



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2011

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Deborah P. Scanlon called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Roll call showed Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella, Freeholder Linda Carter, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder Christopher Hudak, Freeholder Mohamed S. Jalloh and Freeholder Daniel P. Sullivan were in attendance. Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski and Freeholder Nancy Ward were absent.

Also present were County Manager George W. Devanney, County Counsel Robert E. Barry, Esq. and Clerk of the Board Nicole L. DiRado.

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 led by the Clerk of the Board.

PRESENTATIONS FROM THE BOARD

1. A Resolution was presented to Dennis Scott Kobitz, Administrator of the Union County Board of Elections, for being sworn in as the President of the New Jersey Association of Election Officials.

Chairman Scanlon called upon Dennis Kobitz to present him with a Resolution for being sworn in as the President of the New Jersey Association of Election Officials. Chairman Scanlon said that Dennis has been with Union County for twenty-six years and was honored to present him with a Resolution. She read the Resolution aloud and thanked and commended him for his services.

Mr. Kobitz thanked the Board and County Manager Devanney for all their support over the years.

Freeholder Ward and Freeholder Kowalski entered the meeting.

2. A Resolution was presented to Joe Gramiak, for becoming the Union County Bowling Tournament Champion.

Chairman Scanlon called upon Freeholder Sullivan, Freeholder Jalloh and Freeholder Hudak, who are Alumni of Roselle Catholic High School to present Joe Gramiak, who currently attends Roselle Catholic High School, with a Resolution congratulating him



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on being the Union County Bowling Tournament Champion. Freeholder Jalloh read the Resolution aloud and stated that he was very impressed with his accomplishments.

Joe thanked the Board for the Resolution. He also thanked his family and Roselle Catholic High School for their support, along with his coach, Tom Brennan.

3. A Resolution was presented to the Roselle Catholic Girls Basketball team on becoming the 2011 Union County Tournament Champions.

Freeholder Jalloh presented the Roselle Catholic Girls Basketball team with a Resolution. He said that he attended a few games and the girls were phenomenal. He read the Resolution aloud. Coach Skrec congratulated the girls, the Coach, the Assistant Coaches and the Junior Varsity Coach. He also thanked the water girls.

4. A Resolution was presented to the Roselle Catholic Track team for winning the 2011 State Title.

Freeholder Hudak congratulated the Roselle Catholic Track Team for winning the 2011 State Title after 42 years. He called upon the track team and Coach DeNicola. Freeholder Hudak read the Resolution aloud. Coach Carmine DeNicola stated that he was very proud of the team and thanked the Board for the recognition.

5. A Resolution was presented to Dr. Raymond Lanza, from Runnells Specialized Hospital recognizing "National Doctor's Day" and "National Day for Long Term Care Physicians."

Freeholder Jalloh called upon Administrator of Runnells Specialized Hospital Joan Wheeler to present her with two Resolutions, which she accepted on behalf of Dr. Raymond Lanza. The Resolutions are to recognize National Doctors' Day and National Day for Long Term Care Physicians. Freeholder Jalloh read the Resolutions aloud.

Ms. Wheeler thanked the Board and said Dr. Lanza lives up to the words mentioned in the Resolutions.

Chairman Scanlon thanked the students of Roselle Catholic High School for attending the meeting, and added it was an honor to recognize them. She congratulated them on their accomplishments.



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APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Scanlon called for a motion to approve the Communications. On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

Note and File

Oaths of Office

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Scanlon called for a motion to approve the following Minutes:

1. March 17, 2011 – Regular Meeting Minutes
2. March 24, 2011 – Agenda Meeting Minutes

The motion was made by Freeholder Jalloh and seconded by Freeholder Carter. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative for the March 17, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes and eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative with Freeholder Ward abstaining from the March 24, 2011 Agenda Meeting Minutes.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL READING

ORDINANCE NUMBER 719-2011 (The title of the Ordinance was read by the Clerk of the Board).

BOND ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 4.P OF THE BOND ORDINANCE (ORD. NO. 536-2001) ENTITLED: "BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, NEW ADDITIONAL FURNISHINGS AND NEW COMMUNICATION AND SIGNAL SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$18,065,200 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", ADOPTED AUGUST 28, 2001, AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED BY THE FOLLOWING FIVE BOND ORDINANCES: ORD. NO. 543-2001 ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 13, 2001; ORD. NO. 547-2002 ADOPTED ON FEBRUARY 28, 2002; ORD. NO. 556-2002 ADOPTED ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2002; ORD. NO. 564-2003 ADOPTED ON FEBRUARY 13, 2003; AND ORD. NO. 575-2003 ADOPTED ON APRIL 24, 2003.



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BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. Section 4.P of Ordinance No. 536-2001 entitled:

"BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, NEW ADDITIONAL FURNISHINGS AND NEW COMMUNICATION AND SIGNAL SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$18,065,200 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."

adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union, New Jersey (the "County") on August 28, 2001, as previously amended by the following five bond ordinances: Ord. No. 543-2001 adopted on December 13, 2001; Ord. No. 547-2002 adopted on February 28, 2002; Ord. No. 556-2002 adopted on September 5, 2002; Ord. No. 564-2003 adopted on February 13, 2003; and Ord. No. 575-2003 adopted on April 24, 2003 (collectively, the "Prior Ordinance"), is hereby amended to change the purpose authorized in clause (i) from the replacement of roofs at all campuses except Elizabeth to the acquisition of instructional and non-instructional equipment for all campuses, and shall hereafter read as follows:

"[Section 4.] P. Union County College - The acquisition of new additional or replacement equipment and machinery and the making of various improvements consisting of (i) acquisition of instructional and non-instructional equipment for all campuses, (ii) renovation of existing office space and conversion of existing store rooms to usable office space in the basement of the Humanities Building at the Cranford Campus, (iii) upgrading the information technology support infrastructure and systems at all campuses and (iv) various renovations and improvements to the Mackay Library at the Cranford Campus. It is hereby determined and stated that (A) all resolutions to be filed by the Board of Trustees of Union County College and the Board of School Estimate of Union County College in order to request the Board of Chosen Freeholders to raise funds for the aforesaid purposes have been filed; (B) no down payment is required for such purposes pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:64A-19(2)(b); (C) Union County College has applied for debt service aid from the State of New Jersey pursuant to Chapter 12 of the Laws of 1971 of New Jersey (N.J.S.A. 18A:64A-22.1 et seq.) for all of the projects described in the preceding sentence; and (D) if such Chapter 12 State Aid is received, it shall be applied to the payment of principal and interest on bonds or notes issued by the County for such projects.



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Appropriation and Estimated Cost \$ 3,000,000
Bonds and Notes Authorized \$ 3,000,000

Period of Usefulness 10 years

Section 2. The capital budget is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency therewith and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders and is available for public inspection.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect twenty days after the first publication thereof after final passage.

This meeting is now open to the public for purpose of
Commenting on Ordinance Number 719-2011 only

John Bury, Kenilworth, asked for the anticipated bond anticipated notes and the amount of the total debt.

Director Caroselli explained that Ordinance 719-2011 does not add to the County's existing debt. The purpose of the Ordinance is to amend only the purpose. The amount remains at \$1.2 million. He explained that it is to authorize the construction and non construction for the Kean University project. He added that he believes the overall County debt is currently \$540 million.

Vice Chairman Mirabella moved Ordinance Number 719-2011 for Final Reading and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law. The motion was seconded by Freeholder Kowalski. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 720-2011 (The title of the Ordinance was read by the Clerk of the Board).

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF DEPARTMENT HEADS.

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union as follows:



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Section 1. The salaries of the following Department Heads shall be as hereinafter set forth. The same shall be effective as of appointment date.

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall take effect at the time and manner provided by law.

Section 3. That the Clerk of this Board be and she is hereby authorized to publish a notice in the appropriate newspaper of such introduction and of a public hearing on April 14, and shall forward one certified copy of final passage, to each Clerk of all Municipalities located within the County of Union.

PROPOSED SALARY ORDINANCE

-BIBI TAYLOR, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE \$120,000

-JOAN WHEELER, ADMINISTRATOR- RUNNELLS SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL
\$130,192

This meeting is now open to the public for purpose of
Commenting on Ordinance Number 720-2011 only

John Bury, Kenilworth, asked if Ordinance 720-2011 is fixing or increasing the salaries.

County Manager Devaney explained that Ordinance 720-2011 is specifically for two department heads. He said the Administrative Code requires department head salaries to be set via an Ordinance. He explained further that Ms. Wheeler's current salary is \$130,192 and it will remain the same with her new title as Administrator. He stated that Ms. Taylor will be replacing Director Caroselli as the new Finance Director, which will result in a significant savings in salary.

Vice Chairman Mirabella moved Ordinance Number 720-2011 for Final Reading and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law. The motion was seconded by Freeholder Kowalski. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NUMBER 721-2011 (The title of the Ordinance was read by the Clerk of the Board).

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAWS OF UNION COUNTY: ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND POLICIES AND GENERAL LEGISLATION: BY AMENDING CHAPTER 49, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 49-6 (FEES FOR THE UNION COUNTY PISTOL RANGE).



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AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAWS OF UNION COUNTY: ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND POLICIES AND GENERAL LEGISLATION: BY AMENDING CHAPTER 49, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 49-6 (FEES FOR THE UNION COUNTY PISTOL RANGE)

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union that the “Laws of Union County” are hereby amended as outlined in the attached Schedule A:

SCHEDULE A

PART I -

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

Chapter 49, FEES

Article IV, Pistol Range

[Adopted 4-10-2003 by Ord. No. 571; amended 7-28-2005 by Ord. No. 614-2005]

§ 49-6. Fees for the Union County Pistol Range.

- A) The Fees for Mandatory Range Safety Course and Identification (ID) Card are as follows:

Union County Residents		Out-of-County
Adults	\$20.00	\$30.00
Seniors (55 and over)	\$10.00	\$15.00
Youth (17 and over)	\$10.00	\$10.00

Hourly Range Use Fee : \$10.00 per hour.

- B) The Fees for Law Enforcement Officer Qualification are as follows:



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In-County Officers - \$5.00 per officer, per qualification.
Out-of-County Officers - \$10.00 per officer, per qualification.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED as follows:

1. That this Ordinance shall take effect at the time and manner provided by law.
2. That the Clerk of the Board be and is hereby authorized and directed to publish the required notice in the appropriate newspaper of such introduction and of a public hearing on April 14, 2011 and shall forward one certified copy, upon final passage, to each Clerk of all Municipalities located within the County of Union.

Freeholder Kowalski moved Ordinance Number 720-2011 for First Reading and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Mirabella. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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

Joseph Keenan, 3rd Ward Elizabeth Councilman, spoke about improving Warinanco Park with a comfort station and sprayground. He said that he is in support of the improvements and said that Warinanco Park improves the quality of life by providing many recreational amenities.

