

# HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

71 Main Street, Freeholder's Meeting Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Flemington, New Jersey 08822

**March 21, 2017**

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 2:00 p.m. in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

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

**Via Phone: 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 March 16, 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, Acting County Financial Officer, came before the Board to provide a summary of the 2017 Capital requests by the County's departments and compare what was provided in 2016 budget to what is being requested for in 2017.

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders recessed at 3:19 p.m. and reconvened in Open session at 4:30 p.m.

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

## **EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. King seconded these:

**See Page 03/21/17-1A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to further discussion interviews regarding the County Administrator position.

**See Page 03/21/17-1B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss backfills in the Division of Social Services.

**See Page 03/21/17-1C**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss backfills in the Division of Communications.

**See Page 03/21/17-1D**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss the Confidential Aide in the Public Works Department.

**See Page 03/21/17-1E**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss the Greater Raritan Workforce Investment Board, One Stop RFP.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 4:32 p.m., recessed at 5:15 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 5:30 p.m.

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

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Director Lanza opened the meeting to the public.

The following individuals voiced their concern over the possible repeal of the Affordable Care Act and urged the Board to pass a resolution of support: Joy Santos of Raritan Township; Florence Zaratte; Van Shepherd of Franklin Township; Nancy Remore of Flemington; Barbara Sauchau of Raritan Township; Gordon Thiel; Joseph Mogan of Readington Township; Mary Beth Heffernan of Readington Township; Joey Novick of Flemington Borough; Marie Corefield of Raritan Township and Mary Gastall of Raritan Township.

Director Lanza thanked those in attendance for making their voices heard, though he may disagree with their views, he is happy that everyone can disagree in a peaceful and productive manner.

Barbara Sachau, Raritan Township resident, asked if there is an update on meeting recordings and also if Freeholders were eligible for health benefits through the County.

Gregory Ling advised the Board is a professional regarding pesticide and commented on the use of herbicides on County Roads and the Columbia Trail. He feels they harm the community, particularly the children. Mr. Ling has previously come before the Board to express his concerns and was directed to talk with the County's Director of Public Works.

#### **PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION**

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

**See Page 3/21/17-2A**

#### **PROCLAMATION**

**RESOLVED**, Declaring March 19-25, 2017, as National Poison Prevention Week, in Hunterdon.

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

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 3/21/17-2B**

#### **PROCLAMATION**

**RESOLVED**, Recognizing Robert Wise and Salvatore Simonetti, Jr. for receiving the 2017 Distinguished Citizens award from the Boy Scouts of America.

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

#### **FINANCE**

Mr. Holt moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

**See Page 3/21/17-2C**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the cancelation of Bond No. 14-04, for the Acquisition of Agriculture Easements, in the amount of \$216,997.65.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded this:

**See Page 3/21/17-2D**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving transfers between certain 2016 Appropriations.

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

Mrs. Previte confirmed for Mr. Walton she can provide a report regarding conferences attended by Department Heads/Division Managers dating back to 2015.

#### **PURCHASING**

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 3/21/17-2E**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving Requisition #R7-01388, using State Contract #A-89851, with Software House International, for the 2017 Microsoft Annual Software Enterprise Agreement, for Information Technology, in the amount of \$98,477.70.

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

Mr. Holt advised the Board that this is a recommendation from the vendor doing the current Information Technology review for the County; which will be reported on shortly.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

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

##### Roads:

- County Route 523-Dvoor Circle to Sergeantsville, Raritan and Delaware Townships: bids will be taken on April 13, 2017 for resurfacing, drainage improvements and upgrading guiderail.
- County Route 579-Route 12 to Quakertown, Raritan, Franklin and Delaware Townships: bids will be taken for resurfacing and drainage Improvements on April 13, 2017.
- County Route 637- Readington Road, Readington Township: reconstruction and widening with 2 culvert replacements; utility relocation and storm water management construction is underway; anticipated road closure date is March 27, 2017, a detour utilizing CR 523 will be used; length of road closure anticipated to be 4 months; with a 2019 anticipated completion.

##### Bridges:

- Scour Countermeasure Project: for 17 county bridges; construction anticipated to begin April 10, 2017 starting at Bridge A-65.
- Bridge C-32, Payne Road, Clinton Township: scheduled for replacement; a public information meeting was held to discuss design options and the comment period ends on April 15, 2017.

- Route 78 Overpass/CR 614 –Pattenburg Exit, Union Township; this is a superstructure replacement and abutment repairs; construction to start in April, overpass to be closed in May for about 5 months.

**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: Check #'s 156968 and 157025.

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. King seconded a motion to approve the claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated March 21, 2017 minus Check #'s 156968 and 157025.

**See Page 03/21/17-3A CLAIMS REGISTER**

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

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. King seconded a motion to approve the regular and executive session minutes of March 07, 2017.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded a motion to approve Check #'s 156968 and 157025, in accordance with the Claims Register dated March 21, 2017.

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

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. King seconded these:

**See Page 3/21/17-3B RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Caitlin Howley, Public Safety Telecommunicator, Division of Communications, Public Safety and Health Services Department, salary adjustment.

**See Page 3/21/17-3C RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Frances McAllister appointed full time Keyboarding Clerk 1, County Clerk's Office.

**See Page 3/21/17-3D RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Jessica Rieger appointed provisional, full time Keyboarding Clerk 2, Social Services Division, Human Services Department.

