



## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2017  
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bruce Bergen presided and called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

### ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Chairman Bruce H. Bergen, Vice Chairman Sergio Granados, Freeholder Linda Carter, Freeholder Christopher Hudak, Freeholder Mohamed S. Jalloh, Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Freeholder Alexander Mirabella and Freeholder Vernell Wright were in attendance, with Freeholder Angel G. Estrada absent.

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

### PRAYER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

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

### STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

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

### APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

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Note and File

Oath of Office: Union County Utilities Authority: Robert Rachlin.

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

### ORDINANCE FOR ADOPTION

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

Clerk of the Board Pellettiere read the Ordinance by title.

788-2017 **AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARY OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.**

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

Section 1. The salary of the Director of the Department of Human Services shall be as hereinafter set forth.

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 he is hereby authorized to publish a notice in the appropriate newspaper of such introduction and of a public hearing on October 26, 2017, and shall forward one certified copy of final passage to each Clerk of all Municipalities located within the County of Union.

<b>Position(s)</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Director of Human Services	\$130,000.00	1-Nov.-2017

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION**

The meeting is open to the public for the purpose of commenting on Ordinance Number 788-2017 only.

There were no comments made by the public on the Ordinance. Seeing no speakers, Chairman Bergen closed the public comment portion.

#### **FINAL READING STATEMENT**

Freeholder Alexander Mirabella, Fiscal Subcommittee Chairman, will move Ordinance Number 788-2017 for Final Reading and authorize the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, Ordinance Number 788-2017 was moved for Final Reading and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law. Roll call showed eight (8) members of the Board voted in the affirmative with Freeholder Estrada absent.

#### **PRESENTATIONS FROM THE BOARD**

Check presentations will be made by the Board to the various grant recipients of the following grant programs: 2017 Kids Recreation Trust Grants; 2017 Greening Union County Grants; and the 2017 Preserving Union County Grants.

Chairman Bergen called upon Vice Chairman Granados (Chairman of the Trust Fund Subcommittee) to lead in the evening's presentations.

Vice Chairman Granados provided an overview of the grant programs, noting that \$15 million has been allocated to municipalities through the Kids Recreation Trust Fund since its inception. He stated that the Greening Union County Grant Program was established in 2004 and noted that over 12,000 trees have been planted throughout Union County. Vice Chairman Granados called up Michael Yesenko, member of the Trust Fund Public Advisory Committee, to assist in the award ceremony.

Vice Chairman Granados and Chairman Bergen called upon each of the recipients to receive a ceremonial check. Each of the recipients offered their gratitude to the Board and explained how the funds were to be used.

Freeholder Angel G. Estrada entered the meeting (7:18pm).

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**PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION**

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

There were no comments made by the public on the Resolutions to be offered for adoption. Seeing no speakers, Chairman Bergen closed the public comment portion.

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**RESOLUTIONS**

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The following Resolutions are being offered for adoption:

**2017-867 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Authoring the County Manager to accept and expend \$2,145,575 from the NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness under the FFY 2017 Urban Areas Security Initiative.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

**2017-868 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend \$370,263.90 from the Fiscal Year 2017 New Jersey Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) in order to enhance the County's ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

**2017-869 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Authorizing the County Manager to Amend Resolution 2017-065; a resolution entering into a Shared Services Agreement with the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, Inc. to provide 911 Emergency Medical Dispatch Services, to reflect a change in language. (No change in contract amount)

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

**2017-870 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution Number 2014-817, a Shared Service Agreement with the City of Summit for the replacement of the Locust Drive Culvert near Tulip Street over Stream 3-51 (Su105) and to provide for reimbursement to the County of Union for the costs associated with the design and relocation of the sanitary sewer line, to provide for additional reimbursement costs from the City to the County of Union in the amount not to exceed \$103,353.00 for a new reimbursement cost to the County of Union in an amount not to exceed \$201,453.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2010-005C)

