

REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2010

5:00 PM

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item

1. **CALL TO ORDER BY DIRECTOR** at 5:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:** Freeholder Crabb; Freeholder Space; Freeholder Zellman;
Freeholder Zeoli; Freeholder Director Parrott; John
Eskilson, County Administrator; Dennis McConnell, County
Counsel;
Elaine Morgan, Clerk

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 6, 2010 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. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

There were no Public Hearings.

6. **PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES/PRESENTATIONS**

A. Proclamations and Certificates

1. Certificate for the New Jersey Herald in recognition of its spirit of community and desire to assist those in need through its continuing coverage of the "Champions for Charity" food drives hosted by Sussex County high schools.

389-2010

2. Certificate for Jerry "Mugs" Morelli in recognition of his spirit of community and desire to assist those in need through the continuing coverage by "Mugs Media L.L.C." of the "Champions for Charity" food drives hosted by Sussex County high schools.

390-2010

3. Certificate designating June 30, 2010 as "National Literacy Day".

391-2010

MOTION made by Freeholder Zellman to approve these Certificates, seconded by Freeholder Zeoli and passed unanimously.

B. Presentations

1. Presentation by Bill Steckowich and Lisa Chammings regarding the Susquehanna- Roseland 500kV Overhead Electric Transmission Line Project.

Lisa Chammings, Stillwater, came forward; she said the reason she and Mr. Steckowich were here, was to address some of the concerns regarding the transmission line project.

Mr. Steckowich and Ms. Chammings provided the Board with copies of each of their power point presentations (copies on file in the Clerk of the Board's Office).

Freeholder Zellman asked what group they were representing.

Ms. Chammings said that were not representing any group, just concerned citizens; she said they were asking the Freeholder Board if it had an interest to assist them.

Ms. Chammings presented her power point; discussed were "corona ions" and its associated concerns, and studies done in the United Kingdom and the World Health Organization; highlighted were precedents regarding high voltage power lines; Ms. Chammings also discussed environmental concerns, aesthetics, noise concerns, property values, and road and bridge concerns.

Mr. Steckowich, came forward; he discussed efforts by environmentalist groups to bring a contested power line project to court; also highlighted were scoping meetings that were held, PSE&G power lines, how these lines affect the farming industry, and noise factors.

Mr. Steckowich requested that the Freeholder Board hold a public meeting regarding this issue.

Freeholder Parrott thanked Mr. Steckowich and Ms. Chammings for their presentations.

7. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR
(Please note: Everyone is asked to keep their comments to 10 minutes or less)

MOTION made at 5:40 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to open the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Zeoli and passed unanimously.

Comments on Sussex County Community College (SCCC)

Naomi Miller, Middletown, NY, came forward; she said that she felt that she was watching a tragedy, explaining that the tragedy was what was happening to the College from what she described as from the effect of an autocratic and not transparent Board of Trustees; she expressed concern that this could affect the College's future in attracting a good President and faculty; Ms. Miller asked the Freeholder Board to hold a public hearing into the recent activities of the Board of Trustees and commented that it was the Freeholder Board's responsibility.

Mr. McConnell stated that the law provided that the Freeholder Board may remove a Trustee or multiple Trustees for cause; he added that if the Freeholder Board removed one Trustee for cause, the majority of the Trustees who made the decision are still on the Board of Trustees; Mr. McConnell said that the Freeholder Board does not have the authority to reinstate Constance Mierendorf.

Ms. Miller said that she believed that just cause could be found to remove at least one member.

Freeholder Zeoli reiterated that the removal of a Trustee could potentially affect the outcome of Dr. Mierendorf's lawsuit; he said that as long as Dr. Mierendorf was in litigation, he felt that it was inappropriate to try to remove a Trustee who had removed Dr. Mierendorf.

Ms. Miller said that she felt that it was the process followed regarding the termination of Dr. Mierendorf that would constitute just cause for removal of a Trustee.

Hank Pomerantz, Newton, came forward; he said he was a member of the adjunct faculty at the College; Mr. Pomerantz said he presented a number of concerns to the Board of Trustees, of which the Trustees never addressed; he highlighted his concerns, which included OPRA regulations, the Open Public Meeting Act as it relates to the Board of Trustees, and the private use of the College logo; Mr. Pomerantz also discussed the Mercadien Report and the audit; he informed the Freeholder Board that he had five pounds of paperwork clearly showing all of the violations that exist in the process that went on at the College; Mr. Pomerantz said that he hoped the Freeholder Board would take the responsibility to take some action.

