

**MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 16, 2012 WORKSHOP MEETING
HELD AT 7:30 PM
51 WEST MAIN STREET
FREEHOLD, NJ 07728**

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor J. Nolan Higgins, Councilman Michael DiBenedetto, Councilman Kevin Kane, Councilman John Newman, Councilman George Schnurr, Councilwoman Sharon Shutzer.

Absent: Councilman Jaye Sims

Also present were Borough Attorney Kerry Higgins, Borough Administrator Joseph B. Bellina, Chief Glenn Roberts and Borough Clerk Traci L. DiBenedetto

2. ROUTINE TRANSACTIONS-SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA (See Attachment I).

See the permanent minute book for the minutes and the resolution book for the attachments.

3. MEMORIAL DAY PARADE ACTIVITIES.

Councilman Schnurr stated the five Veterans organizations in the Freehold area are the American Legion, VFW, Marine Corps League, Jewish War Veterans and Disabled American Veterans. On a rotating basis each year one of the organizations is the lead Veteran group for the Freehold Memorial Day Parade. That Veteran organization determines the theme of the parade and is given the honor of selecting from its ranks a member who will be the parade grand marshal. In addition that Veterans group also selects a person who will be the Master of Ceremonies at the Elks Point Service of Reflection which is held earlier in the morning. The lead organization for this year's parade is the Disabled American Veterans and the theme of the parade is Honoring Our Wounded Warriors. The DAV has selected Emanuel Handleman, age 92 of Freehold Township as the Grand Marshall. Mr. Handleman was born on January 15, 1920 in Brooklyn and attended Samuel Tilden High School. He is a WWII Veteran who served with the US Army, 99th Infantry Division. He was a Private First Class in the army and served from December 1942 to November 1945. Private Handleman served in Iceland and England and was in combat against the Germans in France, Belgium, Holland, Germany and Czechoslovakia. The 99th Infantry Division was a unit of the US Army in WWII that played a role in the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded the Purple Heart, the American Theatre Ribbon, the Bronze Star and the Good Conduct Ribbon. He was injured in Germany while his unit captured the Ludendorff Bridge. Private Handleman

has been a member of the American Legion, VFW, Jewish War Veterans, Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Battle of the Bulge Society.

Councilman Schnurr stated this will be 138th Freehold Memorial Day Parade under the direction of Alice McCobb. It is New Jersey's longest running parade of its kind and Monmouth County's largest parade with over 70 units participating each year. Alice has selected Lillie Hendry as the reviewing stand Master of Ceremonies. Ms. Hendry is a well known and well loved community leader, activist and mentor who was awarded the John G. McGackin Award and was also inducted into the Freehold High School Hall of Fame. She is the Board of Trustees President for the Court Street School and former 21 year member of the Freehold Borough Planning Board.

Councilman Schnurr announced that every year we rename a few streets in our community to honor our Veterans. This year the streets will be as follows: McLean Street will be renamed to Cpl. John A. Felton Street, Hull Avenue will be renamed Cpl. Edmond M. Rohan Avenue and Murray Street will be renamed Cpl. Philip A. Reynolds Drive. Councilman Schnurr noted that the Junior ROTC from Colts Neck High School will be helping the Marine Corps League with some maintenance at Elks Point. The Marine Corps League and the parade committee would like to thank them in advance for all of their hard work.

Councilman Schnurr stated the Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 28th and begins with a traditional Elks Point Service of Reflection in memory of all Freehold and other American servicemen and women who lost their lives defending our nation. The ceremony begins at Elks Point and Councilman Schnurr is deeply honored to be the Master of Ceremonies for this service. The parade will officially start at 9:45 AM at Brinckerhoff Avenue and Main Street by a flag draped casket accompanied by active military from various branches of service. The casket will be pulled down the parade route to remind us why we are all there in the first place. At 10:00 AM the Veterans groups will begin to march down Main Street followed by the rest of the parade. Another nice touch is a flyover by Gerald Norkus, owner of Freehold Foodtown with two vintage air craft that will fly over the parade route. This is all organized by Alice McCobb. She is the glue that holds the parade together.

