

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

71 Main Street, Freeholder's Meeting Room, 2nd Floor
Flemington, New Jersey 08822

August 20, 2013

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

PRESENT: MR. WALTON, MR. HOLT, MR. KING, MR. MELICK.
ABSENT: MR. MENNEN.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Director Walton 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 August 15, 2013, to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Star Ledger, Trenton Times, Courier News and the Express Times, newspapers designated to receive such notices and by filing a copy with the Hunterdon County Clerk."

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded these:

See Page 08/20/13-1A **RESOLUTION**

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss health benefits renewal.

See Page 08/20/13-1B **RESOLUTION**

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss an internal investigation regarding Paylocity.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. HOLT, MR. KING, MR. MELICK, MR. WALTON.
(ABSENT) MR. MENNEN.

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 5:01 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 5:33 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Walton opened the meeting to the public.

Dan Erlanson, Readington Township resident came before the Board requesting a speed study be done on County Route 629. His neighborhood is interested in changing the speed limit and passing zones.

Director Walton informed Mr. Erlanson that he should contact Tom Mathews, Director of Public Works regarding this issue. Mr. Mathews is at tonight's meeting and will speak with you regarding the process.

Frances Gavigan, East Amwell Township resident explained she has had conversations regarding speed studies in the County; plus she has driven around on various County roads plus in other counties and she's found a number of anomalies where either in a historic area or a village there is a 25 mph or a 30 mph speed limit. An example of this is Route 579 going towards Washington Crossing's Park where there is a heavy traffic 25 mph speed area of approximately ¾ a mile long. In Franklin Township and towards Holland Township, there are a number of areas on that County road where speed limits are low. Ms. Gavigan feels the speed limits are not a hard and fast rule driven by speed studies. A more collaborative and neighborhood approach should be discussed regarding speed limits.

NJAC Scholarship Awards/POLYTECH

Director Walton recognized John Donnadio, Executive Director of the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC) and Dr. Kim Metz, Superintendent of Polytech who will be making a presentation of vocational education scholarships to Daniel Ratanski, Sophia Sollisch and Corey Kuhn.

Mr. Donnadio thanked the Freeholder Board for inviting him here this evening. He reported that the scholarships were sponsored by PSE&G and Investors Bank.

Director Walton reported that Corey Kuhn will be attending Montclair State University and is the recipient of a \$500 scholarship from Investors Bank on behalf of the NJAC and Hunterdon County Policy.

Director Walton reported that Sophia Sollisch will be attending Raritan Valley Community College and is the recipient of a \$500 scholarship from Investors Bank on behalf of the NJAC and Hunterdon County Policy.

Director Walton reported that Daniel Ratanski will be attending Raritan Valley Community College and is the recipient of a \$650 scholarship from PSEG on behalf of the NJAC and Hunterdon County Policy.

Dr. Metz thanked the Board of Chosen Freeholders for supporting Polytech. She advised that Polytech will be having its highest enrollment this year, 2013/2014, that is has had in its 18 years existence. Polytech is also looking at preparing a five year strategic plan; a five year and ten year strategic plan is being looked at by the Polytech Board on how to move forward. Polytech looks forward to the Freeholders' continued support.

FARMLAND/OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 08/20/13-2A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Contract for the Sale of Development Easement, with Marjorie Y. Lovenberg (Trustee of the Marjorie Y. Lovenberg Trust) and Joel Higgins, on Block 27, Lot 20, in Delaware Township, consisting of 44 acres, (SADC-\$222,600; County-\$73,500; Township-\$73,500), total amount of \$369,600.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. HOLT, MR. KING, MR. MELICK, MR. WALTON.
(ABSENT) MR. MENNEN.**

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 08/20/13-2B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Contract for Sale of Development Easement from Gail Cooper, for Block 15, Lot 6 and Block 16, Lot 16, in Holland Township, estimated 44 acres, (SADC-\$197,090.50; County-\$58,684.25; Township-\$58,684.25), total amount of \$314,459.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. WALTON.
(ABSENT) MR. MENNEN.**

ROADS and BRIDGES UPDATE

Tom Mathews, Public Works Director came before the Board to provide an update of various County road and bridge projects.

