

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

71 Main Street, Freeholder's Meeting Room, 2nd Floor

Flemington, New Jersey 08822

April 18, 2017

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened in Open Session at 4:30 p.m. in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

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

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

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 April 13, 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."

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Janet R. Previte, Hunterdon County Financial Officer, reported on the 2017 County Budget. Mrs. Previte highlighted Salary & Wage and Operating Expenses. The amount to be introduced for 2017 is \$14 less than the 2016 budget, at \$88,764,933.65.

Mrs. Previte highlighted several of the changes for 2017, notably in Administration, Human Resources, the Sheriff's Office, Roads and Bridges, Economic Development, and Human Services.

The Board thanked Mrs. Previte for her hard work on the budget. Introduction of the County Budget is set for April 25, 2017 at 8 a.m.

Mr. King congratulated Mrs. Previte on her appointment to County CFO, as he was absent from the prior meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded these:

See Page 4/18/17-1A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss an appointment to the Mental Health Board.

See Page 4/18/17-1B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss an appointment to the Senior, Disabilities and Veterans Services Advisory Council.

See Page 4/18/17-1C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss a Clerical Backfill in Administration.

See Page 4/18/17-1D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss a Keyboarding Clerk Backfill in Finance.

See Page 4/18/17-1E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to receive a CWA Negotiations update.

See Page 4/18/17-1F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the Health Insurance Broker contract.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Lanza opened the meeting to the public.

Barbara Sachau, Raritan Township resident, commented on the OPRA request she made on Freeholder health benefits. She requested the Freeholders voluntarily release all documents on the benefits they receive.

Ms. Sachau feels the \$2 million dollar contract on the Heron Glen golf course is a burden on the taxpayers.

Richard Cherry, Whitehouse Station resident, representative of the Spruce Run Chapter of the Wild Turkey Federation, reported on the Wheeling Sportsmen event for disabled veterans, which has been held for the last eleven years, during the month of January, at Heron Glen. If it were not for Hunterdon County allowing their organization to hold this event at the golf course, the event would not be possible. The Wild Turkey Federation applauds the hard work the County has put forth to keep Heron Glen going and looks forward to future collaborations on events benefiting the disabled.

Director Lanza thanked Mr. Cherry for his kind comments.

PURCHASING

Mr. Holt moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 4/18/17-2A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2017-01, for the Construction of the Heron Glen Golf Course Clubhouse, to A.B. Designs Contracting Corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$2,119,074.

Freeholder Director Lanza thanked the members of the Golf Committee who took this project from concept to reality. The plan was to give the public a building that would continue to meet the current demands and to do it in such a fashion that costs would be minimized and benefits would be maximized. The bid is well within the budget of \$2.5 million; the project will cost \$2.1 million according to the bid. There were thirteen bidders and AB Designs was the lowest, most responsible bidder. The positive revenues from golf operations will more than offset the cost of the project.

Mr. Walton reported there have been five main reasons given to justify the Heron Glen golf course clubhouse; those reasons include: neighboring counties have public courses, the County should finish what has been started, the golf course turns a profit, the course will pay for itself and that the asset needs to be maintained.

Mr. Walton commented on the study done before the golf course was established, which showed that it would pay for itself in nine years and that it would be profitable, and neither of those things happened. He took issue with the idea that the County is maintaining an asset. He also takes issue with the reason for building a clubhouse with a banquet hall, which has nothing to do with recreational golf. If not for that addition to the structure, another \$1.5 million dollars could easily be saved on this project.

Director Lanza reiterated the statistics that those in favor of the project put forth when the project was originally proposed: the golf course generates an average of \$300,000 a year in positive cash flow which is placed in the General Fund. The same reasons exist today as they did one year ago; the County is going to complete the project correctly the first time, not waste money on tents or replacing trailers. Both Director Lanza and Ms. Lagay ran on this issue and they are proud to see it to completion.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 4/18/17-2B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2017-04, to furnish and deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, to Eastern Concrete Materials, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$4,547.50.

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

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded these:

See Page 4/18/17-2C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2017-04, to furnish and deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, to Stavola Construction Materials, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$434,170.

See Page 4/18/17-2D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2017-04, to furnish and deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, to Trap Rock Industries LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.