Harry Dunleavy came forward; he said that he felt it was the administration that was autocratic and not the Board of Trustees; Mr. Dunleavy said he felt the Freeholder Board handled the situation well.

Tim Lee, Montville, came forward; he expressed his dismay at the dismissal of Dr. Mierendorf and the Board of Trustees.

Dorothy Hartman, Montague, came forward; she read a letter to the Board expressing her concerns regarding the Board of Trustees.

Neda Bavrlie, Blairstown, came forward; she referred to 25,000 tickets to College events that were requested by Kirk Perry, and also, \$90,000.00 that was returned to the County.

Freeholder Parrott referred to the \$90,000.00; he said there was never a written agreement between the College and the County having to do with the funding; there was a verbal statement as to what the County was going to do for the College; with the financial situation that everyone was in, the County asked Mr. Perry if it would be possible to reduce the 4% stipend; it was reduced to 2%, which happens to be \$90,000.00; he added that he could not answer the question regarding the tickets as he did not know anything about that.

Kathy Brennan, Newton, came forward; she said she attended the Board of Trustees meeting the previous evening and there was apparently a problem with the Mercadien Report; it was unclear how the additional money being charged for the report was going to be approved or not approved.

Lake Neepaulin dam

Kathleen Gorman, Wantage, came forward; she said she was present to ask the Freeholders to request Wantage Township to appeal the decision of Judge Bozonelis concerning the Lake Neepaulin dam situation; she said the decision of the Judge impacts the populace of Wantage Township, the County, and the entire State of New Jersey; what Judge Bozonelis has done is allowed for a private corporation or privately owned property to now have the ability to have any repairs to their private property paid for by taxpayers who have nothing to do with that private property; she discussed the Legislation that had allowed for this and also discussed the Legislation that Senator Oroho's office was working on to change this.

There was a brief discussion regarding lake communities and dams.

Comments on Sussex County Community College (SCCC)

Freeholder Parrott asked that in the future, that those attending the Freeholder Meeting to speak on the College, designate one person to speak to avoid redundancy.

MOTION made at 6:34 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to close the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

Freeholder Parrott stated that at this time, the Board would take a short recess.

MOTION made at 6:35 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to recess, seconded by Freeholder Zeoli and passed unanimously.

MOTION made at 6:475 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to reconvene, seconded by Freeholder Zeoli and passed unanimously.

8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. RESOLUTION RE: PAYMENT OF BILLS
392-2010

- B. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACT 10AMUN MODIFICATION #1 WITH THE NJ DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, DIVISION OF YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES FOR A DECREASE OF \$5,555.50 IN FUNDING TO THE SUSSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND A CHANGE OF THE CONTRACT PERIOD END DATE TO JUNE 30, 2010 (Resolution also reflects a reduction of \$1,852.00 in the County required match from \$3,704.00 to \$1,852.00)

- C. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR AND CLERK TO EXECUTE THE FISCAL YEAR 2010 SUBREGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING WORK PROGRAM SUBCONTRACT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND THE NORTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AUTHORITY (Resolution authorizes this subcontract to provide \$54,294.00 in Federal Transportation Planning funds and \$13,573.50 in Sussex County in-kind funds)

- D. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR AND CLERK TO EXECUTE THE FISCAL YEAR 2010 SUPPLEMENTAL SUBREGIONAL STAFF SUPPORT FOR AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) PROJECTS SUBCONTRACT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND THE NORTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AUTHORITY (Resolution authorizes this subcontract to be in effect from October 21, 2009 through June 30, 2010)

- E. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE FOR CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF ENGINEERING (Resolution authorizes the execution of the purchase orders to Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., in the amount of \$51,227.97)

- F. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO ENDORSE A MODIFICATION ALLOWING FOR A NO COST TIME EXTENSION UNTIL September 30 2010 FOR 2007 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT, JAG 1-21LL-07

- G. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN FOR ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SERVICES AS SET FORTH IN THE NJ STATE UNIFORM FIRE CODE REGULATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 ET SEQ.
Pulled from Agenda

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 made by Freeholder Crabb to approve Resolutions 8. A. – 8. F., on the Financial Consent Agenda, seconded by Freeholder Zeoli.

Abstention notation by Freeholder Zeoli

Freeholder Zeoli stated for the record that he would be abstaining on Vendor #4129 on the Payment of Bills List.

