The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 5:00 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

PRESENT: MR. LANZA, MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON.

Director Lanza announced, "This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice has been given by posting throughout the year a copy of the notice on Bulletin Boards on the First and Second Floor of the Main Street County Complex, Building #1, Flemington, New Jersey, a public place reserved for such announcements. A copy was mailed on or before September 28, 2017, to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Star Ledger, Trenton Times, Courier News, TAPinto (online) and the Express Times, newspapers designated to receive such notices and by filing a copy with the Hunterdon County Clerk."

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded these:

See Page 10/03/17-1A RESOLUTION
RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss starting salary for Park Rangers.

See Page 10/03/17-1B RESOLUTION
RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the Parks and Recreation Division Head.

See Page 10/03/17-1C RESOLUTION
RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the Planning Director’s retirement.

See Page 10/03/17-1D RESOLUTION
RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss backfills in the Sheriff’s Office.

See Page 10/03/17-1E RESOLUTION
RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss Library backfills.

See Page 10/03/17-1F RESOLUTION
RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the dental contract.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 5:02 p.m., recessed at 5:24 p.m., and reconvened in Open Session at 5:33 p.m.

PRESENT: MR. LANZA, MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Director Lanza asked for a moment of silence for those who service out country, have lost their lives serving our country and for those were killed this past weekend in Los Vegas.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Lanza opened the meeting to the public.

Barbara Sachau, Raritan Township resident, questioned several items on the Claims Register concerning conferences and memberships.

Ms. Sachau advised the Board there are approximately 366 golf courses in New Jersey.

PUBLIC HEARING – County Ordinance No. 2017-01

Director Lanza reported this ordinance is to amend the parking fees at the South County Park Fairgrounds as it relates to vendors.

Shana Taylor, County Counsel stated the ordinance was introduced with an effective date of October 22, 2017 but there is a need to amend the effective date to January 01, 2018. This ordinance will be published showing the new effective date.

Director Lanza opened the public hearing on County Ordinance No. 2017-01, amending the “Vendor Parking Fees at the South County Park Fairground”.

Barry Lynn Everitt, Hunterdon County Fair Committee addressed the Board offering to answer any questions, stating that the parking ordinance has not been updated in many years and this was a long time coming. While rates for certain things have increased for the Fair, the parking fees have
not and this will bring all rates more in line for the Committee. The Fair Committee worked closely with Sue Dziamara, the Planning, Economic Development and Land Use Director on these vendor rates for parking; as well as the Division Head of Parks and Recreation, Carol Bodder.

Ms. Everitt thanked the Board for their concern for her mother since the passing of Roger Everitt, who is a founder of the Hunterdon County 4-H Fair and again thanked the Board for naming the Fair Grounds after Roger.

There being no further questions or comments, Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-2A  ORDINANCE NO. 2017-01

ADOPTION, County Ordinance No. 2017-01, amending the "Vendor Parking Fees at the South County Park Fairground".

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. KING, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

FINANCE

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-2B  RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Requesting the insertion of an item of revenue and the like sum as an appropriation in the 2017 County Budget for the Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant (FY2015), in the amount of $3,007,045.80.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MS. LAGAY, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded these:

See Page 10/03/17-2C  RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Requesting the insertion of an item of revenue and the like sum as an appropriation in the 2017 County Budget for the State Homeland Security Program, in the amount of $173,552.54.

See Page 10/03/17-2D  RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Requesting the insertion of an item of revenue and the like sum as an appropriation in the 2017 County Budget for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant, in the amount of $43,750.

See Page 10/03/17-2E  RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Requesting the insertion of an item of revenue and the like sum as an appropriation in the 2017 County Budget for the Section 5311 Innovation CY2017 and CY2018, in the amount of $150,000.

See Page 10/03/17-2F  RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Requesting the insertion of an item of revenue and the like sum as an appropriation in the 2017 County Budget for Veterans Transportation (2017/2018), in the amount of $15,000.

