



**Board of Chosen Freeholders**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

September 2, 2020

4:00 PM

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

**Call to Order:** Director, Ben Laury, called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

**Invocation:** Director Laury gave the invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Salem County Deputy Clerk, Donna Secaur, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Secaur is a U.S. Navy Veteran. She served for seven years as a Hospital Corpsman, including serving during Operation Desert Storm. She volunteered in our Veterans' Affairs Office and is now the Deputy County Clerk for Salem County.

**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 August 19, 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: passed 5-0

**Special Recognition: None**

**Presentation:** John Snyder, County Tax Administrator

Mr. Snyder discussed:

- The \$0.01 increase in the budget was just the general county tax rate.
- Equalization: the complete tax load is equalized between the municipalities based on property values. Amount can increase/decrease depending if recent sales are over/under assessed value.
  - If over, then the municipality bears a larger portion of the whole
  - If under, then municipality bears a smaller portion of the whole
- Quinton and Upper Pittsgrove were revalued this year.
- Actual changes:

Municipality	Tax +/-
Alloway	+.02
Carney’s Point	-.03
Elmer	+.112
Elsinboro	+.011
LAC	-.055
Mannington	-.015
Oldmans	+.037
Penns Grove	-.039
Pennsville	+.149
Pilesgrove	+.033
Pittsgrove	+.007
Quinton	+.112
Salem City	-.026
Upper Pittsgrove	+.07
Woodstown	+.04

- Tax rate and Valuation are separate things.
  - Tax rate: determined by county tax levy / equalization
  - Valuation: determined by Div. of Taxation Sales Ratio Study
- Equalization tables are done every year; so taxes can fluctuate every year.

Freeholder Griscom wanted to clarify that this discussion was for the county portion of taxes.

Director Laury asked why the difference between the \$.01 increase and the total \$2 million increase. Mr. Snyder explained this was due to debits/credits to municipalities for the previous year tax appeal decisions.

**Waiver of the Rules:**

**C4** Resolution Awarding an Emergency Contract to Perform Emergency Road and Bridge Repairs Throughout the County of Salem Following the August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Unusual Storm Event

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: passed 5-0

**Public Hearings & Adoptions: None**

**Correspondence:**

1. Letter from NJDOT regarding Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program
2. Monmouth County resolution opposing the NJ COVID-19 Emergency Bond Act
3. Letter from Atlantic City Electric regarding bae rate adjustments
4. Resolution from the Township of Knowlton urging Governor Murphy to reimburse county governments with populations of 500,000 residents or less with federal Covid-19 monies
5. Petition from the residents of Game Creek Road and Courses Landing Road, Carneys Point regarding a traffic hazard and proposing a change in the traffic flow.
6. Cape May County resolution urging the Governor to reimburse county governments with populations of 500,000 residents or less with federal Covid-19 monies
7. Cape May county resolution opposing the exclusive use of mail in ballots for the 2020 general election
8. Borough of Point Pleasant Beach resolution strongly encouraging the right of in-person machine voting for the 2020 general election
9. Township of Alloway resolution encouraging state regulations requiring utility companies to increase connection rates for internet access
10. Township of Washington, Warren County resolution urging Governor Murphy to reimburse county governments with populations of 500,000 residents or less with federal Covid-19 monies
11. Hope Township resolution urging Governor Murphy to reimburse county governments with populations of 500,000 residents or less with federal Covid-19 monies
12. Township of Blairstown resolution urging Governor Murphy to reimburse county governments with populations of 500,000 residents or less with federal Covid-19 monies

<b>Freeholder</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Freeholder Ostrum			X			
Freeholder Hassler		X	X			
Freeholder Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote: passed 5-0

**Committee / Commission Minutes and Reports:**

1. SCIA minutes for August 13, 2020

<b>Freeholder</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Freeholder Ostrum			X			
Freeholder Hassler		X	X			
Freeholder Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote: passed 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: passed 5-0

**Treasurer's Report:** None

**Resolutions:**

**A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: - Laury, Griscom**

- A1** Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 1 to the Contract for Mid-Atlantic States Career and Education Center Training Facility Heating Upgrades - Re-Bid
- A2** Resolution Authorizing Purchases from State Contract Vendors
- A3** Resolution Appointing Sharon Whittick as Custodian of Government Records for the County of Salem
- A4** Resolution Adopting a Corrective Action Plan Audit of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance for the County of Salem
- A5** Resolution Rescinding Resolution No 2020-259 for Check Cancellation
- A6** Resolution Authorizing the Use of Competitive Contracting for the Procurement of Commissary Services and Catering Food Service for the Salem County Correctional Facility Pursuant to NJSA 40A:11-4.3
- A7** Resolution Awarding a Contract for a Consultant to Manage and Operate the Information Technology Platform for the County of Salem

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: passed 5-0

**B. AGRICULTURAL/ TOURISM COMMITTEE – Ware, Griscom: No Resolutions**

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

- C1** Resolution Authorizing a Renewal Contract for Furnishing and Delivering Rock Salt for the County of Salem and the Members of The Salem County Cooperative Pricing System Identifier Number 75-SCCP
- C2** Resolution Authorizing Contract for the Purchase of Retail Electric Generation Supply Service for the County of Salem and Its Participating Cooperative Members
- C3** Resolution Authorizing a Renewal Contract for Providing Supplementary Snow and Ice Removal Services for the County of Salem

