

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

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

April 01, 2014

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 3:50 p.m. in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

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

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Director Holt 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 March 27, 2014, 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. Lanza moved and Ms. Lagay seconded these:

See Page 04/01/14-1A RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to interview an applicant for a position in the Finance Department.

See Page 04/01/14-1B RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss personnel issues and staff in the Cultural and Heritage Commission.

See Page 04/01/14-1C RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to receive an update with regard to the County Administrator's vacancy.

See Page 04/01/14-1D RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to receive an update regarding the Finance Department and litigation regarding same.

See Page 04/01/14-1E RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss a contract issue regarding the Workforce Investment Board.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 4:42 p.m., recessed at 5:34 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 5:36 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Holt opened the meeting to the public.

Lois Stewart, Flemington Borough resident, questioned if the tax level for the Open Space program will remain the same.

Director Holt stated the Board has not discussed changing anything with regard to the Open Space Tax.

Barbara Suchau, Raritan Township resident questioned the Board regarding an arbitration CAP.

POLYTECH

Dan Kerr, Principal of Polytech came before the Board in the absence of Dr. Kim Metz, Polytech's Superintendent, and he brought with him Tom Brightner from the Adult Education Electrical Teacher.

Mr. Brightner briefly explained that the Adult Education Polytech Program is a four apprentice year program. He teaches the first year students and they do a lot of projects, which he feels has been very positive.

FINANCE

SUMMARY OF SYNOPSIS OF AUDIT REPORT FOR 2012.

Lou Garbaccio, Interim Chief Financial Officer, advised that the synopsis of the 2012 audit is the publication of the comments and recommendations that have been reported in the audit report as submitted by Wiss and Company. Mr. Garbaccio advised a correction action plan will be developed and submitted to the State regarding this audit.

Director Holt confirmed that the Corrective Action Plan will show any changes to be made to address the comments and recommendations in the 2012 audit.

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion to accept the Synopsis of Audit for 2012 for the County of Hunterdon.

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

Director Holt answered various questions regarding the 2012 audit.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION/OPEN SPACE

Mr. King moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-2A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Municipal Grant Application for Open Space Trust Funds, at the recommendation of the Open Space Advisory Committee, with Bloomsbury Borough, for the acquisition of the "Stone Walk", Block 17, Lot 41, approximately .54 acres, for \$20,600.62.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-2B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Municipal Grant Application for Open Space Trust Funds, at the recommendation of the Open Space Advisory Committee, with Readington Township, for the acquisition of a Conservation Easement, Block 20, Lot 11, approximately 26.4 acres, in the amount of \$47,780.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-2C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an application for Cooperative Open Space Assistance, at the recommendation of the Open Space Advisory Committee, with the Franklin Township, to acquire, in fee simple, Block 5, Lot 7, in Franklin Township, in the amount of \$450,000.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-2D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an application for Cooperative Open Space Assistance, at the recommendation of the Open Space Advisory Committee, with the Hunterdon Land Trust, to acquire, in fee simple, Block 2, Lot 9, in Holland Township, in the amount of \$180,000.

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

Mr. King moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-2E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Non-Profit Open Space Grant application, at the recommendation of the Open Space Advisory Committee, with the Musconetcong Watershed Association, to acquire, in fee simple, Block 2, Lot 9, in Holland Township, in the amount of \$120,000.

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

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-2F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Non-Profit Open Space Grant application, at the recommendation of the Open Space Advisory Committee, with the Lamington Conservancy, to acquire, in fee simple, Block 11, Lot 22, in Tewksbury Township, in the amount of \$160,000.

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

LAND USE and FACILITIES MANAGEMENT Update

Frank J. Bell, AIA, Director of the Department of Land Use and Facilities Management came before the Board concerning personnel matters.

Mr. Bell reported that the Division of Parks and Recreation is asking the Freeholder Board to consider the advertisement and the eventual hiring of various summer staff including: Nature Counselors, Camp Counselors, Recreation Leaders, Canoe Instructor, Canoe Staff, and Environmental Camp Counselor. At this time, high school and college students are looking for summer work and these positions are to be funded through the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund.

See Page 04/01/14-4A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving, at the recommendation of the Public Works Director, that Trailer #34 be deemed as surplus and to transfer ownership to Holland Township.

See Page 04/01/14-4B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the appointments of members and alternates to the Solid Waste Advisory Board for 2014.

See Page 04/01/14-4C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Transportation Service Agreement with The ARC of Hunterdon County for the purpose of transportation services for eighty-five (85) ARC of Hunterdon consumers for 2014, in the amount of \$200,000.

See Page 04/01/14-4D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a termination of Lease, under Section 5310 for the transfer of title agreements from NJ Transit for Vehicles #16-1310 and #16-1301, to retire them.

