

The Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, May 19, 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 in memory of Retired Police Captain Gary Clark.

ROLL CALL

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

Councilwoman Shutzer offered a motion to accept the Supplemental Minutes April 21, 2014 and May 5, 2014 and Council Meeting May 5, 2014 and was seconded by Councilman Sims.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Griffiths, 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. 5 on the Agenda as follows:

“Second Reading and Public Hearing: Bond Ordinance #2014/6 Providing for Various Water & Sewer System Improvements and the Acquisition of Vehicles and Equipment, Appropriating \$930,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$900,000 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.”

Mayor Higgins opened the meeting to the public.

There were no comments.

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

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.

On roll call Council Members, DiBenedetto, Griffiths, 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:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that a Bond Ordinance entitled “BOND ORDINANCE #2014/6 PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS WATER & SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT, APPROPRIATING \$930,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$900,000 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 adopted on second reading.

On roll call Council Members, DiBenedetto, Griffiths, 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:

“Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Ordinance #2014/7 Supplementing Title 16 (Land Use Procedures), Chapter 16.24 (Site Plan Review and Approval) of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Freehold Regarding Sidewalk Waivers.”

Councilman Schnurr 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 #2014/7 SUPPLEMENTING TITLE 16 (LAND USE PROCEDURES), CHAPTER 16.24 (SITE PLAN REVIEW AND APPROVAL) OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD REGARDING SIDEWALK WAIVERS” 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 that same shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on June 2, 2014 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 shall request same.

Councilman Schnurr stated this ordinance was brought upon by the Land Use Committee and it enables the planning board to waive sidewalk construction requirements if they think it is in the best interest of the Borough. The developers have to pay 60% of the cost of installing the sidewalk to a sidewalk improvement fund.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Griffiths, 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:

“Resolution of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, Amending Temporary Appropriations for 2014.”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2014.

On roll call Council Members, DiBenedetto, Griffiths, 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 Accepting the Assessment Roll of the Special Improvement District of the Borough of Freehold.”

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

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL OF THE SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD.

Councilman Sims stated the public hearing will be on June 30, 2014.

On roll call Council Members, DiBenedetto, Griffiths, 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:

“Resolution Accepting and Introducing the Budget of the Special Improvement District of the Borough of Freehold and Setting the Date for the Budget’s Public Hearing and Adoption.”

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

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND INTRODUCING THE BUDGET OF THE SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD AND SETTING THE DATE FOR THE BUDGET’S PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION.

On roll call Council Members, DiBenedetto, Griffiths, 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 Awarding a Contract for Throckmorton Street Roadway Improvements.”

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

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THROCKMORTON STREET ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS.

Mr. Bellina stated there were three bids for this project.

Councilman Griffiths stated due to the good work of Mr. Bellina and the Borough professionals we received grants in the amount of \$175,000 from the CBDG and \$201,000 from the New Jersey Transportation Improvement Fund for this project.

Mr. Bellina stated the grants will cover the cost of the project and the contractor is Earle and they’ve done a lot of work in our town.

On roll call Council Members, DiBenedetto, Griffiths, 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 Appropriation of Funds for the 2014 Memorial Day Parade.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE 2014 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE.

On roll call Council Members, DiBenedetto, Griffiths, 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 Approving the Mayor’s Nomination to the Human Relations Committee:
a. Samuel Quinones – for a term expiring on 12/31/14.”**

Councilman Griffiths stated Mr. Quinones will be a good addition to the committee.

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR’S NOMINATION TO THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

On roll call Council Members, DiBenedetto, Griffiths, 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 Approving the Following Applications:

- a. Vendor License, Mayra Maduro, Mayra’s Ice Cream, 5/5/14 – 9/30/14 from 1:00 PM – 8:00 PM.**
- b. Raffle License #20-14, 50/50, St. Rose of Lima Church, 6/17/14, 6/18/14, 6/19/14 from 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM, 6/20/14 and 6/21/14 from 6:00 PM – 11:30 PM.**
- c. Raffle License #21-14, Carnival Games, St. Rose of Lima Church, 6/17/14, 6/18/14, 6/19/14 from 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM, 6/20/14 and 6/21/14 from 6:00 PM – 11:30 PM.**
- d. Raffle License #22-14, Year round pull tabs, BPOE Freehold No. 1454, 6/1/14 – 6/1/15.**
- e. Latino Festival of Monmouth County, Hall of Records Parking Lot, 10/4/14, rain date 10/5/14, 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM. c/o Angel Matos”**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATIONS NOS. 13A THROUGH 13E.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Griffiths, 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. 14 on the Agenda as follows:

