

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

April 5, 2010

President Rheault – Good evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the April 5, 2010 Agawam City Council meeting. Barb, do you have the list? Oh, I'm sorry.

Item 1. Citizen's Speak Time

President Rheault – We have several speakers wishing to address the Council this evening. For those of you who have not addressed the Council before, you have up to five minutes. State your name, address and the subject matter for the record. The first one is Paul Cavallo.

Paul Cavallo – Good evening. My name is Paul Cavallo. I live at 6 Castle Hill Road, Agawam, MA. I am here tonight to talk about or react to the article that appeared in last week's paper regarding our school system reorganization and I'd like to and again this is not a critique, this is simply some suggestions that I think in the future the committee when it's formed should take into consideration. First of all, I question right now the need for a new high school and it's based on the following information. The present high school in 1998 was renovated along with four elementary schools. At the time, the New England Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges determined in their evaluation that we could not be accredited fully because we needed a new library – that was one of the big areas in addition to curriculum. So at that time Mayor Cohen formed a committee and over a period of a year, we did add onto that building a state of the art library. It met all of the state regulations and rules regarding what that library should consist of and I'm sure many of you have been up there, I've talked to the librarian there on many occasions I see her since I left and she said it's really one of the best things any school system could possibly ask for. In addition to that my other question is how can we justify the need for a new high school when you have to present to the state some justification. For example just recently if you read in the paper, Longmeadow High School is going to undergo a renovation because when they had their ten year accreditation study, their building was found to be in ill repair. They have to do a lot of work and they're basically gonna do the same thing that Agawam High School did back in 1998 – they're gonna renovate. Also, Minnechaug Regional High School has been approved for a new school and their new school is going to be more or less a format for future high school because they're going to design them basically the same way and it will cut costs on a new school. My other concerns are because the population has erupted in terms of the high school population and have any projections studies, I'm sure Dr. Czajkowski has done this, if you go back to kindergarten right now or first grade and at every School Committee meeting we would look at how big are these grades and if by the time four years from now, does it warrant a new high school because we're overpopulated. I'm sure that's something that you have to present to the state committee to justify the need for a new high school. So that's of concern. The other thing that I want to talk about was the, I mentioned Longmeadow and Minnechaug so the difficulty receiving state aid; it won't be a sure thing. The other thing is about the move of course the moving the Jr. High to the High

School. Now the high school is very capable comfortably of educating at least a thousand students. That's a very comfortable amount. Certainly we've been up as high as 1300 and I'm not quite sure of the size right now but if you're going to move basically classes of 700 into the High School, you will have a good part of that building empty and since 1998, in fact two years ago, we added on another parking area at the high school and remember those students that go to the High School are not of age to drive a car. I think that they need at the High School if there's anything that has to be done to our present High School is something that's been on the back burner and has been presented to the Council even when I was on it – the need for a new track and to me that would be something that would benefit not only the town's people but also any of the athletes that participate in numerous athletics up at the High School. So that, and of course in addition to the track if you recall, there was a need for new bleachers as well so really I think we were looking at something in the neighborhood of close to two million dollars to bond this particular project which I think we need very badly.

Clerk – One minute Paul.

Paul Cavallo – Okay. The Early Childhood Program there's no doubt that they are in terrible quarters. There's no question about it that we need a new facility for them and just to throw this out, why couldn't we possibly annex that program to one of the elementary schools and I know there's been a water problem at Clark School when I was on the Board we had some difficulty with the classrooms, the portable classrooms and maybe there's a way that we can work something out and have the Early Childhood to the Clark Elementary School for example because that's about the only school that has enough room and that would be an appropriate place for the Early Childhood Program to be is next to an elementary school. The other point that I believe and I don't want to take too much more time, I want to see if I skipped anything, also in the High School if I could have one more minute from what I understand in the basement the DPW is possibly going to be moving and the Park & Rec may move too. That would be a good move to do that. That would mean you would gain access to more square footage for additional classrooms and in particular I think a TV studio would be appropriate at this point because we have been talking about that as well. I'm not sure where it would be located but if it had to be located on the first floor we could always do that done in the basement – put the classrooms down there.

Clerk – That's time.

Paul Cavallo – And then the Tuckahoe the reason I would be against the Tuckahoe land would be this I think if we were to instead look in terms an adjunct to our present industrial park.

President Rheault – Mr. Cavallo your time is up.

Paul Cavallo – Could I have just fifteen more seconds Mr. President?

President Rheault – It would take a vote of the Council. Moved by Councilor Rossi, seconded by Councilor Mineo. All those in favor? Opposed? You have fifteen seconds.

Paul Cavallo – It's just a quick item and that is the location is certainly is close to Rt. 57 and of course 187 that takes you into Connecticut which would take you to Bradley International Airport so again I think that land not only if it became an adjunct to the Industrial Park it would certainly give us tax dollars which we are in dire need of so it would be a financial benefit to the Town as well. Again, I don't want anyone to take any of this as a criticism it's just something that I have digested over the past week or so and if there is a committee formed, I'm certainly available to anyone who forms that committee to be a member of that. So again, I thank you very much for your time tonight.

President Rheault – Thank you. Forrest Bradford?

Forrest Bradford – My name is Forrest Bradford. I live at 21 Oxford Street, Agawam. I would like to first express personally my supporting thoughts for recent sufferings of our neighbor on the Council, Jill Simpson. To respect the time agenda, we're minimizing tonight a bit but there will be a resolution introduced to the Council under New Business next Council Meeting, I believe it's the 19th or the 20th which will be to declare Agawam Green. This is very exciting. It's something that I think is very supportive to the children in this town. Our newly formed group which is Agawam's Refrigerator List is part of what I'm trying to promote as a national movement called America's Refrigerator List and it's basically to encourage citizens that we can unite together and support our Council or other leaders that be by giving them a green light and saying let's go ahead with these programs for our kids, let's make a drastic change. It also is based on the fact that Agawam has the first zip code in the nation and then we go right to 99950 to Kachican, Alaska, kind of exciting – we put that on our t-shirts and we could have upwards of a million dollars in funding coming to Agawam which is a value of about \$90.00 per household by just completing some promises basically and showing our intent that we intend to take steps to seriously look at reducing energy levels in our community and also following things such as putting solar panels on homes, water heaters, wind mills, things of this nature. Part of our movement is to get people involved for that exact purpose. So we do have a neighborhood that's willing to go forward with putting solar heat. Also other alternatives such as wind mills and we're just looking for some help. We're looking for some help from the town officials perhaps the Energy Commission to come together with things that we can use and put on our homes and we can actually show the children of Agawam that we're gonna change this world for them. We're going to help ensure that their future is. Whenever we hear of a tragedy or discouraging comments from young people about what we have today, it energizes me to want to go forward and do more. Today we have pretty much printing presses in our homes and we have YouTube, Facebook, email, all kinds of communication means there's no reason why Agawam can't be recognized as a leader in this movement for the children. So anyway I respect the Council. We all work together. We've got a great team in this town – a lot of positive people who want changes to happen. I say let's please go forward. Let's do this for our youth. So I'm asking you as a citizen of Agawam and I'm keeping the speeches a

little bit short, to please do what we can. Let's declare Agawam "green" by May 14th. It's worth it. Thank you.

