

The Supplement to the Workshop Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 7:30 PM in the Municipal Building.

Mayor Higgins 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).

Councilman Sims opened the meeting with the Salute to the Flag, followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call

PRESENT	MAYOR J. NOLAN HIGGINS
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DI BENEDETTO
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN KEVIN KANE
ABSENT	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 Special Meeting December 27, 2011, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 2 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Honoring Coach Jerrilynn Acevedo, Coach Stan Parker and the Freehold Boro High School Girls Field Hockey Team Central Jersey Group III State Champions.”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD HONORING COACH JERRILYNN ACEVEDO, COACH STAN PARKER AND THE FREEHOLD BORO HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY TEAM CENTRAL JERSEY GROUP III STATE CHAMPIONS.

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

Councilman Sims read the Resolution and presented it to the coaches. Each member of the team was called up to receive their individual Resolution.

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 3 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Honoring Head Coach Katie Pusz, Assistant Coaches Lindsay Fuchs and Karissa Hearn and the Freehold Boro High School Girls Gymnastics Team NJSIAA State Team Champions.”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD HONORING HEAD COACH KATIE PUSZ, ASSISTANT COACHES LINDSAY FUCHS AND KARISSA HEARN AND THE FREEHOLD BORO HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS GYMNASTICS TEAM NJSIAA STATE TEAM CHAMPIONS.

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

Councilman Sims read the Resolution and presented it to Coach Pusz. Coach Pusz accepted the Resolutions on behalf of her team, who were practicing for an upcoming meet.

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 4 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Honoring Andrew Hu on the Occasion of his Attainment of the Rank of Eagle Scout.”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD HONORING ANDREW HU ON THE OCCASION OF HIS ATTAINMENT OF THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT.

Councilman Schnurr stated he attended the ceremony for Andrew who planned and implemented a prayer garden located at the Grace Lutheran Church on Park Avenue where he and his family have been active parishioners for the last 15 years. Councilman Schnurr said he went to see the garden a couple of weeks ago. It was very professionally done and it probably took him and his fellow scouts thousands of hours. It is very large and has benches and it is quite an accomplishment.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 5 on the Agenda as follows:

“Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Ordinance #2012/1 Amending in Part Bond Ordinance No. 2000/8 Adopted on December 18, 2000, Providing for Improvements to Borough Hall and Fire Station, in Order to Amend the Purpose, Authorized in and by the Borough of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey.”

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled “ORDINANCE #2012/1 AMENDING IN PART BOND ORDINANCE NO. 2000/8 ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 18, 2000, PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO BOROUGH HALL AND FIRE STATION, IN ORDER TO AMEND THE PURPOSE, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY” be, and same is hereby approved on first reading; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk be and she is hereby authorized to publish said Ordinance in the Asbury Park Press and that same shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on February 6, 2012 and that during the week of said meeting copies of the Ordinance shall be made available at the Clerk’s office to members of the general public who shall request same.

Councilman Schnurr stated this is for improvements to Borough Hall and the firehouse. It is also for the replacement of HVAC systems at the YMCA which we are responsible for.

Joseph Bellina, Borough Administrator stated no new debt is involved with this ordinance.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 6 on the Agenda as follows:

“Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Ordinance #2012/2 Amending Ordinance No. 2006/27, Creating a Special Improvement District Within the Borough of Freehold and Designating a District Management Corporation.”

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled “ORDINANCE #2012/2 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2006/27, CREATING A SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD AND DESIGNATING A DISTRICT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION” be, and same is hereby approved on first reading; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk be and she is hereby authorized to publish said Ordinance in the Asbury Park Press and that same shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on February 6, 2012 and that during the week of said meeting copies of the Ordinance shall be made available at the Clerk’s office to members of the general public who shall request same.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated this was just “house cleaning” within our district.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 7 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of 2011 Appropriation Reserve Budget in Fiscal Year 2012.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF 2011 APPROPRIATION RESERVE BUDGET IN FISCAL YEAR 2012.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 8 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Appointing Individuals to Perform Duties of a Municipal Court Administrator when the Municipal Court Administrator is Unavailable.”

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

RESOLUTION APPOINTING INDIVIDUALS TO PERFORM DUTIES OF A MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR WHEN THE MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR IS UNAVAILABLE.

Councilman Sims stated this will be a shared service agreement with Freehold Township to provide coverage in the event our Municipal Court Administrator is not available.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 9 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Authorizing 2012 Professional Services Contract With Suplee, Clooney & Company for Borough Auditor Services.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2012 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH SUPLEE, CLOONEY & COMPANY FOR BOROUGH AUDITOR SERVICES.

Councilman Kane stated this was not on the Reorganization Agenda so we are putting it on tonight.

Councilman Schnurr stated we interviewed a number of firms for this position and Suplee, Clooney & Company were the most impressive out of the four groups we interviewed. We were not the only ones who felt this, when Brookdale Community College had their little mess, Monmouth County hired an independent auditor to audit the college and this was the firm they hired.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 10 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Confirming Personnel Appointments/Actions:

- a. Appointment of Edgar Neri as a member of the Freehold Fire Department Junior Firefighter Program, effective January 17, 2012.**
- b. Appointment of Kenneth Downey as a member of the Freehold Fire Department Junior Firefighter Program, effective January 17, 2012.”**

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

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL ACTIONS NO. 10A AND 10B.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated these will be new members for the Fire Department's Junior Firefighter program.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 11 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:

- a. **Raffle License #1-12, St. Rose of Lima School PTA (Casino Night), 2/10/12, 7:00 PM – 12:00 AM, at Park 33.**
- b. **Raffle License #2-12, St. Rose of Lima School PTA (50/50), 2/10/12, 7:00 PM – 12:00 AM, at Park 33.**
- c. **Raffle License #3-12, St. Rose of Lima School PTA (Calendar), 2/10/12, 7:00 PM – 12:00 AM at Park 33.**
- d. **Raffle License #4-12, St. Rose of Lima School PTA (Draw Raffle), 2/10/12, 7:00 PM – 12:00 AM at Park 33.**
- e. **Precious Metals License, Joyeria Latina, MP, LLC, 19 South Street.**
- f. **Precious Metals License, Freehold Jewelers, 33 West Main Street.**
- g. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Bertram Weinstein, Freehold.**
- h. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Cesar Morales, Freehold.**
- i. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Glenn Wolfson, Freehold.**
- j. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Juan Gonzales, Freehold.**
- k. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Luis C. Herrera, Freehold.**
- l. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Vicenta Pantoja, Freehold.**
- m. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Nancy Alanya, Freehold.**
- n. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Michael Kaye, Freehold.**
- o. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Ronald Phillips, Freehold.**
- p. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Michael Nwachukwu, Freehold**
- q. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Keith Berman, Freehold.**
- r. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Thomas Aellis, Freehold.”**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATIONS NO. 11A THROUGH 11R.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No.12 on the Agenda as follows:

“Approval of Bills.”

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that the bills on the attached list in the amount of \$1,777,970.22 be paid as presented.

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

Mayor Higgins opened the meeting for public comments.

Al Michenfelder, 30 Jackson Street, informed everyone that as of August 30, 2012, the Racer's Club is celebrating their 20th anniversary. We have six cars ready to go and would like one more. Mr. Michenfelder thanked Mike Page from the Court Jester for their donation of model cars.

Christine Gregory, West George Street stated she was very upset over the desecration of the mural project. She has lived in the Borough for a long time and through all the years she's lived here this mural was one of the shining moments for this town. She realizes this is private property but she feels violated and she hopes something good comes out of this.

Tom Baldwin, 3 Vought Avenue, stated this is normally the time when he rates the performance of the mayor, council and departments. He is not going to rate the mayor and council tonight because he would like to see how Mayor Higgins does but he did rate all the departments and they received an "A".

Mr. Baldwin stated he was very impressed with Mayor Higgins first speech, especially when he said he would meet with the residents on a regular basis. This was something that he feels is great.

Mr. Baldwin asked if the residents could have a dialogue during the public comments section of the meeting. This will go a long way to alleviate tension, dissatisfaction and misunderstanding.

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

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.

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

Mayor Higgins called upon the council for their comments.

Councilman DiBenedetto thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He thanked Rich Gatto and the Freehold Center Partnership for the wonderful holiday season and the events they

put on.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated he thought removing the mural was “heartless”. But as a shining light, Saturday night was very well attended and it brought a lot of people together. He thanked Jeff Friedman and the Freehold Arts Council for their work with the mural and for selling copies of the mural.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated the Freehold Little League is hosting a fundraising event tomorrow, January 18, 2012 at 6:45 PM at the American Legion. He stated the Borough was approved for the 5 year Community Forestry Plan from the State for years 2012 through 2016. This approval is very important, it helps the Borough pursue grants and he thanked Christine Gregory and the Shade Tree Commission for all of their efforts and time.

Councilman Kane thanked everyone for coming out tonight. He offered his congratulations to the two Freehold Boro High School teams. Councilman Kane stated the entire town is very upset but we are moving forward and the Freehold Arts Council is in the process of planning other projects for the Borough.

Councilman Schnurr stated he sits on the Freehold Borough Planning Board and he has to be very careful about his comments on the mural. He will do his talking at the next Planning Board meeting on January 25, 2012.

Councilman Schnurr stated he read in the Community Reporter there would be a 20% rise in water rates in their fees. Councilman Schnurr stated that wouldn't happen here in Freehold Borough. Councilman DiBenedetto and Joseph Bellina make sure our water plant is kept up to date so we don't have a situation where all these costs get incurred in one year. Things get spread out over time.

Councilman Schnurr commended Mayor Higgins on establishing the Land-use Super Committee and thinks it will be one of best up and coming committees.

Councilwoman Shutzer congratulated both of the Freehold Boro High School teams. She stated former Mayor Wilson always said, “You cannot legislate common sense and common courtesy” and that was all she could think about when she thought about the mural. At the American Hotel on Saturday night, January 14, 2012 there was a “rally” for the Freehold Borough Arts Council and at that time Jeff Friedman brought the artist of the mural over to her and introduced her. He was devastated by the desecration of this beautiful piece of art. She thanked the artist and the Arts Council because they brought an entire community together”. The owner of that property legally had the right to paint over the now but he cannot paint over the spirit of this town.

Councilman Sims thanked everyone for attending the meeting and he congratulated both of the Freehold Boro High School teams. He stated there are a lot of great things that come out of our high school and we should be proud.

Councilman Sims stated that yesterday marked the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King. Councilman Sims stated “GO GIANTS”! He also told Mr. Baldwin that his door is always open to discuss anything that is bothering him.

Mayor Higgins thanked Councilman Sims for organizing the presentation of the Resolutions for the Freehold Boro High School teams. He stated it is always an emotional site in

town when the police department, fire department and first aid squad escort the winning teams through town and we are very proud of their accomplishments.

Mayor Higgins stated earlier this month a snow task force meeting occurred. He reviewed the procedures along side of Mr. Bellina, the police department, fire department, water department and streets and roads department. They assured Mayor Higgins that every one was ready to function.

Mayor Higgins wanted to remind the residents about his hours at Borough Hall on Thursday from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Mayor Higgins stated it was heart breaking to see the mural painted over but he feels this is only the beginning for the Freehold Borough Arts Council and they will rise from this.

The supplemental portion of the agenda was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

TLD:aj