

March 2, 2020

Minutes of the public meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Dunellen held on March 2, 2020.

Mayor Jason F. Cilento called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Municipal Clerk William Robins read the Sunshine Statement and called the Roll.

Present: Jason Cilento, Kenneth Bayer, April Burke, Stacy Narvesen, Trina Rios and Daniel Sigmon  
Absent: Jessica Dunne

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On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the Minutes of February 18, 2020:

Yes: Bayer, Burke, Narvesen, Rios and Sigmon

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At this point, a Proclamation Celebrating March as Youth Art Month was read:

**PROCLAMATION  
YOUTH ART MONTH 2020**

Whereas, art education contributes powerful educational benefits to all elementary, middle, and secondary students including the following:

- Art education develops students’ creative problem-solving and critical thinking abilities;
- Art education teaches sensitivity to beauty, order, and other expressive qualities;
- Art education gives students a deeper understanding of multi-cultural values and beliefs;
- Art education reinforces and brings to life what students learn in other subjects; and
- Art education interrelates student learning in art production, art history, art criticism, and aesthetics.

WHEREAS, our national leaders have acknowledged the necessity of including arts experiences in all students’ education,

AND WHEREAS March is officially recognized as YOUTH ART MONTH, I proclaim the observance of Youth Art Month and encourage the support of quality school art programs for children and youth.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Jason F. Cilento, of Dunellen, NJ, do hereby endorse March 2020 as YOUTH ART MONTH.

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## Community Development Block Grant

At this point, Municipal Clerk Robins gave some background to the Council and public on the CDBG. He presented the following information summary:

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION 2020

The Community Development Block Grant program is an important funding tool for implementing community plans. Municipalities can regularly apply for funding for qualifying activities and projects.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is federally funded through the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The program awards grants in order to carry out a wide range of community development activities directed toward revitalizing neighborhoods, economic development, and providing improved community facilities and services. The CDBG program is an important tool in helping local governments tackle the most serious challenges facing their communities.

CDBG funds are to be used for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons, Senior Citizens, carry out activities which aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight, or address existing conditions that pose a serious and immediate threat to the welfare of the community where other financial resources are not available to meet these needs.

CDBG funds may be used for activities that include, but are not limited to:

- **Acquisition of Real Property**
- **Relocation and Demolition**
- **Rehabilitation of Residential and Non-Residential Structures**
- **Construction of Public Facilities and Improvements, such as Water and Sewer Facilities, Streets, Neighborhood Centers, and the Conversion of Schools for Eligible Purposes**
- **Public Services (within certain limits)**
- **Restore Historic sites**
- **Improve housing for low-income and disabled persons**
- **Repair and rehabilitate Senior related facilities**

It has been determined that the areas in Dunellen that are frequented by Senior Citizens or the services that address the needs of Senior Citizens, and Disabled Persons, as well as low-income residents in general, are geographic specific sites to receive CDBG funds, especially the area including and around the Senior Center in Columbia Park.

In 2019, we applied for and received funds for these activities (as noted):

Code Enforcement	\$6,000.00
Senior Citizen Coordinator	\$6,000.00
Senior Citizen Van Driver	\$6,000.00
Tree Planting	\$2,000.00

Park and Open Space Repair and Landscaping	\$11,000.00
Senior Citizen Building Repair and Upgrade	<u>\$13,772.00</u>
	\$44,772.00.

Dunellen’s grant amount for 2020 will be \$47,665.00.

We are considering applying for funds for these activities:

Cameraing and cleaning of Sewer pipes	\$20,000.00
Senior and Disabled Arts Programmer	\$2,665.00
Code Enforcement	\$8,000.00
Senior Citizen Coordinator	\$6,000.00
Senior Citizen Van Driver	\$1,000.00
Park and Open Space Repair and Landscaping	\$5,000.00
Senior Citizen Building Repair and Upgrade	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
	\$47,665.00

The purpose of the public hearing is to elicit suggestions for CDBG 2020 allocations from community and civic groups.

At this point, Mayor Cilento opened the meeting for public comment on the 2020 CDBG Application. No one from the public spoke. This portion was closed.

On the motion of Mrs. Burke and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

**ORDINANCE 2020-04**

**BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN**

The following ordinance was Introduced for first reading at a meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Dunellen, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on February 18, 2020. It is now being further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of said governing body being held in the Municipal Building, 355 North Avenue, Dunellen, New Jersey, in said County, on March 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting copies of the full ordinance have been available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk’s office for members of the general public who shall request the same.

