

FREEHOLDER MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5, 2020 AT 6:00PM
FREEHOLDER MEETING ROOM
REGULAR BUSINESS

Item

1. CALL TO ORDER BY DIRECTOR at 6:00PM

2. ROLL CALL Freeholder Fantasia, Freeholder Fasano, Freeholder Petillo, Freeholder Yardley

Also Present: County Administrator Greg Poff, County Counsel Kevin Kelly and Clerk to the Board, Teri Lyons

Absent: Freeholder Hertzberg

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

4. PUBLIC STATEMENT

"Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 Adequate Notice as defined by Section 3D of Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, has been made by regular mail, such notice being submitted on January 3, 2020 from the Administrative Center of the County of Sussex, located at One Spring Street, Newton, New Jersey to the following:

New Jersey Herald	WSUS Radio
New Jersey Sunday Herald	WNNJ Radio
Star Ledger	

and is also posted on the bulletin board maintained in the Administrative Center for public announcements and has been submitted to the Sussex County Clerk in compliance with said Act."

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Freeholder Petillo stated Item 15 is Introduction and First reading of a Resolution regarding the CAP Bank, not an Ordinance

MOTION to approve as amended by Freeholder Fantasia

Seconded by Freeholder Fasano

(Voice vote)- All four voted in the Affirmative

6. PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES/PRESENTATIONS

A. Proclamation recognizing February 7, 2020 as National Wear Red Day- This was presented by Freeholder Petillo to Marty Baldwin and Maureen Cianci from Public Health Nursing.
073-2020

B. Proclamation in Celebration of 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage- Read into the record by Freeholder Fantasia, which was followed with an historical account of the Suffrage Movement. We don't often realize that the demand or the want for representation to vote began in 1838 and it did not come to full fruition until 1920 and even then hit obstacles. Freeholder Fantasia feels the turning point for the Woman's Suffrage was during WWI. It has been said that five million men were mobilized for the war effort, but over nine million women mobilized themselves. Women worked in factories and farms to keep the Country progressing while the men fought. It is fitting that in 2020 the first time in its history, 100 years later that the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders is led by two females and also undoubtable have the honor and privilege but most importantly the alienable right to vote for themselves. **074-2020**

MOTION to Adopt the Proclamation A and B made by Freeholder Hertzberg

Seconded by Freeholder Fasano

(Voice Vote) All four voted in the affirmative

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

8. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR

Comments are limited to 3 minutes or less and must only address issues regarding agenda items. Please state your name, and print your name and municipality on the sign in sheet.

MOTION to open the floor for public comment made by Freeholder Fantasia

Seconded by Freeholder Fasano

(Voice Vote)- All four voted in the Affirmative

No public comments

MOTION to close the floor for public comment made by Freeholder Fantasia

Seconded by Freeholder Fasano

(Voice Vote)- All four voted in the Affirmative

9. FREEHOLDERS' COMMENTS

Freeholder Fasano reported this past Saturday his Freeholder orientation. He found the information tremendously helpful and all Staff courteous, knowledgeable and professional. Next week he will attend his first budget meeting. Last night he had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Connelly, President of SCCC and today he toured Sussex County Technical School with Supt. Gus Modla. It is becoming very clear the importance for the need to focus on a technical education and the impact it will have on Sussex County.

Freeholder Yardley spoke about the County's involvement with Veteran's Services. It was about three years ago that we brought Dave Pierson and Catholic Charities into the County's Program and from there we have added Veterans Service Officer Bill Robertson. Due to the pending closure of the Littel Center in Franklin, Mr. Robertson will relocate his office to this Administrative center. This is an opportunity for us to continue to expand our veteran's services. Mr. Yardley suggested a Survey be developed regarding other services that could be provided and that a phone number be dedicated for Veterans enabling them to easily and quickly learn what services are available to them.

A while back the Freeholders formed an Employee Relations Committee. Freeholder Yardley would like this Committee designated in the Administrative Code or by Resolution. The Administrative Code and the Employee Handbook are living documents and the updates needed for both should be addressed sooner than later. He and Baxter attended a four hour seminar on the Harmful Algae Bloom (HAB). The presentation was very informative asked the Clerk to distribute to the Freeholder the information he obtained.

