



Board of Chosen Freeholders

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 19, 2020 - 6:00 PM

Salem County Olde Courthouse, 104 Market Street, Salem, New Jersey

Call to Order: Freeholder Director Laury Called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Invocation: Rev. Jackie Johnson, 2nd Baptist Church, Salem, gave the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Joseph Hannagan, Director of Veterans Affairs, led the Pledge.

Statement Regarding Open Public Meetings Act – Read by Stacy Pennington, COB.

Adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given of this meeting:

1. By forwarding notice to the South Jersey Times and Elmer Times Co.; and
2. By posting notice on the bulletin board in the Salem County Courthouse and the Fifth Street Office Complex; and
3. By filing notice in the Offices of the Salem County Clerk and the Clerk of the Board all having been done at least 48 hours in advance.

Attendance Roll Call

Freeholder	Present	Absent
Director Benjamin Laury	X	
Deputy Director Scott Griscom	X	
Freeholder Charles Hassler	X	
Freeholder Gordon Ostrum, Jr.	X	
Freeholder Lee Ware	X	

A quorum was present.

Minutes:

Dispense with the reading of the minutes of the February 5, 2020 Regular Meeting. Minutes are to be received, approved, and recorded in the Minute Book.

Freeholder	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Freeholder Ostrum			X			
Freeholder Hassler		X	X			
Freeholder Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote: 5-0

Special Recognition: None

Presentation: None

Waiver of the Rules:

E4 Resolution of the Board of Chosen Freeholders Accepting and Executing a Multi-Jurisdictional County Gang, Gun and Narcotic Task Force Grant From the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program for the Prosecutor's Office
[JAG-1-17TF-17]

Freeholder	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Freeholder Ostrum			X			
Freeholder Hassler		X	X			
Freeholder Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote: 5-0

Public Hearings & Adoptions: None**Correspondence:****General:**

1. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Charles Mullen
2. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Ken Alexander
3. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Darryl Harman
4. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Craig Ives
5. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Vicki Watson
6. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – John Carnevale
7. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Dawn Neron
8. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Douglas Wasilauski
9. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights –Gus J. Sites Jr.
10. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Jeffrey Hitchner
11. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – John Belcher
12. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Edwin Masker
13. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Ayn Masker
14. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Christian Sassi
15. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Linda Barbara
16. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Constance Sassi
17. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Zachary Pedrick
18. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Adam Barbara
19. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Harry Burden
20. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Kathryn Burden
21. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Denise Davis
22. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Edward Barbea
23. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Edward Davis
24. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Christina Lewis

25. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Chloe English
26. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Janice D’Orio
27. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Stephen Glenn
28. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Troy McAllister
29. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Melissa Salem
30. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Nick Salem
31. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Jared Nutt
32. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Aspen Salem
33. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Donna Mazur
34. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Rhoda Parker
35. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Nathan Parker
36. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Charles Earig
37. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Heidi Morris
38. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Timothy Morris Sr.
39. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Frank Parks
40. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Denise Scafiro
41. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Anthony Scafiro
42. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Paul Milano
43. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – M. Blachnick
44. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Wanda Pompper
45. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Steven Brickner
46. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Richard Mosley
47. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Vincent Scanish
48. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Steven Graham
49. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Samuel Bill
50. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Kathy Sanderlin
51. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Paul Sanderlin
52. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Christopher Davis
53. Letter and Resolution Regarding Second Amendment Rights – Ernest Black
54. Letter from Atlantic City Electric
55. Gloucester and Salem Community Advisory Panel

Committee/ Commission Minutes and Reports:

1. Public Works Committee Report
2. Salem County Tourism Advisory Council

Freeholder	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Freeholder Ostrum			X			
Freeholder Hassler			X			
Freeholder Ware		X	X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote: 5-0

Payment of Bills and Claims:

Freeholder	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Freeholder Ostrum		X	X			
Freeholder Hassler			X			
Freeholder Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote: 5-0

