

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held Friday, January 2, 2015 at 7:05 PM in the Council Chamber in City Hall, 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, NJ 07026.

Mayor Tana M. Raymond presided. City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with 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: Frank J. Calandriello, Louis G. Aloia, Glenn A. Mati and Tana M. Raymond
Councilmembers Absent: Joseph Delaney
Also Present: City Manager Thomas J. Duch, City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica and City Engineer Representative Bernard Mirandi (for City Engineer Kevin J. Boswell)

City Clerk Pavlica introduced Deputy Mayor Glenn A. Mati, a member of Fire Company No. One, who acted as the Master of Ceremonies. He welcomed everyone to this evening's meeting and introduced Assistant Chief Edward J. Morano who called upon Assistant Chief Michael Semancik Jr. to lead the meeting in the flag salute.

Deputy Mayor Mati introduced Reverend Edward P. Szpiech, the Pastor of Saint Stanislaus Kostka Roman Catholic Church, who offered a Special Invocation.

Deputy Mayor Mati introduced the dignitaries in the audience.

Deputy Mayor Mati called upon Outgoing Fire Chief Alan R. Tani II to conclude Unfinished Business for the Firematic Year 2014:

Garfield Fire Department
Fire Calls 2014
Total Calls: 740

Fire	128
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion	2
Rescue & Emergency Service Incident	17
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	104
Service Call	181
Good Intent Call	68
False Alarm & False Call	202
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	5
Special Incident Type	<u>33</u>
Total Incident Count:	740

Resolution No. 15-1

WHEREAS, Alan Tani, has served as Fire Chief of the Garfield Volunteer Fire Department for the year 2014, and

WHEREAS, the services rendered to the citizens and taxpayers of the City of Garfield have been such as to be above and beyond the ordinary call of duty, and

WHEREAS, under the jurisdiction of Alan Tani the Garfield Volunteer Fire Department maintained its high standard of service and devotion to duty with respect to protection of life and property of the citizens and taxpayers of the City of Garfield, all of this be in keeping with the highest traditions of the standards set for fire service, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Garfield desires to express its appreciation to Fire Chief Alan Tani for his singular devotion and dedication to the fire service of the City of Garfield,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey, that Fire Chief Alan Tani be and is hereby commended for the excellent service he has rendered to the citizens and taxpayers of the City of Garfield during his tenure as Chief of the Volunteer Fire Department,

Special Meeting January 2, 2015, Continued

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the City of Garfield and that a certified copy of this approved resolution also be included in the personnel jacket of Fire Chief Alan Tani.

On call of roll, Ayes 4, (Sgd) All Five Councilmembers
Absent 1- Councilmember Delaney

At this time, City Manager Duch presented outgoing Fire Chief Alan Tani with a framed copy of Resolution No. 15-1 and presented and pinned the Ex-Chief Badge on outgoing Fire Chief Tani.

Outgoing Fire Chief Tani made the following outgoing remarks:

“Good Evening everybody, Happy New Year. I would like to thank the members of the Garfield Fire Department, along with my Fire Company, Fire Company No. Five, for their support throughout the 2014 year. I would like to thank my Assistant Chiefs for all their hard work throughout the year. I would also like to thank the members of the City Council for their support throughout the year. With their support, we were able to purchase some new equipment to better the Fire Department. Lastly, I would like to thank my family for their support over the last five years, especially my wife, Rosa, who was the secretary for the Fire Department for 2014, and my son Aiden, the Fire Chief’s Junior Assistant. I would like to wish my wife a Happy Birthday because today is her birthday. Thank you.”

City Clerk Pavlica administered the Oath of Office to the Line Officers of Fire Company No. One, followed by Fire Companies No. Two, Three, Four and Five.

In accordance with an election held by the Garfield Volunteer Fire Department, City Manager Thomas J. Duch appointed the following to their respective offices for a term of one (1) year:

Jason Tani	Fourth Assistant Chief
Michael Semancik, Jr.	Third Assistant Chief
Edward J. Morano	Second Assistant Chief
James Kovacs Sr.	First Assistant Chief
Michael Colon	Fire Chief

City Clerk Pavlica administered the Oath of Office to the Assistant Fire Chiefs.

Deputy Mayor Mati administered the Oath of Office to Fire Chief Michael Colon, as his wife, Lori, and son, Michael, held the Bible. Mayor Raymond then presented Chief Colon with the Badge of Fire Chief of the City of Garfield.

Fire Chief Tani made the following comments:

“I would like to thank Ex-Chief Tani, my Assistant Chiefs, my wife, son and family. I am looking forward to working with the Mayor and Council and City Manager. I am looking forward to having a great year and bringing everyone back home safe. Thank you and Happy New Year.”

Deputy Mayor Mati thanked everyone for coming to this evening’s ceremony and invited everyone to the Garfield Senior Center, for refreshments, dinner and fellowship.

Msgr. William J. Reilly, the Pastor of Most Holy Name Roman Catholic Church, concluded the ceremony with a Special Benediction.

At 7:40 PM, Councilmember Aloia moved to have a short recess. Councilmember Calandriello duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 4,
Absent 1 – Councilmember Delaney

Special Meeting January 2, 2015, Continued

At 7:50 PM, Mayor Raymond again called the meeting to order, asked for a roll call, and all City Officials were present as before the recess. It was duly noted for the record.

Resolution No. 15-2

WHEREAS, CENTRAL BERGEN PROPERTIES, A NEW JERSEY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, is the owner of real property known on the Tax Map of the City of Garfield as Block 203.01, Lot 50.01, co=only known as 141 Lanza Avenue, in the City of Garfield, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, has filed real property tax appeal for the years 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 bearing Docket Nos, 008362-2011, 002374-2012, 001908-2013, 002906-2014 and Tax Year 2015; and

WHEREAS, Robert McNerney, the appraisal expert retained by the City of Garfield, and/or James Tighe, the Tax Assessor and the City Special Litigation Counsel, Blount & Lavin, have recommended that the appeal be settled; and

WHEREAS, said property was assessed for the year(s) 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 as follows:

Year	Land	Improvements	Total
2011 Original Assessment	9,233,000	38,115,700	47,348,700
2012 Original Assessment	9,233,000	38,115,700	47,348,700
2013 Original Assessment	9,233,000	25,767,000	35,000,000
2014 Original Assessment	9,233,000	25,767,000	35,000,000
2015 Original Assessment	9,233,000	25,767,000	35,000,000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey, that the Special Litigation Counsel is hereby authorized to enter into a settlement of the real property tax by reducing the assessments as follows:

Year	Land	Improvements	Total
2011 Settlement	9,233,000	31,767,000	41,000,000
2012 Settlement	9,233,000	32,167,000	41,400,000
2013 Settlement	9,233,000	25,767,000	35,000,000
2014 Settlement	9,233,000	25,767,000	35,000,000
2015 Settlement	9,233,000	13,767,000	23,000,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no interest be paid on any refund or credit due the taxpayer provided it is paid within the statutory time period; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Attorney is hereby authorized to sign a Stipulation of Settlement consistent with the terms of this Resolution.

On call of roll, Ayes 4,
Absent 1 – Councilmember Delaney

(Sgd) Glenn A. Mati
Louis G. Aloia

At 7:55 PM, there being no further business, Councilmember Calandriello moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Aloia duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 4,
Absent 1 – Councilmember Delaney

Andrew J. Pavlica, CITY CLERK