



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2016
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Chairman Bruce H. Bergen presided and called the meeting to order at 7:31pm. Roll call showed Chairman Bruce H. Bergen, Vice Chairman Sergio Granados, Freeholder Linda Carter, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder Mohamed S. Jalloh, Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, and Freeholder Vernell Wright were in attendance, with Freeholders Christopher Hudak and Alexander Mirabella absent.

Also present were County Manager Alfred Paella, County Counsel Robert E. Barry, Esq. and Clerk of the Board James Pelletiere.

The Prayer and Salute to the Flag were led by the Clerk of the Board.

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

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Oath of Office: Construction Board of Appeals: David Maas, John Mathisen, Don Moser, Matthew Sonz, and Richard Watkins; Human Services Advisory Council: Janice Lilien; Union County Advisory Council on Aging: Nathaniel Bullock, Jr., and Stacy Noonan; Union County Commission on the Status of Women: Kim Powers; Union County Fire Services Advisory Board: Thomas Byrne, Thomas McNamara, Andrew Moran, Steven Ruhl, and Gary Steitz; Union County Planning Board: Andrew Beno; Union County Workforce Development Board: Hugh Caufield and Tim Earley.

Chairman Bergen called for a motion to approve the Communications. On a motion made by Freeholder Carter and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

Chairman Bergen asked the Clerk of the Board to read the Ordinance by title.

- 774-2016 **CAPITAL ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$87,560.53 FOR VARIOUS RENOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO FACILITIES (DISTRICT-WIDE) AT UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY AND TO TRANSFER AN UNEXPENDED BOND ORDINANCE BALANCE AND REAPPROPRIATE SAME TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION.**

FIRST READING STATEMENT

Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Fiscal Committee Member, will move Ordinance Number 774-2016 for First Reading and authorize the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law. The Final Reading and Public Hearing are scheduled for June 9, 2016.

Chairman Bergen asked Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Fiscal Committee Member, to move Ordinance Number 774-2016 for First Reading. On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Carter roll call showed seven Freeholders voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

Chairman Bergen asked the Clerk of the Board to read the Ordinance by title.

775-2016 BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE PROVISION OF FUNDING TO THE UNION COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY IN CONNECTION WITH VARIOUS PROJECTS IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,250,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

FIRST READING STATEMENT

Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Fiscal Committee Member, will move Ordinance Number 775-2016 for First Reading and authorize the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law. The Final Reading and Public Hearing are scheduled for June 9, 2016.

Chairman Bergen asked Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Fiscal Committee Member, to move Ordinance Number 774-2016 for First Reading. On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed seven Freeholders voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

The meeting is open to the public for the purpose of commenting on Resolutions being offered for adoption only.

Bruce Patterson, of Garwood, made comments and/or inquires relative to a number resolutions. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-431, he made comments relative to political donations. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-440, he thanked Freeholder Estrada for asking questions relative to the funding mechanisms used by the County. He inquired why the Ordinance introduced is in the amount of \$87 million, not \$77 million. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-451, he asked for a breakdown of the allocations. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-452, he asked for clarification as to who is receiving the funds. Relative

to Resolution No. 2016-453, he stated that it seems a reasonable cost, but noted political contributions. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-454, he made comments regarding political contributions. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-455, he asked for an explanation of the targets hit to effectuate the bonus.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-440, Director Taylor noted that the resolution has no bearing on the proposed Ordinance No. 774-2016, which is in the amount of \$87,560 (not \$87 million). She clarified that the ordinance's purpose is to re-allocate funds for additional needs of the Vocational-Technical School without issuing new debt.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-451, Director Guzzo advised that this GAP funding has been created by the Board as a result of the loss of Peer Grouping funding from the State. He advised these funds in particular go to four agencies that assist seniors: Center for Hope Hospice, Jewish Family Services, Sage Eldercare, and the Visiting Nurse and Health Services.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-452, Director Guzzo advised that the State allocates the funds incrementally, noting that this is the third installment. He added that it provides meals and other services.

