

The Supplement to the Workshop Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, July 16, 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 Newman opened the meeting with the Salute to the Flag, followed by a moment of silence in memory of Raymond Sheehan who was ex-fire chief of the Freehold Fire Department and a long time Freehold Borough employee.

Roll Call

PRESENT	MAYOR J. NOLAN HIGGINS
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DI BENEDETTO
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 Workshop Meeting April 16, 2012 and Special Meeting July 2, 2012, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto.

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

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

“Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Ordinance #2012/12 Ordinance Amending Chapter 8 (Garbage, Trash and Refuse Collection and Disposal) of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Freehold.”

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled “ORDINANCE #2012/12 AMENDING CHAPTER 8 (GARBAGE, TRASH AND REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL) OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD” 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 August 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 explained that this ordinance came about because of numerous discussions with the Land-Use Committee members, our professionals and Downtown Freehold

and it is aimed at improving garbage standards by requiring fencing or planting to screen the refuse and recycling receptacles from public view.

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

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

“Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Purchase of One (1) High Pressure Sewer Cleaner.”

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

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) HIGH PRESSURE SEWER CLEANER.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated this contract was awarded to Jet Vac, Inc. The trade-in value is \$58,000.00 which brings our price down to \$171,000.00.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Various Fire Fighting Equipment.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF VARIOUS FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated this all done through the State contract and this allows us to buy the equipment cheaper than it would have been if we ordered the new truck fully equipped.

Councilman Sims stated there was already a bond ordinance from 2011 for this equipment.

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

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

“Resolution of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, Providing for the Insertion of Special Items of Revenue in the 2012 Budget of the Borough of Freehold Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159).”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF SPECIAL ITEMS OF REVENUE IN THE 2012 BUDGET OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159).

Councilwoman Shutzer stated this Resolution is for the Police Youth Academy and the Graeme Preston Foundation is donating \$5,000.00 and the Freehold Elks Lodge #1454 is donating \$1,000.00.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing an Interlocal Services Agreement with the Freehold Borough Board of Education Re: Fuel and Crossing Guard.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE FREEHOLD BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION RE: FUEL AND CROSSING GUARD.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated this resolution is to memorialize something that we already do. We will be providing gasoline and the summer crossing guard to the Freehold Borough Board of Education and they will be paying for them.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing Appropriation of Funds for the 2012 Olde Freehold Day.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE 2012 OLDE FREEHOLD DAY.

Councilman Kane stated about five or six years ago we established a Celebration of Community Events account through dedication by rider which allows us to appropriate money for community events such as Olde Freehold Day, the Memorial Day Parade and Spooktacular and this is a transfer into the Olde Freehold Day account to help offset some of the expenses.

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

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

“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Approving Renewal of Alcoholic Beverage License, July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013 (Walter J. Conley Elks Lodge #1379).”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD APPROVING RENEWAL OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE, JULY 1, 2012-JUNE 30, 2013 (WALTER J. CONLEY ELKS LODGE #1379).

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

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

“Resolution Awarding a Contract for an Employee Assistance Program (EAP).”

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

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR AN EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP).

Councilman Sims stated this is a service that we provide for our employees who need assistance or counseling on personal matters.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated this program also covers our police and volunteer firefighters who use this service after they’ve witnessed a traumatic occurrence.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Newman, Kane, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. 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 Aaron Owens as a Special Police Officer, Class II, of the Freehold Borough Police Department, effective July 16, 2012.**
- b. Resignation of Marc LeVine as a Member of the Community Information Committee, effective July 16, 2012.”**

Councilman DiBenedetto thanked Marc LeVine for his years of service to the community.

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

**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS/ACTIONS
NO. 10A AND 10B.**

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

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

“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:

- a. Horse and Carriage Ride, 8/25/12, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, starting at St. Rose of Lima Church to the Radisson Hotel. c/o Mary Cogna**
- b. Precious Metals Application – Cash Exchange, 145 South Street.**
- c. Raffle License #23-12, 50/50, Freehold Boro Music Parents Association, FHS home football games.”**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS NO. 11A – 11C.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Newman, Kane, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. 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 Councilwoman Shutzer:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that the bills on the attached list in the amount of \$814,167.07 be paid as presented.