Resolution 8. G.

Mr. Eskilson noted for the record that Resolution 8. G. was pulled from the Agenda due to the need to update the State Resolution that was done in 2002 to allow the Enforcing Agency at the County to expand to municipalities; there is no issue involving the Agreement, but rather with a technical issue with the State of New Jersey.

Resolution 8. C.

Freeholder Zellman asked if the money was for a Transportation Planner.

Mr. Eskilson responded yes.

Resolution 8. E.

Freeholder Zellman asked if this was also AARA funding.

Mr. Eskilson said that AARA did not pay for the inspections.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Space	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Zeoli	Yes, abstain Vendor #4129 on the Payment of Bills List
Freeholder Director Parrott	Yes

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES Regular Meeting May 26, 2010

MOTION made by Freeholder Zeoli to approve these minutes, seconded by Freeholder Crabb and passed with Freeholder Space abstaining.

10. APPOINTMENTS AND/OR RESIGNATIONS

A. Appointments

- 1. RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF JOHN H. ESKILSON AS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:9-42
398-2010

2. RESOLUTION RE: AMENDING RESOLUTION ENTITLED
399-2010 "APPOINTMENT OF THREE MEMBERS OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS AS MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL ESTIMATE OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX" ADOPTED JANUARY 1, 2010

MOTION made by Freeholder Zeoli to adopt these Resolutions, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

Comments on Mr. Eskilson's reappointment

The Board offered its congratulations to Mr. Eskilson; Mr. Eskilson thanked the Board on his reappointment and said it was an honor to work with the Board and for the County.

11. RESOLUTIONS

- A. RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL BY THE SUSSEX COUNTY BOARD OF
400-2010 CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY SURROGATE'S FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL PROJECT PLAN
- B. RESOLUTION RE: ESTABLISHING THE RATE FOR COPIES OF PUBLIC
401-2010 RECORDS
- C. RESOLUTION RE: AMENDING RESOLUTION RE: "DIRECTOR'S
402-2010 APPOINTMENTS FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENT LIAISONS AND COMMITTEES" ADOPTED ON JANUARY 1, 2010

MOTION made by Freeholder Space to adopt these Resolutions, seconded by Freeholder Zeoli and passed unanimously.

12. AWARDS OF CONTRACTS/CHANGE ORDERS/BIDS

- A. Awards of Contracts
 1. RESOLUTION RE: RETENTION OF JOSEPH ZIDEK OF COLDWELL
403-2010 BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE, LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKERS TO AUCTION OFF SEVERAL PARCELS OF COUNTY REAL PROPERTY
 2. RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF CONTRACT(S) FOR THE SUPPLY OF
Pulled from CONCRETE AND STRUCTURAL STEEL WORK
Agenda FOR THE WHEATSWORTH ROAD FACILITY FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, DIVISION OF FACILITIES MANAGEMENT
 3. RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR SUSSEX COUNTY
404-2010 HOMESTEAD NURSING HOME WATER SERVICE UPGRADE FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, DIVISION OF FACILITIES MANAGEMENT (Resolution awards this Contract to the only responsible bidder, Ferraro Construction, in the amount of \$376,400.00)
 4. RESOLUTION RE: AWARDED A CONTRACT BASED ON
405-2010 PROPOSALS RECEIVED THROUGH THE COMPETITIVE CONTRACTING PROCESS FOR A

CONSULTANT TO ASSIST IN THE AGRITOURISM/ECOTOURISM MARKETING STRATEGY OF THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX AS REQUIRED UNDER THE (2010) GRANT FOR SAID PURPOSE (Resolution awards this Contract to the only respondent to the proposal process, Union Green, in the amount of \$18,500.00)

5. RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR FIRE ALARM INSTALLATION, REPAIR, SERVICE AND MONITORING SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX (Resolution awards this Contract to the lowest responsible bidder, T&R Alarm Services, Inc., with an open-ended Contract with a minimum expenditure of \$500.00 and a maximum expenditure of \$100,000.00)
406-2010

6. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE ENTRY INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TRC ENVIRONMENTAL CORPORATION FOR THE PROVIDING OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING SERVICES AND REPORTING AT THE LAYTON MAINTENANCE GARAGE AS A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i)
407-2010

MOTION made by Freeholder Zeoli to adopt Resolutions 12. A. 1., and 12. A. 3. – 12. A. 6., seconded by Freeholder Zellman.