Freeholder Fantasia provided her Municipal Liaison reports which included her attendance at the Franklin Borough Fire Department Annual Spaghetti Dinner and the Franklin and Ogdensburg Beef Steak Dinner. At the Freeholder meeting, Freeholder Fantasia repeated the importance of supporting our First Responders and feels it is very important to report back on the involvement in the towns we are assigned as Municipal Liaisons.

Also attended the Sussex County League of Municipalities January meeting where Senator Steve Oroho provided some of the most recent legislative updates including the Governor's Green Energy Bill. It is Executive Order 100 and part of it protects against climate threats. It is called PACT. It is part of the Governor's Energy Master Plan and requires Green Energy status of 50% by the year 2030 and 100% energy status by the year 2050. One of the concerns that have been discussed is shutting off access to natural gas and the fact that 75% of our homes are powered by natural gas. This could have a significant impact to seniors, middle class and low income families. BPU will be holding eight public meetings to gather input and the public comment period will end September 16th. She suggested the Board keep an eye on this.

Received a Press Release from Sussex County Technical School that Skills USA Week is February 2nd to the 8th. This is an annual celebration that represents over 365,000 Skill Members nationwide and promotes career and technical education. The Governor has also declared this month as National Technical Month.

Freeholder Petillo wonders how the Green Energy bill will affect Sussex County. From what she has heard it is going to stop redevelopment up here and that is a problem.

Freeholder Petillo said the Sussex County Division of Health has been attending bi-weekly meetings with state and federal agencies to prepare to respond to potential cases of the 2019 Wuhan coronavirus outbreak that originated in Wuhan, China. There have not been any cases confirmed by the CDC to date in New Jersey; however as of February 5, 2020 12 cases have been confirmed in six states across the US. The CDC states the immediate health risk is low to residents in the United States. While the coronavirus is in the forefront of the news, let's not to forget about the flu. The Office of Public Health Nursing is still offering flu shots.

In closing discussion ensued regarding upcoming meeting dates and times. It was agreed the regular February 19th Freeholder meeting time will start at 7PM and the February 18 Budget Workshop meeting will start at 5PM.

10. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. RESOLUTION RE: 075-2020**
AUTHORIZING THE FILING AND EXECUTION OF THE CY 2020 JDAI (JDAI- 20-IF-19) INNOVATIONS APPLICATION REVISION TO THE NEW JERSEY JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS FOR AT RISK YOUTH FROM JANUARY 1, 2020 TO DECEMBER 31, 2020 FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$34,454.00
- B. RESOLUTION RE: 076-2020**
AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH VERNON TOWNSHIP FOR THE PROVISION OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO SENIOR CITIZENS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES WHO RESIDE IN VERNON TOWNSHIP FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000.00
- C. RESOLUTION RE: 077-2020**

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP
FOR THE PROVISION OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO SENIOR CITIZENS
AND
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES WHO RESIDE IN HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP FOR THE
PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$17,000.00

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Sussex has reviewed the Consent Agenda consisting of various proposed Resolutions and determined that adoption of the said Resolutions is in and will further the public interest. If any Freeholder would like to remove an item to be considered separately, please do so now.

MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda A – C made by Freeholder Yardley
Seconded by Freeholder Fasano
(Roll call vote)

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Fasano	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Yes
Freeholder Yardley	Yes

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Freehold Fantasia offered two amendments. In Public Comments the gentleman noted as Matthew Connelly is Matthew Conway.

The male speaker from Morristown whose comments were inaudible from the recording offered comments that he felt there has been past barriers to minorities' access for firearms. Freeholder Fantasia noted this in her meeting notes.