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

Mayor Higgins opened the meeting to the public.

Dorothy Wright, 89 Barkalow Avenue, thanked the efforts of Councilwoman Shutzer and Mayor Higgins for their help in the black-out. She also thanked Shoprite and Foodtown for their donation of water and ice.

Steve Ferguson, 16 Reid Way, questioned the ordinance regarding truck parking overnight on the streets in the Borough and he also asked if JCP&L could install some sort of alternative path for the electrical wires.

Mayor Higgins responded that we have opened a good line of communication with JCP&L and he will address this with our representative.

Councilman Schnurr stated the overnight truck parking for big tractor trailers is illegal on Reid Avenue and Barkalow Avenue.

Captain Dispenza stated he would talk to Mr. Ferguson after the meeting.

Christine Gregory, 42 West George Street, also thanked Councilwoman Shutzer and Mayor Higgins for their help. She was not aware of all the damage on South Street and Barkalow Avenue until Sunday. She also thanked Walter Perski, who helped her father when he collapsed in the intersection of Yard Avenue and Broad Street.

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

RESOLUTION CLOSING THE PUBLIC PORTION.

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

Mayor Higgins called upon the council for their comments.

Councilwoman Shutzer consoled Christine Gregory and thanked her for her help prior to the storm when a limb came down on their block and she consulted with the homeowner.

Councilwoman Shutzer offered her sincere condolences to the family of Ray Sheehan. Mr. Sheehan was a long time Borough employee and a long time member of the fire department; he was also a Fire Chief.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated the Freehold Alliance received a performance rating chart reflecting the work of the alliance in 2011 and comparing it with all the alliances in the County. The report showed that Freehold Borough received a score of 86 out of a possible 100 which was the highest rated alliance in the County.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated there will be a senior bus trip to Monmouth Raceway Park on Friday, July 27, 2012 at 11:00 AM. The Freehold First Aid Squad is now doing their annual fund drive and they are in great need of money and volunteers.

Councilwoman Shutzer read the following prepared statement:

‘There are some who would say that the value of anything bad is measured by what we learn from it. Perhaps that premise is proven by our response to this storm as compared to Hurricane Irene. During the hurricane, we had, through no fault of ours, very little communication with JCP&L and even our Mayor at the time could not get through to a representative until many hours into the storm. We had no information and consequently, we were not even aware that the Randolph Street area of our town was without power for days.

As you have heard, we immediately started demanding better communication and better service from JCP&L. Many of you were present in this room just a few weeks ago when a

representative was here and pledged to us that measures had been taken so that this kind of thing would not happen again. You know that there were some of us who were cynical at that time, I among them. Unfortunately, JCP&L just recently had the opportunity to put “our” money where their mouths are! Although there are some who were dissatisfied with their response time and expected immediate restoration of electric service, realistically, we must agree that JCP&L was immediately in communication with the Mayor and that communication continued until the last outage was restored. Additionally, they had a presence on the scene and their presence was there throughout. When residents spoke to me about problems, I immediately went to the JCP&L person and reported the problem. He, in turn, reported then to the crews and administration. They could do nothing until the trees were removed and it took hours and hours for the South Street tree to be removed so that the JCP&L crews could start. Then, there was a water problem which had to be corrected. I am defending no one, but I can assure you that I was on the scene after the hurricane and after this storm and there was an indisputable difference in the electric company’s response.

With this said, I would like to share with you the log that the Mayor turned over to me because I am the Chair of Public Safety on the Public Safety Committee. Before I start, I give a heartfelt thank you to the Mayor for being on top of everything and to Councilman Sims who is also a member of the OEM.”

Councilman Newman thanked all of the first responders, the mayor, Councilwoman Shutzer and Councilman Sims for all of their help during the storm.

Councilman Sims thanked Councilwoman Shutzer for providing the report and it is important that our residents know detail by detail the account of everything that took place from this storm and the mistakes that were learned from the last storm.

Councilman Sims responded to Mr. Ferguson from Reid Way and stated that this issue came up two years ago and revisions were made to the ordinance regarding tractor trailers that were parking overnight. Councilman Sims stated he will also speak with Mr. Ferguson along with Captain Dispenza after the meeting.