John Bury, of Kenilworth, asked the Board to follow up on Resolution No. 2016-455 concerning the KemperSports bonus, noting that it seemed like a lower bonus than previous years.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-455, Director Zuber advised the 2015 incentive was based upon a 5% of gross revenue in excess of the gross budgeted revenue. He advised that in 2015, the actual gross revenue was \$4,688,112 and the budgeted revenue was \$4,660,448. He noted the net gross revenue \$27,664, which equates to a \$1,383 incentive fee. He also advised that the amount is lower due to the fact that the incentive fee is solely based on golf operations, and does not include food and beverage sales.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions are being offered for adoption:

2016-426 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER: Resolution concurring with Borough of Mountainside to close Mountain Avenue from New Providence Road to Mountainview Drive on Sunday, June 19, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of the PAL Cancer Fundraising Event. Also, granting permission to hang a banner from May 19, 2016 to June 20, 2016 on Mountain Avenue.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

2016-427 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER: Resolution concurring with the Township of Scotch Plains to close Park Avenue from Mountain Avenue and Westfield Avenue/East Second Street on Sunday, May 29, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for the purpose of the Township of Scotch Plains Memorial Day Parade and Concert.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-428 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and receive funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development through the submission of the 2016-2017 Annual Action Plan on behalf of the Union County Community Development Block Grant Program, HOME Investment Partnerships Program and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development so that projects as listed therein may be undertaken within the County of Union.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-429 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA:** Authorizing the County Manager to amend Resolution 2015-423, a resolution approving the 2015-2016 Annual Action Plan, to include Linden Street Resurfacing Project in the amount of \$250,000 funded with Community Development Program Income Funds (G/I. Account #6-12-286-56-000-707).

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-430 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution 2015-514, a resolution authorizing the NJ Transit's Consolidated NJ-Job Access and Reverse Commute (NJ-JARC) 2 SFY 16 Grant funding, to reflect contract budget and timeframe modifications to the agreement with NJ TRANSIT for the inclusion of Department of Human Services/Transportation Innovation Funds (DHS/TIF) in the amount of \$80,000.00, with a required County Match of \$80,000.00, for a total increased amount of \$160,000.00 and a total contract amount not to exceed \$460,000.00, and further extending the contract timeframe for expending said funds through June 30, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-431 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Community Access Unlimited, Elizabeth, New Jersey, in the total amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the period of June 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 to provide various services to strengthen resources and access to resources for persons with disabilities and at risk youth within Union County.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-432 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Urban League of Union County, Elizabeth, New Jersey, in the total amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the period of June 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 for the Reconnections program to assist persons returning to the community from incarceration to access services to become productive citizens.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-433 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution Number 2015-416, a resolution authorizing the awarding of subcontracts under the FY2016 Social Services for the Homeless (SSH) Spending Plan, to extend the contract period on the subcontract with Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless (ECHH) through June 30, 2016 and increase funding to ECHH in the amount of \$10,000 to provide motel/hotel shelter nights, for a new allocation not to exceed \$54,180, for a new total SSH Spending Plan in the amount not to exceed \$815,425 with no other changes; further authorizing the transfer of funds among the funded agencies during the contract period should service needs change and/or if any fails to meet its contractual obligation.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed six members voting in the affirmative, with Vice Chairman Granados abstaining and Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-434 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to waive the County of Union residency requirement in order to recruit certified candidates, in accordance with the NJ Civil Service Commission, from contiguous counties i.e. Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Morris, and Somerset for the qualified positions of Juvenile Detention Officer, Senior Juvenile Detention Officer, and Supervising Juvenile Detention Officer at the Union County Juvenile Detention Center.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-435 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution 2016-311, adopting the 2016 Union County GAP Spending Plan, to increase funding in the amount of \$202,000 for a new total spending plan total of \$273,000 for subcontracted services to be provided during the period of June 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016; further authorizing the transfer of funds among the subcontracted agencies during the contract period should service needs change and/or if any of the agencies fails to meet its contractual obligation.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed six members voting in the affirmative, with Chairman Bergen abstaining, and Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-436 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution combining several authorizations of bonds into a single issue and prescribing the details and bond form

thereof for \$62,810,000.00 General Improvement Bonds of 2016 dated June 14, 2016.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-437 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution combining several authorizations of bonds into a single issue and prescribing the details and bond form thereof for \$2,075,000 County Vocational-Technical School Bonds of 2016 (New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act) Dated June 14, 2016.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-438 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution prescribing the details and bond form thereof for \$3,000,000.00 County College Bonds of 2016 (Series A) (Chapter 12 State Aide) dated June 14, 2016.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-439 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution combining several authorizations of bonds into a single issue and prescribing the details and bond form thereof for \$9,615,000 County College Bonds (Series B) dated June 14, 2016.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-440 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution authorizing the publication, printing and distribution of a notice of sale and the publication of a summary notice of sale and prescribing the forms thereof for \$77,500,000 bonds consisting of \$62,810,000 General Improvement Bonds of 2016, \$2,075,000 County Vocational Technical School Bonds of 2016 (New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act), \$3,000,000 County College Bonds of 2016 (Series A) (Chapter 12 State Aid) and \$9,615,000 County College Bonds of 2016 (Series B) each issue dated June 15, 2016, approving the preparation, distribution and execution of a preliminary and a final official statement for such bonds, undertaking to provide continuing disclosure of financial information, covenanting to comply with the internal revenue code of 1986, as amended, and authorizing various matters in connection with electronic bidding for the bonds.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-441 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution Modifying the 2016 Union County Adopted Budget in the Amount of \$10,000 and extending the contract

period through June 30th, 2016 as a result of additional grant award received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development for the 2016 Social Services for the Homeless (SSH) Grant.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-442 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution Modifying the 2016 Union County Adopted Budget in the Amount of \$80,000 and extending the contract period through June 30, 2017 as a Result of Notification Received from the State of New Jersey Transit for a Program Entitled: NJ-Job Access and Reverse Commute (NJ-JARC) 2 SFY 2016 Grant.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-443 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution Modifying the 2016 Union County Adopted Budget in the Amount of \$120,001 as a Result of Notification Received from the Township of Union for the town's share of the development of parkland on Green Lane in Union, New Jersey.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-444 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Authorizing the sponsorship of the Colombianos Sin Fronteras parade in the amount of \$4,000.00; promoting the general welfare of Union County residents as they celebrate and promote Colombian heritage.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-445 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Authorizing the sponsorship of the City of Linden's Mayor's Youth Commission of Linden's High School Project Graduation in the amount of \$250.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-446 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Authorizing the sponsorship of the Elizabeth Portugal Day Committee parade and festivities in the amount of \$4,000.00; promoting the general welfare of Union County residents as they celebrate and promote Portuguese heritage.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed six members voting in the affirmative, with Chairman Bergen abstaining, and Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-447 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution ratifying the sponsorship of the City of Elizabeth's Todd Bowles Day and Festivities in the amount of \$2,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-448 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Authorizing the sponsorship of the Elizabeth Garden Club's Veteran Wreath event in the amount of \$1,500.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-449 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Authorizing the sponsorship of the City of Rahway's Fire Fly Run in the amount of \$2,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-450 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Authorizing the sponsorship of the City of Rahway's Big Thursday Nights on the Plaza in the amount of \$2,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-451 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Authorizing the County Manager to approve the 2016 Aging GAP Spending Plan in the total amount not to exceed \$562,232 for subcontracted services to be provided during the period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 and further authorizing the transfer of funds among the agencies during the contract period should service needs change and/or if any of the agencies fails to meet its contractual obligation.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-452 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Amending Resolution 2016-310, the 2016-2018 Area Plan Spending Plan, to reflect an increase in funding only in the amount not to exceed \$1,432,968 for a new grand total not to exceed \$4,463,625 to be allocated as outlined and charged to account numbers specified for the same contract year one

period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 with no other changes to the 2016-2018 Area Plan.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed six members voting in the affirmative, with Chairman Bergen abstaining, and Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-453 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a Professional Engineering Service Contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to CME Associates, of Parlin, New Jersey to provide design, construction administration and inspection services for the Cedar Brook Park Extension Project located in the City of Plainfield for an amount not to exceed \$49,900.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2016-005)

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-454 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a Professional Engineering Service Contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to Remington, Vernick & Arango Engineers, of Secaucus, New Jersey to provide Design, Construction Administration and Inspection Services for the Green Lane Park Improvement Project in the Township of Union, for an amount not to exceed \$199,335.00. In accordance with a partnership between the County of Union and Township of Union, the County of Union's Share is \$79,334.00; Township of Union's share is \$120,001.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2015-017).

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-455 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the 2015 Incentive Payment to Kempersports, Inc. in the amount of \$1,383.00 in accordance with the contract.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-456 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the preparation and submission of a 2016 Recreational Trails Grant Application from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-457 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager, through the Union County Prosecutor's Office, to enter into a contract with Thomson Reuters/West Publishing Corporation of Eagan, MN for the purpose of providing a

subscription for an intelligence database for a period of three (3) years beginning April 1, 2016 in an amount not to exceed \$59,500.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-458 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to amend Resolution #2015-536, a resolution providing various services offered by the Workforce Innovation Business Center, to reduce funds in the amount of \$55,000.00 from Workforce Investment Act (WIA)/Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Dislocated Worker program funding, and increase funds in the corresponding amount of \$55,000.00 of WIA/WIOA Adult program funding. This is necessary as the Union County College Workforce Innovation Business Center has provided more services than projected to WIOA eligible Adults and represents no change in total award of \$542,848.02.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-459 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Amending Resolution #2015-669, a contract with 4Connections, LLC a subsidiary of Cablevision Lightpath for the installation of lateral fiber to the County's fiber optic ring, changing account numbers and reducing the contract amount \$10,000, for a new contract amount not to exceed \$68,000.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

- 2016-460 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Congratulating Nina Weil for her long-time financial support and Brenda Anderson for many decades of dedicated community service and being honored by the Plainfield YMCA.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-461 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA:** Congratulating the 2016 recipients of the Hispanic/Latino Alumni Council (HLAC) Scholar Awards.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-462 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Congratulating Alexis Frees (President) and Kyle Foley (Vice President) upon the Grand Opening of the Sunny Gardens of Linden Community Garden on May 22, 2016.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-463 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Congratulating Jonathan William Ollom, Mark Andrew Urness and Colin Thomas Forbes of Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1, New Providence upon attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-464 FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH & FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Proclaiming the month of May as Haitian Heritage Month throughout the County of Union and recognizing a Flag Raising Ceremony at Union Town Hall in connection with the Union Haitian American Civic Association on May 18, 2016.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-465 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Congratulating Devin Kenney of Boy Scouts of America, Cranford Troop 75 on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-466 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Congratulating and commending the following Girls Scouts of Fanwood Scotch Plains upon receiving the rank of Gold Award: Allison Roden, Celeste Cappadoccia of Troop 40363; Annemarie Kearns, Kaavya Krishna-Kumar, Mary Catherine Stovall and Rebecca Miller -Troop 40052 and Samiksha Vittairaj - Troop 40439 and Leah Womelsdorf-Troop 40734.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-467 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Recognizing the Elizabeth Portugal Day Committee on the raising of the Portuguese Flag on June 3, 2016; and the annual Portugal Day Parade on June 5, 2016.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-468 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS, FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER, FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Proclaiming June

2, 2016 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day throughout the County of Union, and further acknowledging the efforts of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America for continued work to decrease gun violence and working towards reform legislation.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-469 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution honoring men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military; acknowledging Memorial Day throughout Union County and further acknowledging the many local municipal events commemorating this national holiday.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-470 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Congratulating the Clark Volunteer Ambulance Squad upon their 75th Anniversary celebration and extending the Board's sincere gratitude.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

- 2016-471 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Congratulating Margaret Haegi on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members voting in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

This meeting is open to the public for the purposes of commenting on any governmental issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the county.

Salaam Ismail, of Elizabeth and Director of the National United Youth Counsel and Co-Chairman of the New Jersey Study Commission on Youth Violence, made comments relative to the Study report that was provided to the Board. He focused his comments on the study's recommendation for all 21 counties to establish a Division on Violence Prevention and Intervention, noting the Board's earlier proclamation to the Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense. He made comments relative to recent shootings in Plainfield. He made comments relative to gun violence in urban communities. He urged the Board to make establishing a Division on Violence a priority, noting he is tired of attending funerals as a result of gun violence.

Retired Fire Captain Andrew Selvie (inaudible) of Patterson, resident of Union, made comments concerning the issue of gun violence, and the need for accountability at home. He thanked the Board for the proclamation the Board presented to the Union High School Twirling Team won the State Championship. He stated that his family (he had four children) actively participates in the numerous programs the Board provides, and noted that being involved in programs deters the youth from being involved in violent activities and situations. He noted that he has personal knowledge and experience with tragic gun violence, but encouraged family accountability.

Judy Best, of Elizabeth, stated that she is a single parent whose child was shot and killed in 2014. She stated that her son wasn't in a gang, but just happened to be at the wrong place at the wrong time and stated that there is a need for more community programming.

Donald Givens, Jr., of Linden, stated that he is a community activist and made comments in support of Salaam Ismial and the need for a Division on Violence Prevention and Intervention. He noted that once it gets hot, the violence begins. He stated that he and Mr. Ismial are working with Senator Lesniak to proclaim gun violence as a health issue. He stated that gun violence is an epidemic in the black communities across the county.

Bruce Patterson, of Garwood, stated his concerns with gun violence in Union County. He noted that the Board has a successful Gun Buyback Program, but that it isn't enough. He urged the Board to hold a symposium to get together to figure out what can be done. He stated that the Board should find the money in the initiatives budget for programs like gun violence and domestic violence.

Bruce Patterson, of Garwood, made comments relative to Freeholder Mirabella's role in overseeing the County Budget. He made comments relative to his position regarding matching grants.

Councilwoman Gloria Taylor, City of Plainfield, made comments relative to supporting the effort to establish a County Division on Violence Prevention and Intervention. She spoke to the needs of working together in building communities. She stated that it is not just a problem in urban towns that it spreads across the entire county. She stated that the County and municipalities need to pull their monies together to come up with a solution before it becomes too large of a problem. She made comments relative to the need to make prevention a priority.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Kowalski thanked the speakers for addressing the Board. She noted the work the County has been doing over the years, on Education and Human Services through the Department of Human Services, is having a positive effect. She spoke of a recent meeting she attended with Vice Chairman Granados and local organizations and community leaders around the County (inclusive, but not limited to, the Elizabeth YMCA, Elizabeth YWCA, the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless and the United Fund), with the sole purpose of coming together under the auspices of the Union County leadership to address this issue. She offered her condolences to Mrs. Rita and anyone who has lost a loved a child. She stated the County will continue its dialogue and commitment to this issue.

Freeholder Kowalski made comments relative to a \$1 million Union County Kids Recreational Trust Fund Grant program and a \$100,000 Greening Union County Grant program that has been made available to all the County's 21 municipalities, noting that the applications are due August 19, 2016. She stated that eligible projects through the Kids Recreation Trust Fund Grant include the acquisition, development and refurbishment of park facilities; noting that to date, the County has spent approximately \$13.7 million on such grants. She stated that the Greening Union County grant is used for the purchase, planting and maintaining of trees throughout the County; noting that to date, the County has spent approximately \$1 million on such grants.

