



# Bulletin



Volume 40 Number 6

March 2017

**BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS**

By SharynWalz

## REFERENDUM FOR EMS BUILDING MARCH 14

Roosevelt residents will go to the polls on March 14 to vote yes or no on whether to approve a bond ordinance providing for construction of an emergency services building, appropriating a total of \$600,000, and authorizing the issuance of \$571,400 in bonds and notes. It is estimated that the actual cost of the building structure will be between \$140,000 and \$160,000, with the rest of the bond covering costs for ventilation, electrical service, and so on, as needed to make the building a fully functional EMS building. Additional costs for the ongoing maintenance of the building are not included in the referendum.

The EMS building has been the subject of two previous votes—in December 2015 a tie vote prevented the approval of a bond to support construction; in a related public question in November 2016, voters expressed their preference for a four-bay building over a two-bay building, in effect instructing the Borough Council to seek a bond for the larger building. A four-bay building could accommodate both Fire Department and First Aid Squad vehicles and equipment.

Opinion about construction of the building—and, by extension, the future of emergency services in Roosevelt—has been sharply divided, with strongly opposing views expressed in public meetings. Many residents have expressed dismay at the harsh tone of much of the discourse and the apparent inability of community leaders to cultivate a more civil public discourse.

Borough officials themselves are divided on the issue of the current referendum, with the Mayor publicly disputing the recent report issued by the Council’s Safety Committee at the most recent Council meeting, which was authored by Councilman Joe Trammell. (An edited version of the report

and the Mayor’s response are both included in this issue. The full version of the report is available at Borough Hall.)

Roosevelt Borough has two options for securing fire protection: maintain its own fire department or secure a fire protection contract with a department in another municipality. The Borough is located within the range of several neighboring EMS services: Hightstown is 5.3 miles (approximately 10 minutes) away; Monroe is 6 miles (also 10 minutes) away; Millstone is 3 miles (about 5 minutes) away. The Council’s Safety Committee is reportedly expecting a draft fire protection contract from the Applegarth Fire Department (Monroe Township) in which they would charge the Borough \$30,000 per year for the next three years. Chief Carbin, from Applegarth, is expected to attend the next Council meeting.

Discussion of the upcoming referendum and the EMS controversy dominated the February 27 Council meeting. Questions remain about the long term cost and comparative safety of relying on more distant services, as well as insurance implications for the Borough and its residents. Councilwoman Malkin pointed out that insurance companies weigh multiple factors when writing policies—distance, response time, proximity to hydrants, and volunteer vs. professional firefighters. She also stated that costs may go down in Roosevelt if this contract is approved.

Councilman Trammell stated that a three-year contract will buy planning time for Roosevelt. Mayor Ellentuck responded that if the Borough enters into a three-year contract, there will be no Roosevelt Fire Department, as the members will quit. Mayor Ellentuck also expressed concern about what the Applegarth rate might be long term,

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to the 40th edition of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin. There will be ten issues running from September through July. We will not publish in January and August.

### Roosevelt Borough Bulletin Submission Process

The Bulletin welcomes submissions for news items, information of local interest, letters to the editor, poetry, and visual arts. We ask all contributors to adhere to the following submission guidelines:

- Send your submission to the email [rooseveltbulletin submissions@gmail.com](mailto:rooseveltbulletin submissions@gmail.com). For short messages, you can also use the contact form on our web site, which will go to the same address.
- Send your submission as a Microsoft Word attachment or as plain text within the body of your email.
- Please limit your letters to 500 words (about one page in MS Word). We will edit letters for length when necessary. Longer letters may be published in full on the Bulletin web site.
- Please include images as separate files. If you have multiple files, please put them into a zip file, if possible. Please submit only JPEG images.
- The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication (e.g., January 15 for the February issue). Submissions received after the 15th will normally be printed in the issue following the one currently in production. (So, for example, a submission received on January 16th would be printed in March.)
- Most submissions will also be added to the Bulletin web site. Allow up to one week for submissions to appear online after publication of the print edition.
- Please name your files with your last name, or the name of your organization, and the month.

It's natural that people have second thoughts about what they've written, but we want to discourage multiple submissions of the same thing, whenever possible. When this is necessary, the revised version should be clearly named as a revision.

The Bulletin board members are thrilled to see that people are utilizing the Bulletin as a forum for communicating about our community's most critical issues. And it is impressive that Roosevelt has supported this publication for so many decades by contributing both financially and intellectually. We are committed to providing you with the best publication possible—your support of our submission guidelines will enable our volunteers to most effectively meet that goal.

The MEALS ON WHEELS program delivers prepared meals to Roosevelt seniors who need this assistance. Though meals are provided free of charge to recipients, the cost to the program is \$2.50 per meal. Donations to help cover these costs may be sent to Interfaith Neighbors, 810 Fourth Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712

**SENIOR CITIZENS:** There is a S.C.A.T. bus provided by Monmouth County Division of Transportation that comes to Roosevelt on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. and will take you shopping to ShopRite in East Windsor. The bus will pick you up at your home, you spend 1 ½ hours shopping, and the bus will take you home and leave your groceries at your door. There is no charge to you for this service.

If you wish to go, you must call the S.C.A.T. bus Tuesday no later than 3:00 p.m. at 732-431-6485 and press 1. Give them your name, address, and the town you are from, and your interest in going on Wednesday, the next day.

An archive of all past issues of the Bulletin can be found online at [www.mazicmusic.com/rbb.htm](http://www.mazicmusic.com/rbb.htm), courtesy of Mark Zuckerman. Current and recent issues can also be found online at [www.roosevelt.boroughbulletin.org.](http://www.roosevelt.boroughbulletin.org.), the official website of the Borough Bulletin. To have the Bulletin sent to you by email, please send your request to [rpessler32@gmail.com](mailto:rpessler32@gmail.com).

The Roosevelt Borough Bulletin is published monthly, except August and January by Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc. P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

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## From the Mayor

By Jeff Ellentuck

On March 14, we will have a special election to approve a bond to fund a building for our First Aid Squad and our Fire Department. I urge you to vote "YES." Keeping our neighborhood fire and first aid squads is our best choice. It is the cheapest, safest and best option. PEOSH and the State Fire Marshal will re-impose daily fines of thousands to tens of thousands of dollars if we don't fix this soon.

The Roosevelt First Aid Squad answered approximately 280 calls last year. We average 24 to 36 Fire Department calls each year. 18 of your neighbors volunteer for our Fire Department and 12 for First Aid. Let's give them something safe, clean and mold free to work with.

Let's clear up a couple of things. We hear a lot about the fact that there was no "No" option last November. The referendum was to determine what residents want us to build IF the bond is approved on March 14. We needed to know this to describe how funds were to be used. A "No" option would just have left it up to the Council. You voted 268 to 68 for a four-bay building for First Aid and Fire.

We are, and have been, in compliance with all the laws that govern our emergency services. Who says so? The State Fire Marshal (who inspects our facilities), PEOSH, and JIF (the Joint Insurance Fund, which is the final arbiter).

We donate approximately \$16,000 per year to each of our volunteer Emergency Services teams. That is the only amount we pay and includes all expenses, including equipment maintenance. We pay very little more for insurance. We will not need to buy a fire truck. We have not paid for a fire truck or ambulance since 1947. They are donated, paid with grants or paid from private donations.

A simple steel pole building will cost us approximately \$160,000. The rest of the bond proceeds will pay for all of the things that make the building suitable for our first aid and fire departments. This is one half to one tenth of what other towns pay.

**DUMP OUR FIRST AID SQUAD? THAT IS EXPENSIVE AND DANGEROUS.** There is no regional EMT squad. I have personally waited 20 to 40 minutes on three occasions for an ambulance to arrive when Roosevelt wasn't called. If your husband or wife has a heart attack, chances are they will be dead – and you will be charged personally for the ambulance service. That is just a very bad idea.

The only fire company within five miles is Millstone. If services are more than five miles, most homeowner policies will be more expensive. Monroe is based at Halsey-Reed Rd. (six to eight miles by road) and Hightstown is also more than five miles. What we save in service fees will be overshadowed by increased insurance rates. Even if we receive fire services for just \$30,000 a year, the cost of a two-bay First Aid building and contracting fire services will be the same as the cost of a four-bay building. So, let's keep our local volunteers here, where we have depended on them for help in storms, flooded basements and so much more.