Councilman Sims stated two months ago the Youth Government came before the governing body and presented their idea for a project for the Veteran’s Park revitalization. He stated Mr. Bellina will be pursuing an Open Space Grant through Monmouth County to see if we can apply for a grant to get funds to begin this project.

Councilman Sims reported the Code Enforcement numbers for the month of June, there were 208 incidents which include property maintenance, CO inspections, complaints and general systematic inspections. Construction permits are not included in the numbers.

Councilman Sims reminded the residents that there is a high heat advisory for tomorrow and to try and stay indoors. There are cooling stations located throughout Monmouth County.

Councilman DiBenedetto thanked everyone who helped during the storm. He offered his sincere condolences to the Sheehan family.

Councilman DiBenedetto reminded the residents that Olde Freehold Day is on Saturday, July 21, 2012. He stated the July 4th Fireworks were held on July 3, 2012 and there was an estimated 10,000 people inside the Racetrack and another 25,000 people outside the track. He thanked Chief Bailey and the Freehold Fire Department, the surrounding town’s fire departments, the police department and the first aid squad for all of their help during the fireworks.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated the summer concerts are on Thursday nights at 7:30 PM. The farmer’s market is held every Friday in front of the Hall of Records from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Freehold Idol is being held every Wednesday throughout the summer starting at 7:30 PM in front of the Hall of Records. He stated the “Flavor of Freehold” was a great success, there were

an estimated 160 people on Tuesday and 270 people on Wednesday.

Councilman Kane thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He offered his condolences to the Sheehan family. Councilman Kane thanked Councilwoman Shutzer for her report. He stated that Mayor Higgins and Joseph Bellina have been working very hard with JCP&L.

Councilman Kane stated Olde Freehold Day will be on July 21, 2012 from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM at Lake Topanemus. There are 10 bands scheduled, children's fishing derby, horseshoe contest and all the local organizations are providing the food. The website for Olde Freehold Day is www.oldefreeholdday.org.

Councilman Kane thanked Bill Mehr, who was responsible for doing a lot of the fundraising that pays for the July 4th fireworks.

Councilman Schnurr thanked Councilwoman Shutzer for her hard work during the storm and her diligent reporting of the facts as they unfolded throughout the course of the weekend. He also thanked Mayor Higgins on his leadership in dealing with JCP&L. One of the points Councilwoman Shutzer made was that JCP&L cannot act until all of the tree debris has been removed. The trees on that section of South Street are State trees; the Borough does not have any jurisdiction on them. A request to remove those trees from the Borough was denied by the State a few years ago and Councilman Schnurr asked Mr. Bellina to follow-up again and ask the State to reconsider taking down those trees.

Councilman Schnurr urged the residents to donate to the Freehold First Aid. He thanked the FCP for the firework display, concert and activities on July 3, 2012.

Councilman Schnurr thanked former Councilman LeVine for his years of service on the Community Information Committee, which was originally his idea.

Mayor Higgins offered his sincere condolences to the Sheehan family. He had the pleasure of serving with Ray Sheehan in Engine Company No. 1 where he served as a Captain and a Chief. His two sons are still active members of the fire department and they have a long history of service. Ray Sheehan was a friend to me, colleague and had served this community well as a Borough staff member. He recognized Captain Dispenza for being here this evening in place of Chief Roberts.

Mayor Higgins read the following letter dated July 6, 2012:

“Dear Mayor, I wish to extend to you and your staff congratulations for a most impressive presentation on the occasion of the Independence Day celebration on Wednesday. Observing the participation of so many Freehold Borough citizens was a chilling and delightful experience. It is difficult to remember seeing so many lovely people in one place. They reflected such class and are a source of pride to all of you. Also, I wish to commend you and compliment your government council members for the contribution they make for the benefit and services they rendered. Respectfully yours, Joseph A. Bellina.”

Mayor Higgins stated that Mr. Bellina brought his father to the 4th of July Independence Day reading and this was the first time he had the pleasure of meeting Joe's father. He was a delight and an absolute gentleman. Mayor Higgins stated it was very kind of him to send this letter and asked Mr. Bellina to extend the governing body's thanks to him.

The supplemental portion of the agenda was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

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