

**REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 10, 2001
HELD AT WARREN POINT SCHOOL**

Mayor Ganz opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski 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, 2000. 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 and News. The Annual Notice identified the meeting location and the time of the Council Meetings and Work Sessions.

PRESENT: Mayor Ganz, Deputy Mayors Adler and Etlar, Councilmembers Amato and Dobrow.

Also present: Acting Manager Rod Marshall, Borough Attorney Lustgarten, Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski and Assistant Municipal Clerk Bojanowski.

ABSENT: Borough Manager Sacks

AMENDMENT TO 2001 BUDGET - RESOLUTION NO. 116-2001

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Adler and a second by Councilmember Dobrow, Resolution No. 116-2001 was unanimously discussed.

Mayor Ganz made the following remarks:

Good Evening. This evening the Council will introduce modifications to the Manager's Budget that was proposed earlier this year. These changes are a result of more than a month of study by the Council. The Council has worked with the Borough Manager to pare the original presentation, which each of us on the Council felt was too high, and too much a burden on the Borough's taxpayers who bear the price of taxation, not only in our municipality, but also the taxes risen by the School Board, and the County of Bergen.

I am pleased to announce that with hard work, the Council has cut the Manager's budget by more than \$547,000 and has brought in a budget of around \$17,100,000.00. This represents stable taxation that represents a modest increase to the average home owner of just about \$100 per household, or \$1.94 per week during the year 2001. The original Manager's Budget would have cost taxpayers about \$2.44 per week for each household. This is a time to celebrate the efficiency of our Borough's Administrative staff, and employees. With the Manager's assistance, the Borough Council is hoping for increased efficiency and from those efficiencies, and effect a savings to the Borough taxpayers. Even with the budget cut imposed by the Council this evening, a number of new services are being offered which we believe will tangibly affect the lives of thousands of Borough residents. Thus, with pride we will be able to look at not only this budget, but the tangible benefits of being a resident in the Borough of Fair Lawn.

Among the selective highlights in this years budget:

1. Our pool's season will, for the second year in a row, begin at Memorial Day weekend. We had a hot early summer last year and this provide welcome relief for many Fair Lawn residents. The pool will also be open weekends after Labor day through the end of September.
2. Within the month, we will dedicate the new portable buildings at Memorial Pool, after they have been painted in colorful pastels to replace the battleship grey that they were shipped in. This means new, clean changing rooms and showers; new, clean restrooms; a new lifeguard and administrative facility, and an air conditioned lunchroom - which will serve dual use this winter when hot cocoa will be served for skaters using the flooded skating area this Holiday Season.
3. If you have not checked out Memorial Pool in a while, give it a go! There is new clean white fine-grade beach sand; there are outdoor ping pong tables; outdoor pool tables, and even a bocce court.
4. Walsh Pool in Columbia Heights will open the last week in June as part of the traditional pool season, and close at Labor Day. Look for new recreation amenities there, including a new basketball court, a jogging and bicycle track and some other surprises at the Dobrow Complex.
5. Those Borough residents who have children playing sports throughout the town will appreciate that the Council has authorized the purchase of numerous bleachers at many of the facilities around town.
6. A massive paving job at the Memorial Pool Parking lot will be completed prior to the start of the pool season. At the conclusion of the pool season in the fall, the parking lot at the Dobrow Complex will be paved-finally-and striped. Not only will this end years of cars being stuck in the mud, but it should help increase and regulate parking and substantially upgrade the complex. We have already found extended use from the new portable fencing used at the complex and the track just completed which goes along the outer parameter.
7. After years of neglect, the Council is authorizing the purchase of six police vehicles this year. This comes out of our regular operational budget, rather than a capital budget - and at last it has bought the Police fleet up to full strength. Police vehicles work

harder, perhaps than any other vehicle in the Borough-and provide a very visible presence that has successfully operated as a crime deterrent. In any vehicle that operates 24/7 - that is not 24 hrs a month - seven months a year, but rather around the clock - substantially more wear and tear than on the vehicles that you or I drive. When one of our vehicles has 60,000 miles on it, it is the approximate equivalent to 150,000 miles on our cars. Last year, I traded my 10-year-old car in as each "next" repair was running \$500.00, \$1,000.00 or more. Well, it is the same with the Police Department. Some prior Councils thought that the easiest and painless way - at least time consuming-was to save \$20,000.00 here and there, lopping two or three cars off the request for replacement. The result with an aging fleet here, in some cases, we have cars with 80,000 miles on it - probable to the equivalent of 220,000 miles on our cars. Not only does that not work, and not only is it not safe, but it impedes the efficiency of running a world class Police Department like Fair Lawn.

We have now fully restored over the past three years the normal rotation, and anticipate now being able to operate on a replacement schedule five cars a year on a regular basis. Simultaneously, the Manager has also increased foot patrols, bicycle patrols, car patrols, all designed - and very successful thus far - to keep crime down in the Borough. To that end, this budget anticipates four new police officers coming on board this year --a true quality of life issue that will benefit all Borough residents. We are also adding a portable machine that registers speeds on side streets, and main streets - a very valuable tool to show people how fast they are driving - and to slow them down. The one that we have now operates only in fair weather and on solar power. It also does not operate in the cold. We are replacing this with a modern machine and the Manager has indicated that it will be used on a town-wide basis to slow people down.

