

Municipal Building
1200 Mountain Avenue

March 23, 2004

A public meeting of the Mayor and Council was held at the above place on the above date commencing at 8:00 p.m.

Elk’s Representative

Mayor	Ronald S. Dobies	Jay Teitelbaum
Council President	Michael Hompesch	
	Giancarlo Colitti (absent)	
	Jerry D’Angelo	Christine Leuttchau
	Josephine Liana	Mandeep Jangi
	Garrett Mulcahy	Mike Lore
	Laura Thomasey	Melissa Best
Attorney:	George Hendricks	Garrett Lacaillade
Administrator:	Joseph Manning	Rahul Upadhyaya
Auditor:	Andy Hodulik	
Borough Clerk:	Kathleen Anello	Amanda Gawgry

Mayor Dobies opened the meeting with the Sunshine Law Statement saying the meeting had been advertised in the Public Meeting Notice of January 6, 2004.

Auditor Andy Hodulik mentioned that the public hearing on the 2004 Budget which was introduced on February 10, 2004 and advertised would be held tonight. The budget has been submitted to Trenton and the extraordinary aid application will also be submitted shortly. At this time the budget is increased \$700,000 over last year. There is a decrease of \$120,000 in revenues in the 2004 budget and an increase in appropriations of \$582,000, \$340,000 of which is the amount owed the MCUA that is in dispute. If the amount in dispute with the MCUA is removed, there would only be a 2% increase over last year.

Mayor Dobies opened the public hearing on the 2004 Budget:

Bruce Sadowski, 109 Lee Drive mentioned that at this time the budget is up approximately 13 points and would like to know what is being done to streamline borough operations and controlling expenditures. He also questioned if a spending freeze had been implemented. Other expenses have increased \$600,000, which he felt is not streamlining expenses.

Councilman D’Angelo indicated that \$340,000 of the 12.5 budget increase is tied into the MCUA bill. The spending freeze that was implemented last year only saved the borough one point. If we were to compare last years budget vs. this year’s budget, 7 points are tied into the MCUA charge, and 3 points of extraordinary aid, which would only leave a 2.5 point increase. The only budget that counts is the one voted on after notification of extraordinary aid, and if not successful with extraordinary aid the Finance committee and the council will look at a final plan.

Ed Kahn, Local 255 Representative for the White Collar Work Force spoke regarding budget concerns, but requested that the Mayor and Council consider in this budget additional monies to be fair to the white collar workers. He feels that probably 2/10th of a point separate good will and good interest. He requested that council consider that the DPW received a 3½ % increase and the police received a 4% increase in 2004. The white collar workers deal on a daily basis with the general public and fill in for the department heads when they are not available. Mr. Kahn requested that the white collar wage increase be comparable to the DPW, and consider what they do and the experience that they bring. He asked the Mayor and Council to allow flexibility to be fair and pledge to you that the white collar union will work with you and your elected state officials. They will pledge the support to work to secure additional aid or state aid is available and he will do what he can on his part but ask them to work on their part.

Councilman D’Angelo stated that he and Mayor Dobies had reached out to Assemblywoman Linda Stender for support for extraordinary aid and she has agreed to forward a letter of support on our behalf.

Seeing that there was no further public participation on the budget hearing, Mayor Dobies closed the hearing on the 2004 Budget.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Consent Agenda 2004(G)

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex has reviewed the Consent Agenda consisting of various proposed resolutions; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex is not desirous of removing any resolutions from the Agenda.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the following resolutions on the Consent Agenda are hereby approved and adopted.

Resolution #95-04 - Resolution #110-04

Councilman Mulcahy moved for adoption seconded by Council President Hompesch and carried by the following roll call votes: Ayes: Members D’Angelo, Hompesch, Liana, Mulcahy and Thomasey. Nos.: None. Abstain: None.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #95-04

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, New Jersey that the disbursing officers be and are hereby authorized to refund escrow monies to close the following escrow account:

BLOCK/LOT	NAME	AMOUNT	ACCOUNT #
65/28.C	Carmela Parisi 1255 Bound Brook Rd Middlesex, NJ 08846	\$326.25	60079

including interest to date of refund.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #96-04

Authorizing Schoor DePalma to go out to bid for the Memorial Plaza project located at Victor Crowell Park.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #97-04

