



THE TIMES

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CHANGING OF THE GUARD...Newly-elected Scotch Plains Mayor William F. McClintock, Jr., left, is sworn in during the Township Council reorganization meeting on Saturday by Township Clerk, Mrs. Barbara Riepe. Looking on, left to right, are: His wife, Mrs. Patricia McClintock; his son, James McClintock, and his daughter, Karen McClintock.

GARBAGE RATES CITED BY HIM AS A PRIMARY CONCERN William McClintock Takes the Reins As New Mayor of Scotch Plains; Mr. Johnston Now Deputy Mayor

Control of Taxes Pledged Through More Cooperation With Board of Education;
Outgoing Mayor, Mrs. Papen, Cites Accomplishments During Her Tenure

By GLENN N. KAPLINSKY
Specially Written for The Times

William F. McClintock, Jr., who served as Deputy Mayor last year was unanimously chosen Mayor of Scotch Plains at the annual organizational meeting held on New Year's Day, Saturday.

Councilman McClintock has been a member of the Scotch Plains governing body since 1991. The position of Deputy Mayor went to Councilman Robert E. Johnston. Under the Council-Manager form of government used in Scotch Plains, the five members of the Township Council are elected by the voters, and then each year they select one of their number to serve as Mayor. The selection is made at the first meeting of the year on January 1.

The Mayor has the additional duties of conducting meetings of the council, signing contracts on behalf of the township and representing the municipal government at a great variety of ceremonial events. Historically the position of Mayor has been rotated among the council members who are in the majority political party.

The Republicans currently hold a 5-0 edge on the council. The Mayor's term is one year. The Mayor is a 1968 graduate of Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio and received a Master's Degree in American History from New York University in New York City in 1970.

In addition to his elected office on the Township Council, Mr. McClintock has served as President of the Library Board of Trustees and as a Planning Board member, from 1983 to 1986. He also has served as liaison between the council and many township committees including the Library Board, the Health Advisory Board, the Local Assistance and the Aircraft Noise Committees. He also served as the Vice Chairman of the Scotch Plains Environmental Commission in 1986.

Mayor McClintock listed three goals for this year.

taxes down while at the same time maintaining the existing level of services.

A "sharing of ideas will benefit both the township and the school system," he said. The new Mayor is a member of the School Board's Strategic Planning Team, which will help formulate school policy over the next several years. Township Manager Thomas E. Atkins also is a team member.

Outgoing Mayor, Mrs. Joan Papen, summed up her past year as Mayor in an address. She stressed she and her fellow council members explore every possible grant and fund available to the township.

"We secured approximately \$785,000 in grants which are earmarked for road improvements, police equipment, tree plantings, clean-community improvements, senior housing and a handicapped accessible playground," Councilwoman Papen said.

She noted these are vital projects which must be undertaken while not increasing taxes.

After reviewing their options for 10 months Scotch Plains decided to join the Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund. This should stabilize insurance increases, she noted.

A new sexual harassment policy was adopted, she pointed out, and, in April, ground was broken for the new senior citizens housing project.

The project, it is hoped, will be completed at the end of 1994 or early 1995, she noted.

Former Mayor Papen also appointed a committee to

control of taxes pledged through more cooperation with board of education.

Garbage remains an unresolved issue," he said.

"We have explored many alternatives and the one thing we have learned is there is no single solution."

The Mayor invited public input on this difficult issue.

"We have asked the existing haulers for their input, but to date, they have given us none," he noted.

Despite the success of the recycling program, nearly half the garbage is now recycled, and the fact that in 1994 the Rahway incinerator will go on line, garbage rates have continued to rise, he added.

"We cannot allow local taxes to climb at a higher rate than inflation," the Mayor said. "During the three years I have served on council, we have kept the local portion under the inflation rate."

The Mayor pledged to work with the School Board in an effort to keep

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Council Hears Preliminary Report On Fire Department in Private

Written Conclusions Expected to Be Disclosed to the Public Later This Month

By GLENN N. KAPLINSKY
Specially Written for The Times

A conference meeting of the Scotch Plains Township Council was held Tuesday.

The meeting was the first presided over by the new Mayor, William F. McClintock, Jr.

The council first met in closed session to discuss the preliminary findings of Dr. Denis Onieal, associated with Edcon Consultants of Bayonne. Dr. Onieal had been retained by the council to investigate safety and morale problems with the Fire Department.

