

ATLANTIC COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
via Cisco Webex Video Conferencing

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Minutes of Meeting
March 24, 2020

- CALL TO ORDER** A regular meeting of the Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders was called to order by Chairman Frank D. Formica at 4 p.m., Standard Time, on the above-mentioned date, via Cisco Webex Video Conferencing as a result of COVID-19.
- OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT** Statement of Open Public Meeting Compliance: Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chairman Formica announced that adequate notice of this meeting, as required by said Act, has been published in *The Press of Atlantic City*, and mailed to *The Current*, *The Daily Journal*, *The Hammonton Gazette* and *The Hammonton News*; posted on the bulletin boards at 1333 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, the Stillwater Building, 201 Shore Road, Northfield and the County Clerk's Office in Mays Landing.
- PRAYER, MOMENT OF SILENCE AND FLAG SALUTE** The prayer and flag salute were led by Chairman Formica.
- ROLL CALL** The following roll call was recorded: PRESENT: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. ABSENT: None.
- A quorum was present.
- MINUTES OF MEETING February 18, 2020** Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Fitzpatrick seconded a motion to adopt and dispense with the reading of the February 18, 2020 minutes.
- The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.
- CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS** Chairman Formica welcomed everyone to the first virtual meeting of the Atlantic County Board of Freeholders. It is Atlantic County's innovative attempt and execution of carrying on government during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- *RESOLUTION NO. 90 FINAL READING Atlantic County Budget Notice 2020** Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Dase seconded a motion to adopt on final reading of the 2020 Atlantic County Budget.
- Chairman Formica opened the public hearing for comments at 4:08 p.m.
- Creed Pogue, resident of Estell Manor, respectfully asked if Resolution No. 90 could be postponed. In this extraordinary time, it is difficult to have informed consent. How are we having a public hearing when the comments are not necessarily available? We also do not know the final impact of COVID-19. The State is allowing people to postpone.
- Chairman Formica responded that we are following all procedures and guidance that have been recommended by our Solicitor and County Officials.
- Chairman Formica closed the public hearing at 4:11.

***Not in Numerical Order**

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None. ABSTAINED: Bertino.

***RESOLUTION NO. 91
FINAL READING
Atlantic County Public
Health Annual Budget
Notice 2020**

Freeholder Bertino moved and Freeholder Gatto seconded a motion adopt on final reading of the Atlantic County Public Health Annual Budget Notice 2020.

Chairman Formica opened the public hearing for comments at 4:12 p.m.

Creed Pogue, resident of Estell Manor stated respectfully same comments as before. Not questioning the merits. However, this sets a bad precedent.

Chairman Formica closed the public hearing at 4:13.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

***RESOLUTION NO. 92
FINAL READING
Atlantic County Library
Annual Budget Notice
2020**

Freeholder Kern moved and Freeholder Gatto seconded a motion to adopt on final reading the Atlantic County Library Annual Budget Notice 2020.

Chairman Formica opened the public hearing for comments at 4:14 p.m.

Creed Pogue, resident of Estell Manor, stated same previous comments. I can only see “panelist” and myself. Are there any other public here. Freeholder Gatto responded yes, there are fourteen (14) including Mr. Pogue in the public arena.

Chairman Formica closed the public hearing at 4:15 p.m.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

***RESOLUTION NO. 93
FINAL READING
Resolution to exceed the
County budget
appropriation limits and
to establish a 2020 Cap
Bank**

Freeholder Kern moved and Freeholder Gatto seconded a motion to adopt on final reading a resolution to exceed the County budget appropriation limits and to establish a 2020 Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14).

Chairman Formica opened the public hearing for comments at 4:16 p.m.

Michelle Brunetti-Post, reporter from The Press, stated the notice told people to email questions but it looks like this platform is how to submit. Some may be emailing, as I did. Can you check email? Ms. Brunetti stated she obtained the information from the press release. May have misunderstood.

