



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

MINUTES OF THE THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2009 SPECIAL MEETING

Chairman Alexander Mirabella presided. Roll call showed Vice Chairman Daniel P. Sullivan, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder Chester Holmes, Freeholder Rick Proctor, Freeholder Deborah P. Scanlon, Freeholder Rayland Van Blake and Freeholder Nancy Ward present. Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski was absent.

Also present were County Manager George W. Devanney, County Counsel Robert E. Barry, Esq., and Clerk of the Board Nicole L. DiRado.

The Prayer and Salute to the Flag were lead by the Clerk of the Board.

The statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read by the Clerk of the Board.

PUBLIC PORTION COMMENTS

John Bury, Kenilworth: Mr. Bury asked how much the County will be deferring in pension payments in the 2009 budget, how the payments will be made and when repayment will begin. County Manager explained that the legislation only gave local governments the option of deferring 50%, so the County will be deferring \$9.4 million in the 2009 budget. Payments are made once per year, on April 1, which may be extended due to the implementation of the legislation. Finally, the repayment begins in 2012 for 15 years. Mr. Bury stated that he does not support the State's pension deferral legislation.

Bruce Paterson, Garwood: Mr. Paterson stated that Somerset County is not increasing taxes and Atlantic County is increasing taxes by 1.5%. Mr. Paterson does not support the Union County budget or the programs provided by the County in the budget.

Tina Renna, Cranford: Ms. Renna stated that the County budget represents one quarter of residents' tax bills and she does not support Union County's budget. She also made comments relative to Robert Travisano v. Union County and positions within the Sheriff's office.

Lavigna Ruby, Cranford: Ms. Ruby made comments relative to foreclosures, the closing of Oak Ridge Golf Course and the pension deferral plan. She recommends leasing the golf course and believes the pension plan needs oversight.

Philip Taylor, Roselle: Mr. Taylor is a teacher at the Union County Vocational Technical Adult High School and urged the Freeholder Board to help keep the program open. The students in the



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program are grateful for the opportunity to get a second chance at a high school diploma and he appreciates any help the Board can give to obtain funding.

Elanzo Delgado, Elizabeth: Mr. Delgado is a member of the National Guard and would like to enlist in the Navy, however, he needs a diploma; a GED is not acceptable. He has two children and he believes that the diploma will help open doors for him and his family. He urged the Board to help keep the program open.

RESOLUTIONS

Chairman Mirabella called for a motion to adopt resolutions 2009-300 and 2009-301.

2009-300 FREEHOLDER ESTRADA, pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A:4-45.15b authorizing the establishment of a **Cap Bank** within the Calendar Year 2009 and 3.5% of the final tax levy from the preceding fiscal year as a retained exception to the final tax levy in either of the next two succeeding years.

A motion was made by Freeholder Scanlon and seconded by Freeholder Estrada. Roll call showed eight Freeholders voted in the affirmative with Freeholder Kowalski absent.

2009-301 FREEHOLDER ESTRADA, introducing the **2009 Operating and Capital Budget**.

A motion was made by Freeholder Scanlon and seconded by Freeholder Estrada. Roll call showed eight freeholders voted in the affirmative with Freeholder Kowalski absent.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting of March 19, 2009. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Daniel P. Sullivan and seconded by Freeholder Deborah P. Scanlon. Roll call indicated eight Freeholders in the affirmative with Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski absent.

Nicole L. DiRado, RMC, MPA
Clerk of the Board