Tom Getzendanner, Summit Councilman, attended the Freeholder Meeting to speak about Resolution 2011-315. He said that although the improvements made along Morris Avenue Warinanco Park, Glenside Avenue and infrastructure upgrades are appreciated, Summit is the fourth largest taxpayer in Union County. He asked that the Board consider declaring a fiscal emergency to temporarily cut the Open Space, Recreational and Historic Preservation Trust Fund tax rate in half. He said Summit passed a local Resolution urging the Freeholders to place this referendum on the November General Election ballot. Councilman Getzendanner stated that Summit's annual payment of \$163 for the average homeowner was excessive.

A copy of Councilman Getzendanner's statement and the City of Summit's Resolution are attached.

Krishna Garlic, Brand New Day, Elizabeth, thanked the Board for supporting Resolution 2011-317. She stated that the Neighborhood Stabilization Program grant has been successful



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and the funding has been depleted. She said the grant provides necessary services such as affordable housing, and she is in favor of Resolution 2011-317.

John Bury, Kenilworth, made derogatory remarks about Resolution 2011-315. He asked if the contract mentioned in Resolution 2011-331 is new and asked for the specifics.

Joe Salemme, of Conventus Labor Consulting, LLC explained that Resolution 2011-331 is a four year contract from 2009 to 2012, which includes a 3% salary increase in 2009, 0% in 2010, 0% in 2011 and a 2.5% increase in 2012.

Angel McGille of McGille Property Management, Elizabeth, congratulated the Freeholders for the constant support of the homeless investment partnership. He said much joy is brought to families that occupy these apartments, which are in such demand.

Jim Beuttner, Cranford, asked what the goal is for Resolution 2011-319.

Deputy County Manager Genievich explained that the County is partnered with Somerset County, the Township of Cranford and the State of New Jersey. She explained that they use Cranford to purchase police vehicles only when needed.

Vice Chairman Mirabella (Chairman of the Fiscal Committee) thanked the members of the Fiscal Committee, Freeholder Sullivan, Freeholder Jalloh and Freeholder Kowalski. He also thanked the entire Board for their input and questions regarding the 2011 Budget. He thanked the department leaders, Director Caroselli, Deputy Comptroller Melinda Zito and their staff for their tireless assistance during the last budget meeting. He said that they are dedicated to the taxpayers. He also thanked County Manager Devanney and Deputy County Manager Genievich. He added that no one likes to increase taxes on any level.

Freeholder Hudak stated the State reductions have cost the County \$10 million in revenues. He stated that in 2009, the County received \$4 million in revenues for retaining State prisoners at the County Jail and now the State has cut it down to \$1 million. He stated that Runnells Specialized Hospital broke even in 2009, and in 2011 the State cuts in funding have created a \$7.5 million revenue gap. He said the 2011 Budget meets the gap.

Freeholder Hudak referenced the Urban Enterprise Zone and stated that Trenton has wrong priorities, and explained how it will affect Union County's tax levy.

County Manager Devanney thanked Councilman Getzendanner for attending the Freeholder Meeting. He stated that the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund taxes cannot be changed without a Voter Referendum because it was created that way. Therefore, the Board cannot legally change it. County Manager Devanney stated that the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund has benefited all 21 municipalities in recreation and although, the County has met the goal in acquiring property,



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it is not the County's sole goal. He explained that they anticipate a new County Park Master Plan and want to continue to rehabilitate fields and parks and historic preservation. He said that they do not foresee any changes in cutting the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund.

County Manager Devanney said that they are still waiting for Governor Christie's tool kit plan. He said the State reductions have cost the County about \$10 million in revenues.

County Manager Devanney said the County has reformed the purchasing of insurance by joining County Joint Insurance Fund, which allows us to obtain lower rates, saving \$1 million in premiums; we have reduced our operating expenses over the past few years, and this year have cut an additional \$1.4 million across the board and reduced overtime at the jail by \$2.5 million over the past three years. He stated that eight public employee unions had their wages frozen in 2010 and three, including CWA, have their wages frozen in 2011; County Police and Corrections Officers accepted a zero percent raise this past year, as well as Council 8 (the largest County union). Council 8 also accepted a zero percent raise in 2008, and additional increases in health insurance payments in 2009. He said that many exclusionary employees have gone without raises for the past three years, saving approximately \$2.3 million during this period.

County Manager Devanney stated that the State and 18 other Counties provide retiree benefits to all their employees. Our program is a negotiated, limited offering which saves the County money. He said the County has also outsourced another operation, which is our print shop back in 2005, and this has saved the County at least \$100,000 a year, including capital costs of more than \$500,000. He said in previous years, we also initiated a vacation buyback program and a voluntary furlough program that saved \$800,000. He said the County has initiated non-traditional ways aimed at curtailing and reducing gas costs by phasing in the use of hybrid vehicles, and low-emission flex fuel vehicles and a more recent review has reduced that number by more than a third to 60.

County Manager Devanney stated that the County is taking additional steps in the fiscal turnaround of our golf division, by executing the second portion of our contract with KemperSports, who will take over the maintenance of our golf courses. Since 2009, we have seen a \$1 million turnaround in gross revenues from our Golf Division and realized a profit of \$140,000.

RESOLUTIONS

Chairman Scanlon called for a motion to adopt Resolutions 2011-301 through 2011-349.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR ADOPTION:



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- 2011-301 FREEHOLDER ESTRADA**, authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documentation necessary to conform by federal regulations consenting to the County of Union's participation in the **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Programs (HOME)** for fiscal years 2012 through 2014.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-302 FREEHOLDER JALLOH**, authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with **Eastern International College, Belleville, New Jersey**, to cooperate in providing clinical facilities in nursing for students enrolled in the Associate Degree in Nursing Program for the contract period of September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2012 at no cost to the County.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-303 FREEHOLDER KOWALSKI**, authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with **Unitronix Data Systems, Raritan, New Jersey**, for purposes of providing services and maintenance for the Department of Human Services, Division of Social Services software and hardware systems for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in the amount of **\$72,993.36**. {State funding: \$36,496.68; Local funding: \$36,496.68}

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-304 FREEHOLDER KOWALSKI**, authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Agreement of Understanding between the Union County Division of Social Services and the **Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Rahway, New Jersey**, for the out-stationing of County Welfare Agency staff (1 part-time employee) to process Medicaid applications for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. {State funding: 100%}

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-305 FREEHOLDER KOWALSKI**, authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Agreement of Understanding between the Union County Division of Social Services and **Trinitas Medical Center, Elizabeth, New Jersey**, for the out-stationing of County Welfare Agency staff (3 full-time employees) to process Medicaid applications for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. {State funding: 100%}



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On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-306** **FREEHOLDER KOWALSKI**, authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Agreement of Understanding between the Union County Division of Social Services and **Overlook Hospital, Summit, New Jersey**, for the out-stationing of County Welfare Agency staff (1 part-time employee) to process Medicaid applications for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. {State funding: 100%}

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-307** **FREEHOLDER KOWALSKI**, establishing the **Union County Homeless Trust Fund Advisory Board**, a voluntary committee to advise local government on the creation of a local homeless housing plan and participate in a local homeless housing program. The Board will be comprised of the following 15 positions: three from municipalities with the largest populations of homeless people in Union County (Elizabeth, Plainfield, and Linden); one representative from the Office of the County Clerk; three homeless or formally homeless persons; four local non-profit organizations with experience assisting the homeless or providing housing; two from the local planning committee to end homelessness; one representative from the Union County Division of Planning and Community Development; and one representative from the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-308** **FREEHOLDER KOWALSKI**, authorizing the County Manager to award subcontracts to various agencies for the period of March 1, 2011 through February 29, 2012 for the purpose of providing services to people with HIV/AIDS in the amount of **\$690,552**. This resolution would further authorize the County Manager to transfer funds among various agencies during the contract period should service needs change and/or if any of the various agencies fails to meet its contracted obligation. {Federal funding: \$690,522}

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-309** **FREEHOLDER KOWALSKI**, authorizing the County Manager to award subcontracts to various agencies for the period of March 1, 2011 through February 29, 2012 for the purpose of providing services to people with HIV/AIDS in the amount of **\$166,930**. This resolution would further authorize the County Manager to transfer funds among the various agencies during the contract period should service needs change and/or if



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any of the various agencies fails to meet its contracted obligation. {Federal funding: \$166,930}

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-310 FREEHOLDER KOWALSKI**, urging Congress to continue to support **Medicaid and DSH (Disproportionate Share Hospital) Funding** in its budget as a means of continuing to provide health care to our most vulnerable residents.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-311 FREEHOLDER SULLIVAN**, authorizing the County Manager to enter into a professional architectural and engineering service contract with **USA Architects, Somerville, New Jersey**, to construct a new maintenance building at Echo Lake Park in the amount of **\$68,500**.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-312 FREEHOLDER SULLIVAN**, authorizing the County Manager to enter into a professional architectural and engineering service contract with **USA Architects, Somerville, New Jersey**, to restore the exterior and interior of the Comfort Station Building and to redesign the Water Park at Warinanco Park, City of Elizabeth in the amount of **\$46,000**.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-313 FREEHOLDER SULLIVAN**, appointing the following members to the **Union County Transportation Advisory Board** for a term commencing January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 as per municipal requests: **Alexander Sharpe, Jr.**, (Delegate), City of Elizabeth; **Jack Molenaar** (Delegate), Borough of Fanwood; **Ron Stefanowicz**, (Delegate), City of Linden; **Robert W. Messler**, (Delegate) and **Michael Disko, Jr.** (Alternate), Borough of Mountainside; **Tony Hall** (Delegate), City of Rahway; **Vincent Cahill** (Delegate) and **Larry Dinardo** (Alternate), Borough of Roselle Park; **Rosemary Bariexca** (Delegate) and **Ludwig Anton Evers** (Alternate), City of Summit.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-314 VICE CHAIRMAN MIRABELLA**, pursuant to **N.J.S.A 40A:4-45.15b** authorizing the establishment of a **Cap Bank** within the Calendar Year 2011 and 3.5% of the final tax



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levy from the preceding fiscal year as a retained exception to the final tax levy in either of the next two succeeding years.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2011-315 VICE CHAIRMAN MIRABELLA, introducing the 2011 Operating and Capital Budget.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2011-316 VICE CHAIRMAN MIRABELLA, an amendment to the 2011 Temporary Budget, pursuant to the provisions of CH.96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-20).