Freeholder Kowalski made comments relative to the Document Shredding Program at Union County College, Cranford Campus to be held on June 4, 2016, and in Clark on June 8, 2016.

Freeholder Kowalski congratulated all the students who graduated from Union County College, and noted how the college is an affordable alternative to quality education. She also congratulated all those individuals who took their oath of citizenship at a ceremony earlier in the day.

Freeholder Carter thanked Councilwoman Taylor and Mr. Ismial for coming to the meeting and speaking with passion on behalf of those you represent. She made comments relative to gun violence and assured each that the Board does hear their concerns and feels their plight. She stated that she agreed that more needs to be done, and noted that the gun violence is not just a town issue, rather a county issue, a state issue and a national issue as well. She made comments relative to the issue that guns are being transported over state lines, and of the need to ensure proper gun laws are enacted.

Freeholder Carter thanked Director Wagner and her staff on the 4th Annual Union County Means Business Seminar. She spoke to the success of the seminar, noting that keynote speaker Debra Vizzi's, of the Community FoodBank of New Jersey, comments were both personal and powerful. She urged residents to visit the Community FoodBank of New Jersey, in Hillside, to fully understand the impact they have on our communities.

Freeholder Carter made comments relative to the County's summer concert series, noting that it kicks off with the Rhythm and Blues Concert by the Brook in Cedar Brook Park in Plainfield on June 4 2016.

Freeholder Estrada made comments relative to the violence in Union County; noting that of the 8 homicides, 4 were cases of Domestic Violence. While agreeing that there needs to be effective gun legislation, he noted that the drugs and a lack of jobs as being the biggest factors in violence. He stated that the County has done more job fairs than ever before, and have successfully trained and placed many young people into jobs, but he noted too many are not being helped. He stated we have to win the battle against homicides, and spoke on a number of personal interactions with friends and neighbors relating to violence.

Freeholder Jalloh thanked Mr. Ismial for speaking out against gun violence. He stated that he hoped he never feels that his words fall on deaf ears, especially when speaking to this Board; noting that many programs have been done in cooperation with Mr. Ismial over the years. He stated that he contacted a Director on the idea of a Division on Violence Prevention, and knows that it is being looked into its feasibility.

Freeholder Jalloh spoke to his experiences as a legal services attorney working for domestic violence. He noted that at times change, governments and people need to adapt to the new issues that are affecting youth and causing violence to our communities. He said the Board is committed to these efforts.

Freeholder Jalloh made comments relative to a difference of opinion he has with a speaker relative to matching grants, noting that matching grants are found through federal and state governments and they help demonstrate a level of dedication from the applying entity. He stated his disappointment (in the speaker) to allow a fundamental disagreement be cause to an attack or a tone of an attack of his qualifications.

Freeholder Wright made comments relative to her attendance of a SWAT Tactic Demonstration, which was attended along with Chairman Bergen and Freeholder Mirabella. She noted that the event was held in honor of National Police Week and a proclamation was presented to the UC Emergency Response Team for their devotion to their responsibilities and to their faithful service. She spoke to the County's commitment in working with local law enforcement agencies.

Freeholder Wright congratulated the students of the UC Vocational-Technical schools that participated in the annual NJAC conference Cook-Out Competition, noting that the Vo-Tech students won a Silver Award for Presentation and Table Display. She noted that the students of the Union County College participated in the Conference's musical performance at the close of the Conference. She stated that these students are truly a credit to the schools and that the Board is proud to support these two educational institutions.

Vice Chairman Granados congratulated Freeholder Wright on being selected as Freeholder of the Year by NJAC.