Resolution 12. A. 1.

Freeholder Zellman clarified that Mr. Zidek's commission was 5%.

Freeholder Parrott also noted that this contract was also put out for competitive bidding.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Space	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Zeoli	Yes
Freeholder Director Parrott	Yes

13. FINANCIAL

- A. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS OF 2010 OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX
408-2010

- B. RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF 2010 LIBRARY BUDGET AND CERTIFICATION OF 2010 LIBRARY TAX LEVY
409-2010

- C. RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF 2010 COUNTY HEALTH BUDGET AND CERTIFICATION OF 2010 HEALTH TAX LEVY
410-2010

MOTION made by Freeholder Zellman to adopt these Resolutions, seconded by Freeholder Crabb.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Space	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Zeoli	Yes
Freeholder Director Parrott	Yes

Discussion on Public Hearing dates for the Bond Ordinance

Sussex County Treasurer, Bernard Re, came forward; he discussed the Public Hearing that would be needed for this Bond Ordinance; Freeholder Crabb would be unavailable to attend the next scheduled Freeholder Meeting of July 14, 2010; four votes are needed for a Bond Ordinance, and Freeholder Space has indicated that since he has just joined the Board, he will abstain because of the complexity of the action and the amount of dollars involved.

There was a brief discussion regarding possible alternative dates.

The Board agreed to schedule a Freeholder Meeting for Wednesday, July 7, 2010, at 5:00 p.m., and to cancel the Freeholder Meeting for Wednesday, July 14, 2010.

MOTION made by Freeholder Zeoli to cancel the Freeholder Meeting for July 14, 2010, and to schedule a Freeholder Meeting for July 7, 2010, at 5:00 p.m., seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

D.

**INTRODUCTION FOR FIRST READING – BOND ORDINANCE
411-2010**

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BY THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$4,287,150.00 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,083,000.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE COUNTY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

MOTION to adopt this Bond Ordinance on first reading made by Freeholder Crabb, seconded by Freeholder Zeoli.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Space	Abstain
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Zeoli	Yes
Freeholder Director Parrott	Yes

MOTION to authorize the Clerk to advertise this Bond Ordinance 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 will be held on July 7, 2010 at 5:00 pm prior to final adoption of this Bond Ordinance made by Freeholder Zeoli, seconded by Freeholder Crabb and passed unanimously.

E.

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**INTRODUCTION FOR FIRST READING – BOND ORDINANCE
412-2010**

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FUNDS FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN AND BY THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,353,000.00 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,353,000.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE COUNTY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

MOTION to adopt this Bond Ordinance on first reading made by Freeholder Crabb, seconded by Freeholder Zellman.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Space	Abstain
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Zeoli	Yes
Freeholder Director Parrott	Yes

MOTION to authorize the Clerk to advertise this Bond Ordinance 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 will be held on July 7, 2010, at 5:00 pm, or at such other time as designated by County Bond Counsel, prior to final adoption of this Bond Ordinance made by Freeholder Zellman, seconded by Freeholder Crabb and passed unanimously.

F.

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INTRODUCTION OF 2010 COUNTY BUDGET FOR FIRST READING

Freeholder Director Parrott: "The 2010 Sussex County Budget is being introduced for First Reading at this time and awaits approval by the Board. The 2010 Sussex County Budget Revenues and Appropriations Summary will be advertised in the New Jersey Herald issue of June 30, 2010.

**RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF THE 2010 COUNTY BUDGET AS PRESENTED FOR
413-2010 VOTE**

MOTION to adopt this Resolution on first reading made by Freeholder Zellman, seconded by Freeholder Zeoli.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Space	Abstain
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Zeoli	Yes
Freeholder Director Parrott	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, July 28, 2010 at 5:00 P.M., at which time and place objections to said Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2010 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.", made by Freeholder Crabb, seconded by Freeholder Zeoli and passed unanimously.

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14. PERSONNEL

- A. Personnel Agenda

MOTION made by Freeholder Crabb to approve the Personnel Agenda in accordance with the County Administrator's recommendations, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

15. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

- A. Other

Mr. Eskilson stated that he did not have a report at this time.

