

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, February 7, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

In the absence of Mayor Wilson, Council President Schnurr stated that the notice of the time, date and location of the meeting had been provided pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 231 of the Laws of 1975 (Open Public Meetings Act).

Councilwoman Shutzer opened the meeting with the Salute to the Flag, followed by a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL

ABSENT	MAYOR MICHAEL WILSON
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DIBENEDETTO
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN KEVIN KANE
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN JOHN NEWMAN
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN GEORGE SCHNURR
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN SHARON SHUTZER
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN JAYE SIMS

Councilwoman Shutzer offered a motion to accept the minutes from the Executive Sessions July 19, 2010; September 7, 2010 and September 20, 2010; Reorganization Meeting January 2, 2011 and Supplement to Workshop Meeting January 18, 2011 and was seconded by Councilman Newman.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; absent none. Council President Schnurr declared the motion adopted.

Council President Schnurr read Item No. 5 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Purchase of Water and Sewer Chemicals.”

Councilman DiBenedetto offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Kane:

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF WATER AND SEWER CHEMICALS.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated the Borough is part of the Western Monmouth Cooperative Purchasing Group which gets lower prices for water and sewer chemicals because they buy in bulk with the other towns.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Council President Schnurr declared the motion adopted.

Council President Schnurr read Item No. 6 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract Appointing a Consultant to Assist in the Planning, Administration, and Implementation of the Borough of Freehold’s Housing Rehabilitation Program.”

Councilman Newman offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Sims:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT APPOINTING A CONSULTANT TO ASSIST IN THE PLANNING, ADMINISTRATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD’S HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM.

Mr. Bellina stated this firm monitors our RCA housing improvement program. They have been doing this for quite sometime and will help with the annual renewal of the funds that the Borough received from Freehold Township.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Council President Schnurr declared the motion adopted.

Council President Schnurr read Item No. 7 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Authorizing Application to the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for the 2011 Green Communities Grant Community Forestry Management Plan.

Councilman DiBenedetto offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Schnurr:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR THE 2011 GREEN COMMUNITIES GRANT COMMUNITY FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated this is a \$3,000.00 grant that we received last year and we are applying for the grant again this year.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Council President Schnurr declared the motion adopted.

Council President Schnurr read Item No. 8 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, New Jersey Authorizing a License Agreement with Mandel Warehouse of NJ, LLC for Parking on Borough Property.”

Councilman Kane offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Newman:

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH MANDEL WAREHOUSE OF NJ, LLC FOR PARKING ON BOROUGH OF PROPERTY.

Ms. Higgins stated the fee will be the same as the permit parking on the other lots in the Borough and the term will be for one year. This lot is the old Silvert's warehouse building next to the Rug Mill. This will allow them to utilize a portion of the Rug Mill overflow parking lot for their parking.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Council President Schnurr declared the motion adopted.

Council President Schnurr read Item No. 9 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Requesting a Shuttle Service from Freehold Borough to the Matawan Train Station.”

Council President Schnurr offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Sims:

RESOLUTION REQUESTING A SHUTTLE SERVICE FROM FREEHOLD BOROUGH TO THE MATAWAN TRAIN STATION.

Council President Schnurr stated this resolution is requesting NJ Transit to look into providing a shuttle bus service from the Freehold Borough Bus Terminal to the Matawan Train Station. This would probably not be a direct route and there might be a stop along the way.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Council President Schnurr declared the motion adopted.

Council President Schnurr read Item No. 10 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Confirming Personnel Appointments/Actions:

- a. **Termination of James Richmond as a member of the Freehold Fire Department, effective January 17, 2011.**
- b. **Termination of Cody Lovgren as a member of the Freehold Fire Department, effective January 17, 2011.**
- c. **Termination of Robert Lithgow, Sr. as a member of the Freehold Fire Department, effective January 17, 2011.”**

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Sims:

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS/ACTIONS NO.
10A THROUGH 10C.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Council President Schnurr declared the motion adopted.

Council President Schnurr read Item No. 10 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:

- a. **Juke Box License, American Legion Post 54, 62 West Main Street.**
- b. **Massage Establishment License, I&M Physical Therapy, 41 Center Street.**
- c. **Massage Therapist License, Inna Lamotkina, I&M Physical Therapy.**
- d. **Raffle License No. 4-11, 50/50 Freehold Boro Music Parents Association, 3/19/11, 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM at the Knights of Columbus.**
- e. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Angel DeJesus, Freehold.**
- f. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Michael Fennen, Jackson.**
- g. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Betty Richardson, Old Bridge.**
- h. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Scott Baron, Eatontown.**
- i. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Orcy Hernandez, Freehold.**
- j. **Taxi Owner License (12), Robert Livingston, t/a Leon’s Taxi.**
- k. **Taxi Owner License (1), Guadalupe Hinojosa, t/a Omega Taxi.**
- l. **Taxi Owner License (1), Michael Nwachukwu, t/a Regional Taxi.”**

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Newman:

RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATIONS NO. 10A THROUGH 10L.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Council President Schnurr declared the motion adopted.

Council President Schnurr read Item No. 11 on the Agenda as follows:

“Approval of Bills.”

Councilman Kane offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Newman:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that the bills on the attached list in the amount of \$3,408,857.25 be paid as presented.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Council President Schnurr declared the motion adopted.

