

The Supplement to the Workshop Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, June 18, 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).

Councilwoman Shutzer 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
ABSENT	COUNCILMAN KEVIN KANE
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN JOHN NEWMAN
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN GEORGE SCHNURR
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN SHARON SHUTZER
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN JAYE SIMS

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 1 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Presentation of Certificates to the Freehold High School Band and Chorus.”**

Councilwoman Shutzer presented the certificates to Pamela A. Massimini, Music Director, Freehold High School and Todd Gross.

Councilman Sims recognized Heshy Moses, FHS Board of Education Representative, Charles Sampson, FRHSD Superintendent and Linda Jewell, FHS Principal.

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

**“Presentation of Certificates to the Freehold High School Baseball Team.”**

Councilman DiBenedetto presented the certificates to Head Coach Jon Block, along with Matt Coulson, Assistant Coach. Councilman DiBenedetto thanked both coaches for their hard work throughout the years.

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

**“Presentation of Certificates to the Freehold High School Computer Science Team.”**

Councilman Sims presented the certificates to James Gill, Computer Science League Advisor and congratulated the science team on their great achievement at the competition.

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

**“Presentation of Trophy and Awards for the YMCA Walk-A-Thon.”**

Councilman Newman introduced Mel O’Neal, YMCA Director, who presented the plaques.

Mr. O’Neal stated the walk-a-thon was a great success. The community at large came out and supported the event. He listed the sponsors: Freeman Funeral Home, Earhart Automotive, Freehold Borough Board of Education Team, Clark & Clark, LLC, Freehold Borough Mayor and Council Team, Stop and Shop, Shoprite, Lion’s Club of Freehold Township, Donna Malzar, the Broad Street Team, Mellon Farms, Wegmans, Sams Club, Sorrentos and Paul Lusieer. The following corporate sponsors donated more than \$250: Freehold Savings Bank, Higgins Memorial Home, Atlas Chiropractic, Freehold Borough Recreation, Graeme Preston for Life Foundation and PBA Local 159. He also recognized the following volunteers: Freehold Borough First Aid Squad, Freehold Borough Police Department, Freehold Borough Arts Council, Freehold Borough Public Works, Freehold Boro High School, Freehold Borough YMCA Leader’s Club, Freehold Borough resident Duke Young who volunteered as the DJ and Kids-Help.com which is a children’s broadcasting program. There were 50+ walkers and many Freehold residents came out to support the walkers. Our financial goal was to raise \$4,500.00 and we surpassed our goal and raised \$6,137.00. He presented small tokens of appreciation to Richard Berger, Jeff Friedman, Samantha Daesener and Debbie Forte, for outstanding volunteer service and generous financial support. He

then presented plaques to Erica Daesener, the Freehold Borough team and the Broad Street team who raised the most money totaling \$1,260.00. The last plaque was given to Peanut Holloway.

Mr. Holloway stated he walked to Asbury Park in May and it took him 4 hours and 16 minutes. In September he is walking from Freehold to New Brunswick to raise money for the YMCA.

Ms. Daesener thanked Coach Block, Ms. Jewell and everyone for all of their support during the walk-a-thon.

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

Councilman Schnurr offered a motion to accept the minutes from the Workshop Meeting February 21, 2012 and Regular Meeting June 4, 2012, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto.

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

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

**“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Honoring Phillip William DeAngelis.”**

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD HONORING PHILLIP WILLIAM DE ANGELIS.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated the Resolution was presented to Phillip DeAngelis at a dinner at the Elk’s that he attended along with Mayor Higgins.

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

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

**“Second Reading and Public Hearing: Ordinance #2012/11 Amending Chapter 2.114 (Historic Preservation Advisory Commission), Section 2.114.060 (Designation of Historic Properties, Historic Districts) of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Freehold to Add a Residential Property Outside the Boundary of the District.”**

Mayor Higgins opened the meeting to the public.

There was no comment from the public.

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

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.

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

Councilman Newman 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 #2012/11 AMENDING CHAPTER 2.114 (HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION), SECTION 2.114.060 (DESIGNATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES, HISTORIC DISTRICTS) OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD TO ADD A RESIDENTIAL

PROPERTY OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARY OF THE DISTRICT),” be, and same is hereby adopted on second reading.

Mayor Higgins recognized his neighbor, Gil Burgess, in the audience and stated we have informally referred to this action as the “Gil Burgess” resolution!

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

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

**“Resolution Confirming the Special Assessment Roll of the Special Improvement District.”**

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

**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL OF THE SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.**

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

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

**“Public Hearing and Resolution Adopting 2012/2013 Budget of the Special Improvement District.”**

Mayor Higgins opened the meeting to the public.

Carl Steinberg, 2 Monmouth Avenue, read a prepared statement:

“I would like to thank Mr. Bellina for the re-working of the map. The Board of Directors is stacked in favor of Main Street properties and businesses. The council has a conscious that would require the district to have equal representation from the whole district on the board. The budget should be divided into four equal parts and it should be equally spent in those four districts, not only on thr Main Street restaurants and establishments. There is no consistency or continuity in the projects in town. For example the sidewalks, the lining of the benches, ornaments and street scaping. They always seem to start on Main Street and then run out of funds. If you look at Court Street there is no foresight in putting conduit or lighting in. The budget should be used to improve the town and property values, such as parking, signage, landscaping, directories, holiday lights, parking lights, land development and acquisition. Such as: the signage in all of the parking lots was at one time color coded. The parking lots now are in disarray. I believe the money that’s acquired from the businesses, which is really a double taxation, should be used to help mayor and council improve things that help all the parts of the SID. When you go before the board you get shot-down in certain sections because of the lack of parking and you only have interest in improving the Market Yard most of the time and there is no parking on Throckmorton Street via Broad Street or Court Street.

There is a lot of open property in the Borough and this is the best time to acquire it. The last properties ever acquired in the Borough were probably Broad Street which belonged to the Burnswright and Casanova families. It is the responsibility of mayor and council to have the foresight and to start buying it. Four or five years down the road with the help of CBGB funds we could clear, pave it and it would be cheaper for neighboring towns to park. Direct work and functions that benefit the Main Street core bars and restaurants should pay the costs associated with running them, advertising them and not charge the SID district. I have more than a dozen flyers and brochures and you never see anything that benefits an office, a retail business, a lawyer’s office. These businesses are included because we are losing the retail in downtown Freehold. Most of it is already gone.

Voting is actually a joke in this town. The average in the last few years is 35-40 votes that decide the budget and one of the main reasons is they had to go on-line to find out when the date is. I compliment the Borough again for publishing the notice more than once in the paper in legible size that people could read. However, the people that used to come down were accused of being negative such as myself, and will no longer come down because the ears are kind of deaf on mayor and council. I think they have to go back to public notification. You are talking

about 900 eligible votes and you only get 35-40 votes and most of them are from the Board of Directors and their property owners. There needs to be a dissolution clause in the by-laws. However, anything that could shake up management has been eliminated. I believe it should be revisited, if they are confident that they are doing such a good job. However, they did not do a good job and this is a snowball financial burden on businesses that are already taxed enough.

Finally, I believe that the real perception problem is the amount of day laborers hanging around all over the streets and sidewalks and by avoiding the problem it is hurting the real estate values in the district. The traffic, the trash, the public health issues need to be addressed head-on and not just allowed to linger on the side streets. I care as much about Freehold as you do, however, you elected officials have the power to correct some of the issues and change the way the money is being spent and it should be corrected. I am a third generation, I put my money where my mouth is, I had a property on Throckmorton Street that didn't have enough parking and I had to compete with other businesses, and went out of my way and bought another piece of property and put more than 60 parking spaces in, however, when I see projects that realign the Market Yard over and over it hurts because no one in our section on Throckmorton Street which is a weak section is able to grow because there is no parking. It is your responsibility along with the Planning Board to acquire properties. Think about it you have CBGB funds, some of the money that the SID acquires and a budget of \$308,000 and none of this money is spent on items that increase property values.

Thank you very much for your time and listening."

Peggy DiBenedetto seconded everything that Mr. Steinberg said and questioned who benefits where do we benefit from being in the SID other than the restaurants.

Business Owner on Sheriff Street stated she just found out she is now being included in the SID and she is the only business on Sheriff Street. There is no business on Lafayette; there is no business on Sheriff. She would like to know how she will benefit from being in the SID. She doesn't see any bricks or special lights or special anything. She is very disappointed and thinks the town is going in a very poor direction.