Know the facts, not the hype. Vote "YES" on March 14.

Thank you.

### THE ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

is distributed free-of-charge to Roosevelt residents. We look forward to and appreciate contributions which are very much needed to keep our publication going.

Contributions are tax deductible

PLEASE NOTE: Due to postal regulations we can only ask for "donations" rather than "subscriptions" from out-of-towners who wish to receive the *BULLETIN*.

We will be pleased to continue sending them the *BULLETIN* when we receive their contributions which, of course, can be for the same amount (or more) as in the past.

In order to save on postage, we would encourage non-residents who have computers to subscribe to the *Bulletin* online at [www.boroughbulletin.org](http://www.boroughbulletin.org) in lieu of receiving a paper copy. Donations from readers, wherever they may be, and regardless of the medium in which they read the *Bulletin*, are still very much welcome, since we could not publish without your support.

PLEASE SEND IN A CONTRIBUTION TODAY. ***WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.***

Please send contributions to:

Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc., P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555



**MISSION**

To educate and inspire all students to excel academically\*, to become independent and creative thinkers, skillful communicators and lifelong learners. Roosevelt Public School nurtures and challenges the unique potential of each student so that our children will develop individual, social and civic responsibility as well as respect for themselves, each other, and the environment.

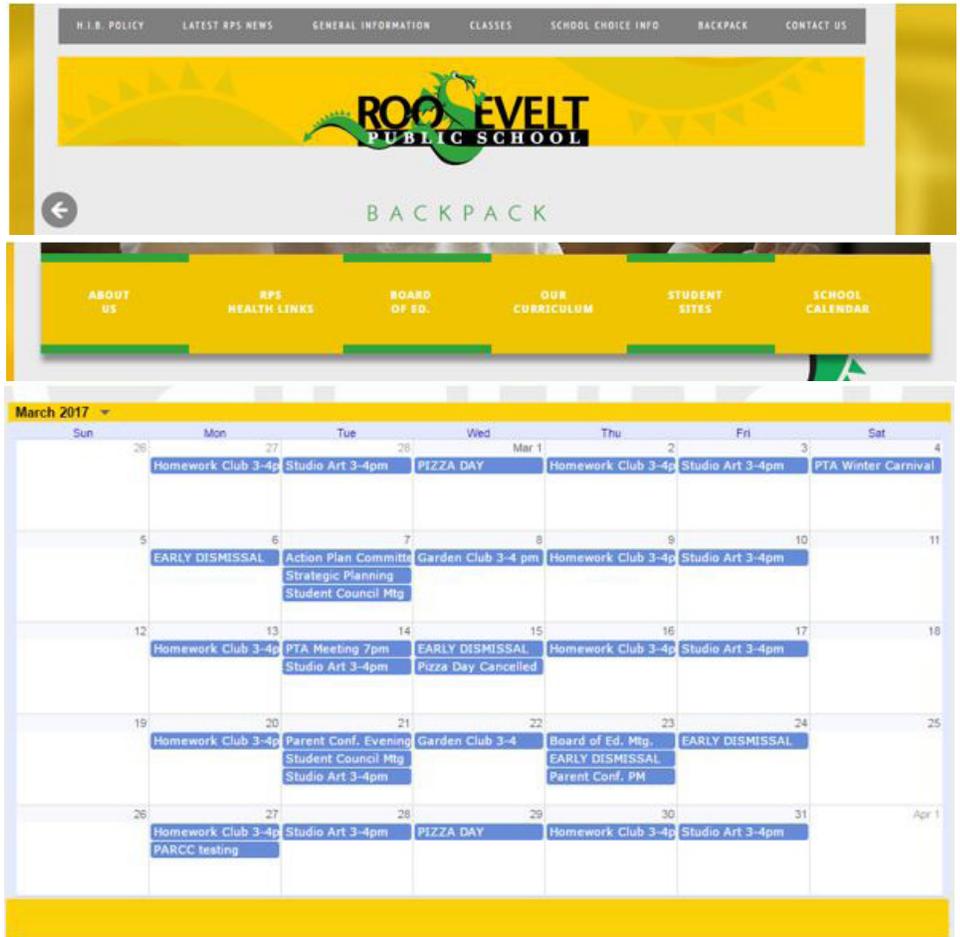
\*to achieve or exceed N.J. CCCS at all grade levels

The Roosevelt Public School web site can help you stay up to date with important information online, whether you're a parent looking for specific information about your child or a community member who wants to stay connected with RPS. Below are highlights of key online services and information pertaining to our school district.

**Parent Portal:** RPS has moved to electronic report cards at [FridayParentPortal.com/Roosevelt](http://FridayParentPortal.com/Roosevelt). Grades throughout the semester are shown at that site also. Logging into that system also puts you on our closed or delayed day automated call system.

**RPS1. Org:** Forgot what time school starts on a Delayed Opening? That and other important information can be found in the Student Handbook on the school website at [RPS1.org](http://RPS1.org) in the General Information pull down menu.

The General Information tab is also where aftercare information



forms are found. Please read the School Choice Info as it provides an excellent background about the school and how to attend if you live outside of town.

School policies and Board of Education information, including the schedule of meetings, can be found under the Board of Education link near the middle. The March Board of Education meeting will most likely be changed to March 16, 2017, to adopt the preliminary 2017-

**Board of Education News (cont.)**

2018 budget. The budget and related presentations will be posted on the website. The Public Hearing and Adoption of the budget will be April 27, 2017. We always love to talk to people who are considering running for BOE, so please also

feel free to email us at: [RPSBOE@gmail.com](mailto:RPSBOE@gmail.com).

The School Calendar on the far right is updated with all the main activities and school events, including state testing dates. You can pull up future months by changing the month in the upper-left-hand corner. For March 2017:

The current extracurricular activities include: Homework club, Garden Club, and Studio Art. These free activities are included in the school budget. Town Recreation also hosts Open Gym on Sunday nights.



**RPS Education Foundation –  
Upcoming Events**

The RPS Education Foundation is planning a number of fundraising events this spring that are guaranteed to be fun and will help you keep your New Year’s resolution to get more exercise.

Thursday evenings, April 13th to May 18th, Stacey Bonna will be teaching a Pilates class in the Roosevelt Public School lobby. The cost is \$15 for an individual class, or \$60 for six classes. Students of all fitness and experience levels are welcome.

On Saturday evening, April 22nd, musical quartet Delta Noir will perform gypsy swing, early jazz and gospel and blues. The members of the quartet include Ron Kostar on clarinet and vocals, Bob Thorn on lead guitar and vocals, Ron Villegas

on rhythm guitar, and Henry Dale on stand-up bass. You may have heard the group playing on a Friday evening at Fernando’s restaurant where there is a match up with New Orleans food and music on the nights that Delta Noir plays. Dessert will be served at the concert and wine will be available for purchase by the glass.

Our last fundraiser of the year will be at the Rockville Climbing Center in Hamilton on Friday, May 19th from 6 to 8 p.m. This is our fourth event at Rockville which has been very popular with kids and parents who compete to see who is more fearless. Participation at this event has started some people on a new passion about climbing.

The “Little Free Library” that was purchased by the Education

By Mary Tulloss RPSEF President

Foundation for the students of Roosevelt Public School is expected to arrive next week. Some book donations have been received and a ribbon cutting ceremony is planned when the library is set up and ready to serve the school and community.

Check our website, [www.rpsef.org](http://www.rpsef.org), for details on upcoming events or to make a donation or volunteer to help our foundation. Thank you for your continued support.



	
<h3>STRATEGIC PLANNING CALENDAR</h3>	
March 7, 2017	ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE Training of Team Leaders
March – May 5, 2017	ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE MEETINGS Plan development
May 9, 2017 7:00 p.m.	PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING Action Plans (Drafts) Cost Benefit Analysis
May 12, 2017	ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE MEETINGS Action Plans Finalized
May 25, 2017	STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTED TO BOARD



Acting Commissioner Kimberley Harrington and Monmouth County Freeholder Serena DiMaso recognized six Monmouth County Schools for attaining the highest scores in the state on the PARCC Exam at the Monmouth County Superintendents’ Roundtable on February 24. RPS Superintendent Mary Robinson Cohen is second from the right.