- On tonight's agenda is a grant agreement with NJDOT for County Route 513 which will be a 2013 NJDOT Trust Fund Project.
- Comments have been received from NJDOT on County Route 614, in Union Township and revisions will be necessary.
- 2013 Surface Treatment Program includes County Route 645 and County Route 519B from Route 12 to Strimples Mill is getting ready for Chip Seal. Pavement repairs are starting for County Route 579 and County Route 639. County Route 614 will be next.
- Preliminary plans were submitted for County Bridge C-26, on Cratetown Road and are under review; revisions will be necessary.
- County Bridge E-140-M in East Amwell Township, the site has been cleared and construction of the substructure is commencing.
- Detour plans for County Bridge Q-168 on Pennsylvania Avenue have been approved by NJDOT.
- County Culvert C-33 on Pine Road in Clinton Township is an in-house project; the precast concrete panels have been set; construction started on August 14, 2013. The masonry wing walls are currently being relayed.
- County Culvert HA-11, on Sweet Hollow Road, is closed; construction began on August 19, 2013.
- County Bridge K-138 on Union Road in Kingwood Township is currently under design.
- The precast arch for County Culvert U-18 on Race Street was delivered and put in place today. The project should be open in two to three weeks.
- Local Lead and Scoping Projects: County Bridge F-45, on Whitebridge Road, in Franklin Township, the shop drawings have been submitted and are under review.
- County Intersection Routes 512/513 is substantially complete. NJDOT has done its site inspection and has created a small punch list for the County to complete in order to receive reimbursement.

PUBLIC SAFETY/HEALTH SERVICES

George F. Wagner, Public Safety and Health Services Director and Tadhgh Rainey, Health Services Manager came before the Board to discuss Inter-Local Municipal Agreements and Fee Schedules.

Mr. Wagner reported to the Board that he and Mr. Rainey looked at the County's Inter-Local Agreements with municipalities as they presently exist in reference to the delivery of health services including what "core services" are included in the Inter-Local agreements.

Mr. Rainey explained the current Inter-Local Agreements never spoke to what the County actually provides; so based on the Freeholders' direction was to provide a sense/outline of what the County provides but if a municipalities wants additional services, the County might be able to do those but it would have to be negotiated because there is a cost to that.

Mr. Rainey explained the Inter-Local Agreement before the Board has a list of services of what the County provides: health education, environmental health which includes retail food establishment inspections to body art inspections, public health nursing and vector control. Vector control has to be provided regardless of a local ordinance. The agreements go into detail about some of the exceptions such as rabies, which is a municipal service but the County does, according to state statute, is make sure the rabies specimen gets to the lab which is in Trenton.

Mr. Rainey informed the Board, that once the municipality receives this updated Inter-Local Agreement for health services, they are going to have to sign the agreements which in the past had been a problem. Mr. Rainey will be attending municipal meetings to stress from the mayors that these inter-local agreements with the County must be executed by each municipality by the end of 2013 in order to continue the currently health services relationship. In addition, the municipalities will have to provide the County with a list and copies of pre-approved ordinances which the County will enforce. Not all municipalities have done this in the past but now, if a municipality wants the County to enforce something, the municipality has to approve that through an ordinance in advance.

Mr. Rainey stated most of the County's fees, especially septic inspections, retain food establishments would remain the same. A few fees (user fees) would be added such as for public pools and kennels. There will be no increase to municipal governments but there will be a cost to anyone opening a public pool; essentially this is for housing and/or condo associations.

Mr. Rainey informed the Board that at times, re-inspections are needed in order to get people in compliance. In the past, there have been a handful of restaurants that are constantly out of compliance and inspections can be sent out to them, six to ten times a year. If the County has to do re-inspections there will be a \$100 in order to get them into compliance.

Director Walton confirmed on the County's website that there is a list of which restaurants that are in compliance and those that are not.

Mr. Rainey reported to the Board on the issue of a few day care facilities that are constantly out of compliance in terms of keeping children out of school that are not properly immunized. The Public Health Nurses have had to make numerous visits to the day cares. His recommendation is that if that continues, the County will have to charge a fee.

Mr. Rainey and Mr. Wagner recommended revisiting the municipal Inter-Local Agreements in five years to determine if changes need to be made.

Mr. Holt does not feel the fees need to be adjusted and that the fees should be cost neutral. The County is not a for profit organization. The utilization of user fees is project specific to be borne by an individual for a service not to be carried by the general taxpaying population.

Director Walton disagreed to a certain extent, saying the person paying the fees is not the sole beneficiary of the service; if a septic inspection is being done; it also protects everyone in the surrounding area. He agreed the fees should be somewhat cost neutral but there is a public benefit to these services which is why there is a public health system. He is comfortable, at this time, in not raising any fees. Director Walton would like to revisit this issue in six months to a year.

