

Verona scraps referendum on garbage pickup in favor of mail survey

By MEG NUGENT

A proposal for a Nov. 8 referendum asking Verona voters where they would like their trash to be picked up was scrapped last night by the township council, which chose instead to conduct a mail survey.

The council had scheduled the special session to take final action on two ordinances, one for curbside garbage pickup and one for backyard pickup. Pending the council's decision, both or one of the ordinances would be put on the ballot for voters to approve or turn down.

But after a two-hour public hearing, the council unanimously voted to "postpone indefinitely" any action on the ordinances.

The decision also followed Councilman Robert Pignatello's statement that he was willing to withdraw his proposal for a referendum to decide the issue, in part, because

of "legal, practical and fiscal" barriers the referendum would pose.

The special meeting was held on the day of the township's deadline for bids for trash pickup, and council members also seemed reluctant to choose the referendum route after hearing the preliminary cost estimates given by the six contractors who submitted bids.

Township Attorney Michael DiMiro had explained that the township would be bound to abide by whatever referendum voters approved for three years.

Several residents voiced their support of a mail survey to gauge residents' feelings instead of a referendum. After the council's decision, resident Lawrence Foran said he supported Pignatello's "100 percent for dropping the referendum," adding he hoped the council would take "sufficient time to analyze the facts and not trap us into a high figure (for garbage pickup) by a referendum being pushed on us."

Residents' displeasure about a switch last year from backyard to curbside pickup of refuse prompted the council to hold the special meeting to consider the two garbage ordinances.

Verona wanted to make the switch in the hopes of saving \$124,344 during 1988. The township earlier estimated backyard collection would have cost \$539,580, while the bill for curbside pickups totaled \$415,236.

Rolli last night repeated his earlier explanation for the two ordinances, saying the council did not want to alert bidders by approving just one. He said earlier that the cost estimates of the bids could settle the issue before it gets on the ballot.

Township Manager Vincent DiMauro said the swing in cost estimates between the lowest bids for "curbside to rearward" pickup for a five-year contract ranged from \$1.8 million to "a high" of \$7.4 million. He reminded resi-

dents the bids did not include the \$108 per ton tipping fee the township must pay to haul the trash to two transfer stations in Newark.

Before formalizing the switch last year, the township conducted a mail survey in which 3,800 homeowners were asked which plan they preferred. Out of the 1,179 responses, 790 chose curbside and 389 favored backyard pickup.

Residents last night told the council the survey was improperly conducted, saying some of them never saw the questionnaires because they were placed between the pages of a recycling brochure that was sent to their homes.

Councilman James Treffinger recalled residents telling him they were dissatisfied with the first survey, in part, because it did not provide a breakdown of costs for individual homeowners that curbside or backyard pickup would incur.

Bargain prices, promotion urged to boost Shore's sagging image

By DEBORAH COOMBE

A Seaside Heights councilman and businessman said overpricing and a poor attitude by merchants—not just fears of a dirty ocean—contributed to a poor summer at the Shore.

Businessmen must unite to counter bad publicity about the Shore, advertise the area's attractions and offer bargain packages if the downward trend is going to be reversed, said Councilman Robert Dionisio at a press conference yesterday.

"There's no time left. There is a sense of panic with some of the businesses," Dionisio said.

Merchants, restaurateurs, realtors and other businessmen from Point Pleasant south to Island Beach State Park recently formed the North Island Business Coalition to find ways to restore the image and economic health of the Shore.

Bad publicity last summer about medical waste washing up at various spots along the coast, raw sewage in the ocean off Asbury Park as well as changes in lifestyle have cut business by 35 percent, with some businesses facing bankruptcy, Dionisio said.

"I'm down \$400,000 in gross this year. That's a little more than 50 percent. I still have the same chef and everything else is the same," said Dionisio, who owns Captain Hook's Inn.

The councilman blamed the press for not "checking out" stories concerning pollution and for giving the impression that the whole coast is polluted.

"The ocean has never been cleaner. That's what the federal government tells us," Dionisio said.

No ocean beach in Ocean County was closed last summer.

Also attending the press conference were Elizabeth Torrice, a representative of Fugazy Travel & Bus Co., and Denise Putlock, who is in charge of group sales at Casino Pier and Water Works.

They spoke about the need to promote the area as a family resort and to offer financial inducements to tourists. One proposal is to offer "tokens" to all passengers who come to Seaside Heights on a tour administered by Fu-

gazy. The tokens could be used to buy a chance, a two-for-one meal or a discount on a purchase.