“Correspondence:

- a. Notification from the State of New Jersey, Department of Transportation, Fiscal Year 2014 Municipal Aid Program announcing Freehold Borough as grant recipient in the amount of \$200,000.00 to resurface Marcy Street.”**

Mr. Bellina explained this is a communication informing us that the Borough is a grant recipient from NJDOT for \$200,000.00 to resurface Marcy Street. We will work on the design this year and in all likelihood go to bid on it late summer or early fall at the earliest.

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

“Approval of Bills.”

Councilman Griffiths 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 \$1,358,393.10 be paid as presented.

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

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

“Memorial Day Parade Activities (Councilman George Schnurr).”

Councilman Schnurr stated there are five veteran organizations in the Freehold area. The American Legion, VFW, Marine Corp. League, Jewish War Veterans and the Disabled American Veterans. On a rotating basis each year, one of these organizations is the lead veteran group for the parade. That veteran organization determines the theme of the parade and has the honor of choosing the Grand Marshall. The organization also determines the person who will be the Master of Ceremonies at the Elks Point Service of Reflection which is held early in the morning before the parade. This year the Jewish War Veterans are the lead organization. The theme is “Honoring All Veterans”; Grand Marshall is Bernie Weinstein; and the Master of Ceremonies is Councilwoman Shutzer. This is the 140th Freehold Memorial Day Parade and it is the longest running parade in New Jersey, as well as, Monmouth County’s largest parade with an average of over 70 units participating each year. It is one of the signature events of our community. Ms. Carol Lida will sing the National Anthem at the reviewing stand and Rick Scott will also sing the National Anthem at the beginning of the parade. Every year we rename some of the street names to honor the veterans.

Councilman Schnurr stated the morning begins with the traditional Elks Point Service of Reflection in memory of all Freehold and other American service men and women who lost their lives defending our nation. The ceremony starts at 8:30 AM and he was honored to be asked to be the Master of Ceremonies for the service of reflection. A guest this year will be the United War Veterans Council who also came last year. The parade will commence at 9:45 AM at Brinckerhoff and Main Street, with a flag draped casket accompanied by active military personnel from various branches of service. At 10:00 AM the veterans group will march down Main Street followed by the rest of the parade. We will also have a fly-over by Gerald Norkus. He also thanked the FCP for letting them use their stage as the reviewing stand and for providing the public address system for the service of reflection and for having many of the restaurants participate in the Freehold Memorial Day Parade “Dining to Donate Fundraiser”. Many of the funds raised during that week pay for many of the bands that you see in the parade. He also thanked Alice McCobb, Chairperson of the committee and her family for all of their hard work.

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

“Clerk – Late Communications.”

There were none.

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

“Committee Reports.”

Councilman Schnurr stated on Saturday, May 17th, it was the Mayor’s Clean-up Campaign, and people really like this idea. While we were doing that the Freehold Borough Education Foundation was collecting bikes for the 4th grade bike education program that they are running in June. We collected 26 bicycles at the area schools and 20 of them are in great shape and only need minor repairs. They are being temporarily stored at the Freehold Borough Public Works Yard. The foundation is going to purchase a container to store these bikes at the school.

Councilman Schnurr stated members of the Freehold Intermediate School Junior Honor Society participated in a unique project. Each one of the eight students was asked to identify a non-profit organization and address an issue that was important to them. The students selected an entity, conducted research and the student’s wrote the grants themselves. The Peter J. Sharp Foundation and the Freehold Borough Education Foundation were so impressed with what they did and basically we under-wrote all of these projects that these students came up with.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated as liaison to the Board of Education, not only should these students and their parents be very proud of themselves but we need to be proud of our school

district as well for producing this kind of writing and for producing kids who care and that want to give back.

Councilwoman Shutzer thanked the Police Department for all that they do. She thanked Mayor Higgins for initiating clean-up day. She also wanted to thank the Streets & Roads Department and the Water & Sewer Department because they manned all the sites and drove around town and picked everything up and they did a great job.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated the Council on Aging meets tomorrow at Monmouth Court, 107 Throckmorton Street at 10:00 AM. The Board of Education will be here in June at the council meeting to present the budget and referendum item. The Freehold Alliance Against Substance Abuse will be having their main fundraiser on July 1, 2014 at Knob Hill Country Club. Also at their meeting this week they had a presentation from the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD Project). The main focus at this time of year is the proms and distracted driving. The students came up with the idea of making placemats and they will be passing them out to be used in the restaurants. As a result of this meeting, the parents of Chad Horne from Freehold Township came and spoke to us; they lost their son to drunk driving. He was the designated driver and he did not have any alcohol in his blood but he along with his two passengers were killed by a drunk driver. They have joined with the John R. Elliott HERO Walk and there will be a fundraiser on Sunday, June 8th at Brookdale Community College.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated the Freehold Borough Arts Fundraiser will be held on May 22nd from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM at Belle Vista Country Club and they will be selling art by local artists to benefit the foundation called Daniela's Wish, Ronald McDonald House and the Freehold Borough Arts Council.

Councilman Sims stated the Youth Government is still fundraising to cover their expenses for their upcoming trip to Washington DC in the spring and since we have last met we've had two new members join.

Councilman Griffiths stated the new Innovation Committee will be meeting tomorrow night and they will be developing surveys to go out to the residents, department heads in Borough and Downtown Freehold and they are looking to improve the Borough's website. They've been doing a lot of research on this. The Shade Tree Commission established an incubator for street trees. They will nurture them and after two years they will become street trees for residents of the Borough. The 100 Douglas Fir seedlings will be given out at Olde Freehold Day.

Councilman Griffiths welcomed Mr. Quinones to the Human Relations Committee and they are working very diligently on their major project for this year which is the Senior Appreciation Day in September, where there will be music, vendors and food.

Councilman DiBenedetto congratulated Mayor Higgins on this past weekend. The annual clean-up day is a great idea. The mother of a friend of mine, whose father had passed away, gathered all of his father's paperwork through all the years and he was astonished with the amount of money they paid to shred the papers. Public Works have been working very hard and they've been busy. The Easter Egg Hunt went well and we had a very large turn out again this year. The little league is up and running and there is a program where they sponsor some unfortunate kids who are financially unable to pay. The Recreation Department has some upcoming events coming up this summer. We meet tomorrow night to discuss them. The Historic Preservation Commission has been busy with applications. One big one is the 7-11/CITCO Gas Station on South Street; they've been helping them with signage to keep it in conformity with the rest of the Downtown area. The FCP is up and running planting flowers and the summer concerts are coming up along with Freehold Idol and the farmer's market.

Mayor Higgins thanked everyone for their compliments on clean-up day. The day has become very successful over its three year history and he mentioned the hard work of Mr. Bellina. He also thanked Annette Jordan who organized the clean-up groups.

Mayor Higgins asked for public comment.

Minister Brian Major announced that they would be coming back to do another Hometown Revival at Liberty Park with an anticipated date of August 16th. We will be meeting tomorrow with the Recreation Commission to go over all the details and hopefully by the next meeting our application will be up for approval to use the park. From last year to this year we've had a major impact working with the churches and we are still looking for more churches. This year we are going to do our Worship Service at 3:00 PM and our goal is to

feed as many hungry children for free that day. We are looking for support, sponsorship and anyone who can help us curb our budget. Both him and his wife are certified chaplains and have been helping out in Asbury Park. We are also trying to start pre-revival services with some of the churches in town. We are also concerned with what's been happening lately in Freehold Borough and we are looking to organize a prayer walk.

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

There being no further business to discuss, Councilman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM, seconded by Councilman, with all in favor and Councilman Kane absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

TLD:aj