The Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, December 2, 2019 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).

Councilwoman Jordan 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	COUNCILWOMAN ANNETTE JORDAN
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN KEVIN KANE
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN MARGARET ROGERS
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN GEORGE SCHNURR
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN SHARON SHUTZER

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

"Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting November 18, 2019."

Councilwoman Rogers offered a motion to accept the minutes and was seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto:

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

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

"Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Bond Ordinance #2019/9 Amending in Part Bond Ordinance No. 2015-7 Adopted April 20, 2015, Providing for Road Design, Paving and Restoration, and Appropriating $915,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of $697,000 Bonds and Notes to Finance a Portion of the Costs Thereof, in Order to Expand the Scope of Improvements to Include the Purchase of a Bucket Truck and Improvements to Municipal Buildings and Facilities, Authorized in and by the Borough of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey."

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that a Bond Ordinance entitled "BOND ORDINANCE #2019/9 AMENDING IN PART BOND ORDINANCE NO. 2015-7 ADOPTED APRIL 20, 2015, PROVIDING FOR ROAD DESIGN, PAVING AND RESTORATION, AND APPROPRIATING $915,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF $697,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF, IN ORDER TO EXPAND THE SCOPE OF IMPROVEMENTS TO INCLUDE THE PURCHASE OF A BUCKET TRUCK AND IMPROVEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES, 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 Ordinance in the Asbury Park Press and that shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on December 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM 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.

Borough Administrator, Joseph Bellina stated there is nothing being added to the debt, the aforementioned amounts currently exist.

Councilman DiBenedetto reported the bucket truck will reduce costs in managing low hanging branches, changing lights and a few other items that would normally be contracted to outside vendors. He stated this will be a cost savings for the Borough.

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

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

"Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Bond Ordinance #2019/10 Amending in Part Bond Ordinance No. 2016-5 Adopted June 6, 2016, Providing for Road Repairs and Restoration and Repaving of Schiverea Avenue, and Appropriating $975,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of $641,250 Bonds and Notes to Finance a Portion of the Costs Thereof, in Order to Expand the Scope of Improvements to Include the Installation of a Pedestrian Bridge Over Lake Topanemus Bridge and Improvements to Municipal Buildings and Facilities, 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 Councilwoman Rogers:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that a Bond Ordinance entitled "BOND ORDINANCE #2019/10 AMENDING IN PART BOND

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-5 ADOPTED JUNE 6, 2016, PROVIDING FOR ROAD REPAIRS AND RESTORATION AND REPAVING OF SCHIVEREA AVENUE, AND APPROPRIATING $975,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF $641,250 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF, IN ORDER TO EXPAND THE SCOPE OF IMPROVEMENTS TO INCLUDE THE INSTALLATION OF A PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE OVER LAKE TOPANEMUS BRIDGE AND IMPROVEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES, 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 Ordinance in the Asbury Park Press and that shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on December 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM 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 Kane stated for those asking what happened to the Participatory Budget project, the bridge at Lake Topanemus is on the way.

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

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

"Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Ordinance #2019/11 Approving and Adopting the 2019 Center Core Rehabilitation Plan in the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth and State of New Jersey."

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE #2019/11 APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2019 CENTER CORE REHABILITATION PLAN IN THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH AND STATE OF 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 Ordinance in the Asbury Park Press and that shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on December 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM 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 the governing body decided to expand the existing Downtown Core Rehabilitation Area and update the Rehabilitation Plan. He stated there are still some small changes that need to be addressed based on recommendations from the Historic Preservation Committee.

Borough Attorney, Kerry Higgins reported it needs to go to Planning Board for their approval.

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

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

"Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Ordinance #2019/12 Fixing and Determining Salaries of Certain Officers, Positions and Employees of the Borough of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, and Repealing Any and All Other Ordinances Heretofore Adopted Which are Inconsistent Herewith.."

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Rogers:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE #2019/12 FIXING AND DETERMINING SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS, POSITIONS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, AND REPEALING ANY AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH." 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 shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on December 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM 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.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated this does not represent any increase to any councilmember, as has been the case for many years.

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

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

"Proclamation of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Declaring November 24, 2019 as "Smash Out Alzheimer's" Day in the Borough of Freehold."

Councilwoman Shutzer reported Mayor Higgins participated in an event at Mattison Crossing in recognition of this very important issue. She conveyed several alarming statistics on Alzheimer's Disease.

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

"Resolutions of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Honoring Patrick M. Heeb, Daniel James Reger and Andrew J. Colbert on the Occasion of Their Attainment of the Rank of Eagle Scout."

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

RESOLUTIONS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD HONORING PATRICK M. HEEB, DANIEL JAMES REGER AND ANDREW J. COLBERT ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR ATTAINMENT OF THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Kane, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. 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 Road Maintenance Materials."

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

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

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Kane, Rogers, 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 Awarding a Contract for the Purchase of Lights at the Little League Field."

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

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF LIGHTS AT THE LITTLE LEAGUE FIELD.

Councilman Kane explained this is another winning Participatory Budget project.

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

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

"Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Installation of Lights at the Little League Field."

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

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF LIGHTS AT THE LITTLE LEAGUE FIELD.