Freeholder Gatto and Chairman Formica indicated there might have been a misunderstanding with the directions to forward questions to the Freeholder’s email address regarding live streaming questions.

Chairman Formica closed the public portion at 4:18 p.m.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

***Not in Numerical Order**

RESOLUTION NO. 151
Grant application and acceptance for the purchase of AWE Learning literacy-focused digital learning workstations to be placed throughout the County public library system

Freeholder Dase moved and Freeholder Fitzpatrick seconded a motion to authorize a grant application and acceptance from the TD Bank Foundation for the purchase of AWE Learning literacy-focused digital learning workstations to be placed throughout the County public library system funding in the amount of \$57,282.00.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 152
Grant application and acceptance for structural updates to the CAC building, purchase and installation of telecommunications equipment and forensic equipment and training of CAC staff

Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion authorize a grant application and acceptance funding from the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) Capital Grant to be used for structural updates to the CAC building, purchase and installation of telecommunications equipment and forensic equipment and training of CAC staff funding in the amount of \$103,536.03.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 153
Grant application and acceptance to be used to replace the HVAC system at the Hammonton Library

Freeholder Risley moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to authorize a grant application and acceptance from the New Jersey State Library Grant, to be used to replace the HVAC system at the Hammonton Library for funding in the amount of \$322,090.50, subject to a County cash match of \$322,090.50, for a total amount not to exceed \$644,181.00.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 154
Grant application and acceptance to replace the HVAC System at the Egg Harbor Township Library

Freeholder Kern moved and Freeholder Dase seconded a motion to authorize a grant application and acceptance from the New Jersey State Library Grant to be used to replace the HVAC System at the Egg Harbor Township Library funding in the amount of \$549,013.50, subject to a County cash match of \$549,013.50, for a total amount not to exceed \$1,098,027.00.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 155
Grant application and acceptance to replace the HVAC System at the Mays Landing Library

Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to authorize a grant application and acceptance from the New Jersey State Library Grant to be used to replace the HVAC System at the Mays Landing Library funding in the amount not to exceed \$694,212.00, subject to a County cash match of \$694,212.00, for a total amount not to exceed \$1,388,424.00.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 156
Grant application and acceptance to replace the HVAC System at the Galloway Township Library

Freeholder Dase moved and Freeholder Bertino seconded a motion to authorize a grant application and acceptance from the New Jersey State Library Grant, to be used to replace the HVAC System at the Galloway Township Library funding in the amount of \$920,661.00, subject to a County cash match of \$920,661.00, for a total amount not to exceed \$1,841,322.00.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call:
AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 157
Bid contract to furnish
and deliver electrical
supplies to Atlantic
County**

Freeholder Risley moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to enter into a contract with Billows Electric Supply Company, Inc., to furnish and deliver electrical supplies to Atlantic County for the total sum not to exceed \$213,170.88 to do the work and/or supply the materials as set forth in the contract.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call:
AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 158
Bid contract for parking
lot improvements at the
Stillwater Building and
paving of Youth Shelter
basketball court**

Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to enter into a contract with GWP Enterprises, Inc., for parking lot improvements at the Stillwater Building and paving of youth shelter basketball courts for the total sum not to exceed \$169,647.45, to do the work and/or supply the materials as set forth in the contract.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call:
AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 159
Amended alternate
method contract to add
the Eligibility
Verification module to
Meadowview Nursing
and Rehabilitation
Center's billing and
electronic medical record
software**

Freeholder Dase moved and Freeholder Gatto seconded a motion to amend an alternate method contract with PointClickCare Technologies, Inc., to add the Eligibility Verification module to Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center's billing and electronic medical record software at a cost not to exceed \$1,581.44 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$81,722.75.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call:
AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 160
Contract for medical
transportation of the
residents of Meadowview
Nursing and
Rehabilitation Center**

Freeholder Kern moved and Freeholder Gatto seconded a motion to enter into a contract with On Time Transport, Inc., for medical transportation of the residents of Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for an amount not to exceed \$24,000.00, for the term commencing March 16, 2020 and terminating February 28, 2021.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call:
AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern and Formica. NAYS: None. No Vote: Risley.

**RESOLUTION NO. 161
Agreement with Atlantic
County Improvement
Authority for the
purchase of a Fairway
mower and sprayer for
use at the John F.
Gaffney Green Tree Golf
Course**

Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to authorize an agreement with Atlantic County Improvement Authority for the purchase of a Fairway mower and sprayer for use at the John F. Gaffney Green Tree Golf Course for an amount not to exceed \$110,000.00, for the period commencing January 1, 2020 and terminating December 31, 2024.

Creed Pogue, resident of Estell Manor, asked is the County paying ACIA for the mower and sprayer. What is the profit/loss for Green Tree for 2019? County Administrator DelRosso responded yes, and the Golf Course is breaking even.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call:
AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern and Formica. NAYS: None. No Vote: Risley.

- RESOLUTION NO. 162**
Resolution requesting a transfer in the 2020 Budget
- Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to authorize a resolution requesting a transfer in the 2020 budget in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58.
- The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern and Formica. NAYS: None. No Vote: Risley
- MOTION TO COMBINE AND ADOPT RESOLUTION NOS. 163 to 166**
- Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to combine and adopt Resolution Nos. 163 to 166.
- RESOLUTION NO. 163**
Chapter 159
- Insert into the budget of the year 2020 the sum of \$62,500.00 from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice, Operation Helping Hand FY19 .
- RESOLUTION NO. 164**
Chapter 159
- Insert into the budget of the year 2020 the sum of \$488,519.00 from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) 19-20.
- RESOLUTION NO. 165**
Chapter 159
- Insert into the budget of the year 2020 the sum of \$749,190.44 from the State of New Jersey, Department of Children and Families, Child Advocacy Center 2019.
- RESOLUTION NO. 166**
Chapter 159
- Insert into the budget of the year 2020 the sum of \$150,000.00 from the State of New Jersey Transit, FTA Section 5311 Innovations Grant 2019.
- The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern and Formica. NAYS: None. No Vote: Risley.
- RESOLUTION NO. 167**
Chapter 159
- Freeholder Bennett moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to insert into the budget of the year 2020 the sum of \$367,877.00 from the State of New Jersey Transit, FTA Section 5311 County of Atlantic Rural Transportation System (CARTS) 2020.
- The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern and Formica. NAYS: None. No Vote: Risley.
- RESOLUTION NO. 168**
Appointment to a full membership to the Atlantic County Senior Citizens Advisory Board
- Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to appoint Richard Pachler to a full membership to the Atlantic County Senior Citizens Advisory Board for a term to expire on January 31, 2023.
- The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern and Formica. NAYS: None. No Vote: Risley.
- RESOLUTION NO. 169**
Appointment as First Alternate to the Atlantic County Senior Citizens Advisory Board
- Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to appoint Carolyn Peterson as First Alternate to the Atlantic County Senior Citizens Advisory Board for a term to expire on January 31, 2021.
- The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern and Formica. NAYS: None. No Vote: Risley.

RESOLUTION NO. 170 Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to reappoint Susan Bailey, Adrienne Epstein, Joyce Mollineaux and Claudia Ratzlaff to the Atlantic County Human Services Advisory Council for terms to expire on January 1, 2021.

Reappointment to the Atlantic County Human Services Advisory Council

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern and Formica. NAYS: None. No Vote: Risley.

MOTION TO COMBINE AND ADOPT RESOLUTION NOS. 171 TO 174 Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to combine and adopt Resolution Nos.171 to 174.