Cynthia J. Yard, County Administrator recommended letting health services install the fees and they can report back at the end of 2014. She explained that in the past the County was performing services for free with no payment/reimbursement.

Mr. Melick agreed that the costs should be cost neutral.

Mr. Wagner explained to the Board that the major goal is to encourage compliance from the municipalities and the vendors/users it is not to generate fees.

Mrs. Yard confirmed that Mr. Rainey and Mr. Wagner have thoroughly discussed the matter of fees and the Inter-Local Agreements with Municipalities with the County's Health Officer, Herb Yardley and based this on Sussex's model of using staff time, clerical time and such.

After further discussion, Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion approving the text in the Inter-Local Agreements with municipalities and the fee schedule as presented on an interim basis, on the condition Mr. Wagner and Mr. Rainey report back to the Board with a more in-depth explanation of the costs involved for the services to determine if the fees have to be changed.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON.
(ABSENT) MR. MENNEN.**

Flu Season

Mr. Wagner informed the Board that Flu Season is approaching quickly. Currently the County has a Private/Public partnership with Dr. Frank. The Board directed Mr. Wagner to continue with this partnership for the upcoming flu season for vaccines.

FLEMINGTON BOROUGH

Erica Edwards, Flemington Borough Mayor came before the Board to provide an update of the Flemington Business Improvement District (BID). She is aware that Robert Benjamin of the BID was at the last Freeholder Meeting and reported on projects the BID is working on. The Borough and the BID are a public/private partnership in Flemington Borough. The BID is into its second year of existence and a lot of good things are coming from its existence.

Mayor Edwards stated the BID has energized the business community in downtown Flemington. She believe redevelopment has been spurred and the redevelopment of the Union Hotel is close and the group leading that also has an agreement with the building adjacent to the hotel to incorporate that into the development project. There is other redevelopment activity within that block south of the Union Hotel. At the August 12, 2013, Flemington Borough Council meeting the Council set to the Borough's Planning Board a resolution directing them to study the area starting from the Union Hotel down to the 110 Main Street building where Team Capital Bank is, to determine whether that expanded area qualifies as an area in need of redevelopment. This includes all the Borough's building on Main Street and the parking area behind that. The Flemington Borough Planning Board was also asked to look at the County's Choir School to determine that also in the area of redevelopment.

Mayor Edwards informed the Board that the Borough has been talking with a number of different contacts within the theatre community about the prospect of an Arts and Cultural Center in the area of the Borough's property at 91/100 Main Street.

Mayor Edwards explained there is an issue of parking in the Main Street area which is why the Borough continues to ask for use of the County's lot on Main Street (Hawke property lot) as part of the downtown parking in the foreseeable future.

Mayor Edwards stated a new restaurant is going into the 123 Main Street building which will intensify the need for parking.

Director Walton confirmed the Borough is still determining if it needs to utilize the County's parking area on Main Street.

Mayor Edwards reported that the Borough is looking at the former Agway property and that the Stangl property development is expanding. The Borough is seeing positive economic activity. The Borough would like to consider the County's parking area a lot that it can count on for parking in the future for the business redevelopment.

Mr. King asked Mayor Edwards if she feels communications is adequate between the BID, the County, the Chamber of Commerce and the Borough in trying to expedite things in getting things done.

Mayor Edwards thinks the interaction between those various groups has been very positive and that representatives from each of those groups are eager to assist in any way they can. She feels it's impressive the way people are working together.

Mayor Edwards thanked the Board of Chosen Freeholders for all its support, stating it is greatly appreciated.

COUNTY UPDATE

Cynthia J. Yard, County Administrator, brought before the Board for discussion a resolution to challenge participation in Hunterdon County's 300th Anniversary by creating a timeline specific to each school's community and to challenge each of the township schools to identify a significant place, person or event unique to its community that played a significant role on what and where it calls home. She met with the Superintendent of Schools last week to discuss the County's 300th Anniversary and the role in which the schools will be asked to participate.

Mrs. Yard reported the 300 fund facts on the County have been finalized and there will be digital copy placed in a time capsule.

Mrs. Yard further advised that this Resolution/Proclamation will be read by one or two of the Freeholders at each school to challenge the schools and each class to participate in this timeline (1714 to 2013). Each school will be presented with a certificate of this proclamation and the schools' will determine how to maximize the 300th Anniversary of the County of Hunterdon.