Treasurer's Report: None**Resolutions:****A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: - Laury, Griscom**

A1 Resolution Rejecting Proposals Submitted for Mid-Atlantic States Career and Education Center Training Facility Heating Upgrades

A2 Resolution Authorizing Execution of Agreement Between the Salem County Inter Agency Council of Human Services and the County of Salem

A3 Resolution Cancellation of Check

Freeholder	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Freeholder Ostrum		X	X			
Freeholder Hassler			X			
Freeholder Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote: 5-0

B. AGRICULTURAL/ TOURISM COMMITTEE – Ware, Griscom: None

C. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Hassler, Ostrum

- C1 Resolution to Approve American Cancer Society Application for Motorist Solicitation Pursuant to Resolution No. 98-1156
- C2 Resolution Awarding a Contract for the 2017 County Aid Road Program for the County of Salem

Freeholder	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Freeholder Ostrum		X	X			
Freeholder Hassler	X		X			
Freeholder Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom			X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote: 5-0

D. HEALTH/ HUMAN SERVICES/ EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Ostrum, Ware: None**E. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Griscom, Ostrum**

- E1 Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application to the State of New Jersey Department of Children and Families for the Child Advocacy Development Grant (CAPITAL) for the County of Salem
- E2 Resolution Accepting and Executing a Grant from the NJ Division of Criminal Justice Insurance Fraud Reimbursement Program for the Prosecutor's Office (Cycle 20)
- E3 Resolution Authorizing a One Year Extension of a Contract for Providing Inmate Dental Care to the Salem County Correctional Facility
- E4 Resolution of the Board of Chosen Freeholders Accepting and Executing a Multi-Jurisdictional County Gang, Gun and Narcotic Task Force Grant From the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program for the Prosecutor's Office [JAG-1-17TF-17]

Freeholder	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Freeholder Ostrum		X	X			
Freeholder Hassler			X			
Freeholder Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote: 5-0

F. CHAPTER 159 TO INSERT REVENUE IN THE BUDGET: NONE

Freeholder Old Business: None

Freeholder New Business: None

Freeholder Ostrum announced that a ProAct Discount Pharmacy Card is available for those who are uninsured or underinsured. They can be picked up after the meeting.

Freeholder Public Announcements:

Freeholder Hassler also noted the following upcoming events:

- 2/25/2020 Ride Share Safety presentation
- 2/26/2020 U.S. Census Bureau job recruiting event
- 2/26/2020 "Photography, Social Media, Digital Culture" presentation
- 2/26/2020 Habitat for Humanity fundraiser
- 2/28/2020 SCVT Foundation Scholarship Dinner
- 3/20 to 22 20th Annual International Flameworking Conference at SCC
- 3/21/2020 VFS Post 253, Salem – 80th anniversary
- 3/21/2020 Darryl's Derby Day fundraiser
- 3/21/2020 242nd Anniversary of Hancock Massacre
- 3/29/2020 Music Around the County – Women's Chorus
- 4/1/2020 Teen Arts Festival

Freeholder Ware noted that Calvary Community Development Corp is having their 19th Community Annual Community Banquet and Awards on Saturday 2/29/2020. Jim Dickerson will be one of the honorees at this event.

Public Comment (Agenda items or other County Business)

Anyone wishing to speak please speak clearly and state your name and address for the record. Each speaker will have **FOUR MINUTES** to speak. The Clerk of the Board (COB) will keep track of the time for each speaker. When addressing questions concerning personnel issues with the County of Salem no names will be used at any time.

Kieesha Davenport White, Salem City

Ms. White is angered by gun violence in our communities. Her husband, Derek A. White, was an innocent bystander helping a colleague when he was killed on 4/18/18. This is the first time she is speaking about her situation in public. She noted this affects not only the family of the victims, but the entire community. She asked about the unsolved murders and when the public would see arrests. She wants to know what the Freeholders and the police are doing about this issue.

Director Laury invited all others to speak, and then the Freeholder Board would respond to their comments.