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-871 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40:A11-1 et seq to: Department of Engineering, Public Works & Facilities, Division of Facilities Management with Paul's Electronic Maintenance, Inc., dba SBP Industries, South Plainfield, NJ (BA#62-2017) for the purpose of providing Emergency Generator Services for the Department of Engineering, Public Works & Facilities Management, Division of Facilities Management for twenty-four (24) consecutive months with the provision for one (1) twenty-four (24) month optional extension, contract amount not to exceed \$123,600.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-872 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Engineering, Public Works & Facilities Management; Morton Salt, Inc. Chicago, IL for the purpose of providing Rock Salt for a twelve month (12) contract in the amount of \$488,800.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-873 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Resolution granting permission to the Township of Berkeley Heights for the closing of Springfield Avenue from the intersection of Snyder Avenue to Plainfield Avenue on Saturday, December 2, 2017 from 2:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. for the Township's annual Winter Walk and Tree Lighting Event. Also granting permission to hang a banner across Springfield Avenue and Plainfield Avenue from November 10, 2017 through December 4, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-874 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Resolution granting permission to the Township of Scotch Plains to close Park Avenue, between Bartle Avenue and East Second Street/Westfield Avenue from 2:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 28, 2017 (rain date Sunday, October 29, 2017) for the Family Fun Trunk or Treat festival. Also, granting permission to close Park Avenue from Front/Bartle Avenue and Westfield Avenue/East Second Street on Sunday, December 3, 2017 between the hour of on or about 1:30 p.m. to on or about 5:00 p.m. for the annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-875 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to allow Union County Department of Human Services Division of Workforce Development Operations, as American Job Center Operation Services contracted provider, to utilize Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Grant funds from New Jersey State Department of Labor and Workforce Development in the total amount

not to exceed \$918,972 in the form of Individual Training Contracts for the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-876 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract for professional services for the period October 27, 2017 through September 26, 2018 to Yelena Samofalov, MD of Scotch Plains, NJ for the provision of medical supervision to the Union County Pediatric Immunization Clinic in an amount not to exceed \$16,500.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-877 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution determining the form and other details of not to exceed \$44,250,000 refunding bonds of the County of Union, New Jersey, to accomplish the refunding on the terms required by the Local Finance Board pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-2.5 and consistent with the refunding provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and to provide for the sale and delivery of such bonds to the underwriters.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-878 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution Modifying the 2017 Union County Adopted Budget in the amount of \$74,100 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a Program Entitled: Comprehensive Traffic Safety Program.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-879 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution Modifying the 2017 Union County Adopted Budget in the amount of \$1,210 as a result of notification for additional funds received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a Program Entitled: Division on Aging Area Plan Contract.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-880 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution Modifying the 2017 Union County Adopted Budget in the amount of \$52,215.69 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a Program Entitled: Body Armor Replacement Fund (BARF) Grant.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-881 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution Modifying the 2017 Union County Adopted Budget in the amount of \$370,263.90 as a result of notification

received from the State of New Jersey, Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness for a Program Entitled: State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-882 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution Modifying the 2017 Union County Adopted Budget in the amount of \$2,145,575 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness for a Program Entitled: Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Grant.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-883 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution Number 2017-799 to reflect the correct language for the 2018 NJ DOT BIKEWAYS grant application.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-884 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Parks and Recreation: Billy Contracting and Restoration, Inc., for the purpose of providing the replacement of Wheeler Park Pool House Demolition and new Construction, City of Linden, County of Union New Jersey, in the amount not to exceed \$1,971,000.00 (Union County Engineering Project #2014-029)

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-885 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award Kids Recreation Trust Fund 2017 grants to twenty (20) recipients in the County of Union in accordance with the Kids Recreation Trust grant criteria, as stated in said grant application, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-886 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award Greening Union County 2017 grants to (16) municipalities in the County of Union in accordance with the Greening Union County grant criteria, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, in an amount not to exceed \$100,301.75.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-887 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award Preserve Union County 2017 grants to eleven (11) historic sites throughout the County of Union, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00; in conjunction with and for the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-888 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to A&A Fitness, Inc. d/b/a The Max of Springfield, Union, New Jersey, to provide physical and nutritional administration services to the Union County Sheriff's Office and County of Union employee participants for a period of 12 months from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 for a total not to exceed \$40,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-889 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Amending Resolution Number 2017-539, to increase the appropriation to Kologi Simitz of Linden, NJ in the matter entitled Marissa Taylor-Munger v. UC, et als. in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 for a sum not to exceed \$40,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-890 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with the Union County Performing Arts Center, 1601 Irving Street, Rahway, New Jersey. 07065 to provide services necessary for the production and execution of American Historical Theater's production of Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton: Conflict and the Constitution. Developed to provide education through entertainment, the County of Union will be sponsoring this program for select middle school students throughout the County of Union. This program will include up to eight (8) performances at the UCPAC in Rahway at a cost not to exceed \$60,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