Councilman Schnurr thanked Alice for her hard work throughout the year. Ms. McCobb organizes the various fundraisers with our area restaurants. Tomorrow there is a fundraiser at SanMarzano and May 7th through May 9th the fundraisers will include Federici's Pizza, Metropolitan Café and the Court Jester. You need to have the flyers in order for the parade committee to receive credit. These fundraisers help finance some of the bands that you see in the parade.

Mayor Higgins thanked Councilman Schnurr for his report along with Alice McCobb.

4. FREEHOLD BOROUGH EDUCATION FUNDRAISING PROGRAM.

Councilman Schnurr explained that the Freehold Borough Education Foundation provides supplementary funding to benefit students of the Freehold Borough school district for selected programs and projects. In addition, the foundation encourages communication in exchange of ideas between the school as well as the community it

serves. Councilman Schnurr stated, as a trustee of the foundation, he wanted to make sure that mayor, council and residents were updated on the activities of the foundation. Jean Holtz, Chairperson, will update us on the education foundation, fundraising activities over the last year, grant awards, the NJ marathon and the Generate for Schools Credit Card Program. Councilman Schnurr introduced Ms. Holtz.

Jean Holtz stated this past year was probably the most successful for the education foundation. This past January we hit the \$100,000.00 mark in grants given to the schools. The foundation raises money through non-traditional sources. Most of the money goes back to the school in the form of small grants to teachers. It can be for any type of programming or as simple as supplies. 100% of the money goes directly to the schools. There is no overhead and the board is all volunteer. This past year we have established a very good relationship with the Star and Barry Tobias Health Awareness Center, who offered us a 4 to 1 matching program for musical instruments for the schools. If we raised \$3,000.00 last summer Mr. Tobias would give us \$12,000.00 from the Peter J. Sharp Foundation. We raised \$8,000.00 instead of \$3,000.00. We receive donations from service organizations such as the Freehold Rotary Club, Freehold Borough PBA, Optimist Club, Graeme Preston Foundation, Gordon and Llura Gund Foundation, Centra State Healthcare Foundation, Metro Realty, Freehold Borough Pharmacy, Samuel Klein & Company, George Harms Construction Company, Metropolitan Café, Mexico Lindo, Wells Fargo, Higgins Memorial Home, members of the Freehold Borough Council and administration along with local professionals including Daniel Weiss, Carl Danzinger, Dr. Brian Furie, Susan Schneider and Susan Taylor. There have been contributions from parents, teachers, Board of Ed and PTO members and long time donors include Marianne Earle, Bunny Hammer, Jerry Stankowitz, Pat Zaborniak, Chuck Grim and Bob and Paulette Bennett. With those funds we were able to purchase 16 instruments. In recognition of our efforts we were notified that the foundation is being recognized by the Monmouth County Arts Council as their Champion of the Arts for 2012. The foundation also helps individual students providing necessary funding so that the academically gifted students could attend national and regional competitions. This year Kayla Ciok will attend the national finals for Future Problem Solvers of America in Indianapolis. The largest contributor to the education foundation is the NJ Marathon which is held the first Sunday in May in Long Branch. Through working with the NJ Education Foundation Partnership, we have learned about a new funding opportunity called Generate for Schools. By working with local merchants and businesses, Generate for School guarantees a reduced rate with credit card processing. A percentage of the savings goes directly to the foundation. Due to the success of the music grant process last year, Lynn & Mr. Tobias are working again this year on a much larger grant.

After 13 years, the foundation needs to conduct some planning and determine our future course of action. We need to recruit more board members and we need to consider leadership progression. We will be having two strategic planning sessions in June and we will be inviting stakeholders and people around the community to sit in.

Ms. Holtz thanked the governing body for having her and for learning about their advancement. She also thanked the governing body for becoming more involved with the schools.

Councilwoman Shutzer made mention of how impressed she was with the “Book Buddy Program” that her grandson was involved in. This was through a grant that his teacher received from the education foundation.

Mayor Higgins thanked Ms. Holtz for everything the education foundation has done.

5. ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business to discuss, Councilwoman Shutzer moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto, with All in Favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Traci L. DiBenedetto, RMC
BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD