

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMMIT**

Distributed: 6/2/23
Approved: 6/7/23 (Wed.)

The meeting was called to order by Council President Greg Vartan at 7:30 PM. The City Clerk then read the following notice:

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the City Clerk's Office in the preparation of the Council Annual Meeting Notice, dated December 15, 2022, which was properly distributed and posted per statutory requirements.

Please be advised that the FIRE EXITS are to my RIGHT, your left, and at the BACK OF THE ROOM.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilmembers Lisa Allen, Marjorie Fox, Jaime Levine, Andy Minegar, Susan Hairston, Delia Hamlet, and Council President Greg Vartan.

ABSENT: Fire Chief Eric Evers

Also in attendance were Mayor Radest and staff members Michael Rogers, City Administrator; Rosemary Licatase, City Clerk; Aaron Schrager, DCS Director; Paul Imbimbo, Deputy Fire Chief, Steven Zagorski, Chief of Police and Matthew Giacobbe, City Solicitor.

The meeting was recorded on YouTube.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular and Closed Session Meetings of May 2, 2023 - Upon motion of Councilmember Hairston, duly seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved.

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

BUDGET HEARINGS

FINANCE

2023 Municipal Operating Budget Hearing - Councilmember Levine spoke of the City's safety infrastructure and commented that it is done well. She expressed support for the Police Department's budgeting for a geofence and commented as follows:

1. With power comes responsibility.
2. This is the future of policing.
3. Should only be used for good.

In response to a request from Councilmember Fox, City Administrator Rogers explained “effective tax rate” and stated that Summit’s tax bill is currently the lowest in the county.

Members of Council praised the good work of city staff and the Finance Committee.

Councilmember Hamlet suggested there was a need to hire more police officers.

Councilmember Allen:

1. Expressed appreciation for the budget details.
2. Commented that staff are the City’s assets.
3. Expressed need to push legislative actions to help offset taxes, such as energy receipts tax.
4. Safety should be a priority.

Mayor Radest:

1. Advised that she, along with 400 other Mayors in the State, signed a letter sent to the Governor regarding the energy receipts tax and requesting the funds come back to municipalities.
2. Spoke of the emergency management quarterly meeting she attended and spoke of the proactive nature of the police and fire departments in the name of safety.

In response to a question, City Administrator Rogers explained the process of obtaining the City’s AAA rating and what are the benefits of same.

Dr. Betty Livingston Adams, Shadyside Avenue, read a prepared statement, hereto attached.

Dr. Elizabeth Fagan, Hawthorne Place, questioned if the City was planning to sell any city buildings. In response, Mayor Radest mentioned the old firehouse.

No one else wished to be heard and the budget hearing was declared closed.

Proof of publication of the introduction of the 2023 Municipal Operating Budget was published in the Union County Local Source on May 4, 2023, and was made part of the record.

FINANCE

Special Improvement District 2023 Operating Budget - Councilmember Fox commented as follows:

1. Spoke of the low vacancy rate in the downtown, crediting same to the good partnership between Summit Downtown Inc. (SDI) and the City.
2. The downtown came out of the pandemic stronger than many other towns.
3. Summit's downtown was named one of the "great places in NJ," being recognized statewide.

Kevin Smallwood, Summit Avenue, inquired about the status of the downtown tree wells and expressed his hope that SDI allocated some of its beautification budget line to go towards rehabilitation of tree wells.

Aaron Schrager, Director – Department of Community Services (DCS), in response, advised as follows:

1. There is a desire to improve the tree wells downtown.
2. Explained that downtown trees are aging, and the City will need a long-term plan to replace them.

3. DCS is working on repair or removal of existing tree well wickets.
4. DCS does the watering of trees and flowers through the City's Sanitation Unit.

Claire Toth, SDI Treasurer, confirmed there is money in this year's beautification budget to address the tree wells.

Councilmember Hamlet suggested that local students and girl and boy scouts get involved with cleaning up tree wells.

Councilmember Allen:

1. Spoke of a visit with SDI Executive Director Nancy Adams to identify tree wells that need repair/replacement.
2. Spoke of the opportunity to have local businesses adopt tree wells.

Claire Toth, SDI Treasurer/Design & Beautification Committee Chair, advised that SDI contracts with landscapers to address tree wells.