16. COUNTY COUNSEL

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

Update on Veteran's Cemetery

Mr. McConnell stated that he had been in contact with the Counsel for the Veteran's Cemetery in Washington, D.C.; because this is a so called "private", but in public ownership cemetery, the County can simply designate an area of the cemetery by the Homestead for a Veteran's Cemetery; the only problem there may be is the location of unmarked graves, adding that it was important to be sure that no existing graves were disturbed; Mr. McConnell said that some of the graves at the cemetery by the Homestead were unmarked; contact has also been made with Mr. Donahue at the Delaware Water Gap National Park to inquire if there was a potential 30 acres that the Park could designate because there is a lot of land there; this is being followed-up; there are also grants available from the Federal Government which are somewhat substantial.

Freeholder Parrott asked Mr. McConnell to place this in writing so he (Freeholder Parrott) could give to the appropriate party; Freeholder Parrott also asked that a copy be provided to Bruce Scruton of the Herald.

Service Electric Cable/9-1-1 tax

Mr. McConnell said that he spoke to Service Electric Cable regarding the issue of the 9-1-1 tax appearing on its bills as a County 9-1-1 tax; Service Electric Cable is going to amend this and are working to come up with another designation for the 9-1-1 levy.

17. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

18. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

19. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR
(Please note: Everyone is asked to keep their comments to 10 minutes or less)

MOTION made at 7:15 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to open the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

Lake Neepaulin dam issue

Bill Gettler, Wantage, came forward; he discussed the Lake Neepaulin dam issue, specifically the statute; he noted that the statute states that in order for a private group to get a loan, the municipality has to co-sign the loan, but does not say that the municipality must co-sign the loan; Mr. Gettler said that the Judge who rendered the decision reversed the statute and said that Wantage had to co-sign the loan; he noted that the Friends of Lake Neepaulin bought the dam knowing that it needed \$1 million in repairs and that it did not have the money to pay for it.

Mr. Gettler stated that this decision will now mean that any non-profit group in New Jersey who owns a dam can now force the municipality to pay for it; he expressed his support for Wantage Township to spend the money to appeal this decision; Mr. Gettler also discussed that it had been suggested that Wantage take over Lake Neepaulin; he expressed his opposition to the suggestion of eminent domain.

There was a brief discussion as to how this issue could become problematic for other communities.

Freeholder Crabb asked Mr. Gettler how he felt the County could help with this matter.

Mr. Gettler replied that the County could check and verify that this decision could affect other municipalities in the County and that it was not a unique problem to Wantage, and then request that Wantage appeal this decision.

Freeholder Zellman asked if the County could contact Senator Oroho's office to inquire if there was anything the County could do to support what he (Senator Oroho) was doing without interfering with the municipality.

Mr. Eskilson suggested that it could be a Resolution urging the expedited legislation to address this specific issue.

Mr. McConnell stated that this legislation would most likely be prospective and not retroactive; there was a brief discussion.

Freeholder Zellman suggested that contact be made with Lou Cresitelli to find out what the Legislative Office is proposing and to determine if it is something that the County can support.

Freeholder Zellman asked the Clerk to contact Lou Cresitelli to inquire as to what is being proposed and if there was something the County could do.

Freeholder Parrott asked Mr. Eskilson to inquire if there was any funding available through the State because of this legislative action.

County budget

Mr. Gettler discussed the four line items on the tax bills, Operating Budget, Library, Health Department, and Open Space; he said the Open Space was deducted from the

Operating Budget; there are Cap Laws regarding the Operating Budget; the other budgets are not affected by the Cap Laws; Mr. Gettler said that he felt these should be kept separate; these items were separate on the tax bills and were separate items under the law.

The Board thanked Mr. Gettler for his comments.

MOTION made at 7:37 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to close the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

20. FREEHOLDERS' COMMENTS

Comments from Freeholder Zeoli

- **Welcome to Freeholder Space**

Freeholder Zeoli welcomed Freeholder Space to the Freeholder Board

- **County budget**

Freeholder Zeoli thanked Mr. Eskilson, Mr. Re, and Mr. Bailey for their countless hours working on the budget with him and Freeholder Parrott; he said that there were so many things that the State puts on the County that it has to spend money on that are beyond the County's control; he hoped that the recommendations of the Red Tape Committee would help to reduce the burdens the State imposes on the County.

- **Congratulations to Mr. Eskilson**

Freeholder Zeoli congratulated Mr. Eskilson on his re-appointment.

- **Champions for Charity food drive**

Freeholder Zeoli stated that over 95,000 pounds of food collected in this economy was a remarkable achievement; he congratulated Freeholder Parrott on the success of the Champions for Charity.

