

The Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, February 1, 2016 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 Sims 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
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN JAYE SIMS

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

“Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting December 21, 2015.”

Councilman Griffiths offered a motion to accept the minutes and was seconded by Councilwoman Shutzer.

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

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

“Proclamation of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Declaring February Marijuana Awareness month in the Borough of Freehold.”

Councilwoman Shutzer stated this is so important because this is not the old marijuana; it is synthetic marijuana that is highly dangerous. It has been proven to effect the minds of the youth, which is the group mostly using it. Please be aware of the horrible dangers associated with this drug.

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

“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Honoring the Freehold First Aid and Emergency Squad on It’s 75th Anniversary.”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD HONORING THE FREEHOLD FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY SQUAD ON IT'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY.

Councilwoman Shutzer reported it was an honor to present to the Freehold First Aid at their 75th Anniversary Dinner on Saturday. We all should know what the First Aid does for us. They will accept funds at any time. Mr. Madden and Ms. D'Anna are here and we want to thank you for your service.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing the County of Monmouth Mosquito Control Division to Conduct Aerial Mosquito Control Operations Within the Borough of Freehold.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH MOSQUITO CONTROL DIVISION TO CONDUCT AERIAL MOSQUITO CONTROL OPERATIONS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing Cancellation of Municipal Certificate of Sale.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATE OF SALE.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing Agreement Regarding Modification of Existing Water Line for Property At 116 Waterworks Road, Block 5, Lot 22 in Freehold Township.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT REGARDING MODIFICATION OF EXISTING WATER LINE FOR PROPERTY AT 116 WATERWORKS ROAD, BLOCK 5, LOT 22 IN FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP.

Councilman DiBenedetto reported the location at Waterworks and Schibinoff. This includes a new valve, water meter and water meter pit which is needed.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing an Increase in the Finance Department Petty Cash Fund.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT PETTY CASH FUND.

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

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

“Resolution Memorializing the Mayor’s Appointments To the Freehold Borough Planning Board.”

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

RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS TO THE FREEHOLD BOROUGH PLANNING BOARD.

Councilman Schnurr reported this is making internal moves with current members of the Planning Board.

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

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

“Resolution of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Compensation Payments to Samantha Daesener Upon Her Separation from Employment.”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION PAYMENTS TO SAMANTHA DAESENER UPON HER SEPARATION FROM EMPLOYMENT.

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

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

“Resolution of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Compensation Payment to Henry A. Stryker, III Upon his Retirement.”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION PAYMENT TO HENRY A. STRYKER, III UPON HIS RETIREMENT.

Councilman Sims commented Items 12, 13 and 14 are all contractual obligations that must be fulfilled for outgoing employees.

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

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

“Resolution of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Compensation Payments to Lieutenant Michael Sweetman Upon his Retirement.”

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

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION PAYMENTS TO LIEUTENANT MICHAEL SWEETMAN UPON HIS RETIREMENT.

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

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

“Resolution Confirming Personnel Appointments/Actions:

- a. Appointment of Matthew Young as Construction Official, Zoning Officer and Fire Subcode Official, effective February 2, 2016.**
- b. Resignation of June Vawter as a member of the Freehold Public Library Commission, effective November 30, 2015.**
- c. Resignation of Phillip DeAngelis from the Freehold Borough Board of Health, effective January 13, 2016.**
- d. Appointment of Kyle Potochar as a member of the Freehold Fire Department’s Junior Firefighter Program, effective February 1, 2016.**
- e. Appointment of Shawn Taylor as a member of the Freehold Fire Department’s Junior Firefighter Program, effective February 1, 2016.”**

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

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS/ACTIONS 15A – 15E.

Councilman Sims commented on Item e. Mr. Taylor’s grandparents are present tonight, Shawn is another generation of Taylors joining the Fire Department. Shawn is joining the Junior program which is up to 20 members.

Councilman Schnurr congratulation June Vawter and Phil DeAngelis who have both been longtime volunteers on their respective committees.

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

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

“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:

- a. Raffle License, #03-16, St. Rose of Lima Church, 50/50 Raffle, 10:00 PM, 6/18/16, 51 Lincoln Place.**

- b. Raffle License #04-16, St. Rose of Lima Sports Association, Year round pull tab, 4/1/16 – 3/31/16, 51 Lincoln Place.**
- c. Canning License, Good Will Hook and Ladder Co., Freehold Fire Department, March 26, 2016, East Main/Center/Spring and Broadway, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM.**
- d. Parade Application, Freehold Borough Little League Parade, 4/16/16, 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM, Main Street to Center Street to 3rd Street.**
- e. Precious Metal License, Buy N Sell City, 14 West Main Street, Approved for 6 months, Expires 7/1/16. (Probationary Period – 6 months)**
- f. Precious Metal License, Freehold Jewelers, 33 West Main Street.**
- g. Precious Metal License, Joyeria Latino, 19 South Street.**
- h. Precious Metal License, Superior Rare Coins, Inc., 41 East Main Street.**
- i. Precious Metal License, Cellwave Wireless, 10 West Main Street.**
- j. Precious Metal License, Crown Jewelry, 31 East Main Street.**
- k. Massage Establishment License, Kaleria V. Lamotkina, Freehold Body Care Spa., 4 East Main Street.**
- l. Massage Therapist License, Inna Lamotkina, 4 East Main Street.**
- m. Massage Establishment License, Joann Kostyk, 90 West Mian Street, #9.**
- n. Permanent Taxi Driver License, Alan Samoylovich, Freehold.**
- o. Permanent Taxi Driver License, Cynthia Riker, Freehold.**
- p. Permanent Taxi Driver License, Lance G. Rhoads, Freehold.”**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS 16A – 16P.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Griffiths, Kane, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; absent none, Councilman Sims abstain Item 16C. Mayor Higgins declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 17 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 \$2,105,427.00 be paid as presented.