President Rheault – Thank you. Travis Ward?

Travis Ward – Good evening. My name is Travis Ward, 32 Columbia Drive in Feeding Hills and a member of the Planning Board acting as Chairman here in Agawam. Before you tonight is the possible appointment of Mr. David Chase. Mr. Chase submitted a letter of interest to the Town in response to a vacancy created by the resignation of Elaine Awand in November, 2009. Mr. Chase was recommended by former Mayor Dawson and in respect of the change of mayor through the election, deferred an appointment to Mayor Cohen and he also supports this person. In fairness to all residents, the position was posted and advertised on January 28, 2010. Mr. Chase is well-qualified and has prior experience in the West Springfield Planning Board and is well-received by many residents in this town. Therefore, the Planning Board fully recommends and supports the appointment of Mr. David Chase to the Agawam Planning Board to fill the last vacancy. Separately if I may, you have a public hearing before you tonight for the gas storage license of John's Trucking here in Agawam. We recognize that he is a long-term, excellent member of this business community. I would ask you to maybe look at an issue that I've worked on for a while and have not had any success in remedying and that's the amount of dirt created and silt created from their property coming onto the roadway of Silver Street and as a business person on Silver Street, it creates a tremendous amount of dust and mess if you will. They are two totally unrelated items but modern times suggest that if you have a construction site or a non-paved area you have a gravel runoff mat of thirty to fifty so that the trucks clean their tires before they enter the public way. People have told us in town; department heads and such, that because they're grandfathered nobody really has the power or departments can differ on who's responsible to address that with John's Trucking. It would be a very simple fix to have a gravel walk-off, drive-off mat, to clean the tires. I can specifically remember last spring when the streets were swept that there was literally inches and inches of material from their lot in each direction on Silver Street. The streets were swept and within a week that area had inches and inches of debris again for what extends to be about a quarter mile down the street by the time the tires fully clean themselves and when you see a car go by or a big truck go by, the dust on the road goes up into the air, onto the homes, onto other cars. And so we respect John's Trucking tremendously as a business in this town but it seems like such a simple thing to fix in our business community, a high traffic area leading to the Industrial Park and if you were to drive up and down that street and really take a look, you'd see just how bad that road is and I think it's a simple thing and we can do better in terms of keeping that street clean and it's a very simple fix for them. So if you can find the right people to look into that but I thank you for your time and consideration of that issue but we do as well fully support them having a license if you so see that it fits them. Thank you.

President Rheault – Thank you. Joan Linnehan?

Joan Linnehan – Good evening. My name is Joan Linnehan. I’m the Director at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street. I’m excited to be here tonight as a friend of Forrest Bradford and his family. The initiative that he has been taking to declare Agawam “green” is something great for the future and I want to make sure that this is something that will be good everyone. Even the seniors who I know that we help with fuel assistance these days – maybe in future there’ll be an answer for that. So I do support his initiative. Thank you.

President Rheault – Thank you. Kristina Lynch?

Kristina Lynch – Good evening. Kristina Lynch and I also work for the Senior Center here in Agawam. Good evening Council. I too support Forrest’s movement here for the Agawam going green. Some of us have kids who live in town, maybe you live in town yourselves, you may have your kids who live in town, your grandkids, great grandkids, I myself being a newlywed and a current homeowner have been looking for a new house and looking in Agawam because I would love to live in Agawam. It’s a fabulous community. We have been looking at houses that do have some solar panels on them and you can’t find them very often, you know, it’s to save money. So I too support Forrest and I hope that you guys will help us have Agawam go “green”.

President Rheault – Thank you. Dick White?

Dick White – Good evening Council. My name is Dick White. I reside at 52 Hamilton Circle in Feeding Hills. I also do support Forrest and his family. I have been a resident here for forty years, worked in the town for forty years. I am a retired mechanical engineer and a few years back I started greening my own house and I think it’s a wonderful thing to do – not for my generation in particular – but for my grandkids. The refrigerator list referred to is things that we can do ourselves. Next month I’ll be going to Indiana where my daughter and my four grandkids live, and THEY will get a refrigerator list for their refrigerator. So I do hope that you will consider this green movement and by May 10th we would like your support. Thank you.

President Rheault – Thank you. Terry Walsh?

Terry Walsh – Good evening. My name is Terry Walsh and I reside at 27 Oxford Street here in Agawam and I would like our Town of Agawam to take all the necessary steps to declare itself “green” by the Council meeting of May 10, 2010 and I also would like to thank Forrest for all his efforts he’s put into this project.

President Rheault – Thank you. The final speaker is Lucy Fieldstad.

Lucy Fieldstad – Hi everyone. My name’s Lucy Fieldstad. I would like you to give the greening of Agawam a lot of consideration especially for our future generations and I kind of like Forrest too.

Item 2. Roll Call

President Rheault – Will the Clerk please call the roll?

ROLL CALL – 10 PRESENT, 1 ABSENT (Councilor Simpson)

President Rheault – Ten present, one absent, you have a quorum.

Item 3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance

President Rheault – Please rise for a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 4. Minutes

(a) **Regular Council Meeting – March 15, 2010**

President Rheault – Moved by Councilor Perry, seconded by Councilor Walsh. Any corrections or additions? If not, voice vote is sufficient, all those in favor? Opposed? One abstention from Councilor Rossi.

Item 5. Declaration from Council President

None

Item 6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances

(a) **Resolutions**

1. **TR-2010-14 - A Resolution Confirming the Reappointment of Ronald J. Hamel, 52 Federal Avenue, Agawam, MA. to the Agawam Veterans Council to a Term Expiring April 1, 2012. (Mayor)**

President Rheault – Moved by Councilor Perry, seconded by Councilor Letellier. Any discussion? If not, will the Clerk please call the roll?

ROLL CALL – 10 YES, 0 NO, 1 ABSENT (Councilor Simpson)

President Rheault – Ten yes, one absent, you've approved the confirmation.

2. **TR-2010- 15 - A Resolution Confirming the Appointment of David Chase, 2 Colonial Avenue, Agawam, MA. to the Agawam Planning Board to complete an Unexpired Term Expiring January 1, 2013. (Mayor)**

President Rheault – I see Mr. Chase in the audience; do you wish to address the Council in any way?

