

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 24, 2010 - 7:30 P.M.

The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Closter held a Regular Meeting at Borough Hall on Wednesday, February 24, 2010. Mayor Heymann called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Heymann invited all to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

Mayor Heymann declared that the meeting was being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

3. ROLL CALL

The following persons were present:

Mayor Sophie Heymann

Councilpersons John C. Glidden, Jr., Alissa Latner, John Kashwick, David Barad
(7:50pm), Arthur Dolson, Victoria Amitai

Borough Administrator, Quentin Wiest

Borough Attorney, Edward T. Rogan

Borough Clerk, Loretta Castano

Borough Engineer, Nick DeNicola

Chief of Police, David Berrian

Tax Collector, Maria Passafaro

Recreation Commissioner, John Kilduff

4. OPEN MEETING TO PUBLIC FOR ANY MATTER, PER N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (a)
(Subject to 5-minute limit per By-Laws General Rule No. 10)

Mayor Heymann opened the meeting to the public.

Steve Isaacson, 97 Columbus Avenue, referred to the possible loss of tax revenue due to the sale of the Weyerhaeuser Factory under the asking price and the renovation of the Heidenberg Factory into a church; and asked if the town would request the School Board to cut their budget and how much would the town cut from a defeated school budget. Mayor Heymann said the School Board would have to cut the budget; and the school budget defeat has not happened as yet. The Mayor and Council Finance Committee meets with the Board each year.

Linda Buchhart, 51 Kennedy Circle, explained she lives next to Ruckman Park, which she uses regularly and enjoys. She noted that she has not been able to use the park during the recent snowstorms because the Board has said the park can no longer be plowed. In reply to her e-mail, Mayor Heymann said that if the roadway is plowed, salt would have to be put down which could hurt the dogs' paws. She said that this is not a dog park but a park for people who like to walk; and not plowing the roadway is a disservice to the community. From what she could gather, speaking to other people, it was a problem between the Recreation Commission and DPW not having money. Mayor Heymann said that the roadway has always been plowed and the matter would be discussed but no decision has been made.

Steve Isaacson, 97 Columbus Avenue, expressed his agreement with Mrs. Buchhart and noted that the ordinance indicates that sidewalks have to be cleared within 24 hours and the Borough should abide by the same rules such as the area by Everett Avenue and Durie Avenue.

Hugh Johnson, 107 Demarest Avenue, referred to a conversation he had with the Borough Administrator about the hand held motorized plow used by the Borough to clear sidewalks that destroyed two plaques a couple of years ago; one from the Ross family by the diner and the other from Judge Bottinelli. He also noted that Joe Miele had paid for a plaque by Railroad Avenue but same has not been installed as yet. Mayor Heymann said that she would look into the matter.

Mr. Johnson referred to his letter to the editor several weeks ago and noted that the Closter Improvement Commission would be providing a recommendation relative to the restoration of the clock for \$8,300. Bonuses were given to Leslie Weatherly, who was entitled to same but the ones

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to Dorothy Woods and Maria Passafaro were hush money; and if we can afford that, we can afford to restore the clock in time for the 300th Anniversary. Councilwoman Amitai said that she had sent the recommendation to the Historic Preservation Commission.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

a. MAIL LIST – FEBRUARY 11, 2010 – Mayor Heymann reviewed the correspondence distributed on this date and asked if any member of the council wished to address any matter or provide any comments.

Item No. 8 – Received 2/9/10, dated 2/3/10 from Victoria L. Sidrow, President and CEO, Van Sciver Corporation c/o Vantage Health System, Inc., to the Honorable Sophie Heymann re request for permission to install a telephone pole on the east side of Railroad Avenue at the request of Rockland Electric (Copy to Construction Official). Borough Attorney explained that the Borough ordinance provides that new utilities must be underground; and if same cannot be accomplished, a waiver application must be submitted. He said that he would follow up on the matter.

The following items were removed by the following individuals: Councilman Glidden removed Item No. 6.