Proof of publication of the introduction of the 2023 Special Improvement District Budget was published in the Union County Local Source on May 4, 2023, and was made part of the record.

RESOLUTIONS

(Resolutions, which were not identified on the agenda as same, do not appear in the minutes in the actual order in which they were addressed at the meeting, but under the proper committee heading after those that were on the agenda. Those with the name of another committee in italics after it indicate the other committee might have had some input.)

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced the following resolution(s) and on motion, duly seconded and on roll call, unanimously adopted or adopted by the vote shown, if any:

FINANCE

40729 Setting Forth Summary of 2023 Revenues and Appropriations - 2023 Municipal Operating Budget, 2023 Sewer Utility Operating Budget and 2023 Parking Utility Operating Budgets

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Minegar
SECONDER:	Allen
AYES:	Allen, Fox, Hairston, Hamlet, Levine, Minegar, Vartan

FINANCE

40730 Summary of General Revenues and Appropriations - 2023 Special Improvement District (SID) Budget

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Minegar
SECONDER:	Allen
AYES:	Allen, Fox, Hairston, Hamlet, Levine, Minegar, Vartan

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.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hearing Date</u>
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COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & PARKING SERVICES

23-3279	AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER 7, TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-25, REGULATIONS FOR THE MOVEMENT AND THE PARKING OF TRAFFIC ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY AND BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPERTY, SUBSECTION 7-25.2, MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT AREAS (<i>Provide resident commuter parking in Post Office Lot</i>)	06/7/23 (<i>Wed.</i>)
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RESULT:	INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 6/7/2023 7:30 PM
MOVER:	Hamlet	
SECONDER:	Minegar	
AYES:	Allen, Fox, Hamlet, Hairston, Levine, Minegar, Vartan	

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & PARKING SERVICES

23-3280	ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER 7, TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-25, REGULATIONS FOR THE MOVEMENT AND THE PARKING OF TRAFFIC ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY AND BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPERTY, SUBSECTION 7-25.2, MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT AREAS (<i>Broad Street Garage & Broad Street East Lot-Change User Group Among Facilities; Increase Non-Resident Fee; Establish Reservation Platform</i>)	06/7/23 (<i>Wed.</i>)
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RESULT:	INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 6/7/2023 7:30 PM
MOVER:	Hamlet	
SECONDER:	Minegar	
AYES:	Allen, Fox, Hamlet, Hairston, Levine, Minegar, Vartan	

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & PARKING SERVICES

23-3281	AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER VII, TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-8, PARKING, SUBSECTION 7-8.5, PARKING TIME LIMITED ON CERTAIN STREETS AND SUBSECTION 7-25.4, REGULATIONS (<i>Change time limit parking on Morris Avenue between Elm and Maple for pre-paid employee parking</i>)	06/7/23 (<i>Wed.</i>)
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RESULT: INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS] **Next: 6/7/2023 7:30 PM**
MOVER: Hamlet
SECONDER: Minegar
AYES: Allen, Fox, Hamlet, Hairston, Levine, Minegar, Vartan

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & PARKING SERVICES

*23-3283 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, 06/7/23 (Wed.)
CHAPTER VII, TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-8,
PARKING, SUBSECTION 7-8.5, PARKING TIME
LIMITED ON CERTAIN STREETS *(Increase parking
rate for 3, 5, and 12 hours of parking)*

**Ord. #23-3282 was not introduced and the number was skipped.*

RESULT: INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS] **Next: 6/7/2023 7:30 PM**
MOVER: Hamlet
SECONDER: Minegar
AYES: Allen, Fox, Hamlet, Hairston, Levine, Minegar, Vartan

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & PARKING SERVICES

23-3284 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, 06/7/23 (Wed.)
CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION, SECTION 2-69,
FEES FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, SUBSECTION
2-69.9, FEES TO BE COLLECTED BY THE
PARKING SERVICES AGENCY *(Increase bagged
meter and dumpster permit fees)*

RESULT: INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS] **Next: 6/7/2023 7:30 PM**
MOVER: Hamlet
SECONDER: Minegar
AYES: Allen, Fox, Hamlet, Hairston, Levine, Minegar, Vartan

RESOLUTIONS

(Resolutions, which were not identified on the agenda as same, do not appear in the minutes in the actual order in which they were addressed at the meeting, but under the proper committee heading after those that were on the agenda. Those with the name of another committee in italics after it indicate the other committee might have had some input.)