Mr. Chase (off microphone) – No, thank you, but I'd be happy to answer any questions from the Council

President Rheault – Well, I'll leave it up to the Council. Entertain a motion? Moved by Councilor Perry, seconded by Councilor Letellier. Any questions to Mr. Chase by the Council? If not, obviously you are very well-qualified and respected. Will the Clerk please call the roll?

ROLL CALL – 10 YES, 0 NO, 1 ABSENT (Councilor Simpson)

President Rheault – Ten yes, one absent, you've confirmed the appointment of David Chase. Congratulations David.

3. **TR-2010-16 - A Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Karl Stieg, 24 Edgewood Lane, Agawam, MA. to the Historical Commission to a Term Expiring January 1, 2013. (Mayor)**

President Rheault – Moved by Councilor Letellier, seconded by Councilor Perry. Any discussion? If not, Clerk please call the roll?

ROLL CALL – 10 YES, 0 NO, 1 ABSENT (Councilor Simpson)

President Rheault – Ten yes, one absent, you've approved the confirmation of Mr. Stieg. Barbara, could you take care of the announcement to Carl.

Item 7. Report of Council Committees

(a) Council Sub-Committees

President Rheault – After discussion, we're going to entertain a motion to table those until the next meeting.

Councilor Magovern – I'd like to make a motion to table it to our next meeting.

President Rheault – Moved by Councilor Magovern to table, seconded by Councilor Rossi. Any discussion at all? All those in favor of tabling? Opposed? The item is tabled until the next meeting.

Councilor Letellier – Point of Information? Are we also going to table the Auditor's report because she is here so maybe it makes sense to let her do her report and not to make another trip.

President Rheault – Sorry I missed her name. Where is it?

Councilor Letellier – Under Report from the City Auditor?

President Rheault – Oh, I’m sorry, I missed it. Thank you. Cheryl do you want to come up? Seeing you’re here, we don’t want to bring you back for another meeting.

(b) Report from City Auditor

Auditor – **Good evening Councilors.** *During the past quarter, the auditing department has been busy working on accounts payable, payroll, financials and other miscellaneous things. In the Accounts Payable area, the accounting principal clerk processed 3,824 payments during the past quarter. During the past quarter in the payroll area everything has been routine. Our administrative assistant that does the payroll is on medical leave and the principal clerk is performing her duties while she is away. In March, I attended the Massachusetts Municipal Auditor’s and Accountants Association Annual Education Program in order to keep my certification as a Certified Municipal Accountant. Highlights of the program included legislative updates, classes on the economy, fraud prevention and detection, veterans’ services, internal control policies and procedures, pension reform, ethics and update from the department of revenue. The DOR stated that the community preservation state trust fund distribution will increase 2% to approximately 31% for fiscal year 2011. Other miscellaneous things that our department has been busy working on during this quarter are journal and budget entries, monthly reports, recording fixed assets, balancing accounts receivables, preparing the fiscal year 2011 accounting budget, attend staff, budget & council meetings, handling basic life insurance claims and answering the switchboard. I would like to thank my staff for their hard work and look forward to preparing for the town’s next fiscal year end this upcoming quarter. Have a good evening.*

President Rheault – Thank you very much Cheryl.

Councilor Letellier – Move to accept?

President Rheault – Moved by Councilor Letellier, seconded by Councilor Rossi. All those in favor? Opposed?

Item 8. Elections

None.

Item 9. Public Hearings

1. **PH-2010-1 (TO-2010-12) - Public Hearing for a GAS STORAGE LICENSE Application for John’s Trucking of Agawam, Inc., 415 Silver Street, Agawam, MA. (Referred to License Committee (Clerk))**

President Rheault – I now open the public hearing and a report first from the Licensing Committee.

Councilor Rossi – Thank you Mr. President. The Licensing Committee reviewed the application for the storage permit and we found no reason not to go ahead and submit a

recommendation for approval. However, this information just given to us by Travis Ward of the Planning Department did not come to light at that time. There is no connection however that I can find from the Licensing to connect the issues that he presented here tonight. However, I don't know if there's anybody here from John's Trucking that would be willing to discuss this issue. If not, we could go ahead and hold the public hearing if you'd like but I would seriously holding back any kind of recommendation until I had an opportunity to talk to Mr. Rosati or his representatives just to get an idea or feeling to what this is. Now I don't know if this is something that could be handled from a safety issue and maybe turned over to the Safety Sub-Committee of the Council and I would willing to do that. So I'll go in whatever direction that the Council wants me to go in but in terms of the License itself, there is no reason to not go forward with the issuance of the license at this time.

President Rheault – What we'll do is, is there a representative from John's Trucking here to speak on their behalf? Please come to the microphone.

Brian Theroux - Good evening. I'm Brian Theroux representing John's Trucking.

John Rosati - I'm John Rosati from John's Trucking.

Brian Theroux – In reference to the statements made earlier regarding the dust control, we're in the process of creating a plan, putting a plan together, we currently have Rico taking care of some of the maintenance of the street and we're also devising, we're also in the planning stages of putting a tracking pad in the beginning of the driveway to control that during the busy season.

John Rosati – The only problem we do have is on sites we do make tracking pads on different sites for different buildings and they really don't work. Somebody came up with the idea but if you have new tires and they have deep grooves, the mud gets into the grooves and it doesn't come out until you get centrifugal force when you get up to twenty miles an hour, thirty, that's when it comes out. So we can build a long tracking pad in our yard, we can put pavement and it's not gonna come out until you start down the road and get some speed up to throw this out of the tire so we're trying different things but nothing has really happened other than everybody says make a tracking pad and if you see sites where they do make them and we do bring them stone to different sites that have to have that tracking pad and they just don't work until you pick up speed. And I don't know how we're gonna come up with an idea that's gonna work other than centrifugal force throws that dirt out of the tire. And this only happens when we have a lot of rain and we get mud in the yard. If we went to stone the whole yard, it's at different piles and different locations, it's just impossible to do right now. But we have been paying, when you see the sweeper out there, the Town's not paying for that, we've been paying for Jim Rico to come over and do it every time we see some, almost every night after a rain, he'll be going up and down the street to take care of that problem.

Councilor Rossi – Have you been doing this for quite some time, John?

John Rosati – They brought it to our attention about the middle of last summer and that’s when we started that part of trying to work with the town. We put stone in at the end of our pumps and we had Rico start doing it after every rain storm.

Councilor Rossi - And you have some kind of a maintenance agreement with this cleaning company you said?

John Rosati - With Rico, JR Sweeping.

