

## WORK SESSION OF JUNE 24, 2003 SENIOR CENTER

Mayor Ganz reconvened the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Ganz, Deputy Mayors Etler and Weinstein, and Councilmembers Amato and Caan.

Also present: Manager/Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski, Assistant Municipal Clerk Bojanowski and Attorney Lustgarten.

### Summer Help:

Borough Manager Kwasniewski stated that summer help was needed in the Building Department to work on the filing and phones etc, to be payed \$8.00, for 15-20 hours a week between now and before school starts. This would probably amount to \$1,400.00 at most for the summer. Deputy Mayor Etler felt they did not need the help. Deputy Mayor Weinstein felt the department definitely needed additional help. Councilmember Caan stated they could use an intern to get things caught up. Mayor Ganz felt it was worth it to clear up the backlog.

The consensus was to hire summer help in the Building Department, with Deputy Mayor Etler dissenting.

### Schedule Special Meeting:

Manager/Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski stated that the subcommittee made up of Deputy Mayor Etler and Deputy Mayor Weinstein met that morning with Architect Allen Weitzmen and the Borough Engineer. She said they felt that a special meeting was needed and she suggested next Tuesday, July 1. Mayor Ganz suggested beginning the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

### Adjournment:

Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Weinstein and a second by Councilmember Caan the meeting was adjourned to the Public Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn B. Bojanowski, RMC  
Assistant Municipal Clerk

## REGULAR MEETING SENIOR CENTER JUNE 24, 2003

Mayor Ganz opened the meeting at 7:06 p.m. Assistant Municipal Clerk Bojanowski read the following statement of compliance:

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, annual notice of all meetings of the Borough of Fair Lawn was published in "The Record" issue of December 27, 2002. Notices were also posted on the Bulletin Board located on the First Floor of the Municipal Building and at the Maurice Pine Free Public Library, copies mailed to The North Jersey Herald News and Shopper. The Annual Notice identified the meeting location and the time of the Council Meetings and Work Sessions.

PRESENT: Mayor Ganz, Deputy Mayors Etler and Weinstein, and Councilmembers Caan.  
And Amato

ALSO PRESENT: Acting Manager/Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski, Assistant Municipal Clerk Bojanowski and Attorney Lustgarten.

## MANAGER'S REPORT

Acting Manager/Borough Clerk Kwasniewski stated the Manager's Report was on the table. She added that the fireworks celebration would be on Tuesday, July 2, 2003 and invited everyone to attend. Mayor Ganz stated that as a special souvenir, everyone that attends the fireworks celebration would be given a small American flag when they walk in.

## RESOLUTION NO. 208-2003 Adoption of 2003 Budget

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Etler and a second by Deputy Mayor Weinstein, Resolution No. 2003-2003 adopting the 2003 Budget was unanimously passed.

Mayor Ganz stated that he was very proud of this budget and all the department heads that contributed to a Budget that called for no Municipal Tax increase. It has been a difficult year for all Municipalities across the State of New Jersey. Governor McGreevy asked that all Municipalities be able and willing to strive to not add to the burden on working taxpayers. Services have been expanded and the Capital Budget includes items that have been waiting for years.

## RESOLUTION No. 209-2003 Adoption of SID Budget

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Weinstein and a second by Councilmember Caan, Resolution No. 209-2003 adopting the SID Budget was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Ganz stated that Special Improvement District on River Road is designed to allow a business improvement district to govern itself and tax itself. They have no hesitation in expending funds for the government of the district and paying full or above the regular municipal tax that everyone else pays. Other areas in Fair Lawn may want to think about following their example.

## RESOLUTIONS BY CONSENT #20-2003

Upon motion by Councilmember Caan and a second by Deputy Mayor Etler, Consent Agenda #20-2003 containing the following items was unanimously adopted.

- a. Resol. #210-2003 - Approval of Minutes:  
Budget Meeting 2/22/03  
Closed Session 2/22/03
- b. Resol. #211-2003 - Refund of Overpayment of Taxes
- c. Resol. #212-2003 - Approval of Bingo & Raffles:  
St. Anne's Church on premise 50/50
- d. Resol. #213-2003 - Appointment to the Community Development Committee
- e. Resol. #214-2003 - Appointment to the Open Space Trust Regional Committee
- f. Resol. #215-2003 - Accepting Resignation & Appointment to Planning Board
- g. Resol. #216-2003 - Renewal of Liquor Licenses 2003-2004
- h. Resol. #217-2003 - Authorization to submit 2004 Municipal Alliance Grant Application

## I. Resol. #218-2003 - Approval of Knights of Pythias Circus

### MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Upon motion by Councilmember Caan and a second by Deputy Mayor Weinstein, it was unanimously agreed to open the time for public comments.

Jack O'Neil, 11-06 Third Street, wanted a clarification on the fireworks date. Manager/Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski informed him it was scheduled for Tuesday July 2, 2003, with a rain date of Wednesday, July 3, 2003.

There being no further comments from the public, upon motion by Councilmember Caan and a second by Deputy Mayor Weinstein, the time for public comments was unanimously closed.

### APPOINTMENT OF MANAGER

Deputy Mayor Etlar stated that in his opinion, they should continue the search for a Borough Manager, it is nothing personal.

Councilmember Amato stated that he was under the impression that they would be interviewing candidates for the position. It would only be fair to give others the opportunity to interview for this position. Acting Manager Kwasniewski only wanted this job as long as she was able to retain the prior position of Municipal Clerk.

Borough Attorney Lustgarten stated that sixty or seventy resumes were received for the position. He wanted the public to know that this was a process that took many months and took many resumes and interviews before they reached the decision.

