

The Rescheduled Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Wednesday, February 5, 2014 at 7:00 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).

Councilman DiBenedetto 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
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN GEORGE SCHNURR
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN SHARON SHUTZER
ABSENT	COUNCILMAN JAYE SIMS

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

Councilwoman Shutzer offered a motion to accept the minutes from the Executive Session June 3, 2013; Special Meeting December 30, 2013 and Reorganization Meeting January 5, 2014 and was seconded by Councilman Griffiths.

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

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

“Resolution Memorializing the Combination of Two Grant Agreements with the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT).”

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

RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE COMBINATION OF TWO GRANT AGREEMENTS WITH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NJDOT).

Councilman DiBenedetto stated these are two grants we received totaling \$175,000.00 for West George Street and \$105,000.00 for Douglas Road.

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

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

“Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Purchase of Road Maintenance Materials.”

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

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ROAD MAINTENANCE MATERIALS.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated being lead agency for the Western Monmouth Cooperative purchasing group between Freehold Township, Manalapan Township and Freehold Borough; gives us the option of getting the best bang for our buck in getting materials for our roads.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing Application for the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Grant Through the County of Monmouth.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR THE GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE GRANT THROUGH THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Griffiths, Kane, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; Councilman Sims absent. 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 Subordination of a Mortgage Given to Borough of Freehold Housing Rehabilitation Program Concerning RCA Case Number 104.”

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 SUBORDINATION OF A MORTGAGE GIVEN TO BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM CONCERNING RCA CASE NUMBER 104.

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

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

“Resolution of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Compensation Payment to Stacy A. Kitson Upon Her Separation From Employment.”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION PAYMENT TO STACY A. KITSON UPON HER SEPARATION FROM EMPLOYMENT.

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

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

“Resolution Confirming Personnel Appointments/Actions – Municipal Court:
a. Resignation of Stacy A. Kitson, Municipal Court Administrator, effective January 31, 2014.
b. Appointment of Penny Danley-Gravatt as Acting Municipal Court Administrator, effective February 1, 2014.”

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

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS/ACTIONS – MUNICIPAL COURT – ITEMS 10A AND 10B.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated it is with great regret that she accepts the resignation of Stacy Kitson because she was a great employee.

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

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

“Resolution Confirming Personnel Appointments/Actions:
a. Appointment of Christopher Atkinson as full-time Special Officer, Class II, Freehold Police Dept., effective January 22, 2014.
b. Appointment of Andrew St. Germain as a Laborer, Water and Sewer

- Department, effective upon successful completion of pre-employment testing.**
- c. Resignation of Jason M. Slatas as Class II Special Police Officer, effective January 15, 2014.**
 - d. Resignation of Aaron Owens as Class II Special Police Officer, effective January 7, 2014.**
 - e. Resignation of Jeremy Hoffman as a member of the Freehold Fire Department, Good Will Hook & Ladder Company, effective January 2, 2014.**
 - f. Resignation of John Loveland as a member of the Freehold Fire Department, Engine & Hose Company No. 1, effective January 21, 2014.**
 - g. Resignation of Steven Loveland as a member of the Freehold Fire Department, Engine & Hose Company No. 1, effective January 21, 2014.”**

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

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS/ACTIONS NO. 11A – 11G.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated it is with regret that she accepts the resignations of Officer Slatas, Officer Owens of the Freehold Police Department and Jerry Hoffman, John and Steven Loveland of the Freehold Fire Department. All of these gentlemen were great representatives of the town and she is sorry to see them go.

Councilman DiBenedetto agreed with Councilwoman Shutzer.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Griffiths, Kane, Schnurr and Shutzer 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:

“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:

- a. Raffle License #27-13, Motorcycle Raffle, BPO #1454 Freehold Lodge, 8/9/14 (Amendment to the Prizes).**
- b. Monmouth Hose Fire Company Fundraiser, selling roses for Valentine’s Day on 2/13/14, 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM and 2/14/14, 12:00 PM – 9:00 PM.**
- c. Amusement Game License, (Juke Box) American Legion Post 54, 62 West Main Street.**
- d. Amusement Game License, (Pool Table) American Legion Post 54, 62 West Main Street.**
- e. Massage Therapist License, Kaleria V. Corcoran. I&M Physical Therapy, 41 Center Street.**
- f. Massage Therapist License, Inna Lamotkina, I&M Physical Therapy, 41 Center Street.**
- g. Massage Establishment License/Therapist License, Lisa Koodray, 57 West Main Street.**
- h. Precious Metals License, Joyeria Latina, 19 South Street.**