Borough Administrator, Joseph Bellina stated separating the contract resulted in a savings of approximately 12%.

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

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

"Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Two Law Enforcement Vehicles."

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES.

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

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

"Resolution Transferring Surplus Municipal Property to the County of Monmouth."

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

RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TO THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH.

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

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

"Resolution of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth and State of New Jersey Cancelling Tax Charges Regarding Block 84 Lot 65.08 – 81 Orchard Street, Freehold, NJ."

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

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY CANCELLING TAX CHARGES REGARDING BLOCK 84 LOT 65.08 – 81 ORCHARD STREET, FREEHOLD, NJ.

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

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

"Resolution of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey Cancelling Tax Charges Regarding Block 7 Lot 27 – 147 Throckmorton Street, Freehold, NJ."

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

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CANCELLING TAX CHARGES REGARDING BLOCK 7 LOT 27 – 147 THROCKMORTON STREET, FREEHOLD, NJ.

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

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

"Resolution of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Compensation Payment to Joseph B. Bellina Upon his Retirement."

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

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION PAYMENT TO JOSEPH B. BELLINA UPON HIS RETIREMENT.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated this is in line with the State Public Employees Contract and negotiated agreements.

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

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

"Resolution Memorializing the Mayor's Appointment to the Freehold Borough Planning Board:

a. Michael Wildermuth – Class IV – Term expires December 31, 2019. Fills a vacancy created with the resignation of Michele Gibson.

b. Shealyn Sullivan – Alternate Number 1 – Term expires December 31, 2019.

c. Cary Freyer – Alternate Number 2 – Term expires December 31, 2020."

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

RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT TO THE FREEHOLD BOROUGH PLANNING BOARD 19A – 19C.

Councilman Schnurr congratulated the members on their positions.

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

"Resolution Approving the Following Applications:

a. Bingo License #7-19, Women's Club of Freehold Jewish Center, Tuesday Night Bingo, beginning 1/7/20 to 12/29/20, 59 Broad Street.

b. Bingo License #8-19, Congregation Agudath Achim, Wednesday Night Bingo, beginning 1/8/20 to 12/30/20, 59 Broad Street.

c. Raffle License #36-19, Congregation Agudath Achim, Year round pull tab for 2020, 59 Broad Street.

d. Raffle License #38-19, Millstone Township Foundation for Educational Excellence, 50/50, 2/1/20, 18-20 East Main Street.

e. Raffle License #39-19, Millstone Township Foundation for Educational Excellence, Casino Night, 2/1/20, 18-20 East Main Street.

f. Raffle License #40-19, Millstone Township Foundation for Educational Excellence, Merchandise Raffle, 2/1/20, 18-20 East Main Street."

Councilwoman Rogers offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Jordan:

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS:20A –20F

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

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

"Approval of Bills."

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that the bills on the attached list in the amount of $2,088,503.33 be paid as presented.

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

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

"Clerk – Late Communications."

There were none.

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 23 on the Agenda as follows:

"Public Comments"

Bill Madden, 10 Vrendenburgh Ave and member of the Freehold First Aid and Rescue Squad explained the squad has been serving the Borough for 79 years. He detailed the financial state of the organization including going to billing, Freehold Township cutting funding and the repairs needed to the building that have been needed for 25 years. Mr. Madden stated $40,000 is needed to mill the driveway and change the aprons would be an additional $8,000. Mr. Madden reported state aid and other funding has been eliminated because they are now billing clients. Mr. Madden stated unless the squad gets the support of the municipality, they will not be here to service the community.

Jeff Friedman, 3 Broad Street, Executive Director of Freehold Center Management Corp stated he had the chance to review #7 on the agenda and thinks the plan is a fabulous next step. On behalf of the Downtown Partnership, he thanked Mayor and Council for moving forward with the plan. Mr. Friedman announced some upcoming holiday events. Mr. Friedman thank Joseph Bellina for his years as Business Administrator and added his expertise has been valuable to the Partnership and wished him well on his retirement. Mr. Friedman thanked Mayor Higgins and thanked him for the last eight years as Mayor. He added the Partnership is looking forward to working with Mayor-Elect Kane.

Councilwoman Shutzer made a motion to closed the Public Comments, seconded by Councilwoman Jordan.

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

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 24 on the Agenda as follows:

"Council Comments"

Councilman Schnurr had no comments.

Councilwoman Rogers thanked everyone for coming.

Councilwoman Shutzer announced the Senior Holiday Party is December 7th and reservations can still be made.

Councilman DiBenedetto thanked those who attended. He thanked Mr. Friedman for all he does for the downtown and announced the Fire Department has flyers for their Santa drop off.

Councilwoman Jordan announced the Human Relations Committee will be having their first annual Candlelight Walk on 12/15 walking through town and stopping at various

houses or worship. She added the tour will be led by Mayor Higgins and Borough Historian Kevin Coyne.

Councilman Kane thanked everyone for attending.

Mayor Higgins stated the weather was not good and thanked everyone for coming and he wished them safe travels. Mayor Higgins wished a speedy recovery to Councilman Schnurr's son.

Councilwoman Shutzer offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Rogers.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Traci L. DiBenedetto

TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

TLD:lc