School crossing guards primarily for the Borough elementary schools have also been added. At least three new guards are funded in this year's budget. This is in direct response to the request from the P.T.Os of the various schools - and has already been implemented at the Council's request.

We have also added to the budgets of the Zoning Board and the Planning Board to assure that the Public Advocate is adequately funded to represent the homeowners of Fair Lawn who might otherwise lack adequate representation.

We have also added to the holiday celebrations, particularly for this coming 4th of July, where we will not only have the usual fireworks, but also Sunday night live concerts that will lead into a firework's celebration that will be spectacular!

Here are some of the other main programs of this year's budget: With the closing of the Grand Union, there are now some greater needs on the part of seniors for transportation to other supermarkets, and the Council's budget has the mini-bus operating every half hour to Pathmark, Shop-Rite and beyond. Though we have tried hard to obtain a food store replacement for Grand Union that has not happened yet and we want this contingency to be made available to Borough residents in the interim.

Some other items:

A new ambulance for the ambulance corps. A new fire engine to replace the seventeen-year old model that one chief or another has requested for the last five years, new carpeting for the children's library in the Maurice Pine Public Library, an outside book drop in the municipal building to facilitate the Library, hundreds of new trees, a new garbage truck, some other trucks (we lost two transmissions in the large snowfall of this winter) soundproofing of the pistol range, completion of a new DPW garage to be called the William Davidson Pavilion, which has been requested annually for more than fifteen years to help house our fleet of vehicles and keep them in repair. Rehabilitation of some of the tennis courts that cannot be merely resurfaced in the annual clean up effort. This is a total rip-out and fix to benefit those who enjoy this sport.

Ice skating this winter will take place when weather permits, probably in December, and hopefully while the kids are off from school. George Frye has promised hot chocolate in the new lunchroom at the site.

The Council has reviewed the overtime requests in this budget and find them high. We are aware, however, that \$86,000 in overtime was incurred in snow removal since the first of the year, alone, and it would not be prudent to arbitrarily mandate other overtime cuts. We are therefore asking the Manager, and do so tonight, to come back to the Council with a plan to try and reduce this year' overtime (while maintaining the services that the Council believes essential, and important for the community) and to be certain that next year's budget proposal incorporates changes that will significantly reduce overtime charges. Overall, the Council worked hard to achieve these results, and so did the Manager and her department heads. I am proud of the work that they have done, and you should be, too.

Deputy Mayor Adler stated this town has very good services and those services do not come cheaply. This budget does this by keeping such good people.

Deputy Mayor Etlar said he echoed Mayor Ganz's comments and that he concurs with him ninety-nine percent.

Councilmember Amato said he wanted to commend Mayor Ganz for the leadership he has shown. He is proud to be serving on this Council.

There being no further comment, Resolution No. 116-2001 was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTIONS BY CONSENT #8-2001

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Adler and a second by Councilmember Dobrow, Consent Agenda #8-2001 containing the following items was unanimously adopted.

a. Resol. #117-2001 Approval of Minutes:

Special Meeting 2/20/01

Work Session 2/20/01

Closed Session 2/20/01

Regular Meeting 2/27/01

Closed Session 2/27/01

b. Resol. #118-2001 Award of Bid: Uniforms Public Works

c. Resol. #119-2001 Approval of Raffles & Bingos:

Forrest School PTA on-premise 50/50

Young Israel of Fair Lawn off-premise 50/50

Warren Point PTA on-premise merchandise

d. Resol. #120-2001 Extending the Term of the Contract for Bioxide Odor and Corrosion Control Chemical

e. Resol. #121-2001 Temporary Emergency Appropriation - Current Fund

f. Resol. #122-2001 Temporary Emergency Appropriation - Water

g. Resol. #123-2001 Professional Services - Loss Control & Safety Training Services

h. Resol. #124-2001 Authorizing Application for FEMA grant

i. Resol. #125-2001 Urging conditional veto of S-1338/A-2403

j. Resol. #126-2001 Appointment of Chair and Co-Chair to Broadway Advisory Committee

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

George Isaacs, 3-15 Linden Lane presented a letter to the Mayor and Council regarding his concerns about the Board of Education's budget. Mayor Ganz informed him that the Borough Council has no impact with the Board of Education. Mr. Isaacs stated that the letter will appear in The Shopper. He said two thirds of his taxes go to the Board of Education. There are certain aspects of the board's accounting that bother him. Mayor Ganz asked if there was something he wanted the Mayor and Council to do because the proper forum for his concerns was the Board of Education.