- **Department of Environmental & Public Health Services Annual Report**

Freeholder Zeoli said that the Department had its printed annual report booklet available, with copies for anyone who would like one.

- **Abortions for inmates**

Freeholder Zeoli stated that Assemblyman Chiusano has introduced a Bill in the Legislature that would allow Counties to opt out of having to provide abortions to inmates at County jails; the Counties are now required by law to fund inmate abortions.

- **2.5% cap**

Freeholder Zeoli said that he signed the letter in support of the 2.5% cap.

Comments from Freeholder Space

- Freeholder Space said that he was looking forward to working with everyone; he met with Mr. Eskilson yesterday to familiarize himself with the County departments.

Comments from Freeholder Zellman

- **Friends of Waterloo Village**

Freeholder Zellman said that the Friends of Waterloo Village was moving along and was now incorporated and accepting memberships and donations; she said there was a “Canal Day” this Saturday at the Village.

- **Transit Hearings**

Freeholder Zellman said that there was a Transit Hearing last Wednesday at the Administrative Center, with approximately 75-80 persons attending; she said this showed how valuable the County Transit System was; she said that concern was expressed for the reduction in SCADTRP funding.

- **Complete Streets Task Force**

Freeholder Zellman said that she was asked to participate on the Complete Streets Task Force for the NJDOT.

- **Veterans Monument**

The garden for the Veterans Monument is shaping up; Freeholder Zellman said that she would be working with the Veterans Committee to arrange some kind of a ceremony to let interested persons know what was going on; she added that this was all being done with the original donations to the monument; there was a budget for the maintenance and a budget for the garden.

Comments from Freeholder Crabb

- **Shared Services**

Freeholder Crabb said that beginning in September, ten minute presentations would be scheduled for each municipal meeting to review the current Shared Services Agreements with the municipality, other Shared Services that are available, discuss Shared Services that perhaps the municipality could provide to others, and Shared Services not yet considered; the goal is to get renewed traction for incremental Shared Services, resulting in greater recurring cost savings; Freeholder Crabb said that a couple of months ago, a new mechanic was hired so all repair work is being done in-house, with the exception of air conditioning and body work; there was already a net monthly savings realized of \$7,000.00.

- **Sparta landslide**

Freeholder Crabb said that he saw there was progress on the Sparta landslide; Mr. McConnell said that he and Walter Cramp and Engineering staff, as well as the property owner, Sparta Township, and Soil Conservation, have been working diligently over the past three weeks; the road opening permit has been issued.

- **Welcome to Freeholder Space**

Freeholder Crabb welcomed Freeholder Space to the Board.

- **Thank you to Freeholder Parrott**

Freeholder Crabb thanked Freeholder Parrott for his continued focus as the County moves forward to the challenging year ahead.

Comments from Freeholder Parrott

- **Budget Committee**

Freeholder Parrott said that Freeholder Space will learn more about the County as a member of the Budget Committee than anywhere else; he added that certain segments of the budget have already been notified that there will be cuts next year, giving these areas a year to formulate funding; Freeholder Parrott thanked everyone on the Budget Committee for their hard work.

- **Champions for Charity**

Freeholder Parrott said that the trophy for the Champions for Charity would be presented to Sparta High School on June 28, 2010; the plaque, which will list each year's winning school, will hang in the Administrative Center; Freeholder Zellman will assume the responsibilities of the Champions for Charity after Freeholder Parrott leaves office at the end of this year.

- **New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC)**

Freeholder Parrott asked Freeholder Zellman to attend the next NJAC Meeting; there was a brief discussion; Freeholder Zeoli said that he would attend if Freeholder Zellman could not; Freeholder Zellman suggested that the NJAC meeting agenda be reviewed to determine if there were any items that the County would have to vote on.

- **Assistance for a County employee**

Freeholder Parrott discussed a County employee whose husband was killed in an accident; he said an account would be established to collect donations to help the family.

21. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no items for Executive Session.

RESOLUTION RE: REQUESTING EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Personnel
- B. Contract
- C. Litigation
- D. Other Matters

It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

22. REMINDERS

Wednesday

June 30, 2010

Six County 6:00 pm
Coalition Meet. – Oldwick Fire House
Hosted by Hunterdon County

Wednesday

July 7, 2010

Regular Meeting

5:00 pm

23. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made at 7:58 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Freeholder Zeoli and passed unanimously.

Elaine A. Morgan, Clerk

DATED: June 23, 2010