Hello Neighbors,

By now I'm sure everyone is sick of the merry-go-round of the Emergency Services debate.

The endless controversy, divisiveness, and in-fighting, is very upsetting. I know we all just want it to be over with.

With that in mind, I will simply present my point of view.

As I hope you know, there is a referendum being held March 14th. You are being asked if you, as the taxpayer, are willing to spend \$571,000 for a brand new Emergency Services Building. As part of the Environmental/Health/Safety Committee, I along with Joe Trammell and Michael Ticktin have met with the Monmouth County Fire Marshal, who is also the Fire Chief of Long Branch.

We have also discussed the issues with the Fire Chief of Monroe Township, who is the former Chief of Millstone, along with two Fire Commissioners of Monroe.

Lastly, I have conversed with one of our own long-time residents, who is the Fire Chief of Englishtown.

All of these men are career professionals, with many, many years of experience.

The unanimous agreement among all of them (in separate meetings) is that Roosevelt is simply too small to sustain its own fire department. The cost will far exceed the \$571,000 bond.

I think most of us know, whether repairing, renovating, or building new, there are many overruns.

Then, there is the problem of ongoing maintenance and upkeep costs.

The days are long-gone when we could operate our own independent, autonomous fire department. We are heavily regulated by county, state, and federal regulations. Everything must be kept up to code. Maintaining

building codes, gear, insurance, personnel requirements for the members, none of this comes cheaply.

This is not a reflection on the fire fighters or the governing body. In our town, the Mayor and Council are volunteers who do the best they can, in less than ideal circumstances. And I don't think there's anyone who doesn't respect the fire fighters. They put their lives at risk to help others.

The Mayor and some Council members are determined to continue our fire department here by building a new building. Remember, many members walked out when the referendum didn't pass in December, 2015.

They have an absolute right to their opinion.

But, when you think about it, we are a TINY town. We almost never have fires or other incidents. We do not have a day fire department.

So, why would we spend what we've been told could end up being a \$2 million (or more) project? It just doesn't make sense.

The Mayor, when pressed about what would happen if the cost does run more than the current bond, simply states, "We will issue an additional bond."

I feel the solution is to contract to Monroe. We have met with them, and they have offered us a three-year contract for \$30,000 per year.

After three years, we would renegotiate, but we've been assured we will not be taken advantage of then.

As far as Homeowners Insurance, many people are concerned because Millstone is 3 miles away, whereas Monroe is about 5 1/2 to 6 miles depending which part of Roosevelt you live in. Monroe stated that it takes them one minute longer than Millstone to arrive here.

We spoke to some of the largest

insurance companies in the state, who stated that our current rates wouldn't really change, except for one company who said the policy would go down a few dollars.

Roosevelt currently donates \$16,000 per year to our Fire Department. So, for another \$14,000 we could write a check to Monroe, and we're completely covered, we don't have to think about it. There's no ongoing costs, no wear and tear to a building, no volunteer membership worries.

We have a water/sewer system that will need our money and attention in the very near future. No matter what you have heard or seen in the past few weeks, let me be very clear. Our water/sewer bills ARE going up this year, regardless of whether there is a referendum in April.

We all know that it is very difficult to sell a house in Roosevelt. I believe there are many reasons for this, but not the least is the exorbitant water/sewer bills.

Building a new Emergency Services Building is fiscally unsound with the myriad of issues surrounding it. It's much more prudent to contract to Monroe, a much larger township, with a fully staffed 24-hour department.

I understand that our Fire Department wants this building very badly. But isn't their main objective to fight fires and help the community?

Both Millstone and Monroe said they would welcome our members. Both stations are very close by.

I have no doubt that the Mayor, some Council members, and the Fire Department will try to refute most of what I've said and reported.

But, honestly, I have no personal agenda. It's just common sense.

Thank you for your time,

Peggy Malkin

To the Editor,

Abraham Lincoln said the legitimate object of government was to do for people what needs to be done, what people cannot do by individual effort. He felt the responsibilities of government should be to protect its citizens.

It is the Borough's responsibility to provide emergency services to the citizens of Roosevelt. I can see no rational reason for not building a suitable, inexpensive structure to house the existing ambulances and fire trucks when we already have the trucks, equipment and a sizable number of very capable, highly trained volunteers ready and willing perform their often dangerous duties. Mutual aid is only for towns with their own facilities.

To rely on an out of town fire department or first aid squad puts all our citizens and our property at risk and it would cost us more money. Overturning the Bond Ordinance will mean all expenses for improvements or replacement of the old building will come out of our current annual taxes rather than spreading it over a period of 20 years, and the expense of hiring an outside company will raise our taxes. Relying on a distant, out of town company makes us vulnerable to their availability, requires more response time and leaves us at risk to the vagaries of nature. Route 571 is frequently blocked by downed wires, fallen trees, car accidents and snow. A heavy snow storm, a hurricane or forest fire in the Assunpink, etc., would leave us isolated and needing to be self-sufficient.

Please vote YES on the referendum to keep our town safe and our taxes down.

Beth Battel



### Letter Regarding Roosevelt Fire Company

We would like to reach out to everyone to clarify some of the rumors and mis-truths that are being spread around.

- 1- We are held to the same qualifications and training as any department in the state.
- 2- We are trained to handle any incident that we would be presented with in town.
- 3- None of the trucks have cost the town anything to purchase, two were donated and one was bought through the Company's fundraising efforts.
- 4- We have a mutual aid agreement with Millstone which is set up by the officers of the Roosevelt Fire Co. so Millstone is dispatched at the same time we are, which is why they are at most of our town calls. Once we have a proper facility to work out of we will be able to handle our town calls and provide mutual aid support to the fire companies that support us.
- 5- The trucks and equipment are tested every year and must pass to meet state & insurance requirements.
- 6- The building is designed to meet the minimum state requirements without any luxuries of most fire houses in the State.
- 7- Relying on coverage from out of

town fire departments has its negatives, such as longer response times, being the lowest priority during times of high call volumes such as a hurricane, access into town during natural disasters, and the cost is more to contract an out of town department as opposed to keeping the Roosevelt Fire Department.

8- There are positives to keeping the Fire Department, such as better ISO ratings which affect everyone's homeowner insurance rates. Having a Department in town will keep the rates the same or lower vs contracting with an out of town department which will cause an increase. A more personal service seeing as your firefighters are also your neighbors, and numerous other functions that were organized by the Fire Department for the enjoyment of the town.

9- We have heard many times that nothing burns in Roosevelt and hope that stands true however we want to be prepared to assist our neighbors if it does not. Most of our calls are not fires which is a blessing, but are public safety issues, hazards or concerns which we gladly assist in to rectify to the best of our ability. Who do you think of first when something bad happens and you need help?

Sincerely,

Chief Dan Archer  
Assistant Chief Brian Erxleben

*Join other good neighbors at*  
**ROOSEVELT SOLAR VILLAGE**  
North Valley Road, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

- One and Two Bedroom Units for Adults Age 62+ Years Old
- Some Units Available for Disabled Individuals 18+ Years Old
- Rent is Based on Income & Eligibility Requirements
- Parking available • On-site Maintenance

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### Senior Group Meetings

The Senior Citizen Group meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Borough Hall.

At 1:30 pm we frequently have guests who speak about a variety of topics, generally applicable to everyone. Finances, health, and safety in the home are a few examples. Notices will be on the bulletin board at the P.O. All residents are welcome to take advantage of this worthwhile program.

Thank you.

Geraldine Millar  
President, Seniors

#### REMINDER FOR RECYCLING:



Always leave at least 3 feet between your garbage can and recyclable container(s). The arm that lifts the garbage can needs enough room to operate so it can avoid knocking over other containers.

and stated that they may well be more expensive than Millstone in the long run.