“A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR A TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR PAYMENT OF CLAIMS UNTIL THE ADOPTION OF THE 2004 BUDGET”

A Temporary Budget in the amount of \$2,703,362 to provide for the payment of claims and salaries between the first day of January, 2004 and the adoption of the 2004 budget be set up as follows:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS:

Administrative & Executive Salary & Wage	27,650
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Other Expense	4,000
Mayor & Council	
Salary & Wage	3,012
Other Expense	500
Municipal Clerk	
Salary & Wage	23,000
Other Expense	2,500
Rescue Squad Rental	00
Printing & Advertising	3,000
Postage – All Departments	5,000
Election	00
Assessment of Taxes	
Salary & Wage	9,400
Other Expense	1,500
Maintenance of Tax Map	00
Collection of Taxes	
Salary & Wage	12,250
Other Expense	1,000
Financial Administration	
Salary & Wage	20,500
Other Expense	3,000
Legal Services & Costs	
Salary & Wage	9,800
Other Expense	4,000
Engineering Services & Costs	17,000
Public Bldgs & Grounds	
Salary & Wage	6,500
Other Expense	7,500
Planning Board	
Other Expense	00
Board of Adjustment	
Other Expense	100
Shade Tree Commission	
Salary & Wage	500
Other Expense	3,850
Rent Control Board	
Salary & Wage	-0-
Other Expense	-0-
Maintenance of Communications	00
Housing & Community Development Advisory Committee	
Salary & Wage	00
Other Expense	00
Environmental Advisory	
Salary & Wage	00
Other Expenses	75
Accident & Safety	
Other Expenses	00

Insurance	
Group Insurance Plan	384,000
Workman’s Compensation	15,000
Surety Bonds	-0-
Temporary Disability	4,375
Long Term Disability	3,000
Other Insurance Premiums	00
PUBLIC SAFETY:	
Fire Department	
Other Expenses	21,000
Hazardous Waste	
Other Expenses	00
Police Department	
Salary & Wage	650,000
Other Expense	22,000
Juvenile Conference Committee	
Salary & Wage	450
Other Expense	0
Uniform Fire Safety	
Salary & Wage	0
Other Expense	0
Emergency Management	
Salary & Wage	0
Other Expense	2,300
Road Repair & Maintenance	
Salary & Wage	173,000
Other Expense	9,000
Sewer System	
Salary & Wage	28,000
Other Expense	7,000
Solid Waste Management	
Salary & Wage	35,500
Other Expense	-0-
Recycling Program	
Salary & Wage	0
Other Expense	0
Garbage & Trash Removal	
Salary & Wage	103,000
Other Expense	5,000
Sanitary Landfill	80,000
Prosecutor’s Office	
Salary & Wage	0
Other Expense	6,000
Board Of Health	
Salary & Wage	1,000
Other Expense	27,000
RECREATION & EDUCATION	
Parks & Playgrounds	
Salary & Wage	64,000
Other Expense	4,000

Animal Control	
Other Expenses	-0-
Board of Recreation Commissioners	
Salary & Wage	22,500
Other Expense	15,000
Field Development	
Salary & Wage	0
Other Expense	0
Senior Citizen Bus Transportation	
Salary & Wage	0
Other Expense	1,700
Senior Coordinator	
Salary & Wage	0
Other Expense	700
Senior Assisted Transportation	
Salary & Wage	5,000
Other Expense	0
Uniform Construction Code	
Salary & Wage	46,000
Other Expense	2,500
Utilities – All Departments	
Gasoline	13,000
Fuel Oil	10,000
Electricity	15,000
Telephone	8,000
Natural Gas	0
Street Lighting	27,000
Fire Hydrants	45,000
Water	0
Public Celebration	
Other Expenses	0
Curbside Recycling	
Other Expenses	40,000
Contingent	2,500
STATUTORY EXPENDITURES CONTRIBUTION TO:	
PERS	0
Social Security	60,000
PFRS	0
Pension – Firemen’s Widow (N.J.S.A. 43:12-28.1)	0
New Jersey Unemployment Insurance	0
Municipal Court	
Salary & Wage	42,500
Other Expense	22,000
Maintenance of Free Public Library	94,000
Middlesex County Utility Authority	366,000
Piscataway Sewage Authority	50,000
Middlesex County Drug Alliance	4,700
Clean Grant	0
TOTAL	2,703,362.