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2011-317 VICE CHAIRMAN MIRABELLA, an amendment to the Temporary 2011 Budget in the amount of \$5,668,384 as a result of notification received from the following agencies for a cumulative total of \$253,198,987.04:

- . City of Newark
“Ryan White HIV Emergency Relief Grant” - \$902,612
- . U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
“McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant” - \$3,123,975
- . U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
“Neighborhood Stabilization Program Grant” - \$1,574,051
- . State of New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
“Megan’s Law” - \$16,198 - “Match – Megan’s Law” - \$5,399
- . State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
“Rape Prevention Education Grant” - \$46,149

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2011-318 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contracts obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq:



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- a. Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities, Division of Facilities Management: Positive Attitude Industries, Inc., Marlboro, New Jersey, to provide and deliver janitorial maintenance chemicals for a period of 24 consecutive months in the amount of **\$463,755**.
- b. Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities, Division of Facilities Management and Runnells Specialized Hospital: AA Electrical Contractors & Design, Inc., Freehold, New Jersey, to exercise an extension option to provide electrical system repairs, maintenance and installation services for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013 in the amount of **\$712,440**. {All terms and conditions remain the same.}

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-319** CHAIRMAN SCANLON, authorizing the use of contracts obtained through participation in the **Cranford Police Cooperative** for possible use in 2011 as an exception to bidding.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-320** CHAIRMAN SCANLON, amending Resolution Number 2010-1155, which authorized the possible use of **Somerset County Co-Op in order to add new vendors and adjust amounts of estimates**.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-321** CHAIRMAN SCANLON, amending Resolution Number 2010-1157, which authorized the possible use of **New Jersey State Contracts respectively, in order to add new vendors and adjust amounts of estimates**.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-322** CHAIRMAN SCANLON, concurring with the **City of Summit**, granting permission to **Our House Foundation, Summit, New Jersey**, to close Broad Street from Summit Avenue to Maple Street between 12:00pm and 5:00pm on Sunday May 1, 2011 for the 5-Mile Run Event.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.



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- 2011-323** CHAIRMAN SCANLON, granting permission to the **Borough of Roselle Park**, to close Chestnut Street, from Warren Avenue to Grant Avenue on Saturday, June 11, 2011, from 4:00pm to 8:30pm and on Saturday, September 17, 2011 from 3:00pm to 7:30pm for the “Cruisin’ Night Car Shows.”

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-324** CHAIRMAN SCANLON, concurring with the **Township of Berkeley Heights**, granting permission to the **Berkeley Heights Youth Soccer Club, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey**, to hang a banner across Springfield Avenue from April 25, 2011 to May 14, 2011 to advertise their “Berkeley Heights Travel Soccer Tryouts May 14 for Fall 2011/Spring 2012 Season League Play.”

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-325** CHAIRMAN SCANLON, authorizing the County Manager to retain **Environmental Contractors, Inc., West Orange, New Jersey**, to provide asbestos operation & maintenance procedures and mold remediation in the designated areas of the old annex boiler room, storage area, in an amount not to exceed **\$18,750**.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-326** CHAIRMAN SCANLON, amending Resolution Number 982-2001, a professional engineering service contract with **Birdsall Services Group, Cranford, New Jersey**, for the purpose of providing environmental services at the Venneri Complex facility located in Westfield, New Jersey in an additional amount of \$68,600 for a new contract amount of **\$264,985**.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-327** CHAIRMAN SCANLON, authorizing the County Manager to enter into a professional engineering service contract with **CME Associates, Parlin, New Jersey**, for design, construction administration and inspection services for the replacement of Raymond Avenue Bridge over Green Brook (Pl-20), City of Plainfield in an amount not to exceed **\$264,075**. (UC Engineering Project No. 2011-004).

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

2011-328 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, amending Resolution Number 2010-1090, a contract (through public bidding process) with **Drill Construction, West Orange, New Jersey**, approving Change Order No. 2 (final) in the amount of \$56,621 for a new contract amount of **\$1,024,866** for additional work performed at the Houdaille Quarry Pistol Range. {\$44,924 of the \$56,621 will be reimbursed to Union County by the design consultant T&M Associates.}

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2011-329 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend a FEMA Grant in the amount of **\$50,000** under the **Emergency Management Agency Assistance Sub-grant Program** to support current salaries within the Division of Emergency Management. A 50% local match, cash or in-kind is required.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2011-330 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, amending Resolution Number 2010-677, to increase the appropriation to **Palumbo & Renaud, Cranford, New Jersey**, special counsel in the matter entitled **Jonathan Dawkins v. UC, et als** for an additional sum of \$10,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed **\$30,000**.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2011-331 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with **Operating Engineers Local 68**, effective January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2012.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ARE LAUDATORY IN CONTENT:

2011-332 FREEHOLDER CARTER, congratulating the **Plainfield High School Boys Basketball Team** for winning the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 Championship and advancing to the Tournament of Champions.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

- 2011-333** **FREEHOLDER CARTER**, extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of **Ronald Lattimore**, in their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-334** **FREEHOLDER ESTRADA**, congratulating the **St. Patrick's High School Boys Basketball Team** for winning the 2011 Union County Championship.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-335** **FREEHOLDER ESTRADA**, congratulating **Steven R. Goncalves, Elizabeth, New Jersey, Troop 101** on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest award in scouting.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-336** **FREEHOLDER ESTRADA**, honoring volunteers who have given their time, effort and money to help the **United Way of Greater Union County** make Union County a better place.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-337** **FREEHOLDER ESTRADA**, congratulating **Michelle Doran McBean**, who will be recognized at the 4th Annual Dr. Orlando Edreira Scholarship Foundation Luncheon on April 3, 2011.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-338** **FREEHOLDER ESTRADA**, congratulating **Paquito D'Rivera**, who will be recognized at the 4th Annual Dr. Orlando Edreira Scholarship Foundation Luncheon on April 3, 2011.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-339** **FREEHOLDER HUDAK**, congratulating **Bryan Tomko** who is retiring as President of the Linden Board of Education.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

- 2011-340 FREEHOLDER HUDAK, FREEHOLDER JALLOH AND FREEHOLDER SULLIVAN,** congratulating the **Roselle Catholic High School Boys Indoor Track Team**, winners of the 2011 Non-Public "B" State Championship.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-341 FREEHOLDER JALLOH, FREEHOLDER HUDAK AND FREEHOLDER SULLIVAN,** Congratulating the **Roselle Catholic Girls Basketball Team** for winning the 2011 Union County Tournament.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-342 VICE CHAIRMAN MIRABELLA,** offering the Board's sincerest condolences to the family of **Richard I. Samuel, Esq.** in their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-343 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** offering the Board's sincerest condolences to the family of **Charley White** in their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-344 CHAIRMAN SCANLON AND FREEHOLDER CARTER,** congratulating Plainfield boxer **Richard Johnson, Jr.**, for winning a Silver Gloves National Champion in the 165 pound weight class in Kansas City, Missouri.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2011-345 CHAIRMAN SCANLON AND THE ENTIRE BOARD,** congratulating **Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz and Freeholder Linda Carter** on being honored at the Union County Women's Political Caucus' Notable Women in Politics Reception which is being held on April 13, 2011.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

2011-346 CHAIRMAN SCANLON AND THE ENTIRE BOARD, congratulating **Dennis Scott Kobitz**, Administrator of the Union County Board of Elections, for being sworn in as the President of the New Jersey Association of Election Officials.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2011-347 CHAIRMAN SCANLON AND THE ENTIRE BOARD, offering the Board's sincerest condolences to the family of **James (Jimmy) Minitelli, Roselle Park, New Jersey**, a former Union County employee in their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2011-348 CHAIRMAN SCANLON AND FREEHOLDER JALLOH, declaring March 30, 2011 as "**National Doctor's Day**" in Union County.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2011-349 CHAIRMAN SCANLON AND FREEHOLDER JALLOH, declaring March 30, 2011 as "**National Day of Recognition for Long Term Care Physicians**" in Union County.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

The meeting is now open to the public for the purpose of commenting on any matter.

John Bury, Kenilworth, made comments about the County's 6% tax increase.

County Manager Devanney interjected and said that Mr. Bury was incorrect. He explained that it was originally proposed as a 6% increase, but has been reduced to 4.9%. Mr. Bury stated that he was not aware that the amount was revised.

Mr. Bury urged the Board to attend a roundtable that will be broadcasted on TV 33. He made comments pertaining to Morris County's taxes and MusicFest and he commented on Mr. Caroselli's replacement and position.

Mr. Bury asked how many County employees will be employed by KemperSports and inquired about the current greenskeepers.



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

County Manager Devanney stated that three County employees will be employed by KemperSports, a couple of employees will be retiring and some of the employees will fill vacancies in the Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities. The remaining greenskeepers will be hired by KemperSports.

Jim Buettner, Cranford, commented on the tragedy that occurred recently in Japan and said that his heart also goes out to the Liberians.

Mr. Buettner stated that he is opposed to County employees receiving lifetime benefits. He congratulated Chairman Scanlon on her position as Chairman of the Freeholder Board, stating that he has not attended the Freeholder Meetings for the past few months. He urged the Board to continue mobile meetings and welcomes the Board to Cranford.

Mr. Buettner inquired about the County purchasing a property along Cooper Road for \$600,000.

Mr. Buettner closed his comments by welcoming the new Freeholders.

County Manager Devanney explained that when the County purchases property with Green Acre funds, the properties are appraised by two New Jersey licensed real estate appraisers who are approved by Green Acres. He said the property was purchased for market value based on two appraisals.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Carter congratulated the young athletes who attended the Freeholder Meeting. She added that it is nice to see them in sports and excelling in class. Freeholder Carter also congratulated the Plainfield boys' basketball team and said they will be attending a Freeholder Meeting next month to accept Resolutions by the Board.

Freeholder Carter congratulated the Finance Committee and County Manager Devanney for their work on the 2011 Budget, and commended them for reducing the original tax increase.

Freeholder Estrada stated that in one year alone, we shredded 63 tons of paper with the mobile unit and are pleased to offer this free service again to Union County residents. He said the next paper shredding event is coming up on Saturday, April 2nd at Union County College in Cranford, from 9 to 1, rain or shine. You can bring up to 3 bags or boxes of personal documents to be shredded, and you can verify the work on closed-circuit TV. For more information or to get the complete recycling schedule, visit www.ucnj.org, or call the Recycling Hotline, 908-546-9889.

Freeholder Estrada thanked Union County College for hosting the recycling event.



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

Freeholder Hudak announced that earlier this month, the County held a countywide brainstorming session on shared services, which involved representatives from every one of the 21 municipalities. It is called the “March Madness of Shared Services” to underscore the fact that we have a great track record with more than half a dozen of these workshops under our belt. Our goal is to take it to the next level. Along these lines, we want to share some of the work we did with a wider audience, so we put together a short “highlights” video. The video is designed to help the general public get an inside look at the advanced level of discussion and cooperation that goes into transforming government operations in a way that is serious, sensible, and effective. We hope the film encourages more Union County residents to get involved in the process, as we seek new ways to keep improving services while saving money. He said if you would like to view the film, you can find it by clicking on the “Video Channel” icon at the County website, www.ucnj.org.

Freeholder Hudak attended a stakeholders meeting on Saturday for the Route 1 Corridor Study, which will create more than 3,000 new jobs. He stated that from 2006 to 2008, traffic has been improved with safer roads which benefit businesses. He commended Director Faella and the staff along with Liza Betz and Kamal Saleh for their hard work.