**C4** Resolution Awarding an Emergency Contract to Perform Emergency Road and Bridge Repairs Throughout the County of Salem Following the August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Unusual Storm Event

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: passed 5-0

**D. HEALTH/ HUMAN SERVICES/ EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Ostrum, Ware**

**D1** Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application to Salem County Health and Wellness Foundation on Behalf of Salem County Office on Aging and Disabilities for Match to the 5311 Rural/Non-Urbanized Grant Provided by NJ Transit Corporation

**D2** Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application to NJ Transit Corporation on Behalf of Salem County Office on Aging and Disabilities for a Grant Under the Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Act (SCDRTAP) Grant 2021

**D3** Resolution Supporting the Salem County Office on Aging & Disabilities to Accept the 2020-2021 State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) Grant

**D4** Resolution Accepting and Executing the FY21 Special Child Health Case Management

**D5** Resolution Accepting and Executing the FY21 Right to Know Grant

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

Hand vote: passed 5-0

**E. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Griscom, Ostrum: No Resolutions**

**F. CHAPTER 159 TO INSERT REVENUE IN THE BUDGET:**

**F1** Resolution Providing for the Insertion of Any Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87 Chapter 159, PL 1948 (SHIP)

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: passed 5-0

**Freeholder Old Business:** None

**Freeholder New Business:**

Director Laury noted that Freeholder Lee Ware is to be inducted into the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC) Hall of Fame. Freeholder Ware has over 20 years serving Salem County. The award will be presented at a later Freeholder meeting.

Director Laury also noted in attendance tonight were:

- Oldmans Committee Deputy Mayor, Anthony Musemeschi
- Elmer Times editor, Bonny Beth Elwell
- Carneys Point resident, Patty Bomba

**Freeholder Public Announcements:**

Freeholder Hassler noted the following:

Friday, 9/11/2020	<u><b>9/11 Memorial</b></u>  Due to the pandemic, the county is not planning a public event to commemorate 9/11. A wreath will be laid at the 9/11 Memorial Park on Cemetery Road; and the park will be open all day. Please remember social distancing rules if you choose to visit the park.
Friday, 9/25/2020	<b>Chamber of Commerce - Annual Leadership Breakfast - Virtual Event this year</b>  8:15 - 9:15 am (contact COC for information)
Saturday, 9/26/2020	<b>Road Knights Car Show (still scheduled)</b>  10:00 am - 3:00 pm - to be held at Pennsville Twp. Historical Society on Church Landing Road
Sunday, 9/27/2020	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Annual Cow Run</b> (contact Stand Up For Salem for information) 7:30 am Registration / 9:00 am Start
Monday, 10/19/2020	<b>Meet the Candidates - will be a Virtual event this year</b> 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm (contact COC for information)
October 20, 2020	<del><b>Veterans Picnic</b></del> <b>CANCELLED</b> Penns Grove VFW 12:00 noon - 3:00 pm
Friday, 11/6/2020	<b>First Responders 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner - TBD</b>
Sunday, 11/8/2020	<b>Pennsville Veterans Day Program - TBD</b>  Sponsored by Pennsville Township Historical Society Held at Pennsville Senior & Community Center 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Saturday, 11/14/2020	<b>Women of Achievement Breakfast - TBD</b>
Saturday, 11/28/2020	<b>Pennsville Memorial High School - TBD</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Annual All Classes Reunion</b>  Riverview Inn, 5:30 pm
<b>CANCELLED -or - POSTPONED EVENTS</b>	
Thursday, 9/10/2020	<del><b>Night of Thanks</b></del> <b>CANCELLED</b>
Saturday, 9/12/2020	<del><b>Septemberfest</b></del> <b>CANCELLED</b>
Thursday, 9/24/2020	<del><b>Stand Up For Salem 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dinner</b></del> <b>CANCELLED</b>
Saturday, 9/26/2020	<del><b>Woodstown Fall Festival</b></del> - <b>CANCELLED</b>

Saturday, 10/24/2020	<del>Alloway Halloween Parade</del> CANCELLED
Thursday, 10/29/2020	<del>Veterans' Medal Ceremony</del> - CANCELLED
October	<del>Great Pumpkin Carve</del> —(benefits Meals on Wheels) - CANCELLED, watch for information about a possible virtual event
November	<del>Veterans Dinner</del> -- CANCELLED
Thursday, 11/5/2020	<del>Best of Salem County</del> -- SKIPPING THIS YEAR, as all businesses have been struggling throughout this pandemic.
December-	<del>Woodstown by Candlelight</del> - CANCELLED

**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.

Catherine & Samuel Ragonese, 351 Swedesboro Road, Upper Pittsgrove: They came to discuss damage to their driveway easement caused by the storm on August 7. An underground pipe is damaged and causing water to back up onto their driveway. Administrator, Jeff Ridgeway, is aware of the problem and the Road Dept. is working to fix this.

**Executive Closed Session (if needed):** None

**Adjournment:**

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: passed 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 pm.

**Next Meeting Date**

September 16, 2020

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM Meeting

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