Brian Theroux – In addition to our own, we try to oversee the property and have someone go out and manually take a look at the street, not just for dust and sand but also if there was to be anything else that would enter the roadway. We also communicate with the neighbors on both sides of the street within at least a few residences and actually ask them to communicate with us as well if there’s any issue they have, so we try to be as neighborhood friendly as possible. Thank you.

President Rheault – Any other questions from the Council? Councilor Perry?

Councilor Perry – In regards to the dust or in regards to the license?

President Rheault – Granting of the license.

Councilor Perry – Oh, granting the license. Yea, I do have a few questions. You’re looking for 10,000 gallons underground diesel?

John Rosati - That is correct.

Councilor Perry – According to what I’m seeing here, and waste oil? It says 5000 gallons if I’m reading this correctly, what’s before us?

John Rosati - It’s a tank that the town had us put in a year ago. It’s a double wall tank and it’s outside the garage and it’s protected by jersey barriers.

Councilor Perry – Okay and that’s for the waste oil?

John Rosati – That’s for waste oil.

Councilor Perry – And the bulk oil above ground is 300 gallons?

John Rosati – That’s just oil that’s inside the garage for oil changes, yes.

Councilor Perry – For oil changes, okay and looking at the sketch that we have here, do you currently have underground storage at this point in time or no?

John Rosati – That tank is still in the ground right now.

Councilor Perry – Okay, the 10,000 gallon?

John Rosati – The 10,000 gallon and it's monitored inside our garage.

Councilor Perry – Okay, so it has been there so –

John Rosati – Yea, it has been there.

Councilor Perry – Okay, I'm just looking at the sketch so you have pumps obviously at each one?

John Rosati – Just one pump.

Councilor Perry – Just one pump and that's just for your own personal trucks.

John Rosati – For fueling up our own trucks.

Councilor Perry – Okay.

President Rheault – Okay, thank you. Any other questions regarding the granting of the license? Thank you very much. Do you have anything further that you'd like to say?

John Rosati – Just that if anybody can come up with the problem on Silver Street, anybody's idea, we'll be glad to try it. We've been trying our own ideas and I guess the best thing right now that we put in place is JR Sweeping sweeping after a rain storm.

President Rheault – All right, thank you.

Councilor Letellier – I'm sorry, may I have a question?

President Rheault – Councilor Letellier has a question.

Councilor Letellier – Thank you. You said that, I'm picking up on what Councilor Perry has said, you said that the truck is already, the tank is already in the ground?

Brian Theroux – They've been in the ground for years.

Councilor Letellier – For years?

Brian Theroux – Well, we had to replace it.

Councilor Letellier – So is this permit because you had to put a new one in to replace it or just that we're catching up to the fact that you didn't have a permit before?

Brian Theroux – That's correct.

Councilor Letellier – So the tanks have been in there and there haven't been any problems with spilling or anything like that.

Brian Theroux –No absolutely not. We have a system that is monitored from in the garage. We take regular readings on a daily basis. We also are working with Environmental Compliance Service, they oversee all of the administrative piece along with myself. We have all of the licenses that are needed and necessary; all of the permits so there has been absolutely no issue with the tank at all. Correct.

Councilor Letellier – So has the tank been permitted before?

Brian Theroux –No, the tank, we had permits but I'm not quite sure how this developed – this piece of business tonight.

Councilor Letellier – Okay, so did somebody tell you oh, you needed a permit or you realized you didn't have a permit or ?

Brian Theroux – As far as we knew, we had all permits that were necessary for compliance to store waste oil and diesel fuel on the property. So this is something that we're just participating in and making sure that everything on our end is proper.

Councilor Letellier – Okay, thank you.

Brian Theroux – Not a problem. Thank you.

Councilor Letellier – You're welcome.

President Rheault – That's all the info I had as well, all right, thank you. Anyone who would like to speak in favor of the granting of the license? Anyone who would like to speak in opposition of the granting of the license? Anyone who would like to just be recorded in name only in support of the license granting? Anyone who would like to speak in opposition to the granting of the license? If not, I will close the public hearing. What is the Council's pleasure?

Councilor Letellier – Move to grant the license.

President Rheault – Moved by Councilor Letellier to grant the license, seconded by Councilor Rossi and Councilor Bitzas. Any further discussion? Councilor Bitzas?

Councilor Bitzas – Yes. I do agree with Councilor Rossi that it's two different issues that we're working here for the license for nothing about the situation that they have. I'm very happy to see businesses to come here and recognize they have a little problem and they're willing to work with the neighbors to correct it. That's a credit for them so I was really impressed with that and I hope that the Council we help another business and give the license. Thank you.

President Rheault – Clerk, please call the roll?

ROLL CALL – 10 YES, 0 NO, 1 ABSENT (Councilor Simpson)

President Rheault – Ten yes, one absent, you have approved the storage license.

Item 10. Old Business

1. **TO-2010-11 - An Order Granting or Renewing a Class II Dealer's LICENSE – Motor City Car Co., Applicant Richard Conlon, 91 Ramah Circle, Agawam, MA. (Referred to License Committee) (Clerk)**

President Rheault – I'll entertain a motion. Moved by Councilor Rossi, seconded by Councilor Walsh. A report from the License Committee?

Councilor Rossi – The License Committee recommends that we send a positive recommendation to the Full Council for approval.

President Rheault – All right. Any discussion on the license? If not, will the Clerk please call the roll?

ROLL CALL – 10 YES, 0 NO, 1 ABSENT (Councilor Simpson)

President Rheault – Ten yes, one absent, you have approved the Class II License.

2. **TO-2010-13 - An Order Granting or Renewing a Automatic Amusement Device(s) – American Legion Post 185 – Wilson Thompson Post, 478 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. (Referred to License Committee) (Clerk)**

President Rheault – I'll entertain a motion to accept? Moved by Councilor Rossi, seconded by Councilor Letellier. A report from the License Committee?

Councilor Rossi – The License Committee sends a positive recommendation for the renewing the issue of the Automatic Amusement License for Wilson Thompson Post 185, 478 Springfield Street.

President Rheault – Positive recommendation from the Committee. Any further discussion? If not, Clerk please call the roll?

ROLL CALL – 10 YES, 0 NO, 1 ABSENT (Councilor Simpson)

President Rheault – Ten yes, one absent, you have approved the license.

Item 11. New Business

1. **TR-2010-17 - A Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Todd Crevier, 26 Yale Avenue, Feeding Hills, MA. to the Agawam Veterans Council to a Term Expiring April 1, 2012. (Mayor)**

President Rheault – Next Agenda.

2. **TR-2010-18 - A Resolution Regarding the Extension of Keno To Go for On The Way, 301 Springfield Street, Agawam, MA. (Councilors Rheault and Rossi)**

President Rheault – Next Agenda.