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

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

“Clerk – Late Communications.”

There were none.

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

“Public Comments.”

Mr. Bill Madden, Freehold First Aid Squad, thanked Councilwoman Shutzer for swearing in squad officers for 2016. Mr. Madden reviewed some of the Squad’s accomplishments in 2015; 4,060 calls were answered by only 50 active members. Some members are answering 200 -300 calls per year. Mr. Madden stated it is amazing what the squad is doing and an honor to be part of it.

Mr. Madden thanked Mr. Phil DeAngelis for over 30 years of service on the Board of Health. He congratulated new Board of Health Member, Ms. Diane D’Anna. He reported, as a nurse she is very qualified and has been a member of the First Aid Squad for 37 years.

Ms. Christine Gregory, West George Street, stated she tripped on a sidewalk on her way to the last Council Meeting. She thanked Councilman Griffiths, Councilwoman Shutzer and Ms. Traci DiBenedetto for offering to take her to the hospital after the meeting. Ms. Gregory stated she is currently out of work due to her injuries. She expressed her appreciation to Councilwoman Shutzer and Mayor Higgins and his wife for delivering groceries to her.

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

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 20 on the Agenda as follows:

“Council Comments.”

Councilman Schnurr wished Christine Gregory a speedy recovery. He congratulated Freehold First Aid. He stated it is important for governing bodies to recognize milestones. Celebrating your 75th Anniversary is a milestone, but more importantly the number of calls is over the 4,000 mark and that is quite a feat. Thank you for what you do for our community.

Councilman Schnurr reported every Wednesday in March the Library will have homework help for students up to 7th grade. The Library recently received three new computers for the patrons.

Councilman Schnurr announced two fund raisers benefitting the Memorial Day Parade on February 16th. TGI Fridays on Route 9 and The Cabin on Route 33.

Councilman DiBenedetto thanked the three employees who have left, for their contributions to the town. He wished a long and happy retirement to Mr. Stryker and Lt. Sweetman. He also thanked volunteers Ms. Vawter and Mr. DeAngelis for their countless hours spent making Freehold a better place.

Councilman DiBenedetto welcomed the new Jr. Fire Fighters and reported the program keeps getting better.

Councilwoman Shutzer offered best wishes to Mr. Stryker, Lt. Sweetman and Ms. Daesener; all of whom were loyal employees of the Borough. She thanked them for their years of service. Councilwoman thanked the volunteers Ms. Vawter and Mr. DeAngelis for all their years of community service, as well as Mr. Madden and Mr. Taylor. Councilwoman Shutzer welcomed Diane D'Anna who is adding to her duties. Councilwoman Shutzer expressed thanks to all of our volunteers from the bottom of our hearts.

Councilwoman Shutzer announced AARP will provide free tax preparation assistance for any senior in the Borough, at Bethel AME Church on Tuesdays from 2/2 through 4/12 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. No appointments are necessary.

Councilwoman Shutzer congratulated new grandparents Mayor Higgins and Councilman DiBenedetto.

Councilman Kane thanked Mr. Bellina, Mayor Higgins, Dept. of Public Works and the Police Dept for the job that was done on the snow removal. They do a tremendous job compared to other towns. Congratulations was given to the Freehold First Aid for 75 years. Ms. D'Anna was congratulated on her new position on the Board of Health and he looks forward to working together on the Board of Health.

Councilman Kane congratulated Mr. Stryker and Lt. Sweetman on their retirements. He stated they are two original Borough guys who grew up in Freehold, were active in town and worked a lot of years for the town. They were great assets and are wished best of luck in their retirements. They both did a phenomenal job. He also thanked Mr. DeAngelis and Ms. Vawter who are examples of how volunteers make this town function.

Councilman Kane announced the Little League Parade will be Saturday, April 16th, a sure sign that Spring is around the corner.

Councilman Griffiths congratulated First Aid on their 75th Anniversary. Thanks was given to Mr. DeAngelis for his time on the Board of Health and also on being a Life Member of the First Aid Squad. Councilman Griffiths thanked Ms. Danielle Sims for her time as Chairman of the Planning Board as she moves into a new position.

Councilman Griffiths congratulated Matt Young and wished him success as the new head of the Code and Construction Office. It is a difficult job, but he is qualified and capable.

Councilman Sims congratulated Freehold First Aid Squad and to the recent retirees. Councilman Sims mentioned his mother was recently in an accident and his brother has been ill. He thanked everyone for their well wishes and appreciates it.

Mayor Higgins congratulated all the groups that were previously mentioned. Mayor Higgins recognized the OEM Team, Police Dept., Fire Dept. and First Aid for all of their work during the storm. It was a difficult storm and your efforts and organization are appreciated.

Councilman Sims added several of the Youth Government Members were recently inducted into the National Honor Society at Freehold High School. Congratulations to: Georgia Brooker, T.J. Ray, Nicole Ray, Cierra Sims, Ricky Coyne and MacKenzie Parke. Youth Government Mayor Cameron Costanzo is a finalist for Mr. FHS.

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PUBLIC SAFETY.

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

The public meeting was adjourned at 7:29PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

TLD:lc