MOTION to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of January 22, 2020 as amended by Freeholder Yardley
Seconded by Freeholder Fasano
(Vote Voice)- All 4 voted in the affirmative

MOTION to approve Executive Session- January 22, 2020 made by Freeholder Fantasia
Seconded by Freeholder Fasano
(Voice Vote)-All 4 voted in the Affirmative

12. APPOINTMENTS AND/OR RESIGNATIONS

- A. RESOLUTION RE: 078-2020**
DESIGNATING SUZANNAH GIVONE AS CLERK PRO TEM THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020
- B. RESOLUTION RE: 079-2020**
REAPPOINTMENT OF DONALD R. PLOETNER, II AS CHAIRPERSON AND LISA CHAMMINGS AS VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR 2020

MOTION to adopt said Appointments A and B made by Freeholder Yardley
Seconded by Freeholder Fantasia

(Roll Call Vote)

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Fasano	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Yes
Freeholder Yardley	Yes

13. RESOLUTIONS

- A. RESOLUTION RE: 080-2020**
PROVIDING TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF A PORTION OF CR 616 IN THE TOWN OF NEWTON FOR THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE
- B. RESOLUTION RE: 081-2020**
AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE PURCHASE OF GIS SERVICES TO CIVIL SOLUTIONS FROM JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$125,000.00

MOTION to adopt said Resolution A and B made by Freeholder Yardley
Seconded by Freeholder Fasano

Discussion

Freeholder Fantasia inquired the date and time for the road closure. Clerk Lyons reported the closure is from 9:15AM to approximately noon on March 21st.

(Roll Call vote)

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Fasano	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Yes
Freeholder Yardley	Yes

14. AWARDS OF CONTRACT/CHANGE ORDERS/BID - None

15. FINANCIAL

A. INTRODUCTION FOR FIRST READING – RESOLUTION 082-2020

AUTHORIZING CAP TO LIMIT COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION
INCREASE IN CY 2020 COUNTY BUDGET TO 3.5% OVER THE PREVIOUS
YEAR'S FINAL APPROPRIATIONS SUBJECT TO CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS AND
TO ESTABLISH AN APPROPRIATION CAP BANK

MOTION to adopt this Resolution on first reading and authorize the Clerk to advertise this Resolution as introduced for first reading, and also post same on the bulletin board in the lobby of the County Administrative Center, together with a Notice of Public Hearing stating that a hearing will be held on February 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. prior to final adoption of this Resolution made by Freeholder Fasano
Seconded by Freeholder Fantasia

Mr. Poff stated while the Resolution reads that it talks about increasing the appropriation CAP, the County does not anticipate approaching the appropriation CAP nor does it anticipate taking advantage of the increased appropriation CAP that this Resolution would put it into effect. The reason the Resolution is put before you is a result of the State's elimination of the automatic CAP banking. The Board's consideration of this Resolution allows for the difference between the appropriation amount raised in the 2020 budget and the 3.5% limit to be banked by the County for the subsequent two years. Mr Poff along with County Chief Financial Officer Elke Yetter recommends this action for it provides a meaningful financial planning tool.

Freeholder Fantasia confirmed this is identical to last year. Mr. Poff stated that is correct. The Board has been asked to consider this Resolution on an annual basis since the time the automatic CAP bank came into effect.
(Roll Call Vote)

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Fasano	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Yes
Freeholder Yardley	Yes

16. PERSONNEL

RESOLUTION RE: 083-2020
AUTHORIZING PERSONNEL AGENDA OF February 5, 2020

MOTION to adopt the Personnel Agenda made by Freeholder Fantasia
Seconded by Freeholder Fasano
(Roll Call vote)

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Fasano	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Yes
Freeholder Yardley	Yes

17. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Poff will represented Sussex County and attending the Statewide Insurance Fund Reorganization meeting. The County continues to do well with it General Liability and Workers Compensation insurance as a Fund Member.

Had the pleasure to meet with the budget sub-committee and the capital projects committee in reviewing the proposed 2020 budget.

Thanked Freeholder Fasano for attending his Freeholder orientation as well as the Staff who took time from their Saturday to meet with Freeholder Fasano to present Departmental Reports.

The County's website has been posting updates regarding the Novel Corona Virus. The Division of Health has been in constant contact with the State Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control. Mr. Poff extended thanks to Public Health Nursing for their assistance.