**See Page 3/21/17-3E RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Timothy Rehl appointed provisional, full time Bridge Repairer, Roads and Bridges Division, Public Works Department.

**See Page 3/21/17-3F RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Leslie Bailey appointed permanent, full time Assistant Engineer, Public Works Department.

**See Page 3/21/17-3G RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, John Sadusky appointed full-time Sergeant, Sheriff's Department.

**See Page 3/21/17-3H RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving the "Federal Fiscal Year 2017 Certifications and Assurances" for the Federal Transit Administration Assistance Program, for the Human Services Department.

**See Page 3/21/17-3I RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Donald Broughton appointed as a member to the Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee.

**See Page 3/21/17-3J RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a change order, for Bid #2016-08, for painting Bridges D-242, L-70 and FC-76 with Alternates: E-171 and G-62, with Aussie Painting Corp, decrease of \$948.

**See Page 3/21/17-3K RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving appointments to the Solid Waste Advisory Council for 2017.

See Page 3/21/17-4A

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving an agreement to clean up Abandoned Scrap Tires, through a grant from the State of New Jersey, in order to address mosquito problems.

See Page 3/21/17-4B

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving final pay for County Bid #2016-09, for the 2016 Application of Traffic Stripes on various County roads, to Traffic Lines, Inc., in the amount of \$4,746.65.

See Page 3/21/17-4C

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a public purpose agreement with Non-Profit Corporation (the Flemington Improvement District, Inc., d/b/a Flemington Community Partnership), to act as Fiscal Agent in support of the First Annual Hackathon.

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

**GRANTS**

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 3/21/17-4D

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing a grant renewal for the State Health Insurance Program (SHIP), with the State Division on Aging, in the amount of \$26,000.

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

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 3/21/17-4E

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a grant agreement with the State Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, to provide transportation to veterans for medical purposes and appointments at the Veterans Affairs regional offices, in the amount of \$15,000.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 3/21/17-4F

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a grant renewal with the Division of Criminal Justice, State Department of Law and Public Safety, for Body Worn Camera Assistance Program, for the Prosecutor's Office, in the amount of \$12,500.

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

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 3/21/17-4G

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a grant renewal with the Division of Criminal Justice, State Department of Law and Public Safety, for Body Worn Camera Assistance Program, for the Sheriff's Office, in the amount of \$8,000.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 3/21/17-4H

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a 2016 Recycling Enhancement Act Tax Grant, with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, in the amount of \$143,320.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter was received from the Califon Borough Memorial Day Committee, requesting permission to close a portion of County Route 512, from School Street to Academy Street, for approximately 1 hour starting at 10:45 a.m., for their annual Memorial Day Parade. Mr. King moved and Mr. Hold seconded a motion granting permission for the event provided it is coordinated through the County's Department of Public Works.

**FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS**

**Highlands Act/Highlands Council**

Mr. Walton reported it has been 12 years since the Highlands Act was passed and at the time it was highly contested, especially in Hunterdon County and rightly so. He has served on the Highlands' Council for around 7 years; and substantial progress has been made in getting compensation for landowners in Hunterdon County. In 2010 through 2012, \$8.3 million was spent buying HDC credits; so a landowner who has open space on their property the Highlands'

Council will assess how many credits the land is worth. The landowner was supposed to be able to sell that in the open market or a credit exchange program which never came about to allow towns to increase development. Since the credits could not be sold the Highlands' Council offered to purchase the credits at a scheduled discount around a 25% discount on the credit value. The initial program was for hardship cases – that because of the Highlands' Act fell into a financial hardship. This past November, the Highlands' Council approved the second round of credit purchasing and \$9.6 million worth of credit was purchased preserving another 950 acres of property. If the Bank Board approves, on April 05, 2017, the purchase of other credits the Highlands Council will approve another \$6.1 million for credit purchases to preserve another 695 acres. An open space program was created to which Hunterdon County had applied to for several grants but Hunterdon was not awarded any; unfortunately but Hunterdon County did spend \$2.7 million purchasing open space projects in the Highlands Region preserving another 2,574 acres. Good work from the Highlands' Council but not nearly enough.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Director Lanza thanked all who are present this evening for coming to tonight's meeting to express their views. Heartfelt views have been expressed. Everyone can either agree or disagree without ascribing bad intent.

Director Lanza opened the meeting to the public.

Gregory Ling again approached the Board concerning the use of pesticides.

Director Lanza recalls the conversation and directed at that time, that Mr. Ling talk with the County's professionals regarding his concern. Hunterdon County has some great people who work here and if someone from the County organization tells him something, he will back that employee. Hunterdon County has good and knowledgeable people working here.

Mr. Walton stated he ran into Mr. Ling and they looked at the areas of concern for Mr. Ling. At that time, Mr. Walton spent time talking with Mr. Ling about his concerns and issues and after that meeting, Mr. Walton called Mr. Mathews and put him through his paces. As Director Lanza stated the County hears with Mr. Ling is saying but the County's professionals have a disagreement on what the law says and what the codes require and what the County is permitted to do.

Director Lanza advised Mr. Ling that the County will take another look at this.

Joey Novick, Flemington Borough resident and former Flemington Borough Councilman, questioned which Freeholder Board members receive health care through the County.

Director Lanza advised some Freeholders do and some don't receive health care.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Lanza adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Denise B. Doolan  
Clerk of the Board

Transcribed by:

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Dana A. Gootman  
Deputy Clerk of the Board