Rick DeNoia had just left a phone message at Borough Hall on Tuesday: nothing urgent, just a routine matter, and no suggestion that anything was amiss.

So it was a shock two days later, the day of the heavy, wet snowfall at the end of March, that we received word that Rick had passed, after a brief illness.

Rick had been a councilman and member of the Planning Board for many years. In fact, few have had the opportunity to serve their communities for so long, and so well. He was a knowledgeable and experienced public official who left Little Silver a better place for having served.

He was also generous with his time and advice to those who did not have his well-versed background, and was patient and deliberative even with heated issues, where some might have bowed to demands for quick, but perhaps less than judicious, action. At the time of his death, he was Little Silver’s public defender.

Rick, an attorney and proud graduate of the University of Virginia, was just 66 years old. In addition to being a public servant, he was a devoted family man, sports enthusiast, and musician. Along with other family members, he leaves behind his wife Janet, son Doug and daughter Melissa.

To Rick’s family, the governing body extends its deepest condolences.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

In April, there will be a slight but important change in the recycling pickup schedule. For many years, recycling has been picked up twice a month. Beginning April 3, it will be picked up every other week, adding two days of pickup.

Anyone with questions about the new schedule may call borough hall at (732) 842-2400. You may also go on the website at littlesilver.org and click on the recycling schedule at the top right of the home page.

Also in April, the governing body expects to have further discussions about various sidewalk and curbing repairs or additions. We’re pleased to be able to report a $160,000 Department of Transportation grant for sidewalk repairs on Willow Drive, and we have other grant applications in to try to address an ageing sidewalk issue without increasing property taxes.

On April 22, the Parker Homestead will host an Antique Show and Flea Market from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Homestead will be open to visitors, and expects about 100 vendors on the front lawn offering everything from fine antiques to household items. Come support this fundraiser for the Homestead.

Looking a bit further ahead, we expect that Brickwall at Little Silver will be submitting a finalized application to the Planning Board in the near future for the construction of a bar/restaurant at the location of the former shoe store adjacent to the large train station parking lot. A public hearing will be scheduled once that occurs.
And lastly, please remember that the Little Silver Charitable Foundation is in full swing preparing for Little Silver Day on June 23 starting at 3 p.m. It’s a day of great food, music, games, and fun of all kinds for all ages, so please get that on your calendar and check elsewhere in this newsletter for further information, or check out LSCFinc.com.

In closing, I’d like to thank all those who came out to support our volunteer Fire Department at its annual St. Patrick’s Day party in March. It was a huge success, as was Environmental Day, hosted by the Environmental Commission.

On behalf of the governing body, here’s hoping that April compensates for the chill snows of March with sunny skies and warm weather. As always, please call borough hall with any concerns, or contact me directly by calling my home phone at (732) 576-8595, or emailing me at bobneff80@gmail.com.