Vice Chairman Granados made comments relative to gun violence. He stated that the County is already working on effective Second Chance and Job Training Programs in coordination a successful partnership with the Urban League of Union County. He made comments relative to the Sheriff's community policing efforts and their upcoming graduating class of 40 new sheriff officers that will be dedicated to the various municipalities. He stated that the Board knows that domestic violence and gun violence is a growing issue, and that the Board is not simply presenting proclamations, but rather is working with these organizations to establish effective programming to combat these issues.

Chairman Bergen supported Freeholder Jalloh's comments relative to the speaker's attack on his character, noting that the public can disagree on policies, but should not resort to personal attacks. He stated that such attacks do not add anything of substance to the public discourse.

Chairman Bergen agreed with the comments made by his colleagues on the Board as they pertain to gun violence. He reiterated that the Board listen's to the public to understand what the problems are and to hear suggestions for remedies. He noted that the Board has supported education and job training programs aimed at some of the causes of this violence. He thanked the speakers for coming to address their concerns and reminding the Board that finding more solutions is paramount. He noted, that recently the County participated in a 3rd Annual Symposium of Domestic Violence, and as is the case with Freeholder Jalloh, he started his legal career in Legal Services working with those that fell victim to domestic

violence. He stated that this Board as a whole, and as individuals, have expressed that the gun laws in New Jersey need to be enforced and strengthened.

Chairman Bergen stated that he joined Vice Chairman Granados, Freeholders Kowalski and Senator Lesniak to watch the Oath of U.S. Citizenship Ceremony for 25 candidates from 16 different countries, 11 of the new citizens came through the Union County initiative "We Are One New Jersey Union County Center" located at the Jersey Gardens Mall in Elizabeth. He noted that this County program has helped more than 100 residents become U.S. citizens this year. He stated that the Center provides services to ensure that these new citizens can become active participants in the American democracy.

He congratulated Freeholder Wright on her distinction as Freeholder of the Year by NJAC, noting it was a pleasure to be at the conference to see Freeholder Wright receive the award.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Bergen asked for a motion to return to the Regular Meeting. On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Carter roll call showed 7 members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Hudak and Mirabella not present. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43pm.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

Please note that meetings are regularly held on Thursday evenings. Agenda Setting Sessions and Regular Meetings are held at 7:00pm in the Freeholders' Meeting Room, Administration Building, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, 6th Floor, Elizabeth, New Jersey, unless otherwise specified. In the event an Agenda Setting Session and Regular Meeting are held on the same night, the Agenda Setting Session will commence at 7:00pm and the Regular Meeting will commence as soon as possible after the Agenda Setting Session.

Persons requiring a sign language interpreter should contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at 908 527-4140.

REORGANIZATION MEETING - SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2016 at 12:00 pm
Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy's Courtroom, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ

2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>AGENDA SETTING SESSION</u>	<u>REGULAR MEETINGS</u>
January 14, 2016	January 21, 2016
February 4, 2016	February 11, 2016
February 18, 2016	February 18, 2016
March 3, 2016	March 10, 2016
March 17, 2016	March 31, 2016
April 7, 2016	April 14, 2016
April 21, 2016	April 28, 2016
May 5, 2016	May 12, 2016
May 26, 2016*	May 26, 2016
June 2, 2016	June 9, 2016
June 16, 2016	June 23, 2016
July 14, 2016	July 21, 2016
August 11, 2016	August 18, 2016
September 8, 2016	September 15, 2016
September 22, 2016	September 29, 2016
October 6, 2016	October 13, 2016
October 20, 2016	October 20, 2016
November 10, 2016	November 22, 2016 (Tuesday)
December 1, 2016	December 8, 2016
December 15, 2016	December 22, 2016

* As per Resolution Number 2016-372, the May 19, 2016 Agenda Setting Session was rescheduled to be held on May 26, 2016 at 7:00pm.



 James E. Pelletiere, RMC
 Clerk of the Board

JEP