

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2018
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMMIT**

Distributed: 2/16/18

Approved: 2/21/18

The meeting was called to order by Councilmember Matthew Gould at 7:30 PM. The City Clerk then read the following notice:

“Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the City Clerk in the preparation of the Council Annual Meeting Notice of Closed Session and Regular Meetings, dated January 8, 2018 which set forth the date, time, and place of this meeting and by properly posting such notice and forwarding the notice to those designated newspapers and the persons requesting meeting notices. Please be further advised that the FIRE EXITS are to my RIGHT your left, and at the BACK OF THE ROOM.

Please be further advised that the City has an Assistive Listening System for the hearing impaired. We have three (3) assistive hearing devices. If anyone needs them, please raise your hand and the device will be brought to you. Please return them to the City Clerk or leave them with the Police Dispatcher.”

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilmembers Bowman, Fox, Little, McTernan, Ogden and Council President Pro Tem Gould

ABSENT: Council President Naidu

Also in attendance were Mayor Radest and staff members Rogers, Cascais, Evers, Gerba, Licatase, Weck and City Solicitor Giacobbe.

Minutes of this meeting are recorded on CD # 2018-03: 7:43:34 pm - 9:10:29 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Al Leiter

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular and Closed Session Minutes of January 16, 2018 - On motion of Councilmember McTernan, duly seconded and approved by the following vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [6 TO 1]
AYES:	Bowman, Fox, Little, Gould, McTernan, Ogden
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Naidu

REPORTS

Items/issues noted hereunder, if any, reflect those recommending and/or needing action by City department(s) or at a future council meeting.

- Mayor, City Administrator and Council President (Summit Historical Minute)

SWEARING-IN

A.J. Tesorio, Police Officer - by Mayor Radest

PRESENTATIONS

Transfer Station Baseball Field - John Flack, Rob Friedrich, Ed Albowicz jointly presented a PowerPoint presentation, which is attached hereto.

After the presentation, members of the public and elected officials commented, with key points as follows:

1. Presenters should keep the Board of Education and the Department of Community Programs informed of any progress or discussions.
2. Due to major demand, the baseball field at Jefferson School would still be needed. However, other fields such as those at Franklin and Lincoln-Hubbard Schools would not be needed since they are non-conforming to baseball field set up.
3. No improvements have been made to baseball fields in many years, and existing baseball fields are solid ground and risk player injuries.
5. There are currently 1400 baseball participants.
6. Such a complex at the transfer station is estimated at \$3-5 million dollars.
7. Various facility fees could be instituted to make it a self-funding facility such as facility fees, naming rights, food concessions, etc.
8. Transfer station and recycling operations would not change with the addition of such a baseball field complex.
9. Operations at the transfer station may not change, but the impact on surrounding neighbors will change.
10. Reference made to City's access study relative to transfer station that indicates Risk Avenue entrance is feasible.
11. The Transfer Station is owned by Union County and the City has a long-term lease.
12. A facility such as this would create a community bonding experience.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Appeal to Citizens to Lock Their Vehicles - Chief Robert Weck read a prepared statement, which is hereto attached.

ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced, for first reading, the following ordinance(s) as it (they) came up for consideration during the meeting, which was (were) individually read by City Clerk Licatese and unanimously adopted by the vote indicated below and referred to the Law Committee for study and report with a hearing(s) scheduled as indicated under Hearing Date below.

WORKS

- 38256 1. Authorize Submission of Tree City USA Recertification Application
- 38257 2. Authorize Execution of Grant Agreement Between the City of Summit & NJDEP - NJFS Urban and Community Forestry Program Green Communities Grant - Grant Identifier: FS18-048
- 38258 3. Recycling Advisory Committee - Create Two Additional Citizen-at-Large Positions
- 38259 4. Appoint Recycling Advisory Committee Member

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- 38260 1. Support Hometown Heroes Banner Program and Establish Ad Hoc Committee
- 38261 2. Appoint Mayor's Arts Committee Member

CONSENT AGENDA

Staff reports are attached, as appropriate, when resolution is not self-explanatory. Matters authorizing action, licenses, or granting permission have met all department qualifications.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	McTernan
SECONDER:	Bowman
AYES:	Bowman, Fox, Gould, Little, McTernan, Ogden
ABSENT:	Naidu