Freeholder Jalloh stated that in honor of national Passport Day, Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi is holding a Passport Fair at the Westfield Annex on April 9th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., which is located in the new County building at 300 North Avenue East. He said that Passport Day is a national outreach event designed to help travelers get an early jump on their summer plans, and to make sure their documents are up to date. As we know, travel rules have changed in recent years, so even if you already have a valid passport it's a good idea to check and make sure your information is current. You can come and get all the information you need at the Passport Fair, and of course you can also apply for a passport. Freeholder Jalloh stated that Ms. Rajoppi has also invited elected officials to attend the Passport Fair, so this is a great opportunity to come out and meet with some of your representatives. For more information, please call the Union County Clerk's Office at 908-527-4787.

Freeholder Kowalski congratulated Dennis Kobitz for being sworn in as the President of the President of the New Jersey Association of Election Officials. She also congratulated the staff of the Board of Elections for their fine work. She said there are few occasions when the voting machines malfunction, but they are repaired quickly.

Freeholder Kowalski also congratulated the athletes and thanked the Councilman Getzenanner, Krishna Garlic and Angel Magille for attending the meeting. She stated that Director Faella mentioned that the Community Block Grants have been cut by the State and that every dollar goes into making the difference of housing improvements. She said that the Board is happy to have them as partners.

Freeholder Kowalski urged congress to pass President Obama's plan and said it is a good step in the right direction.



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

Freeholder Kowalski thanked Director Caroselli, Melinda Zito and staff, the Finance Committee and County Manager Devanney for their tireless efforts for the 2011 Budget.

Freeholder Sullivan stated that this year, the Freeholder Board would like to honor the young people of Union County who work to help make our environment cleaner and healthier. We see so many children taking action, through Scout projects, community groups, and schools. Some of these projects are very modest, but each one of them is very important in its own way. We want our young environmentalists to know how much we value and appreciate them, so, this year, the Freeholder Board will be issuing our first Union County Environmental Hero award, for an individual or group 18 years of age or younger.

Freeholder Sullivan stated that nominating your Environmental Hero is simple. Just write a brief essay of 250 words or less, describing what actions your nominee has taken, and why that qualifies them for an award. The projects can include recycling, clean-ups, community gardening, and much more. The deadline is April 15, and you can submit your nominations to Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, in Mountainside.

Freeholder Mirabella announced that on April 14th, a very special event will take place in Westfield. He explained that it is a ceremony to honor the work of volunteers with the Literacy Volunteers of Union County, and the Literacy Volunteers of Plainfield Public Library.

Freeholder Sullivan thanked Councilman of Elizabeth Joseph Keenan for attending the Freeholder Meeting to speak about improvements proposed for Warinanco Park.

Freeholder Sullivan stated that in reference to the property at 1590 Cooper Road in Scotch Plains. The County has always wanted to purchase it, and the County is paying a lot less for it now since property values have declined in the past few years. He said appraisals have been done prior to purchasing the property.

Freeholder Sullivan stated the Open Space, Recreation, Historic and Preservation Trust Fund was created by Voter Referendum. He said other Counties may do it differently. He thanked Councilman Getzendanner for coming to speak. He said that Summit has benefited by the Fund since its inception.

Chairman Scanlon stated that to her recollection, the City of Summit approached the County of Union for Open space, Recreation, Historic and Preservation Trust Funds for improvements to the City of Summit.

Freeholder Sullivan said the demand is great and the County is constantly contacted by municipalities for assistance via the Fund. He said it has been an enormous success.



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Freeholder Sullivan stated that Literacy Volunteers of Union County is accredited by a global organization called ProLiteracy, which is dedicated to improving peoples' lives through literacy. The accreditation means that Literacy Volunteers of Union County is recognized as a premier organization with stellar leadership and outstanding support from volunteers. He said Literacy Volunteers work to help adults improve their reading, writing, and English speaking skills, and by helping parents learn to read. He said these volunteers also engage parents in reading aloud to their children, helping with homework, and becoming more involved with their school district. This is a program that achieves direct benefits for individuals, the effects of which ripple out to serve entire families and communities.

Freeholder Sullivan stated that in advance of the recognition ceremony, he thanked all of the Literacy Volunteers of Union County and the Literacy Volunteers of Plainfield Public Library, for the significant and valuable contributions they make to enhance the lives of Union County residents.

Vice Chairman Mirabella thanked Councilman Keenan and Councilman Getzendanner for attending the Freeholder Meeting on behalf of their community.

Vice Chairman Mirabella announced that mobile Budget Hearings were held in Berkeley Heights and Plainfield.

Vice Chairman Mirabella stated that the County receives many requests for funding through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund. He said he attended the Chamber of Commerce Meeting on Monday, where they discussed why business should stay or leave the area. He was approached by the new Mayor of New Providence, J. Brooke Hern regarding Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation funding. Vice Chairman Mirabella regretfully stated that the improvements to Oakwood Park in New Providence did not work out for them as the plan was opposed by the residents.

Vice Chairman Mirabella congratulated Joan Wheeler as Administrator of Runnells Specialized Hospital. He said that she has been the driving force and leader in administration. He said that she is richly deserving of the title and she takes great care of the patients at the Hospital.

Chairman Scanlon congratulated Vice Chairman Mirabella (Chairman of the Fiscal Committee) and Director Caroselli for such a fabulous job done on the 2010 Budget. She said Director Caroselli will be missed, but is confident that Ms. Taylor will do an outstanding job replacing Director Caroselli. She also thanked Melinda Zito, County Manager Devaney and Deputy County Manager Genievich for their hard work. She said the Budget is a joint effort. He also thanked the Directors, Sheriff Froehlich and Prosecutor Romankow for providing the annual information to help figure out the budget.