Mayor Ellentuck asked what the plan for the First Aid Squad was if the Borough were to contract with Monroe. Councilwoman Malkin stated that the town can keep our own First Aid by renovating our first aid building or can contract with Monroe. The Safety Committee spoke to many public officials and were told that the \$600,000 allocated for the Emergency Services Building is not nearly enough; it would take millions of dollars to build an EMS Building, plus ongoing costs to maintain gear. Councilwoman Malkin said that the State has been encouraging consolidation of EMS services, rather than having small towns maintain their own. However, there are no government subsidies available for that purpose. Councilwoman Malkin stated that, following the referendum, a decision would need to be made whether to renovate the current first aid facilities or contract out to Monroe.

**If residents vote NO on March 14, the bond for construction of an EMS building will not be approved.** According to Mayor Ellentuck, the Borough's agreements with the New Jersey Public Employee Occupational Safety and Health department (PEOSH) and the State will cease, and the State could impose daily fines that resulted from the Borough's substandard facilities. The Mayor indicated that the Borough would probably proceed to contract with Millstone for fire protection services and that it is not clear what would happen to the First Aid Squad at that point.

While the PEOSH inspection reports cite numerous violations (some of which were not directly related to the building and have been abated) and cite thousands of dollars in potential fines, they do not cite specific conditions under which the current deferral of fines would be canceled. Nor do they directly address what happens if the Borough contracts with another

local fire department and ceases use of the fire house. Additionally, it may be possible to repair the First Aid Squad facility separately and sustain that service in Roosevelt.

**If residents vote YES on March 14, the town will build a four-bay EMS building.**

#### Creative Team Recognized

The Borough passed a resolution to recognize a Creative Team made up of the Board of the Roosevelt Arts Project, a school representative (Larisa Bondy) and a member of the Green Team (Councilmember Stacey Bonna). Having an officially recognized Creative Team allows the Borough to gain points towards Bronze Certification with Sustainable Jersey, a non-profit agency that works with NJ towns to improve local arts, environment, sustainability, etc. Being certified by Sustainable Jersey will make the Borough eligible for additional grants.

#### Committee Reports

Councilmember Hamilton, for the Public Works Committee—not present. Kelly Tyers of Public Works reported a tree hazard on Farm Lane, that will take down a shed and fence if it falls. Allen's Tree Service has provided a quote of \$900. Motion to have Allen's remove the tree hazard was approved.

Councilmember Ticktin reported for the Community Development and Code Enforcement Committee. He had attended a meeting with the Monmouth County Community Development Block Grant Committee, and was named Vice Chairman, after determining that Roosevelt would not qualify for CDBG funding for the EMS building because it would not serve a population that is predominantly low income. Mayor Ellentuck confirmed that there is no new information on the medical marijuana facility. Regarding Seniors: there is a Monmouth County

Continued from Page 8

Department of Health program available that addresses senior groups and distributes emergency readiness kits. Arrangements are being made for a representative of the program to meet with the Roosevelt Senior Citizens organization within the next few months. Progress is being made in addressing the problem of abandoned houses, with 37 Homestead Lane having been foreclosed and currently for sale.

Councilmember Bonna for the Administration Committee and the Environmental Commission: There was some vandalism along the Roosevelt Woodland Trail: someone tore down the "Caution: Slippery" signs that were placed along the new bridges and threw them into the woods. They were re-posted thanks to Nick Murray of the Environmental Commission. Mayor Ellentuck suggested the use of a camera. In addition, the section of the Woodland Trail that was covered last year when the new entrance was built near the Roosevelt Memorial had been cleared. This area had purposely been covered so that it would be safer to enter the trail on the side near the school path, rather than the road. Eitan and Nick from the Environmental Commission re-covered the area with woody debris. This trail entrance was intentionally re-routed for everyone's safety.

Councilmember Malkin for the Finance and Planning Board Committee: the Planning Board must meet to review the town's Master Plan every 10 years. Only minor changes to the current plan have been suggested, and the Master plan is due at end of March. March 7th is final Planning Board meeting for master plan discussion, and is open to the public.

Councilmember Lipoti for the Utilities Committee: will be attending a League of Municipalities training on Saturday for budgeting for Municipal officials, and will report out at the next Council meeting.

Councilmember Joe Trammell:

Environmental, Health, and Safety: Eitan Grunwald, Chair of the Environmental Commission, received a complaint about gunshots near houses. Neighbors on Pine Drive also heard shots, and hunters were seen in the field near the sewer plant. Councilmember Trammell met with law enforcement at Assunpink to discuss. Safety zones are 450 feet from houses. The map shows that as well, but also shows that a lot of our trails are in the active hunting zones. Mayor Ellentuck noted that the Borough has an ordinance that prohibits discharge within the Borough; however, Assunpink owns the area where the trails are near the sewer plant, also behind Solar Village up to the cemetery. Kids often hide the painted Roosevelt rocks on those trails, and Councilmember Trammell wants to raise awareness. Safety Zone posters are available from Law Enforcement and new Safety Zone posters were posted in this area shortly following the discussion with Assunpink.

The Zoning Officer, Joe McGrath reported good news: Dexheimer Farm has secured a signed agreement on the value of property, with closing coming in the future. There are still a few issues on site, for example, 21 vehicles will need to be removed. This is a Pre-Jersey Homestead house.

**Rental Property Requirements and Recommendations**

There are three homeowners who have filed applications to rent out their properties. There is an ordinance that requires Council approval for rentals, subject to recommendations made by the Zoning Officer. One property has their Certificate of Occupancy, and was approved for renters. One of the homes is not ready for renters yet and the third property is the space above the deli. There is an ordinance that restricts rental of the space above the deli to relatives of the owners or employees of the deli. Since the deli is not up and running, no renters are

allowed there at this time. Work on the Deli has recently been re-started.

The Zoning Officer encouraged and renters and landlords to register as a rental property as a safety precaution. It is helpful for EMS to know who is living where and how many people reside in the home.

**Stream Monitoring Training April 29**

The Roosevelt Environmental Commission will be utilizing the Borough Hall to conduct a new training for residents who would like to learn stream monitoring techniques on April 29th. Residents will learn how to locate and identify macroinvertebrates and how their presence, or lack thereof, relates to the health of the stream.

**Tree Trimming Tabled**

Routine tree trimming throughout the borough is needed and a quote of \$700 was received by Allen's Tree Service. Action on this item will be tabled until next meeting to give time to prepare a resolution and ensure finances are available. A second agenda item regarding specifications for the Borough's mowing contract was also tabled as Michael Hamilton, Chair of the Public Works Committee was not present.

**Bulk Garbage Pickup**

There is a Bulk pickup approved for May 1 through May 2. These dates were chosen as they follow the April 29 town-wide yard sale.

A Branch pickup will be scheduled soon. Quotes need to be obtained.

**Public Comment**

John Vo: Thanked the Millstone First Aid Squad for supporting the Roosevelt First Aid Squad and noted that several Millstone Squad members were in attendance. Last year, RFAS responded to 260 calls. This year, one of the Roosevelt calls were for a one-year old infant who was unresponsive, so dis-

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**NJDEP Launches WARN  
NJDEP Mobile Device App**

*From the New Jersey Department of  
Environmental Protection*

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has launched **WARN NJDEP**, an app that allows residents to report non-emergency environmental issues directly from their smartphones or other mobile devices. The app complements the DEP’s telephone hotline, **877-WARNDEP (877-927-6337)**, which has been in operation for many years. The app can be downloaded through Google Play, the Apple app store and the Microsoft app store. Enter **WARN NJDEP** in the search bar.

**The app is not intended for reports of life-threatening and/or environmental emergencies. These should be reported by calling 9-1-1, local police or the DEP’s hotline. Also, the app is NOT to be utilized by regulated entities as an acceptable method for fulfilling notification requirements to the DEP.**

Examples of non-emergency incidents that may be reported through the app include improper storage or disposal of waste and other materials, odor complaints, smaller sewage leaks, smoke and dust complaints, underground storage tank incidents, and wetlands or stream encroachment issues.

WARN NJDEP utilizes GPS technology for pinpoint location of environmental incidents and allows users to submit photos as part of their reports to the DEP. Users may provide their contact information, or they may choose to report incidents anonymously, as has been the case for years through the DEP hotline num-

ber system. The app provides a one-touch link allowing the user to call the DEP’s Communications Center, which is staffed 24/7, and directly speak to a dispatcher.