Item No. 6 – Received 2/9/10, dated 2/6/10 from Jim Oettinger, Closter Recreation/Parks Director re letter requesting permission to erect a “memorial granite stone” at George Potterton Little Field on Labor Day 2010 to be dedicated to George “Coach” Potterton (Distributed 2/10/10)

Councilman Glidden said that the governing body had adopted a resolution approving the granite stone subject to a review of the wording and location. Mr. Kilduff said that he would provide the information to the Recreation Commission.

b. MAIL LIST – FEBRUARY 18, 2010 – Mayor Heymann reviewed the correspondence distributed on this date and asked if any member of the Council wished to address any matter or provide any comments.

Item No. 3 – Received 2/18/10, dated 2/15/10 from Susan M. Beatini, Program Coordinator, community Hospice of Bergen County, Inc. to borough Clerk re Letter requesting permission from the Mayor and council to ‘buck’ at a busy intersection in Closter on any weekend during the month of April for Bucking for Hospice, Please Give a Buck campaign. (Copy to Glenn Parsells, Chief Berrian).

Chief Berrian explained his opposition to the request and requested time to review the matter with the Risk Manager and Borough Attorney.

Dr. Barad entered the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

6. OPEN MEETING TO PUBLIC FOR COMMUNICATION ITEMS ONLY
(Subject to 5-minute limit per By-Laws General Rule No. 10)

Mayor Heymann opened the meeting to the public for communication items only.

7a. REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS
(PROCEDURE TO BE EXPLAINED BY MAYOR HEYMANN)

Mayor Heymann explained the procedure and reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda and asked if any member of the Council or Public wished to remove or discuss any item.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

8.* INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2010:1063, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER A301 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF CLOSTER REGARDING FEES AND DEPOSITS” – PUBLIC HEARING 3/24/10 @7:30 P.M. OR AS SOON THERAFTER AS THE MATTER MAY BE HEARD (Title only requested by Borough Attorney on 2/18/10 at the request of the Mayor – TO BE PREPARED BY BOROUGH ATTORNEY)

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Mayor Heymann explained that the suggested changes have been provided this evening; and at a meeting with the Governor and other Mayors, it was made clear that municipalities are being encouraged to increase fees to cover the shortfall in State Aid.

9.* TRANSFER RESOLUTION NO. 5 (Received from Administrator 2/18/10)

10.* BILL RESOLUTION – FEBRUARY 28, 2010
TO BE PREPARED BY DEPUTY TREASURER

11.* *POSSIBLE* APPOINTMENT(S) OF SALARIED EMPLOYEES (NOT MADE AT THE REORGANIZATION MEETING HELD 1/4/10; RM 1/13/10; 1/27/10)
RESOLUTIONS TO BE PREPARED BY ADMINISTRATOR

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>APPOINTEE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>EXPIRATION</u>
*ALTERNATE PROSECUTOR	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
DEPUTY BOROUGH CLERK	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL	_____	4 Year	12/31/13
DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
DESK DISPATCHER			
FULL TIME	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
PART TIME (added 2/10/10)	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
PERMANENT CLERICAL FLOATER	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
POLICE MATRON	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
**QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD			
PART TIME	_____	1 Year	12/31/10

* (Fair and Open Process)

**Permissive (1b. Mail List 12/23/09 – recommended Borough Attorney review)

12.* RESOLUTION APPOINTING _____ AS ALTERNATE PROSECUTOR FOR A 1-YEAR TERM TO 12/31/10 (Resumes to be received 3/2/10)
TO BE PREPARED BY ADMINISTRATOR

13.* RESOLUTION ENDING PROBATIONARY PERIOD FOR PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE (Received from Administrator 2/18/10)

MOTIONS

14.* APPROVING THE FOLLOWING MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES:
 (Distributed 2/18/10) ABSTENTION: KASHWICK

- a. REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 10, 2010
- a. WORK SESSION OF FEBRUARY 10, 2010

At this time, Mayor Heymann pointed out that although the Minutes are correct; when she reported that the Building Department had informed the applicant of the need for a retaining wall, she thought it had been included, but it was not.