Dunellen Municipal Code, Chapter 233-37, Sewer Rates is amended to read as follows:

Section 233-37. Sewer rates.

The sanitary sewer rates shall be as follows:

A. Owners of single family residential properties connected to the Borough sanitary sewer system shall pay a flat annual rate in the amount of \$350.00 to be paid in equal installments semi-annually to the Dunellen Borough Sanitary Sewer Utility on the 15th day of April and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, following each period for which sewer service has been provided.

B. Owners of multi-family residential properties (properties with two, three or four residential units) connected to the Borough sanitary sewer system shall pay a flat annual rate for each residential unit in the amount of \$350.00 to be paid in equal installments semi-annually to the Dunellen Borough Sanitary Sewer Utility on the 15th day of April and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, following each period for which sewer service has been provided.

C. Owners of non-residential properties, including residential properties with five or more units and mixed residential/commercial properties connected to the Borough sanitary sewer system, shall be charged, except as otherwise stated herein, for sewer service based upon the amount of water supplied to the commercial property as determined by meter readings supplied by New Jersey American Water of the previous year, payable semi-annually. The apartments or rental units above or adjacent to the commercial property shall be billed at a flat rate of \$350.00 to be paid in equal installments semi-annually. The sewer fee for the commercial parts of a mixed-use commercial/residential property, or of an entirely non-residential property, shall be \$4.25 per 1,000 gallons of water used at the property (whether determined by meter or estimate), but no less than the minimum annual usage charge of \$350.00. Where water usage cannot be determined by meter reading, the Sewer Utility fee shall be based on the property's estimated water usage, which estimate shall be calculated using best engineering practices for the property in question. Sewer user fees are to be paid to the Dunellen Borough Sanitary Sewer Utility on the 15th day of April and 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, following each period for which sewer service has been provided or available.

D. There shall be an annual sewer Administrative/Facility charge for all non-residential improved properties, residential properties with five or more units, and mixed residential/commercial properties, of \$150.00 in addition to the above rates described in Subsection C above. This charge is payable semi-annually in the amount of \$75.00 and is to be paid in concert with the sewer service charges.

E. Any single family residential property that qualifies for the senior citizen tax deduction shall also be afforded a discount of \$100.00 from the residential property fee set forth in Subsection A above.

F. The foregoing rates and charges have been calculated in accordance with Chapter 230-7 and shall be subject to annual revision based upon the Borough and its Sewer Utility's financial obligation to PARSA and/or MUA. In addition, separate fees or charges may be imposed by the

Borough's Sewer Utility upon specific users or one or more categories of users to defray fines, penalties or other extraordinary charges that may be imposed by PARSA and/or MCUA. Payment of such separate fees or charges shall in accordance with the requirements set forth in Chapter 233-36. The Borough Sewer Utility may also in its sole discretion and upon application of a user demonstrating special circumstances adjust a user's sewer use charges.

At this point, Mayor Cilento opened the meeting for public comment on the ordinance. Mayor Cilento noted that there are no increases to single up to four residential units; the only increase is to set a minimum for commercial properties. Homer Mosley, 113 Pearl Place, asked why we separated the sewer fee from the regular property tax bill? In response, Mayor Cilento referenced the 2% CAP and the ability to fund capital projects more economically within a sewer utility. There is a trade-off in that the sewer utility fee is no longer tax deductible.

Yes: Bayer, Burke, Narvesen, Rios and Sigmon

On the motion of Mrs. Narvesen and seconded by Mrs. Burke it was moved to accept the following:

**03-02-2020: #1**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

The bills, as per the attached list, are hereby authorized for payment.

Yes: Bayer, Burke, Narvesen, Rios and Sigmon

On the motion of Mrs. Burke and seconded by Mrs. Narvesen it was moved to accept the following:

**03-02-2020: #2**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

Approval is granted for the Municipal Clerk to make application for the 2020 Community Development Block Grant, for the projects and amounts as listed below:

Cameraing and cleaning of Sewer pipes	\$20,000.00
Senior and Disabled Arts Programmer	\$2,665.00
Code Enforcement	\$8,000.00
Senior Citizen Coordinator	\$6,000.00
Senior Citizen Van Driver	\$1,000.00
Park and Open Space Repair and Landscaping	\$5,000.00

Senior Citizen Building Repair  
and Upgrade \$5,000.00  
\$47,665.00

Yes: Bayer, Burke, Narvesen, Rios and Sigmon

On the motion of Mrs. Narvesen and seconded by Mrs. Burke it was moved to accept the following:

**03-02-2020: #3**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

Natural Green of Bridgewater, NJ, is awarded a contract for field, lawn, and landscaping of Columbia Park for 2020, at a cost not to exceed \$6,115.00. The contract is awarded per New Jersey State Contract, through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey, Co-op # 65MCESCCPS, contract # ESCNJ 17/83-43. The Dunellen School District will contribute one-half of the cost of this contract.