Council President Schnurr opened the meeting to the public.

Neal Girandola, 27 Spring Street, introduced himself as President of the newly-formed Freehold Borough Arts Council. He stated the arts council will be hosting their inaugural benefit on February 25, 2011 in honor of Black History Month. He invited mayor and council to the event. Mr. Girandola stated the mission of the council is to inspire, provide and champion the arts for the betterment of our community.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated that Mr. Girandola has come before the Recreation Commission and the Freehold Borough Arts Council is thinking big and their expectations are very high.

Mr. Girandola stated the long term goal of the Freehold Borough Arts Council is to create a cultural arts center in Freehold Borough with the likes of the Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank, but with more of an advanced environment. They would also like to support our schools and community.

Bill Madden, Vredenburg Avenue, Trustee of the Freehold First Aid and Emergency Squad, gave a rundown of how busy the squad was in 2010:

3,621 calls last year
6,131 man hours
1,194 in Freehold Borough
2,300 in Freehold Township
127 in other communities
3,624 Total

He stated the County placed 125 calls 36 calls to the Monmouth County Jail and 60 calls to John L. Montgomery Nursing Home. The County only gives a token donation of \$300.00. He also read a letter from Councilwoman Shutzer and thanked her for her donation.

John Filipek, 372 Park Avenue thanked Streets and Roads for removing the snow from the pathway on Park Avenue to the schools. He stated there is a considerable amount of snow at the entrance of Borough Hall. He was very concerned with residents not parking in their driveways when a snow event is coming. Residents need to get off the street so the snow plows can do their work. There are also a lot of sidewalks that have not been shoveled since the first significant snowfall on December 26, 2010. Mr. Filipek offered his services in helping residents shovel their walks. He stated there are huge piles of snow at the Lafayette Street Post Office parking lot. He feels snow removal should be a priority.

Council President Schnurr responded that once he was made aware of the situation with the students on Park Avenue, it was rectified immediately. He stated the Post Office is in a County parking lot.

Mr. Bellina replied that residents are being summoned for not shoveling their sidewalks and the public works department has had to work the last two Saturdays to move the snow to the little league fields.

Mr. Filipek will call the County tomorrow morning regarding the post office.

Council President Schnurr asked Mr. Bellina to call.

Mr. Bellina stated in the one snowstorm alone, the Code Enforcement Department issued 88 violation notices and almost 20 summonses were given out to residents/business owners who did not shovel the snow.

Ann DiBisceglie, Rug Mill, stated she has had to walk in the street because the snow has not been shoveled around the Rug Mill. Also the sidewalks are not shoveled on Center Street and Jackson Street. She has witnessed mothers with baby carriages walking in the center of Center Street because the sidewalks have not been cleared. Ms. DiBisceglie is also very concerned about the fire hydrant being snow covered in front of the medical building at the Rug Mill shopping center.

JoAnna Parks, Bond Street, agreed with Ms. DiBisceglie in regards to the sidewalks not being shoveled. She is also concerned about the abandoned snow covered cars still parked in the street.

Mr. Bellina stated that last weekend the fire department dug out all of the fire hydrants.

Reggie Sims stated that the fire hydrant in question by the Rug Mill may not be on the new map.

Councilman Kane offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto:

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Council President Schnurr declared the motion adopted.

Council President Schnurr called upon the members of the council for their comments.

Councilman Sims had no comments.

Councilman Newman stated there is no ordinance for removing cars on the side streets during snowstorms, but feels that the ordinance should be revised.

Councilwoman Shutzer thanked the fire department for assisting the Streets and Roads Department in opening all of the fire hydrants. The fire department spent the entire weekend clearing these hydrants. She also thanked Mr. Madden and urged all residents to donate to the First Aid Squad. Councilwoman Shutzer offered her condolences to the family of Anne Ferro who lived on Barkalow Avenue.

Councilman Kane thanked Mr. Madden and also thanked Councilwoman Shutzer for her generous donation to the first aid squad. He also stated the Neighborhood Pride Committee will be hosting a March Madness Basketball Tournament fundraiser on March 18, 2011 – March 19, 2011. The proceeds will go towards the World Changers Organization.

Councilman DiBenedetto offered his condolences to the Ferro and Perski families. He also explained that he is the liaison to the Public Works Department and he has met with Mr. Bellina and the police department and they are working on how to correct the snow covered fire hydrants. There were fines given out to residents who did not shovel their sidewalk. But he wanted the residents to know that they are doing the best that they can.

Council President Schnurr stated the Workshop Meeting will be on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 because of the President's Day holiday. He stated at the swearing in of the Freehold First Aid Officers he was impressed that awards were given out to responders who answered the most amount of calls. He stated there were members who went out on 700 calls last year.

Council President Schnurr stated there will be a fundraiser to support the Memorial Day Parade Committee at Applebees in Manalapan on February 15, 2011 from 12:00 PM – 11:00 PM.

Council President Schnurr congratulated Councilman Sims for being appointed to the New Jersey League of Municipalities Emergency Management Preparedness Task Force. He was the only elected official in Western Monmouth County to receive this honor.

Council President Schnurr offered his condolences to the Ferro family. Annie Ferro was very involved in the Freehold Borough Little League and she will be greatly missed.

Council President Schnurr thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

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