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced the following resolution(s) and on motion, duly seconded and on roll call, unanimously adopted or adopted by the vote shown, if any:

LAW & LABOR

40731 1. Renew 2023-2024 Liquor License - Elks Club of Summit Lodge #1246

RESULT: APPROVED [4 TO 0]
MOVER: Hairston
SECONDER: Hamlet
AYES: Hairston, Hamlet, Levine, Minegar
RECUSED: Allen, Fox, Vartan

LAW & LABOR

- 40732 2. Authorize Execution of Annual License Agreement - Use of Sidewalk, Roots Steakhouse
- 40733 3. Authorize Extension of Sick Leave With Pay - Department of Community Services - Division of Public Works - Fleet Maintenance Unit

CAPITAL PROJECTS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

- 40734 1. Advertise Assessment Hearings
- 40735 2. Award Bid - City of Summit/Summit City Cooperative Pricing System (#192SCCPS) - 2023 Micro-Surfacing Program Not to Exceed \$171,108.00
- 40736 3. Authorize Additional Banner Location - Hometown Heroes Program
- 40737 4. Declare Vacancy - Department of Community Services - Division of Public Works, Building & Grounds Unit - Part Time Custodian

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & PARKING SERVICES

- 40738 Authorize Special Event Parking Fee - LPGA GOLF TOURNAMENT - June 19-25, 2023

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 [6 TO 0]
MOVER:	Minegar, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Hairston, Councilmember
AYES:	Allen, Fox, Hairston, Hamlet, Levine, Minegar
ABSTAIN:	Vartan

CAPITAL PROJECTS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

- 40739 1. Authorize Refund - Road Opening Deposit - 791-795 Old Springfield Avenue
- 40740 2. Grant Permission And Set Forth Conditions - Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad Sign Display on City Property

SAFETY & HEALTH

- 40741 Authorize Change Order # 3 - New Fire Headquarters Project - \$14,872.22

FINANCE

- 40742 1. Authorize Schedule of School Levy Payments
- 40743 2. Authorize Estimated 3rd Quarter 2023 Tax Bills
- 40744 3. Reimburse Retiree Health Insurance Costs
- 40745 4. Authorize Refund - Department of Community Programs
- 40746 5. Authorize Payment of Bills and Payroll \$1,289,853.29

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Briant Park Neighborhood Safety Concerns - Mary Jo DeFonzo, Washington Avenue, spoke of her experience with noise coming from cars/trucks parked at Briant Park late in the evening who play music and speak loudly and expressed concerns regarding the disturbance to neighbors and as well as security concerns.

Mayor Radest invited Ms. DeFonzo to meet with her to discuss the matter.

Drag Show - Pride Event - Ms. DeFonzo proceeded to read from a prepared statement, which was not provided.

Ashwood Court - Bob Pawlowski, Crest Acre Court, spoke on the various issues relative to Morris Habitat construction on Morris Avenue and its impact on Ashwood Court residents.

Impact on Ashwood Court Relative to Morris Habit Project on Morris Avenue - Tara Gagliano, Ashwood Court:

1. Read a prepared statement, which was not provided, followed by reading portions of the Ashwood Court Neighbors settlement agreement, also not provided.
2. Spoke of the retaining wall on her property which she claims was damaged by Morris Habitat for Humanity over a year ago, that still has not been repaired.
3. Spoke of confrontation with NJ American Water Company.
4. Spoke of ongoing unpleasant experiences with Morris Habitat's construction contractor.

Mayor Radest spoke of her efforts in helping to resolve the issues.

Councilmembers Hamlet and Allen expressed apologies for the experiences Ms. Gagliano described, with Councilmember Allen stating that there is a commitment to “fixing” the issues.

City Solicitor Giacobbe advised that he and City Administrator Rogers are actively working together to resolve issues.

Pride Celebration - Pastor Vernon Williams, Fountain Baptist Church:

1. Spoke of the church's sponsorship and support of the City's June Pride Celebration.
2. Statement Summit is a very safe place and, in response to budget hearing comments made suggesting the need to hire more police officers, Pastor Williams suggested the City consider adding social services to handle mental health issues.

