

The Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Tuesday, February 19, 2013 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).

Members of the Marine Corp. League Detachment and American Legion opened the meeting with the Salute to the Flag. Mayor Higgins asked for a moment of silence.

#### Roll Call

PRESENT	MAYOR J. NOLAN HIGGINS
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DI BENEDETTO
ABSENT	COUNCILMAN RONALD GRIFFITHS
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN KEVIN KANE
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN GEORGE SCHNURR
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN SHARON SHUTZER
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN JAYE SIMS

Councilman DiBenedetto offered a motion to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting February 4, 2013, seconded by Councilman Kane.

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

Mayor Higgins announced he was going out of order on the Agenda and read Item No. 15 as follows:

#### **“Presentation by the American Legion.”**

Mayor Higgins explained last November Governor Christie signed into law a bill designating the Honor and Remember Flag as the State’s official flag dedicated to the memory of those whose lives were lost in the line of duty. Our American Legion Post will be presenting this flag to Borough Hall. Mayor Higgins called the Commander of the American Legion and his members to present the flag.

James Schotman, Commander, explained that New Jersey is the twelfth State that has formally adopted this standard to our fallen heroes. The American Legion is our Nation’s largest veterans service organization focusing on service to veterans, service members and communities. The commander presented the flag to the Mayor.

Tom Scheil explained the Honor and Remember Flag was created to serve as a National symbol that specifically acknowledges the sacrifice of men and women in the United States Armed Forces for giving their lives for their Country in over two centuries of American History. The red field represents the blood spilled by the brave men and women. The white field below the gold star recognizes the purity of sacrifice. The blue star represents active service in military conflict. The gold star recognizes the ultimate sacrifice of a warrior in active service who will not return home. The folded flag signifies the final tribute to an individual life which is presented to the family. The flame is an eternal reminder of the spirit that has departed this life and burns on in the memory of all who knew and loved the fallen hero.

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 19a on the Agenda as follows:

#### **“Corporal Philip A. Reynolds Detachment #203 Presentation.”**

Councilman Schnurr stated one of the ideas that were discussed at the Freehold Memorial Day Parade Committee meetings was how they can make Elks Point more maintenance free. This proposal was born from those discussions at our meetings. The veterans groups, most notably the Marine Corp. League have been providing maintenance work over and beyond what the Borough Streets and Roads Department provides. From those initial discussions the Marine Corp. League has taken the lead on this and has set up a committee called the Elks Point Restoration Committee. There is an architectural plan in place to address the maintenance concerns initially raised by the veterans groups. The plan provides for a maintenance free Elks Point and dresses up the main gateway into Freehold Borough and our downtown district.

Councilman Schnurr introduced committee members Tim Rohan, Jim Donechie and John Bosco. They are all proud members of the Marine Corp. League, Corporal Philip A. Reynold's Detachment. Councilman Schnurr also introduced Commandant Ray Tweeten and Bill Wentzien, Cranmer Engineering.

Commandant Tweeten thanked Mayor Higgins, the governing body and Joseph Bellina, Borough Administrator. The purpose of tonight's meeting is to discuss a possible joint project between the Corporal Philip A. Reynolds Detachment and Freehold Borough that will renovate Elks Point Memorial Park. He stated that Freehold Borough sponsors a Memorial Day Parade and it is the oldest and largest parade in Western Monmouth County. This parade marks the 139<sup>th</sup> year and will be led by the Reynolds Detachment. Marines are marching under our parade banner which will declare our hope that our community and our nation will continue to honor our fallen heroes. Our Detachment #203 is named for a fallen hero, Corporal Philip A. Reynolds. The Elks Point Memorial Park is Freehold Borough's symbol for those in our surrounding community that was sent into harms way and fell for liberty and their country.

Commandant Tweeten stated the committee obtained bids from private contractors to determine the cost associated with the plan which is approximately \$30,000.00. The committee has been able to fundraise half the cost and is looking to the Borough to cover the other half.

Councilman Schnurr stated the Marine Corp. League wants to know if they can proceed with this. He also thanked Bill Wentzien, Cranmer Engineering for drawing up all the plans at no cost.

Mr. Wentzien explained the proposed site:

"Just a few details of what you have in front of you to help understand physically what the group had in mind for the site. It has been an honor to work with the committee. When I first met with them they gave me 3 mandates: 1. More beautiful 2. Less maintenance 3. Better functioning. From what you can see that what we are going to do will beautify that sight. What's out there is very meaningful and I am wholeheartedly behind making the project more beautiful.

We are proposing brick pavers in a brick color. Every once in awhile you will see some grey brick banding at various points along the sight to help delineate the function that is going to happen in there. In terms of the functioning, you have an existing brick walkway that is narrower than you would think. The arms of the inner crosses are very close to that walk so in terms of the functioning it was the use of the center walk that was a concern to the veterans groups. We are going to re-lay out the center walk. It will be wider. The mandate being that in any type of function or program that is happening, it will adequately handle 4 shoulder to shoulder that can walk in a procession down the center walk. The rest of it allows for brick pavers for the rest of the site. There is a little detail in the lower left corner where the crosses are. We are still going to use PVC sleeves but they will be flush with the bricks and then in front, the larger white square that will now be flush in the bricks in front of the cross. It is a 1ft. by 1ft. flat paver. It will also contain the engraved name associated with the cross of that location. It will allow for any period of time they wish to take the crosses out for refurbishing or weather or seasonal, the names still remain in the park at all times.

On the back end of the park, you will see the little half circle that was as a result of some of the follow up meetings we had with the group. That allowed for a space to conduct activities out there without overly intermingling with the crosses. It is a platform with a semicircle at the end. There are 3 grey squares that they have provided for monuments as they need too and there is a provision out there for a flush mounted exterior electrical receptacle in the ground to help with some PA systems that take place for any programs. There are two existing lanterns that will remain and relocated to work in that spot."

Councilman Schnurr stated this is the proposal and asked the governing body if they had any questions.

Mr. Bellina stated it would probably be better if the Borough issued a bid and were the contracting authority because the Borough is very familiar with this process.

Mayor Higgins agreed.

Councilman DiBenedetto asked if the monuments to be installed later were they the three monuments on East Main Street now.

Councilman Schnurr stated at some point the Monmouth County Sherriff's office is going to move and if that happens we will talk to the County about the monuments and see if they could be relocated to Elk's Point.

Councilman Kane stated it looks like a great idea and thanked them for all of their work.

Bernard Weinstein, 43 Schiverea Avenue, Commander of the Ogoensky Jackson Post 359, spoke in favor of the Elk's Point Restoration. He showed the governing body a plaque from 1956 that was presented to his organization after they marched in the Memorial Day Parade.

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

**“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Honoring Gloria Saker.”**

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

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD HONORING GLORIA SAKER.**

Councilman Kane stated he presented this Resolution to Mrs. Saker last Thursday, February 14, 2013 at a function at the hospital. CentraState is opening a women's heart center and when Joseph Saker died the family donated money towards the hospital and they named it in honor of Gloria Saker.

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

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

**“Resolution Authorizing Payment of Length of Service Award Program Benefits. (Freehold Fire Department)”**

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM BENEFITS. (FREHOLD FIRE DEPARTMENT)**

Councilman DiBenedetto stated he will abstain from this Resolution because he is a member of the fire department.

Councilman Schnurr stated this is a system that was established to provide tax free deferred income benefits to active volunteer members of an emergency service organization. In this case our fire department.

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

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

**“CDBG Block Grant Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to Execute a Project Agreement with Monmouth County for Performance and Delivery of F.Y. 2013 Community Development Projects.”**

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

**CDBG BLOCK GRANT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK TO EXECUTE A PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH MONMOUTH COUNTY FOR PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY OF F.Y. 2013 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.**

Councilman Kane stated this is an agreement with the county for potentially available federal funds that are available through the county.

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

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

**“CDBG Block Grant Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to Sign a Certification Prohibiting the Use of Excessive Force and a Certification Prohibiting the Use of Federal Funds for Lobbying.”**

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

CDBG BLOCK GRANT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK TO SIGN A CERTIFICATION PROHIBITING THE USE OF EXCESSIVE FORCE AND A CERTIFICATION PROHIBITING THE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR LOBBYING.

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

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

**“Resolution Approving Change Order Number 2 for the Purchase of a Mid-Mount Tower Ladder.”**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 2 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A MID-MOUNT TOWER LADDER.

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

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

**“Resolution Approving the Mayor’s Nomination and Appointment to the Memorial Day Parade Committee:**

- a. James W. Donechie, Jr. – Term expires December 31, 2013.”**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR’S NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT TO THE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE COMMITTEE.

Councilman Schnurr stated that Mr. Donechie will be taking Charles Sona’s place as the liaison from the Disabled American Veterans. He is a former Grand Marshall of the Freehold Memorial Day Parade and he is a member of the Elk’s Point Restoration Committee.

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

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

**“Resolution Confirming Personnel Actions:**

- a. Appointment of Jason Slatas as a Special Police Officer for calendar year 2013, full time, effective January 1, 2013.**

**b. Appointment of Aaron Owens as a Special Police Officer for calendar year 2013, full time, effective February 19, 2013.”**

Councilman Schnurr stated Special II Police Officers receive the same training as any other police officer and can do anything that a civilian employee can do. This personnel move was recommended by the Public Safety Committee and will give us increased flexibility in the police department and it has the possibility of reducing police overtime costs.

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

**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL ACTIONS NO. 11A AND 11B.**

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

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

**“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:**

- a. Raffle License #6-13 Edith M. Griebing PTA(Calendar Raffle), 4/19/13, 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM, at the American Hotel.**
- b. Raffle License #7-13, Edith M. Griebing PTA (Gift Auction), 4/19/13, 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM, at the American Hotel.**
- c. Raffle License #8-13, Edith M. Griebing PTA (50/50), 4/19/13, 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM, at the American Hotel.”**

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

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS NO. 12A – 12C.**

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

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

**“Approval of Bills.”**

Councilman Kane 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 \$1,523,292.01 be paid as presented.

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

There were no items under late communications.

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

**“Court Street School Update/Overview presented by Lillie Hendry.”**

Lillie Hendry thanked the governing body for allowing her to come tonight and she expressed her appreciation for all of the encouragement she received over the years. She showed a rendering of the Court Street School and a pamphlet. She stated in 1982 there was a vision that Freehold would have a historic site that would go on the list of National Historic Places. A group of alumni’s and friends from the Court Street School petitioned the Board of Freeholders to preserve the site for the Freehold community as a place of pride. In 1990 the group was incorporated and they developed a mission. The mission included preserving the structure of the old Court Street School as a historic and very viable community based educational center. It is there to inspire the hope of the citizens of the Borough. The community is multi-cultural and we recognize the cultures throughout Freehold which are very positive and give a lot back to the

Borough. We also work with other groups in the Borough, churches and civic groups. We have worked with families and schools to enhance the opportunities for youngsters and citizens of Freehold. We encourage and stress unity throughout the Borough. We feel very proud that the Borough is so unified in serving its citizens. In 1996 we received word from Washington D.C. that our application was honored to become an official national historic place.

Ms. Hendry stated this is what is good about Freehold Borough. The residents work together to help get things accomplished and two great examples are the school and the Elk's Point project.

Mayor Higgins thanked Ms. Hendry for her presentation and stated we are so happy that the Court Street School is part of the community.

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

**“Presentation of Historic Preservation Grant – 2012.”**

Councilman DiBenedetto liaison to the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) stated this grant is incentive for homeowners who are motivated and love their home and their community and are restoring their home to the way it once was.

Councilman DiBenedetto introduced Committee Chairman Jeff Friedman and Dave Loring.

Mr. Friedman stated this grant program was started by Dave Loring and the HPC raises funds from the historic house tours that occur twice a year. Some of the money collected is used to give incentive to property owners who take the time to restore their historic property. He then presented Mr. Castronovo from 104 Broad Street with a check for \$500.

Councilman Schnurr stated these funds are not from taxpayer money. These funds were collected and earned by the HPC from a variety of things they do throughout the year. The funds are put in a Borough account and then disbursed.

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 18 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Redevelopment Presentation – Owner- Yilmaz and Audrey Hassan; Location – 29 Hudson Street, Block 62, Lot 24; Purpose – Re-establish property as a boarding house.”**

Mayor Higgins explained that he has property within 200 feet of this application which is a conflict and he excused himself from hearing this application.

Mr. Vincent Halleran, Esquire represented the applicant. He introduced Michael Geller, the planner and Mr. and Mrs. Hassan.

Ms. Higgins, Esquire swore in the following witnesses:

- Michael Geller, Professional Engineer and Planner, Geller, Sive and Co.
- William T. Wentzien, Borough Engineer, Cranmer Engineering.

Ms. Higgins marked the following exhibit:

A-1 Letter dated 2/13/13 from Cranmer Engineering.

Ms. Higgins stated this application is for an existing building which is 2½ stories. The first floor totals 1426 s.f. and the applicant is proposing the first floor to have 2 one bedroom apartments and the second and third floors to be used as a boarding house consisting of 7 bedrooms with an occupancy of one person per bedroom. Under the Core Redevelopment Plan Section 3.03 and Section 3.03b under Permitted Uses, the plan reads residential dwelling units contained in a variety of building types such as but not limited to townhouses, zero lot line dwellings and apartment buildings. As noted in Mr. Wentzien's letter, boarding homes are not specifically indicated as a permitted principle use and he has indicated that the applicant is going to have to convince or discuss with the council why they believe that use would be permitted under Sections 3.03 and 3.03b.

Ms. Higgins stated that under the Core Redevelopment Plan, the governing body is the redevelopment entity and any deviation from use requirements can only be accomplished through an amendment to the plan. So they cannot go to the board for a variance for use. If it is not a permitted use under the Core Redevelopment Plan then they must go to council to amend the ordinance accordingly.

Ms. Higgins explained the Core Redevelopment Plan again which states that residential dwelling units contained in a variety of building types included but not limited to. The plan does

not define what a dwelling unit is however, your zoning ordinance does. The zoning ordinance defines a dwelling unit means 1 or more rooms, arranged for the use of 1 or more individuals living together as a single housekeeping unit, the cooking, living, sanitary and sleeping facilities which would seem to preclude a boarding house definition. This is what we want you to address how a boarding house which is really not designed for people living together as one family type unit or a single housekeeping unit as defined with common cooking areas, etc.

Mr. Geller stated this structure is located at 29 Hudson Street. It is an existing structure, there are no changes proposed to the exterior. It is a 2½ story structure. It currently is being used as a multi-family residence. Historically it had been a rooming house and had continued to be a rooming house when Mr. Hassan purchased it. There are 2 one bedroom units on the ground floor and these units are on the street level and in accordance to the redevelopment zone a permitted use in the zone is residential units contained in a variety of building types. We feel this is a structure that offers a variety of units. There are proposed rooms that would share a common area and kitchen facilities on the second and third floor.

Mr. Hassan explained the building. He stated it is located at 29 Hudson Street. He has 2 one bedroom apartments downstairs and he would like to rent to friends and family members on the second and third floor. There is a kitchen and bathroom on the second floor.

Councilman Schnurr asked the present use of the second and third floor now.

Mr. Hassan stated he has friends living there but they will be moving out.

Mr. Bellina asked if Mr. Stryker made them move or was it the State Fire Marshall.

Mr. Halleran responded he wasn't sure.

Mr. Hassan replied it was Mr. Garry Jackson, the local Fire Marshall.

Councilman Schnurr stated eleven parking spaces are required and ten are being provided on site.

Mr. Geller responded that ten are being provided on site. There is a conflicting parking requirement, we could add another space in the back but the Borough ordinance requires 1½ spaces per one bedroom apartment and the residential site improvement standards require 1.8. So when you use the residential site standards it requires 11 parking spaces. The Borough standards require 10 parking spaces.

Mr. Geller addressed the concerns in the report from Bill Wentzien.

Mr. Sims questioned the existing barn/garage.

Mr. Geller stated there is a garage in the back.

Mr. Sims asked if there was an attic on the existing structure and a basement.

Mr. Hassan replied there is an attic and finished basement on the structure.

Mr. Wentzien stated a lot of things we heard this evening deal with residential use in the core zone. Your focus needs to be on the specific use of residential as it's presented by the applicant. The Borough ordinance defines a lot of terms and they are in there. The language used in the Core Redevelopment Zone is specific for residential use. Yes, boarding houses may be defined in the Borough ordinance but a dwelling unit as a residential dwelling unit phrased in the Core Redevelopment Zone is also defined and that definition was read to you by the attorney.

Ms. Higgins stated that she explained what she thinks our requirements are and it is up to the council to make the interpretation basically whether or not they think a boarding house would fall under the definition of dwelling unit as set forth in the zoning ordinance.

Mr. Bellina questioned the third floor attic. It shows 2 bedrooms and a common area on the third floor with no bathroom.