3. **TR-2010-19 - A Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Ralph McEwan, 70 Carr Avenue, Agawam, MA. to the Agawam Veterans' Council as an Honorary Lifetime Member (Mayor)**

President Rheault – Next Agenda.

4. **TR-2010-20 - A Resolution confirming the Appointment of Rielly Longtin, 469 Corey Street, Agawam, MA to the Agawam Veterans' Council to a Term Expiring April 1, 2012 (Mayor)**

President Rheault – Next Agenda.

5. **TR-2010-21 - A Resolution Authorizing Preparation of Statement of Interest for a New Early Childhood Center and High School (Councilors Rheault, Rossi, Bitzas and Walsh)**

President Rheault – This particular item I sent an Interoffice Memorandum to the Council suggesting that we offer the opportunity for the Superintendent to present to the Council a Statement of Interest for the Proposed Long Range Proposal. She has agreed to come. It's gonna be a brief presentation. The reason why I put it on is because I felt along with the committee of myself, Councilor Rossi, Councilor Bitzas and Councilor Walsh, that the Council should be in full information as promptly as possible and this is the quickest we could put ourselves together before we get too much press out there. Hopefully, this is a long range program as the Superintendent will explain and it is what she felt was the needs of the Town. We are welcomed and she is as well I'm sure any comments, criticisms, additions or corrections or what have you from the town, from the town to the committee and she will certainly entertain all these thoughts and hopefully this will – I thought this was a good opportunity to go it and give you ample time to digest it. So I'll entertain a motion to allow her to give this presentation. I think it's best to go into Committee as a Whole. Thank you. Moved to go into Committee as a Whole by Councilor Rossi and seconded by Councilor Bitzas. All those in favor? Opposed? We are now in Committee as a Whole and the floor is yours for your presentation. If you would kindly introduce the members of your table to the audience as well as – I would appreciate it Mary.

Dr. Mary Czajkowski – Thank you Mr. President and thank you for the opportunity to be here this evening. I'd like to introduce beginning with my left this is Miss Patti Cavanaugh the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Human Resources now known as the Director of Finance. Also Mr. William Sapelli, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Mr. Anthony Bonavita, Vice Chair of the Agawam School Committee and Mrs. Shelley Reed, member of the School Committee. Thank you for the opportunity tonight to share what I think is a plan for the future and when I say for the future I'm talking the 21st century for students in our school system and by no means is this a plan that must be adopted tonight. I'm not looking for funding here this evening but basically giving you an update and a status report of our schools and at the end of the presentation I will address some of the concerns that were raised earlier. But let me begin with first our Long Range Planning Committee. I think there's been criticism among schools, among the town, that there is no long range planning and back in January I sent a Memorandum to Mayor Cohen seeking members of the City Council, the School Committee and the Administration to form a Long Range Planning Committee to begin to discuss some of the issues within our schools. The School Committee members included Linda Galarneau, Kathy Mounemneh, Sheeley Reed and Mayor Cohen acted as ex-officio. Representing the City Council – George Bitzas, Robert Rossi, Jill Simpson, John Walsh and Donald Rheault acting as ex-officio. Also serving on the Long Range Planning Committee is Laurel Placzek and from the School Administration Patti Cavanaugh and myself. Now in looking at this committee, the purpose of the committee was to examine the present and future needs of Agawam Public Schools in Grades Pre-k through 12, to review the School Buildings Facilities Assessment which was conducted in the fall, to discuss the topic of grade reorganization which has been a topic since 2001 and to address some of the Early Childhood concerns both the educational concerns and the safety concerns. Now with the new regulations set forth in the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) in order to get reimbursed for any renovation or construction project it requires strict adherence to their regulations and guidelines which includes what's called a "Statement of Interest". Now to date, the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) has met on two occasions. The first meeting took place on February 22nd at 6:00 in the Early Childhood Center and we looked at our present and future needs, reviewed the School Building Facilities Assessment, talked about grade reorganization and I addressed some of the serious concerns at the ECC regarding both education and safety and I also discussed with the LRPC the guidelines that now are set forth in MSBA. Most recently on March 29th, we met again at 5:00pm and we had Anthony Sylvia there, the DPW Superintendent that presented some plans for the new ECC parking lot. During the last several years, there's been several safety issues concerned with vehicles getting in and out of the ECC parking lot and Mr. Sylvia presented in which our before and after school program would address through funding some of the ECC parking lot concerns and he presented the plan to the LRPC. I then presented and discussed what I am going to present to you tonight which is a long Long Range Plan. At that meeting, Councilors Rossi, Rheault, Walsh and Bitzas asked if I would make a full presentation to the City Council and thus I am here tonight to do so. Our current building configuration, currently we have grades K-4 at Benjamin Phelps, Clifford Granger, Robinson Park School, James Clark School. Then we have our Agawam Middle School which is a grade

five and six, our Junior High which is a grade seven and eight, our grade 9-12 which is the High School and then our pre-K or our Early Childhood Center and then I also noted Town Offices and the Agawam Town Hall as that has been a topic of discussion within the community surrounding handicap accessibility and various other concerns. Now the plan that I'm proposing this evening is a plan that looks to the future. It's not something that's going to occur within the next ten years and when I say the future, I'm talking the best time to plan is when we are in the economic downturn. That's when you begin planning and having discussions with the community, with parents, with students, with City Council, with School Committee to talk about what the future will look like for Agawam. I think we have been criticized that we haven't had any long range planning and this is an opportunity to do that. Now the plan that I'm gonna present to you this evening is a proposal but it doesn't site what I'm gonna consider a deficiency as to why we're gonna submit a Statement of Interest and why I'm looking for your support to submit that Statement of Interest which is basically the ECC. But the proposed building configuration, our elementary schools would become grades K-5 – Granger, Phelps, Robinson Park and James Clark School – currently they're grades K-4 they would become grades K-5. The Middle School would be configured to be an elementary school grades K-5 and it would be named the Roberta G. Doering Elementary School. The current High School would house a "true" middle school and we've worked on a middle school teaming concept for grades 7 and 8 and a true middle school as you have separate wings in the high school and it would house approximately three grades for a total of 1150 students would be formerly Agawam High School. Grades 9-12 would be a new high school along with an ECC. Now as I indicated that Statement of Interest that we're looking to submit is a Statement of Interest for an ECC. This is one plan and I emphasize that would become administrative offices along with what you'll see in the next slide that would house all central offices, all special services, our school counseling offices, the town and school administrative offices. So Town Hall would be housed with the school to consolidate once again services. Our Park & Recreation department, we have a pool, we have fields, we have a cafeteria center, we have a gymnasium; a police complex in which either it could be adjacent to or there is plenty of land within that area. There was discussion most recently in the last couple of years and I know Mr. Bonavita chaired a Community Center committee or some sort of a Recreation Committee in which we could house a Community Center...and these are just some of the ideas that could be included in the consolidation of services. The proposed high school would include a new athletic complex along with an ECC. I would partner with higher education namely colleges – Westfield State College, Elms College and BayPath College in which I would have conversations with the Presidents of those colleges to partner with Agawam to become early childhood programs in which we encourage students to become educated in early childhood education and to go into teaching. Now some of the advantages to the model in housing both school and town administrative offices (1) the Jr. High School is handicap accessible. It has ramps, it also has an elevator. With this model we would maintain our elementary neighborhood schools. We would have an auditorium for school and community use. We would have a cafeteria that could be self-sustaining for our school and town employees. We would have a pool and fields which we could have a fitness program for our school and town employees. There's ample parking. It could be a centralized location. It could be an expansive area. There could be public broadcasts of