WORKS

- 38262 Grant Permission and Set Forth Conditions - Promotional Sign on Village Green for Summit High School Theater Production

FINANCE/PERSONNEL

- 38263 1. Authorize Redemption - Tax Sale Certificate #19-13
- 38264 2. Authorize Payments - Union County Purpose Tax and Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Taxes - 2018 First and Second Quarters
- 38265 3. Authorize Zoning Board Escrow Refund - 15 Laurel Avenue - ZB-16-1811
- 38266 4. Authorize Refunds - Department of Community Programs
- 38267 5. Authorize Parking Refunds - Summit SmartCard, Prepaid Parking, and Overnight Parking Permits
- 38268 6. Authorizing Payment of Bills - February 6, 2018 - \$1,450,086.86

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

Items/issues noted hereunder, if any, reflect those recommending and/or needing action by City department(s) or at a future council meeting which are not already being addressed by a committee.

ADJOURNMENT REGULAR MEETING - On motion of Councilmember McTernan, duly seconded and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalia M. Licatese, City Clerk

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter - Mayor Radest, re Appointment to the Mayor's Art Committee

RECEIVED AND FILED

MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

1. Presentation - Transfer Station Baseball Field - Presented by John Flack, Robert Friedrich, Ed Albowicz
2. Public Comment Statement - R. Weck, Chief of Police



Summit's
"Diamond" In The Rough



Summit, New Jersey 07901
February 2018

Executive Summary: Summit's "Diamond" In The Rough

THE REALITY

Athletics plays a critical role in developing healthier, more productive and higher achieving children and adolescents

Athletics unites communities

Baseball and softball are uniquely positioned to contribute to Summit's vibrancy: highest participation sport in Summit, active 3 of the 4 seasons, inclusive and safe

THE CHALLENGE

Summit's current baseball and softball facilities are inadequate to serve the needs of our athletes and community

Decentralized fields are cost prohibitive to adequately maintain

Most fields are in need of extensive repair or reconstruction

Pervasive safety issues and concerns

Unsanitary conditions

THE GOAL

Build a baseball and softball complex of fields that will serve the need of our athletes and families, and add value to the community

A complex would contribute significantly to making Summit the most vibrant city in central New Jersey

A baseball complex was part of Summit's 2000 Master plan

Included in 2016 Master Plan Re-Examination

THE ASK

Help from the city to secure land and permits

NO city general fund assistance required to construct, maintain or operate the facility

SJBS will secure and identify funding, design and manage construction, and operate the complex

THE BENEFITS

An operationally self-sufficient asset for the entire community

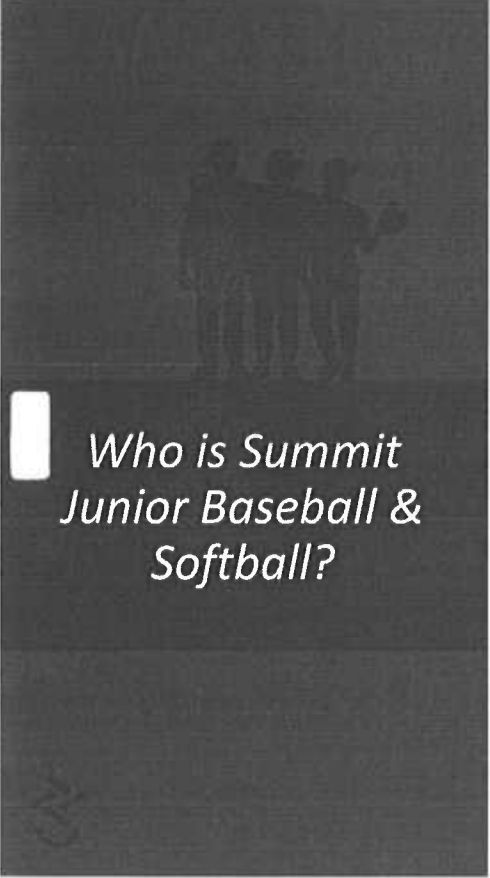
A safe and secure place for our kids to play and grow year round

A showpiece and gathering place for all residents

Adds to Summit's vitality and desirability

Supports local economy

Provides employment opportunities for residents (particularly teens and seniors)