The department has been the focus of much dissension for some time.

Bidding for a new air compressor and self-contained breathing apparatus will commence as soon as the specifications are drawn up, the council announced at its public session.

It is expected the council will introduce a capital-improvement funding ordinance this coming Tuesday to authorize the purchase of the new systems.

The ordinance would be up for

public hearing on Tuesday, January 25.

It is expected Dr. Onieal will submit a detailed, written report to the council later in the month.

Firefighters had threatened a walk-out on January 1. They then pushed their deadline back to Saturday, January 15.

Newly appointed Special Counsel Douglas Hansen was to appear at the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth yesterday seeking recision of a recycling contract between Scotch Plains, the Union County Utilities Authority and Advanced Recycling Technology Systems of Linden.

The recision process will take some time and there is no guarantee it will succeed, officials said.

Mr. Hansen will seek recision of the contract on the grounds people associated with the Linden firm recently pled guilty to defrauding their customers of \$2.3 million. Kickbacks allegedly also were involved.

The firm has contracts with 10 of 21 communities in Union County

including Clark, Mountainside and New Providence.

Mr. Hansen was retained on December 21.

According to Town Manager, Thomas E. Atkins, Scotch Plains will not hire a replacement recycling hauler until the matter is resolved by the courts.

Assistant Town Attorney, Jeffrey Lehrer noted it will be difficult to hold the corporate officers personally liable as a matter of law.

Mr. Atkins said he will recommend the 1994 municipal budget to the council by the end of the month.

A 2.5 to 5.0 per cent increase is likely over the 1993 budget, he noted, saying this is within the 5 per cent state-mandated budget "cap."

Scotch Plains' budget totals approximately \$13 million, according to Mr. Atkins.

At its January 11 meeting the council will review bid options received for solid waste and recycling. Part of this review will be in closed session.

A contract is expected to be awarded at Tuesday's meeting to Allbright Cleaning of Millington for approximately \$13,000 to provide janitorial services for the Municipal Building.

A bond ordinance authorizing improvements to underground fuel storage tanks in the township also will be on the agenda for Tuesday's meeting.

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Scotch Plains Planners Elect George Tomkin

Salvatore Lauro Selected as the New Vice Chairman

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specially Written for The Times

The Scotch Plains Planning Board kicked off the new year Monday with the swearing in of former Mayor and current Councilwoman, Mrs. Joan Papen, and three of four fellow board members also beginning new terms during the body's annual reorganization meeting.

Mrs. Papen and her colleagues, including Robert LaCosta, Fred Webb and Mayor and new member William F. McClintock, Jr., took their oaths of office in unison and were congratulated by Board Chairman George Tomkin.

Board member Salvatore Lauro, also returning for another term, was absent.

The board unanimously approved a nomination by Mrs. Papen, and seconded by Mr. Webb, naming Mr. Tomkin as Board Chairman. Mr. Lauro, nominated by Mr. Webb and seconded by board member, Mrs. Maria Sartor, was approved as Vice Chairman.

Mr. Webb was named Board Secretary. Mr. Tomkin read a statement confirming renewal of the board's contract with its legal counsel Lawrence A. Woodruff.

In other news, the board approved memorialization of two resolutions confirming applications which were given the green light by board members during their December 20 regular meeting.

The first resolution recognized the board's approval of a bid by Scotch Plains developer Dominick Verdie, Jr., for permission to erect a free-standing sign outside a retail establishment which Mr. Verdie plans to construct at 302 Park Avenue.

The developer wants to demolish an existing service station on the property in order to build the proposed 4,400-foot establishment.

Demolishing the station would include removal of pump islands and underground fuel tanks in accordance with state requirements.

The free-standing sign advertising the establishment would measure 50 square feet on top and 21 square feet on the bottom, and would be internally-illuminated with fluorescent tubes, according to the proposal which was approved by the board last month.

Mr. Verdie's sign proposal, which would also feature two columns and white bands along the top and bottom, had been reached through a cooperative effort between the developer and the Downtown Short-Range Planning Committee, which encouraged a Colonial motif.

The second resolution memorialized by the board acknowledged its approval last month of a request by township resident Norman Sevell involving the Dutch Lane Estates at 1570 and 1580 Martine Avenue.

Mr. Sevell had sought a modification to the original major subdivision of the site, which had been approved by the Planning Board on August 2 in order to subdivide one lot into six.