**From the New Jersey State Forest Fire Service:**

**Plans for Prescribed Burns**

The New Jersey State Forest Fire Service advises residents that its seasonal prescribed burning program – which reduces wildfire risks by burning away the buildup of undergrowth, fallen trees and branches, leaves, pine needles and other debris on forest floors – is under way. Residents are advised that they may see large plumes of smoke in areas where these controlled burns are being conducted.

Prescribed burns will take place through the end of March, conditions permitting. These burns are generally conducted during the winter – especially toward the late-winter months – to minimize the amount of smoke produced, and when weather conditions tend to be safer for controlled fires.

“Prescribed burning is an important tool in keeping our forests and other wildlands safe and healthy,” said Bill Edwards, Chief of the New Jersey Forest Fire Service. “These burns are conducted only under exacting conditions by highly trained personnel. By burning them away now, we can reduce the risk of these materials serving as tinder for wildfires later in the year. This practice also improves the overall ecological health of our forests and grasslands.”

The New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry will provide as much notice as possible of prescribed burns through its Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/newjerseyforests](http://www.facebook.com/newjerseyforests). The public may also contact the State Forest Fire Service at (609) 292-2977 about the prescribed burning program and where burns are expected to be conducted. When in doubt about the source of smoke or fire, call 9-1-1 or 877-WARN-DEP (877-927-6337).



**BUY FRESH, BUY LOCAL**

**Ten Reasons to Buy Local Food**

**Reason #1: Locally grown food tastes better.** It has more flavor, since crops are picked at their peak, instead of being harvested in advance for long-distance shipping.

For a list of where locally grown food is available near Roosevelt, go to <https://tinyurl.com/Roosevelt-Buy-Fresh>.

**Bradford Pear – Seemed like a good idea at the time**

Every spring, we are greeted with streets lined with beautiful clouds of white flowers, Bradford pears. The perfect street tree: hardy, pollution tolerant, small and self-sterile (seedless). Bradford pear was introduced as an ornamental tree by the US Department of Agriculture in 1964. It was a selection from a species of pear (*Pyrus calleryana*, aka Callery pear) native to China and Vietnam. The perfect tree. Well, like many human endeavors, it seemed like a good idea at the time, but...

In order to grow a single variety, nurserymen grafted the Bradford pear cuttings onto *Pyrus calleryana* seedlings. Sometimes sprouts from the rootstocks grew and flowered beside the Bradford pear and they cross-pollinated to produce viable seeds. This perfect tree also had a major flaw; the branches surround the trunk so that as they grow their connection to the trunk weakens. One good windstorm and a branch breaks free, and then another, and another, and then the whole top snaps off. Life expectancy

15 to 20 years. What to do? Breed a better variety. Now we have two closely related pears lining our streets and guess what? They cross pollenate to produce viable seeds, and fruit that birds love. And the seedlings will pollenate each other. A perfect storm. The next time you drive down Nurko Road, take a left on Parkside Way and see what a wild stand looks like after about 6 years.

And, the seedlings are really tough. In the 1943 book, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, Betty Smith used the Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) as its central metaphor for its ability to thrive in a difficult environment. Today, she could have just as well used the Bradford pear. Concrete is no deterrent.

There is one saving grace for the Bradford pear. Its wood is hard and fine-textured, great for woodturning.



Parkside Way off Nurko Road

You will have plenty when the wind finally destroys your tree, and it will. Serviceberry (*Amelanchier* sp.) and Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) are better choices; please consider them.



Wild Pears – intersection across from the former CornerCopia

References:

- <http://homeguides.sfgate.com/average-lifespan-flowering-pear-tree-60463.html>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pyrus\\_calleryana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pyrus_calleryana)
- <https://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/pubs/midatlantic/pyca.htm>
- <http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/life/2016/03/21/curse-bradford-pear/82070210/>

**NJ Department of Environmental Protection**  
**24-Hour Hotline**  
**1-877-WARNDEP or 1-877-927-6337**  
**For reporting spills, hazardous discharges, and other environmental emergencies.**

Continued from Page 9

tance makes a difference. Roosevelt EMS are trained professionals, who offer professional care from a familiar face, patients often relax when they see someone from their own community. No matter what happens with negotiations, Roosevelt and Millstone FAS work well with each other and help each other out. Mr. Vo pointed out that Monroe/Applegarth “hard-bill”, which means that they bill the insurance company and residents are responsible for any remaining balance. An ambulance ride can cost between \$600-900. Why was Roosevelt FAS would like to be involved as they have expertise. Councilwoman Malkin stated that there has been no discussion with first aid squads in area.

Sam Lopez: When contacting Monroe, did you ask about the mutual aid agreement for Roosevelt? Mayor Ellentuck stated that Millstone will not help Roosevelt if we contract with Monroe.

Ezio Creglia: Expressed concerned that any more raising of water/sewer/taxes will drop property values.

Steve Yeger: Stated that he feels misled, the First Aid Squad and Fire Department never asked for anything beyond a place to house a truck. Roosevelt FAS are trying to make things as easy as possible for this town, and are still working out of the original first aid building. Council should be talking to the Roosevelt FD and FAS as they have information that would provide insight. Volunteers don't come to Roosevelt for free, we have to help each other through Mutual Aid Agreements. There are benefits to having a volunteer First Aid Squad, and Roosevelt FAS is well respected in the state. Steve encouraged the Council to consult with Squad members.

Sal Darini: Stated that she loves the small town feel of Roosevelt. She is a new resident who can see a clear division in the room, and a bunch of uninformed people. She encouraged

Council to better inform the people who are coming to vote.

The Millstone First Aid Captain: stated that the Millstone First Aid Squad has close ties with Roosevelt and rely on Roosevelt volunteers who helped them last year. They have paid people now, but they agreed to come into Roosevelt, and soft bill, (accept insurance payment only). They are very grateful to Roosevelt and support our town. They confirmed that Monroe will hard bill, and residents will be responsible.

David Markunas, Chairman of Board of the Millstone Fire District: Indicated that the idea of contracting with Monroe but expecting Millstone to come out for Roosevelt doesn't faithfully honor the mutual aid agreement with Roosevelt. It would be necessary to renegotiate if Roosevelt decided to contract with Monroe (Applegarth).

Deb Lenart: Questioned whether the Fire Department was adequately consulted and felt that it didn't seem like any info had been brought forward for less costly options, only to not have a Fire Department.

Sharon Unger: In talking contracting with a different FD, consider what happened during Superstorm Sandy: we were blocked in for 2 days. Also when they were repaving 571 there were issues getting in and out of town. An outside FD will not able to get

to us. Mrs. Unger stated that she was harassed at post office right by front door, with people demanding to know which side of the issue she stands on.

Kurt Muzer: Reported that he was in his yard yesterday, and was approached by Mr. Hamilton and Ms. Parrot, who began asking him what he thought about the issues, and found it unethical as he felt that it was none of their business how he wants to vote.

Gary Shiner: Stated that he proud of our firefighters in general, however, found it appalling at the last Council meeting when one of the firefighters did not conduct himself in a professional manner by cursing and ranting. Mr. Shiner expressed dismay that this individual remains a member of the Fire Department after such behavior.

### **Parking Reminder**

Please park your vehicles in the right direction only. Parking on the wrong side of the street or in the wrong direction makes your vehicle difficult for oncoming traffic to see, especially in foggy or dark conditions. Vehicles parked on the wrong side of the street are subject to towing.

### **Free Food Distribution**

To All Roosevelt Residents:

Do we have any needy families in Roosevelt? I'm sure we must; there is nothing to be embarrassed about. Times are hard, people are out of work or on a fixed income.

Food is distributed, free of charge, by volunteers one Friday and Saturday a month between 12:00 and 1:00 pm at the Clarksburg Community Center, Route 571, next to the Clarksburg Fire House. You have to pick it up yourself since there is no delivery. No questions as to eligibility will be asked.

The Saturdays do vary, so when I find out which Saturday, I will put a notice on the bulletin board at the Roosevelt Post Office. Call me if you have questions.