Yes: Bayer, Burke, Narvesen, Rios and Sigmon

On the motion of Mrs. Narvesen and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

**03-02-2020: #4**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

Natural Green of Bridgewater, NJ, is awarded a contract for field, lawn, and landscaping of McCoy Park for 2020, at a cost not to exceed \$2,225.00. The contract is awarded per New Jersey State Contract, through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey, Co-op # 65MCESCCPS, contract # ESCNJ 17/83-84.

Yes: Bayer, Burke, Narvesen, Rios and Sigmon

On the motion of Mrs. Burke and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

**03-02-2020: #4-A**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

WHEREAS, the County of Middlesex, NJ, is sponsoring a program titled "Complete Count Census 2020 Activities" to assist municipalities in participating in the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen applied for funds to support Complete Count, Census 2020; and

WHEREAS, funding was allocated to the Borough of Dunellen to assist in the Complete Count, Census 2020 in the amount of \$12,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Dunellen, that the Borough authorizes the Agreement with Middlesex County and accepts the \$12,000 funding per its application to Middlesex County.

Mayor Cilento explained that Middlesex County is providing funds to assist municipalities in undertaking certain Census 2020 activities. Julie Grof is spearheading this effort. He encouraged all Dunellen residents to respond online to assist in these efforts to ensure an accurate Census. There will be town hall meetings as well as a social media campaign. We received \$12,000 from the County.

Yes: Bayer, Burke, Narvesen, Rios and Sigmon

CONSENT AGENDA:

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Mrs. Narvesen it was moved to accept the following:

**03-02-2020: #5**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

The Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to issue food handler licenses to the following establishments:

Small Town Café and Bakery – 189 North Avenue

**03-02-2020: #6**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

Whereas, there appears to be a surplus in the following CY 2019 Operating Reserve Accounts over and above the demands to be necessary, and

Whereas, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 provides for the transfer of unexpended balances in those appropriations having an excess over the amount required to those deemed to be insufficient.

Now, therefore be it resolved that the following “Transfer of Appropriation Reserves” be made:

From	Account	Title	S&W	Other Expenses
	28-370-101	Recreation	\$400.00	
		Subtotal	400.00	
		Total		<u>\$400.00</u>

Whereas, there appears to be insufficient funds in the following CY 2019 Operating Reserve Accounts over and above the demands to be necessary; viz:

To:	Account	Title	S&W	Other Expenses
	20-100-003	Legal Advertisement		\$100.00
	20-100-004	Telephone		300.00
		Subtotal		\$400.00
		Total		<u>\$400.00</u>

**03-02-2020: #7**

**CANCEL RESERVES BALANCES**

WHEREAS, there exists various reserves on the balance sheet of the Current Fund, and

WHEREAS, the funds creating these reserves have been investigated and it has been determined that these reserves should be canceled.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN:

That the following reserves in the amount of \$51,668.71 are hereby canceled to Fund Balance:

Reserve for Preparation of Tax Maps	\$30,000.00
Reserve for Insurance Proceeds	20,000.00
Reserve for Codification of Ordinances	67.00
Reserve for Hurricane Sandy	770.28
Reserve for Master Plan	<u>831.43</u>
Total	\$51,668.71



**03-02-2020: #8**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Whereas, emergent conditions have arisen with respect to either funds being needed for salaries and wages and/or payments being due to various vendors, and

Whereas, adequate provisions were not made in the 2020 Temporary Budget, and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for creation of emergency temporary appropriations, and

Whereas, the total emergency temporary appropriations adopted in the year 2020 pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 (Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 as amended) including this resolution total \$1,830,789 for the Current Fund and \$143,000 for the Sewer Utility,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of Dunellen (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmingly concurring):

Then, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20:

1. The emergency temporary appropriations listed below will be provided for in the 2020 budget under the titles shown and for the amounts given be and the same are hereby made as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Salaries &amp; Wages</u>	<u>Other Expenses</u>
Administration and Executive	20-100-000	\$15,000.00	\$2,000.00
Legal Advertising	20-100-003		500.00
Telephone	20-100-004		\$7,000.00
Financial Administration	20-130-000	24,000.00	4,000.00
Assessment of Taxes	20-150-000	5,000.00	1,000.00
Collection of Taxes	20-145-000	12,000.00	4,000.00
Legal Services	20-155-000	13,500.00	2,000.00
Borough Clerk	20-120-000	15,000.00	1,500.00
Engineering Services	20-165-000		5,000.00
Public Buildings & Grounds	26-310-000	3,500.00	13,000.00
Electric & Gas	31-461-000		35,000.00
Planning Board	21-180-000	1,500.00	1,000.00
Group Health Insurance	23-220-000		175,000.00
Other Insurance	23-210-000		71,000.00
Mayor & Council	20-110-000	5,000.00	1,200.00
Water	31-445-000		1,600.00
Postage	20-100-001		1,200.00
Information Technology	20-140-000		11,000.00
Fire	25-265-000		9,000.00
Fire Hydrant Service	25-265-001		18,000.00

Police	25-240-000	300,000.00	15,000.00
Police - Overtime	25-240-001	10,000.00	
School Crossing Guards	25-240-002	18,000.00	
Emergency Management	20-252-000	1,000.00	1,500.00
Road Repairs	26-290-000	110,000.00	17,000.00
Tree Maintenance	26-290-002		10,000.00
Transit Village	26-297-000		500.00
Garbage & Trash	32-465-000		11,000.00
Board of Health	27-330-000	11,000.00	3,500.00
Recreation	28-370-000	12,500.00	2,500.00
Senior Citizens Activities	28-370-001		500.00
Construction Code	22-195-000	28,000.00	1,000.00
Public Employees Retirement System (PERS)	36-471-000		128,188.00
Social Security	36-472-000		40,000.00
Police and Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS)	36-475-000		459,101.00
Municipal Court	43-490-000	40,000.00	4,000.00
Free Public Library	29-390-000	53,000.00	10,000.00
Municipal Prosecutor	25-275-000	5,000.00	
Intergovernment/Dispatching	42-305-001		30,000.00
Intergovernment/Recycling	42-305-000		41,000.00
Intergovernment/Middlesex Health Services	42-305-002		9,000.00

Subtotal \$683,000.00 \$1,147,789.00

Grand Total Current Fund \$1,830,789.00

Sewers - Postage	55-500-212		\$1,000.00
Sewers - PARSA	55-500-235		143,000.00

Subtotal \$144,000.00

Grand Total Sewer Utility \$144,000.00

**03-02-2020: #9**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

The Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue the following proceeds for tax sale redemption(s):

Payable to     US Bank Cust for Pro Cap 8

TSC	Block	Lot	Owner/Address	Principal	Interest	Premium	Total
19-22	83	7	Conanan, Conrad 232 Columbia St	4,908.90	91.93	1,100.00	6,100.83

**TOTAL REFUNDED \$6,100.83**

**03-02-2020: #10**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

The Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue the following proceeds for tax sale redemption(s):

Payable to Trade Money LLC  
29 Palisades Rd.  
Old Bridge NJ 08857

TSC	Block	Lot	Owner/Address	Principal	Interest	Premium	Total
18-04	26	18	Mulvey, Paul G 442 First St.	674.92	41.36	800.00	1,516.28

**TOTAL REFUNDED \$1,516.28**

**03-02-2020: #11**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

Whereas, a request was made by Susan Ruban to hold a block party on Monday, May 25, 2020, on the 200 block of Second Street, from 11:00 AM to 8:00 p.m.

Now therefore be it resolved that permission is hereby granted to Susan Ruban to hold a block party, and

Be it further resolved that by virtue of this resolution, the Police Department will be notified of the street closing and the Public Works Department will supply the necessary road barricades.

Susan Ruban  
201 Second Street  
Dunellen, NJ 08812

NOTE: Mrs. Burke abstained in this vote as she is a resident of the 200 block of Second Street.

**03-02-2020: #12**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

Be it resolved by the governing body of the Borough of Dunellen, New Jersey, that:

The Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue the following checks to Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf, LLP., from the Interim Cost Agreement Escrow Account for work done toward “**528 North Avenue LLC**” redevelopment, subject to the refunding of the Account:

<u>Windels Marx File Number</u>	<u>Bill Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
0305764-0000004	33393	\$3,465.00
	Total	<u>\$3,465.00</u>

**03-02-2020: #13**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

Be it resolved by the governing body of the Borough of Dunellen, New Jersey, that:

The Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue the following checks to CME Associates from the “528 North Avenue, LLC.” for engineering work done for the redevelopment.