Keith Brown, 23-05 Ellington Road, welcomed the Mayor and Council to Warren Point School and stated he was disappointed with the low turnout. He thanked the Mayor and Council for their hard work regarding Resolution No. 116-2001 amending the budget. He felt it was excellent that the figures were lowered. Mr. Brown said he noticed some school crossing guards were not crossing anyone at lunchtime. Mayor Ganz stated they were discussing it between the Borough Manager and the Board of Education. He said they would prefer to see the children stay on campus during lunch. Mr. Brown stated they need added Police presence on Ellington Road. He thanked the Mayor and Council for doing the resolution regarding the Broadway Advisory Committee but felt it should have been done months ago after Charles Tregidgo resigned. He stated he had concerns about Bob Beshlian being named Chair of the committee because of his ties to the Chamber of Commerce and the visions the Chamber has toward the Broadway area. He hoped that Mr. Beshlian will be objective and he looked forward to working with him.

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

ADJOURNMENT TO WORK SESSION

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Adler and seconded by Councilmember Dobrow it was unanimously agreed to adjourn to the Work Session at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn B. Bojanowski, RMC
Assistant Municipal Clerk

WORK SESSION OF APRIL 10, 2001

Mayor Ganz reconvened the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Ganz, Deputy Mayors Adler and Etlar, Councilmembers Amato and Dobrow.

Also present: Acting Manager Marshall, Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski and Attorney Lustgarten.

Farmer's Market Saturday and Sunday - Mayor Ganz noted that the Council discussed this item last week. He asked them to consider allowing the market Saturday and Sunday and letting the market forces decide the day. Councilmember Amato pointed out that they discussed this in Mayor Ganz's absence. He was not in favor of having it on both days. Mayor Ganz thought it was not really a question of whether or not the Council is in favor. It is a question of whether or not it allows everyone in the community access to it or whether it allows competitive market forces to decide when it will be held.

The consensus was to allow the market Saturday and Sunday. A resolution will be adopted at the next meeting.

Parking in the Mayor and/or Council's Assigned Space - Mayor Ganz stated that former Mayor Tedeschi asked if he had any objection to his parking in the space assigned to the Mayor. He does not. Mr. Tedeschi received a ticket for parking in the space. Mayor Ganz asked for comments from the Council. Deputy Mayor Adler thought the spaces were for the current Mayor and Councilmembers. She did not agree to granting special provisions for some people. Deputy Mayor Adler felt adequate parking for visitors existed. He did not see why this request came to the Council. He is against it. Councilmember Amato did not see the need to take the Mayors space while an adequate number of spaces exist in the lot.

The consensus was to keep the spaces for serving Mayors and Councilmembers and not to open them to anyone else despite prior service as a Councilmember or Mayor, with Mayor Ganz abstaining.

Ordinance re Cellular Towers - Deputy Mayor Adler explained that at the last meeting they were discussing whether the tower should be at Fire House No. 2 or should it be moved across the street to the park area. A question arose about how close it was to the playground. Mayor Ganz wondered if it were the view of the Council that the tower should remain at the location designated by ordinance that is Fire Company No. 2. Deputy Mayor Etlar felt that if it can fit with no ill effects to the fire company it should go there but he was not sure it would fit. Deputy Mayor Adler thought they should make sure that they explore all possibilities. If Fire Company No. 2 can accommodate the tower, she would prefer to locate it on that site.

The consensus was that Fire Company No. 2 should be used and the Manager was directed to develop the specifications to get it done within 30 days.

Attorney Lustgarten pointed out that the Council directed the Manager in February to develop all the sites in the ordinance. At the February 6 meeting they discussed setting a minimum price. Mayor Ganz thought the Council had used \$2500 in the past.

The consensus was to set \$2500 per carrier as the minimum bid.

Deputy Mayor Adler wondered if the Council has a strategy for increasing the fee. Mayor Ganz noted that they are comfortable with the \$2500. It is at the high end for municipalities. He asked if the Council believes that limiting the carriers to three is necessary. He thought it should be limited to the number of carriers and repeaters that tower can tolerate in accordance with building permits. They learned from the Zoning Board that the Federal Government has preempted any discussion on health issues but they do have minimum standards.

The consensus was to amend the ordinance to allow additional carriers and not to limit the number of repeaters other than by what BOCA would limit on a structure of this size.

Mayor Ganz asked if the Council needed anything else to get this moving. Acting Manager Marshall will speak with the Manager and if meeting the 30-day deadline is not possible he will advise the Council at the next meeting.

Mayor Ganz remarked that when he was on the Zoning Board the water tower was a fifth site. Attorney Lustgarten advised they deleted that site from the ordinance because the Council felt the site was in the middle of the residential zone so it was not appropriate. Mayor Ganz pointed out that the one dead zone in Fair Lawn is on Route 208. Attorney Lustgarten suggested that Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski circulate the minutes relating to this site. Mayor Ganz asked the Manager to find out if any other Borough owned sites are suitable to resolve the dead zone problem.

ADJOURNMENT - Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Adler and a second by Councilmember Dobrow the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne M. Kwasniewski, RMC/CMC/AE
Municipal Clerk