See Page 4/18/17-2E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2017-04, to furnish and deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, to R & H Truck Parts and Service, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$20,916.

See Page 4/18/17-3A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2017-04, to furnish and deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, to Green Rock Recycling LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.

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

See Page 4/18/17-3B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a professional services agreement for engineering design services consisting of environmental permitting and design guidance for the drainage design on County Route 519, at the Village of Rosemont, in Delaware Township, with Engineering & Land Planning Associates, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$38,700.

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

FARMLAND/OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 4/18/17-3C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Granting final approving for the acquisition of a Development Easement from Alexandria Township (formerly owned by the Diocese of Metuchen), for Block 11, Lot 16, approximately 79.2280 acres, (SADC-\$274,826.88; County-\$66,108.64; Township-\$66,108.63), for a total amount of \$407,044.15.

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

Director Lanza congratulated Sue Dziamara, Director of Planning/Economic Development/Land Use, on Hoffman Park's selection by "Hunterdon Happenings" as 2017's Best Park/Playground. Mrs. Dziamara stated thanks also goes to the Public Works Department and the Division of Roads and Bridges for all their work in the maintenance of the parks.

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."

Items held at this time: Check #157-258.

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion to approve the claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated April 18, 2018, with the exception of Check # 157-258.

See Page 4/18/17-3D

CLAIMS REGISTER

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

Mr. Holt moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion to approve Check #157258, in accordance with the Claims Register dated April 04, 2017.

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

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion to approve the special session minutes of March 29, 2017 and the regular and executive session minutes of April 04, 2017.

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

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded these:

See Page 4/18/17-3E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Stewart Palilonis appointed Secretary/Commissioner, Board of Elections.

See Page 4/18/17-3F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Stephanie Pierce appointed Member, to the Board of Elections.

See Page 4/18/17-3G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Mary Beth Hurford appointed Chairperson, Board of Elections.

See Page 4/18/17-3H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Marianne Rampulla appointed Member, to the Board of Elections.

See Page 4/18/17-4A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, John Langley appointed seasonal, as needed Canoe Leader, Division of Parks and Recreation.

See Page 4/18/17-4B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Gene Robbins appointed seasonal, as needed Canoe Leader, Division of Parks and Recreation.

See Page 4/18/17-4C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Dave Clapp appointed seasonal, as needed Canoe Leader, Division of Parks and Recreation.

See Page 4/18/17-4D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Michael Applegate appointed full time, Sheriff's Officer, in the Sheriff's Office.

See Page 4/18/17-4E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Paul Approvato appointed Detective Sergeant, Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor.

See Page 4/18/17-4F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Frank Crisologo appointed Deputy Chief of Detectives, Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor.

See Page 4/18/17-4G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, James Price appointed Detective Sergeant, Office of the Hunterdon Prosecutor.

See Page 4/18/17-4H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Alycia Wolf appointed full time, Social Worker- Aging, Senior, Disabilities and Veterans Services Division, Department of Human Services.

See Page 4/18/17-4I

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Dr. Catherine McVicker appointed member to the Hunterdon County Vocational School Board of Education, known as Polytech.

See Page 4/18/17-4J

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Ann Marie Sima appointed member to the Human Services Advisory Council.

See Page 4/18/17-4K

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Helen McIntosh appointed member to the Human Services Advisory Council.

See Page 4/18/17-4L

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Lawrence Cartwright appointed as a Mental Health Board Representative from the Hunterdon County Human Services Advisory Council.

See Page 4/18/17-4M

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an addendum extending the South County Branch Library Lease with Bender Realty LLC, with monthly installments of \$3,167.92.

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

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 4/18/17-4N

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Richard E. Schlack, Boy Scout Troop 288, on attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

An email was received from a student, Brielle Barozzini, President of the Voorhees High School Key Club, requesting permission to place a school bus at the North Branch County Library for a "Feed the Bus" Food Drive from May 1 through June 1, 2017. The goal is to stock various food pantries in the County. Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion granting approval provided this event is coordinated through the County Library.

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

Correspondence was received from the Good News Home for Women, requesting permission to hold a Coin Toss during its 13th Annual Harvest Festival and Craft Fair, on Saturday, October 07, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., at the intersection of County Route 523 and River Road. Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion approving this event provided it is coordinated through the County's Public Works' Department.