Geraldine Millar 609.448.0351

## Outreach Meetings

Come, join your fellow Democrats. The Democratic Club of Millstone is reaching out to all municipalities within the 12th Legislative District (which includes Roosevelt) to assist them with implementing tactics outlined in the "Indivisible Guide," which organizes at the grass roots level. Everyone is welcome.

Please visit their website for more information:

<http://www.millstonedems.org>

Issue/ Problem	Call
Power outage	JCP&L - 1-888-544-4877
Telephone outage	Your telephone provider (phone # is on your bill)
Loose or lost dog	Animal Ctrl: 609-234-4862 or State Police 609-584-5000
Road obstruction	911 /State Police 609-584-5000
Trees down	911 /State Police 609-584-5000
Health Emergency	911
Comcast outage	1-800-COMCAST
FloS outage	(800) 837-4966
Wildlife Issues	877-927-6337



Find us on  
**Facebook**

Keep up to date with the latest happenings, events and announcements. Follow the Borough of Roosevelt on

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/RooseveltBoro](http://www.facebook.com/RooseveltBoro)

If you would like your organization's event posted to the Borough's Facebook page, please send event details to [aprilsuk@gmail.com](mailto:aprilsuk@gmail.com)

## Dog License Period January 2017

Hi! This is "Rover", Roosevelt's official pooch, with a reminder that the 2017 licensing period for dogs will begin on January 2, 2017. In NJ all dogs over the age of 7 mos. are required to be licensed on a yearly basis. Dogs licensed from Jan. 2 thru Jan. 31 will not incur a late fee. Thereafter, a late fee of \$1.00 per dog for each outstanding month will be charged.

In order to license your dog for 2017, you will need to present a rabies certificate that **will not** expire before **Oct 31, 2017**; as an example, if the rabies certificate expires on Oct. 30, 2017, you will still need a new certificate in order to license your dog. The only exception to this NJ state requirement is for those dogs who have a verified medical condition and/or reaction to the rabies vaccines; in this case, the owner must present a signed, current statement (2017) from the treating veterinarian indicating that the dog cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons. If you want to get a free rabies shot for your pooch, the borough is having a free clinic on Sat. Nov 5th 2016 from 11 am to 12 noon at the Borough Hall. Dr. Petranto, of Plumstead Animal Hospital, will again perform the vet services.

**The fees for the initial licensing period (Jan 2 - Jan 31, 2017) are as follows:**

	Neutered/Spayed Dogs	Non-Neutered Dogs
License fee:	\$7.00	\$7.00
NJ Registration fee:	1.00	1.00
Clinic fee	.20	.20
NJ Pet Population Control	--	3.00
Late fee	-----	-----
Total	\$8.20	\$11.20



Payment should be in exact cash or by check as the office most likely will not have change available. Sorry, credit or debit cards are not accepted. Best days for licenses are Tues - Thurs from 10 am - 3:30 pm. If you would like your license(s) mailed to you, you will need to send us a copy of the current rabies certificate, check or money order and you will need to supply a stamped self-addressed envelope - postage: .47 for 1 - 2 licenses, .68 for 3 - 4 licenses; over 4 licenses needed, please come into the office. Once again, dependent on weather and road conditions, we will try to schedule two evenings during the month of January for license issuance for those who are not available during the day but wish to license their dogs at the office.

This is Rover signing out and saying thanks for your help, understanding, cooperation and dog biscuits.

# Safety Committee Report for Council Meeting 2/13/2017

By Joe Trammell

On Wednesday, January 11, our Safety Committee (Joe Trammell, Michael Ticktin and Peggy Malkin) met at the Monmouth County Fire Academy with Monmouth County Fire Marshall Kevin Stout and fellow Roosevelt resident and Englishtown Fire Marshall Ed Miller. Kevin is also Long Branch Fire Chief and is participating in a shared service agreement with the town of Monmouth Beach. Ed's Englishtown Fire Department is also participating in a shared service agreement with parts of neighboring Manalapan. The purpose of our meeting was to obtain a clear understanding of our duties, responsibilities and liabilities as a committee, council and borough in the matter of ensuring life, safety, and the protection of property of our Roosevelt citizens.

We now understand that all emergency personnel (Fire, EMS, OEM and Code Enforcement) are deemed to be employees of the Borough for purposes of liability, since they are acting under authorization from the Borough and we (individuals, committee, Council and Borough) are fully liable for the actions and safety of the employees and equipment used by the employees. Also, as for all Fire Departments in New Jersey, our Borough Clerk must have on file copies of certain key documents:

- Completed personnel applications
- NJ State Driver's License and DMV abstracts
- Full criminal history and background checks of all personnel
- Inventories with yearly inspection reports and certifications
- Inventories of equipment and apparatus
- Personal Safety Gear with yearly inspection reports and certifications
- Yearly physicals for all personnel
- At least FF1 state certification

Kevin Stout also told us that the Joint

Insurance Fund (JIF) would only cover us on any claims if all vehicles, equipment and personnel involved in any incident were appropriately certified. If we do not have all paperwork on file and in order and anyone gets hurt, then we (individuals, Committee, Council and Borough) are liable. Kevin said that he was willing to come to Roosevelt to meet with the Council to discuss this and other matters and answer any questions.

We also learned that a firehouse is not as simple as a garage to keep the trucks in. It must be equipped with OSHA standard equipment and ventilation that would add hundreds of thousands of dollars to the cost. In addition, there are many costs associated with maintaining a fire department:

A basic fire engine (new) costs at least \$300,000. We do not know how much it cost to bring an older truck up to standards. All personnel should have "turn out gear": helmets, coats, pants and boots. This safety equipment, including "self-contained breathing apparatus," costs over \$10,000 per firefighter. Modern communications equipment, infrared cameras, computers and electronics will certainly have to be considered as many fire departments are floating bonds to upgrade their older equipment.

All of the above mentioned—firehouse, equipment, apparatus, and personal protection gear—must be maintained, inspected and certified at least on a yearly basis. Personnel must have continuing education and training as per New Jersey Fire Code and their Chief of Department.

What we now know is that all of this is not cheap. The cost of a firehouse and department goes well beyond the cost of a basic structure to house apparatus. There should be a plan in place that covers all the above requirements in depth. It would

incumbent upon us to know the true cost of having a proper fire service before committing ourselves.

We also explored the concept and nature of shared services with neighboring towns.

In doing, so we scheduled a meeting with Dave Markunas, Millstone Fire Commissioner. We met at Millstone Firehouse in Clarksburg on January 19. Dave was kind enough to give a tour of his firehouse. It was an impressive station with two tankers, a ladder truck, engines and rescue vehicles, a brush truck, and Chief's vehicle. We then discussed the fact that the Millstone Fire Department has taken care of our emergencies for years including an average of 24 calls per year from 2012 to 2016. Dave said that in 2016 Millstone responded to almost 800 calls. Millstone has responded to approximately 100% of our calls, totaling 12 in 2016 (January to August). It was acknowledged that we have not contributed anything to the Millstone Fire Department in that time. Dave Markunas said that he would support a "phase in" period of up to five years, but that, after that period, Roosevelt would have to pay at the same rate as Millstone taxpayers.

We discussed several shared service arrangements of other towns (Englishtown – Manalapan, Upper Freehold – Allentown, Long Branch - Monmouth Beach, Allenhurst - Loch Arbor - Interlaken). We discussed setting a fixed or sliding scale of costs per different types of incidents, a fixed price per year, a minimum price per year with additional costs per incident, FEMA guidelines for reimbursements and more. Ed was very informative as to how any of these scenarios could benefit both parties involved.

