

# FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING

June 27, 2017

At 7:30 p.m. the Township Committee met in the Mayor's Caucus Room of the municipal building. Deputy Mayor Salkin read the following statement:

"In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, (c.231 P.L. 1975), this meeting was announced on January 9, 2017: by 1.) posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building reserved for that purpose, 2.) by mailing such notice to the offices of the official newspapers of the Township and 3.) by filing such notice with the Township Clerk".

In Attendance: Committeeman Ammiano, Committeeman, Cook  
Committeewoman McMorrow, Committeeman Salkin

Absent: Mayor Preston (arrived at 7:31pm)

Also in attendance: Mr. Valesi, Township Administrator, Mr. Munoz, Esq., Township Attorney; Ms. Abouzeina, Deputy Clerk and Ms. Patino Township Clerk.

Mr. Munoz read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 of the Open Public meetings Act permits the exclusion of the public from meetings of public bodies in certain circumstances which are set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b); and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Freehold is of the opinion that such circumstances currently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Freehold as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from the discussion of any action upon the hereinafter specified matters.

2. The nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

1. ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

1A. Lake Topanemus

3. It is anticipated at this time the above-stated subject matter will be made public in approximately thirty (30) days or at such time as any litigation discussed is resolved.

The foregoing resolution was moved by Mr. Ammiano and seconded by Mr. Cook.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin  
and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

At 7:32 pm the Township Committee adjourned to executive session.

Executive Session adjourned at 7:59 pm.

At 8:00 pm the Regular Meeting was called to order.

Mayor Preston read the following statement:

“In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, (c. 231 P.L. 1975), this Meeting was announced on January 9, 2017 by: 1.) posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building reserved for that purpose, 2.) by mailing such notice to the offices of the official newspapers of the Township and 3.) by filing such notice with the Township Clerk”

Salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance

In Attendance: Committeeman Ammiano, Committeeman Cook  
Committeewoman McMorrow, Committeeman Salkin and Mayor Preston

Absent: None

Also in attendance: Mr. Valesi, Township Administrator; Mr. Munoz, Esq., Township Attorney; Ms. Abouzeina, Deputy Township Clerk and Ms. Patino, Township Clerk.

#### **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

None

#### **REPORTS**

Ms. Patino read the Report of the Tax Collector for the Month of May 2017:

Net Receipts:	General Fund	\$21,062,215.20
	Water Account	\$84,615.86
	Sewer Account	\$419,286.57

#### **PRESENTATION**

Proclamation – Freehold Township Honors Courtney Colford, “2017 Counselor of the County”, County of Monmouth

Mayor Preston read a proclamation honoring Courtney Colford. He explained that she has extensive counseling experience and is serving her tenth year as School Counselor at Barkalow Middle School. She has devoted herself to all students for which the Freehold Township Committee and community are greatly appreciative.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

O-17-6 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Capital Improvements in and for the Township of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey Appropriating \$6,800,000.00 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$6,473,000.00 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof

Mayor Preston opened the ordinance to the public and asked for any comments or questions.

There being no comments, Mr. Salkin moved to close the public hearing on the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Ammiano.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Salkin moved to adopt Ordinance O-17-6, second by Mr. Ammiano.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

O-17-7 – Ordinance Appropriating the Sum of \$250,000.00 Currently Located Within the Water and Sewer Utility Capital Improvement Fund of the Township of Freehold for Interconnection Water Meters, Valve Replacements Upgrades to the Jackson Mills Water Treatment Plant and Rebuild a Wet Well Elton Corner Pump Station within the Water and Sewer Utility Department

Mayor Preston opened the ordinance to the public and asked for any comments or questions.

There being no comments, Mr. Ammiano moved to close the public hearing on the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Cook.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Ammiano moved to adopt Ordinance O-17-7, second by Mr. Salkin.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

O-17-8 – Ordinance Amending Chapter 190 (Land Use), Article I (General Provisions), Section 190-3 (Definitions) of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey

Mr. Salkin moved Ordinance O-17-8 for public hearing at the Township Committee meeting of July 11, 2017, seconded by Mr. Cook.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin  
and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

O-17-9 – Ordinance Amending Chapter 150 (Fees), Section 150-62 (Uniform  
Construction Code) of the Revised General Ordinances of the  
Township of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey

Mr. Ammiano moved Ordinance O-17-9 for public hearing at the Township  
Committee meeting of July 11, 2017, seconded by Mr. Salkin.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin  
and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

R-17-141 – Resolution Authorizing an Affordability Assistance Loan  
Repayment Agreement with the Buyer of an Affordable Housing  
Unit at 1304 Creamery Court

Mr. Cook read Resolution R-17-141 and moved it for adoption, seconded by  
Mr. Salkin

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin  
and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

R-17-142 – Resolution Authorizing an Affordability Assistance Loan Repayment  
Agreement with the Buyer of an Affordable Housing Unit at 2903  
Kapalua Court

Mrs. McMorrow read Resolution R-17-142 and moved it for adoption, seconded  
by Mr. Ammiano

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin  
and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

R-17-143- Resolution Authorizing Added Tax Liens

Mr. Salkin read Resolution R-17-143 and moved it for adoption, seconded by  
Mr. Ammiano

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin  
and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

R-17-144 – Resolution Approving Consolidated Bills List

Mr. Ammiano read Resolution R-17-144, the Consolidated Bills List in the amount of \$2,785,390.71 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Salkin.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

**CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS**

The “Consent Agenda” section of the Meeting Agenda shall be preceded by an explanatory note substantially set forth as follows: Matters listed under the items of “Consent Agenda” are required to conduct the day to day operations of the Township, and will be enacted by one (1) motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired of any item, that item will be considered separately.”