15.* MOTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING NON-SALARIED APPOINTMENTS (NOT MADE AT THE REORGANIZATION MEETING HELD 1/4/10; RM 1/13/10; 1/27/10; 2/10/10):

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>APPOINTEE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>EXPIRATION</u>
BOARD OF ETHICS			
(R) Member/Environmental Commission (Dolson)	_____	5 Year un-expired to	12/31/11
IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION			
Member (corrected from Associate Member - 2/3/10)	_____	2 Year	12/31/11

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- 16.* MOTION APPOINTING THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO FILL THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS MADE AT THE REORGANIZATION MEETING HELD ON 1/4/10 (Which have not been accepted as of the time of preparation of this Agenda):

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>APPOINTEE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>EXPIRATION</u>
BOARD OF HEALTH			
Alternate No. 2	_____	2 Year	12/31/11
*ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION			
Alternate No. 2	_____	2 Year un-	expired to 12/31/10
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION			
Member (Class B)	_____	4 Year	12/31/13
Alternate No. 2	_____	2 Year	12/31/11
IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION			
Member	_____	2 Year	12/31/11
Member	_____	2 Year un-	expired to 12/31/10
Alternate No. 2	_____	2 Year un-	expired to 12/31/10
LIBRARY			
Belskie Foundation Representative	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
PLANNING BOARD			
*Class IV Member	_____	4 Year	12/31/13
*Alternate No. 2	_____	2 Year	12/31/11
POLICE DEPARTMENT			
Assistant Police Surgeon	_____	5 Year	12/31/14
RECREATION COMMISSION			
Assistant Director	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
Assistant Director	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
Associate Member	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
Associate Member	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
Associate Member	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
Associate Member	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
Associate Member	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
Associate Member	_____	1 Year	12/31/10
*SHADE TREE COMMISSION			
Alternate No. 2	_____	4 Year un-	expired to 12/31/11
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT			
Member	_____	4 Year un-	expired to 12/31/10
Alternate No. 2	_____	2 Year	12/31/11
* <i>Mayoral Appointment</i>			

- 17.* ACCEPTANCE OF THE FOLLOWING MONTHLY REPORTS:

a. CHIEF OF POLICE – JANUARY 2010 (Received 2/9/10)

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda by the following individuals: Mayor Heymann previously removed Item Nos. 11, 12, 15 and 16.

- 7b. VOTE ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion approving the Consent Agenda minus Item Nos. 11, 12, 15 and 16 was made by Councilman Glidden, seconded by Councilman Barad and declared carried by Mayor Heymann upon the affirmative vote of Councilpersons Glidden, Latner, Kashwick, Barad, Dolson and Amitai.

18. REVIEW AND VOTE ON ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

No items were removed for separate discussion.

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19. ANY OTHER MATTER WHICH MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY

Mayor Heymann informed she had two issues to address as follows:

19a RESOLUTION RE INTEREST ARBITRATION

Mayor Heymann explained she had prepared a Resolution to be placed on the next Agenda. It was the major portion of discussion with the Mayors at the meeting she attended today and there was unanimous agreement. She asked whether it was an item to be placed on Regular Meeting Agenda for next meeting to be held March 10, 2010 or whether, after reading same, they would approve it this evening.

Motion of approval was made by Councilman Dolson, seconded by Councilman Barad and declared carried by Mayor Heymann upon the affirmative vote of Councilpersons Glidden, Latner, Kashwick, Barad, Dolson and Amitai.

At this time, Mayor Heymann referred to Item No. 8 on the Consent Agenda, "Introduction of Ordinance No. 2010:1063", and noted that upon review by the Borough Engineer, the soil movement fee should be included. He would be following up with the Building Department on this matter and provide the information to the Borough Attorney for inclusion in the proposed ordinance.

