitate this purchase has been applied for:
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a contract for the purchase of a Braun-Chief XL Ambulance be and is hereby authorized: and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED as follows

1. The contract shall be awarded to the Vickery Companies of Flanders, New Jersey
2. The Contract shall be in the amount of \$139,000.00
3. The vehicle shall be in strict compliance with the bid specifications and the bid submitted by the above order.
4. This award is contingent upon certification, by the chief Financial Officer, that sufficient funds exist for this purpose and approval of the Grant Application and approval of the Bond Ordinance necessary to complete this purchase.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk be and is hereby authorized as directed to forward certified copies of the resolution to the Garfield Volunteer Ambulance Corps, the Chief Financial Officer of the City of Garfield and the Vickery Companies

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Stanley Moskal

BILLS AND CLAIMS

Resolution No. 07-273

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Garfield that the following bills No 1201 to 1203 covering Trust Other, Dog Trust Acct and Bldg Trust Acct totaling \$12,206.26 and Current Fund Current Year totaling \$307,420.98 and Water Fund Current totaling \$5,198.10 and General Capital totaling \$2,911.55 and Water Capital totaling \$369,099.49 per attached Computer Lists, be ordered paid and the proper officers are hereby authorized to issue checks for same provided there are funds in the respective appropriations, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the action of the Mayor, City Clerk and City Treasurer in issuing checks in payment on the Ratification List, which includes twenty one (21) items prior to the meeting be ratified

See the following

pages numbered _____

for Bills and Claims

ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 2502

The following entitled ordinance was introduced at a Regular Meeting held June 26, 2007; it was duly published; a copy was posted on the bulletin board in City Hall; copies were made available to the general public and having complied with the law, this ordinance was not read in full and the City Council can now proceed with the public hearing and final passage:

“BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF SANITARY AND STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS AT VARIOUS LOCATION IN, BY AND FOR THE CITY OF GARFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$250,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.”

City Clerk Pavlica read the ordinance by title.

Mayor Calandriello declared a public hearing on same and asked if there were any objections.

There being none, Mayor Calandriello declared the public hearing closed.

Councilmember Aloia moved that said ordinance do now pass on final passage and that the City Clerk be directed to publish said ordinance in full together with the statement or notice required by law. Councilmember Krone duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

Ordinance No. 2503

The following entitled ordinance was introduced at a Regular Meeting held June 26, 2007; it was duly published; a copy was posted on the bulletin board in City Hall; copies were made available to the general public and having complied with the law, this ordinance was not read in full and the City Council can now proceed with the public hearing and final passage:

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 157-26 OF THE CODE OF CITY OF GARFIELD ENTITLED TO “ESCROWS”.”

City Clerk Pavlica read the ordinance by title.

Mayor Calandriello declared a public hearing on same and asked if there were any objections.

There being none, Mayor Calandriello declared the public hearing closed.

Councilmember Aloia moved that said ordinance do now pass on final passage and that the City Clerk be directed to publish said ordinance in full together with the statement or notice required by law. Councilmember Krone duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

Councilmember Aloia introduced in writing the following ordinance entitled:

“BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF A NEW AMBULANCE, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE CITY OF GARFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$145,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONT ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.”

ORDINANCES

City Clerk Pavlica read the ordinance by title.

Councilmember Aloia moved that this ordinance entitled, "BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF A NEW AMBULANCE, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE CITY OF GARFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$145,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONT ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS." does now pass on first reading and remain on file with the City Clerk for inspection until public hearing thereon and further consideration thereof which shall be held on August 14, 2007 at 8:00 PM in the City Hall in Garfield and that the City Clerk shall be directed to publish said ordinance in full together with the notice of such hearing in the Garfield Messenger.

The motion, duly seconded by Councilmember Moskal, was on roll call adopted by the following vote and the motion was declared adopted and said ordinance passed on first reading: Ayes 5

CITIZENS AND TAXPAYERS

Ms. Mary Music, 163 Chestnut Street, spoke on a cost analysis concerning projected savings on Health Benefits to City employees. She questioned \$100,000 in comp time for eight retirees and said that it should have been paid as earned. She said that she has copies of bills for services by the City Auditor and it appears that he was paid \$40,000 above the fee to perform the audit during the past three years. She said she believes he is therefore helping in the Finance Office. She said that she has copies of bills for ADP in regard to Payroll services which is \$30,000 to \$35,000 a year. She said that it seems that the part-time City Finance Officer is getting additional help. She said that she still has questions that still have not been answered with vouchers and payroll.

Ms. Tana Raymond, 93 Spring Street, said that she is happy about the purchase of a new ambulance. She said that she is upset with the murder of Angelina Costa allegedly by her neighbor this past week in Garfield and said that this is the second murder in the City in the past few months. She spoke on the need to address illegal apartments and the need for more inspectors. She spoke on the Health Benefit cost analysis compiled by the Finance Office and she spoke on prescription costs. She said that she was concerned about overtime in the Finance Office and differential pay paid to employees in the Finance Office which had longevity built into it and she was concerned with how the money was returned. She questioned the claim made by Interim Chief Financial Officer Riggitano on the number of people he said was in the Finance Office in 1995. She said that she was amazed to see the hours that employees were in City Hall. She said that it is not safe for women to be in City Hall by themselves during the hours they claimed to be in the building and that needs to be reviewed because that has to be a liability for the City. She said that if there is a need for overtime, it should be done after hours, not at 11:00 PM at night or 5:00 AM in the morning. She questioned the duties performed for the overtime in order to justify why they are here on overtime. She said that employees at the DPW are docked fifteen minutes pay if they are late and everybody should be treated equally. She questioned if Interim Chief Financial Officer Roy Riggitano punched in and out on the time clock. She said that she received her water bill and that she is not a happy camper because the bill does not enumerate what the fees are and it is not broken down. She said that the water billing contract with Passaic Valley Water is a five year contract and it says that they have the right to raise rates at any time. She spoke on the number of "stop meters".