26.25% the 2003 General Appropriation in the 2003 Budget = \$3,259,691.

Cost Registered Bonds

Capital Improvement	
Bond Anticipation Note	0
Bond Anticipation Interest	0
Municipal Debt Service	
Bond Principal	141,885
Bond Interest	16,824

DEDICATED SWIMMING POOL UTILITY BUDGET

Swim Pool Utility	
Salary & Wage	20,000
Other Expense	20,000
TOTAL	40,000

26.25% of the 2003 Swimming Pool Utility appropriation = \$85,313

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #98-04

WHEREAS, the Borough of Middlesex is authorizing the purchase of a Digital Mailing System from the Pitney Bowes Corporation State Contract #A82969, expiration date March 31, 2004.

Purchase: DM800 Series Mail System \$18,674.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that the Pitney Bowes Corporation has met all the requirements of the specifications and is hereby awarded the bid in the amount of \$18,674.00 for DM800 Series Mail System.

NOW FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that the funds are available in Account No. 04-1605-00-1605-70. (\$18,674.00).

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #99-04

The Treasurer is hereby authorized to return a bid deposit in the amount \$1,298.40, certified Check No.3725 to the Facstore, Inc. The certified check was received in lieu of a bid bond on software for the Police Department.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #100-04

WHEREAS, the Borough of Middlesex is authorizing the purchase of the following equipment from Hewlett Packard in the amount of \$6,973.00, State Contract #A81249, expiration date 4/30/04:

Purchase:	Proliant ML350 G3 Array Server (1)	\$ 2,077.00
	Storage Dat 40 Tape Drive (1)	\$ 838.00
	17” Color Monitor (1)	\$ 114.00

HP Evo D330 Micro Tower (4)	\$ 2,500.00
Serial Ports (2)	\$ 48.00
HP 17” Flat Panel Monitor (4)	\$ 1,396.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that the Hewlett Packard Corporation has met all the requirements of the specifications and is hereby awarded the bid in the amount of \$6,973.00.

NOW FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that the funds are available in Account No. 04-1605-00-1605-70. (\$6,973.00)

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #101-04

Hiring Paula H. Taylor, 731 Drake Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey as a school crossing guard at \$12.00 per hour effective immediately. Ms. Taylor has been investigated by the Police Department and has met all the necessary requirements.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #102-04

WHEREAS, L N. Rothberg & Son Inc. applied for and received Building Permit No. 20000120 on March 27, 2000 to erect a shop building at 550 Cedar Avenue; and

WHEREAS, L.N. Rothberg & Son Inc. submitted check #11155 dated March 27, 2000, payable to the Borough of Middlesex in the amount of \$2103.00 in payment of said Building Permit; and

WHEREAS, L.N. Rothberg & Son Inc. has requested refund of said fee due to cancellation of the job; and

WHEREAS, 5:23-2.27 of the Uniform Construction Code provides that plan review fees which are 20% of the Building Permit fee are not refundable; and

WHEREAS, DCA Training Fees are not refundable; and

WHEREAS, the Building Permit fee was \$1924.00, the Training Fee was \$114.00, and the CO fee was \$65.00.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that the disbursing officers be and they are hereby authorized to draw a check in the amount of \$1604.20 in favor of L.N. Rothberg & Son Inc., P.O. Box 550, 550 Cedar Avenue, Middlesex, NJ 08846 for refund of fee for Building Permit #20000120.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #103-04

WHEREAS, the Borough of Middlesex is authorizing the purchase of the following equipment from Munidex in the amount of \$14,938.00, State Contract #A81215, expiration date 4/30/04:

Purchase:	APC Smartups 1000 (1)	\$ 423.00
	Epson TM-U295 Serial Receipt Printer (2)	\$ 972.00
	Cisco2950 24 Port Switch 1 year support	\$ 772.00
	Hewlett Packard 4300N Printer (1)	\$ 1,948.00
	PC Anywhere (1)	\$ 189.00
	Micorsoft Windows 2003/2002 20 user (1)	\$ 1,268.00
	Symantec anti virus 20 user 1 year support	\$ 1,147.00

Veritas Backup Exec Windows 2000	519.00
Microsoft Office 2003 (3)	\$ 750.00
Project Installation	\$ 4,875.00
3 Year Warranty HP Server	\$ 1,175.00
3 Year HP Workstation	\$ 900.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that the Munidex has met all the requirements of the specifications and is hereby awarded the bid in the amount of \$14,938.00.