Jean Holtz, Broad Street, stated she is a board member of Downtown Freehold and she stated she appreciated Mr. Steinberg's input and efforts especially in regards to Throckmorton Street. She stated on this particular budget nearly 30% of this budget is from contributions and sponsorships not from the assessments and that is remarkable.

Rich Gatto, CEO Downtown Freehold, stated that some of the comments that were addressed were co-mingled with comments to the council as opposed to the budget. He stated that Ms. Holtz was correct and that outside sponsorships this year will increase by approximately another 30% over last year, while the SID assessment has stayed the same. Jeff Friedman who is also one of our board members in conjunction with the administration has gone through and done a re-assessment to make sure everyone is being properly assessed in the SID which should cause a decrease to each individual SID owner.

Mr. Gatto read a few interesting points from a report that was presented to the council. He stated they have enhanced the plantings, by purchasing nicer pots, with more concentration on Throckmorton and Broad Streets. We facilitated the curb cut that is on East Main Street to open up additional parking. We've acquired an electric source of lighting from JCP&L throughout the SID and we are expanding that project. We've enhanced our Christmas decorations by providing new decorations and ordering enough holiday decorations for this coming holiday season. We've continually worked on trash clean-up throughout the SID and we've had numerous discussions with the Land-use Committee regarding projects for the short side of Throckmorton Street. We've installed sidewalks so people can walk from Main Street to the corner of Monmouth Avenue and Throckmorton Street. We've assisted and tried to encourage businesses off of Main Street with façade improvements in conjunction with the Freehold Borough Historical Commission. We tried to enhance the appearance of the town from all of the different gateways.

Mr. Steinberg stated in the twenty years the Partnership has been in business, Broad Street, Center Street, the section of West Main Street after the railroad tracks and Court Street all pay into the SID but have no holiday lights. All he is asking for is to take equal money, yearly, and add to those Streets. He stated it is the council's job to help direct the Partnership so it becomes a unit working together.

Jeff Friedman, 3 Broad Street, stated he appreciates the comments from Mr. Steinberg but he disagrees with some of them. The Partnership does benefit the whole SID. He doesn't get as much as the downtown businesses but the downtown is in a much better shape than it was twenty years ago and that has a lot to do with the dedication with the people like Mr. Steinberg, my

father and the SID Board of Directors. This year for the first time there will be Christmas lighting on Broad Street and Center Street. The Partnership is doing a better job than it was 4-5 years ago before he started getting actively involved in it.

Roger Kane, South Street, stated he is involved with a few events that bring people into Freehold. He stated without the support of Downtown Freehold it would be very difficult and he feels the Board is doing a great job.

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

**RESOLUTION CLOSING THE PUBLIC PORTION.**

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

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

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2012/2013 BUDGET OF THE SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.**

Councilman DiBenedetto stated this is his first year as liaison to the Freehold Center Partnership and he is a business owner in the SID. He is starting to get the internal aspect of the SID. He thinks this year they seem to sense that they need to branch out and spread the wealth. He stated they are working in that direction and he thinks more good things are about to come.

Councilman Schnurr stated his “yes” vote on the budget will be predicated on three things: the Partnership is going in the right direction, the budget is the same as it was last year and the governing body is working with the Partnership on a business retention and recruitment effort.

Councilman Newman echoed what has already been said and the Land-use Committee has been discussing issues with the Partnership and one of the areas discussed this evening is behind the CVS which is being addressed. We also discussed the McGackin Parking Lot, the Colaner property and Throckmorton Street. He acknowledged Mr. Gatto and the rest of the Partnership for positive work that has been done.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated she also agrees with everything that has been said. It’s not that she doesn’t agree with Mr. Steinberg it is when it is presented. We do take into consideration everything that you’ve said but it is now the “eleventh” hour and we need to vote on the budget today.

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

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

**“Resolution Authorizing Fireworks Display – Italian American Association of Monmouth County.”**

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FIREWORKS DISPLAY – ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MONMOUTH COUNTY.**

Councilman Schnurr stated the fireworks will be held at Freehold Raceway on Saturday, July 14, 2012.

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

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

**“Resolution Authorizing Fireworks Display – Freehold Center Partnership.”**

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FIREWORKS DISPLAY – FREEHOLD CENTER PARTNERSHIP.**

Mr. Gatto stated he applied for a permit three months ago and there were some issues for the permit even though it has been the same permit they’ve used for the past three years. Mr. Mehr had a meeting with the Fire Official and there has been a tentative solution that still needs to be resolved. The fireworks are scheduled for July 3, 2012 at dusk at Freehold Raceway.

