



Board of County Commissioners

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2022 6:00 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER – Commissioner Director Laury opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

INVOCATION – CFO Kelly Hannigan offered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

STATEMENT REGARDING OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT – The statement was read by Clerk of the Board, Stacy Pennington.

Adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given of this meeting: By forwarding notice to the South Jersey Times and Elmer Times Co.; and By posting notice on the bulletin board in the Salem County Courthouse and the Fifth Street Office Complex; and 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

Commissioner	Present	Absent
Director Benjamin Laury	X	
Commissioner Scott Griscom	X	
Commissioner Ed Ramsay	X	
Deputy Director Gordon Ostrum	X	
Commissioner Lee Ware		X

A quorum was present.

MINUTES

Dispense with the reading of the minutes of the September 21, 2022 Regular Meeting. Minutes are to be received, approved, and recorded in the Minute Book.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay		X	X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom			X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

PRESENTATION

The Honorable Jeff Van Drew, Congressman

Director Laury introduced Congressman Jeff Van Drew, who spoke for a few minutes on various topics:

- He said he always mentions South Jersey when he speaks on the House floor. South Jersey seems to be forgotten. We are all paying taxes and we need them to come back to South Jersey.
- \$3.75 million for the courthouse improvements.
- \$3.75 million for the Salem/Cumberland Middle Mile broadband project. Residents need to be able to use their phone and computers. Broadband is also very important for emergency management.
- Salem River dredging project. Looking at deepening to 30 feet, not promised, but being studied. Hoping to bring business investment to the area.
- Salem County road improvement projects
- Oldmans Township Airport – link them to federal and/or state resources
- Salem City – pump station to help reduce flooding in the area.

The Honorable Beth Sawyer, Assemblywoman

Director Laury also invited 3rd District Assemblywoman Beth Sawyer to speak on a few topics:

- Has a good working relationship with Cong. Van Drew’s office. Important to have working relationship with federal level.
- Working with Cong. Van Drew’s office and Governor’s office for a fully functioning upgraded 911 center.
- Just made aware of \$18.9 million federal funds to be put into hydrogen and she wants to work with Van Drew’s office to bring this to Salem County. She feels this would be beneficial to the area – maybe a good fit with PSEG.
- Feels Salem County has been ignored for a long time. Working to bring revenue here.

Director Laury then noted that the Commissioner Board and County Administrations worked hard to announce that there is, again, no anticipated county tax increase for 2023.

WAIVER OF THE RULES

A1 Resolution Rescinding Resolution 2022-352 Authorizing a Memorandum of Agreement with Angela Patterson D/B/A Fairies Cleaning Crew for Housekeeping Services

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay		X	X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom			X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

PUBLIC HEARINGS & ADOPTIONS - NONE

Correspondence – General and Committee/ Commission Minutes and Reports:

1. Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes from the August 10, 2022 meeting

2. Letter from Atlantic City Electric regarding the implementation of an adjustment to its conservation incentive program rate mechanism and associated customer class rate
3. Letter from the Borough of Elmer regarding Open Space and Land Preservation Trust Fund taxes

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

PAYMENT OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

RESOLUTIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: - Laury, Ostrum

- A1** Resolution Rescinding Resolution 2022-352 Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with Angela Patterson d/b/a Fairies Cleaning Crew for Housekeeping Services

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay		X	X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom			X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

AGRICULTURAL / TOURISM COMMITTEE – Ware, Griscom – None

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Ramsay, Griscom

- C1 Resolution Prohibiting Normal Traffic, South Main Street, County Road #672 in the Borough of Woodstown, Salem County for their Annual Candlelight Tour
- C2 Resolution Establishing a Multi-Way Stop Control at the Intersection of Jericho Road, County Road #626 and Harmersville-Pecks Corner Road, County Road #667 in Quinton Township

C3 Resolution Establishing an Upgraded Intersection at Commissioners Pike, County Road #581 and Watsons Mill Road, County Road #672 in Alloway Township

C4 Resolution Establishing a Multi-Way Stop Control at the Intersection of Alloway-Aldine Road, County Road #611 and Watsons Mill Road, County Road #672 in Alloway Township

C5 Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for State Aid to Counties Under the New Jersey Department of Transportation Rail Freight Assistance Program for Fiscal Year 2023

Director Laury then asked for a motion to open public comment time for discussion of items C3 and C4 above.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum			X			
Commissioner Ramsay	X		X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

Comments regarding the dangerous situations at these two intersections were given by: Alloway Mayor Ed McKelvey, Ryan Staferi, Denise Buskirk, Ed McGee, Joe Quather, and Robert Brookwood. They all agreed that the intersections require at least a 4-way stop control.

Commissioner Scott Griscom asked how long before the signs could be installed. Administrator Jeff Ridgway said it would be 30 days minimum due to installation regulations.

Deputy Commissioner Ostrum asked if the resolution wording could be modified tonight before final voting. Director Laury said yes it could be done with a vote.

Director Laury thanked all for coming out to voice their concerns.

Deputy Director Ostrum then motioned to change the wording of C3 above to read “4-Way Stop Control” instead of “Upgraded Intersection.” The new title will be:

C3 Resolution Establishing a 4-Way Stop Control at Commissioners Pike, County Road #581 and Watsons Mill Road, County Road #672 in Alloway Township

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

Director then asked for a vote on C3 (as changed) and C4.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum			X			
Commissioner Ramsay	X		X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

Director Laury then asked for a vote on **C1, C2, and C5 only**.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum			X			
Commissioner Ramsay	X		X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

Director Laury noted that the new railroad tour would be available for the Woodstown Candlelight Tour (C1 above).

