

REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2016

5:00 PM

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item

1. CALL TO ORDER BY DIRECTOR at 5:01 PM

2. ROLL CALL Freeholder Crabb, Freeholder Lazzaro, Freeholder Rose, Freeholder Vohden; Freeholder Director Graham, Acting County Administrator, Ron Tappan; County Counsel, John Williams; Clerk of the Board, Catherine M. Williams

3. MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

4. PUBLIC STATEMENT

"Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 Adequate Notice as defined by Section 3D of Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, has been made by regular mail, such notice being submitted on January 7, 2016 from the Administrative Center of the County of Sussex, located at One Spring Street, Newton, New Jersey to the following:

New Jersey Herald	WSUS Radio
New Jersey Sunday Herald	WNNJ Radio
Star Ledger	

and is also posted on the bulletin board maintained in the Administrative Center for public announcements and has been submitted to the Sussex County Clerk in compliance with said Act."

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION made by Freeholder Rose to amend agenda, seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro and passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Freeholder Rose to move # 15 Financial to follow # 9 Freeholder Comments, seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro and passed unanimously

MOTION made by Freeholder Rose to Table 13. A & 13. B seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro and passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Freeholder Rose to change 15. E to read Wednesday, May 11, 2016 5 PM for Public Hearing, seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro and passed unanimously.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A.

PUBLIC HEARING – 5:00 PM

**RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE CLERK OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN
170-2016 FREEHOLDERS TO PROVIDE NOTICE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.
40A:12-13.5 ET SEQ. FOR THE LEASE OF COUNTY REAL
PROPERTIES COMMONLY KNOWN AS PART OF LOT 2, BLOCK 23
IN THE TOWNSHIP OF FRANKFORD AT THE CORNER OF COUNTY
ROUTE 655 (MORRIS TURNPIKE) AND MORRIS AVENUE**

MOTION to open Public Hearing made by Freeholder Vohden, seconded by Freeholder Rose and pass unanimously.

Is anyone present to be heard regarding this lease of County real properties?

Mr. Richard Lecher, CEO of SCARC, Inc. came forward and spoke briefly in favor of the resolution. SCARC is pursuing to take over an operation of the two houses on the Knoll Properties in Frankford. They have received numerous state approvals to proceed with this and they need the county to venture into a lease with SCARC to release the properties.

Paul Valerio, is an adjacent neighbor to Knoll Shared Housing project. He said we are very much in favor of SCARC taking over these properties. He wanted to know if there would be any changes to buildings themselves and to the property. There have been some rumors that they were going to add on to connect the two buildings.

County Counsel said that that there will not be any changes.

Mr. Valerio said at the time that these were being built no one would listen to our concerns and everything that could go wrong with this project went wrong. No one listened to us; we are just tax payers and please keep that in mind for other projects that the county may come across. He also said he doesn't think SCARC knows what they are getting into. I watched these buildings go up and I have been in the building trades for 35 years and I have never seen anything built this poorly in my life. I know SCARC runs a top notch operation.

Ernest Hoffa, Board Member of Sparta Ecumenical Council for senior housing. I am on the finance and planning committee and a resident of Sparta. He said he is the previous leasee of the property and we are handling the sale of these two buildings. I don't know how to react to the last comments and I am willing to sit down and talk with you. This is the first that I am hearing of them.

I am here to support SCARC in their undertaking to request your support in favorable consideration of the resolution and this is a win win for many different bodies including SCARC, the community, the governmental disability community, the county and Sparta Ecumenical Council. He said he would be very pleased to answer any questions that may come up.

Jim Drew came forward and is a resident of Lafayette Township and we have three of the SCARC group homes operating. I cannot speak highly enough about them. I want to ask you for your support. My granddaughter who is 14 with multiple disabilities and who may be in need of housing arrangements in the future so I encourage your support in this.

Mike Dolan resides in Frankford Township and he said he is a strong supporter of SCARC and I support this project. SCARC has been good neighbors in Frankford Township

Gary Larsen came forward who is also a member of the SCARC Foundation Board and I can only echo what others have said and we are very happy to have SCARC coming in for a transition with these buildings rather than having them sit there dormant. They will be used in a very appropriate manner. SCARC has a terrific professional reputation with handling their group homes and I am excited that Richard and the rest of the Board are headed in that direction and keep them going.

MOTION that the Public Hearing be closed made by Freeholder Rose, seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro and passed unanimously.

B.

PUBLIC HEARING – 5:00 PM

**FINAL ADOPTION – RESOLUTION
171-2016**

Freeholder Director Graham: "At our regular meeting held on March 23, 2016, we introduced for first reading the following Resolution which was advertised in the New Jersey Herald issue of March 25, 2016, together with a Notice of Public Hearing stating it would be held at this meeting at 5:00 PM:

**AUTHORIZING CAP TO LIMIT COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION
INCREASE IN CY 2016 COUNTY BUDGET TO 3.5% OVER THE PREVIOUS
YEAR'S FINAL APPROPRIATIONS SUBJECT TO CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS
AND TO ESTABLISH AN APPROPRIATION CAP BANK**

MOTION that the Public Hearing be opened made by Freeholder Lazzaro, seconded by Freeholder Rose and passed unanimously.

Is anyone present to be heard regarding this Resolution?

MOTION that the Public Hearing be closed made by Freeholder Vohden, seconded by Freeholder Rose and passed unanimously.

MOTION that this Resolution be finally adopted made by Freeholder Crabb, seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Lazzaro	Yes
Freeholder Rose	Yes
Freeholder Vohden	Yes
Freeholder Director Graham	Yes

MOTION to authorize the Clerk to advertise this Resolution as finally adopted, and also post same on the bulletin board in the lobby of the County Administrative Center made by Freeholder Lazzaro, seconded by Freeholder Rose and passed unanimously.

7. PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES/PRESENTATIONS

A. Proclamations

1. Proclamation for Joseph DeVito for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.
172-2016
2. Proclamation for Jonathan Iannuzzi for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.
173-2016
3. Proclamation for Zachary Kerwin Kayal for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.
174-2016
4. Proclamation in recognition of April 10-16, 2016 as being "Sussex County Crime Victims' Rights Week".
175-2016
5. Proclamation in recognition of April as being "Sexual Assault Awareness Month".
176-2016
6. Proclamation in recognition of April as being "Child Abuse Prevention Month".
177-2016
7. Proclamation in recognition of April 10-16, 2016 as being "Volunteer Appreciation Week".
178-2016
8. Proclamation in recognition of April as being "Autism Awareness Month".
179-2016
9. Proclamation in recognition of April 15, 2016 as being "Wear Purple Day".
180-2016

8. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR

Please Note: Everyone is asked to keep their comments to 5 minutes or less. Please state your name, spell your last name, and state your municipal residency.

MOTION made at 5:42 PM to open the floor by Freeholder Lazzaro, seconded by Freeholder Rose and passed unanimously.

Comment from Gary Larson

Mr. Larson resides in Frankford Township and is the Fairgrounds Manager. He said he came forward on March 23rd., and discussed with the Board a temporary food handlers license and an additional fee that has been put upon by the county and I spoke at length of this fee and I had asked at the end of my comment that I would appreciate you getting back to me with some information. Sadly, I have not gotten any information from the Freeholders. So I am back again to ask you to look into this fee that is being placed upon temporary food vendors. This was adopted back in 2010 and it was never implemented until 2015 so that was five years that it sat dormant. In April of last year it came out and it became a \$50 fee on top of what each township charges a vender. If you also remember each township applies their fees then those fees are applied to the county for the county to come out and be the enforcing agent. The county is already being paid for the job they are doing by the townships through the fees that are being collected through the county taxes that are being paid by the townships. The implementation of the \$50 by the county as far as I can see it is a double dip. What I am asking you specifically is if you could look into why this was adopted in 2010, and why it was only implemented in April of 2015, why did it sit dormant for five years. I would also like to know how much revenue did the county gain from this last year and I would also hope that you would look at this as a Freeholder Board and consider rescinding this particular fee that is being put on the small business vendors. Last week I have been helping coordinate a rodeo for the fire department and the individual who is setting this up went through the process and contacted me when she found out there was an additional fee and she wanted to know why. I explained to her that I asking the Freeholders to look into this.

Freeholder Director Graham said we are looking into it. With the budget being fore front, it got pushed to the side. I did speak with the treasurer on this and we will be addressing it. We will have an answer back to you.