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

Chairman Scanlon stated that shared services movement has really picked up momentum within the past couple of years, and as we move on to new ground it's also important to continue with long-running programs that have been a great success.

Chairman Scanlon said that one such example is the Sheriff's Labor Assistance Program, or SLAP. SLAP provides carefully screened offenders with a chance to work off their sentences instead of being incarcerated. The program was initiated by Sheriff Froehlich in 1993 and it is still going strong. Because of SLAP, last year alone Union County saved more than \$1.5 million in avoided incarceration costs. SLAP participants also provided more than 50,000 hours of labor to Union County and local governments, which is valued at over \$700,000. SLAP also enables low-risk offenders to fulfill their obligations while maintaining connections with work, family and community that can help them avoid further trouble, so the benefits of this program can extend far beyond their hours of service.

Chairman Scanlon commended Sheriff Froehlich on instituting the SLAP Program and said that she wanted to make the public aware of the program.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Scanlon called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53pm. On a motion made by Freeholder Sullivan and seconded by Vice Chairman Mirabella, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

The voucher list through March 25, 2011 will be available for public perusal in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS' 2011 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.

AGENDA SETTING MEETINGS

April 7, 2011
April 21, 2011

May 5, 2011
May 19, 2011

June 9, 2011
June 23, 2011

July 21, 2011

August 11, 2011

September 8, 2011
September 22, 2011

October 6, 2011
October 20, 2011

November 10, 2011

December 1, 2011
December 15, 2011

REGULAR MEETINGS

April 14, 2011
April 28, 2011

May 12, 2011
May 19, 2011

June 9, 2011
June 23, 2011

July 28, 2011

August 25, 2011

September 15, 2011
Tues. September 27, 2011

October 13, 2011
October 20, 2011

November 10, 2011

December 1, 2011
December 15, 2011


Nicole L. DiRado, CMC, MPA
Clerk of the Board

NLD:mb

March 31, 2011

Madame Chairwoman,

I'm Tom Getzendanner, councilman from Summit. We get apportioned 9.6% of the Freeholder budget, your fourth biggest taxpayer behind Elizabeth which contributes 11.4%, Westfield supplying 10.2%, and Union Township 9.8%.

We appreciate what the County does for us, especially infrastructure like the Morris Ave and Broad Street roadway "corridor" projects. And artificial turf on Glenside playing fields next to Watchung Reservation.

But a 6% higher tax levy is three times the Governor's new 2% CAP, which we at the Municipal level have chosen to honor at face value (i.e. not using any allowable expense exclusions).

Mr. Devanney has scrubbed expenditures to the bone, and still can't cope with \$10mm lost revenue caused by Federal/State aid evaporation. Moreover Moody's just put you on credit watch for possible downgrade because of Union County's \$550mm outstanding debt.

So I'd ask you tonight to consider a radical step. Declare a "fiscal emergency" and unilaterally cut your 1.5% Open Space tax in half, atleast for 2011. It would partially soften our county levy without curtailing core service.

Approximately 220 towns plus several counties in New Jersey have already slowed down their land conservation programs due to the need for austerity.

When Union County launched theirs in 2001 the goal was to preserve 100 acres per decade. Two months ago at a Chamber of Commerce breakfast in Summit George reported 317 acres preserved to date countywide. Mission accomplished!

Cutting the millage is half would still generate \$5.5 million for your Open Space Trust Fund. More than was raised when voters first approved it.

Yet it would deliver meaningful property tax relief. Last year the average Summit household paid \$138 in Open Space tax according to page 14 of Chris Duryee's *Abstract*.

Thank you for considering this emergency step. Summit actually passed a local Resolution on January 18th urging Freeholders to place this referendum on the November general election ballot.

Tom Getzendanner
Summit Councilman
908-277-3624

Y. Hughes (P)

Revised

**URGE 50% REDUCTION IN UNION
COUNTY OPEN SPACE TAX RATE**

January 18, 2011

WHEREAS, the goal of Union County Open Space tax which was enacted in 2001 was to preserve 100 acres a decade; and

WHEREAS, ten years later 317 acres have now been preserved, exceeding that objective three fold; and

WHEREAS, even though Summit has materially benefited from Open Space trust funds in the past, it recognizes that tough economic times have forced other counties to scale back this popular endeavor in order to control property taxes; and

WHEREAS, our Freeholders instead expanded Union County's program to include many other recreational purposes besides land conservation; and

WHEREAS, "equalized" Ratables in Summit have doubled the past 10 years, so that half as much millage (.0075% instead of the current .015%) would still collect the same initial (2001) amount of money.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMMIT, as follows:

1. That the Union County Freeholders be and hereby are requested to present to the voters a referendum question on November 8, 2011 ballot letting taxpayers decide on a 50% reduction in Open Space millage rate.
2. That an absolute dollar cap be imposed on the Preservation Trust Fund so that it does not get over-funded beyond its original scope. For example 21 towns contributed a total \$5 million in 2001, whereas the same millage collected over \$11.3 million from them by 2010.
3. That copies of this resolution be sent to all 20 other towns in Union County in hopes that similar action on their part can obviate the need for any grass-roots signature Petition drive.

Dated: January 18, 2011

I, David L. Hughes, City Clerk of the City of Summit, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Common Council of said city at a regular meeting held on Tuesday, January 18, 2011.

City Clerk