- i. **Precious Metals License, Freehold Jewelers, 33 West Main Street.**
- j. **Precious Metals License, Land of Gold and Silver Past and Present, 8 Throckmorton Street.**
- k. **Permanent Taxi Drivers License, Michael F. Beierschmitt, Freehold.**
- l. **Solicitation Licenses, Matthew Horsch and James Giardina, canvassing for Renewal by Anderson Windows, with special conditions. (Previously approved).**
- m. **Raffle License #1-14, Casino Night, Police Unity Tour, Inc., 3/29/14, 7:00 PM – 12:00 AM, American Hotel, 18-20 East Main Street.**
- n. **Raffle License #2-14, Year Round Pull Tabs, St. Rose of Lima Sports Assoc., 4/1/14 – 3/31/15, 51 Lincoln Place.**
- o. **Bingo License #1-14, St. Rose of Lima Church, 5/2/14, 2:30 PM – 5:00 PM, 51 Lincoln Place.**
- p. **Raffle License #3-14, 50/50, PTO Joseph J. Catena School, 4/3/14, 5:00 PM – 11:00 PM, American Hotel, 18-20 East Main Street.**
- q. **Raffle License #4-14, Birthday Board–50/50, PTO Joseph J. Catena School, 4/3/14, 5:00 PM – 11:00 PM, American Hotel, 18-20 East Main Street.**
- r. **Raffle License #5-14, Tricky Tray, PTO Joseph J. Catena School, 4/3/14, 5:00 PM – 11:00 PM, American Hotel, 18-20 East Main Street.**
- s. **Raffle License #6-14, Grand Prize Raffle, PTO Joseph J. Catena School, 4/3/14, 5:00 PM – 11:00 PM, American Hotel, 18-20 East Main Street.**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATIONS 12A THROUGH 12S.

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

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

“Approval of Bills from January 21, 2014 and February 3, 2014.”

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 from January 21, 2014 in the amount of \$2,288,598.23 be paid as presented.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that the bills on the attached list from February 3, 2014 in the amount of \$2,279,928.53 be paid as presented.

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

Mayor Higgins opened the meeting to the public.

Christine Gregory, 42 West George Street, thanked the council for the public service announcements urging residents to remove their vehicles from the street so the Streets and Roads Department can plow. She personally thanked Mitch Munis, public works employee, for shoveling her driveway because she was blocked in.

Mayor Higgins stated he has received numerous phone calls regarding the helpfulness of the DPW crew. These employees are out in the freezing cold, all hours of the night, working to clear the roads.

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

Mayor Higgins called upon the members of the council for their comments.

Councilman Schnurr stated the Elk's Point ground breaking will be this Saturday, February 8, 2014, at 10:00 AM. This starts the construction for the refurbishing of Elk's Point. There will be a fundraiser for the Memorial Day Parade on Tuesday, February 18, 2014, all day, at Federici's Restaurant.

Councilman Schnurr was in attendance at the Martin Luther King Day celebration at Bethel AME Church and it was very well done. The Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual "Kids Day" on Saturday, February 15, 2014, from 11:00 AM – 2:30 PM. There are numerous free planned activities. Also on February 15, 2014, there is a Black History Month Celebration at the First Baptist Church at 1:00 PM.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated the Arcadian Choral performance of "Snowflake Songs" scheduled for February 16, 2014 at 4:00 PM has been cancelled for now. She hopes it will be rescheduled in March. The Downtown Concert Series will feature Anton Del Forno, a solo classical guitar player on February 15, 2014 at 7:30 PM.

Councilman Kane thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He asked Mr. Bellina to thank the DPW crew for all of their hard work.

Councilman Griffiths stated he attended the Reorganization Meeting of the Freehold Borough Arts Council and they had a speaker there who was very interesting. The Shade Tree Commission will be running a poster contest for 5th graders and that will be in conjunction with Arbor Day.

Councilman Griffiths stated at the last meeting Councilman Kane talked about the veterans and the job they do. He stated he is personally involved in a situation where a gentleman by the name of Ryan Connell, 26 years old who served one term in Iraq; is suffering from Stage 4 brain cancer. His only chance at the moment is to receive treatment at Duke University. There is an on-line fundraiser which has been doing well and it culminates this Friday, February 7, 2014 at 7:00

PM at Park 33. There will be a \$25.00 admission fee, which gets you dinner and tickets for a gift auction.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated have you ever heard of a “Silver” alert. Well he is a Bronco fan so he is calling an “Orange” alert and when they finally show up to play the Super Bowl, will someone call him. He reminded the residents that Valentine’s Day is coming up and everyone should spend it downtown.

Mayor Higgins stated that Al Michenfelder asked him to announce that the Racer’s Club will be folding because of low membership.

Mayor Higgins stated the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Higgins called for a motion to adjourn.

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Griffiths:

MOTION TO ADJOURN.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

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