Mr. Bellina stated that in the Resolution it states that all conditions dictated by the Fire Official need to be adhered to in order for the final go ahead.

Mayor Higgins stated our Fire Bureau will be working to make sure the site is safe and the proper permits and precautions are followed.

Mr. Bellina stated the Fire Official put forth a very detailed, thorough plan as to what is going to take place that day.

Councilman DiBenedetto thanked the efforts of Rich Gatto and Downtown Freehold and the Freehold Township Police Department who will be assisting our police and first aid.

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

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

**“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, New Jersey Authorizing a Developers Agreement Re: Mellon Farms, LLC.”**

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

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING A DEVELOPERS AGREEMENT RE: MELLON FARMS, LLC.**

Councilman Schnurr stated Mellon Farms moved into Silvert’s Furniture and developer’s agreements are normal with larger applications and was also a condition of the planning board resolution.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 13 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Approving Renewal of Alcoholic Beverage Licenses, July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013.”**

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

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD APPROVING RENEWAL OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSES, JULY 1, 2012 – JUNE 30, 2013.**

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 14 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution Accepting the 2011 Fiscal Year Audit Report as Prepared by Suplee, Clooney & Company.”**

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

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE 2011 FISCAL YEAR AUDIT REPORT AS PREPARED BY SUPLEE, CLOONEY & COMPANY.**

Councilman Schnurr stated every year we have an audit from an outside independent auditor that audits Freehold Borough’s books and they’ve made no comments or recommendations.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated the first thing she does when the report comes through is go to the end to see if there are recommendations or comments and she was pleasantly surprised by this year’s excellent report.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 15 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution Confirming Personnel Appointments/Actions:**

- a. Promotion of Lt. Craig Dispenza to Captain, Freehold Police Department, upon completion of the New Jersey Civil Service Certification Process.**
- b. Promotion of Sgt. Michael Sweetman to Lieutenant, Freehold Police Department upon completion of the New Jersey Civil Service Certification Process.**
- c. Promotion of Ptl. Richard Ciampa to Sergeant, Freehold Police Department upon completion of the New Jersey Civil Service Certification Process.”**

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

**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS/ACTIONS NO. 15A - 15C.**

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 16 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:**

- a. Memorializing Auction License, Anna M. Lascurain, 6/16/12, held at the Knights of Columbus, 70 East Main Street, 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM.**
- b. Raffle License #19-12, 50/50, Italian American Association of Monmouth County, 9/23/12, 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM.**
- c. Raffle License #20-12, Gift Auction, Italian American Association of Monmouth County, 9/23/12, 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM.**
- d. Raffle License #21-12, Freehold High School PTSO, 10/27/12, 2:00 PM.**
- e. Temporary Taxi Driver License, John S. Gianforte, Freehold.**
- f. Permanent Taxi Driver License, Jorge Lazaro Rodriguez. Lakewood.”**

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

**RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATIONS NO. 16A – 16F.**

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 17 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Approval of Bills.”**

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 the bills on the attached list in the amount of \$741,403.21 be paid as presented.

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

Mayor Higgins opened the meeting for public comments.

Carl Steinberg stated that now that everyone on council heard him this evening he wanted to bring up one issue. The mayor and council did an excellent job putting this in the paper in large, bold print. Maybe with an ad like that more people will vote.

Annette Jordan, Freehold Borough Board of Education, thanked the mayor and council members who attended graduation on Thursday night. She also thanked the police department for patrolling the traffic.

Barbara Oliver, 71 Center Street, asked why the landlord registration letter was mailed out so late. They are due on July 1<sup>st</sup> and she has 7 properties. She also received a letter saying that one of her rental properties has 7 days to clean up the yard otherwise she has to go to court. She would like the letters to go to the tenants, as well.

Ms. Higgins stated the letters used to go to both the owner and tenant.

Tom Baldwin, 3 Vought Avenue, voiced his objections to Olde Freehold Day. He stated several meetings ago he expressed his remarks about it. He stated everyone is entitled to their opinion. He wanted the governing body to hear his objections. He is a student of American History and he is well educated. If we were to celebrate Olde Freehold Day then this history would have to be recognized and this was a very painful period for many of our residents. He feels very fortunate that he did not live here during that time.