Mr. Larson said I understand Freeholder, but it has been three weeks since I asked these questions and there are vendors that are constantly coming in to move forward with the different events that they are doing. This is not just at the fairgrounds, it is throughout the county. It covers everywhere. I still think three weeks is ample time to get some type of feedback or even the response you gave me now. Thank you for looking into it and I appreciate everything you are doing.

Comment from Harvey Dunleavy

Mr. Dunleavy had a comment about the Autism week. He said years ago I chaired a committee to raise funds for Autism and we got most of the money by writing letters to people who own businesses and could afford it and I think for the present it might be a good idea as well. I have volunteered at Waterloo Village assisting with mathematics and I volunteered as a mathematics teacher at the juvenile center. He said the last time I was here there was a bit of a laugh when I said republicans are notorious for wasting money. Again, we have the \$500,000 fee for the attorney and I don't know what it will achieve. He asked Freeholder Vohden if 19 homes were up for auctions.

Freeholder Vohden said it is a process and they do it every Wednesday.

Mr, Dunleavy said the real reason that we have problems in Sussex County is the taxes and the number one cancer regarding taxes is the local school boards. There are 27 school boards in Sussex County with all kinds of fancy titles and yet does anybody from this Freeholder Board say anything about that waste of money? He said I think Mr. Vohden does. My point is I think we are spending good money after bad by spending \$500,000 for the investigation.

Comment from John Snyder

Mr. Snyder from Sandyston said I have asked the Freeholders to put on the Agenda to have an open forum to explain to the public what exactly is happening with the solar project. There was an article in the Sunday Herald about it. I really think the public is due. I have been asking the past three meetings for one.

Comment from Sylvia Opresnick

Ms. Opresnick, Sparta, NJ announced that on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 7 pm at the Franklin Fire House in Franklin will have mini groups such as the Highlands Coalition, the NJ Sierra Club and other members and experts and scientists will be there to present an opposing view on some of the science that was presented in the Forest Stewardship Plan that the DEP and the NJ Audubon Society have set forth. She said I know facts are something that you were looking for and she read four facts.

Comment from Herman Terpstra

Mr. Terpstra from Sussex said as a volunteer I want to thank you for honoring us but we need more volunteers.

MOTION at 6:00 PM to close the floor to the public made by Freeholder Lazzaro, seconded by Freeholder Rose and passed unanimously.

9. FREEHOLDERS' COMMENTS

Comments by Freeholder Vohden

- **Ernie Kosa Veterans Center**

Freeholder Vohden and Freeholder Crabb attended the Ribbon Cutting ceremony for The Kosa Veteran Support Center Franklin. The event was well attended by a large group of veterans and elected officials. Many nice things were said about Ernie.

- **Advance Housing, Inc.**

Freeholder Vohden said this organization is geared towards helping all individuals with disabilities to live independently in a community. They have a homeless service team, supportive living program, and residential intelligence intensive support team, special case management groups, all to provide services for all Sussex County residents. This is another non-profit group making Sussex a better place to live.

Comments by Freeholder Crabb

Freeholder Crabb said he agrees with Mr. Snyder and he wouldn't mind having an open forum in regard to the solar project. Until such time, he said he would be glad to address any of the questions he might have. I can give you a crystal clear mile post as to how we got to where we are now. He said there is progress. He went through the projects and their status.

Comments by Freeholder Rose

- **Solar Project**

Freeholder Rose said on March 30, 2016 the post installation was completed at Hardyston Board of Education. There was an issue with the panels in the warehouse but that has been resolved and they will begin installing them soon. The rest of the projects are still in the paperwork phase and slowly moving forward.

Freeholder Crabb asked if we are doing anything from our perspective in terms of reaching out to them. Have we taken any initiative with these projects?

Discussion ensued by the Board.

County Counsel said there is no easy answer. Each one has its own set of issues. The ones that we are directly involved in are the ones that we are the local unit on.

Comments by Freeholder Lazzaro

Mr. Lazzaro gave a hearty thank you to everyone for their thoughts and prayers while he was recovering from surgery.

Comments by Freeholder Graham

- **Forum for Solar**

Freeholder Graham said a forum on solar is difficult to do. He said there are thousands of facts online and you can get them. There is nothing that we have held back. He said no one is holding back facts. He said he has no objection of putting it all out there because it is all out there now.

- **SCCC**

Freeholder Graham said the school is vibrant and alive. They are meeting their challenges. I strongly support the college. I give my support to the college.

