Summit Historical Minute
History of the Summit Municipal Golf Course
July 26, 2016 Common Council Meeting
Presented By Council President McTernan
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A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SUMMIT MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

As the City of Summit progressed into the latter part of the 1960s, now under the leadership of Summit's 21st Mayor David E. Trucksess, a number of new proposals surfaced including plans for a Municipal Golf Course. Plans for a 9-hole golf course to be located on the 12-acre Vanderpoel Park site east of River Road and south of Route24 were unveiled in the fall of 1965. A noisy public hearing brought forth such comments as "tremendous idea" to "harebrained scheme "more pressing financial demands," "need for construction of a new City Hall," "Summit is ringed with golf courses like Canoe Brook and Baltusrol." This latter comment failed or chose not to recognize that the proposed golf course was public, not a private venture, and that its rate structure would assure it would be self-supporting.

The project was enthusiastically endorsed by a Common Council vote of 6-1. Designed by well-known golf architect Hal Purdy, construction of the 9-hole, par-3 golf course proceeded and was opened with considerable fanfare in May 1967. At the time of its opening, the Summit Municipal Golf Course, now known as the "Muni," was the first golf course to be built by a municipality in New Jersey. Built at a cost of \$80,000, the "Muni" has been extremely popular with Summit residents and financially successful for over 45 years.

Today we gather in celebration of 45 years of great golfing. Throughout the years, the "Muni" has served as a recreational retreat for many families in Summit as well as neighboring communities, upholding tradition with its annual golf clinics and tournaments. Due to your continued support, the "Muni" will carry on its timeless traditions and serve as a yearly gathering place, bringing members of the community together.