Councilmember Caan stated that this was a year long process. The resumes were dwindled down to ten or twelve, and Joanne remained on the list for a number of reasons. She has been on the job for a full, difficult year. This year has had its number of events including the death of Officer Collura and the fire of the Radburn building. In both of these cases no more could have been expected by anybody else in that position. He believes she has been exceptional. On a day to day process and speaking to different people throughout the Borough, he has heard nothing but positive things said of Joanne. When you add all of these factors together, he doesn't see any reason to look for anybody else because the person who is already in the position is doing a fine job.

Councilmember Amato stated that the fact remains that he was not able to ask one question during the search process even though he was the one that fought the former Manager. He felt it would only be fair that he would have a say in the appointing of a Borough Manager. If he knew that Acting Borough Manager was a prelude to becoming Borough Manager, then he would have suggested another Borough employee becoming Acting Manager.

Deputy Mayor Weinstein stated that Acting Manager Kwasniewski showed poise and leadership and she is respected by the department heads in the Borough. She has shown in the past year that she is a good person to work with, she has no hidden agenda, and this shows humility. He is looking forward to removing the word acting from her title.

Mayor Ganz stated when Joanne Kwasniewski was appointed Acting Manager, he was not certain if she was the right person for the job. But now it has become very clear that she would be able to run the Borough on a day to day basis effectively. She is efficient and comes through in everything with flying colors.

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Weinstein and seconded by Councilmember Caan, Joanne Kwasniewski was appointed Borough Manager with Councilmember Amato and Deputy Mayor Etlar dissenting.

## RECESS TO WORK SESSION

Upon motion by Councilmember Caan, and second by Deputy Mayor Weinstein, the meeting was recessed to the Work Session 7:25 p.m.

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Weinstein, and seconded by Councilmember Caan, the Council Meeting was reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

## POLICE AWARDS

Chief Marshall asked everyone to please rise for the presentation and the singing of the National Anthem. He congratulated Manager/Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski on her promotion to the new position.

Manager/Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski thanked everyone for coming. She stated that this has been a tough time for everyone. She thanked all those who did an amazing job in helping with the investigation to find the person that killed Mary Ann.

Mayor Ganz thanked both the County of Bergen and Borough of Fair Lawn residents for the job that they have done. It has been a very tough time for everyone and he is forever in there debt.

Deputy Mayor Etlar stated that while Fair Lawn faced a crisis of major proportions the night Officer Collura was murdered, law enforcement on the entire east coast was put on the alert. That warning led to the apprehension and demise of the perpetrator of this most heinous crime. For the many police agencies who participated in the closure of this crime, he salutes them for all their efforts. There is only a thin blue line that protects everyone day in and day out in this most dangerous world. As everyone tries to return to normal, the motto of the Fair Lawn Police Department is still appropriate, ATo Protect and Serve@.

Deputy Mayor Weinstein stated that every life is sacred. Mary Ann Collura=s life was especially sacred because she was part of everyone=s life in the Borough and put her life on the line to protect the lives of others. Tonight they continue to remember and pay tribute to her by honoring all of the enforcement agencies who so gallantly, bravely, and seamlessly worked together to conclude the April 17th investigation into this tragedy. Mary Ann was a part of their family, all the determination and undying loyalty to Mary Ann and the people of Fair Lawn will never be forgotten.

Councilmember Amato stated he was very grateful to them all for their service to the community. They risked their lives everyday, and they are all truly great men.

Councilmember Caan thanked the Police Department for doing their job so well. It started out as a traffic stop, escalated to Fair Lawn, then to upstate New York, down the east coast and finally ending in Florida. He and Mayor Ganz travelled to Florida two weeks ago and had an opportunity to talk to those officers. They were put in a very dangerous situation. He thanked God that nobody there was hurt. Without the efforts of these officers in New Jersey, they would not have been able to find the criminals as quickly as they did. On behalf of the residents of Fair Lawn and himself, he thanked the officers very much.

Lieutenant Kneer stated that April 17 was a traumatic time for everyone, and words could not express it. He was very grateful to see how law enforcement pulled together.

Pat Snyder, Mary Ann's sister, stated that it was very important that everyone came this night and she wanted to mention for the record that everything that had been done. She wanted to express her sincere appreciation to all who came together in the past two months to do their part to seek justice, to honor her sister, and to support her family. She wanted to thank the Mayor and the governing body of Fair Lawn who gave her sister the finest tribute. Mary was laid to rest with the utmost dignity. To all brothers and sisters in law enforcement, she never knew what this brotherhood was, until this all happened. To those from other towns, she is grateful that they all came together with the determination and collaboration and helped bring some closure to her family. She wanted to especially recognize all the officers on her shift, Lt. Kneer who attended to every detail, and Detective Dave Boone who has been there spiritually and has been a dear friend to her family. She would like all the residents of Fair Lawn to know how fortunate they are to have such wonderful officers.

Chief Marshall presented awards to Bergen County Prosecutor John Molinelli and Assistant Prosecutors, Bergen County Chief of Detectives Michael Mordaga and Investigators, Passaic County Prosecutor James Avigliano, Passaic County Chief of Detectives Glenn Brown and Investigators, Bergen County Sheriff Joel Trella and Investigators, Passaic County Sheriff Jerry Speziale and Investigators, the Fair Lawn Police Department Personnel and to the Fair Lawn Police Department Investigators.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

Upon motion by Councilmember Caan and a second by Deputy Mayor Weinstein, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn B. Bojanowski, RMC  
Assistant Municipal Clerk