15. FINANCIAL

- A. RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF THE 2016 COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND LEVY
181-2016
- B. RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF 2016 LIBRARY BUDGET AND CERTIFICATION OF 2016 LIBRARY TAX LEVY
182-2016
- C. RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF 2016 COUNTY HEALTH BUDGET AND CERTIFICATION OF 2016 HEALTH TAX LEVY
183-2016
- D. RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF THE 2016 BUDGET OF THE DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
184-2016

MOTION to adopt the resolutions made by Freeholder Vohden, seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Lazzaro	Yes
Freeholder Rose	Yes
Freeholder Vohden	Yes
Freeholder Director Graham	Yes

E.

INTRODUCTION OF 2016 COUNTY BUDGET FOR FIRST READING

Freeholder Director Graham: "The 2016 Sussex County Budget is being introduced for First Reading at this time and awaits approval by the Board. The 2016 Sussex County Budget Revenues and Appropriations Summary will be advertised in the New Jersey Herald issue of April 15, 2016.

RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF THE 2016 COUNTY BUDGET AS PRESENTED FOR 185-2016 VOTE

MOTION to adopt this Resolution on first reading Freeholder Rose, seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro

Discussion

Mr. Raymond Sarinelli, County Auditor, made a brief presentation with some statistics and facts about the budget.

County Treasurer, Rob Maikis, went over the revenue section and capital improvements, county debt service, deferred charges and statutory expenditures. The main drivers for these are the pensions for PERS and police and fire.

Mr. Sarinelli said as Rob mentioned the total budget is a little over a \$109 million and the increase for this year is a little over \$4 million. He said he broke that down between the operating part of the budget and the solar part of the budget. The operating part of the \$4 million increase is \$1.3 million; 1.62 % of the budget and the solar part \$ 2.7 million; 3.9% of the budget.

Mr. Sarinelli said the increases of the last four years were in 2013 .15%; 2014, 1.59%; 2015 .97; 2016, 4.01%; the average for the four years is 1.77%.

Mr. Sarinelli said the largest line item is the health insurance which is up about \$1.4 million and the pension expense is up \$300,000.

Mr. Sarinelli said there are 21 counties in New Jersey and Sussex County is the seventh from the bottom so Sussex County would be the seventh lowest in the state. He said you are at the bottom third for the average tax payer.

Mr. Sarinelli said there will be a full power point presentation at the Budget Hearing and you can ask your questions at that time.

On Roll Call the Vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Lazzaro	Yes
Freeholder Rose	Yes
Freeholder Vohden	Yes
Freeholder Director Graham	Yes

MOTION to authorize the Clerk to advertise the Budget Revenues and Appropriations Summary as introduced for first reading, and also post same on the bulletin board in the lobby of the County Administrative Center, together with a Notice of Public Hearing stating that a Hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held in the Freeholder Meeting Room, County Administrative Center, One Spring Street, Newton, New Jersey on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 5:00 P.M., at which time and place objections to said Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2016 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons." Made by Freeholder Lazzaro; seconded by Freeholder Rose and passed unanimously.

**E. RESOLUTION RE: PAYMENT OF BILLS
186-2016**

MOTION to adopt the payment of bills made by Freeholder Crabb; seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Rose	Abstain
Freeholder Vohden	Yes
Freeholder Director Graham	Yes

10. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE ENTRY INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PRIME HEALTHCARE SERVICES - SAINT CLARE'S LLC FOR PROVISION OF AMBULANCE TRANSPORT SERVICES FOR INMATES OF THE KEOGH-DWYER CORRECTIONAL FACILITY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i)
187-2016

B. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE ENTRY INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PRIME HEALTHCARE SERVICES - SAINT CLARE'S LLC, FOR THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL CARE TO INMATES OF THE KEOGH-DWYER CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
188-2016

C. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE ENTRY INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PRIME HEALTHCARE SERVICES - SAINT CLARE'S LLC FOR PROVISION OF RADIOLOGY SERVICES TO THE INMATES OF THE KEOGH-DWYER CORRECTIONAL FACILITY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i)
189-2016