- R-17-145 - Resolution Extending Agreement with State of New Jersey, Division of Purchase and Property for New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission – Police Officer Services for MVC Agency at 811 Okerson Road, Freehold
  
- R-17-146 - Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Special Labor Counsel Services
  
- R-17-147 - Resolution Approving Amusement Games for the Monmouth County Fair – July 26, 2017 – July 30, 2017
  
- R-17-148 - Resolution Authorizing Temporary Parking Restrictions during the Monmouth County Fair – July 26, 2017 – July 30, 2017
  
- R-17-149 – Resolution Disbursing Overpayments of Taxes
  
- R-17-150 - Resolution Authorizing a Contract for the Purchase of One (1) John Deere 410 Loader Backhoe for the Utilities Department through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey
  
- R-17-151 – 166 – Resolution Renewing 2017-2018 Liquor Licenses for Freehold Township
  
- R-17-167 - Resolution Authorizing Release of Performance Guarantees for NJNG CNG Fueling Station, Site Plan No. 846-13

Mr. Cook read the Consent Agenda and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Ammiano.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mrs. McMorrow, Mr. Salkin and Mayor Preston

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

There being no further business, Mayor Preston asked for any comments or questions from the public.

Joan Ginsberg from 253 Tulip Lane  
Nicole Caruso and Andrew Caruso from 163 Tulip Lane  
Ivy Davis from 160 Tulip Lane

Stacy Cole- she works for the association.

Several people from the Raintree Community, Willow Bend Condos spoke about issues they were having in their neighborhood. Several cars were broken into, people hanging around partying by their houses at 2 am in the morning, sitting on cars. When they called the police, the police stated that they could do nothing about it.

They feel that because they are a gated community they are dismissed.

Mr. Valesi suggested that we have a meeting with the Police Chief. He asked them to email him a list of people who want to attend this meeting.

Joan Ginsberg also discussed about a possible speed trap on Gully Road. She also asked about the Tax Assessors Pilot Program. Mr. Valesi said we opted out of that program.

Julie Dinkel from 44 Silvermead Drive asked Mr. Valesi about the street lights in Silvermead Community, she said it was too dark and this was a safety issue.

She mentioned the ordinance regarding streetlights.

Mr. Ammiano said Mr. Munoz, Twp. Attorney will research when Silvermead Community was built and if this ordinance was in place at that time.

There being no further comments, Mayor Preston asked for any comments from the dais.

Mr. Salkin reminded everyone about Freehold Township Day on July 8<sup>th</sup>. He also congratulated the Freehold Township staff for a great job on the no comments for the Audit.

Mr. Salkin also read a letter that he wrote to the Mayor and Township Committee regarding a letter he received from the State Assembly on our school funding.

Mayor and Township Committee,  
In my 23 years serving the residents of Freehold Township, I'm not sure I was ever so angered by the actions of any of our state representatives that I actually had to make a public note of it from here on the dais. Today is the exception.

Without question, one of the biggest issues facing Freehold Township residents is the school funding formula. This unfair formula has been costing our residents millions-hundreds of millions, for the twenty plus years I've been here. We spent decades trying to get it fixed with no avail. Representatives from

this body have repeatedly travelled to Trenton to speak with the Commissioner of Education to try and get the formula changed to something resembling equitable, and have had zero progress.

Yesterday, I received in the mail, from our NJ Assembly Representatives, a letter regarding school funding which stated, and I quote, "For too long, Republicans in the assembly and senate have refused to address this issue and a combination of budget cuts and political deals have pushed the situation to its breaking point."

What? The Assembly is 52 Democrats and 28 Republicans. The Senate is 24 Democrats and 16 Republicans. The President of the Senate, Majority leader of both houses, President Pro Temp of both houses, Deputy Majority Leader, Speaker of the General Assembly... they're ALL Democrats! Clearly, if we're going to play party politics and point fingers instead of actually getting anything accomplished, my Assembly Representatives should take a good long look in the mirror. After watching the residents of Freehold Township, NJ taxpayers, get the short end of the stick for school funding for decades, I am furious. To write a letter laying the blame for this inequity at the feet of the party that has no power in Trenton to fix it is exactly the type of partisan political rhetoric that has this county tearing apart at the seams.

If our representatives in the assembly can fix the formula and save our residents the millions of dollars that are rightfully ours, I will applaud their actions. But to read a letter that shirks any responsibility for the current state of affairs in Trenton and points fingers at the minority party is disgraceful. I hope they will refrain from this type of rhetoric in the future.

Mr. Cook congratulated on a great job on the Audit.

Mr. Ammiano agreed with Mr. Salkin on the letter from the State Assembly. He also wanted to remind everyone about Freehold Township Day on July 8<sup>th</sup> and spoke about the Marine Veteran. Mr. Ammiano congratulated Catherine Campbell, CFO on a great Audit.

Mr. Valesi thanked the Governing Body for letting us run the Township like a business.

Mrs. McMorrow spoke about the Mayor's Wellness Committee is going great. She reminded everyone about the Alliance Golf tournament on July 18<sup>th</sup> and also thanked Catherine Campbell and Mr. Valesi for the Audit.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm

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Township Clerk