

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, December 2, 2013 at 7:33 p.m. 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).

Fire Chief Dan Megill 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 DIBENEDETTO
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN RONALD GRIFFITHS
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN KEVIN KANE
ABSENT	COUNCILMAN GEORGE SCHNURR
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN SHARON SHUTZER
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN JAYE SIMS

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

“Presentation of Certificates for the Mayor’s Wellness Campaign.”

Mayor Higgins introduced Lynn Reich and acknowledged her hard work in taking this project on from the very beginning.

Ms. Reich stated the purpose of the Mayor’s Wellness Campaign was to encourage people to get up, get out and get moving. The activities included in this campaign were bike rides, walks and paddling in the park. All of the activities were free. One of the best programs that still continues is the Freehold Fit Club which meets on Tuesdays, from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the Rug Mill Community Center.

Ms. Reich presented the certificates.

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

“Presentation of Annual Report by the Freehold Fire Department.”

Councilman Kane introduced Fire Chief Dan Megill and Assistant Fire Chief Steve Pullen.

Fire Chief Megill presented the annual report to the governing body and a copy of the report is on file at the Borough Clerk’s office.

Councilman Sims offered a motion to accept the Supplemental Minutes from November 18, 2013; Executive Session November 18, 2013 and Workshop Meeting November 18, 2013, seconded by Councilwoman Shutzer.

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

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

“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Honoring Norman Townsend on the Occasion of His Retirement.”

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 HONORING NORMAN TOWNSEND ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated she and Mayor Higgins presented the Resolution at a luncheon provided by the Water and Sewer Department. Mr. Townsend has been an excellent employee and we wish him the best during his retirement.

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

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

“Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Ordinance No. 2013/11 Amending Chapter 10, (Vehicles and Traffic), Section 10.12.150 (Parking at the Market Yard Municipal Parking Lot.”

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled, “ORDINANCE NO. 2013/11 AMENDING CHAPTER 10, (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC), SECTION 10.12.150 (PARKING AT THE MARKET YARD MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT” 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 same shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on December 16, 2013 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 require same.

Councilman Sims stated we will be changing the parking permitted times in the Market Yard Parking Lot. The hours for parking are from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The parking map is on file in the Borough Clerk's office.

Councilman Kane stated this was a recommendation from the Freehold Center Partnership and the Land Use Committee.

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

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

“Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Ordinance No. 2013/20 Amending Chapter 10, (Vehicles and Traffic), Section 10.24 (Permit Parking Areas) of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Freehold.”

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled, “ORDINANCE NO. 2013/20 AMENDING CHAPTER 10, (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC), SECTION 10.24 (PERMIT PARKING AREAS) 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 same shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on December 16, 2013 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 require same.

Councilman Sims stated we are amending fees for the various parking lots in the Borough.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing Professional Engineering Services with Cranmer Engineering (William T. Wentzien, PE) to Revamp Tax Maps Per Monmouth County Tax Board Revaluation Order.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES WITH CRANMER ENGINEERING (WILLIAM T. WENTZIEN, PE) TO REVAMP TAX MAPS PER MONMOUTH COUNTY TAX BOARD REVALUATION ORDER.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing Additional Engineering Services for Previously Approved Projects with Cranmer Engineering (William T. Wentzien, PE).”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PROJECTS WITH CRANMER ENGINEERING (WILLIAM T. WENTZIEN, PE).

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Griffiths, Kane, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; Councilman Schnurr 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 Approving Subordination of Mortgage Given to Borough of Freehold Rehabilitation Program Concerning RCA Case Number FBHRP06-32.”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD APPROVING SUBORDINATION OF MORTGAGE GIVEN TO BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD REHABILITATION PROGRAM CONCERNING RCA CASE NUMBER FBHRP06-32.