*Who is Summit
Junior Baseball &
Softball?*

1971
FOUNDED

501c3
NON-PROFIT

250+
VOLUNTEERS

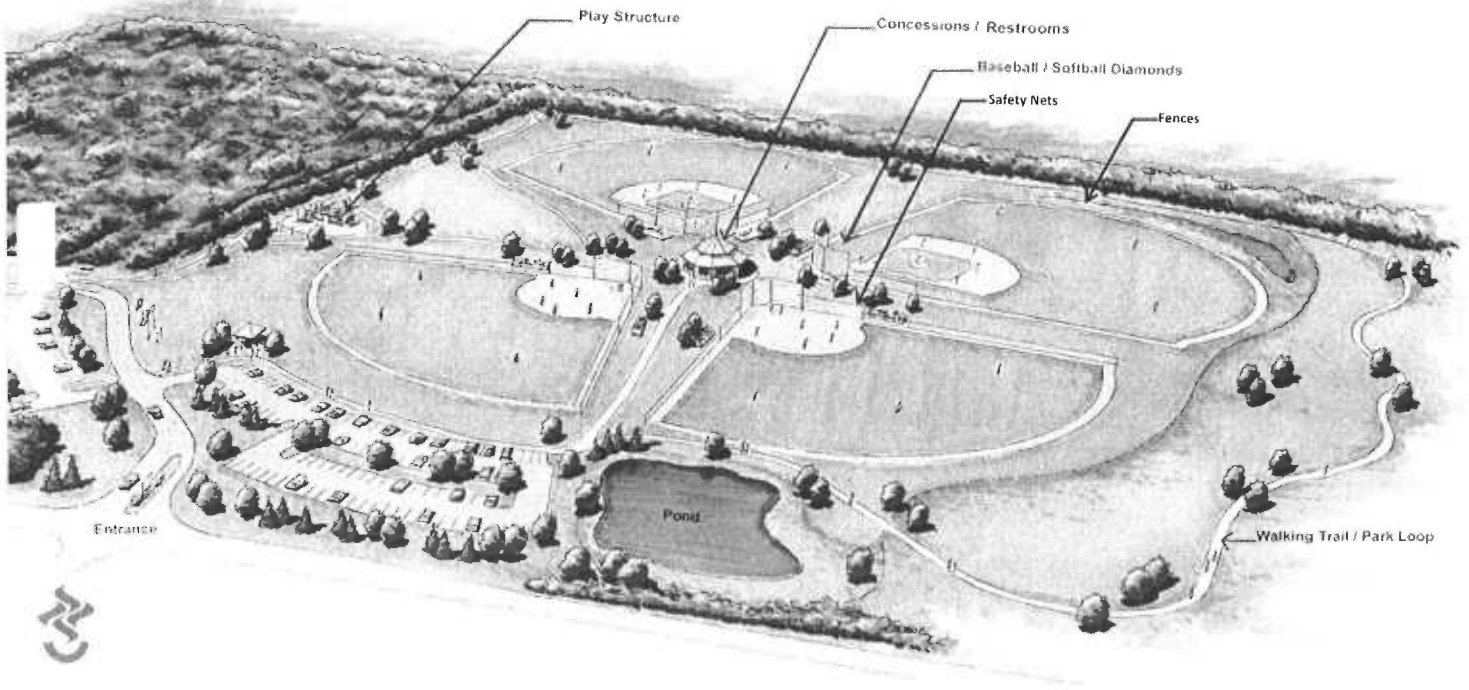
100%
BUDGET INTO THE CITY
& SCHOLARSHIPS

75+
LOCAL SPONSORS

1400+
REGISTERED ATHLETES
ANUALLY

125+
TEAMS ANNUALLY

We propose a privately financed, operationally self-sufficient complex of fields that will be a showpiece for the community



The land around the Summit Transfer Station provides an ideal location for this complex



Sufficient space for 4 fields and required parking

Maintain sufficient land for transfer activities, composting

Maintains Green Acres designation

A baseball and softball complex fulfills player and community needs while providing a positive economic impact

HELP WANTED

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The complex would provide part time employment opportunities for Summit teens, returning college students and seniors

Facility management, field maintenance, concessions, tournament and event management



SUPPORTS LOCAL ECONOMY

A complex allows Summit to host baseball and softball tournaments, camps and community events (Memorial Day and 4th of July festivities, fairs, etc.)