In conclusion, tonight there has been a partial activation of the Emergency Operations Center due to the pending storm anticipated later this evening.

18. COUNTY COUNSEL REPORT- no report.

19. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Freeholder Fantasia stated that they had received a draft of the 2A Resolution from County Counsel and Freeholder Hertzberg and she have a line or two suggestions they would like considered. She will forward to Teri so distribute so there can be discussion at the public meeting.

20. NEW BUSINESS

21. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR

Everyone is asked to keep their comments to 3 minutes. Please state your name and print name and municipality on sign in sheet.

MOTION to open the floor for public comment made by Freeholder Fantasia

Seconded by Freeholder Fasano

(Voice vote) – All voted in the Affirmative

Marty Kane and Colleen Lyons, Lake Hopatcong Foundation thanked the Board for their recent support. Both Sussex and Morris Counties were very responsive to our request for Grant letters seeking Support regarding harmful algae blooms. Mr. Kane reported there is Good News that there might be some progress with DEP on strategies on how to deal with the harmful algae.

Freeholder Yardley expressed that he has a deep interest in understanding the processes so he would like to be kept in the loop.

Freeholder Petillo stated that as a Board we are unified on this Grant because the DEP needs to know we are all in this together.

Carl Luthman, Lafayette, expressed his concerns on how much time has been spent on discussing 2A and maybe if Assemblyman Parker Space spent this much time on the solar project; we would not have had the solar problem. He also said if this room is not packed when the budget is introduced than no one has any right to complain about their taxes.

Kristy Lavin, Hardyston has completed an application for a firearms permit, and discovered the vetting process for mental health is based on self-report. As a strong supporter of the 2A she also strongly supports the Red Flag laws and she gave her reasons why.

Katie Rotundi, Hampton Township spoke on 2A and Red Flag laws and the how the Red Flag laws should not be attached to something that is opposed to in Sussex County.

MOTION to close the floor for public comment and return to regular business made by Freeholder Fantasia

Seconded by Freeholder Yardley

(Voice vote)- All voted in the Affirmative

22. REMINDERS

Please check the County's website at www.sussex.nj.us for meeting schedules.

23. EXECUTIVE SESSION – (Closed Session)

RESOLUTION RE: PROVIDING FOR AN EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 ET SEQ.

WHEREAS, the subject matter(s) about to be discussed may be excluded from the public portion of the meeting by Resolution of the Board of Chosen Freeholders as an exception to the "Open Public Meetings Act" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b); and

WHEREAS, it appears necessary for the Board of Chosen Freeholders to discuss such matter(s) in Executive Session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of

the County of Sussex, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) and N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 that the Board at this time enter into an Executive Session from which the public shall be excluded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the general nature of the subject(s) to be discussed relate to the following item(s) authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) as designated below:

- _____ (1) **Matters Required by Law to be Confidential:**
- _____ (2) **Matters Where the Release of Information Would Impair the Right to Receive Funds:**
- _____ (3) **Matters Involving Individual Privacy:**
- _____ (4) **Matters Relating to Collective Bargaining Agreements:**
- _____ (5) **Matters Relating to the Purchase, Lease or Acquisition of Real Property or the Investment of Public Funds:**
- _____ (6) **Matters Relating to Public Safety and Property:**
- X (7) **Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations and the Attorney Client Privilege;**

Negotiations with CWA 1032 Nonsupervisory

- _____ (8) **Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship:**
- _____ (9) **Matters Relating to the Potential Imposition of a Penalty:**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders or provided by law that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon completion of the business, for which the Board has entered into the Executive Session, the Board shall reconvene and resume its meeting open to the public.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board expects not to take formal action after Executive Session and will adjourn meeting from Executive Session.

MOTION to adopt the Executive Session and adjourn from Executive Session made by Freeholder Fantasia
Seconded by Freeholder Yardley
(Voice vote)- All vote in the affirmative

24. ADJOURNMENT- vote was taken at the conclusion of Executive Session

DATED: February 5, 2020

Respectively submitted,

**Teresa Lyons
Clerk**