At this time Mayor Heymann referred to ordinance enforcement and explained that after review of the Code Book, she listed areas of enforcement by Boards and Departments, which she provided to the Council members. She indicated that in reality a number of ordinances are not being enforced. Councilman Barad questioned the Council's power to tell people not to follow ordinances without rescinding same. Borough Attorney advised that it is more appropriate for the Ordinance Committee to review the ordinances.

Linda Buchhart, 51 Kennedy Circle, noted that 90% of the citizens have no idea of these ordinances and voiced her opinion that they should be advertised.

Hugh Johnson, 107 Demarest Avenue, referred to Item No. 3 on the Mail List of 2/18/10 and noted that as a member of Knights of Columbus in Emerson, he has collected money on Kinderkamack Road and never gotten hit. He suggested that Chief Berrian contact the Emerson Police Chief on the matter.

Mayor Heymann asked for a motion to recess the Regular Meeting to go into the Work session at 8:12 p.m.

Motion to recess the Regular Meeting at 8:12 p.m. was made by Councilman Glidden seconded by Councilman Barad and declared unanimously carried by Mayor Heymann.

20. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS OR ANY OTHER TIMELY MATTER, IF APPROPRIATE

Mayor Heymann resumed the Regular Meeting at 8:43 p.m. and announced as follows:

20a. Mayor Heymann made the following Mayoral appointment:

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>APPOINTEE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>EXPIRATION</u>
*ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION Alternate No. 2	BILLY BAUER	2 Year un- expired to	12/31/10

Mayor Heymann explained that Mr. Bauer was originally named as an Associate member since he was too young to be a voting member. She was delighted to be able to appoint him as a voting member this evening.

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20b. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH ATTORNEY TO PREPARE SPECIFICATIONS TO GO OUT TO BID FOR PURCHASE OF RECREATION COMMISSION UNIFORMS – TO BE PREPARED BY BOROUGH ATTORNEY

Mayor Heymann explained that in the past only a few uniforms were done at a time; and the Borough Auditor would prefer that all the uniforms be bid at one time. The Recreation fees that are charged offset the cost of the uniforms.

Motion of approval was made by Councilman Barad, seconded by Councilwoman Amitai and declared carried upon the affirmative vote of Councilpersons Glidden, Latner, Kashwick, Barad, Dolson and Amitai.

Hugh Johnson, 107 Demarest Avenue, explained that he had attended the Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting during which 10 recommendations were made by Joseph Bianco many of which he felt were arbitrary and capricious. Borough Attorney advised that the Mayor and Council has no authority to second guess the Zoning Board in terms of an approval. The applicant's attorney would have to contact either his office or file an appeal; and this is not a matter that the Mayor and Council can discuss this evening. Councilman Barad questioned if the Zoning Board has done something outside of their jurisdiction, would the Borough Attorney have to advise the Council on the matter. Borough Attorney explained that an appeal of the decision would not be made to the Mayor and Council.

Mr. Johnson again referred to the clock and asked the Borough Administrator if he had the form that could be signed prematurely to set the wheels in motion to repair the clock since nothing would have to be paid for three weeks. Borough Administrator advised that he would take action on the matter only after action was taken by the Mayor and Council; but during the next few days, he would provide funding recommendations to the Mayor and Council. Mayor Heymann explained that the matter has been referred to the Historic Preservation Commission for review; and it will be taken up after the review is concluded.

21. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:50 p.m. was made by Councilman Glidden, seconded by Councilman Barad and declared unanimously carried by Mayor Heymann.

Provided to the Mayor and Council on
March 4, 2010 for approval at the Regular
Meeting to be held March 10, 2010

Loretta Castano, RMC
Borough Clerk

Prepared by Carol A. Kroepke, RMC
utilizing recording and Borough Clerk's
notes

Approved at the Regular Meeting held March 10, 2010
Consent Agenda Item No. 19a.

