

The Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, April 21, 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 Kane opened the meeting with the Salute to the Flag, followed by a moment of silence for Forrest Woolford.

ROLL CALL

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

Councilwoman Shutzer offered a motion to accept the Executive Sessions February 5, 2014 and March 17, 2014; Supplemental Minutes from April 7, 2014 and Council Meeting April 7, 2014 and was seconded by Councilman Griffiths.

On roll call Council Members Kane, Griffiths, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; Councilman Sims abstained from the Executive Session Minutes of February 5, 2014 and Councilman Schnurr abstained from the Supplemental Minutes and Council Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2014; Councilman DiBenedetto absent. Mayor Higgins declared the motion adopted.

Chief Roberts introduced the two new Special Police Officers. The first is Special Officer Johnny Saada, from Toms River, he was a Class II Special in Seaside Park. The second is Special Officer Matthew Trembow from New Egypt, he is a retired Manalapan Police Officer who served 25 years there.

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

“Proclamation of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Declaring April, 2014 as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month.”

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

“Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Bond Ordinance #2014/4 Providing for Various Road and Parking Lot Improvements, Appropriating \$990,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$940,500 Bonds and Notes to Finance a Portion of the Costs Thereof, Authorized in and by the Borough of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey.”

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that a Bond Ordinance entitled “BOND ORDINANCE #2014/4 PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS ROAD AND PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS, APPROPRIATING \$990,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$940,500 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY” 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 Bond Ordinance in the Asbury Park Press and that same shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on May 5, 2014 and that during the week of said meeting copies of the Bond Ordinance shall be made available at the Clerk’s office to members of the general public who shall request same.

Councilman Griffiths stated this is for the work being done on Jackson Terrace, McElwaine Drive, Avenue A, Avenue C and the Park Avenue school parking lot and the engineering design for Murray Street and we anticipate being reimbursed for the work being done at Park Avenue School.

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

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

“Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Bond Ordinance #2014/5 Providing for the Acquisition of Various Capital Equipment, Appropriating \$413,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$392,350 Bonds and Notes to Finance a Portion of the Costs Thereof, Authorized in and by the Borough of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey.”

Councilman Kane 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 a Bond Ordinance entitled “BOND ORDINANCE #2014/5 PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT, APPROPRIATING \$413,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$392,350 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY” 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 Bond Ordinance in the Asbury Park Press and that same shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on May 5, 2014 and that

during the week of said meeting copies of the Bond Ordinance shall be made available at the Clerk's office to members of the general public who shall request same.

Councilman Kane stated this is for the purchase of various capital equipment.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing Agreement with VFW for Installation of Honor Roll Monument and Improvements to Elk's Point.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH VFW FOR
INSTALLATION OF HONOR ROLL MONUMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS TO
ELK'S POINT.

Councilman Schnurr stated this is a World War II Honor Roll that will be located right behind the semi-circle at Elks Point. They will be starting construction after Memorial Day.

Councilman Sims recognized all of the hard work that Councilman Schnurr has done on this project.

Councilman Kane stated back in the 1940's this memorial was in front of the Hall of Records and it was in disrepair and Carl Steinberg is bringing it back.

Councilman Schnurr stated the Elks Point War Memorial and VFW Honor Roll will have a brick by brick historic remembrance and if anyone wants to donate to this honor roll there is a form in the clerk's office.

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

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

“Resolution Confirming Personnel Appointments/Actions:

- a. Appointment of Robert Lithgow as a Driver of Fire Department apparatus, Good Will Hook & Ladder Company, effective April 21, 2014.”**

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

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL APPOINTMENT/ACTION NO. 9A.

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

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

“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:

- a. **Denial – Precious Metal License, Cellwave, LLC, 10 West Main Street.**
- b. **Life Chain Prayer Vigil, St. Rose of Lima Church c/o Jim Meyer, 5/18/14, 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM, along South Street sidewalk in front of St. Rose.**
- c. **Bingo License No. 2-14, St. Rose of Lima Church, Monday Nights, 7:15 PM to 10:00 PM, 51 Lincoln Place, beginning June 2, 2014 through May 25, 2015.**
- d. **Bingo License No. 3-14, St. Rose of Lima Sports Association, Saturday Nights, 7:15 PM to 10:00 PM, 51 Lincoln Place, beginning June 7, 2014 through May 30, 2015.**
- e. **Parade License, Freehold Borough Little League Parade, 4/26/14, 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM from Main Street to the Little League Fields, Rain Date: 4/27/14. c/o Rich Matteo.**
- f. **Sidewalk Café License, Stefano Pizza, 35 East Main Street.**
- g. **Sidewalk Café License, Texas Mexican Restaurant, 3 West Main Street.**
- h. **Canning, Knights of Columbus, 4/26/14, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, at the intersection of Route 79 and Route 537 “Elks Point”.**
- i. **Vendor License, American Legion Post 54, Poppy Sale from 5/1/14 – 12/25/14.”**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATIONS 10A THROUGH 10I.

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

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

“Approval of Bills.”