Director Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 08/20/13-4A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Recognizing the 300th Anniversary of the County of Hunterdon and challenging each school in the County to participate and play a significant role in this celebration.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. KING.
(ABSENT) MR. MENNEN.**

Mrs. Yard informed the Board that Shop Rite of Flemington is underwriting all the County's food needs during these events, to the amount ranging between \$12,000 to \$15,000. Also, the County is working with Coca Cola also. The first fundraising event will be a wine tasting on September 09, 2013 at Unionville Vineyards and then there is the big Chili Cook-Off on September 8, 2013 at the South County Park and the fire companies are starting to get involved in that event. Hunterdon County Polytech will be participating in the event by making the cornbread for the Chili Cook-Off and they are entering the Cook-Off event.

Mrs. Yard informed the Board that she has contacted the Food Network in hopes they would come and cover the event.

Mrs. Yard stated the Freeholders have been very supportive of this initiative and she is anxious to see the coming events celebrating Hunterdon County's 300 years.

CONSENT AGENDA

Director Walton 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."

Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion to approve the claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated August 20, 2013.

See Page 08/20/13-5A

CLAIMS REGISTER

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON.
(ABSENT) MR. MENNEN.**

Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion to approve the regular session minutes of August 06, 2013.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON.
(ABSENT) MR. MENNEN.**

Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded these:

See Page 08/20/13-5B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Corinne Gahles appointed permanent, part time, Library Page, (North Branch), Library.

See Page 08/20/13-5C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Janis Fisher reclassified, part time unclassified County Adjuster, Human Services Department.

See Page 08/20/13-5D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Elizabeth Mitchell appointed part time, as needed Tai Chi for Arthritis Instructor, Senior, Disability and Veterans Services, Human Services Department.

See Page 08/20/13-5E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Debra Carroll appointed permanent, part time Library Assistant, Library.

See Page 08/20/13-5F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Kayleen Vegh appointed permanent, part time Library Page, (North Branch), Library.

See Page 08/20/13-5G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Elizabeth Beach appointed temporary, as needed Family Service Worker Intern, Social Services Division, Human Services Department.

See Page 08/20/13-5H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Tiffany Horn appointed permanent, part time Library Assistant, (North Branch), Library.

See Page 08/20/13-5I

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Kevin Wash appointed permanent, part time Library Page, (Headquarters), Library.

See Page 08/20/13-5J

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Maryjean Bakaletz appointed permanent, part time Library Assistant, (North Branch), Library

See Page 08/20/13-5K

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the appointment of Nancy Lawrence to the Solid Waste Advisory Council.

See Page 08/20/13-5L

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the appointment of J. Philip Greiner to the Planning Board.

See Page 08/20/13-5M

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an equipment lease agreement with New Jersey Transit for use of a Section 5311 vehicle in the County's Consolidated Transportation System, the LINK (2013 Supreme Freightliner, 20+4 Passenger w/2 wheel chair positions.

See Page 08/20/13-6A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an agreement with Millersville University of Pennsylvania, for assistance in performing surveillance for the County's Black Fly Control Program, in an amount not to exceed \$10,450.

See Page 08/20/13-6B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Amending a resolution adopted on August 06, 2013 setting salaries for the unclassified employees in the Prosecutor's office.

See Page 08/20/13-6C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Stephen Betancourt appointed provisional, full time Road Repairer, Division of Roads and Bridges, Public Works Department

See Page 08/20/13-6D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Cynthia Gould provisional, Social Worker Aging transferred from Public Safety and Health Services to the Human Services, Division of Social Services. (as a result of a CSC audit).

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON.
(ABSENT) MR. MENNEN.**

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded these:

See Page 08/20/13-6E

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Declaring November 2013 as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month in Hunterdon County.

See Page 08/20/13-6F

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Supporting the unification of the following school districts: South Hunterdon Regional High School, Lambertville School, Stockton School and the West Amwell School.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. WALTON.
(ABSENT) MR. MENNEN.**

GRANTS

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 08/20/13-6H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the submission of an electronic grant application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation, for the Resurfacing and Safety Improvements to County Route 513, in Califon Borough and Lebanon Township.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. WALTON.
(ABSENT) MR. MENNEN.**

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from John Cifelli of the Unionville Vineyard, requesting permission on behalf of two to three cancer organizations in Hunterdon County, to use County roads, on September 29, 2013, during the "Tour de Unionville" bike ride. Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County's Department of Public Works.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. WALTON.
(ABSENT) MR. MENNEN.**

FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders provided no reports or comments at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Walton opened the meeting to the public.

Mrs. Yard thanked the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce for all their work with the County for its 300th Anniversary. The Chamber and Chris Phelan, Director of the Chamber have been very cooperative to the County.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Walton adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Doolan, CLERK