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Mayor Heymann called the meeting to order at 8:14 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

The following persons were present:

Mayor Sophie Heymann
Councilpersons John C. Glidden, Jr., Alissa J. Latner, John Kashwick, David Barad,
Arthur B. Dolson and Victoria Amitai
Borough Administrator, Quentin Wiest
Borough Attorney, Edward T. Rogan
Borough Clerk, Loretta Castano
Borough Engineer, Nick DeNicola
Chief of Police, David Berrian
Tax Collector, Maria Passafaro

2. PROVISIONS OF OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mayor Heymann advised that the meeting was being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY - DOLSON (GLIDDEN/ KASHWICK)

- 1) STATUS REPORT RE CLOSTER WEBSITE
- 2) REPORT – Councilman Dolson reported on the following:

a. Board of Health – They introduced an Ordinance to include a new certification required by the State called Food Handlers Manager’s Certification. Each food preparing establishment is required to have a licensed manager on duty during business hours. The Board of Health is going to increase its efforts in getting people certified. We have a number of Korean operated businesses in town, and a lot of them do not speak English too well so they are going to try to have a course administered in Korean. The Board had a visitor at the meeting last week who is certified to do that. They are also going to try to include some of the other new establishments that are opening up in their Code that had not previously been existent activities.

b. Ambulance Corps. – They had a standard meeting with nothing unusual to discuss and they welcomed two new members. He felt this was great because there were two new members as one was a younger person and one was a more mature person. They have quite a divergence in membership in age and genders which he feels is great that they are volunteering for such an important task for the communities.

c. Zoning Board of Adjustment – They had a meeting last week and had an application before it; they approved the Use Variance for commercial (use) on a residential property on John Street with a tremendous list of conditions. He noted that one of these

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conditions will fall on our province and that is street direction control, parking, signage, do not enters, one ways. He was asked to relay it to the Mayor and Council. Mayor Heymann explained she had discussed this matter with the Zoning Board when she was surprised at the fact that this was under consideration; and after discussing it with the Borough Attorney, she let the Board know that they cannot speak for the Borough; they can only speak for the Use Variance itself. Mr. Dolson voiced his satisfaction that he was not the only one who was amazed by this. The Borough Attorney explained that the conditions of an approval are placed on something the applicant can control. Mayor Heymann voiced her opinion that we have not heard that last of this issue. Mr. Dolson agreed and continued that the application was called bifurcated, so they have yet to review a site plan submission as well.

d. Finance Committee – They are in the beginning steps of formulating the 2010 Municipal Budget. The numbers for 2009 are 99.9% completed and assembled; and we successfully survived the year despite the economy and the recession. He reassured there are no fears to be had as a result of last year's operations; and they are going to be very diligent in trying to match that and continue the fiscal security of the community. The Committee will be assembling quickly and shortly to conduct hearings and address the numbers.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY - GLIDDEN (DOLSON/LATNER)

1) REPORT – Councilman Glidden reported they had a meeting a few weeks ago primarily to discuss with the PBA members increases in productivity and morale. They have another meeting scheduled to be held on 3/12/10 coming up in two weeks to see how we're doing and a monthly meeting thereafter on a continuing basis for that particular subject. He will report back to the Council at the next meeting.

C. PUBLIC WORKS - LATNER (AMITAI/GLIDDEN)

1) REPORT – Councilwoman Latner reported that the Department of Public Works met in the beginning of February and will be meeting again next week. She spoke to Billy (Dahle, DPW Superintendent) this morning who reported they were preparing for the upcoming snow and keeping up with the roads. She had asked him if there was anything he wanted to report; and he advised all was well at the DPW.

D. ORDINANCES - BARAD (KASHWICK/AMITAI)

1) REPORT RE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS – Dr. Barad advised there will be another Ordinance Committee meeting next Tuesday, 3/2/10, at 1:45 p.m.

2) REPORT – Councilman Barad announced he had a copy of the potential revised Agenda that they had e-mailed them about two weeks ago and proceeded to hand out copies to the Mayor and Council. He suggested they all take a look at it and voiced his feeling that they would probably not be able to implement that at the beginning of March as they had previously discussed. Mayor Heymann noted that she had expressed something to the same effect before Dr. Barad arrived this evening. Dr. Barad explained this was a first pass; and one correction to note right away is that the second page is really the first page; the Work Session Agenda starts on the second page. Mayor Heymann mentioned there was also Work Session Minutes from 12/9/99 and Dr. Barad explained that was his copy that Loretta had given to him. Ms. Castano explained that she had provided a copy of the Minutes and Agenda of that meeting to all this evening for a

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better reference and preview. She asked if they noticed how comprehensive the meetings were; and Dr. Barad affirmed same.

