

The Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, March 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

Mayor Kane 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).

Chief Dispenza opened the meeting with the Salute to the Flag, followed by a moment of silence.

#### ROLL CALL

PRESENT	MAYOR KEVIN KANE
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DIBENEDETTO
ABSENT	COUNCILWOMAN ANNETTE JORDAN
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN ADAM REICH
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN MARGARET ROGERS
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN GEORGE SCHNURR
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN SHARON SHUTZER

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

**“Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting March 2, 2020.**

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

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

Mayor Kane read Item No. 5 on the agenda as follows:

**“Second Reading and Public Hearing: Ordinance #2020/8 of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, New Jersey, Authorizing the Sale of Property Owned by the Borough of Freehold, Designated as Tax Block 78, Lot 4; 9 Otterson Road in the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, New Jersey.”**

Mayor Kane opened the meeting to the public.

There were no comments.

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

**RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.**

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

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 #2020/8 OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PROPERTY OWNED BY THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, DESIGNATED AS TAX BLOCK 78, LOT 4; 9 OTTERSON ROAD IN THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY" be, and same is hereby approved on second reading.

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

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

**"Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Honoring Wilma Ham Greason."**

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD HONORING WILMA HAM GREASON.

Councilwoman Shutzer reported it was presented to the Greason family at her funeral.

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

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

**"Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, New Jersey Authorizing Professional Services Agreement with Abbington Engineering LLC for Rehabilitation of Well #8."**

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

"RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ABBINGTON ENGINEERING LLC FOR REHABILITATION OF WELL #8."

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

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

**“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, New Jersey Authorizing Professional Services Agreement with Mott MacDonald for Construction Administration of Water Treatment Plant.”**

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MOTT MACDONALD FOR CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION OF WATER TREATMENT PLANT.

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

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

**“Resolution Awarding a Contract to Coppola Services Inc. for the Construction of a New Water Treatment Plant.”**

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

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO COPPOLA SERVICES INC. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW WATER TREATMENT PLANT.

Councilman Schnurr reported Coppola Services was the lowest of nine bidders.

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

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

**“Resolution Authorizing License Agreement with FR Park Racing, LP Re: 2020 Fireworks Display.”**

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH FR PARK RACING, LP RE: 2020 FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

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

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

**“Resolution Authorizing License Agreement with D&M Fireworks, LLC Re: 2020 Fireworks Display.”**

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH D&M FIREWORKS, LLC RE: 2020 FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

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

Mayor Kane read Items No. 12 on the agenda as follows:

**“Resolution of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, Amending Temporary Appropriations for 2020.”**

Councilwoman Rogers 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, AMENDING TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2020.

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

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

**“Resolution Amending the Appointments to the Borough of Freehold Green Team.”**

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

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD GREEN TEAM.

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

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

**“Resolution Confirming Personnel Actions/Appointments:**

- a. **Appointment of Philip Kagan as a member of the Freehold Fire Department’s Junior Firefighter Program, effective March 16, 2020.”**

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

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL ACTIONS/APPOINTMENTS: 14A.

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

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

**“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:**

- a. **Sidewalk Café License, Federici’s Restaurant, 14 East Main Street.**
- b. **Sidewalk Café License, Oyako Tso’s, 6 West Main Street.**
- c. **Sidewalk Café License, Court Jester, 16 East Main Street.**
- d. **Raffle License #16-20, United Way of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, 50/50, 4/18/20, 31 West Main Street.**
- e. **Memorializing Raffle License #17-20, St. Rose of Lima PTA, Basket Raffle, 3/27/20, 51 Lincoln Place.**
- f. **Memorializing Bingo License #1-20, St. Rose of Lima PTA, Pocketbook Bingo, 3/27/20, 51 Lincoln Place.”**

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS: 15A – 15F.

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

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

**“Approval of Bills.”**

Councilman Schnurr 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 \$1,682,789.58 be paid as presented.

Councilman Schnurr noted the top three bills:

1. \$827,000.00 – Board of Education
2. \$317,000.00 – Freehold Regional High School District
3. \$266,000.00 – Payroll

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

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

**“Clerk – Late Communications.”**

Borough Administrator, Steve Gallo stated there is an additional Resolution in regards to the library’s application for funding for a project that is estimated to cost \$1,770,000.00.