- D. RESOLUTION RE AUTHORIZING THE ENTRY INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PRIME HEALTHCARE SERVICES - SAINT CLARE'S LLC FOR PROVISION OF LABORATORY AND PHLEBOTOMY SERVICES TO THE INMATES OF THE KEOGH-DWYER CORRECTIONAL FACILITY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i)
190-2016
- D. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DIVISION OF FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SENIOR FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 1, 2016 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2016
191-2016
- E. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO APPROVE BUDGET MODIFICATION #1 TO THE 2015-2016 HEALTH SERVICE GRANT FOR THE PROVISION OF CANCER EDUCATION AND EARLY DETECTION (NJCEED) ISSUED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
192-2016
- F. RESOLUTION RE: PAYMENT OF INSURANCE DEDUCTIBLE COST IN LITIGATION ENTITLED CAROL NOVRIIT V. COUNTY OF SUSSEX
193-2016
- G. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR STATE FY 2017 ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVISION OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO SUSSEX COUNTY VETERANS
194-2016
- I. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE A REVISED APPLICATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016 ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (ATP) STATE AID PROJECT POOL FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR AND BOARD CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR STATE AID TO COUNTIES UNDER THE NEW JERSEY TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND AUTHORITY ACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,470,100.00 FOR FY 2016
195-2016

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Sussex has reviewed the Consent Agenda consisting of various proposed Resolutions and determined that adoption of the said Resolutions is in and will further the public interest.

MOTION to adopt the Resolutions made by Freeholder Crabb; seconded by Freeholder Vohden

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Lazzaro	Yes
Freeholder Rose	Yes
Freeholder Vohden	Yes
Freeholder Director Graham	Yes

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting – March 23, 2016

MOTION to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 23, 2016 made by Freeholder Crabb; seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro and passed unanimously.

12. APPOINTMENTS AND/OR RESIGNATIONS

A. Appointments

1. RESOLUTION RE: AMENDING THE APPOINTMENT OF LISA CHAMMINGS TO SECOND ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY PLANNING BOARD FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM. SAID TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2018
196-2016

MOTION to adopt the resolution made by Freeholder Lazzaro; seconded by Freeholder Vohden and passed unanimously.

B. Resignations

1. Resignation of Joseph C. Inga from the position of Alternate for the Fire Sub Code/Fire Official on the Board of Appeals.

13. RESOLUTION

- A. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A PERMANENT LICENSE TO RETAIN APPURTENANCES AND PERFORM MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES FOR BRIDGE C-17 ON PROPERTY WITHIN THE "LACKAWANNA CUTOFF" IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 ET SEQ.
TABLED
- B. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX TO ENTER INTO AN ACCESS AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR TEMPORARY ACCESS TO PROPERTY WITHIN THE "LACKAWANNA CUTOFF" FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGE C-17 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 ET SEQ.
TABLED
- C. RESOLUTION RE: PROVIDING TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CR 630 IN BRANCHVILLE BOROUGH
197-2016

MOTION made by Freeholder Crabb to adopt the resolution; seconded by Freeholder Vohden and pass unanimously.

14. AWARDS OF CONTRACTS/CHANGE ORDERS/BIDS

NONE

15. FINANCIAL

Moved up in the agenda

16. PERSONNEL

A. Personnel Agenda

MOTION made by Freeholder Vohden to accept the Personnel Agenda; seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro and passed unanimously.

17. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

A. Other

Mr. Tappan thanked the Board for the opportunity to be Acting Administrator and thanked family and friends who attended his swearing in. He said it was very humbling. He said in his first week he has been busy, he revamped the phone systems to make it more efficient and stream lined.

He contacted all municipal clerks, town managers, SCCC, Assembly members; etc. and introduced himself and gave out contact information. He said Sarah Balanzo and he went to a Chamber of Commerce meeting to meet about Sussex County Day which is scheduled for May 1st. Tammie Horsfield will be at our meeting next week to do a presentation and a Proclamation will be done establishing May 1st as Sussex County Day and said he was very privileged to attend the opening of the veterans support center.

18. COUNTY COUNSEL

- A. Capital Projects
- B. Litigation
- C. Contract
- D. Other Matters

Mr. Williams had a comment on OPRA, the Open Public Records' Act. This is a statute and it is answered pursuant to applicable law meaning that statute in any case law that interprets it. The Freeholders don't make those decisions whether it is an OPRA or not. It is done under the law and through my office and through the Records Custodian.

19. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

20. NEW BUSINESS

None

21. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR

**Please Note: Everyone is asked to keep their comments to 5 minutes or less.
Please state your name, spell your last name, and state your municipal
residency**

MOTION made at 6:42 PM to open the floor to the public by Freeholder Crabb; seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro and passed unanimously.