NOW FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that the funds are available in Account No. 04-1605-00-1605-70. (\$5,027.00), Account No. 04-1428-00-1428-55 (\$888.40), Account No.04-1428-00-1428-60 (\$1,092.35), Account No.04-1605-00-1605-54 (\$7,930.25).

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #104-04

WHEREAS, the Borough of Middlesex is desirous of purchasing a 2004 Dodge Durango 4 door 4 wheel drive sport vehicle for the Fire Chief from Warnock Fleet, 175 Route 10, East Hanover, New Jersey under the State Contract #A53130; and

WHEREAS, the base price of the vehicle is \$20,580 and the following options will be included in this vehicle:

SLT Option	\$5,627.00
Anti-Spin Differential	\$ 247.92
4 WD ABS Brakes	\$ 430.00
Skid Plate Group	\$ 113.00
Trailer Tow Group	\$ 513.00

VEHICLE TOTAL \$27,511.84

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that Warnock Fleet has met all the requirements and is hereby awarded the bid in the amount of \$27,511.84.

NOW FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that the funds are available in Account No. 04-1605-00-1605-74.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #105-04

WHEREAS, the Borough of Middlesex is desirous of purchasing a 2004 Ford Super Duty F-350 Regular Cab XL 4WD Truck for the OEM Director from Warnock Fleet, 175 Route 10, East Hanover, New Jersey under the State Contract #A53306; and

WHEREAS, the base price of the vehicle is \$33,214.00 and the following options will be included in this vehicle:

Tow Package (ball & hitch)	\$ 758.00
Bed Liner (under rail)	\$ 350.00

VEHICLE TOTAL \$34,322.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that Warnock Fleet has met all the requirements and is hereby awarded the bid in the amount of \$34,322.00.

NOW FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that the funds are available in Account No. 04-1605-00-1605-73.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #106-04

WHEREAS, Kupper Associates has provided to the Borough of Middlesex a proposal dated February 6, 2004 to provide engineering services during the construction phase of the Victor Crowell Park Dam Reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, these services include the following:

- Attendance at a preconstruction conference;
- General administration of the construction contract;
- Site visitation and observation of construction progress and quality of the work;
- Issuance of clarifications and interpretations;
- Preparation of change orders and work change directives;
- Review of shop drawings and submittals;
- Processing of applications for payment; and
- Participation in a final inspection.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey that:

1. The Mayor and Council hereby approve the proposal by Kupper Associates to provide the Borough of Middlesex with professional engineering services during the construction phase of the Victor Crowell Park Dam Reconstruction at a cost not to exceed \$9,500.
2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

NOW FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that funds are available in Account No. 1474-00-1474-52.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

Resolution #107-04

The application for a license for three (3) Amusement Machines and one (1) Music Machine has been filed by Tim Kerwin's, approved by the Chief of Police and accepted by the Borough Clerk and a license has been issued upon receipt of the fees.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

Resolution #108-04

THE DISBURSING OFFICERS BE AND THEY ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO PAY THE ATTACHED CLAIM LIST AS PRESENTED, IF FOUND CORRECT, AND APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. EXCLUDED VOUCHERS MAY BE PAID UPON BEING FOUND ACCEPTABLE.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

Resolution #109-04

WHEREAS, the Borough of Middlesex is desirous of purchasing a 2004 F250 Supercab Pickup Truck Supercab 4 Wheel Drive Truck for the Department of Public Works from Princeton Nassau/Conover Ford, 902 Route 206, Princeton, New Jersey under the State Contract #A53305 T2100; and

WHEREAS, the base price of the vehicle is \$18,975.00 and the following options will be included in this vehicle:

6.0L V8 Powerstroke Diesel Engine	\$5,085.00
Electronic 5 speed Torqshift Diesel Automatic Transmission	\$ 385.00
Limited slip rear axles 5.4 V8 or diesel	\$ 300.00
XL décor-chrome bumpers, wheel covers	\$ 175.00
Vinyl 40/20/40 split bench	\$ 400.00
Western 8 foot plow	\$3,175.00
Snow Deflector	\$ 250.00
Timbren load boosters-front	\$ N/C
Concealed Dot Strobe System	\$ 975.00

TOTAL PRICE **\$29,720.00**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that Princeton Nassau/Conover Ford has met all the requirements and is hereby awarded the bid in the amount of \$29,720.00.