"The primary purpose is to show our appreciation for visiting Seaside Heights and to increase our customer traffic," Torrice said.

Putlock said she will be promoting Casino Pier and Water Works and any other Shore business that gives her literature to distribute at trade shows throughout the winter.

She plans to continue some of the programs that were successful last spring to lure children to the water works. One was to give a free admission for every "A" on a report card.

"I know it sounds corny, but the kids loved it," Putlock said.

Dionisio said it would be difficult to extend the season past early fall.

"As soon as the money lets up, people close up," he said.

Putlock said a lot of the rides on the boardwalk are independently owned. They are packed up the first week in October and taken to fairs.

Dionisio stressed the importance of bringing families back to the Shore with special rates.

"Next summer we will have a family day. We will have a free beach day every week," he said.

A free beach day was offered last summer; however, some merchants and parking lot owners used the opportunity to raise their prices.

"I can't tell you how I felt when I heard that," Dionisio said.

He said there have to be lower prices on the boardwalk, for rentals and in restaurants. In turn boardwalk landlords have to lower their rents so businesses can make a profit.

At one time Seaside Heights had little competition, but times are changing, the councilman said.

"You can go to Florida for a week and it will cost less than here," he said.

At his restaurant, Dionisio is planning to offer \$8 and \$9 dinners instead of the \$16 dinners he had been selling.

When asked whether businesses will be willing to lower prices, even for one day a week, Dionisio said, "I don't think they have much of a choice right now."



An autumn bouquet

Helen Cicala gathers flowers for a bouquet in her field in Colts Neck, where sunny skies and pleasant temperatures flowed for a picture-perfect day. More of the same is expected today, with clear skies and highs in the 70s.

Photo by Jeff Huntley

Injured man found on train tracks

An unidentified man in his early to mid-20s was critically injured Sunday night after he either "fell onto the train tracks or was hit by a train" in Orange, Police Director Charles Cobbert reported yesterday.

A Conrail conductor reported seeing a body on the rails, about 200 feet south of Chestnut Street, about 8:30 p.m., he said.

When the police arrived, they found the man "lying face down and bleeding from his head," according to Cobbert.

The man, who carried no identification, was taken to

University Hospital in Newark, where he was in critical condition yesterday.

The police director described the injured man as "a white male, 20-25 years of age, small build, 145 to 150 pounds, blond hair, facial hair, and wearing a beige T-shirt, blue sweat pants, gray and blue sneakers and white socks." He also was wearing a stainless steel watch.

Cobbert said anyone with information on the man's identity or what happened to him is asked to call Detective Todd Bertolini in the Orange Police Department's detective bureau.

S. Orange approves funds for Village Hall

A \$60,000 appropriation for renovations to Village Hall, the municipal building at South Orange Avenue and Scotland Road, was adopted last night by the South Orange Board of Trustees.

The renovations will include electrical work for the council chambers on the second floor, a recording system, seats, lighting, interior and exterior painting, floor covering and plumbing.

An additional \$81,000 will come from a federal Department of Housing and Urban Development grant received by

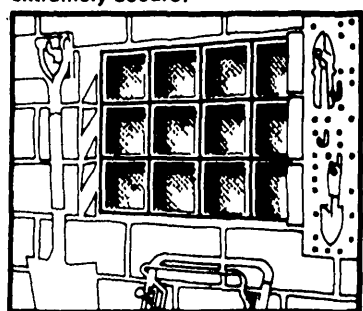
the county for the installation of barrier-free facilities such as ramps and elevators to make Village Hall more accessible to the handicapped.

The work is expected to be completed early next year.

A second ordinance was adopted approving a 6 percent salary increase for employees from the departments of parks and recreation, streets and sewers, and water and for employees such as the animal warden, clerk typists and bookkeepers. The increase, which is retroactive to Jan. 1, 1988, will be repeated in 1989 and 1990 and applies to approximately 50 workers.