See Page 10/03/17-2G  RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Requesting the insertion of an item of revenue and the like sum as an appropriation in the 2017 County Budget for the Wastewater Management Grant, in the amount of $100,000.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MS. LAGAY, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

PURCHASING

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-2I  RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Requisition #R7-04764, using State Contract # A-89967, with Dell Marketing, for Modular Battery Replacement, for the Division of Communications, in the amount of $49,244.80.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.
Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-3A RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a professional services agreement with Creative Marketing Alliance, for website design and development, for Division of Economic Development, in the amount of $35,800.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MR. LANZA. (NAY) MR. WALTON.

Ms. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-3B RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a professional services agreement for engineering design services, for the replacement of County Bridge R-24, on Mill Road over the Rockaway Creek, in Readington Township, with KMA Consulting Engineers, Inc., in the amount of $187,584.72.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

FARMLAND/OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-3C RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing a proposed assignment of a development easement from Stacy Andris Skalski and Philip Skalski, on Block 42, Lot 47, in Tewksbury Township, estimated 56 acres.

Director Lanza made a statement regarding all of Hunterdon's preservation items on today's agenda and advised he has made this statement during previous meetings on preservation.

Director Lanza stated preservation of farmland in this County is a priority and focus of this Board and resolutions one through eight, to give County approval for the preservation of nearly 500 acres of farmland through the purchase of development easements. This is a remarkable effort by our Planning Department, especially under the guidance and leadership of Sue Dziama. She deserves recognition for a great job; the County and municipalities provided $2 million through the Open Space Tax to fund this. With the exception of Resolution 1, the final step in the process is to gain State Agricultural Development Board approval for over $3 million in funds towards the purchasing of development easements. Hunterdon County anticipates this will happen.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. HOLT, MR. KING, MR. LAGAY, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. Holt moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-3D RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing final approval for a development easement from Dirt Capital, LLC (Jacob Israelow), on Block 4, Lot 3, in Franklin Township, estimated 84 acres, (SADC-$458,640; County-$153,790; Township-$151,970), total amount of $764,400.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. HOLT, MR. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-3E RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing final approval for a development easement from Marsha Livingston and Marbern Berry (Livingston and Berry Farm), on Block 30, Lot 6.02, in Tewksbury Township, estimated 45 acres, (SADC-$699,360; County-$233,120; Township-$233,120), total amount of $1,165,600.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. HOLT, MR. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Lagay seconded these:

See Page 10/03/17-3F RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing final approval for a development easement from Roving Wheel, LLC, (Charles and Ravenna Taylor), on Block 25, Lots 18.02 and 23, in Delaware Township, estimated 49 acres, (SADC-$308,700; County-$102,900; Township-$102,900), total amount of $514,500.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MS. LAGAY, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Lagay seconded these:

See Page 10/03/17-3G RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing final approval for a development easement from Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., under contract to purchase from Peacefield Management Group, LLC, “Farm A”, for Block 15, Lot 10, in Alexandria Township, estimated 76 acres, (SADC-$319,200; County-$106,400; Township-$106,400), total amount of $532,000.
RESOLVED, Authorizing final approval for a development easement from Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., under contract to purchase from Peacefield Management Group, LLC, “Farm B”, for Block 15, Lot 10, in Alexandria Township, estimated 82 acres, (SADC-$300,120; County-$100,040; Township-$100,040), total amount of $500,200.

RESOLVED, Authorizing final approval for a development easement from Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., under contract to purchase from Peacefield Management Group, LLC, “Farm C”, for Block 15, Lot 10, in Alexandria Township, estimated 76 acres, (SADC-$501,600; County-$167,200; Township-$167,200), total amount of $836,000.

RESOLVED, Authorizing final approval for a development easement from Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., under contract to purchase from Peacefield Management Group, LLC, “Farm D”, for Block 15, Lot 10, in Alexandria Township, estimated 82 acres, (SADC-$492,000; County-$164,000; Township-$164,000), total amount of $820,000.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. Walton moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

RESOLVED, Approving the installation of a custom designed archway provided by Custom Alloy for High Bridge Borough, at the entrance of the Columbia Trail.

Ms. Dziamara reported Taylor-Wharton is celebrating their 275th Anniversary and they would like to donate this structure to identify the trail head of the Columbia Trail. The plan is for Taylor-Wharton to create the structure and install it in time for their parade.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MR. LANZA.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT
Kevin P. Davis, County Administrator informed the Board he was made aware, when he was brought into the County, that the development of the annual Capital Spending Plan is finalized around mid-year. This reduces the time available to do road and bridge work which is supported by this fund. To address this, he has been working with Janet Previte, County Financial Officer and Tom Mathews, Director of Public Works to develop an ordinance for consideration by the Board of Chosen Freeholders before the end of this year’s calendar year to provide for funding for road and bridge projects and materials that require an early start. This will not be an increase in what would be allocated by capital but would simply do this year what would be approved next year, so that Public Works and Engineering can get an early start. This may cause the County to receive better pricing by going out to bid earlier. A more flushed out proposal will be presented to the Board in the near future.

Mr. Davis reported on the New Jersey County Administrators Association meeting’s presentation by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). ICE reports were contrary to news media reports; ICE agents do not hang around court houses looking to arrest undocumented individuals when those individuals are witness to crimes or victims of crimes. The ICE agency does coordinate with local law enforcement when undocumented individuals are involved in the commission of crimes. ICE representatives reiterated their mission statement that the agency protects on across border crime and illegal immigration that threatens national security and public safety.

CONSENT AGENDA
Director Lanza announced: “All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Hunterdon and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.”

Check #158902 was held at this time.

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. King seconded a motion to approve claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated October 03, 2017, minus Check #158902.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion to approve Check #158902 in accordance with the Claims Register dated October 03, 2017.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. LANZA.

(ABSTAIN) MR. WALTON.

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. King seconded a motion to approve the regular and executive session minutes of September 19, 2017.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.
Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. King seconded these:

RESOLVED, Donna Horvath appointed permanent, full time Principal Library Assistant, County Library.

RESOLVED, Robert Folk appointed full time Laborer, Division of Roads and Bridges, Public Works Department.

RESOLVED, Alison Yanulevich appointed provisional, full time Keyboarding Clerk 2, County Clerk’s Office.

RESOLVED, Frances McAllister appointed provisional, full time Keyboarding Clerk 2, County Clerk’s Office.

RESOLVED, Faith Quickel appointed provisional, full time Clerk 2, County Clerk’s Office.

RESOLVED, Diana Swiderski appointed full time, Keyboarding Clerk 1, Health Division, Department of Public Safety and Health Services.

RESOLVED, Brock Rodenbough, Road Repairer 1, Public Works Department, increase in salary for attaining CDL Class A.

RESOLVED, David Gaughan appointed full time, Sheriff’s Investigator, Sheriff’s Office.

RESOLVED, Scott Cohen appointed as a member of the Human Services Advisory Council.

RESOLVED, Regina Hlasney appointed as a member to the Senior, Disabilities and Veterans Services Advisory Council.

RESOLVED, Approving Change Order #1, Final, for County Bid #2015-18, for Painting of County Bridges F-82, F-54 and WD-120, with Pro-Spec Painting, Inc., decrease of $3,598.

RESOLVED, Approving speed limits along both directions on County Route 628, (Bunnvale Road, West Hill Road and Main St.), in Lebanon Township and Glen Gardner Borough.

RESOLVED, Approving a State Aid Agreement under the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund Authority Act, for Resurfacing of County Route 512, form Califon Borough line to the Morris County Line, in the Township of Tewksbury; and for Resurfacing of County Route 513, from County Route 579 to Frontage Road, in Franklin and Union Township.

RESOLVED, Approving final payment on County Bid #2016-19, for drainage improvements to County Route 519, in Kingwood Township; and County Route 635, in Bethlehem Township, to JTG Construction, Inc., in the amount of $11,692.75.

RESOLVED, Approving Modification #1, to the State Aid Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Division of Local Aid and Economic Development, for Resurfacing and Safety Improvements for County Route 579, in Alexandria and Union Townships, project increased by $26,000.
RESOLVED, Approving a change order for County Bid #2015-18, for Painting of County Bridges F-82, F-54 and WD-120, in various municipalities, with Pro-Spec Painting, Inc., decrease of $3,598.

RESOLVED, Approving a Federal Aid Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, for the Church Street Bridge, on County Route 579, over the Norfolk-Lehigh Line, in Bethlehem Township and Bloomsbury Borough.

RESOLVED, Authorizing the rejection of all proposals received for County Bid #2017-10, for the Hunterdon County Justice Center Hydraulic Elevator Modernization.

RESOLVED, Authorizing the rejection of a proposal for County Bid #2017-16, for Demolition of various Structures, from Statewide Demolition and Recycling, LLC.

RESOLVED, Authorizing the rejection of a proposal for Bid #2017-13, for the Replacement of the Route 31 County Complex HVAC for Buildings 2 and 3, from Envirocon LLC.


RESOLVED, Approving a Federal Grant Agreement from the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, in the amount of $173,552.54.

RESOLVED, Approving a Subcontract Award Agreement with Somerset County, for Work First New Jersey Funds, in the amount of $26,638.

RESOLVED, Authorizing amending Section XV of County Policy #2005-03, entitled: Fringe Benefits for Constitutional Officers, Department Heads, Unclassified Employees and Non-Contractual Employees, to adjust tuition reimbursement.

RESOLVED, Approving a grant renewal application for a subgrant award, #VS-53-15, with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice, for the SANE/SART project (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner/Sexual Assault Response Team), in the amount of $122,954.64 (Federal Funds - $76,792.00; County Match - $46,162.64).

RESOLVED, Approving a subgrant award for the Multi-Jurisdictional County Gang, Gun and Narcotics Task Forces Grant, in the amount of $75,552 (Federal Funds - $43,750; County Match - $31,802).

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

GRANTS
Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded this:

RESOLVED, Approving a Federal Grant Agreement from the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, in the amount of $173,552.54.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. HOLT, MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

RESOLVED, Approving a grant renewal application for a subgrant award, #VS-53-15, with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice, for the SANE/SART project (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner/Sexual Assault Response Team), in the amount of $122,954.64 (Federal Funds - $76,792.00; County Match - $46,162.64).

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

RESOLVED, Approving a subgrant award for the Multi-Jurisdictional County Gang, Gun and Narcotics Task Forces Grant, in the amount of $75,552 (Federal Funds - $43,750; County Match - $31,802).

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MS. LAGAY, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.
Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-7A  RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a grant application with the State Department of Human Services, Division on Aging, for the Area Plan Contract grant, in the amount of $745,723 (State Funds - $344,440; Federal Funds - $401,283; County Match - $14,055).

ROLL CALL: (AYES)  MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-7B  RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an application for funding for senior artistic and cultural trips, for the Hunterdon County Division of Senior, Disabilities and Veterans Services, to the Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission, in the amount of $7,000.

ROLL CALL: (AYES)  MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MS. LAGAY, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. Holt moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-7C  RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Municipal Alliance Subgrant Agreement with the Central Hunterdon Alliance, as represented by Delaware Township, in the amount of $31,844.

ROLL CALL: (AYES)  MR. HOLT, MR. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-7D  PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION, Recognizing Sheriff Fred Brown on receiving the Boy Scouts of American, Central New Jersey Council 2017 Distinguished Citizen Award.

ROLL CALL: (AYES)  MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-7E  PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION, Recognizing Trey M. Mead, Boy Scout Troop #186, for attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

ROLL CALL: (AYES)  MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. KING, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 10/03/17-7E  PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION, Recognizing October 06, 2017 as Knock out Opioid Abuse Day.

ROLL CALL: (AYES)  MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from the Delaware Valley Junior Terriers Cheer Squad, requesting permission to hold a Coin Toss on Sunday, October 08, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., at the intersection of Bridges Street and County Route 519, in Milford. Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded a motion granting permission provided the event is coordinated through the County's Department of Public Works.

ROLL CALL: (AYES)  MR. HOLT, MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

A request was received from the High Bridge Business Association, asking permission to close a portion of County Route 513, on Saturday, December 02, 2017, for the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony between Fairview Avenue and McDonald Street, from 5:45 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion granting permission provided the event is coordinated through the County's Department of Public Works.

ROLL CALL: (AYES)  MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA.

FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Shared Services

Mr. Holt reported that over the years, the item of shared services has always been part of the Freeholders’ agenda and it has been championed by Freeholder Walton over the years. One of those shared services has been a fuel sharing program; it is always great when progress can be reported. Mr. Holt stated the work at the County’s Lebanon Garage Fuel Island has been completed and it will be up and available to not only County vehicles but also municipal vehicles.
Mr. Holt advised the Lebanon Garage used to have a 3,000 gallon underground storage tank and it has been increased to an 8,000 gallon diesel fuel tank and a 4,000 gallon gasoline above ground tank. The purpose of this was to ensure the County had sufficient capacities to provide fuel for local school buses, local police, fire and rescue vehicle; as well as the County’s needs within that area. The fuel sharing program continues to be a part of the ongoing Shared Service provided by the County.

2% CAP
Mr. King advised on September 22, 2017 he was privileged to stand on the State House Step in Trenton, New Jersey, with members of the New Jersey Association of Counties, which he was representing at the time; but also the League of Municipalities and the Conference of Mayors at a joint press conference calling for the Legislature to approve the continuation of the 2% binding arbitration CAP on Police and Fire union contracts. That CAP is set to expire by the end of 2017. While the issue can be controversial, it is important to County and local governments as negotiations with law enforcement bargaining units in order to maintain some parity in negotiating contracts. This is more important to property taxpayers as recently the public interest arbitration tax force reported last week the current number of full time police officers in New Jersey reduction of growth of police salaries under the 2% CAP that saved taxpayers approximately $429 million since enacted in 2010. This is not a suburban versus urban issue; it is a property taxpayer issue in New Jersey.

Mr. King assured everyone, that the NJAC Board, which he is a member of, will continue to keep the Freeholders updated on this issue.

World Music Day
Ms. Lagay reported that World Music Day happened this past Sunday and October 01st is World Music Day around the planet and it is celebrated by all. The estimate of people attending during the course of the day was approximately 1,000. This event brought tourists from throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania. This was a good opportunity to show off the County’s Parks and how Hunterdon County organizes events.

Ms. Lagay stated this was a very worthwhile and nicely run event through the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission by Carrie Fellows, the Executive Director.

Grants
Director Lanza reported that today, under grants, resolutions 2 through 7 represented over $900,000 in revenues from various grants to help offset the costs of County services; some of which are state mandated. In order to spend those funds, the State Division of Local Government Services approval is necessary. These grants provide significant support for the County’s senior citizens and disabled transportation program; the funding for the state’s mandated wastewater management plan; and funding for the County’s Reverse 911 Emergency Announcement System. Included is the $173,000 Homeland Security Grant, which enables the County to provide 12 local police departments that are not patrolled by state police access to New Jersey Data Exchange, or NJDEX and the Countywide report management system, which enables all law enforcement officers access to immediate information in their vehicles on the scene when needed.