NOW FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that the funds are available in Account No. 04-1605-00-1605-72.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

Resolution #110-04

WHEREAS, the Borough of Middlesex is desirous of purchasing a 2004 Ford F350 DRW Chassis Cab Utility Truck for the Department of Public Works from Princeton Nassau/Conover Ford, 902 Route 206, Princeton, New Jersey under the State Contract #A53249 T2048; and

WHEREAS, the base price of the chassis is \$26,189.00 and the following options will be included in this vehicle:

Delete 6 year 100,000 mile extended warranty	- \$1,805.00
Limited slip rear axle	\$ 300.00
All Terrain Tires	\$ 150.00
4 wheel drive power train	\$2,992.00
Electric shift-on-the-fly 4 wheel drive	\$ 185.00
Daytime running lamps	\$ 45.00
Snow plow prep package	\$ 70.00
Dot 3 strobe system with branch guard on cab strobe	\$1,279.00
Western ultramount 9 ft required 4 wheel drive & prep	\$3,498.00
Snow Deflector	\$ 200.00
2-3 yard dump body	\$5,245.00

TOTAL PRICE **\$38,348.00**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that Princeton Nassau/Conover Ford has met all the requirements and is hereby awarded the bid in the amount of \$38,348.00.

NOW FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that the funds are available in Account No. 04-1605-00-1605-72.

The Borough Clerk proclaimed the week of March 21, 2004 as “Elk’s Youth Week”

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has designated the week of March 21, 2004 as Elks Youth Week to honor America’s Junior Citizens for their accomplishments, and to give fitting recognition to their services to Community, State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Middlesex Elks 2301 will sponsor an observance during that week in tribute to the Junior Citizens of this Community; and

WHEREAS, no event could be more deserving of our support and participation than one dedicated to these young people who represent the nation’s greatest resource, and who in the years ahead will assume the responsibility for the advancement of our free society; and

WHEREAS, our Youth need the guidance, inspiration and encouragement which we alone can give in order to help develop those qualities of character essential for future leadership; and go forth to serve America; and

WHEREAS, to achieve this worthy objective we should demonstrate our partnership with Youth, our understanding of their hopes and aspirations and a sincere willingness to help prepare them in every way for the responsibilities and opportunities of citizenship.

NOW THEREFORE, I Ronald S. Dobies, Mayor of the Borough of Middlesex do hereby proclaim the week of March 21, 2004 as Youth Elk’s Week and urge all departments of government, civic, fraternal and patriotic groups and our citizens generally, to participate wholeheartedly in its observance.

Mayor Dobies opened the public portion of the meeting for comments or questions.

Angelo Porta, Runyon Avenue stated that 2 years ago we were told that this council was going to attract more business and use a pay as you go policy. He expressed that he is not disappointed with the budget and thinks when it done it will be a lot less.

Kathy Ferencsak, 530 Walnut Street, Chairwoman of the Economic Development Committee explained that the Economic Development Committee consists of 9 residents and 2 business owners. No members can hold an elected position while serving on the committee. A survey was sent to all residents in the newsletter and to the 600 business owners in the borough. She indicated that this committee will benefit all residents and business owners in the borough and is for the economic development of all.

Michael Cronan, 433 Hancock Street read a letter written by Adam Kenny, a member of the Economic Development Committee regarding the Economic Development Committee not being a partisan committee. He indicated that the Economic Development Committee’s residential survey was sent to all borough residents and the committee will gauge their goals by the results of the survey. He hopes that the governing body will also take the time to review the results of this survey. The Economic Development Committee is for all of us in Middlesex.

Bruce Sadowski commented that there was an article in the newsletter about the formation of the Economic Development Committee and every resident that expressed an interest in being on the

Economic Development Committee was put on the Committee. Mr. Sadowski mentioned that Councilman D'Angelo feels that we don't need an Economic Development Committee, but that the HUD Committee which meets once a year and is only used to distribute block grant money is basically an Economic Development Committee. Mr. Sadowski stated that something as important as the economic vitality of the borough should not be at the whim of an ad hoc committee. The committee has the backing of the governing body and it is too important of an issue to leave to an ad hoc committee.