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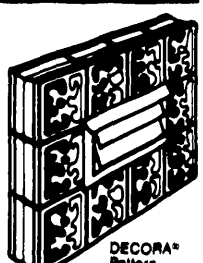
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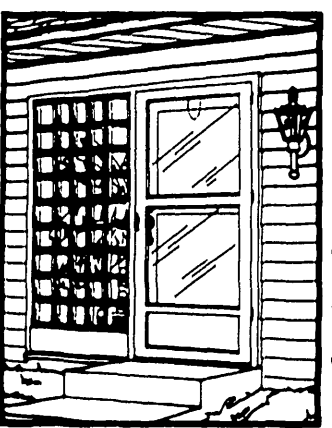
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LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES
F-U-A-N ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 22-15.3, THROUGH STREETS, OF TITLE 22, TRAFFIC AND PARKING, OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, 1966, AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED, BY ADDING THERE TO AVENUE "A" AS A THROUGH STREET. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY: Section 1. That Section 22-15.3, Through Streets, of Title 22, Traffic and Parking, of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Newark, New Jersey, 1966, as amended and supplemented, be amended by adding thereto the following: Avenue "A" From Emmet Street to Painter Street Section 2. Stop signs shall be installed on Emmet Street, Wright Street, Vanderpool Street, and Painter Street. Section 3. That resolution 78B, adopted September 29, 1978, be amended by deleting therefrom the following: That the intersection of Avenue "A" and Vanderpool Street be designated as a stop intersection and marked as provided in N.J.S.A. 39:4-14b. Stop signs shall be installed on Avenue "A". Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication and in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey. Section 5. That a copy of this ordinance be sent to the Commissioner of Transportation for her approval. PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Municipal Council of the City of Newark, New Jersey, held on the 21st day of September, 1988, and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration for final passage at a meeting of the Municipal Council to be held in its meeting room, City Hall, Newark, New Jersey on the 5th day of October, 1988, at 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached, at which time and place all persons who may be interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same. Mark E. Davis Deputy City Clerk 904.00 DATED: September 27, 1988	NOTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF POLICE AS A GARAGE OR PLACE FOR THE IMPOUNDING OF SUCH VEHICLES AND SUCH VEHICLES shall be there, retained and impounded until the person owning or leasing such vehicle has reclaimed same. The owner of the motor vehicle or other person entitled to the motor vehicle may reclaim possession of the motor vehicle upon payment of the reasonable costs of removal and storage of the motor vehicle, any fine or penalty and court costs assessed against him for a violation that gave rise to the impoundment of the motor vehicle and any outstanding warrants against the vehicle. However, the owner/lessee of a motor vehicle who has complied with paragraph (c) shall be entitled to reclaim possession without payment and the lessee shall be liable for any fine, penalty, court costs and outstanding warrants on the vehicle. (c) If the outstanding warrants are not paid by midnight on the 30th day following the day on which the vehicle was impounded, the vehicle may be sold at public auction. The City shall give notice of the sale by certified mail to the owner, if his name and address are known, and to the holder of any security interest filed with the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles and by publication in a form prescribed by the Director by one insertion, at least five (5) days before the date of sale, in one or more newspapers published in this State and circulating in the City of Newark in which the motor vehicle has been impounded. (d) The owner and operator shall be jointly liable for parking offenses unless the owner can show that the vehicle was used without his consent, express or implied. If the owner of a motor vehicle has leased the motor vehicle to another person, the owner shall be liable for any parking offense when the motor vehicle is under the control of the lessee. If the owner of a motor vehicle has leased the motor vehicle to another person, the owner shall be liable for any parking offense when the motor vehicle is under the control of the lessee. SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey. PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Municipal Council of the City of Newark, New Jersey, held on the 21st day of September, 1988, and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration for final passage at a meeting of the Municipal Council to be held in its meeting room, City Hall, Newark, New Jersey on the 5th day of October, 1988, at 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached, at which time and place all persons who may be interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same. Mark E. Davis Deputy City Clerk 9147.00 DATED: September 27, 1988	(a) The City, by its designated agents and employees, will collect and remove at no direct cost to the residents or occupants or any residential source in the City, only the household waste matter as classified in paragraph (b) of this section, when such waste matter is placed in proper receptacles or bins provided by the City. The collection and removal of such waste matter shall be performed by the City's designated agents and employees. All city and designated agents' vehicles utilized for the collection and transportation of solid waste shall be equipped with sufficient brooms and brushes to clean up any refuse spilled as a result of their collection or sale waste disposal efforts. Any equipment issued by the City shall be accounted for daily by the designated agents and employees and shall be replaced and maintained by the City. Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed. Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication and in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey. PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Municipal Council of the City of Newark, New Jersey, held on the 21st day of September, 1988, and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration for final passage at a meeting of the Municipal Council to be held in its meeting room, City Hall, Newark, New Jersey on the 5th day of October, 1988, at 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached, at which time and place all persons who may be interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same. Mark E. Davis Deputy City Clerk 9147.00 DATED: September 27, 1988