Comment by Harvey Roseff

Mr. Roseff from Byram came forward and said being seventh from the bottom in New Jersey is not too good. New Jersey is not sporting any financial health. We can play with statistics and make the numbers look how we want but we should strive to do a lot better. I think we should put this into prospective. There were a lot of number given to us but we don't know what went on with the budget and I would encourage Mr. Tappan to give us a feel for what is in the budget. What is changing? For example the healthcare, did you just pass the increase to the tax payers or maybe you should get off the Cadillac plans and lessen the burdens. I would like to know those things. I look forward to that next meeting. The other thing is that we have been invited to get to know the solar program and there is some thinking that the public has been informed with documents and concepts. I have never heard an argument as to why we made a payment. That has never been discussed in public. It has never been discussed why we are bailing out Sunlight. It is all in the back room. The public has not been told why we have to bail out Sunlight. Sunlight was the developer and they had a conflict with Mastec not Sussex. In fact Sussex went through the court and won all the cases when they tried to reach in to our pockets. I haven't heard whether the budget for the buildout is being well spent. The engineering plans keep getting changed. This was supposed to be settled five years ago. Five years ago we bonded this and we were told where these solar bonds were to go. Last year we were told we are going to make all the payments. We are going to bailout Sunlight and we are through with this. I think we should see Sunlight in this room. We also have a contract with the Morris Improvement Authority. Where are they?

Comment by Harry Dunleavy

Mr. Dunleavy said after listening to this man, it is totally disgusting what happened with this Sunlight thing and the solar fiasco and we had three people resign. The treasurer, the attorney and the county manager and then this Board had the audacity to appoint the manager to the County College Board after the mess that he made here. It is no wonder that the tax payers will be annoyed. What was the previous attorney doing that he allowed this whole mess?

Comment by John Snyder

Mr. Snyder said the reason why I used the word fiasco is because I read in the newspaper that the upper Wallkill sewage treatment plant is paying 6.6 cents per kilowatt hour and in Lafayette at the landfill they are paying 7.8 cents per kilowatt hour and the projection that the rates for the county for the solar project is 9.9 cents per kilowatt hour. It seems to me if we are looking at lower rates what is the future if we are looking 9.9 cents. I am not convinced solar is the way to go especially when you need 30% subsidy from government. I believe individual business should make it on their own.

MOTION made at 6:51 PM to close the floor to the public by Freeholder Lazzaro; seconded by Freeholder Rose and passed unanimously.

22. EXECUTIVE SESSION – (Closed Session – If Applicable)

No items for this evening.

RESOLUTION RE: PROVIDING FOR AN EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 ET SEQ.

WHEREAS, the subject matter(s) about to be discussed may be excluded from the public portion of the meeting by Resolution of the Board of Chosen Freeholders as an exception to the “Open Public Meetings Act” pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b);_and

WHEREAS, it appears necessary for the Board of Chosen Freeholders to discuss such matter(s) in Executive Session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Sussex, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) and N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 that the Board at this time enter into an Executive Session from which the public shall be excluded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the general nature of the subject(s) to be discussed relate to the following item(s) authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) as designated below:

- _____ (1) **Matters Required by Law to be Confidential:**
- _____ (2) **Matters Where the Release of Information Would Impair the Right to Receive Funds:**
- _____ (3) **Matters Involving Individual Privacy:**
- _____ (4) **Matters Relating to Collective Bargaining Agreements:**
- _____ (5) **Matters Relating to the Purchase, Lease of Acquisition of Real Property or the Investment of Public Funds:**
- _____ (6) **Matters Relating to Public Safety and Property:**
- _____ (7) **Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations and the Attorney Client Privilege:**
- _____ (8) **Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship:**
- _____ (9) **Matters Relating to the Potential Imposition of a Penalty:**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders or provided by law that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon completion of the business for which the Board has entered into the Executive Session, the Board shall reconvene and resume its meeting open to the public.

23. REMINDERS

Wednesday April 27, 2016 Regular Meeting – 6:00 PM

24. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made at 7:52 PM by Freeholder Rose to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Freeholder Lazzaro and passed unanimously.

DATED: April 13, 2016

Catherine M. Williams
Clerk of the Board