City Council and School Committee meetings and workshops and community forums. Now let me talk a little bit about this MSBA and what that means. It's the first step in the MSBA's application process for any new grant program for school construction and renovation. A school district must submit what's called a Statement of Interest – an SOI – and it must identify the perceived deficiencies in their school facilities. Now the Resolution you have before you this evening along with the School Committee's Resolution is to submit an SOI because of the deficiency at our ECC – not our high school – our ECC. However, I look to the future of not continuing to do piece meal additions and add-ons to buildings but to really plan for a future facility. This SOI is not an application for funding. It doesn't guarantee anything. All it does is it brings to the attention to the MSBA our schools' deficiencies and namely I would like to bring to the attention our ECC. The SOI must be submitted electronically using the SOI system and the MSBA invites school districts annually to file a Statement of Interest. So the first requirement is you have to identify a priority and there are eight priorities set forth in M.G.L. Chapter 70B, Section 8. I'm gonna be identifying number 7 which is the deficiency so you'll have a brief description of that deficiency and then you must provide also supporting documentation. Now I'm going to leave tonight with you and I'll leave with Barbara, a copy of the Massachusetts School Building Statement of Interest application which sites specifically what you must do and as I indicated there are eight priorities and I would site number seven which is the replacement or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements as determined in the judgment of the Authority. Now we had a walk-through of all of our buildings this past September with Fire Inspector, our Building Inspector and our Director of Maintenance and our ECC was supposedly supposed to be a temporary location twenty years ago. We have children with autism that have no space to move, to use equipment. Our Occupational Therapists are operating in hallways. We have no storage space. We have students that are three years old that are in diapers being changed with no privacy. We're trying to do the best we can with what we have. We currently have eleven children with autism in our ECC. If we're looking to the future, this SOI might site that as a deficiency and recommend that we build a new ECC. I would like to take that one step further. Now, in addition to the electronic submission, the district must also mail the following documents to the MSBA. It must be an original of the signed and certified SOI. It must be a certified vote of the City Council. When I discussed this with the LRPC, President Rheault suggested that we bring this before the City Council in a manner that you have time to digest what the SOI is. You're not voting on that this evening but merely I'm giving you a presentation of what that SOI would be. It also requires the full text of the vote of the School Committee with a copy of the minutes of the School committee at which the Committee voted to authorize the submission of the SOI, signed by the School Committee Chair. I'll be making this same presentation to the School Committee at the next School Committee meeting which will be the 13th of April. They have not seen this presentation as of yet. The current MSBA timeline is this. MSBA annually invites school districts to submit SOI's for as many facilities as necessary identifying deficiencies. I'm going to identify the ECC as the deficiency. The SOI process opens in late summer and it's annual so it will open up in late summer and school districts have three months to file a SOI electronically with written documentation. Now what happens after that? As I indicated it doesn't guarantee

any funding. All it does is site our deficiency. The MSBA then comes out and they conduct a site visit to review the deficiency, to determine whether the ECC is deficient as we have outlined in our proposal. Now along with that they will look at what are your plans for an ECC? Are you going to grade configure to include your elementary schools? Are you gonna add onto your elementary schools? Are you gonna build a new ECC? Would it be a pre-K to 3 early childhood center? And that's where I began to think about long range, for the future, Agawam High School. The original building – Agawam High School – was built in 1955. It is 55 years old. In ten years it'll be 65 years old. The main building is 123,000 square feet out of a total of 235,000 square feet and I will address some of the citations that our Building Inspector and Fire Inspector when we did the walk-throughs of the high school with respect to the future of what that will look like. Now you can see the City Council Resolution TR-2010-21 is asking for your approval to submit a SOI to identify this deficiency. That basically concludes the PowerPoint presentation but I would like to bring to your attention and I will email this document to Barbara and have her give it to you as well. Back in September, September 22nd, Fire Inspector Scott Mitchell, Dominic Urbinate, myself and the Building principals conducted a walk-through and I'd like to just highlight some of the concerns that they cited and you can see this when I email this document. It's an Excel spreadsheet. The High School - ADA concern - Americans with Disabilities Act - bathrooms, stage, locker rooms are in non-compliance. All the interior bathrooms downstairs are in non-compliance. The stadium, track, locker rooms, bathrooms have been in the Capital Improvement budget for years. I'm not sure exactly the number. Classroom space, no TV studio – use maintenance area. Interior Science wing – renovate. Interior art wing – renovate. Chemistry labs – now back in 1980 the science wing was added. That was over twenty years ago, okay? They're asking for separate lecture and lab facilities. Once again I'm preparing for 21st century, 10 years for the future. Need more storage space. High School technology communications – update sound and light sound booth. Technology – music area needs upgrading. Vocational wing – upgrade, remove or combine with visual performing arts. Roof – solar, voltaic and/or thermal. Add fans for circulation. Double-pane, screens. Improve dust collection system, install emergency lighting, improve ventilation in photo lab, resurface major tennis courts need repair, replace floor treatment in the back gym, repair broken smoke detectors, bleachers need to be automated in the main gym, fumes, rusting ceiling panel supports in the chemistry labs, downstairs bathrooms need upgrading, repair all non-working windows, emergency lighting, bleachers, no security cameras, sports facilities, reconfigure for equal facilities in women's locker rooms similar to men's, no security cameras, locks don't work on all lockers. Those were some of the areas that our Building Inspector, our Fire Inspector, our Director of Maintenance cited in the High School. So I would ask as we move forward once again that this is for the purpose of planning. It's for the purpose of long range planning and I think it's important as a first step to come before you, the governing body, the City Council, to come before the School Committee to share one plan. The MSBA, if we submit an SOI in late summer, we have three months, actually the applications will come out in late summer, we have three months in which to submit. Probably some time next year they may come out to do a site visit and look at our ECC and say what are your plans? Do you want to build a separate new ECC or do you want to reconfigure with your other schools? When you look at the future of education and