The developer wanted to obtain a curbing waiver, he told the board last month, in an effort to preserve the rural ambiance of the neighborhood.

Township officials have been emphasizing Colonial architectural styles recently in a bid to recapture the community's historic flavor.

SCHOOL MEETING TO BE MONDAY

The meeting of the Strategic Action Teams of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District originally scheduled for this past Tuesday, January 4, has been rescheduled for Monday, January 10, at 7 p.m. at Evergreen School.

The change was made necessary by the closing of the schools due to last Tuesday's inclement weather.



A NEW TERM...Fanwood Borough Councilman Andrew J. MacDonald, center, takes his oath of office for a new term from Judge Melvin Whitken at Saturday's reorganization meeting of the council. Looking on, left to right, are: His son Andrew MacDonald, his wife, Mrs. Kathleen MacDonald, and his daughter, Mary MacDonald. Please see another picture on Page 10.

Councilmen MacDonald, Jung Take Oaths as Borough Body Reorganizes

Three-to-Three Political Council Split Causes Tie Votes on Most Appointments

By TUCKER TRIMBLE
Specially Written for The Times

Superior Court Judge Melvin Whitken was present at the annual reorganization meeting of the Fanwood Borough Council on Saturday to swear in newly-re-elected Republican Councilmen Andrew J. MacDonald and Louis C. Jung.

The first order of business for the new year was the election of the Council President for 1994.

Democratic Councilman Bruce Walsh nominated Democratic Councilwoman, Mrs. Maryanne Connelly, last year's President, citing her "unquestioned integrity and her dedication to doing what's right for the citizens of Fanwood."

Councilman MacDonald voted no for the appointment, Republican Councilmen Donald J. Kolterjahn and Jung each abstained, and Democratic Mayor, Mrs. Linda d. Stender, broke the tie with her support of Mrs. Connelly.

"I'm in total agreement with Mr. Walsh," she said. "Mrs. Connelly always does the job and does it well."

The Times of Scotch Plains and Fanwood once again was designated as one of the borough's official papers authorized to run legal advertising.

The council also approved the appointment of the borough officials for the coming year, although the Mayor once again had to break the tie formed by the votes of Councilmen MacDonald, Jung and Kolterjahn against the appointments.

Richard Marsden was reappointed as Borough Engineer, Dennis Estis as Borough Attorney and Mrs. Eleanor McGovern as Borough Clerk, Public Agent, Official Assessment Searcher and Insurance Commissioner.

Mrs. Barbara Brennan was appointed Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, Mrs. Lewyellen Fisher as Deputy Treasurer and Mrs. Colleen Huehn as Deputy Borough Clerk.

Mrs. Yvonne Rude was voted in as Court Administrator, and Miss Nancy Nagel as her Deputy Court Administrator, while John DeMassi was appointed Public Defender.

Mrs. Joyce Caraway is the new Official Tax Searcher, and Eugene Bellamy the Officer in Charge of the Bureau of Fire Prevention and Deputy Chief.

Raymond Manfra was again appointed Director of Public Works and Jeremiah O'Neill was appointed both Zoning Officer and Public Officer. Mayor Stender will be acting Insurance Commissioner.

The mayor also broke a tie vote for the resolution for the professional-service contract for the Borough Attorney.

Councilmen Kolterjahn, MacDonald and Jung all voted no, but the resolution passed with the Mayor's affirmative vote.

The resolution awarding the professional-service contract for the Borough Risk Manager to Richard Augustyn of Albiez Insurance Agency also produced a tie vote, with Councilmen Kolterjahn, MacDonald and Jung voting no.

"We only interviewed two firms for the job," Mr. Kolterjahn said. "One was too small, the other I have a problem with."

"This firm has had experience with joint insurance funds, which are new to the area," responded the Mayor. "I think it's in our best interest to choose one with experience. I feel strongly we should have a firm that handles only us; not the other towns in the Suburban Joint Insurance Fund."

Council President, Mrs. Connelly, added, "Given we have no experience with Joint Insurance Funds, and this firm does, I think we should go to it."

Councilman Walsh pointed out, "It's difficult to have give-and-take at these meetings; we should continue our tradition of discussions before the meetings."

"I don't believe a thorough investigation was done," reiterated Councilman Kolterjahn.

The Mayor's vote to approve the resolution broke the tie and the resolution passed.

Former Councilman William E.

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