E. HUMAN RESOURCES - KASHWICK (BARAD/DOLSON)

1) REPORT RE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETINGS – Councilman

Kashwick reported that the HR Committee did not meet this month but would be meeting on 3/9/10.

2) REPORT – Councilman Kashwick reported on the following:

a. Shade Tree Commission – Nils Abate is now the Chairperson. They discussed the Arbor Day Celebration to be held on 4/17/10 which will involve a tree planting at Pollack Square, which will also be a part of the 300th Anniversary celebration. They completed their accomplishment report for 2009; and it has been filed with the State.

b. Environmental Commission – They are working on installing the new fence around the MacBain Farm and they are updating the trails and installing the new signage as well as the new blazes for the trails. They are also in the process of considering a number of landmark trees which will, hopefully, come before us in the month of April so we have something else to celebrate for Arbor Day. He did want to bring up the issue of Billy Bauer with Karen Seagaard not accepting her appointment; and asked the Mayor if she could appoint Billy. Mayor Heymann explained her understanding that Ms. Seagaard has not given her an official resignation but if she does, she will appoint Bill to the Board. She added that as Ms. Seagaard has not signed her Oath at this time, when they return to the Regular Meeting, she will nominate Billy. Mr. Kashwick explained that Billy is only with them for a year; and he wants to make sure he gets as many months as possible with them. Mayor Heymann reminded him that Billy had a big proposal; and Mr. Kashwick agreed that was something he should mention. He explained that one of their Associate Members, Billy Bauer, had just turned 18 years old a couple of months ago and he is working on a composting proposal with some of the schools and trying to get the schools involved with doing more composting. Mayor Heymann noted it was a very nice proposal; and Mr. Kashwick may want to say a little bit more about it because she found it very interesting. He advised he did not have the report with him at this time but he would report on it at the next meeting.

c. Historic Preservation Commission – They are working on a number of issues regarding the 300th Anniversary. They will do a walking tour of the Historic District as well as the downtown area. They are working on one of the blue signs for the (Auryansen) Cemetery which, hopefully, will be dedicated before April; and they have been advised that they would receive the sign in time.

d. Closter Website – Mr. Kashwick explained that although this was not officially on his Agenda yet since the By-laws have not been changed, he asked if the Council members could review the Contacts Directory on the website and note any changes for a Board they are a liaison to because a number of the Boards and Commissions are out of date. He asked that current membership rosters be forwarded to Kevin (Whitney) or Quentin or himself and expressed that Kevin was doing a great job keeping other things updated and the site is looking very nice. Ms. Castano noted that Arlene (Corvelli) has been working fastidiously on the directory, and we have most of the names listed. Although it is not yet approved, she can provide it to him for his information. Mr. Kashwick voiced his appreciation at same.

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F. PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION, LAND USE, ZONING ENFORCEMENT & NEW BUILDINGS – AMITAI (BARAD/DOLSON)