Mr. Baldwin stated that his neighbor's home has been foreclosed. This is very disturbing to him because he was a very good person. He recently learned that his wife is suffering from cancer and this man was responsible for setting up the neighborhood watch. This gentleman is a retired Freehold Borough police captain. He asked if there was anything that could be done for him.

Mayor Higgins stated he will talk to Mr. Baldwin after the meeting regarding this matter.

Chief Roberts read a letter from Mr. Boice, the FHS counselor and tennis coach at the high school regarding the excellent service of Lt. Craig Dispenza.

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

**RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.**

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

Mayor Higgins called upon the council for their comments.

Councilman Sims congratulated the students from Freehold High School and also all the participants in the Peanut Holloway walk-a-thon. Starting this evening and every month he will be putting out a monthly report from our code enforcement office. He read the following from the May report:

- 327 total activities, (property maintenance, code inspections, municipal court appearance, multi-family inspections and systematic inspections)

- every Friday they inspect the signage in town including signs on the telephone poles

Councilman Sims thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He stated the county is under a heat advisory and they have heat shelters in place.

Councilman Newman stated JCP&L has a link off our web page and if your power goes out and you have a hand held device you can also go to our web page and see where there are power outages. This past weekend we had the Historic Preservation House Tour which went well.

Councilman Newman attended the Court Street School Juneteenth celebration which was very interesting. There were people from Chicago, California and Philadelphia giving presentations. This week the concert series starts along with Freehold Idol. The Freehold Arts Council is working with Downtown Freehold on "Freeholds Got Talent" which will be in August.

Councilwoman Shutzer congratulated the Historic Preservation Committee on the lovely house tour and to all the residents that opened their homes. She congratulated Gil Burgess who was on the tour. It was worth the price of admission to see Muriel Smith and Barbara Wagner in their "flapper" outfits! She also went to the Juneteenth Celebration at the Court Street School. She thanked Mel O'Neal for all his efforts working with the YMCA.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated the Municipal Alliance Against Drug Abuse is having their annual golf tournament on Monday, June 25, 2012 and there are still openings for golfers and we will also accept any prizes or donations. She stated that the Graeme Preston Foundation for Life has now partnered with the Alliance and is making a \$5,000.00 donation. She thanked the Board of the foundation for their donation.

Councilman Schnurr congratulated all of the high school teams. For such a small town it never ceases to amaze him that we excel in athletics and academics. He expressed his thanks to the participants and the people who organized the YMCA walk-a-thon. He also personally thanked Mel O'Neal for all of his work in the community.

Councilman Schnurr stated the downtown restaurants support the Memorial Day Parade Committee and thanked Rich Gatto and the restaurant owners.

Councilman Schnurr congratulated the promoted police officers. He also asked the mayor if on the July 16, 2012 Workshop Meeting the Land-use Committee could have a workshop item to discuss the work the committee has been doing these past six months.

Councilman DiBenedetto thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He congratulated all of the high school teams. He also thanked Mel O'Neal and Cynthia Joy for all of the work at the YMCA. He also thanked Peanut Holloway and congratulated him on his health efforts.

Councilman DiBenedetto thanked everyone for the donations to the Freehold Arts Council during their canning this past weekend. He stated Downtown Freehold will be hosting Freehold Idol every Wednesday during the summer at 7:30 PM in front of the Hall of Records. The Thursday summer concert series kicks off on June 21, 2012 with Mission Dance, on June 28, 2012 with the Jersey Four and on July 5, 2012 the Nerds will be playing.

Mayor Higgins stated we are approaching the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday and on July 1, 2012 the 2<sup>nd</sup> bicycle ride with the mayor and council will be happening. It will start in front of Borough Hall at 1:00 PM. On July 3, 2012 the fireworks will be at the Freehold Raceway and on July 4, 2012 at 9:00 AM we will continue our tradition of reading the Declaration of Independence from the steps of Borough Hall.

Mayor Higgins stated that last week he received several phone calls from residents with what he considers police calls and he stressed if you need the police department call them and explain to the dispatcher that it is an emergency and that you would like to speak with a police officer. Several instances happened last week where the police needed to be called immediately and not brought to his attention a few days later. He stated he is happy to help but if you think you need a police officer, please call them so they can respond immediately.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

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TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC  
BOROUGH CLERK