you look at early childhood education and you look at the number of children and students that want to go into teaching that can become a learning lab for our high school students. It can become a partnership with our colleges to prepare students for the future. But once again, that is just one plan. So that concludes my presentation this evening. Certainly if you have any questions, I'd be more than happy and I know the resolution that you have before you this evening is, you're not going to be voting on it, but between now and the next time you meet when it does come up for a vote, if you have additional questions, I certainly I would be more than willing. I know the other night Mr. Rossi had some questions regarding the budget, he contacted me and we met and talked about them. If you certainly have any questions, I've discussed also this, Laurel is part of the LRPC, there are some items that have been included in the Capital Improvement Budget. Once again, I think it's time that we all come together to begin to look to the future and plan for the future in a way that is systematic and involves the community, involves students, involves parents, involves tax payers to look at our plan. Thank you. The potential reimbursement is 72% to the school district and now all of that actually that funding is up-fronted. It's very different than it was in the past. Thank you.

President Rheault – Thank you very much Mary for the presentation and are there any questions from the Council at this point? Councilor Letellier?

Councilor Letellier – Yes, Mary, I have a question. If we're selling this as a deficient ECC, how do then piggy back that gigantic building with the high school in it too.

Dr. Mary Czajkowski – That's a great question Councilor Letellier. I spoke with a woman, Diane Sullivan, at the MSBA today and I actually emailed her my PowerPoint and I asked for her input on it and she said to me that MSBA is looking for creative ways for schools districts to work together to come up with new models that might be innovative and I explained to her that we may be looking as a future for, and that would be, the priority would be the ECC, there's no question but I'd rather have them come out and tell us "you build a separate ECC and we'll give you 72% reimbursement" or "you look to the future and we put you on a list along with other schools who have gone through this process" and maybe that might be a good idea because they may say that eventually 10 to 20 years from now, our high school will be 65 years old. If you look at Minnechaug, if you look at Longmeadow, and if you look at Chicopee Comp, our high school was built prior to them. So once again, it's planning for the future and for what we you know, the high school is the hub, the hub of our school system and I really think that I would allow, I would say let the MSBA come out and tell us no you can't use that as a piggy back to the high school, then you can only build, but once again I think you still need to engage in conversation about the future of Agawam High School.

Councilor Letellier – No I'm not doubting that, I'm just wondering do we then do two SOI's – one for the High School and – do we do a third one as combined high school/ECC and then a plain high school and then a plain ECC? Or is that too much work for the town?

Dr. Mary Czajkowski – No, that's a really good question because Diane said to me you can submit as many SOI's as you want so we could submit one separately for the high school, one separately for the ECC but I would like to begin with the ECC as the

deficiency, have them come out, have us sit down with them and say is this a viable plan or should we be submitting another SOI down the road for a high school or should it be a combination. That's a great question. It's a question I can't answer until we actually submit this SOI and they come back and give us some more direction.

Councilor Letellier – And you think they'd be willing to have that conversation “we're submitting an SOI for an ECC but by the way we have this idea as well” or is it you submitted this, the conversation becomes this. Is it gonna be a narrow blender?

Dr. Mary Czajkowski – That's a really good question. When I explained to her that I'm presenting tonight at the City Council meeting and I had a proposed plan, her comment to me was “we like to see districts thinking ahead and preparing plans and having those conversations.” So it wasn't no you can't do that, you need to separate that, it was I think you're thinking long term and that's a good thing and that's what we want to see school districts doing – thinking long term.

Councilor Letellier - Thank you.

President Rheault – Councilor Walsh?

Councilor Walsh – Yea, the Statement of Interest, I know as we had talked about it within the confines of the committee, we're talking long range as far as bringing it to fruition but now as far as having the team come out to evaluate, I don't think we ever discussed that but could you let us know what we would expect? In other words, if we submit it this fiscal year, how long before we see the people from the Commonwealth?

Dr. Mary Czajkowski – That's a great question, Councilor Walsh and I think the time line that she explained to me was applications come out annually. They come out usually at the end of the summer. She would email me; alert me that they're coming out the end of the summer. We would have three months in which to submit our Statement of Interest and once again I would prepare a SOI and I would work with the LRPC or the City Council combined School Committee to submit the SOI. If we submit it, we have three months to submit it, we submit it by the end of November let's say, I would anticipate that they would respond within two months to come out to do a site visit to look at that deficiency. So either way, they have to, they can't just say no. They will come out and they will look at your school.

Councilor Walsh – Thank you.

President Rheault – Councilor Messick?

Councilor Messick – You're talking about repurposing the Junior High so with the MSBA program, none of the funding available for that would be available for repurposing that or would having school administrative offices count for even a percentage of the square footage?

Dr. Mary Czajkowski – I believe that MSBA would not reimburse for any town or school administrative offices, that's correct. You know, when I was thinking of this plan and thinking of the Agawam Jr. High School, it's the only school in thirty years and once again I will forward you, email you, the square footage along with the renovations and additions to all of our schools and I got this from Mr. Kupec, Roger Kupec, and it sites the building, the section, the year it was built and the square footage and if you look at all eight buildings, the only building that does not have any renovations done is the Jr. High School. It was built in 1973 and it has 131,000 square feet. Now that requires a lot of repair. You'll see that when Nick went around the building inside and outside, in order for us to upgrade that school to make it a school would be very, very expensive with respect to wiring, with respect to replacement of windows, replacement of the roof, the mortar is chipping around the outside of the building. It would be very costly to renovate that and code it up to a school building but I believe and I'm not anywhere in construction or anything like this but I believe it would be cheaper to renovate that to include a community center, town hall offices, administrative offices, it would be much cheaper to do that because it wouldn't require as much work and that's a building that hasn't had any renovation done since it's been built.

President Rheault – Councilor Bitzas?

Councilor Bitzas – Thank you Mr. President. Mary, I know it was a short time...in the paper it appears about these plans, I don't know if you have the answer but did you hear any comments from your administration, the teachers, any parents and if you did can you explain to us or in the future can you bring this information to our committee? Thank you.

Dr. Mary Czajkowski – I've learned there's no best kept secret here in Agawam so I know it got out somewhat sooner than expected in the newspaper but some of the comments that I've heard, I've heard actually from a couple of students that thought it would be a great idea to have grades six, seven and eight at the high school because it would be a new school for them. I did hear from a couple of School Committee members who thought it was something that needed more discussing and something that would look to the future and I did hear from, I did get an email from a parent saying that she liked the idea and hope that we would look to the future in trying to get up to par with other school systems in the area.