Leslie Parsley, Salem City

Ms. Parsley is also angered by gun violence in Salem City. Two of her sons were recently killed by guns - five months apart. She said nobody is safe. She would like to see a reward offered for these murders. She said there is not enough coverage from the press about these incidents. She would like to see justice for the families.

Michelle Taylor, 8th Street, Salem City

Ms. Taylor is here tonight to support her city and the residents affected by gun violence. She noted the city used to be safe for kids to play outside. She noted that parents need to practice 'tough love' with their children. Ms. Taylor continued with support for the local police, but also wanted to know about unsolved crimes. She feels it is impossible to trust the police when 'confidential tips' are made public, putting those people at risk. She feels the authorities and citizens need to work together to take the city back.

Ron Bowman, Salem City

Mr. Bowman wanted to know why the Freeholder Board was not responding to these speakers. Director Laury noted that they were waiting for all who wanted to speak to do so; then the Board would respond.

Laquendala Bentley, Fenwick Avenue, Salem City

Ms. Bentley noted the many people in attendance affected by gun violence and that often it is kids who know each other who are harming each other. She said the 'code of the street' DOES exist and the 'confidential' should mean confidential. Informant names should not be publicized. She noted that the stories she reads in the newspaper are wrong and wonders who is providing this information.

Naima Hollman, North Carolina

Ms. Hollman has been traveling from North Carolina recently, as she is the sister of a murder victim. She noted that there are many problems but no resources to deal with them. What is the solution? She noted it starts with the children.

Director Laury asked the Board members to respond to what they have heard tonight.

Deputy Director Griscom, speaking for himself, noted that having such a large group of citizens showing concern tonight is the first step to addressing the gun violence problem. He knows it has been difficult for people to speak out tonight. As the Freeholder Board is not 'feet on the ground', he feels the solutions will come from the citizens themselves. He noted this is a problem in all cities. The Board will be as supportive as it can be.

Freeholder Hassler said he has spent his entire life in Salem City. He is heartbroken by the suffering of those speaking tonight. He noted that the Board is not the police, but that they will do everything they can to help. Perhaps he and Freeholder Griscom could facilitate meetings with the mayor and prosecutor to discuss ideas for the future.

Deputy Director Griscom agreed with Freeholder Hassler and asked if there was anyone present interested in chairing a citizen group to meet. Ms. Laquendala Bentley (who spoke earlier) noted that she already has a group of 7 committed people and perhaps 30 others who are interested in meeting. She calls this Facebook group "Parents United" and would like a forum set up with any officials who could help.

Freeholder Ostrum noted how difficult it was for the family members to speak up tonight. He shares their passion for the issue and feels that the answers can come from the citizens. He would welcome a meeting as discussed already.

Freeholder Ware noted that he is also grew up in Salem and remembers safer streets. He offered condolences to all present tonight and thanked them for their passion.

Director Laury offered condolences from the Board. He thanked everyone for speaking about this issue. He noted that ‘it takes a village’ to solve these problems and then thanked those who came out to support the families. Director Laury wants to “get the village together.” He will:

- Look into the tip line confidentiality issue
- Help facilitate a meeting with Salem City authorities

Executive Closed Session

Resolution Authorizing Executive Session County of Salem Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship

Freeholder	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Freeholder Ostrum		X	X			
Freeholder Hassler	X		X			
Freeholder Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom			X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote: 5-0

Motion and vote to end the Executive Closed Session

Freeholder	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Freeholder Ostrum			X			
Freeholder Hassler		X	X			
Freeholder Ware	X		X			
Deputy Director Griscom			X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote: 5-0

Meeting Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Freeholder	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Freeholder Ostrum			X			
Freeholder Hassler			X			
Freeholder Ware	X		X			
Deputy Director Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote: 5-0

Next Meeting Date

March 4, 2020

Regular Meeting - 6:00 PM Meeting

Salem County Olde Courthouse, 104 Market Street, Salem, New Jersey 08079