<u>CME Associates</u>	<u>Amount</u>
02545676	\$498.75
0254831	\$382.50
Total:	<u>\$881.25</u>

**03-02-2020: #14**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

Be it resolved by the governing body of the Borough of Dunellen, New Jersey, that:

The Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue the following checks to NW Financial Group, LLC., from the “528 North Avenue, LLC.” for financial work done for the redevelopment.

<u>NW Financial</u>	<u>Amount</u>
26261	\$790.00
Total:	<u>\$790.00</u>

**03-02-2020: #15**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

Be it resolved by the governing body of the Borough of Dunellen, New Jersey, that:

The Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue the following checks to CME Associates, from the Interim Cost Agreement Escrow Account for work done toward Dunellen Stations redevelopment, subject to the refunding of the Account:

<u>CME Associates</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
0253022	Redevelopment	\$1,854.00
0253028	Redevelopment	\$1,999.75
	Total	<u>\$3,853.75</u>

Yes: Bayer, Burke, Narvesen, Rios and Sigmon

Reports:

Mrs. Rios: 1) Library is looking for volunteers; 2) Borough was able to receive furniture from our auditors, Hodulik and Morrison, who were moving offices.

Mrs. Burke: 1) commended the Dunellen Police Department for their vigilance and activities such as the 500 Traffic Stops in February; 2) the Police Department continued their fund-raising efforts on behalf of the Carol Fund.

Mr. Bayer: 1) the Finance Committee is continuing to work on the 2020 Budget; 2) asked Mr. Bruder about the Strip Joint property and whether we could do an environmental cleanup. Mr. Bruder responded that he was not aware of any other untapped sources for environmental remediation, but he would investigate this.

Mr. Sigmon: no report.

Mrs. Narvesen: 1) the turf field and running track are being worked on and are nearing completion; 2) there is new mulch at the Columbia Park playground area; 3) the Easter Egg Hunt is Sunday, April 5, in Columbia Park; 4) the next meeting of the Municipal Alliance will be March 12<sup>th</sup> at the Library; 5) the Fire Company will hold a Street Fair in late September; 6) the next Board of Education meeting will be March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30. It is hoped they will be considering the draft

shared-services agreement; 7) we have been approved for the Walkable Community Workshop designed to examine and recommend on our pedestrian walkways and corridors.

Mayor Cilento: 1) received a letter from VFW Post 5479—their St. Patrick’s Day Dinner will be on Sunday, March 8, from 2 pm to 6 pm; 2) Girls and Boys basketball state tournaments begin tonight – wishing them both a win! 3) our engineers, CME Associates, are working on specs for Grove Street and South Madison Avenue; 4) conveyed the news that Josephine DeBiase, wife of former Police Chief Joseph DeBiase, had passed away. Local business owner Doug Portek also passed away. We send our condolences to the families; 5) the next issue of *The Dunellen Report* is coming soon so please send either to myself or Mr. Robins any copy you have by March 15; 6) reported that there were arrests of two individuals for prostitution at the Haven Spa on North Avenue on February 27th. These arrests were conducted after investigation by our detective bureau and members of the Middlesex County Prosecutor’s Office. The public should be aware this is an isolated event, but we are grateful to our PD for their conduct in handling this in a timely manner and for keeping our streets safe. To assure we maintain a high quality of business in our downtown, I have provided Bill Robins and our Borough Attorney a sample copy of an ordinance on controlling massage parlors in towns provided to me by Detective Joe Dudley on how to register these types of businesses and maintain a higher quality of service. I would like to move quickly on this item; 7) NJ Local Government Week, I will be presenting a resolution at the next Council Meeting. Local Government Week is April 19 – 25. It is sponsored by the NJ League of Municipalities, and its purpose is to promote citizen engagement and highlight services municipal government provides their constituency. I have met with Alex Miller and a Dunellen resident who will volunteer as graphic designer to create a plan. The plan is to create infographics about each of our departments, committees, commissions and boards to be placed on the website, social media, community newspaper, and e-newsletters such as *Next Stop Dunellen* and the Recreation e-newsletter. I have created a form Bill is reviewing that we will issue to all agency heads to fill out information for infographics. The week will hopefully conclude with a Dunellen Government Meet and Greet on Saturday, April 25 with all department heads and agency chairs at the Senior Center at 10am for the public to come and meet. He asked Mr. Bruder and Mr. Robins if such a meeting was in accord with the Open Public Meetings Act? The opinion was that as it is not conducting official business but was for information purposes only it need not be advertised as an official meeting; 8) Middlesex County will be conducting a briefing on the Coronavirus on Tuesday, March 3 at 1pm at their office; 9) sign up is available on the website for the Mayor’s Traffic and Safety Task Force, as well as opportunities to volunteer for the OEM, Fire Department and Rescue Squad; 10) New Jersey Transit – on Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, I attended the RVL mayors alliance meeting. We discussed Senate Bill 3574 which directed NJ Transit to do a study to determine the feasibility of a one-seat ride on the RVL. The study, which will be completed in June, will look at line schedules, slots in NY Penn Station, equipment and finances. The Study will also determine what can be done to improve service between now and a new tunnel being built. The results will be made public and we will share it with you. I questioned representatives from the Governor’s Office about train station enhancements and improvements due to the push along Raritan Valley Line for TOD and increase in ridership. I noted that Dunellen’s station and surrounding NJ Transit property is in dire need of repair and to be brought up to ADA compliance. I made them aware I have been contacting the Governor’s Office and NJ Transit regarding this for months. After the meeting NJ Transit representatives approached me noting that they’ve been receiving my correspondences from their people and the Governor’s people and stated that the Dunellen station is on their desk as one of the first stations to be reviewed as part of the capital