1) REPORT – Councilwoman Amitai noted that they were on the list of outstanding Oaths of Office; and asked if the Borough Clerk received anything today from Eric Mattes for the Improvement Commission. Ms. Castano advised she has not received anything since John Hernandez' oath was received last week. Ms. Amitai explained that Eric had collected same last evening. Ms. Castano explained she had been speaking with the Borough Attorney earlier today; and the major problem that she has previously mentioned was that once the Citizen Leadership Act was enacted, it was going to compound the problems with Oaths of Office. Our office sends out Oaths of Office because appointments are made by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council at the Reorganization Meeting. In order for people to accept the appointment, they sign the Oath and return it; but we haven't received them. The second procedure is that when the appointees appear at a Board, they are sworn in again with another Oath; and we are supposed to be getting those Oaths as well. Ms. Castano explained that we have not received those first Oaths from the Reorganization Meeting. She provided a list of the outstanding Oaths to the Liaisons who had agreed to follow through with their appropriate Boards and Commissions. She has not received signed Oaths of Office from the appointees acknowledging acceptance of their appointments; therefore, new appointments can be made because they have not accepted their appointments. Ms. Amitai reported that oaths were collected last night for the Improvement Commission; and she would mention it at the next Planning Board meeting. She asked if they could all be stapled together because it is confusing for them as well. Ms. Castano clarified that Ms. Amitai was referring to the Oaths for the individual Boards and Commissions; and Ms. Castano was referring to the Oaths from the Reorganization Meeting adding that at this point in time, it has been over a month since the Reorganization Meeting; and if people have not signed their Oaths, they have not accepted their appointments. She reminded the Council members that at the last meeting she had informed them that she would be forced to put all of those positions on the Agenda if there was no follow through by the Liaisons for those Boards and Commissions.

a. Closter Improvement Commission - Ms. Amitai reported that Dr. Shyong and Dr. (Steven) Arcella should be receiving their awards which have been mailed out. Dr. Shyong is out of the country but wrote an apologetic note since he could not be here this evening. Dr. Arcella also wrote a very nice note which Ms. Amitai read at this time because he could not attend this evening. Mayor Heymann asked Ms. Amitai to explain to the audience why those awards are being given. Ms. Amitai explained that those people were receiving these awards because they made some effort to restore their buildings in a natural, authentic way. Mayor Heymann clarified that those buildings are both on the main street section of Closter Dock Road which is going to be maintained in an historic fashion. Ms. Amitai thanked Mr. (Hugh) Johnson at this time for taking the clock project under his wing. She explained that Mr. Johnson had done some research with the Verden Clock Company and he came forward with a plan. The sub-committee of the Improvement Commission and Historic Preservation Commission met briefly to take a look at his ideas to see how they would fit into downtown; and both agreed that the four-sided clock would be too big; over-scale for the small piece of property it would be sitting on, and suggested a two-sided clock very similar to the clock we have there now. Mr. Johnson did some research; and for \$8,300, they can replace some parts, have it thoroughly refurbished

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and repainted and have it looking brand new again. He has also volunteered to give a \$5,000 donation for the clock. His donation would be primarily towards the chiming part of the clock; and that is why she sent it on to the Historic Preservation Commission to review again as they had not realized that was part of his proposal; and they were not sure how that would fit into our Downtown Renaissance District. However, we then need to find the money to pay for the \$8,300 clock if we are going to refurbish it. She knows they have a Finance Committee meeting; and they will be appearing before them for their budget. She is not sure how they will manage to fit this in. She noted that this Spring they will see some new planters as they bought as much as they could afford with the money they had. Between this and the Christmas decorations, there is not a lot of money left for the \$8,300 clock. Dr. Barad suggested soliciting donations on the 300th Anniversary. Ms. Amitai invited Mr. Johnson to speak on the issue.

Mr. Johnson explained he wanted to wait until the determination was made. He spoke to Doug Gebhardt this morning; and he agrees that Doug would obviously rather sell a \$24,995 clock than a refurbishment of the existing one, which never had the gold gilding on it, which is \$8,300. He approached a few people in order to defray the cost; and putting politics aside, if they can have spent money in the past, certainly in some areas outrageously, he does not think \$8,300 is a lot and he will help. Dr. Barad suggested that at this point when there is a lot of concern going forward about decreased funds coming to the town, we should try to take it to the public and make it part of the Anniversary and have a clock fund that people could contribute to.

Ms. Amitai reported that Fred Pitofsky came to the meeting last night, in the worst weather possible and he looks great. Cheryl (Clarke) is beginning to seek out ways to invigorate the Chamber of Commerce; begin one again.

b. Building Department – They did meet and they have newly revised fees as a result of that meeting. They also discussed Code Enforcement.