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

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

“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:

- a. **Junkyard License - Beacon Metal Co., Inc., 215 Throckmorton Street.**
- b. **Precious Metal License – Cash Exchange, 145 South Street.**
- c. **Precious Metal License – Crown Jewelry, 31 East Main Street.**
- d. **Precious Metal License – Superior Rare Coinage Inc., 41 East Main Street.**
- e. **Precious Metal License – Gold 2 Cash, 597 Park Avenue.**
- f. **Precious Metal License – Gold Rush Gold Buyers, 566 Park Avenue.**
- g. **Raffle License #27-13, Motorcycle Raffle, Freehold Lodge No. 1454 B.P.O. Elks, Inc., 8/9/14, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM.”**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATIONS NO. 13A THROUGH 13G.

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

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

“Approval of Bills”

Councilman Kane 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 the bills on the attached list in the amount of \$2,192,936.85 be paid as presented.

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

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

“Clerk – Late Communications.”

There were none.

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

“Public Comments”

Mike Federici, Federici’s Restaurant, stated he would like the governing body to vote no on Ordinance No. 2013/11. He feels this is the wrong ordinance for this town; we need an ordinance that has more structure and restrictions. Without a more structured ordinance the reputation of a difficult parking town will just get worse. Even though the FCP has recommended this particular ordinance, not one of the board members knows the parking lot like he does. He has proposed three hour parking Monday – Saturday, 7:30 AM – 7:30 PM instead of Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM.

Lynn Reich, 6 Hance Blvd., stated in her spare time she is a member of the Freehold Borough Arts Council and on Saturday, December 7, 2013 there is an arts and craft show at the education building behind the Presbyterian Church and they are working “hand in hand” with the Freehold Borough Historic Church Tour which will be from 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM.

Jim McAllister, President of the Freehold First Aid Squad, stated things are going well with the First Aid Squad this month. He stated he is very frustrated with the County dispatch system because every time he calls 911 the phone rings 9 – 11 times. A couple of times he called for a minor reason and was told to call 732-462-1233. He feels the Borough needs to look into the County dispatch system.

Mayor Higgins asked Mr. McAllister to provide the date and approximate times that he called and he will forward it to the police chief.

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

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.

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

Mayor Higgins asked the council for their comments.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated that unfortunately Saturday, December 7, 2013 is going to be a very busy day. We have the church tour, the arts and craft show and we have the Senior Holiday Party. She reminded the residents if they know any Borough senior citizens please have them call the Borough Clerk’s office and make a reservation and join them this Saturday for our holiday senior’s party. There will also be a community luncheon for the entire community at Bethel AME Church on Saturday, December 21, 2013.

Councilman Sims thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He congratulated Fire Chief Megill and Assistant Chief Pullen on their first year and wished them good luck for next year.

Councilman Sims stated that last week the Youth Government Program met and the students wanted to do something different for the holidays. They decided on Sunday, December 15, 2013 at 10:00 AM here at Borough Hall they will be hosting a toy/food drive. They've selected four needy families here in town and the students will be here at Borough Hall collecting nonperishable food and wrapped gifts.

Councilman Sims stated the annual tree lighting will be Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at 5:00 PM. He welcomed Traci DiBenedetto back from her maternity leave.

Councilman DiBenedetto offered his deepest sympathies to the Guy and Woolford families. He urged the residents to pick-up a flyer from Downtown Freehold which describes the holiday events.

Councilman Griffiths thanked the fire department and the chiefs for their work last year and he wishes them the best next year.

Council President Kane thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He offered his condolences to the Guy and Woolford families. Both families have deep roots in community service and they will be greatly missed.

Council President Kane thanked Fire Chief Dan Megill and Assistant Chief Steve Pullen. The fire department has a great tradition and he thanked them for continuing that.

Mayor Higgins wished Council President Kane a safe and enjoyable trip. He is visiting with his son-in-law who is serving in the United States Navy. Mayor Higgins welcomed Ms. DiBenedetto back and he also recognized Toni Jones and Linda Cottrell who filled in while Traci was out. They did a super job. He also recognized Captain Dispenza who filled in for Chief Roberts tonight.

Mayor Higgins called for a motion to adjourn.

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto.

MOTION TO ADJOURN.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRACI L. DI BENEDETTO
BOROUGH CLERK

TLD/aj