See Page 04/01/14-4E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Subordination of Mortgage for John and Lynn Furman, on Block 25, Lot 8, in Flemington.

See Page 04/01/14-4F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Discharge of Mortgage for John Latourette, Conrad Latourette, Ronald Latourette and Dorothy Latourette, on Block 21, Lot 4, in Readington Township.

See Page 04/01/14-4G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing a three month extension to the professional services agreement with Dr. Steven Diamond, Hunterdon Medical Center, for medical examiner services, through June 30, 2014, in an amount not to exceed \$62,500.

See Page 04/01/14-4H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the release of a performance bond #851152, in the amount of \$6,000,000.00, to Waste Management of New Jersey, Inc.

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

Mr. King moved and Mr. Walton seconded a motion to approve the claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated April 01, 2014, minus Check #144956.

See Page 04/01/14-4I

CLAIMS REGISTER

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Lanza seconded a motion to approve Check #144956, from the Claims Register dated April 01, 2014.

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

Director Holt answered various questions for Lois Stewart, Flemington Borough resident concerning items on the Consent Agenda.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-4J

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Declaring April 13 through 19, 2014, as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

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

Mr. Lanza moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-4K

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing April 25, 2014 as the 142nd Anniversary Celebration of Arbor Day.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders announced that 300 trees will be planted at the South County Park this Saturday, as part of the County's 300th Anniversary.

Mr. Walton moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-5A

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing the 100th Anniversary of Rutgers Cooperative Extension to be celebrated May 04 through May 10, 2014.

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

Mr. King moved and Mr. Walton seconded these:

See Page 04/01/14-5B

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Colin Henderson for attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

See Page 04/01/14-5C

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Matthew Nanna for attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

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

GRANTS

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-5D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a modification to the Local Government Capacity Grant with Rutgers' State University, decrease of \$3,500.

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

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-5E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an application with the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for the FY2015-2018 Local Arts Staffing Initiative grant. (state to determine amount).

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

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 04/01/14-5F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a grant application with the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for the FY2015-2018 Local Arts Program, to support the efforts of the Cultural and Heritage Commission. (state to determine amount).

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

CORRESPONDENCE

A request was received from the High Bridge Business Association, asking permission to utilize County Route 513 between Fairview Avenue and West Main Street, for a Soap Box Derby, on Saturday, June 07, 2014, from 7:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Traffic will be detoured by the High Bridge Police. Mr. King moved and Mr. Walton seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County's Department of Public Works.

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

FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Mr. Walton reported a letter was received from a veteran calling to the Freeholder Board's attention the excellent service provided by the County's Health Recycling staff who addressed their problem. Mr. Walton read the wounded veteran's letter, commending Alan Johnson of the Recycling Division for his services.

Mr. Lanza advised he attended the Housing Lottery where the County's Human Services Department was inviting people in to apply to a lottery for housing assistance. He observed a staff doing a tremendous job helping out people in a desperate situation; treating them with courtesy and respect.

Director Holt thanked the County's staff for all the work done recently for the County's 300th Parade. An outstanding job was done by all, staff and volunteers.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Chris Phelan, President, Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce, said Mary Melfi, Hunterdon County Clerk, was his Co-Chair on the 300th Parade, and he thanked her for assisting in making this successful. He thanked all the County departments that provided assistance.

Director Holt thanked Mr. Phelan for all the work he has volunteered towards this venture. He thanked former Freeholder Frank Fuzo who was very involved in the parade, and in the 300th Anniversary.

Barbara Suchau, Raritan Township resident stated that the State of New Jersey is currently having budget hearings and questioned if anyone from the Freeholder Board is planning to attend in order to ask for cuts at the state level.

Director Holt explained that this Board is more interested in working on its own budget at this time with a determination to keep the budget flat.

Mr. Lanza feels Hunterdon County's Legislators will do a fantastic job in keeping state spending down.

John Anderson, JCP&L representative, advised that a major project to improve the overall liability to Hunterdon County is now underway. On March 18, 2014, the West Amwell Township Planning Board conditionally approved the JCP&L substation expansion at the Rocktown Road Substation.

Lois Stewart, Flemington Borough resident, asked questions concerning the Rutgers' proclamation and the Arbor Day proclamation. She would like to see a tree placed in honor of former Freeholder George Melick at the South County Park or anywhere in the County on Arbor Day.

Frances Gavigan, East Amwell Township resident, came before the Board concerning work on Wertsville Road Bridge, E-174.

Tom Mathews, Director of Public Works, responded to Ms. Gavigan's questions.

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders returned to Executive Session at 6:27 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 7:25 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Holt adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Doolan
Clerk of the Board