

Only about one dozen voters within the proposed limits failed to vote. Loud objections were raised by the opponents because the polls were only open in the afternoon instead of for the full day, although few voters felt this made a significant difference. A total of sixty-three votes were cast as follows: In favor of the new borough: thirty-eight, opposed: twenty-four, rejected: one.

The proponents of the new borough were delighted with their victory and immediately called for an election for borough commissioners. They felt that the formation would increase property values and improved municipal services such as police, judiciary and public works.

The passage of this proposal created a borough with the following geographical borders: North from Captain Tuzo's property at the corner of Terrill Road and King Street to a point 150 feet beyond Midway Avenue, northeasterly to Westfield Road, north to Summit Avenue (now known as Hetfield Road), southeast over the railroad crossing to South Avenue, and finally as a sweeping curve that ran through Martine and back onto King Street to the Tuzo property.

All did not go smoothly for the formation of the borough. The Tuzo's challenge regarding irregular polling hours during the first election forced the election results to be declared invalid. A second election to determine the issue was called for on Tuesday, October 1, 1895.

Not to be undone a second time, Captain Tuzo and his son pitched a tent on the Monday night prior to the election, on the portion of their property that fell within the limits of the proposed borough. They hoped to establish residency and also be on hand early Tuesday morning in order to cast their votes against the proposal. Their efforts were to be in vain once more as this time the proposal was approved with a vote of thirty-nine in favor and eighteen against.

During this election, the polls opened at six A.M. and remained open until all concerned parties had the opportunity to

vote. This time the Inspectors of Election were Sheriff George Kyte, Walter S. Force and William Stanbury who had the dubious honor of telling the tenacious Captain Tuzo that his and his son's votes were not counted as they had not been residents of the new borough long enough to vote.

October 17, 1895

Fanwood Borough's First Election Was A Neighborly Contest

"The new Borough of Fanwood held its first election for Mayor and Council on Tuesday October 15, 1895. Politics did not seem to figure prominently in the contest, it being more of a neighborly fight for supremacy. The greatest struggle was between Thomas S. Young and Benjamin Urner for Mayor and Ambrose I. Harrison and Alfred Beeken for member of the council."

"There were three tickets in the field: The Independent, Conservative and Citizens. The Independent ticket was elected with the exception of Harrison for member of council. Beeken being the choice, received 38 votes to Harrison's 36. The remainder of the election results were as follows Mayor, Thomas S. Young (37), Councilman, George Kyte (62), Harry C. Christianson (72), Ambrose I. Harrison (36), Alfred McKnown (41), Assessor, William R. Stanbury (44), Elector, Walter S. Force (72), Borough Clerk, Henry L. Hall (73), Commissioners of Appeal, Harry Robinson (41), George C. Miller (38), John H. Todd (73), Overseer of the Poor, Thomas Mead (73) and Pound Keeper, Hans Lambetsen (71)."

Mr. Young served as Mayor for about four years. He was a good friend of George Kyte and was the father of Horace G. Young, the future postmaster of Fanwood. Mr. Young was truly one of the town fathers, for he was always keenly interested in civic affairs and was active in many projects benefiting this small hamlet. Thomas Young died in 1917 at the age of eighty-six. He had been honored by the Central Railroad of New Jersey as the oldest commuter to New York City on their line.