On February 1, the Safety Committee and Ed Miller met with Monroe District Two Station 57 Chief of Department Jim Carbin and two of his District Commissioners at the Halsey/

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## Response to Recent Report of the Borough Council's Safety Committee

By Michael Ticktin

In response to the report of the Council's Environment, Health and Safety committee, Mayor Jeff Ellentuck distributed a document that included the following points:

1. Our emergency services are, and always have been, in full compliance with all laws and insurance requirements, except with regard to the facilities the Borough provides, which do not meet applicable safety, structural, insurance or other requirements.
2. If we do not act, the State can re-impose fines of tens of thousands of dollars per day.
3. The committee report cited the shared service agreement between Englishtown and Manalapan, under which Englishtown provides coverage to a neighboring section of Manalapan for a relatively small sum of money. Mayor Ellentuck compared this to Millstone paying Roosevelt to cover the Nurko Road section of Millstone, which is closer to Roosevelt than it is to the fire house in Clarksburg.
4. Not only are the Fire and First Aid volunteers considered to be Borough employees for purposes of liability, but they are also considered employees for other purposes as well, including workers' compensation if they are injured. More importantly, they are under the protection of the Public Employees Occupation Safety and Health (PEOSH) program, which continues to confirm that all fire department records, requirements and equipment meet or exceed current State requirements.
5. The Borough and members of the governing body are protected from liability by the Tort Claims Act and by the Joint Insurance Fund.
6. Completed personnel applications are on file with the Borough.
7. Driver's licenses and Motor Vehicle Commission abstracts are on file for

all personnel who drive Borough-owned vehicles, for whom such records are required.

8. Though criminal background checks are not required by existing law or regulation, the Borough is obtaining them.
9. All equipment inspections are current. Files are examined and approved annually by PEOSH and by the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, as well as examined or confirmed annually by the Joint Insurance Fund.
10. All personal safety gear inspections and requirements are current. All personal safety gear is inspected, aged and replaced continually as required by State regulations and are included in State inspections.
11. Full physical examinations are required, though not annually. The Borough has a contract with Hackensack-Meridian to provide physicals and inoculations to EMTs and firefighters as and when required by law or regulations.
12. Sixteen of our 18 firefighters are fully certified, and the other two are in probation as new members.
13. All fire department officers have all certifications currently required by law for the duties they perform.
14. Fire officer 3 and 4 level certifications are part of a pilot program that has not yet been accredited and is not currently required. When they are finally accredited or required, our fire department officers will obtain those certifications, just as they have obtained all other required certifications at no additional cost to the Borough.
15. The cost of the proposed emergency services building itself is expected to be between \$140,000 and \$160,000. The remainder of the anticipated \$600,000 cost will be for ventilation and other equipment required by PEOSH and for compli-

ance with other requirements.

16. Roosevelt has not paid for a fire truck or ambulance with tax money for decades and will not do so in the future. All of our equipment was donated or purchased with grant funds or money raised privately by the fire company or first aid squad. Our current equipment is in good shape and suitable for its intended purpose, as is confirmed by annual State and Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) inspections. Millstone and many other fire departments have equipment of similar age to ours.
17. We know how much it costs to bring an older truck up to current standards because we spend money to do that every year.
18. We have all gear that we need. We maintain it and PEOSH, JIF and the Division of Fire Safety inspect all of it regularly. All turnout gear is purchased and maintained within the approximately \$16,000 budgeted for that purpose annually.
19. We have all of the communications equipment, cameras and other equipment that we need. Heat cameras were given to us by the State for free. All radios were upgraded within the past two years. All prior upgrades have been funded out of the \$16,000 annual appropriation or from funds raised by the fire company or first aid squad or from grants. Unfortunately, there are no grants for buildings.
20. All personnel get the continuing education and training that is required free of charge.
21. There are plans in place covering all requirements. This has been explained in many meetings.
22. When the Millstone Fire District Chairman stated that Millstone responded to all Roosevelt calls so far this year, he does not mean that Roosevelt did not also respond. Roosevelt averages 24 to 36 fire

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## Safety Committee Report for Council Meeting 2/13/2017

Applegarth Road Firehouse, approximately five miles from Roosevelt. We discovered that this is a 24/7 professionally staffed department with engines, brush trucks, ladder truck, rescue vehicles, tankers and EMS vehicles at this location and more. Jim stated that response time to Roosevelt is around six minutes and they have means of controlling the traffic light on Rout 33. We discussed the possibility of contracting their services and they were interested. At their February 8 Commissioners meeting they discussed coverage of Roosevelt and decided that they could offer us a three-year contract at a fixed rate. Jim stated that he would be available to speak at Council or public meetings and answer any questions.

It is important to note that neither the Roosevelt, Millstone, nor Applegarth Fire Departments have the capability to deal with hazardous materials such as Chlorine, which is stored at the Roosevelt water and sewer plants. Hazardous Materials Teams in the immediate area are Monmouth County HAZ MAT team, West Windsor Emergency Services, and Middlesex County HAZ MAT team.

*Additional Information Collected by the Committee*

### Firefighter Certification Requirements

To qualify as a certified Firefighter 1, individuals must be at least 18 years old and meet any ONE of the following requirements:

- Option 1: Served as an active member of a fire department for a period of not less than 18 months prior to July 1, 1994. The member must have performed the duties and function of a structural firefighter during the 18 months of active service. Proof of active membership in a fire department shall be verified by a letter from the fire chief of the department on department letterhead. Photo copy of a New Jersey Firemen's Association

"Certificate of Exemption" will be accepted as meeting the 18 months of active firefighter experience in place of a letter from the fire chief.

- Option 2: Shall have completed between January 1, 1989 and July 1, 1994, a Firefighter 1 recruit training program which meets or exceeds the Firefighter 1 recruit training standards found in N.J.A.C. 5:73-4.2 through 4.4(b).

- Option 3: Have successfully completed a Firefighter 1 recruit training course approved by the Office of Training and Certification.

All Fire Officers must have state issued Fire Fighter certifications. Fire Officer Certification Requirements are specified in N.J.A.C. 5:73-8.2, and are as follows:

#### Level 1

- a. Certified as Firefighter 1 issued by the Division of Fire Safety in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:73-4.2;

- b. Certified as Hazardous Materials-Operational issued by the Division of Fire Safety in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:73-6.3;

- c. Certified as Incident Management Level 1 issued by the Division of Fire Safety in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:73-6.1;

- d. Satisfactorily completes a Fire Officer 1 course of instruction approved by the Division of Fire Safety as meeting the requirements specified in N.J.A.C. 5:73-8.29(b); or, has completed three years' experience as a suppression fire officer; and,

- e. Satisfactorily pass the written State examination for Fire Officer 1.

#### Level 2

- a. Certified as Fire Officer 1 issued by the Division of Fire Safety in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:73-8.2(a);

- b. Certified as Incident Management Level 2 issued by the Division of Fire

Safety in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:73-6.1;

- c. Satisfactorily completes a Fire Officer 2 course of instruction approved by the Division of Fire Safety as meeting the requirements specified in N.J.A.C. 5:73-8.2(e); and,

- d. Satisfactorily pass the written State examination for Fire Officer 2.

#### Level 3

- a. Certified as Fire Officer 2 issued by the Division of Fire Safety in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:73-8.2(d);

- b. Certified as Instructor Level 1 issued by the Division of Fire Safety in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:73-5.2;

- c. Satisfactorily completes a Fire Officer 3 course of instruction approved by the Division of Fire Safety as meeting the requirements specified in N.J.A.C. 5:73-8.2(h); and,

- d. Satisfactorily pass the written State examination for Fire Officer 3.

#### Level 4

- a. Certified as Fire Officer 3 issued by the Division of Fire Safety in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:73-8.2(g);

- b. Satisfactorily completes a Fire Officer 4 course of instruction approved by the Division of Fire Safety as meeting the requirements specified in N.J.A.C. 5:73-8.2(k); and,

- c. Satisfactorily pass the written State examination for Fire Officer 4.

Note: The applicant must presents course completion certificates for I-100, I-700 and I-800 training programs at the time of application submittal to verify compliance to Executive Order 50 mandates.

Respectfully Submitted

Joe Trammell - Roosevelt NJ Council,  
Chair Safety Committee

Borough Council and Committee  
Members - Michael Ticktin, Peggy  
Malkin

## Response to Recent Report of the Borough Council's Safety Committee

department calls. Millstone has backed us up with mutual aid on many of our calls because, in the past, we did not have the personnel and equipment we have now. At present, Roosevelt is unable to respond in cold weather because the trucks must be left out of doors because there is no place to house them, and they cannot be filled with water because it would freeze. It is unreasonable to fail to provide the fire department with a building where the trucks could be kept and then criticize them for failure to respond.