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

A letter was received from the Friends of Historic Flemington LLC, requesting to use the historic Court House steps, porch and electric outlet, on Saturday, May 06, 2017, from noon until 4:00 p.m., for a public historic preservation gathering. Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. King seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County's Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Division of Buildings and Maintenance.

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

A request was received from the Hunterdon Academy of the Arts, requesting permission to use the historic Court House on Friday, May 12, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., to hold a dress rehearsal and an end of the year acting performance for its students. (requesting to rent the facility). Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County's Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Division of Buildings and Maintenance.

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

An email was received from the Hunterdon County Clerk, requesting permission to use the historic Court House for a memorial for Robert Hauck former Hunterdon County Clerk of the Board, Deputy Clerk of the Board, Secretary to the County Clerk, Flemington Borough Clerk and Councilman, on Sunday, May 06, 2017. Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion granting permission. The Freeholder Board Clerk will assist in making arrangements on behalf of the Board.

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

A letter was received from the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce, requesting permission to use the South County Park, on Saturday, June 03, 2017 for Community Day, from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Also requesting use of County resources including lighting, digital sign board, cones, barricades, portable radios and support of the Parks and Recreation Staff and the Buildings and Maintenance Staff. Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion granting approval provided this event is coordinated through the County's Parks and Recreation Division and the Buildings and Maintenance Division.

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

FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Mr. Walton reported the Pirates beat the Cubs.

Mr. King reported on the passing of Mayor Robert Hauck whom he had the pleasure of serving with during his time in Raritan Township, while Mr. Hauck was serving in Flemington. Mr. Hauck was a visionary that supported the regionalization of the police force in Raritan and Flemington.

Mr. Walton echoed Mr. King's comments and stated Mayor Hauck lost an election on his visionary efforts and that was very courageous of him. Mr. Walton feels that type of political courage is needed in public life.

Ms. Lagay commented on the appointment of Dr. Catherine McVicker joining the Hunterdon County Polytech Board. Dr. McVicker served for many years with Raritan Valley Community College and also works with the National Association of Community Colleges. She is a curriculum expert and understands the continuum of education and workforce needs. The Board is delighted with this addition to Polytech.

Director Lanza reported on the recordings of Freeholder meetings and posting these meetings on the County website. The Clerk of the Freeholder Board, Denise Doolan provided Director Lanza with information on neighboring counties and their protocol regarding recordings, minutes and website information. He noted that Somerset County does not record its meetings and maintain handwritten notes to transcribe minutes. Mercer County did not respond to the request for information, but there is nothing posted on their public website. Warren County saves meeting recordings but does not post them online.

Director Lanza believes Hunterdon County can do better than this; at the last meeting it was determined that the Clerk of the Board's Office maintains meeting recordings for the state-mandated minimum of eighty days. This Board will be working with the new Administrator, Kevin Davis, when he comes on board on May 01, 2017 to formulate a policy as to how to make those records more accessible to the public. The reason the Board has been cautious with this in the past is due to the concern that these recordings could be manipulated.

Director Lanza thanked Clerk of the Board, Denise Doolan for her efforts in obtaining the information from the other counties.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Director Lanza opened the meeting to the public.

Barbara Sachau, Raritan Township resident, believes minutes can be manipulated more easily than audio recordings. The original recordings can easily dispute manipulations.

Ms. Sachau would like to see the public given a little notice when controversial issues come before the Board, such as the golf course clubhouse.

Director Lanza advised the Board does everything that is required by the law. Agenda meetings are held the Thursday before the Freeholder meetings. The items listed on the agenda are finalized at that time and the agenda is published on the County's webpage the next day. It is not always possible to know what will make the agenda ahead of that schedule. To suggest that there is something untoward about the process is not true.

Mr. Walton echoed the comments made by Director Lanza adding that people who are interested in following county government have the opportunity to go to the website on the Friday before a meeting to see what will be on the agenda the following Tuesday. He believes the County does a good job of providing notice. Mr. Walton feels the issue here is due to a lack of a press presence in the area.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Lanza adjourned the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Denise B. Doolan, CLERK

Transcribed by:

Dana A. Gootman, Deputy Clerk