Mr. Hassan stated there are 3 bedrooms on that level but one of the bedrooms will now be used to add a fire escape.

Mr. Sive stated the attic is on the same floor. It is an unfinished attic with utilities in it.

Councilwoman Shutzer moved to deny the application because the application does not meet the definition permitted under the Core Redevelopment Plan, seconded by Councilman Sims:

Councilman Schnurr stated we zone by ordinance and if a boarding house is not in our ordinance then this does not fit the vision we wanted.

Ms. Higgins explained to the council that a yes vote will be your “no” to the application because Councilwoman Shutzer has voted to say that boarding houses are not permitted uses under the Core Redevelopment Zone and she does not want to amend the Core Redevelopment Zone.

#### ROLL CALL

DiBenedetto	Abstain (within 200 s.f.)
Kane	Yes
Schnurr	Yes
Shutzer	Yes
Sims	Yes

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 19 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Items for Discussion:**

- b. Forum for Elected Officials: Anti Discrimination.**
- c. Jewelry and Precious Metals Ordinance. (See Attachment II)”**

Item B. Forum for Elected Officials: Anti Discrimination

Kerry Higgins, Borough Attorney, stated the Borough of Freehold has a policy concerning non-discrimination and harassment which applies to all employees and elected officials. The Borough of Freehold’s policy is that it will not tolerate harassment or discrimination by anyone in the workplace including supervisors, co-workers and non-employees. It applies to conduct which occurs in the workplace and extends to conduct which occurs at any location that can be reasonably regarded as an extension of the workplace. Ms. Higgins briefly explained and provided a copy of the policy to the governing body.

Item C. Jewelry and Precious Metals Ordinance (See Attachment II)

Mr. Bellina explained this came up through the Public Safety Committee and it was placed here for any questions, comments or concerns. If there are no comments it will be placed on the agenda on March 4<sup>th</sup> for introduction.

Councilman Schnurr asked if this has the pawn shops under the same standards as those who sell the precious metals.

Ms. Higgins stated we have included pawn shops in this ordinance for those who buy and sell used items.

Councilman Schnurr asked if someone sold jewelry to a pawn shop would they have to provide their ID.

Councilman Kane stated it is a tracking mechanism.

Ms. Higgins stated the pawn shop has to keep the records.

Councilman Schnurr asked if there was a penalty if they did not comply with this.

Ms. Higgins stated there was a penalty.

Mr. Bellina stated this will be placed on the agenda on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Higgins opened the meeting to the public.

There were no public comments.

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, Kane, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; Councilman Griffiths absent. Mayor Higgins declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Higgins called upon the council for their comments.

Councilman Schnurr stated high school seniors deciding to go to college and then deciding what college to apply to is probably one of the more important decisions that a young person has to make and it is one of their biggest expenses as well. Almost all colleges and scholarships ask for letters of recommendation. Anyone in need of a letter should contact him.

Councilman Schnurr stated Monmouth County has been doing a study on Route 537 and the public information center for Monmouth County is having a meeting on Tuesday, February 26, 2013 from 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM for the public at the firehouse. The purpose is to inform the public of the conceptual alternatives and to solicit comment for Route 537.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated that for many years she has been the only female on council and there has been a lot of joking but never once has she been treated with any kind of disrespect.

Councilman Sims had no comment.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated the Marine Corp. League spoke earlier and they failed to mention the crosses they are obtaining are the same crosses that are at Arlington Cemetery. There will be a Marine Corp. golf outing on May 8, 2013. He then listed the FCP March events.

Councilman Kane thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He thanked Lillie Hendry for all her dedication throughout the years. He also thanked Bill Wentzien for all of his work on the many various projects in the Borough.

Mayor Higgins stated we received a letter from the Borough of Keansburg Police Department addressed to the mayor thanking our police department, Chief Glenn Roberts, Lieutenant Mark Wodell, Patrolman Brian Ruegger and Patrolman James Richmond for their help after Hurricane Sandy.

Mayor Higgins stated the council chambers are in the midst of being painted and carpeted, and we've talked to Historic Preservation Commission to ask them if they could come up with maps and historical prints to hang in the room.

There being no further business to discuss, Councilwoman Shutzer moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 PM, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto, with All in Favor and Councilman Griffiths absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

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TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC  
BOROUGH CLERK

TLD:aj