23. Millstone is under no obligation to provide mutual aid to Roosevelt, including the automatic response that it now provides, if Roosevelt chooses to contract with another town or fire district. If we contract with another

town or fire district, we will have to negotiate with Millstone Fire District to get coverage we now get for free.

24. If we cease to have our own fire department and contract with Millstone Fire District instead, we would be allowed a five-year phase-in period, after which Roosevelt taxpayers would have to pay for coverage at the same rate as Millstone taxpayers. This is the same offer that was previously made to a delegation consisting of the Mayor, two Council members and the member of the Emergency Services Advisory Council who wrote the minority report.

25. The Monroe Fire District 2 firehouse is over five miles from Roosevelt. Any savings resulting from a lower fee than would be paid to

Millstone would be offset by higher insurance premiums for Roosevelt homeowners. Furthermore, it will be a lot less expensive to build a four-bay emergency services building than to contract with either Monroe or Millstone because the payments will be fixed for the 20 year life of the bond, unlike payments for service that are certain to rise over time, and debt service stops once the bond is paid off, while payment for service does not.

26. If the bond is voted down and the fire company disbands as a consequence, we will not be able to go back to having our own department if we are dissatisfied with alternative arrangements after a few years, since there will be nothing left to go back to.

### PLANNING BOARD

#### The Master Plan Re-Examination Process in Roosevelt

By Alan Mallach

in the 1930s.

As required by state law every ten years, the Roosevelt Borough Planning Board is currently going through the process of re-examining the Borough Master Plan, to see whether it still reflects the needs and conditions of the community and the aspiration of its residents for our community's future. This is an important step for a community, since state law also requires that a municipality's land use laws, which govern zoning, subdivision and the like, be consistent with the municipal Master Plan...even though there are some loopholes.

Compared to places like Millstone or East Windsor, we don't have too many big planning decisions to make. Almost all of the woodlands and farmlands in Roosevelt is either owned by the Borough or the County, or is under agricultural easements as a result of the work of the Fund for Roosevelt. It is hard to imagine anybody wanting to change the basic layout of the community from the way the New Deal planners laid it out back

At the same time, there are some important questions facing the Planning Board, as they carry out the re-examination of the Master Plan. What should the future of the garage, and the vacant parcel to its north, be? Currently, part is commercial, and part affordable housing – should this change? Should the plan encourage any change to the existing Roosevelt “downtown,” the post office and (would-be) deli? These are visible issues, but there are many smaller ones – should the Planning Board revisit any of the rules in the Borough's current zoning ordinance which govern things like sheds, trailers, parking or fencing?

If you have concerns or opinions about these issues, or any other issues having to do with land and buildings in the community, the Master Plan re-examination process is the point to make them known to the Planning Board, and ask them to address them in the process. It only happens once every ten years.

### Special Election March 14

There will be a Special Election held on March 14, 2017, on Bond Ordinance 2016-020, providing for the construction of an emergency services building for the Roosevelt First Aid Squad and the Roosevelt Fire Department. The ordinance would appropriate \$600,000 for construction and authorize the issuance of \$571,400 in bonds and notes to finance a portion of the cost.

- A YES vote will authorize funding of the construction of an emergency services building.
- A NO vote will decline funding the construction of an emergency services building.

Voting hours will be 6:00 am to 8:00 pm at Borough Hall.

# Contributors to the Bulletin 2016/2017

Contributions received after the 15th of the month will appear in the next Bulletin.

Mary & Carlo Alfare  
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Roosevelt Arts Project  
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Michael & Linda Szewczyk  
Michel Ticktin  
Mary & Rod Tulloss  
Sharon & Andrew Unger  
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Ralph & Nancy Warnick  
Bob & Judy Weinberg  
Frank Wiesinger &  
Theresa Secks  
Zahora family  
Mark & Judith Zuckerman  
Gerben & Jennifer Zylstra



## Borough of Roosevelt Environmental Commission

### Calling all Roosevelt Citizen Scientists



Now, more than ever, it is important that we gather and evaluate scientific data from our local environment. In 2017 we will continue the monitoring of the health of our streams that began last year. We will start with a refresher training on doing a biological assessment and then we will go into the field to collect, categorize, and count macroinvertebrates. These critters will give us information about the health of our streams. We especially encourage middle school, high school and college students to join us on Saturday, April 29th. Minors will need a signed waiver to participate in the fieldwork.

- Stream Monitoring Training, April 29/May 27 rain date This workshop will be taught by our NJ Watershed Ambassador.

9 a.m. - Noon: Indoor training at Borough Hall

Noon - 1 p.m.: Lunch provided

1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.: Outdoor training at Empty Box Brook

Bring boots or waders if you have them. Some waders will be available to borrow.

If you are interested in participating, please email the Invasive Species Committee, which is assisting with registration, [rooseveltinvasive@outlook.com](mailto:rooseveltinvasive@outlook.com).

Although we would like volunteers to signup before the event to facilitate planning, you can just come Saturday and register on site. Stream monitoring will continue during the summer and fall.

## BUSINESS SPONSORS

The Bulletin publishes free-of-charge public information listings from Roosevelt residents and businesses, and from those in the immediate vicinity with ties to Roosevelt. Write: Roosevelt Bulletin, Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Contributions are appreciated and are tax-deductible (suggested: \$50.00/year, \$60.00 if over 5 lines.) Deadline is the 15th of each month

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#### Pamela J. Masiello Bookkeeping

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828.423.7882  
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**MARCH**

4 Sat.	10:00 am – 1:00 pm	RPS Winter Carnival, Roosevelt Public School
7 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall.
7 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall
7 Tues		RPS Strategic Planning Initiative Action Team Leader Training Roosevelt Public School
8 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
9 Thurs.	7:00 pm	Fire Company Business Meeting, Borough Hall Chris Suk, President 490-0931
11 Sat.	8:00 pm	Roosevelt Arts Project, Alan Mallach, Piano Leipzig: A Musical Biography, Borough Hall
13 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Jeff Ellentuck, Mayor
15 Wed.	7:00 pm	Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall, Eitan Grunwald, Chair.
21 Tues.	7:00 pm	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting, John Vo, President
22 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
23 Thurs.	7:30 pm	RPS Board of Education, Natalie Warner, President, 609-903-1061
27 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Jeff Ellentuck, Mayor

**APRIL**

4 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall.
4 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall
5 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
8 Sat.	8:00 pm	Roosevelt Arts Project: Spring Cleaning for the Soul (Poetry) Hosted by David Herrstrom
12 Wed.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Jeff Ellentuck, Mayor
13 Thurs.	7:00 pm	Fire Company Business Meeting, Borough Hall Chris Suk, President 490-0931
18 Tues.	7:00 pm	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting, John Vo, President
19 Wed.	7:00 pm	Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall, Eitan Grunwald, Chair.
19 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
24 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Jeff Ellentuck, Mayor
27 Thurs.	7:30 pm	RPS Board of Education, Natalie Warner, President, 609-903-1061
29 Sat.	9:00 am -3:00 pm	Roosevelt Town Wide Yard Sale Hosted by RPS PTA

**CODE RED for Emergency Notification**

Please sign up to receive emergency notification from the Borough's CODE RED system. Stay informed, stay safe! You can register by calling Borough Hall or by visiting: <https://public.coderedweb.com/cne/en-US/E317CFCBE3FD>

**RECYCLING DATES**

March 8, 22

April 5, 19

**ZONING PERMITS**

Tuesdays 4 – 6 PM

**STATE PERMITS**

Wednesdays 1 – 3

**BOROUGH**

**HOUSING**

**INSPECTIONS**

Tuesdays 5 – 6 PM

Borough Hall

An electronic calendar was installed on the Roosevelt Board of Education's website containing information about state testing, upcoming field trips, events and additional pertinent information. Learn more about all of the happenings in our school, visit RPS website: [www.rps1.org](http://www.rps1.org). Please send notice of your events to Bulletin at P.O. Box 221 or email to [RooseveltBulletinSubmissions@gmail.com](mailto:RooseveltBulletinSubmissions@gmail.com).