

The Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, June 6, 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 Griffiths opened the meeting with the Salute to the Flag followed by a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL

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| PRESENT | MAYOR J. NOLAN HIGGINS |
| PRESENT | COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DI BENEDETTO |
| PRESENT | COUNCILMAN RONALD GRIFFITHS |
| ABSENT | 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:

“Presentation of the Memorial Day Parade Awards – Alice McCobb.”

Councilman Schnurr introduced Memorial Day Parade Committee Chairperson, Alice McCobb and thanked her for providing a magnificent parade. He expressed appreciation for Alice, Amanda McCobb and the committee who work all year long.

Councilman Schnurr and Ms. McCobb recognized the 1st and 2nd Place winning units in each category from the 2016 Memorial Day Parade as well as the volunteers.

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

“Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting May 16, 2016.”

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

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

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

“Second Reading and Public Hearing: Bond Ordinance #2016/5 Providing for Road Repairs and Restoration and Repaving of Schivereva Avenue, Appropriating \$975,000 Therefor

and Authorizing the Issuance of \$641,250 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.

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

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.

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

Councilman DiBenedetto 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, “**BOND ORDINANCE #2016/5 PROVIDING FOR ROAD REPAIRS AND RESTORATION AND REPAVING OF SCHIVEREA AVENUE, APPROPRIATING \$975,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$641,250 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.

Councilman DiBenedetto reported the work should start by Fall, weather permitting.

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

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

“Second Reading and Public Hearing: Bond Ordinance #2016/6 Providing for the Acquisition of Various Capital Equipment and Improvements to Municipal Buildings and Grounds, Appropriating \$225,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$213,750 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; absent Kane. Mayor Higgins declared the motion adopted.

Councilman Griffiths 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 an Ordinance entitled, "BOND ORDINANCE #2016/6 PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS, APPROPRIATING \$225,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$213,750 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.

Councilman Sims reported this will be for the purchase of various equipment for Public Works and improvements to the Municipal Building.

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

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

"Second Reading and Public Hearing: Bond Ordinance #2016/7 Providing for the Acquisition of Various Water-Sewer Utility Equipment and Redevelopment of Water Well No. 4, Appropriating \$126,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$119,700 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; absent Kane. Mayor Higgins declared the motion adopted.

Councilman Griffiths 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 an Ordinance entitled, "BOND ORDINANCE #2016/7 PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS WATER-SEWER UTILITY EQUIPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT OF WATER WELL NO. 4, APPROPRIATING \$126,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$119,700 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; absent Kane. Mayor Higgins declared the motion adopted.

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

"Resolutions of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Honoring the 2015 John G. McGackin Renaissance Award Recipients Mary Randolph and Michael Page."

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD HONORING THE 2015 JOHN G. MCGACKIN RENAISSANCE AWARD RECIPIENTS MARY RANDOLPH AND MICHAEL PAGE.

Councilman Griffiths commended the committee for having successfully changing the format to a dinner. It was a wonderful event with 180 people in attendance.

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

"Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Honoring: Freehold Elks Lodge BPOE #1454, The Knights of Columbus Council #1672, Freehold Fire Department, Freehold Borough Police Department, Freehold Borough Little League and Freehold Fist Aid and Emergency Squad."

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: FREEHOLD ELKS LODGE BPOE #1454, THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #1672, FREEHOLD FIRE DEPARTMENT, FREEHOLD BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT, FREEHOLD BOROUGH LITTLE LEAGUE AND FREEHOLD FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY SQUAD.

Councilwoman Shutzer reported these were presented at the McGackin Award dinner.

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

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

“Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Purchase of a Rescue Pumper.”

Mayor Higgins made a correction to Paragraph One. New pumper replaces an existing engine rather than tower ladder.

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

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A RESCUE PUMPER.

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

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

“Resolution Authorizing Appropriation of Funds for the 2016 Memorial Day Parade and 2016 Olde Freehold Day.”

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE 2016 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND 2016 OLDE FREEHOLD DAY.

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

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

“Resolution Certifying a Submission of Expenditures for Recycling Taxes Paid in 2015.”

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

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING A SUBMISSION OF EXPENDITURES FOR RECYCLING TAXES PAID IN 2015.

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

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

“Resolution Endorsing the Submission of a Recycling Tonage Grant Application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.”

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

RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE SUBMISSION OF A RECYCLING TONAGE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

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

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

“Resolution Awarding a Contract for an Employee Assistance Program (EAP).”

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

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR AN EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP).

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

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

“Resolution Waiving the Health Permit Fee for Olde Freehold Day – 2016.”

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

RESOLUTION WAIVING THE HEALTH PERMIT FEE FOR OLDE FREEHOLD DAY – 2016.

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

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

“Resolution Approving the Mayor’s Nomination for Appointment to the Recreation Commission:

- a. Yuridia (Judy) Hernandez – Term expires December 31, 2017. This appointment will fill an existing vacancy created with the passing of Robert Bennett.”**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR’S NOMINATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE RECREATION COMMISSION – 17A.

Councilman DiBenedetto reported Ms. Hernandez attended three Recreation Committee Meetings. He stated she will be a great asset to the committee.

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

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

“Resolution Confirming Personnel Appointments/Actions:

- a. Resolution Approving an Unpaid Medical Leave of Absence for Reginald L. Sims for Ninety Days, effective May 16, 2016.**
- b. Appointment of Richard Muir as a Member of the Freehold Fire Department, Engine & Hose Company No. 1, effective June 6, 2016.**
- c. Appointment of Richard J. Gartz as Chief Financial Officer, effective January 1, 2016.”**

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

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS/ACTIONS 18A – 18C.

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

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

“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:

- a. **Raffle License #18-16, Italian American Association of Monmouth County, 50/50 Raffle, July 3, 2016, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM, Freehold Racetrack.**
- b. **Italian American Association of Monmouth County, Italian Festival, Freehold Racetrack, Rt. 9 & Rt. 33, June 29 – July 3, 2016, 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM.**
- c. **17th Regiment of Foot, holding a march from Glendale Dr. to Brookwood Dr. to Dogwood Lane to Schanck St. to Court St. to Avenue C onto Route 522 to Monmouth Battlefield State Park, June 25, 2016, 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM (Sidewalks only).**
- d. **Permanent Taxi License, Guadalupe Hinojosa, Freehold.**
- e. **Permanent Taxi License, Juan Hinojosa Velasquez, Freehold.**
- f. **Permanent Taxi License, Mathias Hoie, Jr., Brick.**
- g. **Permanent Taxi License, Jesus Gomez, Freehold.”**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS 19A – 19G.

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

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

“Approval of Bills.”

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 the bills on the attached list in the amount of \$2,271,392.95 be paid as presented.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 21 on the Agenda as follows:

“Clerk – Late Communications.”

There were none.

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 22 on the Agenda as follows:

“Public Comments.”

Mr. Robert Taylor, Kiawah Avenue, reported the Wells Fargo Bank on the corner of Main Street and McLean Street has their landscaper dump their clippings into the road. This is against the ordinance.

Mayor Higgins reported he has addressed this issue with the bank in the past and will be happy to do it again.

Carol Lida, 40 Hudson Street, asked if the Memorial Day Parade is recorded on video because people that participate in the parade do not get a chance to see it in its entirety.

Ms. McCobb, Memorial Day Parade Committee Chairperson stated it is not video taped because there is no one to do it. Pictures are taken by Al Goldberg and the Asbury Park Press which are posted on the parade’s Facebook page and the website. Mr. Goldberg provides a CD of all the pictures if particular pictures are needed.

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; absent Kane. Mayor Higgins declared the motion adopted.

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

“Council Comments.”

Councilman Schnurr congratulated all the winners of the Memorial Day Parade. He thanked the parade committee, especially Alice and Amanda McCobb. Councilman Schnurr reported the Library has a list of summer events and programs on their website.

Councilman Schnurr reported there were two recent applications before the Planning Board. Pass Enterprises, (Domino’s Pizza on Route 33), will be sprucing up their property and adding a small addition in the back. Amazing Escape Room zoning ordinance interpretation was denied. They will be suing the Planning Board.

Councilman Schnurr explained to the audience \$2 million is not spent at every meeting. This meeting has two large expenses, the pumper truck and the repairs to the roads which are needed from previous winter damage.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated the pumper rescue truck is a result of consolidating two trucks to obtain one. Councilman DiBenedetto congratulated Councilman Schnurr for a beautiful ceremony at Elks Point, thanked Alice McCobb for a wonderful parade and congratulated all of the award winners. He also thanked the people who come out to watch the parade and expressed gratitude to the Road Dept. for making sure the parade route was spruced up. Councilman DiBenedetto asked everyone to pray for Reggie Sims.

Councilwoman Shutzer announced she has the Senior Bus schedule for the month along with a list of all of the food banks and food pantries in Monmouth County. Please share with anyone that may be in need of food. She congratulated all of the McGackin Award winners and stated it was a wonderful tribute to our late Mayor John McGackin.

Councilwoman Shutzer congratulated the Memorial Day Parade Committee and stated there is no harder working committee. She thanked Ms. McCobb for a wonderful day. She asked that Reggie and the Sims family be kept in everyone's thoughts and prayers. Councilwoman Shutzer announced the Human Relations Committee will be holding a ceremony on September 11th for the 15th Anniversary of the terrorist attacks. She thanked Councilman DiBenedetto for participating in the golf outing for The Alliance Against Substance Abuse. It is the largest fund raiser they have and the funds raised provide wonderful programs for the area schools.

Councilwoman Shutzer reported she and the mayor attended a county seminar about mosquito control and the Zika Virus. It was informative. Residents need to be aware how fast mosquitoes can breed and make sure there is no standing water on our properties. She asked that any unkept or abandoned properties be reported to Code Enforcement. The County will help the town with open pools or standing water to get control of the mosquitoes.

Councilman Griffiths thanked Councilwoman Shutzer for all of her work on the McGackin Award event and acknowledged Rob Kash from Metropolitan Café for donating the food which was greatly appreciated. He reported the Human Relations Committee is working on the 9/11 15th Anniversary Memorial Service which will be at 6:30 PM on Sunday, September 11th. Councilman Griffiths announced the Shade Tree Commission received 200 seedlings as part of the State Reforestation program. The seedlings were given to residents who wanted them. Extras are kept by the committee and will be used as future Borough street trees. The committee also completed an Arbor Day Contest.

Councilman Griffiths expressed sincere wishes for Reggie Sims, so that he can find a cure for his health issues. The PBA, Fire Dept and First Aid Squad are soliciting donations. They are all organizations worthy of your support and he asked everyone to consider making donations to assist them, especially the volunteer organizations. Those are desperate for both membership and funds.

Councilman Sims relayed a story about his daughters hoping the parade was not cancelled because of the weather. He congratulated Alice McCobb and the committee. Councilman Sims thanked everyone for their support and well wishes for his family.

Mayor Higgins reported Reggie Sims is a Borough employee and a member of the Monmouth Hose Company in the Fire Department and is facing significant health challenges. Mayor offered his best wishes. He stated Thursday is the first night of the summer concert series downtown with Mission Dance performing. Mayor Higgins recognized the McGackin Committee on the new format and said it was a huge success.

Mayor Higgins called for a motion to adjourn.

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

TLD:lc