Councilman D'Angelo stated that "Just to clarify some comments, because I heard some responses from the Economic Development Committee. The minutes of that last meeting have not been approved yet and I obviously did not get a copy of the minutes. Most of you were not there and did not hear exactly what I had said, so I am going to guess that you got notification of what I did say through secondhand. What I said was and I am trying to wrap it up in one short word, but basically I said I was pro the ad hoc committee. I believe that is where the committee belongs. I do not believe it needs to be permanent. I also know that in fact a couple of weeks prior to last weeks vote I even argued that they needed to finance the Economic Development Committee. There was some discussion as we were trimming the budget as to whether there should be any financing for it, and I upheld the argument and I believe Council President Hompesch can back me up when I said that I think it is a worthwhile thing and I think we should fund it. The Council as a group decided to place that funding in the administrative line item rather than in a separate line. There is \$1500 there for the Economic Development Committee, which I have argued for, so how anyone can say that I am against the committee is a little wrong. I was against the permanent committee, because the Housing and Community Development Committee I didn't say were doing the same job, I said that they had the same charge. If you look at their ordinances, which are based back in the 70's they have a very similar charge. What the charge was in the Economic Development Committee, is that they said the same thing several different ways, which is good for a lot of verbiage, but the Housing and Community Development Committee has basically the same charge. It can meet more often. It does not have to meet once a year. I don't believe in establishing permanent committees that duplicate responsibilities that duplicate charges. I think that was my objection. I used the term partisan once, and referred to it in a way that stuck with a five year term. There is no other committee in town that has a five year term. There is some commissions that do, but no other committee does, but I felt that having a five year term could make it partisan. As I believe Council President Hompesch said, he wanted to insulate the members from the political flow of the Council. I read it the exact other way, you wanted to insulate the present members, not all of them, but some of them, that wanted to go in a different direction. I would like to say, I appreciate the minutes that the Economic Development Committee has supplied us. Again it dates back to January, and I really did not want to discuss this tonite with the counterparts here, but while this seems to be an attacking night, that is fine. Council President Hompesch came to us in February, I think it was February 24 and said that he attended one meeting in February and was very enthusiastic about the committee's work and so he drafted an ordinance. When I received the minutes dating back to January, this was the sixth meeting, I would like to get them from the previous four or five. It says in the beginning of January that Bruce Sadowski had drafted the ordinance already and the verbiage that was used reflected in the ordinance is exactly what was received by the Council on February 24. Also, as a follow up committee in October, where he alludes to the audience more, which again is what we received. I guess that Council President Hompesch came on the 24th and said that he drafted the ordinance. So, there might be a little disingenuousness and that is the type of thing that I am accused of reading too much into. That is the type of thing that makes me think that it might be a little partisan. Not that all members are, that is not what I am saying, but it might be utilized in a partisan way."

Seeing that there was no further public participation, Mayor Dobies closed the public portion of the meeting.

Councilman D'Angelo moved the approval of the February, 2004 Treasurer's report seconded by Councilwoman Liana and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Councilman D'Angelo moved the approval of the February, 2004 Construction Department Report seconded by Councilwoman Liana and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Councilman D'Angelo moved the approval of the February, 2004 Assessor's Report seconded by Councilwoman Liana and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Councilman Mulcahy moved the approval of the February, 2004 Police Department Report seconded by Council President Hompesch and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Councilman Mulcahy moved the approval of the February, 2004 Municipal Court Report seconded by Council President Hompesch and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Councilwoman Thomasey moved the approval of the February, 2004 Office on Aging Report seconded by Councilman Mulcahy and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Councilwoman Thomasey moved the approval of the January, 2004 Administrator's report seconded by Councilman Mulcahy and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Councilwoman Thomasey moved the approval of the February 10, 2004, March 2, 2004 and March 9, 2004 Agenda Meeting Minutes seconded by Council President Hompesch and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Councilman Mulcahy and seconded by Councilwoman Liana and carried by unanimous vote of Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Anello, RMC
Borough Clerk