Councilman Kane 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 the bills on the attached list in the amount of \$440,602.43 be paid as presented.

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

Councilman Sims questioned Agenda Item No. 6. He asked Mr. Bellina when the Interlocal agreement that needs to be formalized with the schools would be done.

Mr. Bellina replied that he will probably have it for their review at the next council meeting.

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

“Clerk – Late Communications.”

There were none.

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

“Committee Reports.”

Councilman Schnurr stated the Freehold Library offers free and open wifi and if you need help setting up a free email account, surfing the web, writing a resume or finding resources for a school paper or project, you can call and make an appointment with the library for one-on-one assistance.

Councilman Schnurr stated the Education Foundation is looking for volunteers on Sunday, April 27th for the New Jersey Marathon to serve as road guards. Last year for their help the foundation received a donation of \$2, 666.67. They are bringing back the 4th grade bike safety program. The foundation has also helped 2nd and 3rd grade students by buying reading books at the PTO book fairs and with the annual grant award of \$15,000.00 was put into the classrooms for various projects. If anyone is interested in helping out please contact Lynn Reich at lynn.reich@gmail.com. The foundation is holding a bike drive on May 17, 2014 and bikes can be donated at the Park Avenue School.

Councilman Schnurr stated the Land Use Committee recently approved the signage for the CITCO station on South Street. He also stated the Memorial Day Parade Committee will be announcing the Grand Marshall and all of the activities for the parade.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated in regards to Personnel, we’ve hired two new Special Police Officers. The Council on Aging met last Tuesday and there was nothing new. The Freehold Alliance Against Drugs is hosting their annual fundraiser golf outing on July 1, 2014.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated there is a young girl doing a “Gold” Award project for the Girl Scouts and today on the email blast, a notice went out introducing her. She stated in the notice that she would like to help the senior citizens in town with their spring clean up and planting and also fall clean up. She is forming a community service club that will consist of teenagers also interested in helping senior citizens. The work will be done at no cost to the seniors. Councilwoman Shutzer stated she would be her sponsor and advisor for this project. She stated if you know someone who is a senior in need of help to please contact her.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated the Freehold Borough Arts Council is having a social event on Thursday, April 24th at 7:00 PM at Center Players on South Street.

Councilwoman Shutzer reminded the residents that Tuesday, April 22, 2014 is hydrant flushing and she reminded everyone that Pastor Bill Frederickson of First Baptist Church is retiring and his last sermon will be on May 4, 2014 at 10:45 AM.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated the YMCA Walk-A-Thon will be on Saturday, May 3,

2014, at Freehold High School. This walk was started by Peanut Holloway and it is a fundraiser for the YMCA.

Councilwoman Shutzer congratulated Mayor Higgins for being recognized by the Knights of Columbus as the "Irishman of the Year". She also congratulated Ron Griffiths who on May 1, 2014 will be inducted into the Freehold High School Hall of Fame.

Councilman Sims offered his condolences to the Woolford and Hance families. On Sunday, April 27, 2014 from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM at the firehouse annex the Youth Government will be having a car wash. It will be to benefit their upcoming spring trip to Washington DC. The cost will be \$6.00 for cars and \$8.00 for trucks. The rain date for the carwash will be May 4, 2014.

Councilman Kane thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He stated the next Public Safety meeting will be on Monday, April 28, 2014. The Lake Topanemus Commission had their park clean-up two weeks ago. The park looks great and they are doing a tremendous amount of work. Olde Freehold Day will be on Saturday, June 21, 2014. This Saturday, April 26, 2014 is opening day for the little league. The parade will start at 9:00 AM.

Councilman Griffiths offered his condolences to the Woolford and Hance families. He stated the Human Relations Committee is working diligently on Senior Appreciation Day in September. The Shade Tree Commission will be holding their Arbor Day poster contest awards on Friday, April 25, 2014 at all three Borough schools. The prizes for the contest were donated by the PBA.

Councilman Griffiths stated the Innovation Committee held its first meeting and the progress so far has been very good. They are working on various surveys which are aimed at improving the Borough website.

Mayor Higgins stated Councilman DiBenedetto is absent today and called upon Mr. Bellina to go over Public Works.

Mr. Bellina stated we just advertised two road projects and we should receive bids in three weeks for Jackson Terrace and McElwaine Drive and there was a separate project for Throckmorton Street.

Mayor Higgins asked Rich Gatto, Downtown Freehold if there was any news downtown.

Mr. Gatto replied no.

Mayor Higgins asked for public comment.

Bob Taylor, 13 Kiawah Avenue, asked if there was a date set for the tax revaluation.

Mr. Bellina replied it will be done during the summer months and residents will receive information directly from the revaluation company.

Peanut Holloway stated that on Saturday, May 31, 2014 he will be walking to New Brunswick as a fundraiser for the YMCA and on Saturday, May 27, 2014 he will be walking to the State capitol in Trenton. Also on July 13, 2014 it will be his 40th wedding anniversary.

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

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.

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

There being no further business to discuss, Councilman Griffiths moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM, seconded by Councilman Sims, with all in favor and Councilman DiBenedetto absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

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