JCP&L
Director Lanza reported that on September 20, 2017, there was an electric service outage to some customers of JCP&L in Holland Township and the Town of Clinton. He acknowledged the good work done by JCP&L in both keeping the Freeholders updated on the outage and progress being made to get homeowners back on line, and expeditiously correcting the loss of service. The Freeholders’ Office was advised of the outage at 12:07 p.m. on September 20, 2017 and then notification was received at 1:08 p.m. that power was restored. During storms and all other actions that result in service outages the power company receives its fair share of abuse so when the company quickly acts to restore service they deserve some accolades. Job well done JCP&L.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Director Lanza opened the meeting to the public.

Barbara Sachau, Raritan Township resident, questioned the Board regarding Open Space and if taxpayers contribute with non-profits to purchase open space. She feels the taxpayers should be receiving the major percentage in those types of transactions.

Ms. Sachau stated for the record, regarding Open Space, wildlife should be preserved in all areas and hunting does not preserve wildlife. When you have hunting programs it leads to a lot of disasters, such as the recent hunter in Readington Township shot a dog close to a home, with a bow and arrow. There have been studies on violence on violence connected with hunting. The person who shot the people in Las Vegas was a hunter. It is a violent activity – it is not a passive activity.

Mr. Walton stated for the record, hunters are some of the safest individuals; they are good men and women; they care about how they treat their weapons and they pass that along to their children. The person, who shot the people in Las Vegas, may have been a hunter, but that is an anomaly. To lump all hunters in with this psychopath is irresponsible.

Director Lanza added that his father has been a lifelong hunter and he has never raised a finger to anyone, so let’s just stop casting that thought.

Director Lanza corrected the misconception about the Open Space purchases; the County goes in with funding partners to preserve open space, which is a mandate from the public by way of referendum; making it possible to leverage assets and resources from other places to advance this public purpose. If there is a million dollar piece of property or conservation easement available, the County gathers funding partners so the County pays less to achieve that public purpose. There is a
good reason to have funding partners, making it possible to achieve what the voters elected this Board to do by spending less of the County’s own money.

Francis Gavigan, East Amwell Township resident, agreed giving kudos to JCP&L saying her power went out last night and was back on within a couple of minutes.

Ms. Gavigan said regarding Open Space, for around $4,000 hundreds of acres have been preserved in East Amwell Township using local taxpayer money as well as County funds. Kudos to everyone who is involved in the preservation of open space allowing it to be used by all.

Ms. Gavigan stated she has more fear that the person in Las Vegas was a retired IRS person than a hunter; he was also a postal worker.

Ms. Gavigan informed the Board that she has hunters in her backyard; she has a small farm; they hunt with bow and they are very responsible and very safe. She has horses and sheep and they are not bothered by the hunters. They are only bothered by the coyotes and she has been assured if they are seen, they will be returned to the wheel of life. Hunters do good; there are probably more deer killed in New Jersey by vehicles than anything else.

Ms. Gavigan advised that recently there was an accident at the intersection of County Route 579 and Rosemont-Ringoes Road/Toad Lane. Comments made to neighbors there was they did not see it. This road has areas of dips and turns; these are areas where there are homes close to the road with mailboxes. Ms. Gavigan feels this area is a prime candidate for lowering the speed limit. The area has a blind hill and asked if someone from the Freeholder Board would be able to reach out and provide information.

Ms. Gavigan has heard about some people wanting to add a County Tax or fee in order to fund a Fire Company to assist municipalities. She is already paying a fire tax in East Amwell Township and the Township has an excellent volunteer Fire Company. If the Township needs help, Hopewell Township provides assistance and vice-versa. The idea that any republican in a money conscience state would consider adding a bureaucracy and a tax, leaves her gob smacked; especially in the absence of a demonstrated problem. If an individual community feels there is such a need, pony up their own fire company.

Ms. Gavigan does not care if 13 municipalities or 14 municipalities sent letters to the County asking for a paid County Fire Company, it should be a non starter.

Mr. Holt informed those present that there exists an organization called “Hunters Helping the Hungry” who provides tens and tens of thousands of pounds of USDA harvested meat which goes to people who cannot afford to eat. This is another way that hunters are the fabric of this County and this Country.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Lanza adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Doolan
Clerk of the Board