The City's economic return on youth baseball and softball tournaments and camps is as high as 5,000%, based on visitor spending patterns in local restaurants, retail and grocery stores, gas stations, etc.

87% of visiting baseball/softball families visit local restaurants, and 53% visit downtown



INCREASES CITY DESIREABILITY

Recreational facilities and parks increase nearby home values 8-20%

Provides a cost effective, and healthy source of outdoor entertainment for Summit's senior citizens and families

A showpiece community asset that enhances our sense of inclusion, community and well-being

Source: National Association of Sports Commission, Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce: Game On! The Impact of Youth Sports On A Regional Economy, House Logic

Together We Can Make Summit More Vibrant

Educate And Develop Our Kids ★ Inspire And Unite The Community ★ Play Ball And Have Fun

Contact Information

John Flack

Phone #: 908-759-1604

Email:
johnflack@hotmail.com

Rob Friedrich

Phone #: 646-808-4472

Email:
rbfriedrich@gmail.com

Ed Albowicz

Phone #: 215-920-0915

Email:
ealbowicz@lawfirm.ms



SUMMIT POLICE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION



MEMORANDUM

Last month, an SUV was stolen from our City, which was later recovered in Irvington and towed to a local impound yard. Upon our detective's arrival, the SUV was moved by forklift out of a secured area and brought into an open air warehouse for processing. While our detectives were checking the VIN number on inside dashboard through windshield, they heard a noise behind them and upon turning around, two unknown individuals had them at gunpoint. The suspects entered the SUV, then using the stolen vehicle's key fob, which was still in their possession, drove off.

While there have been numerous comments posted about the incident, I would like to address two comments that appeared on Tapinto Summit's Facebook page in the hope of clarifying them. An individual commented that "guns were drawn, lives endangered and they were allowed to get away" and "not something that instills a great deal of confidence in the detective's tactical ability." I have to publicly disagree and commend our detectives on the professionalism they displayed. No one, including a police officer, is thinking they are going to be ambushed in broad daylight, in a semipublic area of a business. While still having weapons pointed at them as the vehicle pulled away, the detectives drew their weapons, but did not fire as the threat was moving away from them and it was in a public setting. Under the Attorney General's Use of Force guidelines, the detectives showed great restraint in their actions. I also think that if they had identified themselves as law enforcement and or attempted to draw their weapons at the onset, there may have been a very different and tragic ending. So to answer that question, no, they didn't just let them get away, but acted in exactly the way they are trained to act. I want to ensure the public, that officers in the Summit Police Department are professional, dedicated and highly trained. They take their law enforcement calling seriously and it disappoints me that anyone would question that, especially without all the facts.

While the information I just shared is important, the following is the main reason for me standing before Mayor and Council. Yes, police officers know that the career they are seeking is one filled with risk and the unknowing, but the residents, neighbors and family members of the

SUMMIT POLICE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

MEMORANDUM

individuals who continue to leave their vehicles unlocked with the key fob in it did not sign on for that.

In the last six years, every residential vehicle stolen out of Summit has been unlocked with the keys in it. I don't know if its laziness, a lack of awareness or a feeling of entitlement, but it has to stop, right now. It is bringing a criminal element into our city that may not stop at just stealing a vehicle, but who could return and gain access to a home via the garage door opener, maybe when the parents are at work and children are home. If you think that I'm trying to scare you, I am, because enough is enough. Think of a neighbor walking by your home and seeing someone by your vehicle and making a comment, either challenging them or thinking it's you. It's now obvious that many of these thieves are armed, and again, this could lead to a tragic outcome. Much like what took place in Short Hills this past winter, where a 13 year old girl was held at gunpoint while they stole the family's SUV and cash. Fortunately, no one was physically hurt during that encounter.

I'm very proud of the men and women in our police department, as well as the residents that take the time to help us help them, by removing their key fobs and locking their vehicles. I only ask those that continue to put all of us in harm's way, to please stop thinking of only of yourselves and instead, think about your neighbors and your own family members whose safety you are compromising by leaving your keys in your unlocked vehicle.

Summit is a safe community, but that just doesn't happen, it takes all of us working together to ensure it stays that way. Thank you for your time.

Chief Robert Weck

February 6, 2018

Common Council Meeting Remarks