#### **FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS**

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- 2017-891 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Congratulating the Calvary Baptist Church of Plainfield upon their 120th Anniversary celebration on November 18, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-892 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Patricia A. Hobson upon her passing.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-893 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA, VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Congratulating Overlook Medical Center at Union Hospital upon their 10th anniversary celebration on October 23, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-894 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Congratulating Edward J. Kologi, Esq. for being honored by the Union County Bar Association.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-895 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Jeffrey Krowicki, manager of the Krowick McCracken Funeral Home upon his passing.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-896 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Congratulating Judi Laganga upon her retirement from Rutgers Cooperative Extension - Union County for 18 years of outstanding service and wishing her a happy and healthy retirement.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-897 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA, FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Extending the Board's congratulations to the Cranford Fire Department upon its 125th anniversary celebration of continuous service on October 15, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-898 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Proclaiming the Month of November Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month throughout the County of Union.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-899 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT & FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Extending the Board's commendation to Brenda Bayley of Hillside for crocheting 6,000 pink Breast Cancer Awareness symbols in the shape of a ribbon and handing them out at the Annual Breast Cancer Walk in Newark.



On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-900 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT, FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER, FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA & FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Congratulating Kim Nesbitt Good for being honored at the 5th Anniversary Celebration of Union County Fatherhood Initiative as Founder and Community Leader.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-901 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS, FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA & FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Congratulating Chris Nunes of Troop 101/Pack 101, Our Lady of Fatima Church, Elizabeth, upon attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-902 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS & FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA:** Congratulating Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey- Girl Scout Troops 40409 and 40608 of Our Lady of Fatima Church upon its 40th anniversary.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-903 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS & FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA:** Congratulating the award recipients of the Hispanic Law Enforcement Association of Union County at its 26th Anniversary Gala.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-904 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Proclaiming November 17, 2017 as Adoption Day throughout the County of Union.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-905 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating the recipients of the 2017 Community Access awards at their annual Gala on November 2, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

- 2017-906 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Extending the Board's gratitude and appreciation to Paul Pienciak who spearheaded the shadow box project as part of the Freeholder HERO Initiative (Veterans); and further acknowledging the efforts of Thomas Ryan, George Labruzzo and Vincent Paparella of the County's Carpenter shop and Christopher Paparella from Print Services.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

**2017-907 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Union County Social Service employee and Credit Union Board member, Tonya Jeter upon her passing.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

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### **MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES**

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Freeholder Estrada requested the opportunity to cast a vote on Ordinance Number 788-2017.

Chairman Bergen called for a motion to suspend the rules. On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Carter, a voice vote showed nine (9) members voting in the affirmative.

Chairman Bergen opened the floor for Freeholder Estrada to cast a vote on Ordinance Number 788-2018. Freeholder Estrada cast his vote in the affirmative.

Chairman opened the meeting up to the public to comments on any matter.

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### **PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION**

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

There were no comments made by the public on any matters. Seeing no speakers, Chairman Bergen closed the public comment portion.

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### **FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

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Freeholder Hudak thanked the Board for its support on Resolution Number 784-2017, which will replace Wheeler Park Pool with a Spray Park; noting that the pool has been servicing residents since 1931 and has witnessed a significant decline (in infrastructure) and became a costly maintenance expense over the past 15 years. He commented on the proposed plan, which includes 33 above ground attractions; inclusive of, but not limited to, a water cannon, dump buckets, a slide, a dragon, a spray buss, a pirate ship and a surf shack. He also noted that the Spray Park will include 26 surface sprays; inclusive of, but not limited to, water jets and geysers. He advised that demolition begins next month and was hopeful the construction would be completed in the summer of 2018. He stated he was grateful for the County's \$2 million in the City of Linden.

Freeholder Jalloh thanked the Board for its support on Resolution Number 890-2017, which funds a debate between Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton. He noted the historical, educational and theatrical benefits of the program (for middle school students) and commended the Board on its partnership with the Union County Performing Arts Center.

He advised that the production would be put on by the renowned American Historical Theatre.

Freeholder Wright made comments relative to the opportunity of early voting by using the Vote By Mail ballot. She advised that early voting is a simple and convenient way to ensure participation in Election Day.

Freeholder Kowalski made comments relative to volunteer opportunities for people to assist the Union County Rape Crisis Center. She stated that the Rape Crisis Center has been part of the County's Department of Human Services since 1984 and its mission is to provide advocates for victims of sexual violence as they sort through the medical, legal and emotional issues confronting them.

Freeholder Kowalski thanked all the grant recipients for attending the evening's meeting. She made comments relative to the importance of these grant opportunities. She thanked the volunteers of the Public Advisory Committee for their work in reviewing all the applications and for making recommendations to the Board. She thanked Michael Yesenko for his dedication to the Public Advisory Committee and to historical preservation in Union County.