Overgrown Grass on Ashwood Court – Ms. Dobiszewski, Ashwood Court, requested that the City address the overgrown vegetation on Ashwood Court.

Redevelopment - Bonnie Morrison, Rotary Drive, asked for an update stating that residents have been waiting six months to hear an alternative proposal for Broad Street West and requested a timetable for same.

In response, Council President Vartan advised that the City is still in negotiations and that the Broad Street West Redevelopment Advisory Committee (BSWRAC) has met and that their report would be coming to Council soon. Within the next several weeks after receiving the report, Council will provide an update to the public.

Maple Street Concerns - Gil Owren, Wallace Road, Downtown Business Owner:

1. Spoke of regulations requiring DOT approval for road closures in excess of 48 hours.
2. Reiterated past concerns regarding closure of Maple Street in 2022 without DOT approval and alleged illegality of same.

In response Councilmember Hairston acknowledged Mr. Owren's reiteration of his concerns from the last Council meeting and stated that the Council did not do anything illegal.

Kevin McGoey, Woodland Avenue:

1. Blame on city staff is not fair.
2. The fact is the street was closed unlawfully.
3. Mistakes were made.
4. Asked Council not to dismiss facts presented by the public.

Ashwood Court – Kevin McGoey, Woodland Avenue, spoke of the matter and questioned due diligence.

Geofencing - Jamel Boyer, Broad Street:

1. Expressed support for geofencing technology license plate readers.
2. Agreed that implementation of geofencing comes with responsibility.
3. Described various features of license plate readers and the data it collects.

Homelessness Prevention – Jamel Boyer, Broad Street

1. Advised of meeting with members of the homeless community.
2. Homelessness resources, not a one-size fits all.
3. Shared concerns regarding bureaucracy and red tape is a major reason why homeless are not placed in homes.
4. Homeless come to Summit because they feel safer.

Councilmember Hamlet:

1. Reiterated her position on the Continuum of Care (CoC), not to join, but to understand the process better.
2. Spoke of meeting and speaking with members of the homeless community
3. Advised of discussion with Housing Authority regarding how housing vouchers can be used.

City Solicitor Giacobbe provided guidance to elected officials who were hoping to attend the CoC meeting in May.

Councilmember Allen questioned whether CoC meetings were public meetings. In response, consensus of various members of council felt the CoC meetings were not open to the public, which Council President Vartan advised needed to be confirmed.

Constantine Place Traffic Concerns - Resident of Constantine Place (*name inaudible*) spoke of traffic concerns on Constantine Place and described cars running red lights and expressed the need for more police patrol in the area. Expressed his views on safety in Summit relative to car thefts and walking dogs in evening hours.

In response Chief Zagorski assured patrolling in the area was present and explained that police cars parked in front of city hall are not patrol cars but are used for special detail such as construction sites.

Ashwood Court - Tara Gagliano, Ashwood Court, spoke of stipulations in the Ashwood Court Residents settlement agreement and described a recent incident involving Morris Habitat contractors.

Homelessness - Fred Honold, Summit Avenue, spoke of his experience with walking through the train station and 4:00 pm on a Friday and his positive interaction with homeless individuals.

Fisher, a member of the homeless community:

1. Introduced himself and spoke of the City's good resources for those who want better.
2. Shared his positive experience with meeting Mr. Honold and Councilmember Hamlet.

Ken, a member of the homeless community:

1. Expressed his appreciation to Councilmember Hamlet and Mr. Honold for speaking with him and others and stated that he felt a connection with them.
2. Advised that members of the homeless community try to keep the park as clean as possible and spoke of their desire to be good visitors.

Baseball Fields - John Flack, Carleen Court, read from a prepared statement hereto attached.

In response Mayor Radest advised that the City has spent money on baseball fields, contrary to statistics Mr. Flack shared.

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.

Juneteenth Celebration - In response to a request from Councilmember Hairston, Dr. Adams, Shadyside Avenue, spoke of this year's planned event on June 17 and spoke of community inclusiveness.

