



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2024
AGENDA SETTING MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, Commissioner James E. Baker, Jr, Commissioner Joseph C. Bodek, Commissioner Michèle S. Delisfort, Commissioner Sergio Granados, Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, Commissioner Alexander Mirabella, and Commissioner Rebecca Williams were present, with Vice-Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon absent.

Also present were County Manager Edward T. Oatman, County Counsel Bruce H. Bergen Esq., and Clerk of the Board James E. Pellettiere.

PRAYER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The prayer and salute to the flag were led by Clerk of the Board Pellettiere.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

The statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read by Clerk of the Board Pellettiere.

PRESENTATIONS BY THE BOARD

A resolution presentation was made by the Board to Union County employee Ms. Shioban Dominguez congratulating her for her selection by the NJ Child Support Council with the 2023 County Welfare Agency (CWA) Worker of the Year Award.

Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded congratulated County Employee Shioban Dominguez for being recognized as the 2023 County Welfare Agency Worker of the Year. She noted that the Board was proud to have such a passionate and dedicated individual serving the residents of the County of Union. She advised that Ms. Dominguez joined the County's Human Services Child Support & Maternity Unit in 2011 and has consistently exemplified excellence, adaptability, and genuine care. She added that Ms. Dominguez was willing to go above and beyond in supporting and assisting clients as well as colleagues, embodying the spirit of service. She noted that Ms. Dominguez's continued efforts have made a profound difference on countless families throughout our Union County community.

Director Anderson noted Shioban Dominguez's dedication and commitment to the families of Union County, thanking her for her continued efforts.

Commissioner Granados thanked Shioban Dominguez for going above and beyond to serve the families of Union County and congratulated on being recognized by the NJ Child Support Council.

Shioban Dominguez thanked the Board for the recognition. She noted that it was an honor to be recognized for her efforts.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded advised that the Communications would be approved later during the Regular Meeting.

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Laura Scutari, Director

1. Authorizing the County Manager to affirm the County of Union's compliance with the Governing Body Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964" in accordance with State law, when submitting the budget for approval, the County certifies that our hiring practices comply with the EEOC requirements. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

Commissioner Mirabella asked Director Scutari to elaborate on this item.

Director Scutari advised that this item was adopted annual and related to a NJ law from 2017 which required governing bodies to affirm their compliance with the United States' Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's hiring practices.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Joseph J. Policay Jr., CPWM, Acting Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to extend the contract pursuant to Resolution 2022-296, originally obtained through advertised public bidding (BA# 13-2022) with Maffey's Security Group, Elizabeth, NJ for the purpose of providing Locksmith Services & Locking Hardware for twenty-four (24) consecutive months from April 21, 2024 through April 20, 2026 in an amount not to exceed \$217,150.00. **(Commissioner Joseph C Bodek)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with RSC Architects, Hackensack, New Jersey to provide Engineering and Consulting Services for the Courthouse Tower Roof Repair Project in an amount not to exceed \$244,000.00. **(Commissioner Joseph C Bodek)**

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCEBibi Taylor, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Exceeding the County tax levy limit and to establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14). **(Commissioner Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
2. Authorizing the Office of the County Prosecutor to exceed the County Entity Budget CAP (P.L., 2015, c.249) **(Commissioner Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
3. Authorizing the Office of the Sheriff to exceed the County Entity Budget CAP (P.L., 2015, c.249). **(Commissioner Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
4. Introducing and Approving the Annual Budget of the County of Union for the Fiscal Year 2024. **(Commissioner Rebecca Lynne Williams)**

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICESDebbie-Ann Anderson, Director

1. Amending Resolution 2023-1090 authorizing the 2024 Social Services for the Homeless (SSH) Spending Plan, to reflect a six (6) month extension through December 31, 2024; and to increase the Spending Plan in the amount of \$486,700.00 for a new total not to exceed \$973,400.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

Commissioner Baker asked for additional information on this item.

Director Anderson advised that this related to a full year of grant funding. She noted that the Department had received an additional \$486,700 in funding and was requesting a six-month extension to spend the additional monies.

2. Amending Resolution 2024-89, a contract with Community Access Unlimited, Elizabeth NJ for Supportive Services for clients of the American Job Center, to extend the contract for a period of two (2) months through May 31, 2024 and increase the award by an amount not to exceed \$9,000.00 for a new total amount not to exceed \$44,000.00; all other contract terms remain unchanged. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATIONVictoria Durbin-Drake, Director

1. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract obtained through advertised public bidding (BA# 15-2024) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Parks & Recreation: Off Management, Roselle NJ, for the purpose of providing a Concession at Watchung Loop Snack Stand Lot 2, for a period of 36 months with an option to extend for an additional 24 months, in the amount of \$3,780.00 (Revenue Producing). **(Vice-Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon)**
2. Authorizing the County Manger to enter into a contract with French and Parrello, Wall, New Jersey, to provide Site Engineering Services related to for the Warinanco

Indoor Ice Rink, City of Elizabeth, County of Union, New Jersey in an amount not to exceed \$235,630.00 **(Vice-Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon)**

Commissioner Granados asked for an update on this project.

Director Durbin-Drake advised that the cited vendor was the last of the professionals to be hired for this phase of the project, adding that construction documents would follow.

Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded asked Director Durbin-Drake if this item related to the 2nd ice skating rink slated for Warinanco Sports Center.

Director Durbin-Drake confirmed this to be the case. She advised that the Department had received permission from NJDEP to apply for this second sheet of ice. She added that this 2nd rink would allow for recreation year-around. She further advised that some of the hockey clubs that use the existing skating rink were at capacity, noting that adding a second rink would expand on current use.

Commissioner Mirabella noted the benefits of a second ice skating rink and asked for an estimated completion date for the project.

Director Durbin-Drake advised that if all went as anticipated, the Department expected the second rink to be completed by 2026.

3. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract obtained through advertised public bidding (BA# 18-2024) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq; Parks & Recreation: DCRS, Creamridge, NJ, for the purpose of providing deer carcass removal and disposal services, for a twenty-four (24) month period with a twenty-four (24) month extension option, in the amount not to exceed \$33,000.00. **(Vice-Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon)**
4. Support of the Union County Board of County Commissioners for the state house commission pre-application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for diversion of Parkland to construct an indoor skating rink in Warinanco Park. **(Vice-Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon)**

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

Bruce H. Bergen, County Counsel

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Amending Resolution Number 2023-144 to increase the appropriation amount to Chasan, Lamparello, Mallon & Campuzzo, P.C. of Secaucus, NJ in the matter entitled Maria Reynolds-Jerussi v. NJ Office of the Attorney General, et als. by an additional amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$100,000.00. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

Edward T. Oatman, County Manager

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a shared services agreement by and between the County of Union and the County of Hudson for the sharing of a Qualified Purchasing Agent on a part-time basis beginning April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Moued)**

COMMISSIONER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

2024 County Commissioners, Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Moued

OFFICE OF THE OPEN SPACE, RECREATION & HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND

Victoria Durbin-Drake, Administrator

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract, on behalf of the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, with Sterling DiSanto & Associates, Somerville, New Jersey, for the purpose of providing appraisal services for the property of 1650, 1660, 1670 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, NJ, Block 14001, Lots 5, 6, 7 in an amount not to exceed \$7,000.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

James Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Appointing Sarah Webb to the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) to an unexpired term ending on December 31, 2024. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE

1. Proclaiming April 14-20, 2024 as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week throughout Union County, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our citizens safe. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**
2. Honoring Julian Robles of Elizabeth Municipal Alliance Program on receiving the 2024 County Volunteer of the Year Award at the upcoming LACADA Volunteer of the Year Recognition Ceremony on April 23, 2024. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr, & The Entire Board)**
3. Congratulating Linda Flores Tober, Executive Director of the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, who is retiring after 34 years of dedicated service. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr, & The Entire Board)**
4. Recognizing April 2024 as National Poetry Month throughout Union County; encouraging booksellers, libraries, poets, publishers, and schools to promote the importance of poetry and its significance to society and culture. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, & The Entire Board)**
5. Congratulating the Scotch Plains Fanwood UNICO as they celebrate their 50th anniversary on Saturday, April 13, 2024. **(Commissioner Alexander Mirabella, & The Entire Board)**

6. Recognizing local Westfield and Scotch Plains-Fanwood kids who are set to be featured in Foot Locker's Be Seen Campaign as part of Autism Acceptance Month. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**
7. Congratulating Union County employee Shioban Dominguez upon being selected by the NJ Child Support Council for the 2023 County Welfare Agency (CWA) Worker of the Year Award. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Vice-Chairwoman Leon absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 P.M.

**UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
2024 MEETING SCHEDULE**

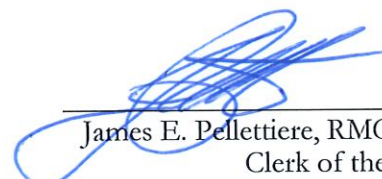
**REORGANIZATION MEETING - THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Union County Courthouse- 2 Broad Street. Elizabeth**

AGENDA SETTING SESSION

Thursday, January 25, 2024
 Wednesday, February 7, 2024
 Wednesday, February 21, 2024
 Wednesday, March 13, 2024
 Wednesday, March 27, 2024
 Wednesday, April 10, 2024
 Wednesday, April 24, 2024
 Wednesday, May 8, 2024
 Wednesday, May 22, 2024
 Wednesday, June 5, 2024
 Wednesday, June 19, 2024
 Wednesday, July 17, 2024
 Wednesday, August 14, 2024
 Wednesday, September 11, 2024
 Wednesday, September 25, 2024
 Wednesday, October 9, 2024
 Wednesday, October 23, 2024
 Wednesday, November 13, 2024
 Wednesday, December 4, 2024
 Wednesday, December 18, 2024

REGULAR MEETINGS

Thursday, January 25, 2024
 Wednesday, February 7, 2024
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 Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024
 Wednesday, October 9, 2024
 Wednesday, October 23, 2024
 Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024
 Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024
 Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2024



 James E. Pellettiere, RMC, QPA
 Clerk of the Board

Please note that the County Commissioners' meetings, with the exception of the January 25, 2024 meetings, are to be regularly held on Wednesday evenings. These meetings are scheduled to be held on the same evening, with the Agenda Setting Session to commence at 6:00pm and the Regular Meeting to commence as soon as possible after the Agenda Setting Session, unless otherwise noted. All meetings are to be held in the Commissioner Meeting Room within the Administration Building, 6th floor located at 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth New Jersey, 07207. Persons requiring a sign language interpreter should contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at 908-527-4140.