4. OLD BUSINESS
5. NEW BUSINESS
6. ANY OTHER MATTER WHICH MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY

At this time, Mr. Wiest informed he wanted to update all present that he had attended a pre-construction meeting earlier this week in the Council Chambers with Public Service Electric & Gas and the contractor who has been retained by them (PSE&G) to replace the gas line in Piermont Road. He explained as follows: this is an extensive project that starts and ends outside of Closter, but will result in construction work along the entire stretch of Piermont Road in the Borough during this year beginning on or about 3/15/10 and going at least through the end of August, at which time they will likely spend September and October connecting the side roads; they are going to be replacing a 12-inch gas main that is starting to fail; and it absolutely has to be done. He wanted to make all aware that there will be public education done on this and

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PSE&G will be preparing and distributing a press release which will be posted on our website and sent to the media. They will be doing neighborhood notification as well, but he wanted to make everyone aware as we are only a few weeks away from the potential start date of this project. In response to Dr. Barad, he advised he has a drawing with him that they can review after the meeting, but there are potential detours for most of the work. They plan to maintain at least one lane of traffic throughout, but they may have to alternate traffic North and South. He believes they plan to work from the south and head to the north working on the east side. There is one 1,500-foot stretch they do not plan on having a detour, between Ruckman Road and Pearson Avenue. He believes there will not be any service interruptions but there may be some very short interruptions as the project goes on.

Ms. Amitai asked if simultaneously could they install a line that would carry underground electricity even though we don't do the work at this time. Mr. Wiest advised that is a different company. He does not think Orange and Rockland would come out on the spur of the moment and do a project like that; and asked the Borough Engineer for his thoughts. Mr. DeNicola advised he felt there was not a chance they would do that. Mr. Wiest explained that they only do these things when it is absolutely necessary. Dr. Barad asked if this affects the culvert; and Mr. DeNicola explained that they are skipping the one section of the culvert where the line was replaced 5 years ago.

At this time, Mr. Wiest pointed out that Maria (Passafaro) is present in the audience this evening; and although it is not apparent on the surface, he wanted to mention that Maria and her staff are engaged in some very vigorous activities. We are in the process of changing over our payroll system as well as our accounting software system. It has caused quite a bit of additional work on the staff in the Finance and Revenue office. Not only are they learning new ways to do things, but they have to maintain normal operations at the same time. This is not an easy process. There is training that has been going on here; today, we had a staff member out of the office all day training at a vendor site. There is additional training scheduled here tomorrow for other staff members who are going to be learning the new purchasing system. This has been in process for several weeks now and will continue for a period of several more weeks until it all settles in. He wanted to make everyone aware that everybody in Maria's office is handling this with their usual good nature; and he thinks they are doing a terrific job.

Ms. Amitai asked to be reminded why the payroll system was switched over and questioned if it was a matter of cost. Mr. Wiest explained that in the case of the payroll system, they hoped they will have a better working system when it's completed so that was done for ease of use and saving money in the process. They will be saving with this change. With the accounting system, they will have to lay out some money eventually. We are literally going to go from a "Mom and Pop" kind of system to something that is quite a bit more state of the art; and we think that it will ease our work down the road. Our goal in both of these efforts is to try to get a better running operation and more efficient and easier for the staff and everyone to work with. We are switching to Edmunds software. Dr. Barad asked if this would help take care of some of the issues of tracking things; and Mr. Wiest affirmed that he absolutely thinks so.

7. OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC
8. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS, IF APPROPRIATE

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9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Work Session was made by Councilman Glidden, seconded by Councilman Barad and declared unanimously carried by Mayor Heymann at 8:42 p.m.

Provided to the Mayor and
Council on March 4, 2010
for approval at the Regular Meeting
to be held March 10, 2010

Loretta Castano, RMC
Borough Clerk

Prepared by Arlene Corvelli
utilizing recording and Borough
Clerk's notes

Approved at the Regular Meeting held March 10, 2010
Consent Agenda Item No. 19b.