Mr. Joseph Dorman, 174 Palisade Avenue, said that his lawsuit against the City has been rendered moot due to the ordinance the City recently passed. He still has questions that have not been answered. He said that on December 24, 2006, the Albanian American Islamic Center located on Monroe Street broadcast a call to prayer from 13:00 - 13:04 and he reported to the Police what he claimed was a violation of the noise ordinance. He said that on January 10, 2007,

CITIZENS AND TAXPAYERS

Police Chief Robert Andrezzi called him stating that the matter was investigated and the mosque denied making the broadcast and told the investigator that the broadcast came from the City of Passaic. He said that on February 8, 2007, he went to the Police Station and requested a written copy of the investigation and the Records Department did not have a report on file. He said that Police Chief Andrezzi was not in and he spoke with Deputy Police Chief Kevin Amos who remembered the incident and told him to contact Lieutenant Jack Van Wycke on Saturday. He said that on February 10, 2007 he visited with Lieutenant Van Wycke at the Police Station and he told him that there was never an investigation of the Mosque noise complaint. He asked if the investigation was completed or not? He asked if the renovation plans submitted by the Mosque to the Building Department for the minaret include loudspeakers. He complained about quality of life issues in his neighborhood having to do with noise involving trucks, trains and buses. He complained about the Polish Automobile Parade which occurred one Sunday in May between 13:00 and 13:39 during which a steady stream of cars drove down Monroe Street, blowing their horns, playing loud music, with people in cars screeching, screaming and yelling. He complained that at least one car had a loudspeaker attached to its roof. He said that at the corner of Monroe Street and Palisade Avenue, residents are subjected to loudspeakers and loud music from passing cars or cars stopped at the traffic control signal. He said that he wants guidance and direction on Noise issues.

Mr. Stanley Shaminski, 174 Palisade Avenue, complained about the noise of passing cars. He said that with his windows shut, television on, air conditioner on, him in the back room, his house vibrates and shakes from the music and bass of passing cars. He said that he has no objection to bus stops, but he has an objection to the way buses stop and pull away making his whole house shake. He said that when he moved in, he had a home inspection and the inspector said that in a few years, units 10, 11 and 12 will have their façade fall down due to noise vibrations and someone will get hurt if they are passing by. He made noise complaints about the train which travels down the middle of Monroe Street.

Mr. William Whren, 33 Westminster Place, thanked City Manager Duch and Superintendent of Public Works Garofalo for the response to property maintenance complaints concerning his next door neighbor. He said that the place was cleaned up. He asked questions about the twelve new Police Officers to be appointed this month. He said that he was concerned about the homicide this week of an 81 year old woman. He told the Mayor and Council to get tough on absentee landlords and illegal apartments.

Ms. Dolores Marsh, 142 Plauderville Avenue, asked questions concerning the length of the contract for water billing services with the Passaic Valley Water Commission.

Dr. Dawn B. Sova, 126 Banta Avenue, said that she is concerned about crime, quality of life, illegal apartments and absentee landlords.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmember Aloia spoke on the Tax Incentive Abatement Program to encourage homeowners to upgrade their homes and the COAH funds to encourage home repair. He spoke about Absentee Landlords and the “element” coming into town. He said that realtors are advertising “Free Child Care” in Garfield and our own realtors are bringing in the element. He spoke on the murder in town of Angelina Costa of Gaston Avenue by her neighbor. He spoke on the hiring of twelve new police officers. He spoke on the need to become involved as a community and how nobody takes possession of their block anymore. He spoke on noise complaints and how Garfield is a growing metropolis. He said that people do not know their neighbors any more. He said that there is a need to wait for the year end history to be completed to determine the exact number for the medical insurance savings. He commented that he has a new grandson named Jeremy.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmember Krone said that he pays his respects to the Costa Family on their loss. He said that in regard to water billing, it is hoped that the Passaic Valley Water Commission will discover those with outstanding water bills to pay. He commented on the funding to obtain a new ambulance for the Garfield Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

Councilmember Moskal publicly expressed his condolences to the Costa Family. He said that it is certainly a tragedy and he challenges everyone to watch out for each other. He said that the City is in mourning. He said that in regard to Water Billing and Medical Insurance, changes are made because there is a cost benefit. He said that if you looked at the Financials year after year, Health Insurance costs kept going up, but now, there is going to be a savings. He said that Water Billing will now be done more efficiently. He said that if there is no savings, the City will make changes and move on. He congratulated the Garfield Volunteer Ambulance Corps on their new ambulance.

Councilmember Delaney spoke on the Police issuing noise complaint tickets and on water rates. He said that it is a sad situation concerning the murder of Angelina Costa but the Garfield Police and the Bergen County Police caught the suspect. He commented that he is sorry to say that the Fourth of July Fireworks were rained out, but he looks forward to next year.

Mayor Calandriello said that the City Water Department was operating at a deficit for many years, but now, it is being turned around. He said that the City hired five police officers a year ago. He said that they are five outstanding individuals who are doing a good job for the City. He said that he hopes the twelve new police hires are another great class because he wants the trend to continue of getting quality individuals as police officers. He concluded by saying that his prayers go out to the Costa Family.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:10 PM, there being no further business, Councilmember Krone moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Aloia duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

Andrew J. Pavlica, CITY CLERK