Councilor Bitzas – Thank you Mary but they do understand that it's not something that would be done tomorrow.

Dr. Mary Czajkowski – No I, it probably won't be done in my time here as the Superintendent but I certainly would like to be part of the planning process. It's something that certainly is going to be long range.

Councilor Bitzas – Thank you.

President Rheault – Entertain a Motion to Come out of Committee? Moved by Councilor Rossi, seconded by Councilor Magovern. All those in favor? Opposed? Again, thank you very much for a very informative discussion and I'm sure that we'll here from many people in the town regarding this.

6. TR-2010-22 - A Resolution Requesting Special Legislation Regarding Drag Racing within the Town of Agawam (Councilor Magovern)

President Rheault – Next Agenda. Is that gonna be in an Ordinance form Councilor? If it is it's your committee.

7. TO-2010-14 - Transfer of \$286.00 from Reserve Fund (16605-57300) to Auditor – Regular Permanent Account (11341-51010) (Mayor)

President Rheault – To pay the difference in the Auditor's office. Next Agenda.

Item 12. Any other matter that may legally come before the City Council.

President Rheault – We'll start to my furthest right, Councilor Bitzas?

Councilor Bitzas – Nothing this evening, Mr. President.

President Rheault – Thank you. Councilor Magovern?

Councilor Magovern –The only thing I'd like to say is our Rosie Robotics team deserves a great applause. They came in second in Worcester in an international competition for one of the best and our Agawam crew was one of the best robotics team in the entire nation as far as I'm concerned and I think they deserve a great recognition and I think a letter might be nice from the Council to the Robotics team commending them for the great effort that they put in.

President Rheault – All right. Councilor Mineo?

Councilor Mineo – Nothing tonight.

President Rheault – Councilor Rossi?

Councilor Rossi – Yes, just one small item. I've been getting a lot of calls lately and I got one again today as a matter of fact. Some concerned citizen posted some pictures on my back door of the walkway on River Road and the complaints that I've been getting is that the walkway is not very well maintained. People go down there and they walk their animals and stuff like that, they don't clean up their messes. The ones that do, they have these multi-colored bags that they just leave folded up somewhere next to sign posts and those types of things and no one seems to be picking those things up. Now I know that we can't legislate responsibility to our citizens but I wish we could but we can't but I thought we had some kind of a maintenance program and I'd really like to know who's in charge of the maintenance and I'm gonna ask Barbara if you would send a memo to the

Mayor's office and find out who is in charge of the maintenance, what the schedules are and why can't we have those things picked up. Now the last time I questioned this I wanted to have the DPW, I know that they go up and down that River Road quite frequently and to have somebody in a pick up truck stop by and empty a trash barrel or something, I don't think would be too far out of the way but I'm told that there is some kind of a private maintenance program. Would you find out Barbara if you would and through the Council here and if someone else has any ideas or thoughts I would be more than happy to listen to them but I was a little disturbed when I saw the pictures. Someone actually went out of their way to go down and take pictures of these kind of things and it really disturbed me because we put a lot of time, effort and money into this walkway, not only for the citizens of this town but we have a lot of visitors to this town who use that walkway and I have personal knowledge of that. To have something like this exist down there, it's just, it just should not exist so I would really like to have something done. Something that's gonna be lasting and maintaining so if we could get a letter out to the Mayor and maybe he could respond to us with what's being done, what can be done and what can be done on a continuing basis I certainly would appreciate that.

Councilor Bitzas – Point of information, Mr. President?

President Rheault – Councilor?

Councilor Bitzas – Through the chair to Councilor Rossi, I did speak with the Planning Board Director, Debbie Dachos, I had the same problem, some of the people they complain to me and they're supposed to bring this week I believe after Easter, barrels along, the DPW is supposed to do that and also they forgot to take the signs off – closed the park, the bike path closed for the winter, so there's about six signs there so yes, I think the DPW is supposed to take care of that and supposed to bring the barrels this week. I don't know if they did that. Barbara of course she can check with the Planning Board, the DPW, I believe this should be done right now. Thank you.

President Rheault – Thank you. Councilor Walsh?

Councilor Walsh – Nothing tonight. Thank you.

President Rheault – Councilor Cichetti?

Councilor Cichetti – Nothing tonight. Thank you.

President Rheault – Councilor Messick?

Councilor Messick – Just a quick reminder that our Earth Day celebration is going to be on Saturday, April 17th from 11-3. We still have some spaces available. They're free. You bring your own table and set up. We just provide you with a space. If you have a green business or a community organization that you'd like to highlight, we more than welcome you and you can give me a call at 786-8125 or call the Council Office. Thank you.

President Rheault – Councilor Letellier?

Councilor Letellier – Yes, thank you. This is more for the Council I guess than the public but the Capital Improvement Budget Sub-Committee did meet tonight with the Mayor, Laurel Placzek, Cheryl St. John and Anthony Sylvia and went through the original, initial draft of the Capital Improvement Budget. Everyone received that tonight. If you weren't at the sub-committee meeting, it was waiting for you at your desk. The Mayor has to present the final version to us by April 14th and so they want to get it printed on Friday. So what I'm asking is for in the next couple of days you can review it, if you have any proposed changes that you'd like the Capital Improvement Budget Sub-Committee to review, let me know by noon on Thursday. I know it's a packet deadline. You can email me directly, or call me or email Barbara and get any proposed changes to me. We're gonna set up a sub-committee meeting for Thursday at 5:00 in the Council Office in the event that there are proposed changes the Council wants. If there are no proposed changes the Council wants then I will notify the Mayor and we won't actually have a full sub-committee vote until we get the final version because I know Anthony Sylvia said he had some changes and the draft that we have tonight does not have all the charts that show what the total bonding for the year will be and I think we need to know that total bond before we can really have an informative vote. So again if you have any changes or proposals that you'd like the sub-committee to make to the Mayor's office, let me know by noon on Thursday. If you can cc the whole Council, that'd be even better and then we will post the meeting for 5:00 on Thursday in the Council Office if there are changes that people want to make. After we talked about this schedule, I realized that I probably will be out of town Thursday afternoon. I'll be there at noon though but I'll probably be leaving at 4:00 so Jill Messick indicated that she would run the sub-committee meeting if we have to have one and if you're not sure about anything just call me I'll be in the office tomorrow. Thanks.

President Rheault – Councilor Perry?

Councilor Perry – Nothing this evening, thank you.

President Rheault – Thank you and that concludes this evening's meeting. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn. Moved by all the Council, seconded by all the Council. All those in favor? All the Council. Thank you and good evening.

Adjournment.