He also noted that we have a new Economic Development Director. Director Laury noted that the Board is working on responsible growth in the county. Director Laury also noted that our Tourism Director is working hard and we will be seeing great things in that area.

HEALTH/ HUMAN SERVICES/ EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Ostrum, Ware

D1 Resolution Authorizing the Contract to Provide Management Services for the Salem County Forty-Eight Hour Intoxicated Driver Resource Center Program

D2 Resolution Authorizing the Contract to Provide Management Services for the Salem County Twelve Hour Intoxicated Driver Resource Center Program

D3 Resolution Authorizing the Grant Application for the 2023 Comprehensive Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Services Contract

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Griscom, Ostrum

- E1 Resolution Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to the State of New Jersey Office of the Attorney General for Funding Under the FY21 American Rescue Plan Act "CSFRF" Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) Initiative Program
- E2 Resolution Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to the State of New Jersey Office of the Attorney General for Funding Under the FY21 American Rescue Plan Act "CSFRF" Gunshot Detection Technology Initiative Program
- E3 Resolution Accepting and Executing a Grant for the Prosecutor's Office from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Bureau of Justice Assistance Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program [BVP21]
- E4 Resolution Correcting Resolution 2022-216, Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners Accepting Funding for the Prosecutor's Office from the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety State Office of Victim Witness Advocacy Safety Stop Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Program [Grant No. VAWA-47-21]

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum		X	X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

CHAPTER 159 TO INSERT REVENUE IN THE BUDGET

- F1 Resolution Providing for the Insertion of Any Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87 Chapter 159, P.L. 1948 - 22-23 Tick Surveillance Program
- F2 Resolution Providing for the Insertion of Any Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87 Chapter 159, P.L. 1948 – Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program
- F3 Resolution Providing for the Insertion of Any Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87 Chapter 159, P.L. 1948 – FY 2023 DMHAS Youth Leadership Grant

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

COMMISSIONER OLD BUSINESS – None

COMMISSIONER NEW BUSINESS

Deputy Director Ostrum spoke further about the railroad. The railroad is generating lots in interest in Salem County.

Director Laury noted that the new Economic Development Director will be meeting with the municipalities to find out exactly what they want. Commissioner Ramsay noted he is already actively doing that. Commissioner Ramsay also noted that we have received grants to offset the costs of some Economic Development activity. The new director is well educated, well trained and has an economic development background.

COMMISSIONER PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deputy Director Ostrum noted a number of activities around the county:

- Flu Clinics are scheduled around the county
- COVID Vaccine clinics are also scheduled weekly
- Red Cross blood drives
- 10/8 Pedricktown Day
- 10/8 Shrimp & Wing Night at St. Gabriels Church, Carneys Point
- 10/9 Music Over Matter – free concert at Woodstown Friends Meeting
- Free NARCAN kit giveaway – contact SC health dept.
- 10/13 PRAC 50th Anniversary Gala
- 10/15 Road Knights Car Show, Fort Mott Park
- 10/15 SC Historical Society – new art exhibit
- 10/15-16 Arts in Bloom, all around the county
- 10/14-15 Rocky Horror Picture Show, Woodstown
- 10/14-15 Ghostly Candlelight Tour, Hancock House
- 10/20 Ranch Hope Fundraiser, The Grove – dinner, silent auction, speaker: Jimmy Wayne
- 10/21 FREE Symphony concert – Bay Atlantic Symphony, Davidow Hall at SCC
- 10/22 Trunk or Treat, Green Branch Park, Pittsgrove
- 10/24 Get to Know Your Candidates, Davidow Hall at SCC
- 10/26 Trunk or Treat, Resources for Independent Living, Pennsville
- 10/27 Veterans' Dinner, Marie's in Penns Grove
- 10/28 COC Annual Leadership Breakfast, SCVTS
- 10/29 Alloway Halloween Parade

Commissioner Ramsay noted he received his flu shot at one of the Health Department clinics. He said it ran very smoothly.

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.

Cordy Taylor, Pedricktown

Mr. Taylor noted that the Salem County Improvement Authority will have a Household Hazardous Waste Day on Saturday, October 15 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Additionally, the Oldmans Airport recently heard from the FAA that they have no problem with plans for two runways at the airport.

Joe Quather, Alloway

Mr. Quather offered his thanks to the Commissioner Board for the Alloway intersections decisions tonight.

Ed McGee, Alloway

Mr. McGee has been hearing train whistles. Is the railroad running already?

Director Laury noted that yes, the train can come all the way to Salem. Tracks are ready. He also noted to be careful at railroad crossings.

Ed McKelvey, Alloway Mayor

Mr. McKelvey thanked the Commissioners once again for listening to residents concerns over the intersections discussed earlier. It is appreciated.

Commissioner Griscom noted this is a 2-way street. Both sides need to be heard.

Directly Laury noted this is an example of government at its' best.

NEXT MEETING DATE – October 19, 2022 6:00pm

EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION – 6:54 pm

G1 Resolution Authorizing Executive Session County of Salem, Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations, and the Attorney-Client Privilege

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

Close Executive Session:

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0

ADJOURNMENT – There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware						X
Commissioner Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand vote passed 4-0