ADJOURNMENT REGULAR MEETING - Upon motion of Councilmember Fox, duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalia M. Licatase, City Clerk

MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

1. Budget Hearing Comments - Dr. Betty Livingston Adams, Shadyside Avenue
2. Public Comment - John Flack, Carleen Court, re Basement Fields

Dr. Betty Livingston Adams, Shadyside Avenue

Summit City Council Meeting 5.16.23

Good evening, I am Dr. Betty Livingston Adams, a forty-plus year homeowner, taxpayer, and resident of Summit. My address is 12 Shadyside Avenue. I am also a historian and retired university professor. As you prioritize the budget, please consider the following.

Over much of the last century, Summit portrayed itself as “The Ideal Suburb.” Of late, I now hear residents characterizing our 6-square mile town as a “crime-ridden city.” Two monikers, one clearly aspirational; the other simply wrong.

When, I ask, did Summit become a crime-infested community such that its residents live in a state of fear and apprehension and require heavy surveillance for protection of home, hearth, and health?

Before we accept a culturally bound discourse that generates fear and panic among us and labels our neighbors, employees, patrons of our restaurants and businesses, and our school children as the feared “other,” the outsider, the intruder, or car-thief-in-waiting, I say, “Show me the facts.”

Before we laden our municipal budget to slay the imaginary monster under our beds or lurking on our streets or in our driveways, we need to demand of ourselves, our neighbors, and our elected officials to know the facts.

For the facts tell quite a different story, my fellow residents. Did you know that Summit is rated #3 as the best place in Union County to raise a family? Or, that compared to other New Jersey communities of similar population size, Summit has a crime rate that is noticeably lower than the average? Or, that for violent as well as property crimes, Summit’s per capita and per square mile rate is below average, making Summit safer than most comparably sized cities all across America? While we are not an “ideal” place, we have no reason to believe that we live in a bubble of fear and panic.

Performances of fear mongering and pushing to create a surveillance-state are not new tactics. Historically, during moments of cultural and social change, different segments of the population have provoked public hysteria and the labeling of residents as other, outsider, intruder and disrupter of the family hearth. These moments of manufactured panic are followed by public moments of relief with grand—though *empty*—gestures that burden taxpayers and alter community values and character for generations; all to reaffirm the authority of a small (white) elite.

I ask you to consider the values and attitudes that reflect us and tell our children and visitors who we are as 21st century Summit residents and taxpayers. As the prophet said centuries ago, “*Seek peace and well-being for the city . . . for in its peace and well-being you will have peace.*” Show me the facts!

**Public Comment - John Flack, Carleen Court
Re Summit Baseball and Softball
May 16, 2023 Council Meeting**

In addition to speaking tonight, I want to let you know that I filed a DAR. I am a 15-year Summit resident. I am a parent of three children in the Summit school system. I have been coaching for 12 years, many sports including soccer, football, flag football, basketball and baseball. My kids have played all of these sports, as well as lacrosse, field hockey and tennis. I am a former minor league baseball player and have traveled across the country playing baseball. I have seen many, many fields in various locations across the country and I can tell you that the baseball and softball fields in Summit are unsafe and a disgrace for the affluent town we live in.

I am here on behalf of over 1,000 baseball and softball players, over 200 coaches and close to 100 teams. Republican or Democrat, this is for our kids. Exactly 7 years ago tomorrow, May 17, 2016, I first met with Mayor Radest and City Administrator Rogers to discuss both the lack of field space and the unsafe condition of the baseball and softball fields in our community. We've had tremendous public support for a Field of Dreams baseball/softball complex. This is not opinion, rather it is fact, as the Master Plan states, "Most commonly mentioned by the public was the condition and overall inadequacy of the city's baseball/softball facilities... In order to make the most of available funding and make appropriate decisions, the capital planning process should include an appropriate venue where these ideas are submitted, vetted and prioritized... Assist in identifying a possible location for, and developing a feasible plan for consolidating and improving Summit's baseball facilities." Baseball and softball are the only sports referred to in the Master Plan; no other sport is mentioned in the Master Plan. Yet, we have not received the support of City Council, while every other sport has received capital improvement funding.

Since December 2016, when this was memorialized in the Master Plan, we have had multiple meetings with Mayor Radest, City Administrator Rogers and Mr. Schrager and we have exchanged many, many emails with them in regard to the Field of Dreams Complex proposal. We have been working on this for 7 years now and have nothing to show for it.