Freeholder Carter made comments congratulating Union County Police Officer Matthew A. Schaible on graduating from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms (ATF) and Explosives National Firearms Examiner Academy. She advised that the ATF is a year-long course, noting that Officer Schaible was one of eleven national graduates.

Freeholder Carter made comments relative to joining with the City of Plainfield (with fellow Freeholders) on the official groundbreaking for the new sport facilities in Cedar Brook Park. She advised that two new turf fields were being installed for soccer, lacrosse and football. She thanked Mayor Adrian Mapp and Assemblyman Jerry Green for their cooperation with the Freeholder Board on this much needed project. She advised that construction was expected to begin in November and be completed by the summer of 2018.

Freeholder Estrada apologized for being late and noted that he was at a middle school celebration of Hispanic Heritage month in Plainfield. He congratulated the coordinators of the program. Freeholder Estrada congratulated County Manager Faella on being recognized by the Elizabeth UNICO as its Man of the Year.

Freeholder Mirabella noted that he was proud to be a part of County Manager Faella's UNICO celebration, noting that County Manager Faella gave an exceptional speech.

Freeholder Mirabella made comments relative to the upcoming fall events in Union County; commenting on the Sensory Friendly Theatre's acrobatic group GALUMPHA's performance at the UCPAC, the County's annual Stroll and Roll event at Echo Lake Park, and the annual Mineral, Gem and Jewelry show at Trailside Nature & Science Center.

Freeholder Mirabella made comments on the upcoming election, and noted his confidence in the electorate in re-electing Freeholders Estrada and Hudak. He stated that both Freeholder Estrada and Freeholder Hudak are leaders within the community. He made comments relative to Peter Corvelli, stating that he would do a fine job as Sheriff. He made

comments relative to his excitement regarding Chairman Bergen's Assembly candidacy and wished him well in the closing days of his competitive campaign.

County Manager Faella thanked the Board for their support relative to his honor by the Elizabeth UNICO. He thanked the Board for its unanimous support for the new Human Services Director, and officially welcomed Debbie-Ann Anderson to the Union County family. He thanked Deputy Director Karen Dinsmore for serving as acting director since Director Guzzo's official retirement.

Vice Chairman Granados made comments relative to a new grant opportunity for municipalities: "Level the Playing Field"; a grant program that will help the municipalities improve access to local playgrounds for all children and their families with special needs. He noted that there are approximately 30,000 individuals with special needs in Union County, and noted the importance to ensure all residents have an equal stake to enjoy recreational opportunities throughout the County.

Chairman Bergen made comments relative to the groundbreaking ceremony of the Watchung Sensory Trail; the first trail of its kind in Union County that enables everyone to enjoy healthy outdoor activities together, regardless of age or capability. He provided an overview of the Sensory Trail, which included braille elements, guide ropes, a central gazebo and talking kiosks. Chairman Bergen made comments relative to the Board's commitment to include all county residents in the county's recreation programming, and stated that it underscores the county's commitment to equality, dignity and well-being of all Union County residents and visitors.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Carter, a voice vote showed nine (9) members of the Board voted in the affirmative. Meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm.

## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2017 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, 6<sup>th</sup> 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 7:00 pm 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.

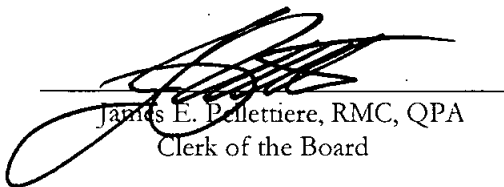
### REORGANIZATION MEETING - SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2017 AT 12:00 NOON ASSIGNMENT JUDGE KAREN M. CASSIDY'S COURTROOM, 2 BROAD STREET, ELIZABETH, NJ

#### AGENDA SETTING SESSIONS

January 19, 2017  
February 2, 2017  
February 23, 2017  
March 2, 2017  
March 16, 2017  
April 6, 2017  
April 20, 2017  
May 4, 2017  
May 25, 2017  
June 1, 2017  
June 15, 2017  
July 13, 2017  
August 10, 2017  
September 7, 2017  
September 28, 2017  
October 5, 2017  
October 19, 2017  
November 9, 2017  
November 30, 2017  
December 14, 2017

#### REGULAR MEETINGS

January 26, 2017  
February 9, 2017  
February 23, 2017  
March 9, 2017  
March 23, 2017  
April 13, 2017  
April 27, 2017  
May 18, 2017  
May 25, 2017  
June 8, 2017  
June 22, 2017  
July 20, 2017  
August 17, 2017  
September 14, 2017  
September 28, 2017  
October 12, 2017  
October 26, 2017  
November 21, 2017  
December 7, 2017  
December 21, 2017



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