Kerry Higgins, Borough Attorney read the Resolution as follows:

**“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, New Jersey Authorizing the Borough of Freehold to Apply to the State of New Jersey for a New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act Grant Up to \$1,778,000.00 for an Addition, Rehabilitation and ADA Improvements to the Freehold Public Library.”**

Ms. Higgins explained this authorizes the grant of \$889,000.00 for rehabilitation and the work and this a matching funds grant.

Mr. Gallo stated the CFO wanted everyone to understand the original discussion, which took place several years ago, was \$1.5 million and it is now \$1.77 million. He stated the library has committed to cover the debt service with economy measures at the library.

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

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD TO APPLY TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR A NEW JERSEY LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION BOND ACT GRANT UP TO \$1,778,000.00 FOR AN ADDITION, REHABILITATION AND ADA IMPROVEMENTS TO THE FREEHOLD PUBLIC LIBRARY.**

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

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

**“Public Comments”**

Ms. Christine Gregory, West George Street, thanked the Mayor for his message to the community regarding the virus crisis. She asked about the economic impact from events being cancelled. She asked what the governing body plans to do.

Mayor Kane stated he would address that at the end.

Councilwoman Shutzer made a motion to close Public Comments, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto.

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

Borough Administrator reported on some of the measures taken regarding the COVID-19 virus. He reported there are regular meetings with pertinent personnel and community leaders, he reported on the Mayor's and Governor's Executive Orders as well as possible personnel provisions. Mr. Gallo outlined the current operations at all municipal buildings.

Councilman Schnurr asked if a Resolution is needed on the personnel provision.

Mr. Gallo stated he does not need a Resolution; it can be done by Executive Order.

Borough Attorney, Kerry Higgins recommended it be done by Resolution.

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the following Resolution, seconded by Councilman Schnurr:

**AUTHORIZATION TO ADOPT CERTAIN PERSONNEL PROVISIONS IN REGARDS TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS.**

Mr. Gallo gave a brief description of the provisions and how personnel are handled.

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

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

**“Council Comments.”**

Councilman Schnurr stated Memorial Day Parade and Veteran's meetings are being done by conference call moving forward and the Finance Committee is working on the budget.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated Lake Topanemus and Recreation cancelled their monthly meetings. He stated volunteers are taking precautions and there will be no congregating at the Fire House and firemen will report to calls only. Councilman DiBenedetto encouraged anyone to contact their doctor with any health symptoms or questions.

Councilwoman Shutzer had no comments.

Councilwoman Rogers stated the Shade Tree meeting is cancelled and the Arbor Day poster contest is postponed.

Councilman Reich encouraged people to follow the Borough Facebook page as well as the Monmouth County page for information. He asked everyone to be smart and safe and be healthy.

Mayor Kane thanked Borough Administrator Steve Gallo and the staff at Borough Hall who have been constantly preparing. He reported on the Emergency Planning meetings and who has been involved. He explained the situation is extremely critical. Mayor Kane encouraged everyone to stay out of public places, non-essential businesses are to close, restaurants and bars are for take-out only. He stated information has been provided on the Borough Facebook page, email blasts, Borough website as well as other trusted sources. He stated the best site for information is the CDC website. Mayor Kane encouraged everyone to stay home and protect themselves for the foreseeable future.

In response to Ms. Gregory's questions about the effect to the economy, Mayor Kane stated the economy is going to take a hit, but if the public health crisis is not taken care of first, no one will have to worry about the economy. He reiterated this is a public health crisis and addressing that is the priority. Mayor Kane stated it needs to be controlled and the best way to do that is through social distancing, wash your hands constantly and keep your hands away from your face.

Mayor Kane asked if there were any questions.

There were none.

Councilman Reich added that purchasing gift certificates is a good way to support our small businesses. He explained it gives the businesses cash to operate and the certificates can be used when the quarantine is over.

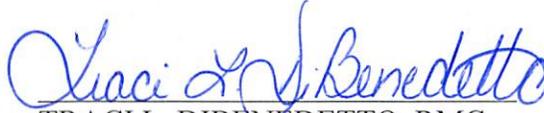
Mayor Kane encouraged everyone to be safe and take care of yourself, your family and look out for your neighbors. Mayor Kane stated all of us working together will be the only way to get through this.

Councilwoman Shutzer offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC  
BOROUGH CLERK

TLD:lc