improvements to stations around the state. Through these efforts, I now have a meeting with New Jersey Transit and our engineers on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 11am to discuss our station's needs and I will walk them around the station.

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## **PUBLIC PORTION**

Patrick Armstrong, 394 Whittier Avenue, is there a way to get NJ Transit to pave under the tunnels on all the streets? Mayor Cilento responded that it is a topic he will bring up with NJ Transit at the meeting. Mr. Armstrong also asked about four-way stop signs at Walnut and South Madison Avenue and Walnut and Prospect Avenue. He also remarked on the vehicles that speed. Mayor Cilento responded that he has created the Mayor's Traffic and Safety Task Force and we will have traffic calming devices on South Madison Avenue when it gets repaved. Mr. Armstrong also asked about a Crossing Guard at Columbia Street

Dale Robertson, 121 South Washington Avenue, also asked about a Crossing Guard on South Washington Avenue. He reported that there have been close calls and even a child who was hit by a car mirror. His wife has helped children cross the street. He has been in touch with the Police about getting a yellow plastic crossing sign at Columbia. Mayor Cilento asked Chief Smith if we could get a sign. Mr. Robertson asked about additional police presence to ticket the speeders. Mayor Cilento noted that there will be a new traffic signal at New Market Road as part of the redevelopment, though that is still a couple of years out. Mr. Robertson also reported on the house at 202 Columbia Street which appears to be running a trucking business. Mayor Cilento responded that we will investigate this.

Mary Ann Meyers, 221 Columbia Street, asked about the ordinance for parking on the street? Specifically, two-hour parking passes and small school buses parking on the street. Response: this may be a business in a residential zone, and there are weight-limits on certain truck sizes. We will investigate this.

Deanna Calabrese, 239 Columbia Street, asked about an ordinance on vibrations because she believes construction at the redevelopment is causing cracks in her foundation. Other residents concurred. Mr. Bruder responded that vibration monitoring is not usually done on these kinds of projects; however, we are aware of some possible issues and he invited Columbia Street residents to speak with Mr. Robins who will pass on to the redevelopers their names and contact information and the redeveloper will respond.

Mr. Robertson also noted that the contractors at the redevelopment seemed to be starting work early in the morning. Mr. Robins will speak to the redeveloper about this.

Homer Mosley, 113 Pearl Place, reported that contractors were taking up Columbia Park parking lot spaces that the seniors usually use, in a seemingly haphazard manner. Mayor Cilento responded that the park is technically closed during the renovations though we were keeping the Senior Center building open for the benefit of the seniors. Construction will be concluding within a month or so. Mr. Mosley responded that there is enough space in the lot for both groups and he is simply asking for courtesy, especially at this time when the Senior Club is growing. Mr. Miller

noted that there are different contractors for different jobs and they seem to be parking in separate areas, but he will speak with the contractors about this parking situation.

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On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Mr. Bayer it was moved to accept the following:

**03-02-2020: #16**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN,  
NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

The Dunellen Borough Council Meeting of March 2, 2020 is adjourned.

Yes: Bayer, Burke, Narvesen, Rios and Sigmon