I heard Mayor Radest say earlier this evening, "the number one priority in our city is safety." Mr. Eric (former CFO of the New York Mercantile Exchange) also just spoke [during public comments] and said, the safety of our children is most important to our community. Our baseball and softball fields are in the worst condition they have ever been in. Last Tuesday (May 9, 2023), during a baseball game, we had a foul ball strike a Summit High School senior in the head. He was rushed to the hospital and diagnosed with a concussion. We are thankful that he did not lose his eye. This is just one example of the many safety issues we have with our fields.

I heard Ms. Hairston state earlier this evening, "we have received \$645,000 in grant money; a 500% increase year-on-year." How much of this grant money has gone towards baseball and softball? Can you help us get grant money from the county, open parks, the state, restoration funds, kids recreation fund, capital improvement fund...?

Since the Master Plan was complete in 2016, many other sports have received capital improvement funding, but baseball and softball have not. I quoted these capital investments by sport (attached)

(Grid attached)

I would like to ask the City Council members, not Mayor Radest, not City Administrator Rogers and not Mr. Schrager, but the City Council itself, what have you done in accordance with the City's Master Plan to help the baseball and softball community? Let's please start with the veterans on the Council. Ms. Fox, Ms. Hairston, Mr. Minegar and Ms. Levine, during your term, what have you done to follow the Master Plan and support the identification of a location for and developing a feasible plan for consolidating and improving Summit's baseball facilities?

[Mayor Radest begins to speak.] I politely tell the Mayor that I have spoken with her, Mr. Rogers and Mr. Schrager about this many times, but I would like to hear from the veteran City Council members [at which point I believe Mr. Vartan said that I have made my point and this will be looked into by Council Woman Hamlet and the Parks and Recreation Committee, as well as the Capital Committee].

My last public comment to Mr. Vartan and the entire Council: I have one last ask; we have an election coming up in November and we would like to know from everyone running for office, please let us know your plan to support the baseball and softball community in improving our fields?

Thank you,

Public Comment - John Flack, Carleen Court
 May 16, 2023 Council Meeting

	Baseball/Softball ²	Soccer ²	Basketball ²	Football ³	Lacrosse	Tennis	Track & Field	Paddle	Other
Game Dates	April 1 - Nov 14	Sept 7 - Nov 14 April 1 - June 14	Dec 1 - Mar 14	Sept 7 - Nov 14	April 1 - Jun 14	March - November	Youth track takes place at Rec Center not at Tatlock		
Game Usage	7.5 mnths (ex Aug)	5 months	3.5 months	3 months	2.5 months	9 months			
Capital Investment	nil	Glenside Field	-Tatlock & Memorial Field courts resurfaced -Community Center	Investors Field & Upper Tatlock		Tatlock Courts	Talock track replacement	Complete rebuild of paddle tennis courts	Cornog Field House
2023	nil		TBD renovate Mabie basketball courts					\$225,000	
2022	nil		\$173,511						
2021	nil						\$338,000		
2018	nil	\$525,000	\$6,500,000	\$434,473					\$50,000
2017	nil			\$741,000					\$296,000
2016	nil			\$635,000		\$635,000			
Source of Funds	nil	City's Capital Improvement Budget, a grant through the Union County Kids Recreation Trust Fund and the City's Field Restoration Fund	-Tatlock & Memorial \$114,311 city money and \$59,200 Union County Kids Recreation Trust Fund -\$4.5M city funds; \$1.5M private donations	City's Capital Improvement Budget, a grant through the Union County Kids Recreation Trust Fund and the City's Field Restoration Fund; Ward 1 Councilmember Mike McTernan noted that the capital improvement fund allocates \$100,000 per field; Josephs reassured Council there is a game plan as Summit moves forward with additional upgrades for City athletic facilities; Beth Little, councilmember at-large, observed that while this is a large investment, "we're investing in our youth. There's no better way" to spend money,		City of Summit Capital Improvement Fund, the Union County Kids Recreation Trust Fund, and a \$100,000 donation from the Summit Tennis Association (STA).	Included in the city budget and is partially funded by a Union County Kids Recreation Trust Fund matching grant.	\$175k city funds; \$18k Wilson park renovation account; \$50k Union County Grant	City's capital improvement plan