RESOLUTION NO. 171 Authorizing consent for a roadway solicitation event by Police Unity Roadway solicitation event in the Township of Galloway Tour Chapter II at the intersection of Jimmie Leeds Road (CR 633) and Pitney Road (CR 634) in the Township of Galloway on Saturday, April 18, 2020 from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

RESOLUTION NO. 172 Authorizing consent for a roadway solicitation event by Egg Harbor City Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary on the 100 Block of Philadelphia Avenue (CR 563) in the City of Egg Harbor on Friday, April 24, 2020 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

RESOLUTION NO. 173 Authorizing consent for a roadway solicitation event by the Absecon VFW Post 9462 Auxiliary at the intersection of Mill Road (CR 651) and New Jersey Avenue (CR 601) in the City of Absecon on Saturday, May 16, 2020 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

RESOLUTION NO. 174 Authorizing consent for a roadway solicitation event by Egg Harbor City Fire Department on the 100 Block of Philadelphia Avenue (CR 563) in the City of Egg Harbor on Friday, May 15, 2020 and a second roadway solicitation at the same location on Friday, August 28, 2020 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern and Formica. NAYS: None. No Vote: Risley.

RESOLUTION NO. 175 Freeholder Bennett moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to authorize a resolution in support of Senate Bill 1071 and Assembly Bill 639 increasing the Shore Protection Fund from \$25 million to \$50 million (Sponsor: Caren L. Fitzpatrick).

Resolution in support of Senate Bill 1071 and Assembly Bill 639 increasing the Shore Protection Fund

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern and Formica. NAYS: None. No Vote: Risley.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD Freeholder Gatto reported that several of her Advisory Board Meetings were cancelled and if this is going to be the norm for some period of time, we are probably going to have to figure out how to hold meetings. Perhaps lending the technology we acquired for holding Freeholder Board Meetings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS There was no new business.

**WRITTEN
COMMUNICATIONS
AND PETITIONS**

Written communications received by this office for the period of March 18, 2020 to March 24, 2020.

Freeholder Fitzpatrick stated she received an email inquiring about citizen participation and oversight of the Animal Shelter. County Administrator responded that the ad hoc committee met several times but it now comes under Public Health.

Freeholder Gatto stated she responded to a follow-up letter from Olivia Caldwell, President of the Mainland/Pleasantville Chapter of the NAACP regarding postage paid envelopes for mail-in ballots.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Formica opened the meeting to the public at 4:48 p.m.

Michelle Brunetti-Post, a reporter for The Press, asked regarding all the budgets, could you talk a bit about how the budget may have to change after effects of Coronavirus are clear? County Administrator DelRosso responded.

Creed Pogue, resident of Estell Manor stated, again, respectfully, while I compliment you on making a move on technology, it is also true that the legislation enabling this call for the agenda to only handle the minimum necessary matters for function. Whether by law or fact, the budget may contain many good things but it creates problems to try to adopt it this way. Chairman Formica responded.

Michele Giampaolo thanked the Atlantic County Freeholders for embracing technology in order to continue to govern. It is much appreciated and thanks to everyone involved in making this possible.

Michele Brunetti-Post of The Press, asked any idea how much the Coronavirus crisis has cost the County in unexpected costs the public on the health or general budget? Any estimate of what cost will be. County Administrator DelRosso and Chairman Formica responded.

Michele Brunetti-Post of The Press asked what have you heard about the idea of a FEMA site at the Division of Motor Vehicle inspection site in Mays Landing. County Administrator DelRosso responded.

There being no further comments, Chairman Formica closed the public portion at 4:57 p.m.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Freeholder Daze thanked the Division of Information Technologies and the Freeholder staff for coordinating the virtual meeting. Freeholder Daze requested with the impact of COVID-19 on businesses, if any upcoming roadwork could be coordinated with businesses to avoid any additional interruption of business. County Administrator DelRosso responded.

Freeholder Gatto commended the County's staff on disseminating information to the public correctly. She also complimented Michael Chait, President of the Greater Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce on the Atlantic County takeout and delivery Facebook group. It is a positive initiative to help our local restaurants.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Formica entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Freeholder Dase moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to adjourn the Freeholder meeting. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sonya G. Harris
Clerk of the Board